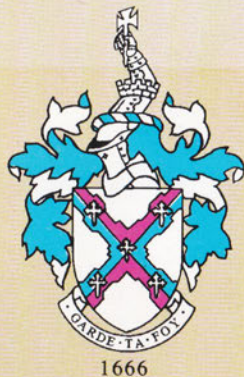


THE RICHIAN

1996



Trudth William Richford

Blue Coat Badge

*Gloucester Blue Coat School Boy
extinguished in 1882.*



Above, the staff of Sir Thomas Rich's School - (1966-1967). In the centre of the front row is Mr Stocks, Headmaster from 1961-1973. The picture was taken on the patio area, just outside the swimming pool, that had just been built and formed the focal point of Rich's tercentenary celebrations of 1966. In the picture, 'Young Richians' may possibly identify certain members of staff, who thirty years on, are still providing loyal service to the school.

** See if you can spot Mr F Henderson, Mr J Drake and Mr A Pilbeam.*

THE RICHIAN 1996



SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

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Front Cover:

The 'Blue-Coat Boy'

(1882 - A water-colour by Margaret Price of Tibberton Court)

Kindly donated to the school by Dr Tania Rose, MBE, who was the great grand-daughter of Margaret Price.

The school would like to thank Mr Gordon Fluck, who found the water-colour, traced the artist and helped to arrange for the painting to become formerly part of Rich's memorabilia collection.



Above, Rich's students, who won coveted places at Oxford and Cambridge this year. Pictured above, from left to right, Tim Poole, who won a place at Cambridge to read Maths, Stephen Goldup and Neal Hanson, who will both be reading Chemistry at Oxford. Then Tom Harris, who secured a place at Oxford to study Geography, followed by Duncan McBurnie, reading Maths at Oxford and finally, Tom Hill-Tout, studying Geography at Oxford.

Picture, by kind permission of 'The Citizen' newspaper, St John's Lane, Gloucester, GL1 2AY

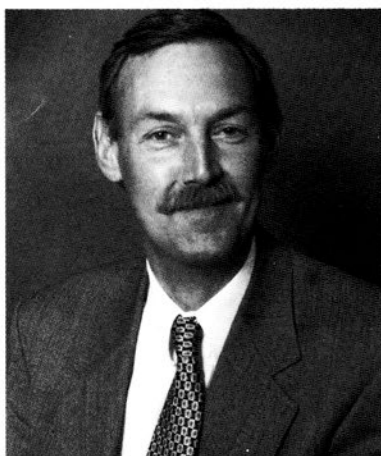
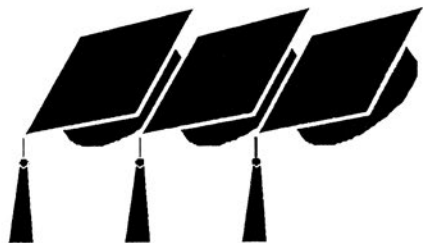
HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE

The 1995/6 school year started with the announcement of excellent examination results, which placed us in the Government's Performance Tables for all schools and colleges in the county. A continuing strength of Rich's is that we educate all our pupils well, up to Babar Vaqas (11 A* grades at GCSE) and Steven Taylor (5 grade As at A-level). No-one is allowed to "fall by the wayside", the GCSE results were particularly impressive with Year 11 boys each gaining an average of over 8.5 passes at grade C and above. During the year, six members of our Upper Sixth obtained places at Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

1995/6 saw Rich's popularity reflected in our highest ever pupil numbers, 683 pupils were on roll. Indeed so many boys entered Year 7 in September that we created a fifth form - 7C - in order to keep within our stated maximum of 27 pupils per class. As the larger year groups work through the school, our total will rise to about 750 in three years' time: we have set this upper limit to ensure that we retain the "small school ethos" which underpins the friendly and well disciplined atmosphere which is vital to, and distinctive of, Sir Thomas Rich's.

To help us to cater for these extra pupils, the new quadrangle of ten classrooms and a multi-purpose Hall rose rapidly during the year. I am impressed by the design and appearance of the new building, it is a fine addition to the school. Together with the internal adaptations (Art Studio, second computer room and two new laboratories) we are fortunate to have such excellent facilities.

Another distinctive characteristic of Rich's is the extensive provision of extra-curricular clubs and societies. The year saw memorable performances in the fields of music and drama. Record numbers of youngsters participated in two instrumental concerts and we savoured an outstanding choral concert at St Catharine's



Above, Rich's Headmaster, Mr I L Kellie

Church - well done to Mr Thompson for his indefatigable hard work. We also enjoyed several drama productions, including a marvellous "My Fair Lady" - particular thanks to Mrs Barnes whom we wish well in our 'sister' school.

Sport too had a year of high achievement, particularly rugby where all teams from Year 7 to the First XV won regularly and skilfully. This included the Under 14 team reaching the final of the County Cup, the Colts' XV contesting the City Cup final at Kingsholm, then winning the Crypt Sevens tournament and the Seniors winning the County Sevens competition. In his first year with us Mr Nicholas has fitted in well with our Games staff and contributed much.

I have mentioned a few of the highlights from an eventful year. The twelve months were enjoyable and successful, thanks to the efforts of our committed and hard-working staff, both teaching and support staff - without their enthusiasm and diligence, Rich's and Rich's pupils would be poorer. My thanks to them for ensuring that we all continue to be proud to be members of our outstanding school.

Garde ta foy!

Mr I L Kellie

EDITORIAL

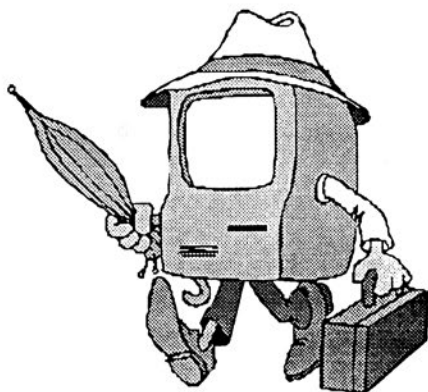


predecessors. It seems that the cries for help, contributions and the generation of greater enthusiasm for the magazine has been a traditional crusade by editors over the years.

Despite this, I feel that once more readers of the magazine can glance through it and feel positive about Rich's. As usual, the magazine is able to report about lots of great achievements exhibited by all those connected with the school. The old saying, "Success breeds success" is certainly true in the case of Rich's and we can all be proud of our achievements in the past year. It is very evident as Editor of the magazine, that the school is becoming stronger each year. I have noticed this particularly on the Physical Education front, where Rich's is growing particularly strong in many sports.

This will be the fifth edition of 'The Richian' magazine that I have produced. Time has certainly passed quickly in the last five years. It seems that no sooner than one edition is completed and published, it is time to work on the next edition. At the start of each new academic year, I question myself on how I will fill the next magazine. I also question my sanity on taking on this job in the first place! Yet inevitably, news, reports, contributions and items gradually emerge and my confidence in producing the magazine returns.

One of my first starting points each year, is to review old editions of 'The Richian' and try to gain inspiration from the work of previous editors. I note with interest, that the anxiety and frustration that I sometimes experience in producing the school magazine, has over the years been shared by many of my distinguished



As customary, I would like to thank all those who have helped in the compilation of this magazine. I hope that all the readers will find something of interest. I would like to feel that the magazine has captured the life and times of Sir Thomas Rich's School in 1996. Of course, I would like to hear from anyone regarding the articles produced in this magazine, praise or criticism! If you have any ideas for the 1997 edition, then please do not hesitate to contact me at the school. Better still, put pen to paper and make a contribution to the magazine.

It only leaves me now to conclude by saying, "Have a good read!" You never know, you may find some reference to you somewhere in the magazine.

Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)



THE SCHOOL YEAR IN BRIEF

AUTUMN TERM 1995

The year started with news of the 'Governments School Performance Tables', with the school having the best results in Gloucester and placed second in the County. Year 7 went on the traditional 'Induction Trip' to Stratford. Other trips included theatre outings to see performances of 'Macbeth' and 'The Duchess of Malfi'. An impressive painting of the school was presented to Mr Kellie, by Peter Green, on behalf of the 'Old Richians' Association'.

The 'Parents Association' raised almost £3,000 at the 'Christmas Fayre'. Westgate won the 'House Art Competition'. All the Rugby teams had a very successful season, with lots of excellent results. The 'Quiz Evening' was once again very successful, raising £750 for the school. As usual, the 'Railway Society' were very active, venturing up to North Wales early in the term, then later, to North England. Year 7 were bombarded with activities, co-ordinated by Frank Henderson, with 5-a-side soccer, ten-pin bowling and chess, to name a few. The Under 19's Soccer team narrowly lost to Cirencester College, 3-2, in the semi-final of the County Cup, while the Colts Rugby XV progressed well through 'The Daily Mail Cup'. Finally, an 1882 water colour of a 'Blue-coat boy' was presented to the school, ironically, just as the builders commenced work on the school's new quadrangle and sports hall. As usual, another productive winter term.

SPRING TERM 1996

A new year with lots of poor weather early on in the term, caused problems to the official soccer fixtures. Yet, the House Soccer Competition was completed, with Westgate winning the Junior section and Eastgate the Senior competition. Meanwhile, the Colts XV 'Daily Mail Cup' campaign ended, with a 20-10 home defeat to 'Torquay Grammar School'. However, the team progressed well through the 'City Cup Final', beating Newton and Crypt, but losing to St Peter's 17-3 in the final at Kingsholm. The Under 14's reached the final of the 'Midland Bank Schools Final'. In the Senior Sevens, Rich's won the 'Gloucestershire RFU Championships', beating hosts, Wycliffe College 31-0 in the final, while the Colts won the 'Crypt Sevens' title, with a powerful, aggressive style.

The school's annual production, "My Fair Lady" was a great success. Mrs Spilsbury ran a trip to the 'Apollo Theatre', Oxford, to see "Joseph & The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat". Year 8 went to the 'Commandery Civil War Centre' at Worcester. The Debating Society aired various concerns about the 'National Lottery', while Northgate and Eastgate tied the 'House Public Speaking Competition'. The Year 8 'Arts Week' was based on theme of 'Time'. Members of the Lower Sixth went on 'Work Experience' and some of them went on a 'Leadership Course' in the Wye Valley. This was another "action-packed" term.

SUMMER TERM 1996

The first part of the term was swift, with a concert at St Catharine's, numerous 6th Form trips to University 'Open Days' and Field trips by various departments. The second year of the 'Year 9 SAT's Tests' were completed in early May, while the GCSE's and 'A' level examinations were in full swing by the half-term. Pupils were able to take advantage of the new 'Supervised Private Study Sessions' in the library, which proved popular with everyone. A team of Sixth Formers competed in the Regional Final of the 'Schools' Capital Choices Competition', organized by the 'Local Government Board', and won £1,000, plus a ticket to the 'National Final', where they narrowly missed out on winning the competition outright. Very early on in the term, the Under 14's XV played their 'Midland Bank County Cup Final' against Crypt, but unfortunately, lost 34-0. The first 'House Swimming Gala' was held, with Southgate winning the event overall. Year 7 went on their annual trip to Chedworth and Southgate went to Alton Towers. Sports Evening ran very smoothly, with Eastgate coming out as the eventual winners. Cricket had mixed fortunes, due to the early bad weather, but the Under 15's reached the final of the 'City Rotary Cup', only to narrowly lose to Churchdown. The 1st XI played a touring side from 'The Glen High School', Pretoria, South Africa and on the last day of term, former Gloucestershire and England Cricketer, Tom Graveney, came to the school to present colours and formerly open the new outdoor Cricket nets, resulting from a £4,800 grant from 'The Lord Taverners' Foundation'. The Festival Players performed 'The Merchant of Venice' to Year 10, while some Sixth Formers went on the Chamwell School Residential Trip on the River Avon. Further House events were completed, with Westgate winning the Chess, Northgate winning the Quiz competition and Southgate taking the honours in the Cricket. Meanwhile, Year 9 went to the 'Imperial War Museum', Year 7 went on a Geography Field trip, walking on the part of the Cotswolds Way and the Venture Scouts were heavily involved in various activities, from sponsor rock climbs to a night walk from the Malverns to Cleve Hill. Eastgate became 'Cock House Winners' once again and Mr Kellie bid farewell to a number of staff. Another vibrant year at Rich's came to an end!

Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)

THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Seven years at Tommy's and it's all over for me now. It seems as if the time has just flown by, metaphorically speaking of course. It feels as if it was only yesterday, that I nervously edged my way into Mr Morgan's form room to begin my first day Rich's and a new chapter in my life. It was not for several minutes that myself and a few other apprehensive new arrivals realized that we were actually in the wrong room, with the wrong teacher! Instead of being looked after by the fun loving Mr Morgan, I was to be taught by a man with a 1970's afro haircut and an Adidas tracksuit last seen being worn by the Romanian Olympic team of 1968. Rumour had it, that these were the only clothes this man actually possessed and of course, you've guessed who I'm talking about - Yes, Mr Lloyd!

Despite his strange dress sense, or lack of it! and some even stranger behaviour, I managed to survive my first years of lessons. Academic challenges in hand, I found myself faced with many other new experiences, one of which was Rugby. Having never played the game before, I was somewhat anxious in regard to the physical demands of the sport, but with a little encouragement from the kind and caring Mr Hanney, I became confident and have continued to play throughout my school career.

With my first year out of the way, life became far easier, with the highlight of my lower school years being a 'Year 8 Trip' to France, which was billed by the staff as, "an educational experience", but which turned out to be a week long holiday, culminating in an international soccer match between our year group and a French side, formed from the students from the exchange school we were staying with at the time.

My GCSE's came and went, practically unnoticed and life was a party, until the dreaded 'A' levels..... With the new blazer and new classmates from other schools in the Sixth Form, came a little more work to undertake. Gone was the bland, generalized dross of GCSE's, because with my new studies I had to burn the mid-night oil, in an attempt to stay on top of my work. The ball was firmly in my court now!

Despite the intense pressure of work in the Sixth Form, the lower Sixth was one of the best years of my life and particularly enjoyable, especially when I spent a week up in Scotland at Arran on a Geography Field trip. We climbed mountains, walked through spectacular countryside and worked intensely at night time on our studies. The lads on the trip still found the time and the energy to socialize with the girls from Essex, who of course, were also undertaking some specialized studying of their own.

The last year has been extremely hectic, having been given the honour of captaining the school and the somewhat inconvenience of 'A' levels. Unfortunately, there has been little time for anything else, but I would not have had it any other way. All the staff and the pupils, who have helped me over the past seven years deserve a great deal of praise and thanks. For without them, I would not have been able to achieve a fraction of what I have done. Many thanks, farewell and good luck to everyone at Rich's!

T Harris (School Captain 1995-96)

THE 'COCK HOUSE' REVIEW

The first competition of the year was 'House Art'. All the houses scrambled together a 'mixed bag' of entries and handed them to Mr Lockey. He had the greatest of pleasure of announcing that Westgate had just beaten Eastgate to draw the first blood of the year.

Next came the rugby, which was disrupted by bad weather and cup fixtures. Yet, enthusiasm for the competition was immense and many budding 6th Form coaches were seen out on the playing fields at lunch times, to ensure the younger years were well drilled. It was very pleasing to see that in this competition, in Years 8 and 9, the full fifteen man game had returned. The standard of play was good and in Year 8, Northgate squeezed out Westgate, while in Year 9. The most exciting matches were in Year 10, where the competition ended in a 'three way tie', with Southgate picking



up the 'wooden spoon'. Despite the poor weather after Christmas, the PE department managed to ensure that the first 'House Soccer Competition' for many decades went ahead. It proved to be very popular, with Westgate winning the Junior competition and Eastgate, the Senior title. The most popular house event of them all - 'House Cross Country', in which every pupil in the school, from Years 7-10, plus selected teams from the Upper School raced up, over and down the scenic countryside in and around the school, took place over Spring term. Peter Kellie won the Year 7 race convincingly and helped Southgate to take

first place. In the Year 8 race, Alex Dielt of Northgate stormed ahead, never to be caught, while in the Year 9 race, Marcus Rayer's blistering pace settled the race in the first two hundred metres, but unfortunately for Marcus, Eastgate did not win overall and Southgate once again took the honours. Ross Hemming won the Year 10 race comfortably. The Junior competition was won by Northgate, while the Senior competition was also won by Northgate. The spring term also witnessed the 'House Swimming Competition', which was an experience for the organizers to say the least! The competition was held from years 7 to 10 and the overall winners were Southgate. The Spring term finished with the 'Public Speaking Competition', with the emphasis from most houses being on entertaining the audiences, rather than shifting their opinions. The Senior competition was won by Northgate, with Chris Wilkinson once again producing a dazzling performance, full of wit and humour. The Junior competition was won by Eastgate.

In the Summer Term, Mr Vaughan-Smith organized a 'House Quiz Competition', which proved very popular. The competition was won by Northgate, although Westgate comprising of girls felt that they were at a disadvantage when it came to some of the sports questions - a protest by the Head of Westgate was rejected! Tennis was once again organized for the houses, with Southgate winning the Junior Cup and Eastgate the Senior. The traditional 'Sports Day' was held in early June and the favourites, Northgate were just beaten on the night by Eastgate. In very hot conditions, the Senior House Cross-Country was run, with Jonathan Berry of Westgate winning overall, but Northgate taking the honours overall. The term finished with the traditional Cricketing fixtures. Westgate struggled, while Southgate reigned supreme, winning the competition relatively easily. Westgate's major consolation in a poor year overall, was that they won the House Chess. Junior House work was won by Southgate and the Senior by Eastgate. With all the competitions complete, Eastgate yet again came out as overall winners, with Northgate just losing out. The pressure of the year's House events were so great for Mr Smallwood, that only after one year as Head of Southgate, he felt it was best that he gave way to a younger man!

Mr P D Lloyd

THE FINAL RESULT:

1st	East	54	points
2nd	North	50.5	points
3rd	South	40	points
4th	West	35.5	points



Above, Junior contestants in the House Quiz Competition. Centre, Quiz-master, Mr P Vaughan-Smith.

DEPARTURE OF MR T W MORGAN

Mr T W Morgan leaves us after twenty-eight years of distinguished service as Head of Chemistry. He arrived in September, 1968 from Hampton Grammar School and proved to be a congenial colleague, with a wry sense of humour which has been appreciated by staff and students alike.

This sense of humour, combined with his interest in the precise and correct use of English, led him to form, with a very few like-minded colleagues, the unofficial and ad hoc 'Pedantry Society', which spasmodically and fairly desultorily sought out solecisms and other lapses from pure and proper usage. Indeed, Mr Morgan has a range of interests beside Chemistry and Electronics and has generously shared them. His encyclopaedic knowledge of aircraft of all periods was available to the 'Aircraft Society', which he founded and led on a number of fascinating visits to museums and shows. He is also an enthusiastic radio 'ham' and established an 'Amateur Radio Society', raising its standard on the roof of the school in the shape of a VHF aerial. His interest in music led him to join the 'Choral Society' in which he sang tenor in numerous performances. He will also be remembered as the voice of 'Sports Evening', with his unique blend of announcer, commentator and advertiser over the loudspeaker system.

The unenviable task of 'School Examinations Officer' also fell to his lot. He guided us through the ever-changing labyrinth of GCSE and 'A' levels with remarkable equanimity and relatively few disasters. This high-risk and low profile works is vital to the smooth running of the school. Since handing it over, TWM has looked more relaxed as the higher-profile and lower risk Form Tutor to 6H. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Mr D F Moss



Above, left to right, Mr T R Fearn and Mr T W Morgan, who both departed from Rich's this Summer.

DEPARTURE OF MR T R FEARN

Tim Fearn joined the school in 1993, his first appointment after graduating from Durham and qualifying at Cambridge. In his three years with us, he has communicated his knowledge and understanding of Physics to pupils at all levels of the school with great imagination. General Studies groups have benefited from a cultural awareness greater than the average physicist and successive Year Nine groups from his firm and dedicated approach to tutoring. He took over the 'Indoor Cricket League' from Mr Cappi, not an easy act to follow. The summer version of the game, and table tennis, have gained from his input too. He accompanied the German exchange to Göttingen in 1995.

Tim moves to Reigate Grammar School, a mixed independent school in Surrey, to broaden his experience. The pleasure and confidence he gained from teaching at Rich's was clear, so the decision to move was not easy after such a successful and satisfying start to a career. His good sense, humour and commitment will be missed in the classroom and staff common room alike. The many friends he made at Rich's wish him continued success in the future.

Mr P D Vaughn-Smith

DEPARTURE OF MISS B K McCALLA



Three years ago, the long Rich's tradition of having one art teacher at a time, (and only three in total since World War One!), was broken with the appointment of Beaula McCalla. Admittedly, the department had to share her duties with the Technology Faculty, but this was purely on a temporary basis. Even when she took charge of CDT for a year after the departure of Alan Preece, there was never any doubt that her primary function was to breathe some life into the Art Department, which had been operating in isolation for too long. This task was undertaken with vigour, confronting the pupils with a contrasting and challenging approach to the subject, stirring them out of their lethargy and never settling for mediocrity. The schemes of work received a major overhaul within the first year of her arrival, and they are now constantly reviewed in regular informal meetings. Many pupils, from Year 7 to the Sixth Form, have benefited from her insight and expertise, even

in the relatively short times she has been with us. Basketball was also a beneficiary from Beaula's appointment, as she used her skills from playing regularly in a Bristol League to coach school teams. All this expended energy was in need of replacement at frequent intervals, so no break or lunchtime was overlooked in the constant search for sustenance. All types of food were treated equally, and nothing was too humble to feature on her dietary requirements. Needless to say, the school canteen will miss her, but so will many other for different reasons. I wish her every success in her new venture in Jamaica and thank her for her help and companionship in her time at Sir Thomas Rich's.

Mr R J Lockey



Above, From left to right, Mr B L North, Mrs P F Barnes and Miss B K McCalla

DEPARTURE OF MR B L NORTH

Lindsey North's north-country credentials are impeccable: son of a mining supervisor, pupil at Barnsley Grammar School and an ex-student at Liverpool University.

The quickness of wit and no-nonsense approach one associates with such a background were combined in Lindsey with a real love of the French language and literature, which equipped ideally for his career as a teacher of Modern Languages at a boys' grammar school.

Lindsey came to Rich's from Cheltenham College, where he had combined the Housemaster duties with language teaching. The concept of school being much more than a series of academic lessons was one which Lindsey had always embraced with enthusiasm. It therefore did not come as a shock to his system to find himself plunged into the management of both cricket and soccer teams at Rich's. Some of the school's most notable sportsmen of recent years benefited greatly from his optimistic enthusiasm at this crucial early stage in their careers.

This sporting commitment provided a vital element in his relationship with pupils. In the current jargon of modern language teaching, "target language" instruction is compulsory. Lindsey had no difficulty taking this latest edict on board, but only in so far as it did not undermine his prime target: to get on to the pupils' wavelength. Thankfully, "target language" teaching has not noticeably reduced the flow of jokes, anecdotes and the exchange of sporting prejudices, which intersperse his lessons and maintained the 'F-factor': Lindsey's conviction that learning should be fun.

It was not only in the classroom that Lindsey used his natural skills as raconteur and joke-teller to considerable effect. Many a staff-room break-time has been enlivened by his apparently endless stream of amusing stories, accumulated at no little cost (to his drinking companions) at local watering-holes after long evenings on the word-processor.

Lindsey not only gives a good performance; he also enjoys one. As a devotee of the arts in the widest sense, from Eric Clapton to Andre Gide and, latterly, ballet and opera, he successfully shared many of his enthusiasms with Sixth Formers, introducing them to wider vistas than they would otherwise have encountered.

Certainly an individualist, but at the same time in no way an outsider, Lindsey must have found

the film, "If", set in his fondly remembered Cheltenham College, a fascinating insight into the paradox that the potential for anarchy lurks beneath the calmest of facades. A sneaking admiration for the anarchic tendencies of the pupils in the film may give a clue to Lindsey's success as a schoolmaster: he still empathizes with lads who do play (harmless!) tricks on their way to becoming civilized human beings.

His language teaching colleagues will remember with affection his knack of turning even the most dispiriting or worrying incidents on our Year 8 trips to Normandy, into occasions for humour and fun, (his relaxed state of mind being contributed to in no small measure on one trip by the felicitous location of his "command post" at the holiday centre, some quarter of a mile from the Year 8 dormitories!)

Lindsey leaves us to take up a post at Recomb College, where he will be taking on some housemaster responsibilities again, in addition to French teaching and where he will also be able to enjoy school cricket to the full on their excellent wickets. His infectious good humour will be greatly missed by us all. We wish him, Barbara and his family every success - but I still think the move is a rather extreme way of avoiding an OFSTED inspection!

Mr D J Slinger



DEPARTURE OF MRS P F BARNES

Five years ago I had the great privilege of arriving at Sir Thomas Rich's School with Pamela Barnes. Show me a woman who can run an English Department, produce two performances a year, supervise newly qualified teachers, run a home, care for a family and I will show you Pam Barnes. She appears to have a limitless amount of energy and a constitution of which Lady Bracknell would be proud.

Pam, or 'Madam' as she preferred to be addressed by the pupils, was very quick to make an impact. In the holiday preceding her first year she redecorated the English classrooms, replaced the library curtains and focused on renewing the stock, resources and schemes of work within the department. Mrs Barnes certainly had an agenda and could often be found on her knees in a book cupboard, dusting off texts which had been hidden away since the days of Sir Thomas Rich himself.

By Christmas of her first year Pam had implemented a drama club and brought together a group of pupils to perform a series of improvisational pieces on the theme of 'The Family'. This was an outstanding success and paved the way for further inspirational productions such as 'Follow the Star', 'Everyman', 'Guys and Dolls', 'The Importance of Being Ernest', 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', 'Orpheus in the Underworld' and more recently, 'My Fair Lady'. Through her excellent directional skills and the loan of much of her personal wardrobe and furniture, Pam encouraged pupils to sing, dance and act to their highest level. Although a great deal had already been done to raise the profile of the Arts within the school, Pam worked to consolidate and enhance their status.

It was very clear to the two other initial members of her department that Pam wished to enrich the lives of the pupils through the teaching of her subject. She led by example, and early on took a group of GCSE students to Bremen, Germany to perform an extract from 'Hamlet' at the Braemar festival. This project was carried out in association with the Globe Theatre and received much praise and recognition for the school.

In addition, Pam organized residential courses for the Sixth Form at Haworth, Ireland and Devon; locations, workshops and texts all thoughtfully co-ordinated.

Pam Barnes is not, however, a finely tuned automaton, she has carried out her work at Sir Thomas Rich's with a significant style. Whether it's the catering for a performance supper or establishing a new policy document on assessment procedure, the highest standards have always been maintained. Equally, staff within the department have been given the opportunity to use their initiative, take responsibility and be closely involved in the planning procedures for the department.

As a department we have become accustomed to her style; accustomed to her grace; the purposeful stride, the ambience which she creates in her classroom and the appreciation which she shows for her staff. Although she will be missed, we wish her well in her new post and realize that 'Madam' certainly made her mark.

Mrs J Spilsbury

DEPARTURE OF MRS M M McBurnie

Mrs M McBurnie leaves Rich's, to take up a full-time post at Ribston Hall High School. For a number of years, Mrs McBurnie has been helping out the Mathematics department at Rich's with some part-time teaching, mainly with Sixth Form students.

Of course links with Rich's will in no way be lost, due to the fact that her husband, Mr Brian McBurnie is Rich's Deputy Headmaster. We wish her every success in her new post across the city.

Mr P D Lloyd





ARRIVAL OF DR M CARR

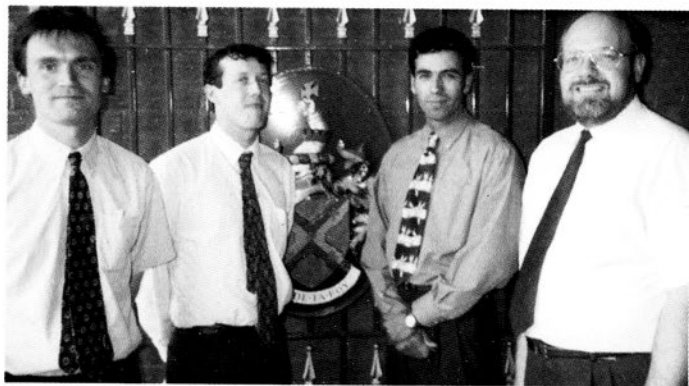
Dr Martin Carr is Rich's new Head of Chemistry. He gained a degree and teaching qualification from Liverpool University, then taught in schools in Liverpool and Stockport, before moving south to St Benedict's School, Cheltenham. He then undertook research into aspects of steel, corrosion at Cranfield University, for which he received a doctorate last year. He returned to St Benedict's School, from where he joins us.

Mr I Kellie

ARRIVAL OF MR D DEMPSEY

Mr David Dempsey joins us to teach Mathematics. Mr Dempsey was a pupil at Rich's (1983-90), leaving with grade A's at 'A'-level in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry. After receiving his Maths degree from Warwick University, he gained his teaching qualification, with Merit, through the 'Gloucestershire Schools Partnership Programme'. He started his teaching career at Lakers School, Coleford. We welcome him back to his 'alma mater'.

Mr I Kellie



Above, some of Rich's new members of staff pose for the camera by the school gates. From left to right, Mr A Gregory, Mr R Watson, Mr Raees-Danai and Mr S Pickard.

ARRIVAL OF MR R WATSON

Richard Watson qualified to English and Drama through studies at King Alfred's College, Winchester and Southampton University. He comes to us from Tewkesbury School. Rich's is fortunate to have a new member of staff, who is an accomplished musician. Richard has also written and produced several school plays and musicals.

Mr I Kellie

ARRIVAL OF MR A GREGORY

Alex Gregory is Rich's new Head of Modern Languages. After graduating with 'Honours' from Nottingham University, Mr Gregory undertook his teacher training at Oxford University. He has taught in schools in Oxfordshire and Kidderminster. As with all our new staff arrivals, we wish him a long and happy time at Rich's.

Mr I Kellie

ARRIVAL OF MR S PICKARD

Mr Simon Pickard is our new Head of English and Drama, replacing Mrs Barnes, who takes up a Deputy Headship at Denmark Road. Mr Pickard graduated from Queen's College, Cambridge University and has taught in schools in Hertfordshire and Yorkshire.

Mr I Kellie

ARRIVAL OF MRS S EARL

Sally Earl re-joins the French Department. After graduating with Honours from Bristol University, Mrs Earl helped with her husband's business, before qualifying as a teacher. We welcome back Mrs Earl to the department, after valuing her help early last year.

Mr I Kellie



More new members of staff at Rich's. From left to right, Mr D Dempsey, Mrs A Vizor, Mrs S Earl and Mr D Proudlove. All at Rich's wish them a happy and successful time at the school.

ARRIVAL OF MR D PROUDLOVE

David Proudlove joins our Geography department. He gained a First Class Honours degree at Southampton University, then a coveted N.A.T.O. scholarship, which enabled him to travel to the USA, where he undertook a Masters Degree at the Colorado School of Mines, followed by employment as a geologist in exploration projects in the West Indies, Alaska, the Great Basin and Pacific Northwest. He returned to the UK as a gemmologist, before completing his teacher training at Hull University.

Mr I Kellie

ARRIVAL OF MRS A VIZOR

Amanda Vizor joins our Physics Department. Mrs Vizor gained an Honours degree from Christ's College, Cambridge University.

She has experience of working in industry and trained as an engineer, whilst being sponsored through university by G.E.C..

Mrs Vizor completed her teacher training at Bristol University. We hope that she enjoys her time at Rich's and the Science Department in particular, welcomes her to the school.

Mr I Kellie

ARRIVAL OF MRS K WILLIS

Mrs Karen Willis arrived earlier this year at Rich's, taking on the role of 'Special Support Assistant'. She is married with three children, two of which are already at Rich', Simon and Chris. Mrs Willis is a State Registered Nurse and a qualified Braillist. She worked for the 'V I Service' for seven years. Karen has already made many friends in the staff common room and has become an accepted part of the school, particularly Form 10B. We hope that her stay at Rich's is enjoyable and rewarding.

Mr P D Lloyd

ARRIVAL OF MR RAEES-DANAI

We welcome Kian Raees-Danai to teach Technology and Art. Mr Raees-Danai graduated from Greenwich University with a degree in Architecture, specializing in Design. He then spent twelve years in architecture, rising to become Managing Director of a company in Kidderminster. He then undertook teacher training with the Gloucestershire Schools Partnership programme and now commences his teaching career at Rich's. As with all our new staff, we hope he has a pleasant stay at Rich's.

Mr I Kellie

THE GLEN HIGH SCHOOL, PRETORIA CRICKET TOUR



Above, our friends, the cricketing tourists from The Glen High School, Pretoria, who played our First XI and teams from Marling Grammar School and Crypt, as part of their successful England tour.

At the end of the Summer term, Rich's welcomed a touring party from the Glen High School, Pretoria, South Africa. The party had an extensive fixture list, with matches arranged against the likes of Manchester Grammar School, Christ College, Brecon and Taunton School, to name a few. Glen High is a modern co-educational school for some 900 pupils and is situated in the Eastern suburbs of Pretoria, which is the administrative and diplomatic capital of South Africa.

Our First XI played Glen High School at Spa Road, Gloucester. The tourists were both capable and committed, winning by 132 runs. The day's cricket was enjoyed by all concerned and Rich's is pleased to have nurtured friendly links with the Glen High School. Who knows, maybe the school could possibly organize a trip down to South Africa and arrange a return match!

Mr P D Lloyd

'MY FAIR LADY' - THE SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Finally, after a huge amount of effort and hard work on behalf of everyone who was involved, this year's school production, 'My Fair Lady', was performed in early February. After having been well and truly 'dropped in it' by a certain Mr Daniel Wright, I found myself with the duty of writing the report on the production - a most exciting and enjoyable task, I am sure you'll agree.

The early stages of the performance started way, way back in the distant part of October, 1995. After having heard a notice uttered from the noble lips of Mr Henderson, ordering all who would-be thespians to audition for the main parts, I felt it was my God-given duty to comply. Turning up in Mrs Barnes' room one lunch time was frightening enough, but little did I know the gruelling tasks that lay ahead of me. Vague memories of a harrowing singing and acting audition flood back to me, the details of which are too horrible to relate. Having taken a script away with me, I found myself drawn by some mysterious magnetic force to it, the only foreseeable escape was to read the dreaded manuscript, and to my surprise, I found it quite enjoyable, with a special attraction to the part of 'Colonel Pickering'.

However, glancing at the drama notice board one morning left me dismayed and distressed. Someone else had poached the part of 'Pickering', that someone else being a certain Mr Daniel Wright, who seems to be causing me far too much trouble already. Looking at the rest of the cast list, I was delighted to see Liz Saunders in the role of 'Eliza' and on this casting I had to commend the Barnes / Thompson decision, but glancing a little further up almost caused me a coronary failure, as I saw 'Professor Henry Higgins' next to my name. A vision of a huge amount of lines and long and tremendously difficult songs appeared before my eyes and I think I must have passed out - for about two days!

The next thing I remembered was that I was in a preliminary rehearsal, being slowly, but surely being brought back to consciousness by the smell of Mrs Barnes' coffee in her room. However, I think I should probably have done much better had I remained unconscious, because although everybody else seemed to be coping well, anything I said seemed to sound utterly pathetic and quite dreadful. Nevertheless, no casting changes were made and we continued as we were. After school on a Tuesday and during a Thursday lunch-time, rehearsals were held and we ploughed through October and November, the 'dreaded' Sunday rehearsal was enforced. To all involved, the Sunday rehearsal meant having to get up early on God's day of rest, with proceedings starting at ten



Above, Elizabeth Saunders, in her role as, 'Eliza'

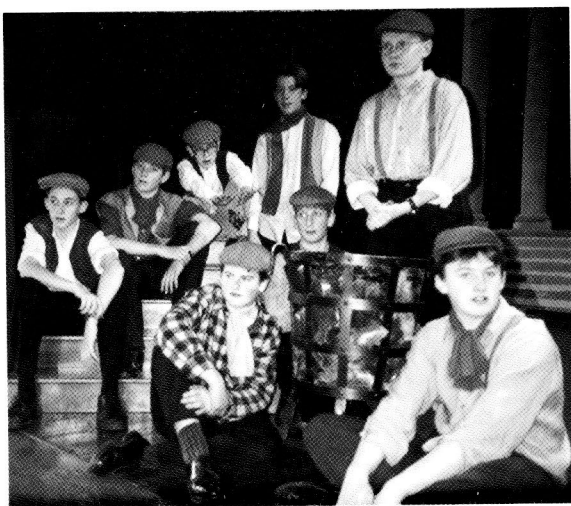
or eleven o'clock and not finishing until two or three in the afternoon. The torture in between was almost unbearable, being on stage and having to act out our parts under the beady eyes of Mrs Barnes. This was not the normal way I would choose to spend my time. I enjoyed being shouted at for not speaking clearly or not standing properly, or not being in the correct place, or for blocking someone else, etc, etc..... I wouldn't have missed the Sunday rehearsal for anything in the world! However, we never did find out what happened to those who did!

Despite the Sunday rehearsals, everyone in the cast felt that things had been going too slowly and the dates of the performances were trotting, nay galloping nearer and nearer and we hardly had done any of the second act. All that seemed to be completed was the 'backdrop' and that looked stunning as it always does, but what can you expect when Mr Lockey is on the job? Anything below par would just not wash. The reason for this seemingly disastrous delay was the 'dreaded lurgy'. Lots of people seemed to be sick with flu, colds and the like, which really did hinder our progress.

I recall many a disappointing occasion, when a rehearsal was cancelled and I had to trot home feeling dejected and unfulfilled. However, everyone seemed to be okay about two weeks before the actual performance and we all tried really hard to make the production work in rehearsal, but we knew, deep down, that we were not really ready. Illness had really delayed us too much and we still had no costumes ready either. Therefore, I suppose it was the sensible decision to postpone the performance until February, but this really did disappoint all the members of the cast who had built themselves up for the Christmas performance and it seemed to be breaking a long school tradition. It seemed to be the sins of all sins not to have a Christmas production at Tommies!

After the saddening news of the postponement, rehearsals went very slowly and were dull, with the Christmas break being welcomed by all the cast. After the holiday was a different story. The cast seemed to be full of life and vitality. They were eager to go again, all that was except me, seemingly, who was continually tired, probably because I wasted so much energy clowning around.

However, things did really start to come together after Christmas. The waltzing became more fluent and there weren't so many banged heads and trodden on feet as before, but having said that, I must take this opportunity to apologize to Liz for any undue pain I caused her during rehearsal. My only excuse being that I have two left feet. It is just unfortunate, that two left feet have to support a person of considerable weight, including mine as well. Sorry Liz!



Above, some of the supporting cast. Although they were not the stars of the show, their participation and effort, as with many other members of the cast and stage crew, helped to make this year's school production of, 'My Fair Lady', a great success.

Under the encouraging direction of Mrs Barnes, the performance gradually came together and the cast began to get together and work well. Abigail came in regularly to monitor the dance routines and the orchestra began attending rehearsal so that we could at last add music to movement. Time sped by and rehearsals were great fun and productive.

Once again that time again, with the two week alarm sounding and the nerves starting to show, especially when many of us had not learned our lines fully or music had been played incorrectly. Frayed tempers and despairing gestures were frequent as needless to say, raised voices! Still I suppose it was character building and it helped us to prepare for the big nights to come.

Costumes arrived and it was dressing up time! It still does not cease to amaze me how much fun young adults of the ages of up to seventeen or eighteen can have in trying on costumes. Parading up and down the hall in gowns, top hats and tails, morning suits and this seemed to provide no end of fun. However, yet again I drew a blank, as my character seemed to get the boring tweed jacket and trousers for almost the whole play, whereas Liz and Dan were in and out of costumes left, right and even centre - or at least Liz was when she embarrassingly forgot to do up one of her dresses on stage in rehearsal.

Stage managers were brought in to help manoeuvre new found props and furniture and us cast members can thank our lucky stars for all the hard work they put in - without them, we really would have been up a certain reputed creek without a paddle. We must also be immensely grateful to the lighting and sound crew, who once again did a great job in illuminating and projecting those of us who needed illuminating and projecting. We could not have done without our 'Costume Lady', Mrs Beaman. Her effort was tremendous and was plain for all to see in the many costumes that were displayed on the stage.

Soon, the dress rehearsal was upon us and a sense of nervousness set in as people forgot lines or just blatantly took on scripts for cast songs, when they had not learned - mentioning no names - Mr Higgins! However, I think the dress rehearsal was important to highlight to those on stage, more than anyone else, the areas which needed more work.

The first night rolled on and people arrived at the school at about half-past six to get changed and made up, ready for the 7.30 "Kick off". Backstage you could have cut the tension with a knife, as cast members dredged out scripts for one last look at uncertain scenes or songs in the desperate hope of remembering them. However, as soon as everyone got out onto the stage, it was like ducks to water. It really looked and felt as though everyone was enjoying it, despite the nerves and I thought that everyone performed excellently, especially my budgie, Holly, who played a very important role. There were reports of his reluctance to come off stage, as he flapped about violently and everyone could see he had a great future ahead of him in the realms of show-business.

The second night was slightly different. Again the audience was not all that big, about one hundred and twenty, but the feeling was one of confidence amongst the cast. The atmosphere was buzzing backstage and yet again the performance went very well. All the main parts seemed to work off each other well and created a pleasurable evening's enjoyment for the audience.

Of course, there were the usual second night hiccups, such as the 'candle fiasco'. Finally, the third night and last night - the big one - the one that everybody was eagerly waiting for. The hall was full to capacity and butterflies were felt in many of the cast's stomachs, yet this was not really evident on stage. Everyone did really well, the best performance of the three nights and there was even yet another fiasco with the candle.

The general feeling from everyone when it was all over, was perhaps one of relief, but for me, it was also one of disappointment. I had really enjoyed performing and working with such a talented set of people. Liz was stunning and even though she was very nervous beforehand, this did not show at all. She acted excellently and sang terrifically and her 'cockney accent' was unsurpassed in terms of its quality.

Dan Wright was also fabulous, even if he did steal my part and wear a silly moustache as well, but on reflection it seems as though the part was made for him. His speech and mannerisms suited him perfectly. Julian Walker played 'Doolittle' magnificently and so naturally too. He was well supported by Tom Wraith and Gareth Lyne. Lindsay Brown also did terrifically as Mrs Higgins, a difficult role to play, but expertly handled. Adele Twinn and Joseph Hitchings - what can I say? - they were superb.

It is unfair to single any one person out, because everyone who performed was excellent, but a word must be said about the star of the show - Holly the budgie could not have performed better in his important role and all credit must go to him for an excellent display. However, on a serious note, the whole performance could not have been done without the hard work of everyone involved, but especially, Mrs Barnes. Without her time and effort, nothing would have been possible and also without the hard work of Mr Thompson and his excellent orchestra.

I must give a huge thank you to everyone involved and tell them all how well they did. It was a great experience and one that I will treasure for a long time to come. I hope to have the honour of working with many of you next year!

C Wilkinson (6C)

YEAR 8 - ARTS WEEK

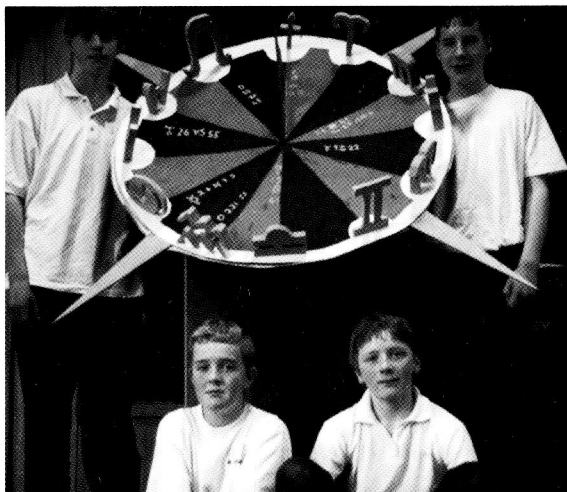


When we were told about 'Arts Week', everyone was very excited. We were all put into small groups, which was a good idea, as we could get more work done and receive more attention from our respective teachers. On the Monday morning, I was put in a drama group with Mrs Roberts. We did some acting, which included pretending to cry or laugh. It was taken all in good fun and after these 'acting warm ups', we were given a poem and had to write out lots of ideas in a 'brainstorming session'. This got us to calm down and produced a very productive working atmosphere.

When everyone had finished, we were set numerous role tasks, such as pretending to be a servant or the master of the manor. We were then placed into groups and had to take on parts, from which we performed a small play. Our play was about the 'Irish potato Famine' and we had to really try hard to recreate the hardship and suffering of the times. In the afternoon, we moved on to dance with Mrs Spilsbury. Initially, I did not like the idea of dancing, as I thought it would be boring and it was not really what us lads naturally tune into! Yet, when we got started, I found that it was good fun and that even us rugby lads could use our bodies to create some constructive movements. We then had a student from Cheltenham College teaching us dance and although I was a bit clumsy, I became less conscious and developed some confidence in what I was actually doing. By the end of the two sessions, we had managed to produce a simple, but effective dance routine. We did actually enjoy ourselves, despite our earlier reservations at the thought of dancing.

The next day we had what was called, 'Symbolic Drama' with Mrs Barnes. To start off with, we did a few warm up games, which soon burned off some excess energy, followed by some relaxation exercises, which certainly did calm us down. Then we started to work out some simple movement patterns in conjunction with some

Right, some of the Year 8 students proudly display their sun dial, produced for the the highly successful 'Arts Week', which was held in March. The popularity of the event grows and it is now very well established!



words that we were given to us from a poem. This finally culminated in some simple performances. In the afternoon, we had music with Mr Thompson and I knew that I would like this. We composed some simple music, which again related to some themes that we had been given. The themes were death, birth, the sun and the moon. We used the drum-kit, keyboard and other simple instruments. The session was really good, as we were allowed to try different instruments and experiment. On the Wednesday, we had a whole day of art, which is a special interest of mine. Before the week had started, we had been told that we would have to design a clock, as 'Time' would be the general theme of the whole week. I thought it would be easy, but I soon found that designing an original clock face was not as easy as it sounds. In the end, I decided on a clock inside a crocodile's mouth. After we had finished designing and producing our clock, we then produced a leaflet, outlining what we had done so far during 'Arts' Week'.

The next day, everyone was put into groups, according to their personal interest. I was selected to join the 'Symbolic Drama Group' and the whole day was spent polishing up and developing our 'mini-performances' with Mrs Barnes. We also studied two poems and rehearsed them, ready to recite them to Friday's audience. This was a good day, very rewarding and productive.

The last day soon arrived and all the groups had to come together to try and produce a 'grand performance' ready for the afternoon. The week's work had to be brought together, with art, music, drama and dance all inter-relating with each other round a common theme. We had to sing and dance to music, as part of the opening scene, then we went into our own individual groups to perform our pieces. Because there were lots of different art forms on display, it made the performance very effective and really excellent. After we had performed our group pieces, all the groups joined back together to produce a finale piece. We then sang a song, 'The circle of Life', which was in the film, 'The Lion King' and this created a perfect atmosphere. Candles were lit in memory of the children who had lost their lives at Dunblane. The grand performance helped to finish off the week and helped us to focus on all the different activities and art forms that we had experienced. All I can say, is that the present Year 7 can really look forward to their 'Arts Week' next year - we certainly did!

A West (8B)

CHORAL CONCERT - ST CATHARINE'S CHURCH

Each year, Rich's performs a Choral Concert and it was decided this year that the theme of the concert would focus upon a celebration of French music, featuring Faure's Requiem. This was a mammoth task on its own, but in addition to this, it was decided to perform Faure's 'Cantique de Jean Racine'.

It was my first year in the choir and I was very excited about the concert, particularly as I was selected to sing the 'Pie Jesu Solo'. The Choir thought that the concert would be very hard to perfect, but under the expert direction of Mr Thompson during each rehearsal every Friday afternoon, things soon began to shape up.

As the date to the concert drew nearer, I became apprehensive, but I was confident that the Choir would pull off the performance. Rehearsals continued and after a lot of hard work, we all began to see things improve. Eventually, we went to St Catherine's Church for a pre-concert rehearsal, the day before the actual event. The rehearsal went really well and although I say it myself, I thought that we sounded very professional. One must remember, that it takes many hours of rehearsing to arrive at this stage and everyone in the Choir should be given credit for their commitment towards the venture.

At last the 'big day' arrived and of course we were all extremely anxious and nervous, especially me at the thought of performing my solo in front of all those people. The Church was electric and very busy, which was pleasing to us after all our effort during the rehearsals. The tension mounted as the performance time approached and as we walked up the aisle of the Church we could see relatives, friends and guests of the school.

The acoustics at St Catherine's Church were just right for the concert and I felt the performance sounded really good. This was particularly pleasing, as when we sang at Gloucester Cathedral, during the Founder's Day Service, we tended to hear an echo, which did not make life easy for us.

At the end of the Concert, it appeared that everyone in the audience appreciated the Choir's efforts and enjoyed themselves, which was very encouraging to me, especially as I had been so nervous before singing my solo. Well, another Choir Concert had been successfully completed and Mr Thompson appeared pleased with us! I am not sure what he has in mind for next year's concert, but I hope to be involved once more.

M Peckham (8R)

On the Edge

I think there is something wrong with the world,
I think there is something wrong with our eyes,
I think we are seeing things all the wrong way,
We should not be surprised.

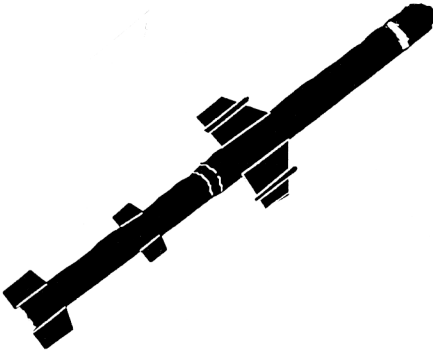
When the World collapses in front of our eyes,
We will know it is our own fault,
For you cannot judge a wise man by the colour
of his skin,
And you cannot judge a wild flower by the hurt it
does bring.

If the world is a place where we live in harmony,
Then the world should be a place of love and
peace,
This world is a place of suffering and warfare,
and so,
Why are you surprised when the child dies?

We are on the edge of a giant volcano, ready to
go,
I think that it is about to blow,
When you die from the cancer you breathed in,
Then you should not bother to forgive your sins.

Suppose if you were special and have to die.
Like Jesus on the cross, like an angel he could
fly,
Then if you too were quite like he,
Would you die to save them and me?

P Storey (10S)



Life

*Brother - Sister
Father - Mother
No one thing is
Like the other*

*Generally, all is fine,
Peace not War
But Time to Time,
One thing leads to another*

*Bickering between the brothers
Snipping, Snapping,
Crunching, Cracking!
But after all, things are well,
All calmed down, time to dwell.*

A Lywood (10S)

JUNIOR DRAMA - THE MYSTERY AND MAGIC OF HIAWATHA

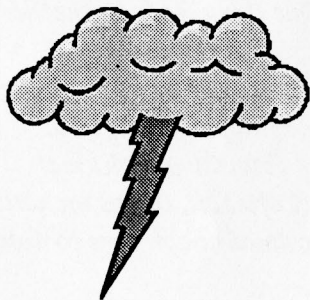


Above, some of the main participants in Rich's successful production of Hiawatha during rehearsal.

In June, Rich's 'Junior Drama Society' staged Michael Bogdanou's dramatization of the Hiawatha legend. Hiawatha is to the North American Indian, what King Arthur is to the British - a hero of legend, who expresses something powerful about national identity. First written for the 'Young Vic Theatre Company', the script was demanding, requiring the members of the cast to adapt to a variety of roles, from being a rock to a god, or from an Indian brave to running water. The production set the narrative firmly in its traditional story-telling context, with the use of masks, music, dance and mime. This resulted in an exciting and vivid visual experience for all those who participated in the production and everyone who came to watch the two evening performances in the school hall.

Mrs E R Stanley

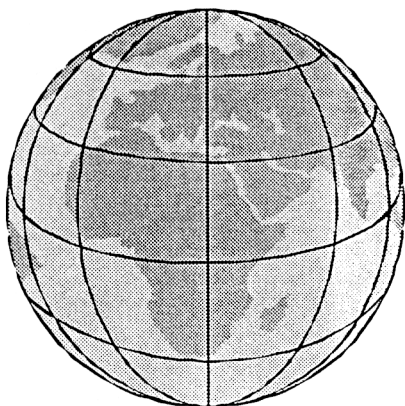
PROMETHEUS' PLEA



Zeus, I have but only one plea,
I ask of thee that you free me.
Free me from toil and suffering, I'll do anything,
Please free me, I'm begging.
I suffer from the peck of that vulture's beak,
Everyday, every month, every year, every week.
Oh Zeus, can't you see, You must free me.
Every night I freeze, I may as well be dead,
I long for the comfort of my soft, fluffy bed.
Oh Zeus, hear my plea, For one last time,
Please will you free me!

P Green (7C)

YEAR 10 - POETRY



Rob the World

A transcending place where young grow and
See their surroundings grow up with them too.
Parents watch as their newborn roam around,
They learn from their mistakes and parents stand
around.
These are humans, our kingdom, our environment.

However, one thing takes priority over this and
This happens to be our home, supporter and
provider
Of all the things in our lives, it provides space for
every living creature
And still leaves space for emptiness
This one thing is great and let's take care of it.

However much this place is exposed, it carries on
And repairs itself, like a man with a broken arm!
The atmosphere supplies us with endless facilities
To continue to live and raise our families.
Try to preserve this place, it's all we've got!

We are destroying this place as if it doesn't matter
And it is our children that suffer in the future.
We've only got one chance to save this place
Maybe that chance has already passed.

This is our ____ World!

M Selwyn (10S)

Me and My Bud!

Sister argues with her Brother,
Father tries to calm down Mother,
I don't know what's going on,
So, I'll go and talk to Uncle John.

Uncle John is more of a friend,
As to my troubles he will tend,
Not only that, but we have fun,
We hide, we seek, we tag, we run!

Uncle John and I go places,
And who we see have odd faces
My Uncle says that it's not that odd!
That what we see was made by God.

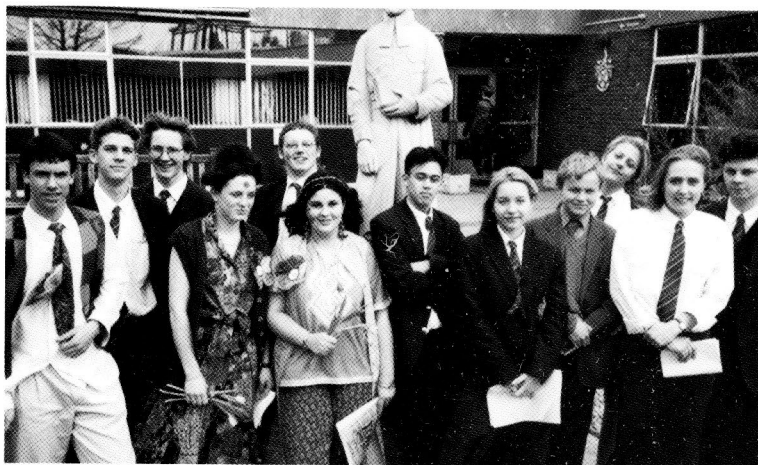
Uncle John often helps me out,
When I'm in trouble, I give him a
shout!
My folks don't know about my mate,
They think I go out on a date.

But all of this is very well,
considering from where he fell,
My Uncle John was just a deal,
To help me out
He's not really real!

J Gardner (10S)



HOUSE PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION



Above, some of the contestants who took part in the 'Senior House Public Speaking Competition'

This year's competition lived up to some of the organizer's hopes, but not to others. The Junior competitors generally seemed more at ease with their audience than with their Senior counterparts, for some of whom the experience may have felt more like a confrontation with the audience, rather than a meeting of minds.

The Junior competition got off to a promising start with the Northgate contribution focusing on groups of people to whom their audience could hardly be indifferent: parents, teachers and pupils. Each speaker succeeded in combining some heartfelt observations with tongue-in-cheek "rules", which they set out for each category. It was pleasing to see a Year 7 pupil, Craig Stevens, already enjoying the challenge and succeeding in holding the attention of his audience. Second to go was the Westgate team, tackling a serious, topical issue: 'Mad Cow Disease'. While parts of the presentation were quite informative, the presentation as a whole did not fully succeed in focusing our attention on the key issues. It might have helped the audience if each speaker had approached the problem from a different perspective, eg. of the farmer, the consumer, the politician, thus avoiding any tendency towards repetition. Eastgate also chose a very topical issue: 'The National Lottery'. A nicely orchestrated performance included the, "It could be you" finger, descending over the speakers, members of the audience, primed to respond to an otherwise obviously rhetorical question, "Who

wants to be a millionaire?" and the guest appearance of 'Mystic Meg', or was it Anthea Turner?, all combined to make this a thoroughly entertaining presentation. Despite, or possibly because of, the diversions, the speakers did not succeed in conveying some important points. This was achieved without adopting a moralistic or sloganising tone. The three speakers, John Phillips, Nick Cooke, and Paul Beddows, had clearly planned their presentation with care and imagination. The judges valued these features and awarded this team the highest marks. The Southgate team had to overcome a major problem in their presentation - the absence from school of their 'main' speaker. Stuart Carroll stepped in to the breach and the team managed very well in the circumstances to present some thoughts about the role played by rugby in the traditions of the school.

In the Senior Competition, the audience presented the first speakers, from Southgate, with quite a challenge. In the event, the topic chosen - the launch of a fictitious political party, with a list of facetiously presented policies - did not seize the attention of the audience, which remained rather too boisterous for Southgate's comfort. Coming into bat, on what remained a "sticky wicket", Westgate presented a basically serious treatment of an issue which should have been close to the concerns of the audience: 'Examinations'. Despite being well researched and informative, Vicky Kerry's speech did not fully engage the

attention of the audience, whose response to the flow of information they were being offered deteriorated on occasions from the boisterous to the boorish. Vicky, together with Helen Lang, are to be congratulated for carrying their contributions to a conclusion in the face of a somewhat intimidating response.

Would Northgate tame the rather restive audience with a display of amusing theatrically or impassioned oratory? Perhaps not surprisingly, Chris Wilkinson's team rejected the second option. Their choice of topic, 'Tommy's TV', provided a rich vein for another essay in 'Monty Pythonesque Humour'. The idea of presenting the school, complete with new buildings, as a kind of 'TV theme park', presented many possibilities of employment for staff and pupils on such promising new programmes as, 'Bottom Gear', with Mr Swann. Chris Wilkinson was not thrown by the lively and spontaneous response of the audience, being happy to wind his listeners up, as a means of ensuring they remained "tuned in". David Cook's vote of thanks proved a novel departure from the norm: he took on, with due gravitas, the responsibility of apologizing for, any offence caused by the main speaker!

Despite there being a certain *deja vu* quality about Northgate's offering, the judges appreciated the humour and hold exercised over the audience and awarded them the best marks. The final contribution of the contest was from Eastgate. In contrast to Northgate, a basically serious topic was presented: 'A study of the social effects of girls in the Sixth Form'. Chris Lewis could not resist a few jibes at the expense of certain Sixth Formers, as he introduced Jeremy Lia-Hung, who delivered a quietly informative and dignified speech, which, perhaps surprisingly in view of their earlier mood, was greeted with subdued attention by the audience. The failure of the overhead projector did not seriously throw John Hinton from his vote of thanks, although it did serve as a warning to all speakers to check the electrics beforehand.

The value of the two competitions is difficult to assess. Certainly the Junior competition went smoothly and both speakers and listeners played their respective parts appropriately. One is less confident about saying this of the Senior competition, where a carnival atmosphere seems ready to break out at any moment, complete with balloons and fancy dress. A none too censorious plea might be appropriate here to those who will form next year's audience and speakers. There is a real difference between liveliness and boorishness, as well as between teasing and bad taste. Overall, Northgate and Eastgate share the points to win the 'D Q Hook Cup', both scoring 7 points when the Junior and Senior results were combined.

Mr D J Slinger

LLOYD'S BANK TRIVIA QUIZ

The 'Lloyd's Bank Trivia Quiz', is a competition that tests the young brains of the county, with questions that are often not interesting, useful or relevant, but certainly produce a lot of fun.

There are two parts to the overall competition, with elimination rounds for schools from Gloucester City and ones for the County. This year, two teams entered the competition and our 'city eliminator' was held at Rich's. The Year 9 team fought hard, but unfortunately, they failed to qualify. However, the second team, comprising of Kevin Hatchard, an experienced campaigner, Jody Maddox and myself, did do a little better. We scored 102 points, a competition record, to win the eliminator and go through to the final.

The final was at Pates Grammar and the home side stormed away to an early lead. Marling tried to keep up with them and unfortunately, we slipped into third place. Even a good round with our "joker" could not help us to close the gap and we finished ten points behind Marling.

Once again, the team would like to thank Mr Vaughn-Smith for his support and expertise in preparing the teams. Naturally, we will be in the competition next year and hopefully, we will be more experienced, so increasing our chances of victory.

G Aubrey (8S)



THE SIXTH FORM REVIEW

"Chris, can I ask a favour please? Could you possibly be Henry Higgins in a small production Mrs Stanley is thinking about doing?" Cath Ellicott asked me as she ran into the Common Room one Friday afternoon. Naturally, being a kind-hearted soul, I decided I would, besides, it sounded like good fun.

Finally, the day before we were due to perform, we were given our scripts and had our first read-through. Needless to say that we would be performing using our scripts. However, even though the performance details were reached, the script had obviously been very well considered and thought out by Mrs Stanley. The songs' lyrics had been changed and all of us involved appreciated how hard that must have been to do. The cast was made up of entirely members of the Lower Sixth. Laura Winton performed excellently as Mrs Do-it-all, (obviously no resemblance at all to Mrs Barnes here then!) and Jeremy Lia-Hung played a moustached Headmaster that we all know and love very well!

A veteran of the stage, Dan Wright, was joined by newcomers, Dan Tiffney and Dan Storey. Mr Wright took up the mantle of Pickering again and was, as expected, suitably impressive. The debutants: Mr Storey, as a perfect example of a member of the games teaching staff, did excellently, as did Mr Tiffney, who portrayed a Deputy Headmaster, with his very own head of grey hair, with great success. Well done to both of them. Both Dawn Price and Helen Lang were very important members of the team, helping to strengthen the musical side of the performance. Tim Carpenter's brief appearance as, "Andrew Fried Lobster", the greater composer, was greeted with laugh's from the audience, especially his reference to "Pamlet". Nick Leitch performed in a cool and a composed fashion as the narrator, despite splitting the back of his trousers seconds before the curtains were due to go back.

Obviously, Mr Thompson was instrumental in the performance, as he directed the music. However, greatest credit must surely go to Cath Ellicott, for her direction and organization of the performance. As a result, "My Fine Ladie", a "take-off" of our most recent production, "My Fair Lady", turned out to be very successful. Well done everyone!

C Wilkinson (6C)



Above, the Sixth Formers who staged the 'Review', and some members of staff who joined in at the end.

SCHULERAUSTAUSCH WITH GOTTINGEN - 1996

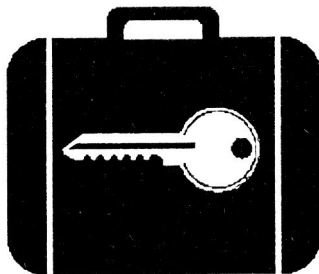
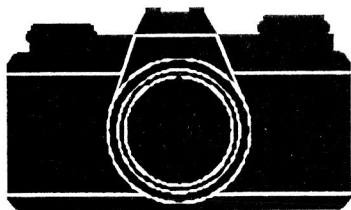
Yet another German Exchange has taken place. Seven STR's Year 10 and three Year 12 students in the company of a number of other Gloucestershire students, survived the eighteen hour coach journey. A warm welcome from our partners and their families awaited us. After a day to recover, we joined up again, to participate in a town trail. On the Friday, the English and Germans visited Hamlin and Hildesheim, two very picturesque medieval towns. We saw a rose bush, said to be one thousand years old, in the grounds of Hildesheim Cathedral. The boat trip along the river Weser was an ideal opportunity to get to know our partners in a relaxed atmosphere.

We had the weekend free to spend with our host families, before we met up again on the Monday to actually go to school! Fortunately, our first lesson was spent with our German teacher, enabling us to recuperate from the early morning start, (getting up at 6.00 am). We all experienced a wide range of lessons from Religious Education to Latin. As the week progressed, we all noticed a great difference between the Exchange schools. The most striking difference between Rich's and the German school was the very relaxed atmosphere that we experienced there during the week.

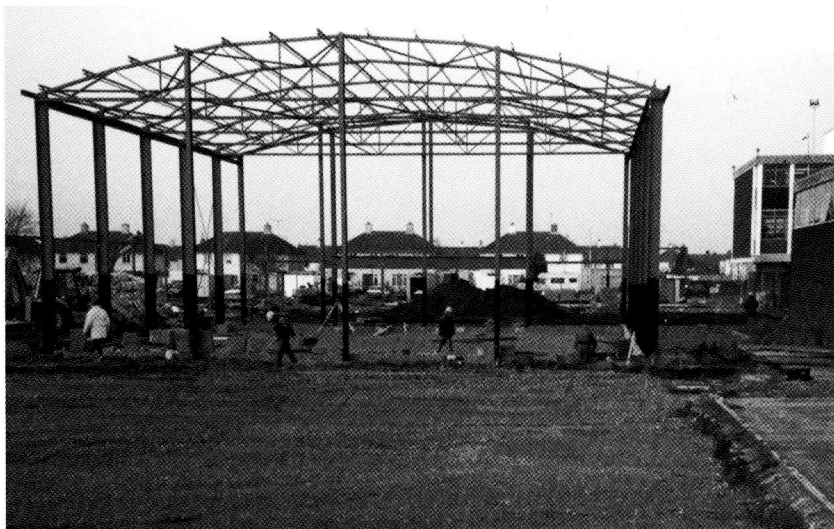
On the Tuesday afternoon, we all visited the old East-West border and a renovated customs building - now a museum. It was a real eye-opening experience for students and teachers alike. These were not our only excursions. We spent a day in the Harz Mountains and visited a silver mine and in the afternoon crashed out at the local swimming pool, which naturally had all the mod-cons you could wish for. The walk we undertook up the mountain was not popular with everyone, especially as it was a warm day, but the view was good once we got to the top.

The weekend soon came around and we spent it with our host families. On the Saturday night there was a party, and this was no ordinary party! Both English and German groups learned how to dance traditional German folk dances. This finished off the week's proceedings and on the Sunday we returned to England. All who had embarked on the trip, took back with them happy memories of another enjoyable and successful Exchange trip. We all found it beneficial, both linguistically and socially.

L Bladon (6H)



FURTHER BUILDING EXPANSION AT RICH'S



Above, 'J P Construction', Tewkesbury, the building contractors, soon had erected the basic framework of the new multi-purpose hall by early spring time. The multi-purpose hall was just part of the building expansion undertaken during the year at Rich's and which was completed in the early autumn.

Last September, 'Phase 1' of Rich's £1.2 million Building Programme, had been completed. This phase had seen the £50,000 worth of refurbishment in the school, which included the establishment of a new 'Art Studio', the upgrading of a laboratory and additional public amenity facilities.

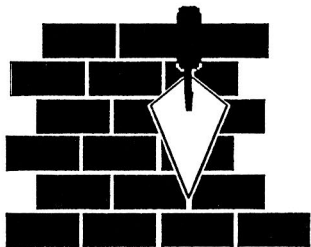
The £1.2 million programme comprises three phases in total and has clearly indicated the LEA's support and commitment to Rich's. 'Phase 2' of the operation started in November, last year and was completed in July, 1996. The contractors

were 'J P Construction', from Tewkesbury. Their brief was to build ten new classrooms, a 'multi-purpose' sports hall, with changing facilities, new offices and storage areas. All the new buildings were designed to be built around a new 'quad' area.

The project also includes additional car parking space. This expansion at Rich's represents the tremendous success of the school in recent years. Numbers in the school have grown consistently each year and demand for places is very intense. Rich's was ranked the second best school in Gloucestershire in the Government's official league tables.

With this popularity, the necessity to provide new and better facilities has been inevitable. Despite the expansion, Headmaster, Ian Kellie insists that he wants to keep Rich's friendly ethos and restrict the total school population to about 750. 'Phase 3' will include more classrooms and new facilities for the school. Without doubt, Rich's will be thoroughly prepared for the future and the new buildings will certainly help to achieve this goal.

Mr P D Lloyd



'THAT WAS THE YEAR, THAT WAS!'

1956

The 'Cock House' winner was Westgate, with House events ranging from 'Shooting' to 'House Drama'. The drama production was, 'The Badger's Green'. In this year, the 'Tercentenary Fund' was set up and had a fund of £737 1s and 6d. School groups went to Ireland and Cornwall.

The Swimming gala was a great success, while the Athletics team had a good season. Mr W J Veale, was headmaster and was soon to announce his retirement, to be replaced by Mr A S Worrall.

Mr M Turner-Samuels Q.C., was the guest speaker at the annual 'Speech Day'. The 'Photography Club' made a visit to 'The Citizen' newspaper, while 'The Music Club' went to various concerts in the city, including one from the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. The 'Shooting Club' was using the city's Police firing range! A 'Travel Club' was in operation, displaying holiday pictures and films. The Scout Troop's highlight, according to the magazine, was having a talk on 'Canoe Construction!' The First XV did not enjoy a very good season. The school had a successful fete and Eastgate, the previous year's 'Cock House' winners, had a victory party.

1976

Mr Moss was the 'Editorial Advisor'. Mr Cutting, Mr Pearce, Mr Riley, (who is now Vicar of Barnwood) and Mr Davies were new arrivals. Departures included Mr Smith and Mr Bates. The 'House Musical Festival' was won by Southgate, while the 'Croquet Club' had a successful season, which included a visit to 'The All-England Championship', at Hurlingham Club, London. Swimming was still on the sporting agenda, with the school competing in the 'Gloucester Schools' Gala' and a 'Life-Saving' club was still buoyant!

Many clubs and societies were in full swing, with 'The Aircraft Society' visiting Biggin Hill 'The Historical Society' made excursions to numerous places, that included 'Wells Cathedral' and 'The Young Ornithologist's Club' make frequent trips to the Severn Estuary.

In sport, Volleyball was thriving, run by Nigel Carter, while the 'Rowing Club' organized by Mr Graham Middleton, had an excellent season, which included an attempt on the '22 mile Loch Ness Record'. Other events included the 'Boston Marathon' and competition in many 'Heads and Regattas' around the country. Meanwhile, the Chess Club had won 17 of their 21 fixtures. It seemed that the year was particularly busy!

1966

The year saw two editions of the magazine. Of course, this was the year for Rich's 'Tercentenary Celebrations'. As usual the school was thriving with a multitude of activities, from rowing to arts events, that included a performance of 'The Messiah'. Visits were made, to see the construction of the new 'Severn Bridge' and a group witnessed the disappearance of 'steam' on the Hereford railway line. A group went to Munich at Easter, while the Scouts went to the 'New Forest'.

At this time Rich's had a wide variety of clubs, which included a 'Film Society', that showed films on subjects, such as 'Life-boats in Action' and 'Research into Pest Control'. Of interest, a 'Rich's School Survey' was conducted, with some interesting questions and results. For example, the survey found that Soccer was the most popular sport among the pupils and an 'Engineering Career', was sought by most students. The X-Country team won 9 of their 13 fixtures, while the First XV won 8 of their 13 matches. In 1966, Mr Pilbeam, Mr Henderson and Mr Drake, were part of the staff. The 'Tercentenary Play', was Brecht's, 'The Life of Galileo'.

1986

The new staff arrivals were, Mr Hale and Mr Pack, while the departures included, Mr Bevan, Mr Watkins and Mr Cooper. The 'Editor' of the magazine was Miss Pauline Smith. Rich's drama production was 'The Mikado', produced by Michael Rangeley and Ron Matthews. Mr Gallagher organized a ski trip to Neiderau, Austria, while other trips included ones to Brittany by members of the 6th Form, a 'Venture Scout Unit' 450 mile cycle trip across Ireland, from Wexford to Kerry. Rich's 'Railway Society' was very busy, with Mr Ian Cutting arranging trips to the 'York Railway Museum' and London depots.

It was in this year, that the school decided to set up a 'Computer Department' and the revolutionary computer packages, 'Wordstar' and 'Logo', were to be introduced! The magazine also reported on the school's scheme to upgrade the library, with new books. At this time, the 'Five Schools Association' was still in operation, with discos and charity raising events undertaken.

The First XV won five of their eleven matches. Squash was popular, but 'Industrial action' caused problems for many extra-curricular activities.

Mr P D Lloyd

THE TERCENTENARY CELEBRATIONS 1666 - 1966

Thirty years ago, in 1966, under the Headship of Mr Stocks, Rich's was celebrating its Tercentenary year. Most of the celebrations were arranged to take place between May and October. Lots of special events were organized and the school year was packed with memorable moments. The school had a special 'Open Day', which included various exhibitions from subject departments, clubs and societies. A special school procession, was led by the Headmaster, Mr Stocks, from the Barton Street site to Gloucester Cathedral for a Tercentenary Service. Also organized, was a 'Sixth Form Pilgrimage' to Sonning, Sir Thomas Rich's burial place and there was a special day trip to Budlin's Holiday camp at Minehead. There was a 'Tercentenary performance' of the 'The Messiah' conducted by music director, Michael Rangeley. According to the 1966, July Edition, of 'The Richian', many shops in the city joined in with the Tercentenary Celebrations, with window displays and 'The Citizen' newspaper, marked the occasion, with a special section, reporting on the history of the school. As well as a special musical performance to mark the celebrations, the school also produced a 'Tercentenary play' and selected Bertolt Brecht's, 'The life of Galileo'. Before this, a play, 'The Hollow Crown', had been performed by a group, calling themselves, 'The Occasional Players', in February of that year. During the year, various donations were made to the school, such as the 'House Challenge Cup', donated by T Nicholls Ltd and a Hymn Board for the hall, from G O Romans Esq. In September, 1966, the 'Tercentenary Speech Day' was held, with the principal guest, being Sir Kenneth Wheare, Vice Chancellor of Oxford University. A special 'Sixth Form Dinner' was held in July. Another innovation of that year, was the 'The Film Society', with films such as, 'The Guns of Navarone' and 'Genghis Khan'. In the autumn of 1966, the First XV played the Old Richians' RFC. Incidentally, Mr W G Hook was the President of the Old Richians' Association that year. Mr David Watkins produced the official school history. In October, 1966, over two hundred people attended the 'Tercentenary Dinner', held in the School Hall and it was the first time that ladies had been allowed to the annual dinner, held by the 'Old Richians' Association'. The guests at this special event were, Alderman Mrs Edwards, (Chairperson of the Gloucester Education Committee) and Miss "Winnie" Thompson. Mr Stocks and Mr Worrall, both addressed those attending the dinner. Earlier on in the year, in February, the first 'London Dinner' was held, arranged for Old Richians' living in London and the home counties. The event was organized by the late Stanley T Jones and was a great success. Interestingly, according to the 1966, July edition of 'The Richian', young Richians would come back to school, in the autumn of 1966, wearing a new uniform! Importantly, the school coat of arms was granted in 1966 and subsequently, could now be worn on the blazers of the students. Overall, from my research, I conclude that 1966 was a very active school year!

Mr P D Lloyd



Above, the late Rowe Gabb, presents Mr Stocks, Headmaster during the 1966 Tercentenary Celebrations, to the 'Old Richians' RFC XV', who played in a special match against an invitation 'International XV'.

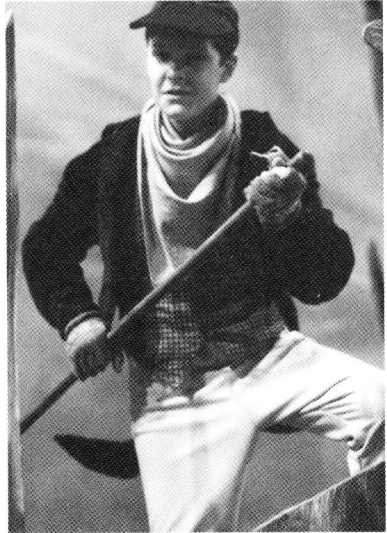
'TOAD OF TOAD HALL'

I am so glad I won a part in 'Toad of Toad Hall', at the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, for the Christmas season of 1995. There were two auditions for the show. I was to play the parts of a stoat, King-fisher and a little mouse.

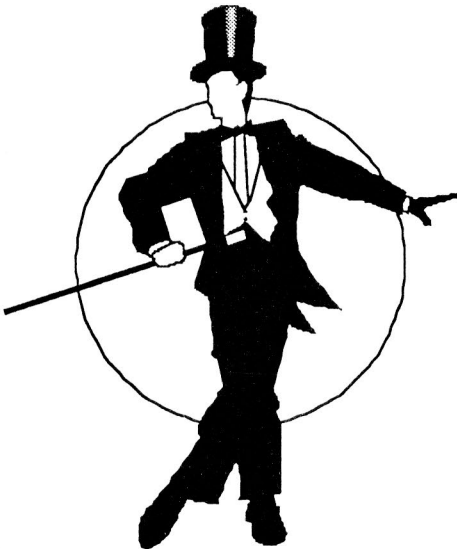
There were many weeks of hard work and commitment needed for the performance. We met the main actors, who were very friendly and funny, especially 'Toad'.

After three weeks of rehearsals, there was a period called, the 'Technical Week'. This was to enable the scenery, lighting and sound to be organized. It involved a lot of patience and repetition, in order to obtain the professional results that were required. Once this had been completed and was up to everyone's satisfaction, especially the directors, we were ready to perform.

The first night, before a large audience, was rather scary and everyone was doing their best to ensure that it was going to be a successful performance. It was a nice production to perform. The stage was elaborately set, with a river bank and a rural background.



Above, Craig Lewis, (9R) in full action during rehearsals at the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham.



The set also included various mechanical devices, which were very clever and enabled the scenery to open and revealed the inside of various character's homes, such as Badger's and Mole's. There were several trap doors, a mobile tree and many other subtle scene changes. In my part, I was not only on the stage, but appeared in one of the theatre's boxes, as 'sergeant Stoat'. I also went into the auditorium in my costume during the interval to give out prizes and to try and scare the audience. The musical director tried to persuade me to sing higher notes. This was the most difficult time for me. Playing in a professional theatre gives you a real thrill, especially when playing to a full house. It was a delight to perform in front of an audience and to persuade them that they were in a whole new world. This was the real magic of the theatre.

The main actors were true professionals and if you had gone along to see the show, you may have seen many of them on television. Now it is all over, life is a little quiet. There of course is always next year, or as Toad would say, "Poop!, Poop!"

C Lewis (9R)

JUNIOR RICHIAN - SPORTS QUIZ

Simply test your sporting knowledge by answering the following questions: **ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 61**

- 1 How many players are there in a water-polo team?
- 2 What is the name of the famous cycling race held in France?
- 3 Who first moves in chess?
- 4 How many false starts can a sprinter make before being disqualified?
- 5 Who was the last British woman to win the Wimbledon Women's Singles?



- 6 Who was the first first to break the 'four-minute mile barrier'?
- 7 On which river do the Oxford and Cambridge rowing crews race over?
- 8 Horse racing - at which course is 'the Derby' raced over?
- 9 What colours are the famous 'Olympic Rings'?
- 10 Which famous soccer team play at 'Highfield Road'?
- 11 In cricket, what does 'T.C.C.B.' stand for?
- 12 What sport do Americans play on a diamond?



- 13 How many things does a decathlete have to throw?
- 14 How many players make up a Rugby League team?
- 15 What is the national sport of Canada?
- 16 Who was England's Captain in the winning soccer World Cup team of 1966?
- 17 If a cricket umpire holds his arm out horizontally, what is he signalling?
- 18 Who won the 1996 American Football Superbowl?
- 19 Which country won the first ever soccer World Cup?
- 20 What sport uses 'Crampons'?
- 21 How many lanes does an Olympic swimming pool possess?
- 22 Which was the first British Soccer Club to win the 'European Cup'?
- 23 What is the 'nick-name' of the Australian Rugby Union Team?
- 24 What does a game of basketball start off with?
- 25 In which sport is the 'Calcutta Cup' played for?

Compiled by Mr P D Lloyd

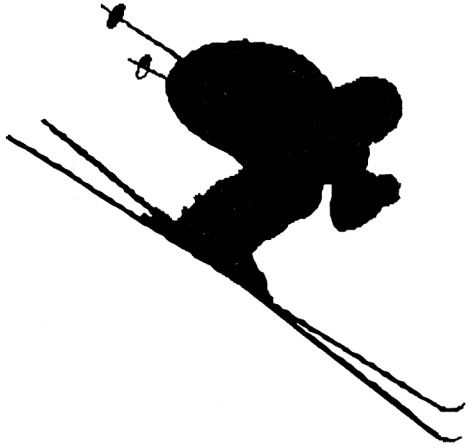


SKI-TRIP REPORT

This was the first ski trip that Rich's had undertaken for a number of years. Last September, Mr A Smith, Mr G Watson and Mr F Henderson, all got together and decided to organize a trip. Letters were circulated and soon it was clear, that the trip was viable and could go ahead. The trip would mainly be made up of students from Years 9 to 11. It was decided that our destination would be a resort located around the town of Briancon, just south of the French Alps.

Thus, very early one morning in darkest February, the group all congregated outside the school gates and boarded the coach. The journey down to the channel ports and across France to the resort took much longer than expected. In fact, we roughly recorded it at twenty-six hours, including the stops en-route. The coach had a video and on the early part of the journey, we all managed to get some sleep. Naturally, when you are stuck on a coach for that long, time seems to drag and the miles appeared to pass slowly. Of course, when we got to France, our interest picked up and we knew it would not be long before we would be at the resort.

Our hotel, was the 'Mont Brian'. It was not luxurious, but it was good enough for us, especially as we would be spending most of the week outdoors and really only sleeping and eating in the hotel. I personally thought the resort was fantastic for our party, as it catered for lots of different abilities, with different ski runs and ensuring that all standards of skier were tested. Apparently, the resort is the highest in Europe and luckily for us, there was plenty of good snow.



The weather during the week was relatively good. For the first few days it was sunny, with a few snowfalls each night. Then we had heavy snow during the nights that followed and this of course helped the skiing for the latter part of the week. In terms of temperatures, it wasn't too bad, although, if you went to the very top, it certainly was windy and cold. Yet, the skiing was such good fun, that we always seemed to be warm and of course thirsty! There were plenty of "thrills and spills" as we bombed down the runs!



Our three ski instructors were Sophie, Bernard and Claud. We were split into three groups, with Sophie looking after the 'Beginners'. Often, she seemed to get frustrated with us and did not help, in the fact that she could only speak a few words of English. We will always remember her constant yelling of, "No snowploughs!", "Get Up!", and "Yes, Parallels". Bernard took the 'Intermediate' group and he was another character. For some reason, the teachers would never socialize with him and he seemed to be quite mad. His speciality seemed to be 'Off Piste' skiing and often the party would be skiing through woods, making jumps here, there and everywhere, as well as vertical overhangs. Yet, we all survived, I think!

The third group was under the guidance of Claud, who compared to the other two instructors appeared to be quite normal. The group followed a similar daily routine to Bernard's, but the group all returned in a calm and fit state after each session. We did notice however, that Mr Henderson spent most of his time 'cross-country skiing'.

Naturally, lots of amusing incidents took place during the week. We had the usual crashes, as students went out of control and thought they were better than they really were! Some of us ploughed in to alpine trees and managed to tell the tale, while others walked into ski-lifts or knocked down skiers from other groups. One classic episode, was when someone decided to knock out another skier, who was on a 'button lift' and innocently making their way up the ski run. Rumours had it, that Mr Henderson got lost on one occasion. One embarrassing moment, which went down really well, was the fact that we were late one day, but this was mainly due to the fact that we had to pick up our ski equipment first. This was a pity, as we missed out on some valuable snow time on the first morning.

In the evenings, we were all pretty exhausted, but after a good meal, we soon built up the energy to go swimming, ice-skating and of course the disco! Some members of the party went to a ice-hockey match. On the Thursday evening, we had a little presentation ceremony, with various prizes dished out, such as for Mr Henderson, who got lost, Chris Wright, who produced the fastest slalom time and Chris Brown, who knocked down a German skier. Other categories included, Ben Taylor, who for various reasons that I cannot explain, had to wear a swimming cap, while Tim Green won a prize for walking into a ski-lift. A prize for 'Mr Responsible', was won by Ross Hemming. It was all taken in good faith and helped make the last night at the resort very enjoyable.

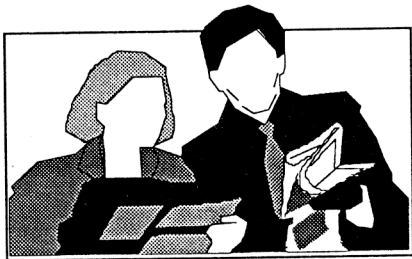
Before we knew it, the week had passed and it was Friday afternoon and it was time to pack up and get ready to make the return trip to England. We piled onto the coach and headed back to glorious Gloucester. Many thanks to Mr Smith, Mr Watson and Mr Henderson, for all their time and effort, in making sure that we had a memorable ski-trip.

A Wyatt (10S)



Above, some of the members of this year's skiing party. Note the cool shades folks! - From left to right, Peter Rose, Chris Brown, Matthew Knight, Ben Mason, Paul Baker, James Knapman and Simon Kellie.

ADVERTISING - THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE!



In the Autumn term, as part of the 6th Form 'General Studies' programme, Nick Shepherd, Director of 'Coffee Marketing' at 'Kraft-Jacobs - Suchard', came to the school to give a seminar to the lower Sixth on the following subject: 'The Significance of Advertising within the Media World'. This was not only relevant to the Media Studies module of the course, but also interesting to a number of pupils who might be considering a career in 'Advertising'. The talk lasted about forty-five minutes and as the following article will indicate, it was very informative and initiated a lot of personal response.

As a "decision-influencing force", advertising plays a subtle, yet, ubiquitous role in our lives. It is around us, wherever we go: on billboards, on walls, in newspapers, even in the sky and; via television, in our own homes. The ability of the advertisers to give maximum exposure to a product or a service is a skill, which they have mastered and use to full effect. Hundreds of millions of pounds are spent every year buying the right kind of 'TV air space'. Those people who are concerned about the infringement of privacy can be reassured by the fact that 85% fail to register with an audience.

Commercials, which are screened on TV and which are taken the most notice of, are aimed specifically at 'Youth Culture'. The apparent 'new breed' of younger consumer in the 90's is cynical, demands lashings of irony, that is, if interest is not too wane. The stereotypical teenager, who has supreme control over the family 'box', is a 'reality' to advertising executives, who must appeal to this target audience, as they are the most appreciative.

In fact, the attention paid to TV in general and the wide use of the remote control for large numbers of satellite channels, has led to 'channel hopping'. Advertisers have had to respond to this by screening commercials in between programmes, which are watched by young people. They have to make their commercials instantly 'eye-catching' and hi-tech! The 'Yorkshire Hovis Boy' and the 'Bisto Kids' of the 1950's and 1960's have given way to the computerization and morphing; the latest 'Levis' advert on a lunar colony and the 'Vauxhall Vectra' advert are both examples of this new breed of advertisement. Commercials like this have helped to make advertising a universal art-form.

However, there is a negative aspect to a greater, general audience. The disappearance of regional advertising identities has led to commercials being impersonal and advertising as a whole is now very 'conformist'. All adverts and seemingly their products too, are becoming alarmingly similar and this is limiting people's real choices when they come to spend their money. Creative advertising is being suppressed by conservative company directors and the consumer is being influenced by uniform marketing forces. Advertising is still an outlet for personal and corporate expression and tells the public about products that it would otherwise be unaware of, but it does still advocate the right to choose?

M Ryland (6T)



'LOCAL GOVERNMENT CAPITAL CHOICES COMPETITION'



Above, Rich's successful 'Capital Choices' team, who won £1,000 for the school. From left to right, Rachel Bladon, Austin Degge, Jeremy Lai-Hung, Pamela Mbadiwe, Mark Aplin and Abbie Saunders.

This year, Sixth Formers, Abbie Saunders, Austin Degge, Jeremy Lai-Hung, Pamela Mbadiwe, Mark Aplin and Rachel Bladon, successfully competed in the nationwide 'Capital Choices Competition'. The students were so successful, that they reached the final. This competition is organized by the 'Local Government Management Board' and the Rich's team reached the final by winning the 'Regional Final', which was held at 'Devon County Council'. It is a competition designed to increase awareness of local government issues and involves schools competing against each other for the funding of 'capital projects'. Such projects include, new leisure centres, car park schemes, cycle routes, etc.

Each team had to promote their particular scheme in formats; a display, a role play activity and a five minute presentation to Senior Councillors and Local Government Officers. Rich's did very well in the 'Regional Final', being presented with a cheque for £1,000 for the school, plus book tokens for all their hard work. Many local people helped prepare students for the competition, but special thanks must go to Mr David Scott and Mr Steven Elway of Gloucester City Council and Councillors Janet and Mike Parry.

Having won the South West regional final, the team travelled to London to compete in the National Final, where they were up against regional winners from Essex, Newcastle, the Midlands and Yorkshire. Another local government issue had to be investigated, from which a seven minute radio broadcast and relevant display material had to be produced. Rich's investigated 'Compulsory Competitive Tendering', (CCT), with the team showing great initiative in gaining information from members of Gloucestershire County Council and gaining the help of 'Savern Sound' with the radio broadcast. In London, the judges questioned the team and were interviewed by a Senior Local Government Officer.

The team genuinely thought that they had handled everything really well and it was with great surprise when Rich's found out that they were placed second overall. A crucial factor, could have been that the winners had secured an interview with Labour Party Leader, Tony Blair, in their radio broadcast and this may have decided the final outcome of the competition.

Mr G Watson

SIXTH FORM LEADERSHIP COURSE

In February, a group of thirteen Lower Sixth Formers embarked on a 'Moral Leadership Course', which was held at 'Bibbins Residential Lodge', which is situated by the river Wye, in the Forest of Dean. The course ran over lasted one weekend.

The aim of the course revolved around 'Personal Development'. The leaders worked on our skills of leadership, team-work, confidence building and assertiveness. Another aim, was to make us overcome some of our fears. All this, just to ensure that when we become Prefects and Observers, we don't abuse our power and give out unnecessary detentions!

So what did we do on the course? Well, on the first evening, we had a navigation exercise, just to make sure that we could all read a map and use a compass. On the actual exercise, one team unfortunately did manage to go off route, but with a little luck, some good compass work and a search party, they managed to get back to the centre before six o'clock in the evening, just in time for dinner. All I can say, is that they were better at cooking than map reading and of course, the night that they got lost, had to be their turn at cooking the meal! Luckily, they got their act together and cooked a good meal and we all enjoyed a good, hot 'Chicken Balti'. This ensured that the group soon got warmed up in the lodge and this was a blessing, as the heating system was not particular good.

At about 11.30, we all started to head off to bed, at which point, Matt, our leader, intervened with the words, "Hmm, actually we're not staying the night here, we're spending the night in a cave". We of course thought that he was winding us up, but this was not the case, much to our dismay. So we packed the warmest clothes that we could lay our

hands on, plus our sleeping bags, as well as a torch and just managed to get to the 'drop-off point', the heavens opened up. We trooped out of the mini-bus, took a short walk and soon found out that we had to descend down a rock gallery. We realized that this was our first 'team-building exercise'. To start off, some of us descended. Then our ruck-sacks were passed down to us. With a little negotiation and encouragement, we were soon all at the bottom of the descent.

The first thing that we noticed upon entering the caves was the temperature. Apparently, they are relatively warm all year long and the temperature was certainly better than the lodge. By about 1.30 am in the morning, we were all settled and despite the candles flickering over the disconcerting messages on the surrounding walls, like, "This way to hell" and "Ian haunts here - alright!", we soon got to sleep.

Over the weekend, we did loads of 'problem-solving exercises'. For instance, we had to get from one end of a road to another, without touching the ground and with the use of milk crates only. Can you suggest any methods or possible solutions? The main exercise was a 'mock-up' of a mountain rescue, where we had to find an injured walker and stretch him or her back to base. Tilting and jolting a stretcher through knee-deep mud, certainly put me off even being an injured patient, let alone a rescuer!

We got back by 2.00 am and then myself and some of the others had to cook breakfast at 6.45, later that morning, for the whole group. On Sunday, we went caving in Wales. This was absolutely brilliant. We all got thoroughly soaked and caked in mud, but we still enjoyed it.



Everyone got through, even those who are six foot plus, who often received helpful advice about squeezing through cracks and subtle fox holes, with appropriate names, like, 'The Warren'. Deep in the caves, we all did a chant, which is a good way of relaxing and being at one with the bowels of the earth. Sounds comy, but it really did work.

On the Sunday evening, we had a special last supper, consisting of pizza and some strong 'Panda Pop'. We then had the evening to ourselves and most of us caught up on some much needed sleep. The following morning, we cleaned the centre as fast as we could and then had a 'debriefing' relating to the two main activities that had taken place over the weekend. We then had to fill in a personal assessment sheet, to see if we had improved in any shape or form over the weekend. I was pleased to find that my capability of working in a team had markedly improved.

When we all had finished at 'Biblins', we went over to the 'Wilderness Centre', which I am sure many of you have heard of and which is also situated in the Forest of Dean. Here, more cleaning awaited us. This time, it was all the caving equipment that we had used, but we did embark upon a few more exercises. They were climbing on the 'Indoor Wall' and a 'Low ropes Course', which was designed for nine year olds. So to make it harder for us, two selected individuals in the group were blind-folded and we had to direct them around the obstacles.

Before we knew it, the course was over and it was time to travel back to Gloucester. We boarded the bus and due to exhaustion and the intensity of the weekend, we promptly all fell asleep. When we got back to Rich's, we unloaded our dirty, wet, muddy and smelly kit, bid our farewells to the course leaders and ventured home - still tired, but satisfied at our efforts.

All in all, I think that the course was very useful. It taught us a lot about ourselves, our strengths and weaknesses, in terms of character and personality. Positively, it revealed to us all, how we can improve as individuals and how we can help others to really fulfil their own potential. Yet, the most important aspect of the course, that I will remember, is that it taught me that 'Communication' is vital and that working with others to produce an effective team is the key to success, whatever you embark upon in life. I would certainly recommend the course to any future Sixth Formers at Rich's!

D Wright (6T)

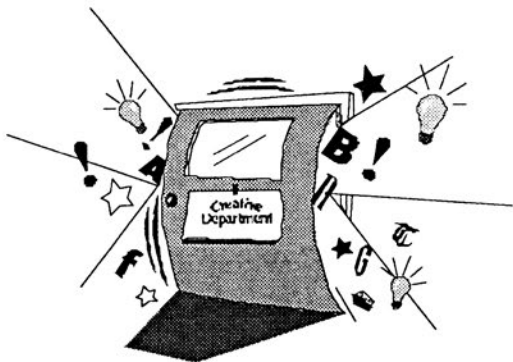


Above, the various members of the Sixth Form who went on the 'Sixth Form Moral Leadership Course' last February at the Biblins Residential Lodge, in the Forest of Dean and River Wye area.

MATCH THE QUOTES

Simply look at the quotations below and try to match them with the list of famous people. Answers on Page 70.

- 1 Et tu, Brute.
- 2 Give me a decent bottle of poison and I'll construct the perfect crime.
- 3 Soldiers win the battles and generals get the credit.
- 4 That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.
- 5 The battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton.
- 6 Cowards die many times before their deaths: The valiant never taste of death but once.
- 7 Genius is one per cent inspiration and ninety-nine per cent perspiration.
- 8 Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.
- 9 We are all in the gutter, but some of us are used to looking up at the stars.
- 10 Some people think football is a matter of life and death. I can assure them it is much more serious than that.
- 11 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
- 12 That man is wisest who, like Socrates, realizes that his wisdom is worthless.
- 13 Here's looking at you, kid.
- 14 Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn.
- 15 Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel.
- 16 A thing of beauty is a joy forever.
- 17 I started at the top and worked my way down.
- 18 What is drama but life with the dull bits cut out?
- 19 There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics.
- 20 Neither a borrower nor a lender be.



MATCH UP THE FAMOUS PEOPLE BELOW WITH THE ABOVE QUOTATIONS.

- 1 William Shakespeare
- 2 Plato
- 3 Duke of Wellington
- 4 John Keats
- 5 Julius Caesar
- 6 Sir Winston Churchill
- 7 Clark Gable
- 8 Humphrey Bogart
- 9 Agatha Christie
- 10 The Bible: John 15:13
- 11 Alfred Hitchcock
- 12 Bill Shankly
- 13 Benjamin Disraeli
- 14 Napoleon Bonaparte
- 15 William Shakespeare
- 16 Samuel Johnson
- 17 Neil Armstrong
- 18 Thomas Edison
- 19 Orson Wells
- 20 Oscar Wilde



Complied by Mr P D Lloyd

JUNIOR RICHIAN

Simply match up the words below into familiar pairs and enter them in the spaces provided in the box below. (ANSWERS ON PAGE 43)

Wedding Civil Weather Penny Cup Evening Top Station

Road Washing Straw Driver Bat Egg Bill Sunday Track

Sea Apple Bird Double Crazy Atlantic Skating Chocolate

Beer Bus Flowers Front Sherry Polling Library Tree

Bowl Cream Glazing Basket Spring Coffee Cricket Stop

Last Ring Servant Draught Door Reference Milk Ocean

Farthing Mothering Record Quick Gas Lion Day Chop

Poached Lady Dress Lamb Paving Hat Ice Forecast Machine

Mixing Learner Step Shopping

Contributed by Mr G Watson

JUNIOR RICHIAN

Winter Tales

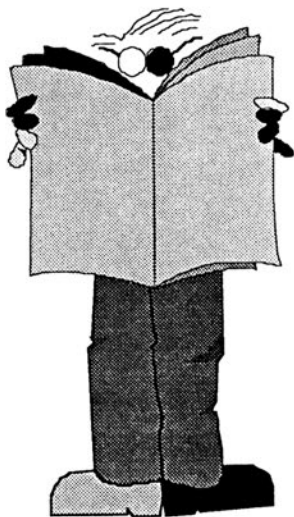
With the list below, your task is simple. All you have to do is guess the titles of ten books.

- 1 Unblemished and pale meets seven vertically disadvantaged persons.
- 2 The digit of sorcery.
- 3 Colourless canine.
- 4 Breeze amidst osiers.
- 5 Concealed botanical enclosure.
- 6 Publication of dense vegetation.
- 7 Young boy and the confectionery manufacturing establishment.
- 8 Location of untamed characters.
- 9 Diminutive ladies.
- 10 A small dwelling on grassland.

Answers can be found on page 43



Contributed by Mr G Watson



What is/are the letter(s)?

What letter of the alphabet is a:

- 1 human organ?
- 2 beverage?
- 3 bird?
- 4 insect?
- 5 vegetable?
- 6 line of people?
- 7 river in Britain?
- 8 sheep?
- 9 verb of debt?
- 10 large expanse of Water?
- 11 command to a horse?

What two letters of the alphabet is a:

- 12 condition of a wintry pavement?
- 13 county in England?
- 14 name of a creeping vine?
- 15 name of a verb that means 'to rot'?
- 16 word meaning 'too much'?
- 17 word meaning 'not difficult'?
- 18 girl's name?
- 19 written composition?
- 20 summer dress material?
- 21 kind of pepper?
- 22 word meaning 'to surpass others'?
- 23 word resembling jealousy?

Answers can be found on page 43

JUNIOR RICHIAN - WORD-SEARCH

V H A K E L L I E A R L C K S T P P B Z Z S H P H
A O B L D R Z Y P F U G A L L A G H E R A Z X M A
U U H P I L B E A M G J C W K Y N M O P S J B O L
G S H H L K O F V M B A D M I N T O N E O O A R E
H E A E M L G G V N Y F M P C C R Q O N C S R G B
A H N R N R S S K B Y Q C E V D L Z R E C H R A O
N D B Z N D C V E W Y T I Q S B I S T V E U I N N
S V O X Z O E A S T G A T E N P N V H O R A N U A
M O S S N Z L R G U I W Z T Y V M M M I O P G S P
I A R P V I T D S O G N N N I V C E N R P C T M E
T G T P N E D D Y O S Q F F O R U F O I O P O A T
H O M H T V G N M R N O R T O N C W E C I V N L L
B O C T S V A Y N P V R B F F O D E I H S N T L N
B O B D T O I C M Q P C O E O R S S U I N A A W T
C D U V H U U V P V K H W A W T S T U A I O A O P
C F R V D A A T O V P E I R L H E G U N C A X O R
H G N T V G N J H Z N S E N E G D A Y U H G T D O
E D I V O T U N O G V T M T R A D T D U O D F D B
S D E F F O T T E A A R T C F T Z E C Y L A F F E
S F U D F U V B B Y U A Z C T E J C D Z A S S W R
C O M P U T E R C L U B W A T H D H V U S S V O T
L L O Y D I W P P D W A U N X O B O B N U T V P S
U J J U I C M S P A O A P A C K K I V W Q Z S B H
B A R N E S M T R U P P A S S E Y R P P M B B Y J
S L I N G E R R U B V U X S C H O O L T E E X A T

IN THE ABOVE GRID, FIND THESE WORDS AND NAMES

VAUGHAN-SMITH	NORTON	MORGAN	MATHS
HALE	SMALLWOOD	ROBERTS	PILBEAM
BARNES	NORTHGATE	McBURNIE	SLINGER
SOUTH	ARNOLD	EASTGATE	BARRINGTON
COMPUTER CLUB	CHOIR	FEARN	WESTGATE
BOWIE	PACK	RUGBY	SOCCER
BADMINTON	NICHOLAS	PASSEY	GALLAGHER
GAMES	NORTH	JOSHUA	HENDERSON
LLOYD	SMITH	CHESS CLUB	MOSS
ORCHESTRA	FOWLER	KELLIE	GYM
HANNEY	HOUSE	RICHIAN	SCHOOL

Compiled by T Russell & C Malpass (8B)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Below, you will find a brief summary of news items that have materialized during the last year.

In October, Miss J Wilton was re-elected Chairman of the School's Governing Body and Canon P Nunn was elected Vice-Chairman. A group of Upper School pupils representing the Venture Scouts' raised £300 for the 'Meningitis Trust' last autumn, when they completed the 24 mile 'Five Valleys Walk' in just over six hours.

Robbie Burns (Year 8) finished an excellent 7th place in the 'National Swimming Championships' at Leeds last August and was later selected to represent the 'South-West' in the regional championships. Garry Pocock (11R), was nominated as the overall winner of the 'BT / Childline Award for Services to Children' last November. Garry helped with residential camps for bereaved children and was nominated by the lady who organizes the camps. Chris Springett (8T) won a mountain bike from 'Diamond Back Cycles' for raising over £60 worth of sponsorship for 'Help the Aged'. Simon Kellie (9T) represented the 'South West' at the 'National Biathlon Championships' last autumn.

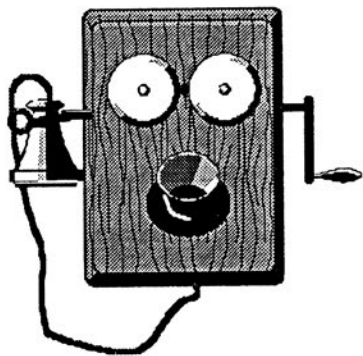
The 'Christmas Fayre', organized by the 'Parents' Association' raised almost £3,000. David Frodin (6T) was selected to represent Gloucestershire, as a member of the 'British Schools Exploring Society's' expedition to Svalbard, for six weeks in the summer of 1996. The expedition was to be based on the largest island, Spitzbergen, far beyond the Arctic Circle. John Mayes (9B) represented Cheltenham and the County at hockey during the year. Six members of the Upper Sixth gained offers of places at Oxford and Cambridge. A number of Sixth Formers raised money for 'The Stroke Association'.



The 'Parents Association' helped to fund many projects, such as buying a 'CD-Rom' for the library, providing new table-tennis tables and helping to resurface the tennis courts. Fencing - Michael Brown and Michael Randell, Year 11, reached the finals of the British U18 Epee Finals. Tim Andrews, Mark Gilmore and Phil Reid of the School's Venture Scout Unit competed in the 'Cotswold Marathon', hiking over 38 miles. Ben Rodford (7R) won the Under 13's Single Sculls at 'Gloucester Head Race'. Once more, the 'Railway Society' went on a trip, visiting the South-East, while a party from Year 10 & 12 went on the annual 'Gottingen Trip'. Catherine Ellicott and Laura Winton attended the 'Cambridge University Law Conference'.

During the Summer term, Jaime Stokes (10T) helped to raise £50 for the 'MacMillan Nursing Appeal'. Babar Vaquas (6H) could be heard on 'Radio Gloucestershire', presenting a current affairs programme. Oliver Bain and Chris Jones of (7C), both won book tokens in the 'Lloyd's Bank Competition', that had been held during the 'Arts Week'. Meanwhile, Alex Dielt represented North Gloucestershire Schools against Avon Schools. Geoffrey Wittington (10R) was selected to play for the South West Under 15's against a F.A. School of Excellence team and scored the first goal in a 2-0 victory. Craig Lewis (9R) performed at the Everyman Theatre, in their production of 'Fiddler on the Roof', while Matthew Mundy toured Devon with the Gloucester Youth Jazz Orchestra. Felicity Birch (6R) went to the Dominican Republic with her Venture Scout Unit, to help build new rooms for a village school. Without question, Rich's can be very proud of the individual achievements that our students have produced over the year.

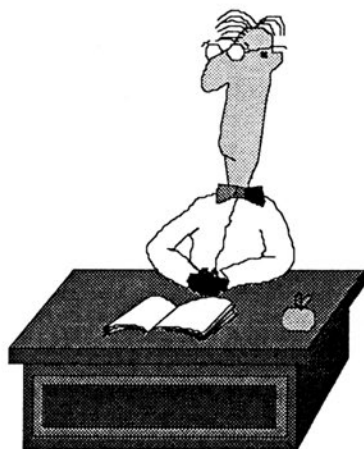
Mr P D Lloyd



JUNIOR RICHIAN TRIVIA QUIZ

Yet another 'Trivia Quiz'! Test your knowledge of the school by simply answering the questions below. Answers to the quiz can be found on Page 48. Good luck!

1. The school swimming pool was originally opened in 1966. Who officially opened it? Mr Stocks - Mr Heap - or Mr Veale?
2. Name the member of staff who joined Rich's in the last year and was a former pupil?
3. Rich's use to produce regular County champions in the athletic discipline of 'Pole Vault' - True or False?
4. Mr Donald Moss was a former Editor of 'The Richian Magazine' - True or False?
5. In which year did the school move from the old 'Barton Street' site to the present premises at Oakleaze? 1962 - 1968 - 1966 - 1964
6. What is the name of the school and the town, with which Rich's has an annual 'German Exchange Programme' operating?
7. What is the 'Five Schools Association'?
8. Before this year's Ski-Trip, Mr Lockey organized the last one. Where was it to?
9. When was the 'Elmbridge Club', home of the 'Old Richians RFC' built? 1981 - 1982 - 1983
10. Name the girl who became Rich's first official 'Observatrix' in 1988 - 1989?
11. What was the 'Raid the Larder' scheme that use to operate at Rich's towards Christmas time?
12. In 1975, a Rich's rowing crew paddled the 22 mile length of 'Loch Ness' in record time and were entered in the 'Guinness Book of Records' - True or False?
13. In which year was the 'Old Richians RFC' officially founded? - 1947 - 1961 - 1950
14. Rich's has had over the years, many clubs and societies. One of them was the 'Peacock Club' - What was this club?
15. In what year, did Mr Kellie, Rich's current Headmaster, arrive at the school? - 1989 - 1988 - 1990 - 1992
16. The 'Madrigal Group' sing 'Madrigals', what are these exactly?



17. In which church is our founder, 'Sir Thomas Rich' buried?
18. Traditionally, the new 'Year 7' have had an 'Induction trip' to Stratford-on-Avon. Yet, the first trip was to 'Welsh Bicknor', in the Wye Valley - True or False?
19. Name the only Richian to gain a full England Cap at Rugby Union in the 1950's?
20. Who is the current President of the 'Old Richians Association'?
21. Every year Rich's has two carol services, one at Holy Trinity, Longlevens and the other St John's, Northgate Street. What are these carol services officially called?
22. Who currently performs the role of the 'Blue-Coat Boy' at official school functions?
23. What is the name of Rich's new library?
24. Which Headmaster led the 'Tercentenary Celebrations'? - Mr Jarvis - Mr Heap - Mr Stocks - Mr Kellie
25. Name the 'Old Richian' who produced a painting of the school last year?

**HOW DID YOU GET ON?
ANSWERS ON PAGE 48**

Mr P D Lloyd

JUNIOR RICHIAN - ANSWERS FROM PAGE 39

Winter Tales

All you had to do was to guess the titles of ten well known children's books.

- 1 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
- 2 The Magic Finger
- 3 White Fang
- 4 The Wind in the Willows
- 5 The Secret Garden
- 6 The Jungle Book
- 7 Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
- 8 Where the Wild Things are
- 9 Little Women
- 10 The Little House on the Prairie

Contributed by Mr G Watson

What were the letter(s)?

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 I (Eye) | 2 T |
| 3 J | 4 B |
| 5 P | 6 Q |
| 7 Y / D / T
(Wye / Dee / Tee) | 8 U |
| 9 O | 10 C |
| 11 G | 12 I C |
| 13 S X | 14 I V |
| 15 D K | 16 X S |
| 17 E C | 18 I V / L N / L C
(Ivy / Ellen / Elsie) |
| 19 S A | 20 P K (Pique) |
| 21 K N | 22 X L |
| 23 N V | |

JUNIOR RICHIAN - ANSWERS FROM PAGE 38

Washing Machine	Spring Flower	Coffee Cup	Polling Station	Quick Step
Gas Bill	Bus Stop	Learner Driver	Shopping Basket	Crazy Paving
Cricket Bat	Atlantic Ocean	Apple Tree	Lady Bird	Poached Eggs
Milk Chocolate	Draught Beer	Lamb Chop	Reference Library	Ring Road
Mixing Bowl	Cream Sherry	Double Glazing	Civil Servant	Top Hat
Mothering Sunday	Sea Lion	Evening Dress	Weather Forecast	Ice Skating
Track Record	Wedding Day	Front Door	Last Straw	Penny Farthing

Contributed by Mr G Watson

SUMMER EXPEDITION TO ARCTIC NORWAY

During the Summer, David Frodin of the Lower Sixth prepared to venture to the Arctic Svalbard Islands for a six week expedition with the British Schools Exploring Society. David represented Gloucestershire solely on this expedition, having been selected from over four hundred applicants.

The archipelago is around 80 degrees North, far beyond the Arctic Circle, inhabited mainly by millions of migratory birds and polar bears. The expedition area, Oscar II Land of Spitsbergen ("pointed peaks") is uninhabited except for a trapper and bounded on three sides by fjords and the Greenland sea. The expedition will land by boat on the Tundra sandflat, where seven glaciers surge down at Isfjord. The head of these glaciers is Trollheim ("the Trolls' Home"), with black volcanic nunataks and colourful, towering sedimentary faces. The climate is typically cold and dry during the summer months but Arctic winds gusting over 40 mph can soon bring the temperature down to around -20 degrees centigrade.

The British Schools Exploring Society was founded in 1932 and aims to allow members to develop themselves as individuals and as team members. All of their expeditions combine exploration and scientific study as a means to achieve the same. The BSES has a high reputation for well organized expeditions combining safety with personal initiative, leadership and adventure. Many traditional destinations have included Alaska, Russia and Greenland, but this year one expedition is also going to the hot climate and wilderness of Namibia, while another will be travelling to Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

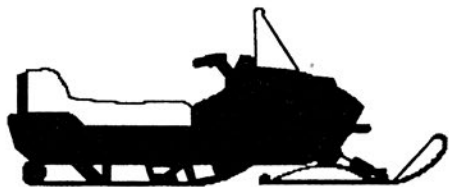


The expedition number was large, being of around one hundred explorers and leaders, but these will be split into "Fires" or groups of around eighteen. It was hoped that in this way the expedition would melt into the landscape with separate teams, that would remain interdependent and loosely co-ordinated with the expedition leader, a team of unattached senior mountaineers, the expedition doctor and boats persons.

David Frodin was a member of the glacial fire, studying the development of Arctic lichens on glacial retreat moraine. This data and further research would be used for his A-level Geography project. David is also taking A-levels in Biology and English Literature.

The opening days of the expedition were very busy for David, as he had to help supervise the distribution of rations and some other equipment amongst the groups. Food was mainly composed of MOD Arctic rations, consisting of porridge for breakfast, biscuits and nuts for lunch, while for dinner, there was dehydrated meat and rice. The rations are probably considered to be the best in the world, but eating the same food day in, day out, became rather tiresome and was only enhanced by mixed spices and inventive cooking techniques.

The advantage of the Arctic in the summer is that there is twenty-four hours of daylight. This means that if the weather is bad, you just stop



and wait until it clears and then move on later, whether it be late at night or early in the morning. Another feature of the food is that it could be eaten when you were hungry and not just because it is "breakfast time" and so on.

David did not wear his watch for most of the expedition, in an attempt to allow his natural body clock to work and this enabled him to analyze changes due to climate and diet. Obviously, some time keeping was essential, like when to catch the plane from Longyearbyen to Heathrow at the end of the expedition in August.

The expedition aimed to be totally self sufficient in the field and so everything had to be meticulously planned before hand. This included packing all the equipment into separate crates, that were divided equally between each one, so allowing the expedition on half rations even if one crate was to be lost overboard during the passage to the North.

As little environmental damage as possible was considered essential during the expedition and this resulted in the whole team being together in one location for not more than one or two nights, so that the wildlife and physical features around, would not be interfered with at all. Everything that the expedition went out with, had to be brought back and this included all human bodily actions, so that the environment would be unharmed within practical limitations. The main reason for this, is that biodegradation at these temperatures is negligible.



Above, David Frodin takes the advantage of last winter's snowfall, in preparation for his arctic adventure with the British Schools Exploring Society.

One part of the challenge of the expedition was to raise £2,400 in sponsorship, as a personal contribution to the overall expedition cost by David and also to help further funding of any necessary equipment. David is very grateful to all those who sponsored him and especially to the 'Old Richains' Association', who helped in an unprecedented way. A lecture will be given in the school hall sometime during September or early October, when David will outline his personal experiences and impressions of the expedition. There will be slides of the wonderful landscape, tales of the expedition, charts and diagrams, diary accounts, kit demonstrations and personal experiences of David's adventure to the Arctic North.

Adapted by Mr P Lloyd, from a contribution by David Frodin (6T)

MUSIC



The music department seems to go from strength to strength. Academically, there is a continuing rise in the number of pupils opting to take GCSE, with another twenty poised to engage in this artistically challenging, yet flexible exam syllabus in Year 10 next year. A smaller, but healthy number will take on the 'A' level. Many boys and girls during the year, also pursue various theory and instrumental examinations, through the Associated Board, Trinity or Guildhall Examining Groups, as well as Gloucestershire's own Instrumental Service's Performing Certificate. It is perhaps right to draw attention to these pupils' achievements, which are usually well earned, but sadly not widely broadcast. On this subject, may I take this opportunity to thank our team of visiting instrumental teachers, who come to the school almost every week of the school year, largely unnoticed and who provide pupils with a wonderful opportunity to acquire musical skills and knowledge, which not only enrich their lives artistically, but also, as is at last being generally recognized, can be greatly beneficial to their whole education and development.

It is pleasing to see the growth of self-confidence, as well as the musical development of pupils taking on musical pursuits, such as choir, orchestra, wind band, string quartet or just learning an instrument. The atmosphere in the music room, although noisy, is friendly, enthusiastic and often most productive - a life-line to many! Extra-curricular activities continues to thrive, with more individually organized groups and bands appearing from time to time. For example, a piano quintet rehearsing Schubert's 'Trout' quintet, two or three rock/soul bands, which occasionally enliven the atmosphere around the Sixth Form Common room or hall after school and a saxophone ensemble, driven by the irrepressible enthusiasm of a certain scientific member of staff.

Mr Henderson, must be congratulated on singing the solo Baritone in the Choir's very successful performance of the Fauré Requiem, held at St Catharine's in May of this year. The programme of French music, also included the 'Fauré Cantique de Jean Racine', a short, but beautifully eloquent piece of choral writing, the 'Sicilienne' for cello and piano, equally eloquent, and also by Fauré, the virtuosic 'Duo concertant', for clarinet and piano and an entertaining piece for organ, the 'Sortie', by Lefébure-Wély, played by Mr Bob Fowler. Thanks must go to Mr Wesley Duggan, one of our woodwind teachers and Mrs Linda Thompson, cellist, for playing. The Summer concert, held in July, renewed the link with 'Sochi', with a trombone quartet undertaking a daytime workshop and evening performance. This event ended another highly successful musical year at Rich's.

Mr J W Thompson



SUNNY ABBEYMEAD

To live in red-brick countryside,
In pleasant Abbeymead,
With patio-slabs and barbecues,
There's everything you need.

They rise at seven-thirty,
Drive off to work at eight,
Come back home and have their tea,
and sweetly vegetate.

They mow their lawns at midday,
Eat Sunday lunch at two,
Then pile into their motor-cars.
To visit God know's who.

The view from the back window
confronts a garden fence,
It keeps us in and keeps them out,
and makes a lot of sense.

The bird-life here in Abbeymead
is frankly rather dull,
The sparrows and the starlings
and a part-time vagrant gull.

A constant droning fills the air,
It haunts us, night and day,
It's moving transportation,
On the nearby motorway.

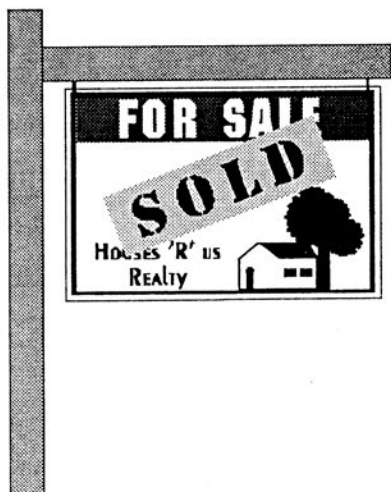


But, oh to be in Abbeymead,
Now that Yuletide's here,
We'll deck those plastic christmas trees,
and cram the fridge with beer.

We'll stuff those turkey's merrily,
And carve them with a knife,
And propped against each Paxoed bird,
There leers a knackered wife.

So, Happy New Year, Abbeymead!
We wish you all the best,
I'd rather scream in Coney Hill,
With straps across my chest.

Mr L North



The bloke across has got a dog,
Computer and a wife,
He stares at all his windows,
But never looks at life.

The kids up here in Abbeymead
All dress in the same way,
In Cindy pink and macho black,
Designer C and A.

And yes, it's hard to make ends meet,
They struggle to survive,
On fifteen days in Florida
And a 'P' reg on the drive.



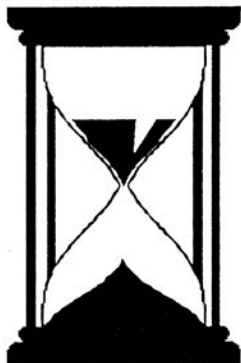
JUNIOR RICHIAN TRIVIA QUIZ - ANSWERS



Below you will find the answers to the 'Junior Richian Trivia Quiz' found on Page 42.

- 1 Mr Veale
- 2 Mr Alan Passey
- 3 True - Rich's regularly produced champions in the 1950's and 1960's.
- 4 True - for about ten years, Mr Moss was involved in producing 'The Richian', from 1968 to 1978.
- 5 1964
- 6 'Otto-Hahn - Gymnasium' - Gottingen
- 7 An association, made up of 6th Formers from Grammar schools in the city, such as Rich's and Denmark Road, which organize social events, such as discos etc.
- 8 The last Ski-trip was in 1992, organized by Mr Lockey, to France and the resort of 'Serre Chevalier'.
- 9 It was completed in December of 1983.
- 10 The first female 'Observatrix' at Rich's was appointed in 1988-89 and was Karen Hill.
- 11 A Christmas 6th Form venture, whereby food donations from the pupils in the school, were collected and distributed to old people in the local Longlevens area. The scheme still takes place from time to time.
- 12 True - In 1975, under the expert guidance of Mr Graham Middleton, Mr Bill Spear and Mr Henderson, a successful attempt was made by an eight.
- 13 'Old Richians' RFC' was founded in 1950 and the first Chairman was the Headmaster Mr W J Veale.
- 14 The 'Peacock Club' was an exclusive debating group, with membership by invitation only!
- 15 Mr Kellie arrived in September of 1988.
- 16 Madrigals are 16th century, four part songs.
- 17 St Andrew's , Sonning, near Reading.
- 18 True - Roger Lockey and Faith Jones, a former Geography teacher at Rich's, took the first years to 'Welsh Bicknor' in 1987.
- 19 Bill Hook
- 20 David Hook
- 21 The festival of 9 carols and 9 lessons.
- 22 James Cook - (11S)
- 23 'The Blue-Coat Library'
- 24 Mr Stocks
- 25 Peter Green (1972-1979)

Mr P D Lloyd



CAREERS EDUCATION & GUIDANCE AT RICH'S



The days of a short chat by a student to a teacher about possible future plans, have long gone! 'Careers Education and Guidance' at Rich's has grown over the last five years. Students receive a structured programme of Careers Education as part of the set curriculum from Year 9 onwards, until they leave the school.

The content of the 'Careers Curriculum' is varied and diverse. Topics include, personal development, the world of work, opportunity awareness, handling careers data, plus making choices and coping with transitions in life. The school is proud of its record of sending students onto Higher Education, but Careers Education at Rich's is now not just about 'UCAS' entry.

It has to make our students aware of the opportunities available in society, in terms of qualifications, occupations, working trends and link these areas with individual requirements. Consequently, the students have to learn about economic trends, roles at work, qualification routes and utilize this type of information in order to produce their own career plans.



In conjunction with formulating their own 'Career Action Plans', the students receive expert guidance from Kim Hudson of the 'Careers & Guidance Service'. In Year 10 and 11, each Student receives a number of personal careers interviews, specifically designed to investigate their personal interests, future plans and individual requirements. From this they obtain the necessary advice and information, from which they can put their personal 'Careers Action Plan' into operation. The interviews are supported with a well resourced 'Careers Library and many students receive advice from external parties, such as the armed services or they attend 'Career Conventions'.



In conjunction with the interviews, every student undertakes the 'Morrisby Test', which is designed to analyze and identify the students' personal skills, talents and abilities.

From the results of this test, guidance on suitable occupations and career paths can be made. 'JIGCAL' has recently been introduced into Year 9 and has been designed to make the students think early on about various occupations that possibly could be of interest to them. The key to the work of Careers Education at Rich's is about awareness, early preparation and ensuring that all the students possess the necessary skills and information to instigate their own personal career plans, so that they are thoroughly prepared for the world of work when they leave school. Rich's students are not just provided with information about Higher Education. They have to learn about the various

qualifications and training on offer at Post 16+, including all the new vocational courses that are now on offer.

At present, 'Work Experience' is compulsory for all students in the 'Lower Sixth'. Rich's is very fortunate in this area, as the links with the 'Old Richians' Association', the 'Parents' Association' and friends of the school, ensures that all our students gain a valuable and worthwhile experience while being out on their work secondment. The success of the 'Work experience' programme has been based on the hard work of teacher Bob Hanney and the 'goodwill' of many employers in the area, particularly recently, when the pressures on employers have been great due to the economic climate.



This is ongoing and the next stage of development is to upgrade the computer facilities for all students. Currently, the school offers various packages, such as 'ECTIS' and the 'Potters' Guide to H.E.', but it is planned to purchase other packages, especially 'inter-active' career software, so that students can embark on their own personal careers' planning. It is very evident, as in other fields, that the use of 'multi-media' facilities will be a growing area in the future of Careers Education. With the Government's strong emphasis on education and training, it seems inevitable that 'Careers Education' will continue to grow within the curriculum, right into the next millennium. Rich's will certainly be prepared!



Mr P D Lloyd

Due to the generous assistance of the Parents' Association and the local 'Gloucestershire Training and Enterprise Council', resources and facilities in the Careers Library, have gradually been up-graded. This process of development will continue in the next few years. To provide a first class careers service, it is essential to have the most up to date information, but also one must guarantee easy access to all students who quickly want to gain information. In the past year, it has been a priority to reorganize the Careers Library at Rich's and upgrade the labelling of information.

YEAR 7 FIELD TRIP TO WINCHCOMBE

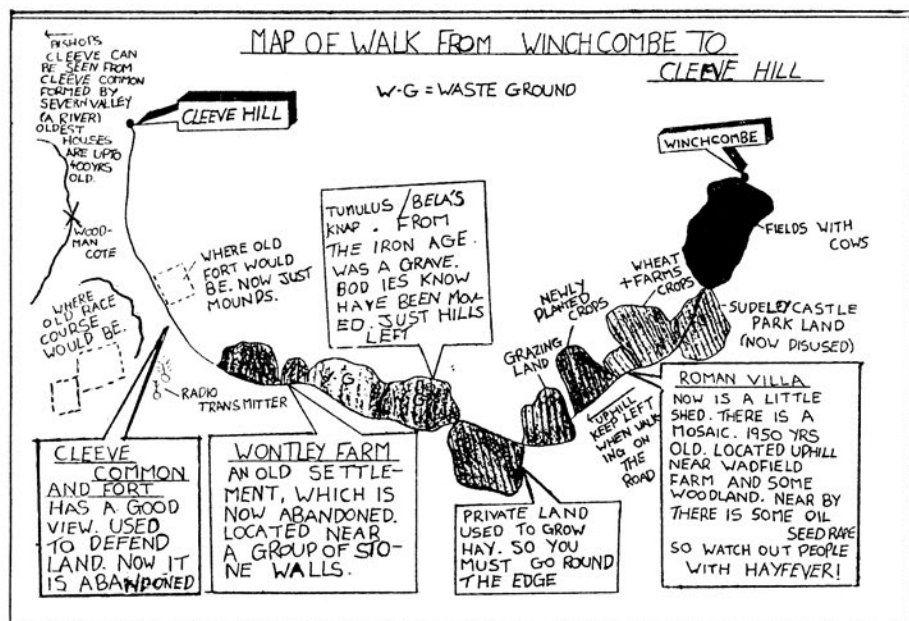
Early morning registration was over and we all boarded the bus which took us to Winchcombe. As soon as we got out, the smell of a cow pat greeted us like a ton of bricks. We followed the path to the first field. Then we went across the field and this was like playing hopscotch, as the main task was to avoid lots more cow pats. Some of us were relatively successful, while naturally others were not!

We continued to follow the path through other fields and as we did so, we examined what they were being used for and possible reasons why this should be, such as looking at the soil to see if it was alkaline / acidic or if it was dry or wet and also the general terrain of the land.

More walking eventually led us through to a corner field, where we came to an ancient monument, well known to all the locals in the area. Of course, this was 'Belas Knap', the ancient burial ground dating back to the Iron Age. During our walk, we saw other settlements, such as Wadfield Farm, where there was a Roman Villa. We also came across 'Wontley Farm', which is apparently a deserted medieval village and of course, we eventually ended up on Cleeve Common, which is where an old fort was built.

Towards the end of our trip, we had to cross many mounds and of course, being tired after a long day's walking and studying, many of us tripped up. Despite the arctic conditions that we had to endure, the day was interesting and enjoyable, especially as we could apply some of our geographical theory into a practical situation. I just hope that next time Mr Smallwood takes us out on a Geography field trip, he consults his satellite and makes sure that we do not have to face gale force winds!

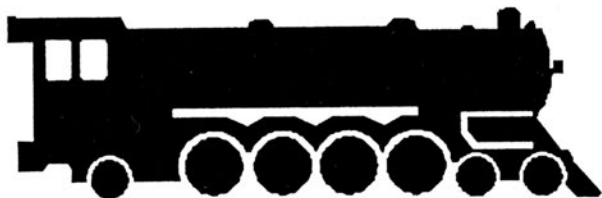
M Lee & R Grant (7B)



THE RAILWAY SOCIETY

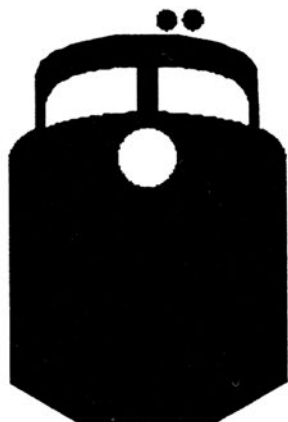
The Railway Society is one of the longest running and most active of the clubs in the school. Issues of 'The Richian' dating back at least to the 1950's contain reports of its trips. Possibly we have been too busy running trips or its just my reluctance to put pen to paper, but for the last few years the society has not featured in the

magazine. Anyway, there has certainly been no lack of enthusiasm in the club over the last few years. With around forty members joining this season's trips, the society is as successful as ever.



In the early 1990's, the summer trip to Scotland was always the highlight of the year. This would take three or four days, travelling well over a thousand miles by rail. Usually we would travel north to Crewe and catch the West Highland sleeper around midnight. A less than comfortable night would bring us onto the magnificent scenic line to Fort William and Mallaig next morning. Sometimes we took the ferry cruise up the West Coast to the Isle of Skye and the equally beautiful line from Kyle of Lochalsh to Inverness. Best of all was the 1992 Summer trip, when we travelled north by day, breaking our journey at the Ben Nevis Youth Hostel. The sun shone throughout and the trains and ships ran to time, with only a cancelled bus in Sheffield causing any problems. Visits to railway workshops were popular with most members at that time, so we became quite well acquainted with the less salubrious parts of several northern cities.

Many of the day trips at that time were quite ambitious. Aberdeen was visited more than once, we played 'Quasar' in Newcastle, we travelled to the Cornish coast and the Welsh mountains and visited the Eurotunnel exhibition and Edinburgh. Most members were interested in the modern rail network and wanted to travel widely. Steam were derided as 'rusty kettles' fit only for scrap. More recently, most of our trips have included a steam train ride somewhere as the interests of the membership have changed. The railways seem to have changed. Sadly the night trains have gone, the Scottish lines produce only sprinter railcars and even the ferry to Skye has been replaced by a bridge.



This year's programme could hardly have got off to a worse start. We planned to visit Wales, travelling on the Ffestiniog Railway through Snowdonia to the coast at Porthmadog. A series of collisions and breakdowns, delays and cancellations meant British Rail was at its worst that day. By dint of continual replanning and some fairly desperate measures we almost reached Porthmadog, but it was an exhausting and frustrating journey. However, many of the members seemed to relish the challenge of whether we could overcome the obstacles.

After that, things had to improve! The next trip, to Manchester in glorious November sunshine, more than made up for the Welsh debacle. Everyone enjoyed the 'Museum of Industry', with its 'hands-on' science centre. A tram ride through the city took us to the Bury terminus of the East Lancs Steam Railway. Here we were shown round the steam engine and its controls, with some of Year 9 rather keen to drive it away! Two weeks later we headed north again, this time for a journey over the famous Settle to Carlisle line. Brilliant sunshine and the first snows of winter

*Some of the people who have helped to make
Rich's a flourishing school over the
course of the year.*



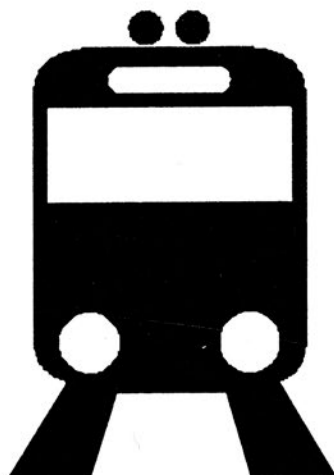




showed the Pennine fells at their most spectacular and this time some fairly ambitious time-tabling worked perfectly. Even the long journey home from Newcastle passed quickly thanks to a Monopoly competition organized by some enterprising members of 9B.

The next trip, to London in March, also required some replanning. This time because of the IRA bomb which devastated the Docklands Light Railway a few days earlier. Nevertheless, this was the most popular trip of all and ran on two separate dates. Having seen the tourist sights from the top of a bus, we made for the RAF museum at Hendon. There will be another trip with an aviation theme next year. More recently, we have journeyed to Sussex for the Bluebell Railway and there will be a lively and varied programme of visits next year. With luck we might revive the residential trip next summer, though probably not to Scotland.

Mr S W Pack



THE CREST AWARDS



Above, the Year 10 and 11 pupils who won Crest Awards this year.

In June, six pupils from Years 10 and 11 attended the 'SATRO Crest Awards', (Gloucestershire Science and Technology Regional Organization) at Woodlawn, Brockworth. The award scheme allows pupils to obtain bronze, silver, or gold awards, by producing high quality work in science or technology and is sponsored by local industry. This year, David Green, Simon Wilkinson, Robert Haworth, John Glendenning and Ross Hemming of Year 10, all collected a bronze award, while Michael Randell of Year 11 received a silver award for his 'Emergency Lighting System'. All the pupils' work formed part of their GCSE studies in Design and Technology. At the awards, the pupils set up a display of their projects, along with twelve other Gloucestershire schools, then they had to discuss their work with the judges and visitors from local industry. In the evening, the awards ceremony was conducted by representatives of British Telecom, who made a video presentation relating to the latest developments in the 'Communications Industry'.

Mr A Smith

THE CHAMWELL RESIDENTIAL TRIP

Every Wednesday afternoon during term time, a number of Sixth Formers from Rich's visit Chamwell School. This year, four of them went on the 'Chamwell Residential Trip', which was a cruise on the waterways of Worcestershire. Tim Andrews, Emma Panting, Louise Bladen and Andy Hodge teamed up for a week with Dean, Craig, Nicky and Joy, students at Chamwell School. The following is an account of the week on the water.

When Monday came, we were all vibrant and excited about the week ahead on 'DART', (Disabled Afloat Riverboat Trust), which was home for the week and a modified canal boat. We were not due at the boat until about 4.00 pm, so we went to the 'National Waterways Museum' first. Our group consisted of Students from Chamwell and Rich's, plus three staff members. We first went to Upton-Upon-Severn, where we would pick the boat up and prepare for the week ahead. Looking at all the bags, we had brought with us, we wondered how we would fit it all on such a small barge, but somehow we managed. During our first day, we got as far as Tewkesbury and Tim soon was labelled as a 'Trainspotter', due to the Gortex anorak that he was wearing.

The next day was an early start for all concerned and made sure that we had lots of maggots, ready for the day's fishing that we were going to embark upon. Our friends from Chamwell seemed to thoroughly enjoy the fishing. On this second day, we came across our first real test, which was a lock and of course the girls showed the boys what they were really made of. In the evening, we stopped off at Pershore to enjoy a nice pub meal. Craig and Dean really got hooked on the fishing and along with Emma, stayed up half the night, hoping to catch something.

On the Wednesday, some of us woke up to find that everyone appeared to have been up for hours. Whilst travelling to Evesham, which was our final destination, some of the crew played a few games on board. When we got to Evesham, we moored and then went ashore to look around the town. Some real enthusiasts stayed put and did some more fishing. On the Thursday, it was all about heading home and the return home. This was to be a strenuous day, for we had to move through six locks. More maggots had been taken on board for the fishing experts. At one stage Craig accidentally knocked Tim's hand, who at the time was carrying the tin, which contained all the maggots. You can imagine the reaction of us girls at the site of crawling maggots around our feet. Of course, some of the crew found it highly amusing.

We stopped at Twynning for a meal and by this time we were all a little sad, as the trip was drawing to a close. Friday mainly consisted of clearly up, with each member given specific jobs to undertake. I recall Andy found this a real treat and it made him realize how much he had been missing his after school cleaning job at Rich's! Of course during the week we all had a turn at steering the boat. We reached Upton-upon-Severn at about 12.00 on the Friday and after a meal, it was time to depart back to Gloucester. We all enjoyed ourselves, but it would have not been possible without the generous donations given us by various sources. This was very much appreciated and we all will not forget our canal holiday.

Sixth Form Students.

'TOMMY' - THE MUSICAL

This year's end of school year trip was to see 'Tommy' at the Shaftesbury Theatre, London. The musical, written by 'The Who's' Pete Townsend dates back to 1968 and is the story of a deaf and blind mute, who became disturbed after witnessing a murder in his own home at the age four. His parents try in vain to cure him and eventually his mother by chance helps to break the deadlock. This is the catalyst that ensures that Tommy shoots to fame as a 'Pinball Wizard'. As with all good stories, Tommy eventually realizes what he really wants in life and returns to his family. The acting was great, being realistic, imaginative and authentic.

Tommy was played by James Gillian, while Kim Wilde played his mother. The musical was one of the best that I have ever seen, with the stage effects phenomenally amazing. I can thoroughly recommend this show to anyone and urge you, if you get the chance to go and see it for yourself. Many of my contemporaries, who went on the trip were similarly impressed.

Our thanks must go to Mrs Spilsbury, who annually arranges these outings for the benefit of us all. This was my fourth London musical, but hopefully not the last!

B Ballard (6R)

LIFE AT BBC RADIO GLOUCESTERSHIRE

I always had an interest in debating, ever since those memorable GCSE English orals that we all had to endure. Therefore, when the opportunity arose to participate in a live weekly current affairs programme for BBC Radio Gloucestershire for the local ethnic communities, I was quick off the mark to accept and straight into the studio.

My task is now to review the national and local newspapers, with a view to discussing key issues that hit the headlines. Consequently, during the week, I have to keep a close eye on the leading events that take place during the week, ready for Saturday evening's programme.

The radio programme has given me the chance to become better acquainted with current affairs and helped me to play a part in Gloucester's ethnic community. It has also helped to build my confidence up, particularly as you have to deal with on the spot questions, which are often very demanding, usually with no right or wrong answers. At first, I was a little apprehensive at the prospect of making a fool of myself on air, particularly as I was likely to be heard by several thousand people. Yet, with time, my communication skills have improved and I would like to think that they are still improving! Consequently, I am a little more relaxed than when I first started and tend to put any worries

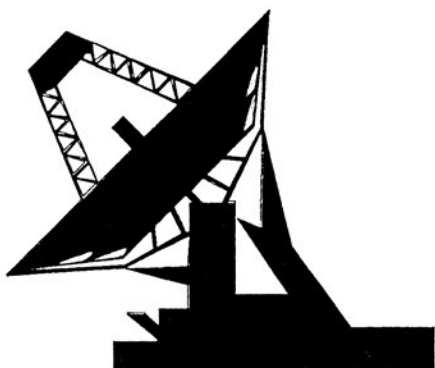
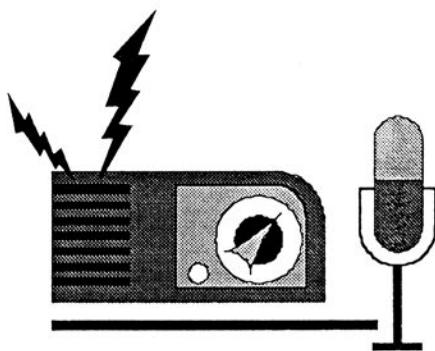
to the back of my mind when I go on air, although it can still be nerve racking at times.

The experience has made me realize that if you are going to be successful and sound professional, you have to prepare very methodically. The initial environment of a radio station is quite imposing, but working under pressure is a good experience. I feel that the skills that I have learnt at Radio Gloucestershire, can be transferred to other working environments, where communication skills, meeting tight schedules and coping with pressure are all part of the job.

I am still improving all the time and yes, I do make mistakes, just like anyone else who is learning the ropes of a new job or set of skills. Yet, that's part of the excitement of a live show! Well, that's what they tell me anyway.

As for the future, I hope to participate in a bit of interviewing for a new documentary series that is in the pipeline, based on the experiences, past and present, of Gloucester's immigrant communities. I will be finding out whether they feel that life in Gloucester has changed for them or not. Anyway, whatever happens, my time at Radio Gloucester has been fascinating.

B Vaquas (6H)



RUGBY - FIRST XV - CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Played 11 Won 9 Drawn 0 Lost 2 - Points For 343 Against 79



Above, the First XV, looking mean and determined before their match against Bournside School.

The First XV are to be congratulated on a very successful season. This is mainly due to the positive attitude and high level of commitment, which the squad possessed all season, not only towards fixtures, but also in training. The First XV operated on a 'squad basis', rather than calling up players from the Second XV, when players were injured or ill. This worked well and helped to foster a better team spirit, as well as providing a useful nurturing ground for some of the promising younger players.

The style of rugby that the team decided to play, was an open and flowing '15-man' game, instead of just relying on the forwards all the time. Our impressive record, is testimony to the success of the brand of rugby we selected. Many sides were simply worn down and surprised by our open running and handling game. Also, very evident, was the fact that often we ran our penalties, rather than taking the kicking option. Subsequently, we

scored many good tries. Another significant feature of our successful season, was the fact that in defence we were very aggressive and tackled hard, subsequently resulting in few tries being conceded. The most we conceded, was against Rencombe, when we allowed the opposition to score 22 points, yet, we still won the game.

The two defeats we suffered were obviously very disappointing, particularly the one against Kings, when we lost 13-12, conceding a 'drop-goal' with the last kick of the match. Against Bournside, the opposition deserved their victory and we had to face the fact, that they were simply better.

Many thanks to Mr Gallagher and Mr Nicholas for coaching us, although it must be said, that our two defeats only came, when Mr Nicholas was in charge of us!

M Burdett (6R)

RUGBY - FIRST XV - COACH'S REPORT

Under the captaincy of Martin Burdett, the First XV had an excellent season. The team showed a fluency and flair for attack, which many teams had difficulty coping with and, because it came from players in any position, the team were very entertaining to watch. Coupled with this was a tenacity in defence, which saw good opposition reduced to giving away possession as their attacks were snuffed out. All players showed a commitment in both playing and training, which resulted in good team spirit and a desire to do well - congratulations to all who represented the 1st XV this year.

Mr I J Gallagher



SUMMARY OF SEASON'S RUGBY RESULTS

PLAYED WON LOST DRAWN

1st XV	11	9	2	0
2nd XV	10	9	1	0
U. 15's	21	16	5	0
U. 14's	10	8	2	0
U. 13's	10	8	2	0
U. 12's - A	8	6	1	1
U. 12's - B	7	6	0	1

RUGBY - SECOND XV

Played 10 Won 9 Drawn 0 Lost 1 - Points For 218 Against 139

This has been a successful season for the Seconds, with notable victories over St Peters, Kings and Beaufort. The team did not lose a much, until late November, when illness and selection for the First XV, resulted in key players been unavailable. Consequently, in the fixture against Wycliffe, the team fielded a weakened side and subsequently lost. The team has based play on the forwards rucking the ball and driving off the fringes, before releasing to the backs. This was best achieved against Marling, when the side was 14-10 down and facing a driving wind, resulting in little option, but to work the ball upfield by hand through the forwards. In other matches, the forwards on occasions, appeared to be uncertain of their own ability and allowed the opposition to fight back. The team however, have always defended well and I was very pleased to see lots of players turning out for training. In total, thirty players have represented the Second team, many of whom would classify that Rugby was not their first sporting option. Also, one should note, that due to injuries and illness, many of these players had to play out of their normal position. Often, players were called in at the last moment to represent the school, yet they displayed lots of commitment. Many thanks to all those who played for the Seconds.

Mr M R Swann

A BRAVE NEW ERA IN RUGBY UNION - PROFESSIONALISM (?)

In the last year, the world has seen a revolution in the sport of Rugby Union. There have been changes, the like of which, has not been seen, since the game was split with the emergence of the 'Northern Code' of Rugby League. I am of course talking about the advent of 'Professionalism' in the game of Rugby Union. For the last few years, the issue has been discussed, but it really "hotted up" last year, when the Southern African administrator, Louis Luyt voiced his opinions on the subject. In the Southern hemisphere, support for professionalism had been advocated for some time by the unions in Australia and New Zealand. Yet, what really brought the issue to a head, was Australian media tycoon, Kerry Packer, who was attempting to set up a professional league. This prompted the administrators at 'Twickenham H.Q.' to sit up and eventually, the 'International Board' gathered together to discuss the future of the game and the issues at stake. As we all know, the historic decision was made and Rugby Union overnight became a professional sport.

In my opinion, this has been the best thing to happen to Rugby Union and I feel 'professionalism' has a lot to offer and I cannot understand why anyone connected with the game, feels this is not the way forward. It seems that I am not alone in my opinion, for many of the top players quickly added their weight and support behind the board's decision. Many believe that if the board had not opted in favour of the introduction of professionalism in Rugby Union, then many players across the world would have simply voted with their feet. Subsequently, it seemed inevitable that the game would go professional, even before the board met and it was simply a question of time. I believe it is good for the game for a number of reasons. As a keen young player, the decision has given me the inspiration to work hard at my own game and hopefully, like many youngsters in this country, I may one day be good enough to turn professional and make rugby my career. This goal for many young players, will result in higher standards being accomplished and greater competitiveness will ensure that English rugby improves even more than it has in the last few years. At the higher levels of the game, I feel standards will become higher, as more players will be able to devote more time to their training, in the knowledge that they are financially secure. With greater fitness and technical standards among players, I feel rugby, as a spectacle will become much more exciting to watch, resulting in even greater media attention. This in turn will promote the game even more and importantly, raise money for the sport as a whole, from which I hope, all players, whatever standard, will benefit. Importantly, at international level, I feel that many of the 'home nations' will improve and be able to compete with the likes of New Zealand and South Africa on more even terms than before, when many believed that the players representing these nations were basically 'professional' already!

Over the years, one of the most disturbing things to have happened to the 'Union Code', has been the defection of talented players, such as Scott Gibbs and Scott Quinnet to Rugby League. Now that Union has turned professional, one hopes that such rich talent will stay and such defections will be a thing of the past. One thing which the decision will stop for good, is the end of "Shamateurism". For years, there have been many rumours of illegal payments to players in the union game, especially in the Southern hemisphere. This led to bitterness and ill-feeling among players and even nations. Hopefully, such hypocrisy will be eliminated and ensure that the game becomes generally 'cleaner'.

Many of Rugby's 'old guard', who believe that 'professionalism' in Union is wrong, quote a number of reasons for their entrenched views. They feel that the character and traditional ethos of the game will be lost for ever. They feel that with higher standards among players and greater 'professionalism' in all areas of the game, matches will become stale and boring, as teams counter-out each other. The former President of the RFU, Dudley Wood, felt that professionalism would turn rugby into a sport, in which clubs and players would become greedy and aspire to win matches at any cost. It is the view of many opponents of 'professionalism', that only an elite few clubs will be able to survive and consequently will dominate all the domestic rugby competitions at the expense of smaller clubs. Some believe that many clubs will not be able to cope, as they do not obtain big enough gate receipts and so will not be able to pay players. Many feel, that only a few top class players will be able to reap the rewards of professionalism, while most players will still have to be 'semi-professional', with a day-time job.

Whatever the arguments are against 'professionalism' in Rugby Union, it is here now and looks as if it will stay. If the new era is to succeed, then it must be handled in a professional way by the administrators of the game. Consequently, it is not just the players who will have to adapt and raise their standards, but those who govern the game will have to become more efficient and better managers. I hope that this historic new era in Rugby Union, will ensure that the game grows and English rugby becomes a dominant force in the world.

D Garbutt (IIT)

RUGBY - COLTS XV

Played 21 Won 16 Drawn 0 Lost 5 - Points For 543 Against 146
(* Results include the 'Daily Mail & Gloucester City Cup Competitions')

THE DAILY MAIL CUP'

This has been an outstanding season for the Colts XV. Without question, the team's progression through the 'Daily Mail Cup Competition', has been one of the major highlights. Signs looked good right from the start, when Rich's 'turned over' Marling in the very first round. This was followed by an easy win over Crypt. Unfortunately, Rich's did not play very well against Bristol Grammar, losing 12-5, but by beating Lakers comfortably, the side qualified to represent Gloucestershire in the next stage of the competition. The team travelled down to Holyrood School, Somerset, to face a team who had not been defeated in four years and who had been Somerset County Champions for the last three seasons. With a tremendous performance, the team beat the opposition 10-0 and progressed to play 'Torquay Grammar School'. In January, Torquay made the long journey to Rich's. Both teams had reached the last sixteen of the competition and the winners of this tie would face St Peter's. Hopes were high for Rich's, but Torquay were a well drilled team, possessing lots of strength and physical presence. Ryan Bevan converted a penalty and the match was on! Yet, Torquay came back with two tries to lead 12-3 at the interval. Rich's never gave up and a wonderful interception by Ryan Bevan pulled Rich's back, with the conversion comfortably been scored. Despite this early pressure, Torquay rose to the challenge and for much of the second half, Rich's were constantly on the back-foot, defending bravely and keeping out the opposition on many occasions. Unfortunately, Torquay scored again and added another two points with the conversion. They were awarded a penalty, which they converted and with the match at 20 points to 10, it looked all over for Rich's. Yet, right up to the whistle, the Colts played with great courage and commitment, never losing faith and always trying. Although the team had lost, they were a credit to the school and considering it was Rich's first venture in this competition, they had set the standard for other teams to follow. Torquay were complementary about the side, stating that it had been the hardest match they had encountered for a number of years. With this defeat and the subsequent exit from the competition, the Colts turned their attention to the 'City Cup'!



*The successful Colts XV Rugby Squad, pictured at Kingsholm before their 'City Cup Final'.
* Picture by kind permission of Mr Tony Hickey*

'THE GLOUCESTER CITY CUP'

In the first round of this local competition, Rich's travelled to Newent to face a tough game. The Colts were a little 'rusty', due to a two week 'lay-off', in which little practice had been undertaken, due to the bad weather in the area. Despite this, the team were 'fired-up' - too much in fact, because, although they dominated the first half, they only managed to secure a 14-6 lead. After the break, a more composed side started to click, with some good flowing rugby and consequently, the points started to come. By the end of the match, the side had turned a frustrating first half performance into a good solid result, with the final score being, 31-6.

In the next round, the side faced arch-rivals Crypt, who they had already beaten twice, before Christmas. This was a tough match, with both teams fully committed. The conditions were poor and Crypt's forwards played very well, which ensured that Rich's defended for most of the match. Yet, at half-time, Rich's were in the lead, 14-5 and should have wrapped the game up, but this was not to be. In the second half, Rich's were pinned down in their own half and whatever they did, they could not break out. Consequently, Crypt came back with a converted try, to make the score 14-12 to Rich's. The last twenty minutes of the match was all one way traffic and Rich's defending well to keep the home side out. The pressure was so great, that in the second half, Crypt had three clear penalty chances, but they failed to convert them into points.

Consequently, Rich's held out for a 14-12 win, earning them a trip to Kingsholm. In the final, they faced arch-rivals, St Peter's, who had beaten them 17-0 early on in the season and who had defeated Torquay Grammar School. The Under 15's played with lots of pride and took an early 3-0 lead, thanks to Ryan Bevan. Naturally St Peter's came back and at the half-way stage, the score was 5-3. In the second half, Rich's tried desperately to get back into the game, but St Peter's pinned them down in their own half. The contest was very even, but in the last five minutes of the game, St Peter's carefully orchestrated two tries from some back row moves to win the game 17-3. Rich's were very disappointed, but they had given St Peter's a good run for their money and the final score-line did not really reflect how even the match was in the end. The Under 15's can look back on their season with pride, for they have accomplished a great deal and have set high standards for future Colts XV's to follow. Lets hope they get back to Kingsholm next season in the Under 16 City Cup Final!

'OFFICIAL FIXTURES'

As regards Rich's regular Saturday fixtures, many of the matches have been too one-sided. Often, the team has had to deliberately tone down their play, to ensure that the points tally did not go past the 40 point barrier and subsequently kill the match well before time. Many sides have not been up to standard for Rich's and although it is nice to win easily, it has at times been frustrating for the players, as they have at times not been pushed. There were two notable exceptions, one was against 'arch-rivals', St Peter's, who deserved their 17-0 victory over Rich's and Marling, who took revenge for their defeat, earlier in the season. Both matches were good for the Colts and key lessons were learned from them.

The season has been long and hard, yet very rewarding. It has been a pleasure to work with the team. They have been loyal, committed and enthusiastic. Many have learned what is required to become better rugby players and they have often displayed a mature and positive attitude. Of course, the team still has faults, but during training, the side has tried hard to rectify these problems. Many of the less experienced players have developed and the side over the course of the two terms became more of a 'total unit', rather than depending on certain key players. Competition for positions has been strong and despite injuries and illness, the team has not suffered, highlighting the strength in depth that the Colts possessed through the season. Without question, the team has been very competitive and aggressive, with a positive focus on ensuring that they would win every fixture that they played. Without doubt, as coach, it has been one of my most pleasing and rewarding rugby seasons since I started at Rich's ten years ago.

May I thank all those parents and friends of the team, who regularly turned up to fixtures, in all weathers, home and away, to support the team. It was a great help to me and the lads certainly appreciated the support. One now hopes, that as these players move to the First and Second XV's, they will continue to progress as individuals and also help to make the senior sides very strong in the coming seasons.

Good luck lads and many thanks for all your effort this season!

Mr P D Lloyd

JUNIOR RICHIAN - SPORTS QUIZ - ANSWERS FROM PAGE 30

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Seven players make up a water-polo team | 14 Thirteen |
| 2 'The Tour de France' | 15 Ice-Hockey |
| 3 White | 16 Bobby Moore |
| 4 Two false starts are allowed | 17 No Ball |
| 5 Virginia Wade | 18 Miami Dolphins |
| 6 Roger Bannister | 19 Uruguay |
| 7 River Thames, between Putney and Mortlake | 20 Mountain Climbing |
| 8 Epsom | 21 Eight |
| 9 Black, blue, red, green and yellow | 22 Glasgow Celtic |
| 10 The 'Sky-Blues' - Coventry City | 23 'The Wallabies' |
| 11 'Test & County Cricket Board' | 24 'A Tip-off' |
| 12 Baseball | 25 Rugby Union - (England vrs. Scotland) |
| 13 Three - Discus, Javelin and Shot | |
- How did you get on? Too Easy? If so, why not compile one for next year's 'Richian Magazine'!

RUGBY - UNDER 14'S

Played 10 Won 8 Drawn 0 Lost 2 - Points For 227 Against 107
 (* Results include the 'Midland Bank Cup Competition')

This has been a promising season with several new players entering the team on regular occasions and the stalwarts from previous years continuing in good form. After the initial defeat of the season, against Crypt, the side re-grouped and trained hard to win the next five successive matches.

The latter part of the term saw the team weakened by illness and below strength sides occasionally found it hard to cope, although those called up from the 'B' team helped to pull them through some difficult fixtures.

'THE MIDLAND BANK CUP COMPETITION'

Rich's first match was against a positive Newent side, who had in the previous round beaten St Peter's. The team was slow to get going and Newent took the game to Rich's. At half time, the score was 5-5 and after a half-time talk, Rich's came out more aggressively. They eventually took a grip of the match and ran out relatively comfortable winners. In the next round, the team faced a weak Oxstalls side and produced a

comfortable victory, with the game being cut short. The next test for the side was more intense, as they faced a large and physical Lakers side. All was well in the first half, with Rich's running in some comfortable tries. It looked as if the side would again have an easy victory. This was not to be, for in the second half, Rich's forwards relaxed and the big Laker's pack got to work. By keeping the ball tight, Lakers scored three tries to really put Rich's under pressure. Yet, somehow, the Under 14's managed to hold out and book their ticket to Kingsholm, although for various reasons, the match had to be played at the home of 'Gordon League', Hempsted.

In the final they faced arch-rivals Crypt, who they had not beaten in previous seasons. The test for them was stern, but they rose to the occasion and pushed the favourites hard in the first half, with the score 12-0. Unfortunately, in the second half, Crypt's power was too much and they ran in a number of tries to win by 34-0. This was a disappointing end to a long season, but the lads had tried their best.

Mr G Watson

RUGBY - UNDER 13'S

Played 10 Won 8 Drawn 0 Lost 2 - Points For 279 Against 45

A disappointing start to the season saw defeats in the first two games against strong sides, but this galvanized the team into action and they began an unbeaten run that continued until the end of the season. Indeed, the team then only conceded one try in eight games and scored plenty of tries, with an attacking brand of rugby. Congratulations to all twenty players who contributed to such an enjoyable and successful season.

Mr B Nicholas

RUGBY - UNDER 12'S - A's and B's

'A' - TEAM

Played 8 Won 6 Drawn 1 Lost 1 -
Points For 155 Against 77

This has been a good season for the 'A' team, in which they have played an exciting brand of rugby. Both forwards and backs have contributed well and together have proved to be a handful for all their opponents.

Mr B Nicholas

'B' - TEAM

Played 7 Won 6 Drawn 1 Lost 0 -
Points For 181 Against 17

The 'B' team have had an excellent season, showing great commitment and enthusiasm. Although not quite so fluent as the 'A' team, they have shown great promise. They always displayed a strong competitive spirit.

Mr I J Gallagher

RUGBY - SENIOR SEVENS

Whilst silently and diligently packing my kit after a hard rugby training session, on Thursday lunch-time, I noticed a huge great figure standing over me, blacking out all the light from my small corner of the changing room. This figure came close to me and I trembled in fear. "Chris, could you write the report for the 'Sevens tournament' please?", Mr Nicholas asked me. I fearfully muttered the only sensible reply, "Of course Sir!, I would be most honoured if you would entrust me with the highly esteemed task of creating a literary masterpiece for display in the coveted School magazine, known to all as 'The Richian'". Mr Nicholas looked at me, "So, is it a yes or no?" I replied in the affirmative and he thanked me. So, here is a report on the three rugby 'Sevens tournaments', which STR's Under 18's team participated in this season.

The first of the three tournaments was held at Marling School, out towards Stroud for anyone reading this who classifies themselves as being, "geographically challenged". After only a small number of training sessions, the tournament was upon us and the team as a whole was less than optimistic about our chances, with important players like Richard Saunders, Simon Bennett and Martin "Oh, I've hurt my ankle", Burdett, not being available. Nevertheless, we were prepared to go out and enjoy ourselves and face the embarrassment of an early exit from the day's competition. What we were not prepared for, however, was that as soon as we had stepped out of the car, we were into our first match. Without hardly time to change, let alone professionally style our hair and have an all over body massage, we were on the pitch and playing. It was hardly surprising therefore, that we were facing a half-time deficit of some twenty-eight points. Some of the thoughts racing through our minds during the journey seemed to be manifesting themselves on the pitch, but the strength in depth and the character of the team, along with a couple of hardy tries from Phil Edwards and Alex Bennett, as well as some "gazelle-like" running from Chris "Desmond" Haines, meant that the "Blues of Rich's" came out victorious. The team's good form and good run of results continued and wins over 'Queen Mary's Hospital, Bristol' and 'Dean Close' materialized, being mere formalities. I just mention at this point, that Simon had decided that he was in fact not injured any more and after having borrowed some of Mr Nicholas' spare kit, he joined the line-up for both of these latter games, adding a little extra pace and some neat tries.



The triumphant Senior Rugby Sevens Squad - Gloucestershire Sevens Champions - 1996

These wins meant we had secured a place in the semi-finals against Wycliffe College. Assured in the knowledge that if we won this match, we would have a place in the final and a tankard each at the very least, we went out in fighting mood. This match was to be the most gruelling so far, with both teams fighting hard. Rich's went ahead, 7-0 early on, but were soon to be chasing a Wycliffe lead of 7-14 early on in the second half. Realizing that our place in the final was at risk, we stepped up the pace and a pass from Ben Mitchell just inside our own half left yours truly an almost clear run in for a try to level the scores. The scores did remain level at the final whistle and so extra time had to be played, in which the team whoever scored first would win the match. Some determined defence and dynamic running in attack meant that Alex Bennett, (who else?) skipped and dummied his way to the line for the clinching score. "Hooray, hooray", we all shouted, for we had reached the final, completely beyond our expectations and wildest dreams. We at least knew now that we had secured our tankards promised to us by Mr Nicholas and looking at the way 'Bristol Grammar School' had been playing, it seemed as though our tankards would be all that we were getting. Sure enough, BGS ran out the deserved winners, particularly as our extra-time efforts in the semi-final, had really taken it out of us all. Yet, the game was still close and we had least won a tankard for ourselves, although we thought we had??? The winners shield and trophies were presented to BGS, but were there any consolation tankards for us? No! Our sense of immense disappointment and deprivation of what was surely rightly ours, cannot be fully explained in this article. I can only say that we felt completely devastated, unendingly cheated and eternally desolate; and we were quite sad too!

Yet, being the fighting souls that we are, we put our defeat in the final (and our tankard disaster) out of our minds and looked forward to the next exciting tournament at 'Wycliffe College'. For this tournament, we were glad to have Rich Saunders and Lenny Quainton replacing the injured Paul Gilmore and Chris "Desmond / Gazelle" Haines, but we were less glad that Phil Edwards was away on a university visit - "What were you thinking of Phil?", nevertheless, Dan Tiffney proved a more than adequate replacement for him and so the revised team lined up as, Rich, Alex, Lenny, Simon, Ben, Chris and Dan.

With this tournament, we arrived in good time for the first match and even had time to warm up - "Well done Sir!" As a result, our first two qualifying matches were fairly routine, which included what we thought would be quite a hard fixture against Monmouth. The shift in the team line-up worked well, with Rich Saunders height and power in the forwards - and his speed too - obviously filling the now vacant 'Gazelle Role' excellently. This combined with Lennie's power and ball winning skills, as well as Dan Tiffney's speed and elusive running, all contributed to our success. Ben and Simon combined superbly in the backs and Alex added his obviously modest contribution. (that is if you re-define the word "modest" to "most important") I only hope my presence in this immensely talented side did not let us down in any way?

Cruising through the qualifiers, we met 'Bristol Grammar School' in a quarter final clash, which we were understandably apprehensive about. Eager to get our revenge and to salvage some sort of pride after our disappointment at losing to BGS in the last final and not receiving our tankards, we were really fired up and raring to go! We went out as 'The Magnificent Seven', and won as a seven, (cheesy cliché alert!) - winning quite convincingly as well.

With a long break before our semi-final, we burned it down to the service station, "oops, no we didn't, we went down to the service station at a moderate speed, adhering to all road safety regulations". We were very conscious of not providing any detrimental evidence against the good name of Rich's, particularly from cyclists on roundabouts. At the station we refuelled, with lots of lovely food and got back in time for a good warm-up. We were merely, "pushing the hair out and letting our boat down" at this point. (Please note, an intentional mis-quote of a cliché in an attempt to improve the humour potential of this piece, trying to make it more interesting and hopefully funny to read for all you folk out there, who were perhaps just beginning to doze-off at this point.) Now if we are all sitting comfortably, I shall continue. In a keen mood for our semi-final, we were in a state of jollity and gaiety, (or perhaps just jollity then!), when we realized we were playing 'Wycliffe College', again! However, there was to be no extra-time on this occasion and with the 'STR's power-machine', running on full throttle, Wycliffe lay flattened in our wake. With Wycliffe beaten, we looked forward to a second final in as many weeks, plus the chance to win at last some tankards!

In the final, we played the renowned and universally feared 'Millfield Sevens team'. We had not actually seen them play, but we realized they would be well drilled and powerful. This final was much closer than the one the week before, with committed tackling from all members of the team and some excellent passages of play, leading to some incredible tries. We were beaten by a late score in the corner and so Millfield had pipped us at the post. We were once again disappointed at losing, but also sad that once again, we had lost out on our cherished tankards, but realistically, we were pleased that we had reached two finals.

Having been informed of another tournament at Wycliffe the week after, it looked as though more rugby was in store for the team. However, 'clumsy Chris', timed an injury to perfection, with a hefty blow to my foot playing football for the 'Soccer 2nd XI' the day before the tournament. I am therefore perhaps not the best person to describe the events of this next tournament, because I was not directly involved, but I will try anyway. Although I was not playing, Phil had returned and so it was what is known in sporting terms as a "straight-swap". Having won both qualifying matches and having been run close by the 'Royal Forest of Dean College', we stormed our way through to an easy quarter-final to play Newent in the semi-final, who we had beaten in an earlier qualifying match. However, their recent form suggested that they were now on proverbial "fire" and it needed a great performance from the team to win. Newent took a huge lead in the first half, but STR's came back in the second and two monster runs from Rich Saunders, leaving everyone else for dead with his pace, secured us a hard, but well earned victory and a third final in three weeks. We all just hoped it would not be a third defeat as well. In the final, we met our familiar rivals, 'Wycliffe College', who had made a few team changes since the last time we had met, but this did not help their cause and after some great rugby, we won! Third time lucky and we walked away with a well-earned shield for our efforts, but no tankards! It is difficult to pick out any individual performances, as everyone played so well, although one must mention Ben Mitchell, who seemed to have a great influence on the team, while Rich Saunders with his speed and sheer power had a great impact. Alex was just Alex!, with his dummies and side-stepping, helping to create moves out of nothing. Simon, quick thinking and ability to explode through small gaps, added another dimension to the team. Phil added more stability to the team on his return, while Dan Tiffney's speed helped to create lots of scoring opportunities. I must also mention Mark Gilmore and Gareth 'Touch Judge' Hughes, for their committed support to the team, despite not getting much of an opportunity to play. One must also mention Martin Burdett for gracing us with his presence in one match during the last of the three tournaments.

Of course, a big thanks must go to Mr Nicholas, without whom we would not have achieved the same level of success. Thanks to everyone who took part and helped to make it such a great laugh and an enjoyable three tournaments. It was very pleasing to hear some of the comments made about the quality of our team. Next year, we shall lose some of our most important players, but we hope to simulate the same high levels of success, although we realize this might be very difficult. I am sorry to have made this report rather long, but I wanted to get everything in, as our success was a real achievement and I hope a tremendous lift for the school. We hope that some of the established schools that we played in the three tournaments will now know a lot more about rugby at Sir Thomas Rich's!

C Wilkinson (6C)

RUGBY - CRYPT SEVENS



*Above, the successful Colts 'Sevens' Team winners of the Under 15's 'Crypt Sevens'.
* Picture by kind permission of Mr Tony Hickey*

At the end of the Spring Term, Rich's entered teams from Years 7 - 10, into the 'Crypt Sevens Tournament'. The tournament was a successful one for the Colts. The team went into the match with a positive attitude, especially after losing the 'City Cup Final' at Kingsholm. However, they lost their initial match to a strong Bournside team, despite leading 5 - 0 at half-time. Yet, the team knew that they had a strong chance of qualifying for the final. In their next match, they piled the points on against a Crypt 'B' side. Then came another easy match against Chosen Hill, with the points comfortably secured. The next match for Rich's was against St Peter's and in a friendly, but hard fought match, Rich's sheer pace tolled, with a good win in the end resulting.

At this stage in the competition, Bournside were still favourites to qualify, but they had to play a strong Crypt 'A' side and the competition was left wide open, when the latter defeated Bournside. Rich's now had to beat Crypt 'A' to qualify for the final. It was fortunate that Rich's had piled on the points against their former opponents, as this would be prove crucial. In a bruising encounter,

with no love lost, Rich's came out as winners. Three teams were level, Crypt 'A', Rich's and Bournside. Due to Rich's and Bournside scoring more tries in their preliminary matches, Crypt 'A' lost out.

The final was a chance for Rich's to avenge their first match defeat. By this stage in the tournament, the Colts had learned a lot and were now playing better as a team. The final was fiercely contested, with both sides fully committed and set on winning. Rich's opened the scoring, but Bournside came back to lead 7 - 5. Tackles were full-blooded, with both teams desperate to prevent their opponents from scoring. Eventually, Rich's determination and sheer aggression, paid dividends, with a late try deciding the final. At last the Colts had something to shout about! This was a great end to a long and hard season. It helped to make up for the 'City Cup' defeat at Kingsholm and the Colts fully deserved something out of a season, in which they had put so much hard work into over the winter months.

G Powell (10S)

RICH'S INAUGURAL JUNIOR CROSS-COUNTRY LEAGUE

Early last Autumn, before the winter nights drew in, Mr Smallwood organized the first 'Rich's Junior Cross-country league'. The league consisted of three different courses for Under 13 and 15 teams. A good entry was received for the series, ranging from St Peter's to Royal Grammar School, Worcester. It was hoped more local schools would enter, but sadly this was not to be! The first course started near Sainsbury's car park and followed the cycle track under to the by-pass bridge. From here the runners literally ploughed their way up to the farm. On the day of the race, the local farmer was ploughing up the bottom field and this made

in their respective age groups winning. Marcus Rayer won the Under 15 race, while Alex Dielt, again put in a good run to come second. After two races, Rich's were of course in the lead, but Wycliffe College, Marling, RGS, Worcester and Crypt were still in a competitive position. The final race was a real contrast from the previous. The course started in the school grounds and then took the competitors out of the school, down the road to 'Little Elmbridge' and then onto the old 'Pitch and Punt' course. Once on here, the runners simply followed the edge of the fields around to 'Old Richians' and then back down the road into

Picture right - Top Row - from left to right, Mr Nathan Bishop, Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie and league organizer, Mr Stuart Smallwood.



Bottom Row - representatives of Rich's successful Cross-country teams.

it very hard not only for the runners, but also for the marshals who had to get to their positions, with bikes and all! Once at the farm, the competitors then had to head back to Sainsburys, but not before a lap of the bottom field was completed. This first race was held in atrocious conditions, with very heavy rain and a cold driving wind. Many of the marshals wished that they had been running, instead of catching hypothermia. Anyway, it was a good competitive race, with Alex Dielt winning the Under 13's, Ross Hemming won the Under 15's race. Both Rich's teams displayed lots of strength in depth and comfortably won their respective age groups.

The second race, a couple of weeks later, was a total contrast in terms of the weather. It was a warm and clear day, with ideal running conditions. The only draw-back for the runners, was the fact that they had to tackle Chosen Hill as part of the course, which started in Hucclecote and then followed the road up to Zoon's Court Farm and then up Chosen Hill. Once at the top, it was a simple case of returning back the way they came. Many found the long climb exhausting and the run would stick in their minds for a long time. Once again Rich's did well, with both teams

the school playing fields. It was a flat and fast course, with many finding the pace hard to handle. Rich's clinched both the under 13's and 15's team races, despite some of the best runners not performing up to their usual standard. Consequently, over the three races, Rich's in both age groups, came first and won the trophies. In the Under 13's, Rich's scored 253 pts, with Wycliffe second on 391 pts and RGS, Worcester, third with 402 pts. In the Under 15's, Rich's had 147pts, with Crypt and RGS, Worcester, joint second on 298 pts. Individually, Alex Dielt won the Under 13's trophy, followed by Neil Gates. In the Under 15's, Marcus Rayer was first overall, followed by P Curran of Crypt and Ross Hemming of Rich's in third place.

We were pleased to have Nathan Bishop, County Cross-Country Champion and Midlands 10,000 metre champion present the prizes after the final race. The series was a great success, not only in terms of the results for Rich's, but also in the excellent organization of the whole event. Mr Smallwood must be congratulated for all his hard work in ensuring that the races went smoothly.

Mr P D Lloyd

SOCCKER - 1ST XI

Played 8 Won 4 Lost 3 Drawn 1

In the Autumn term, the 1st team entered the 'County Cup' and it was during this first period, they played their best football. Team spirit was high and the players were keen to do well in the competition. In the first round, they played away to Marling and this was to be a close encounter, between two even sides. Extra time looked inevitable, but Rich's snatched a late winner to make the score-line 3-2. The next round was again away, but this time to Cleeve. Yet another close match, with two very committed teams. This time, the game did go into extra time and then a 'penalty shoot-out', with Rich's winning eventually, 7-6. Without doubt, this was a great result, particularly, as the side had been 2-0 down at one stage. Now the team had reached the semi-final stage and had to travel to Cirencester College. The opposition were mainly made up of players who belonged to Cirencester Town's Youth Team and as a consequence, we knew that it would be a tough encounter. In the first few minutes, on a very 'heavy' pitch, it looked as if Rich's would be outclassed, as Cirencester looked very comfortable on the ball. Rich's battled well and mid-way in the second half, they were 2-1 ahead. Unfortunately, Cirencester came back to level the score and then in the last minute of the game, snatched a late winner to knock Rich's out.

After Christmas, expectations were high, due to the good cup run, but this never really materialized. With fixtures cancelled, players on university interviews and other activities, it was never easy to select a settled side. As a consequence, this resulted in some pretty inconsistent performances. The team could be brilliant in one match and then in the next, completely awful. The lowest point was a heavy defeat against Cirencester, who they had narrowly lost to before the Christmas break. Yet, creditable performances were achieved against Chase High School and St Peter's.



On a positive note, a number of Lower Sixth and Year 11 pupils played for the team. Subsequently, next season should be very good, but all the players will have to train, motivate themselves and ensure that a 'settled' side turns out each week. Prospects for the County Cup look good and if matches next spring are not cancelled, then we could be reporting on an excellent season.

Finally, I would like to thank all the players who represented the school, particularly Marc Fowler for supplying the kit and Ben Mitchell, who captained the side and was influential in the middle of the park. I would also like to thank Jody Bevan, who frequently offered me his 'F.A. Referees' Handbook'. It was reassuring and comforting to know that Jody possessed lots of confidence in my refereeing skills!

Mr P D Lloyd

SOCCKER - 2ND XI

Played 3 Won 1
Lost 2 Drawn 0

This was a difficult and frustrating season. In many ways, I feel the Second Team did not receive the attention that they deserved. This combined with the fact, that many opponents 'ducked-out' of fixtures, plus the bad weather, resulted in the team only having three matches. Also, many of the regular players often had to step up and play for the First Team, which did not help the stability or consistency of the side.

Yet, they did enjoy their matches and they were certainly filled with lots of incidents, plus plenty of goals. 'Social Football' appeared to be the order of the day and I would like to thank captain, Tom Harris for organizing the side, often at short notice, which inevitably caused a few problems for him. This resulted in sides being selected on the basis of who was prepared to turn out, rather than merit. With soccer now established in the school and particularly strong lower down in the years, then one feels that greater priority should be given to the senior sides. Thanks to those lads who played for the team. Hopefully, next season will be much better, in every respect!

Mr P D Lloyd

CROSS-COUNTRY 'ROUND-UP'

After the success of the 'Autumn Cross-Country League' organized by Rich's, hopes were high for a good spring term. The Juniors, consisting of Years 7 & 8, entered a team for the traditional 'Cheltenham Junior Relays'. A similar story to the two previous years, with the team leading in the early stages, only to be beaten in the last few legs of the race. This was disappointing and the final finishing position for the 'A' team was fifth.

An Under 16 team entered the 'Worcester Spring Relays', held at 'Old Callow Hills', just outside Worcester. This event attracts lots of strong opposition from all over the country, particularly from the 'Independent' sector. The team was supported by some younger runners, from Years 9 & 10, but they did very well against established schools. They eventually finished third, with Shrewsbury School just in front of them. This appears to indicate that the school could possibly win it next year, if the training and commitment is applied by the pupils.

Other notable achievements were the results from the 'National Cross-Country Championships', which were held at Weymouth in the spring. Ross Hemming, Simon Kellie, Marcus Rayer and Alex Dielt, all represented the County and produced some encouraging performances.

Mr Smallwood visited RGS Worcester and Marling for some junior fixtures. The Year 8 won at Worcester, beating the hosts and Cheltenham Junior College. While at Marling, an Under 14 team were clear winners, beating teams from Marling, Wycliffe College and Marcus Rayer easily winning the race. Once again, the season was very satisfactory, although one cannot help feeling, that with a little more 'attention', the cross-country at Rich's could really flourish!

Mr P D Lloyd



Above, Nathan Bishop presents Ross Hemming with the winning trophy for the 'Intermediates', which Rich's won in last year's 'Autumn League'.

HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY

The wet weather affected the first two races, with the course being 'switched' from the farm to the 'Sainsbury's gate' course for Years 7 & 9. In the Year 7 race, Peter Kellie led from the start and was never caught, winning for Southgate. The rest of his house bunched well, to win the event, with Westgate second. A similar picture emerged in the Year 9 race, with Marcus Rayer (Eastgate) setting a blistering pace over the 'Sainsbury's Course', which nobody could match. Once again, Southgate won the race. In the Year 8 race, Alex Dielt stormed off at the start and never looked back, winning the race up to the farm and back in style for Northgate. Ross Hemming produced a similar performance for Westgate, winning the Year 10 race. The Junior cup was won by Southgate overall, while the Senior cup was won by Northgate, with Jon Berry winning the Senior race in convincing style.

Mr P D Lloyd



HAS SOCCER BECOME TOO COMMERCIALIZED ?



The first issue that I wish to discuss, is the escalation of transfer fees in Britain. Many changes have taken place over the past thirty years, in terms of transfer fees. Trevor Francis became the first £1 million pound player in 1979 and since then, transfer fees have rocketed sky high. High price tags are now a sign of the times, with Stan Collymore selling for £8.5 million and Alan Shearer at an amazing £15 million pounds. This issue has become highly contentious, but we must not fail to realize, that the transfer market is like any other business market, in which clubs and players can freely negotiate prices. Many believe that there should be a limited transfer price level or a player's price should be decided by an 'arbitration panel'. We must not forget the enormous pressure that many of these top class players have to endure when they run onto the pitch with a heavy transfer tag resting on their shoulders. Also, we must not forget the many players, who often have to move club, in order to help pay for the super-stars. The fans are also victims of the transfer market, with ticket prices at the turnstile being very high.

Yet, the 'inflationary' nature of the transfer market, I feel, has benefits for many clubs. The arrival of a 'super-star' at a club, can generate millions of pounds through commercial activities, such as the sales of shirts. Such players can improve a club's gate receipts and this in turn can help to finance ground improvements for the fans. Also, many clubs from the lower divisions can benefit when they sell a player to one of the 'big clubs'. The revenue from the sale of a player with a high price tag to one of the premier clubs can help to ensure that a club which is struggling financially, can survive. I feel that high transfer prices and the commercial activities that 'spin-off' from them, actually help to distribute the total amount of money generated among all the clubs.

Many fans would argue that they are the ones who are really paying for the recommendations set out in the 'Taylor Report', as regards ground improvements, by having to pay much higher prices for seats. This problem has been further increased, by the fact, that many clubs have had to reduce their attendance capacity and this has resulted in a greater demand for the remaining seats available. Many clubs, like Aston Villa have used this as an excuse to raise ticket prices. There is also the case, that many of the 'big clubs' are becoming richer, mainly at the expense of the smaller clubs. They justify the high prices by stating that it is in the interest of the supporters, in terms of safety and the comfort of the fans. Yet, many of these clubs fail to remember, that it is the fans who help to keep the clubs going and if they are in danger of losing many of them to alternative forms of entertainment. Ticket prices in Europe appear to be more reasonable. For example, at the home of Barcelona, the 'Nou Camp Stadium', you can buy a ticket at a much more realistic price than in this country. Barcelona attracts crowds of almost 100,000.

Should soccer place pressure on the FA to set up a trust to help finance new ground improvements? One cannot ignore the fact that soccer is now big business, with merchandise forming a considerable proportion of a club's income, as highlighted by Man.Utd, who raked in £5 last year on their 'off-the-field' activities. Are fans being 'ripped off'? Many believe they are, especially when new club strips are produced every season. Clubs are constantly gearing themselves up for the commercial side of the game, with executive boxes, ground tours, magazines, coaching courses, to name a few activities. The smaller clubs will not be able to survive, as they cannot attract the sponsorship. The larger clubs now attract 'multi-million' pound sponsorship deals. I feel sponsorship needs to be regulated, so the ideals of the game are not lost. If we are not careful, television and companies will exert too much influence pressure on the game and will change it out of all recognition, just to suit their business requirements. Television now seems to dictate soccer and often there is too much televised. Again, only the wealthy clubs attract television. A live match can often affect the attendance level at a small club, as people watch the TV game.

It can be concluded, that the commercialization of soccer has advantages and disadvantages. Without the investment, soccer in this country would certainly be in trouble, with many clubs folding. Let us hope the sole of soccer is not lost and it still remains the greatest sporting game on earth!

S Bradley (11S)

SOCCER - UNDER 15'S

The team's commitment has developed well over the term, with good performances in all positions and this has been enhanced by some positive captaincy from David Green. They won all of their fixtures to win their league and progress to the 'Inter-county' play-offs. Here they played Beaufort and on a windy day, Rich's found it hard to compete and underachieved. The result was a heavy defeat, with Beaufort, winning the match 7 - 1. This was a great disappointment, but the team can take heart from their earlier results.

Mr G Norton

SOCCER - UNDER 14'S

With the 'Midland Bank Rugby Tournament' dominating the term's proceedings at this age range, the Under 14's were regularly distracted. They only played three matches, with two victories and one defeat. At times they displayed some positive football, with lots of skill. In their defeat against Central, they were not sharp enough and a physically stronger Central side took their opportunities well to win the game. If the side is to improve next year, they will have to continue to develop their own personal skills.

Mr I J Gallagher

SOCCER - UNDER 13'S

The early part of the season suffered from adverse weather conditions, which saw the first three fixtures postponed. When the team did begin its matches, the players showed that the lay-off had not affected them too much. A trip to Oxtalls was won comfortably enough by two goals to nil. This was followed by another away victory at Brockworth by the same scoreline. The toughest fixture came at Heywood School, where a great deal of character was needed to salvage a 2-2 draw, after trailing by two goals at half-time. Two days later, the Central Technical College was the unfortunate opposition, humbled 9-2 by a non-stop attacking display.

Most encouraging, was the attitude shown by all the players, especially when major changes were made to the line-up, so that the maximum number of players could have the opportunity of playing for the school team. Many thanks to all of those pupils in Year 8!

Mr R J Lockey

SOCCER - UNDER 12'S

With Rugby fixtures taking priority in the Spring Term, plus the bad weather in the first half of the term, fixtures for the Under 12's were limited to just two. In their first match, they played Central, defeating them 9-2 and in their final match, they came back from behind, to win 4-2 against Brockworth. Surprisingly, compared to recent years, the number wishing to play soccer for the school was low, but those who did turn up regularly for training, displayed lots of talent and enthusiasm. Prospects for next season look good. One only hopes that the team obtain a full fixture list and other schools do not cancel!

Mr P D Lloyd

MATCH THE QUOTES - ANSWERS FROM PAGE 37

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Julius Caesar | 11 Bible: John 15:13 |
| 2 Agatha Christie | 12 Plato |
| 3 Napoleon Bonaparte | 13 Humphrey Bogart |
| 4 Neil Armstrong | 14 Clark Gable |
| 5 Duke of Wellington | 15 Samuel Johnson |
| 6 William Shakespeare | 16 John Keats |
| 7 Thomas Edison | 17 Orson Wells |
| 8 Sir Winston Churchill | 18 Alfred Hitchcock |
| 9 Oscar Wilde | 19 Benjamin Disraeli |
| 10 Bill Shankly | 20 William Shakespeare |

INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE

Once again this year's competition was very fairly and efficiently organized by three members of the Upper Sixth, plus a blonde fringed giraffe. The competition comprised of twelve teams competing in three groups, followed by a knock out stage and then the final.

In the group stages there were several memorable matches, most involving 'Well Aardvarks' and the 'The Little Pea and The Teeny Tiny Arks'. There were also many memorable individual performances. Wes Mortimer, Chris Cooke and Wyn Edwards adopted a friendly and non-violent attitude to the games. Shayne Bradley was 'God' in disguise, Jimmy Cox continually annoyed Mr Lloyd by nutmegging him, Emma Panting was the only girl to play in the league, excluding a certain person known as, 'Gary, Gary'. Lawrence Skipp failed a random drugs test in the first game and this sadly ruled him out of the competition, although he did play several games disguised as a 'Pink Elephant'.

There were also many interesting kit variations, with Alex Bennett adopting an 'American Football' kit, which was really good - no honestly, really good! Ben Rod found height a disadvantage, with dust particles continually tripping him up in the penalty area, while Massum Hussain was continuously causing crowd disturbances. One must mention Helen Lang, who broke several windows in the gym, with her high pitched shouts of, "Come on Simon".

The staff again put in a weak team with Mr Norton putting off the opposition by making them laugh at his bright green socks. 'Sergeant Big Forest' was too fit for anybody, 'Ginger Joe', in his seventy season, again put in notable, solid performances and they were unlucky to lose 5-3 in the final. A special mention should go to Errr....., could anybody name the late addition to the Staff team or was he a Sixth Former in disguise?

'Well Aardvarks' defending a two and half year unbeaten run, were very, very, very unlucky to lose in the semi-finals, mainly due to a 'Potato Head' of a referee. Tom Harris dealing with the live shots at him, found it difficult to keep them out and subsequently, the reign at the top was over. This year's top scorer was Phil Edwards, with twenty-seven goals and runner up was Marc Fowler with twenty-five. David 'Washing Machine - Tea Cosey' was top own goal scorer with twelve. Player of the Season was Matthew 'Eddy' Edwards, who when he did manage to get up and leave his chair in the common room was a constant threat to any defence!

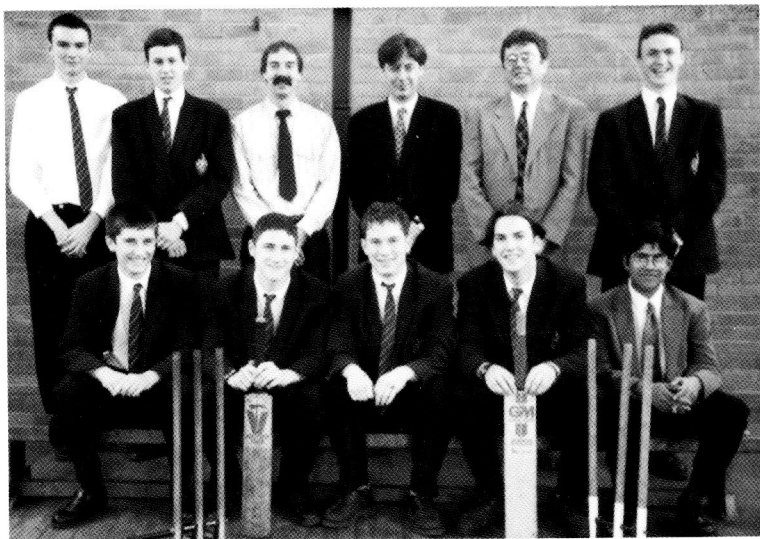
The final was won by 'The Easy Riders', which consisted of a team made up of a pair of eyebrows, a chimney sweep, a Condor Sheep and three leather jackets. Well done for playing so, so, so, well lads!

M Fowler (6S)



*Above, the winners of the 1995/96 'Indoor Soccer League' - 'The Easy Riders' -
Top - left to right, Andrew Bourne and Jody Bevan.
Bottom - left to right, Michael Stevens, Tom Radcliffe and Gareth Hughes.*

INDOOR CRICKET LEAGUE



Above, some of the players, officials and Staff, including the main organizer, Mr T R Fearn, (Centre), who played in this season's 'Indoor Cricket League'. Yet another successful lunch-time activity at Rich's!

Mr T R Fearn continued the tradition of Rich's 'Indoor Cricket League' this season with some inspirational leadership and organization. The first part of the season saw a competitive 'round-robin' league, which consisted of four Senior and Staff sides. The four innings declaration format ensured a competition of high quality. However, it was found difficult to force a win when bowling last, due to the short duration of the fourth innings. As a result, there were many exciting matches when a side batting last was asked to achieve a sizeable target quickly. The ability to do this, combined with the Captains' effectiveness in enticing out the best side possible from his squad, proved decisive. Mark Aplin's side ran out convincing winners, with Duncan McBurnie's team finishing runners. There were the usual professional contributions from Ton Radcliffe and Mr R Lockey.

Mr G Watson made a promising debut and along with some junior talent, the immediate future of the club looks secure - despite continuing difficulties with the availability of the gym, teachers and certain pupils.

The prime aims of the Junior League was enjoyment, furthering skills and development for

the future of the club. Matthew Windridge continued his successful leadership, ably organizing two competitions with help from the assistants: David Kettle and Tom Annetts.

After Christmas, the juniors were included, plus staff, for a cup competition, played in a limited overs format. There was a highly structured bonus points system for the preliminaries, when two groups, each consisting of two combined Staff/Sixth form sides, one junior side and either Year 10 or 1, competed. The best aspect of this competition was the unexpectedly effective performance of the middle school. In one group, Mark Aplin's and the Year 11 team qualified for the play-offs, after an unpredictably ineffective challenge by Duncan McBurnie's team. In the other, the talented side, led by Matthew Windridge, qualified along with an aggressive Year 10 team, that only qualified against Terry Knappett's side by virtue of having beaten them.

The first semi-final saw Windridge's side emerge winners by just a single run, against the unfortunate Year 11 side, Captained by Matthew Dill. David Kettle scored forty-nine not out. The other semi-final resulted in a psyched up

Year 10 team emerging victorious, with greater depth in the bowling, against a depleted and uninspiring side. Faidhl Daya's Year 10 narrowly lost the final in a fluctuating match by ten runs.

Matthew Windridge's side conceded a heavy first innings deficit. Mr R Lockey scored sixty-five runs in the match and bowled a crucial tight over. James Gavin had an excellent all round match, while Sajid Patel scored fifty-six runs without being dismissed.

The last week before Easter saw an intense tour by the competitive 'Old Richians' team, Captained by Adrian McBurnie, who competed in a high quality triangular competition with the Staff and a Captains' Side - formed from the league Captains and "helpers". Every team played each other once in the four innings, limited over format, with bonus points, before the top two played a final in the last lunch-time of the term.

The first match saw the Captains' side overwhelm a Staff team, savagely weakened by the absence of key players, by an innings, (helped by the forty-seven, not out, by Mark Aplin). The next match, saw the 'Old Richians' side play against a rejuvenated Staff side, due to increased player availability, but the tourists emerged victorious by a single wicket. Paul Critchard secured a win, scoring the nineteen required off the last over. It was fortunate that perhaps the most thrilling match of the season occurred in this vital game, of what was a hotly contested competition - widely regarded as a successful culmination of the year's 'Indoor Cricket' season.

Next lunch-time, the old boys crushed the challenge of the Captains' team, however it was a match rendered academic, as the teachers' (last year's champions) narrow loss meant they were eliminated. The highly talented Ben Handsford aided the 'Old Richians', with another entirely professional all round display.

The final, a replay of the previous match, was approached with an element of over confidence by the last year's finalists. However, for once, the amalgamated team of current pupils played to the peak of their ability and emerged as convincing thirty-one run victors. Terry Knappett and Matthew Windridge gave the Captains' side an excellent start in both innings and bowled successfully. Skipper, Mark Aplin turned the ball prodigiously to restrain opposition openers. Tom Radcliffe, wicket keeper, bagged several victims and looked to have rediscovered his usual fine batting style. Tom Annetts and especially David Kettle made the most of their opportunities. Phil Brown carried on where he left off, when last season had ended, steadily scoring for the 'Old Richians'. Lacking Ben Handsford, the rest of the side were unable to offer substantial support against tidier bowling and fielding. John Jeffries was economical throughout the competition, keeping an awkward length.

This toughly fought, but well natured match was an excellent illustration of the spirit in which the games have been played this season.

M Aplin (65)

CRICKET 1ST XI

Played 7 Won 1 Lost 3 Drawn 3

The team has not had the depth of batting or bowling as in recent years and so each match was to be a severe challenge. There were some excellent phases of cricket, revolving mainly around the Captain, Richard Saunders and Tom Radcliffe, but they needed more support, resulting in good positions being lost or not taken advantage of in matches. Once again, the School had the pleasure of hosting a touring team, The Glen High School, Pretoria, South Africa. The match was played at Spa Road, with the touring side winning by 132 runs in a committed innings. However, a good day's cricket was enjoyed by all, with new friendly links now being formed.

Mr I J Gallagher

CRICKET 2ND XI

Played 4 Won 1 Lost 1 Drawn 2

The Second XI enjoyed a restricted season this year, with some of their fixtures lost to poor weather early on. Yet, they managed to fit in four fixtures, despite commitments with examinations and other School activities.

A win was secured against Crypt and the draw came against Kings, while the two defeats were at the hands of Rencomb and Worcester Sixth Form College. As the season progressed, confidence and gradual improvement emerged. They played in a spirited and entertaining manner, ensuring that they enjoyed their cricket. Yet, they competed well and maintained good standards.

Mr I J Gallagher

STAFF Vrs. PUPILS' CRICKET MATCH

On the penultimate day of the Summer term, a social Cricket match was played between the Staff side, Captained by the departing Mr T Fearn and a 'Select XI' of pupils, led by Matthew Windridge. The eventual outcome was a convincing win for the pupils by eight wickets, well within the limited twenty overs. The Staff were put into bat first, but soon weather conditions halted proceedings with thunder and lightening racing around the wicket. Added to the delay, Daniel Cowley, who was the pupils' wicket-keeper, was struck by the ball in the face and he had to leave the match to obtain some medical treatment for a damaged nose.

After these delays and an early tea, play resumed, with the Staff in deep trouble, having lost all their specialist batsman cheaply. Wickets continued to fall, with the middle order not really doing that much better, with Tom Annetts taking two for four and David Kettle two for six. It was only Mr Smallwood who helped to make the Staff score look respectable, although it has to be said that he had to face some of the weak pupil bowlers. It had been decided before the match, that everyone in each team should bowl. Thus, at the end of the Staff innings, they had scored a reasonable 106 runs, but it was a target well within the pupils' grasp.

After losing an early wicket, Terry Knappett steadied proceedings and the pupils were always way up with the required run rate. Rakesh Patel scored sixty runs rather quickly and the Staff looked defeat in the face, despite having an impressive array of bowlers - at least on paper anyway! Eventually the required rate was reached with two overs to spare and the match, which had been played in a positive and spirited manner was over.

It had been an enjoyable experience for all concerned, played in a competitive, but light-hearted manner. Most pleasing of all, was the fact that former teachers, Mr Cappi and Mr Hodgkinson, had returned especially to play in the match. Let's hope next year's match reveals a Staff team with greater batting expertise!

M Aplin (6S)



Above, Staff and Pupils who played in the traditional end of term Cricket match.

SHOULD BOXING BE BANNED? - THE RIGHT TO REPLY!

I am a great fan of boxing and find it very entertaining when the big 'title fights' are televised on 'Sky Sports'. To me, boxing is an exciting spectacle. Even though some people will disagree with me, I believe that boxing is good for society and consequently, I feel that it should not be banned. However, considering the tragic incidents that have taken place in boxing over the last few years, it seems the 'anti-boxing' fraternity feel that they have a good case in trying to ban the sport. They have criticized the safety record of boxing. Many people in the medical profession believe that every punch a boxer receives to the head causes damage to the brain. They claim that blows to the head can cause blood clots to materialize and consequently result in death or substantial injury to the boxer. Examples of this are Bradley Stone and Gerald McClelland, who both suffered badly after blows to the head during their boxing bouts. The long term results of boxing heavy bouts in the ring, can best be illustrated by Muhammed Ali, who is suffering from 'Parkinson disease' and many believe that this was a result of too many years in the ring.

These facts are of course disturbing and I do not dismiss them, but I feel that many of the cases are isolated and blown out of proportion when one considers the amount of people who participate in boxing. The incidents of injury in boxing compared to other sports, like horse racing or rugby is very good. Many boxers finish their careers in good health. So why ban boxing? Surely, if an individual wants to take up the sport, then it is their own decision and it should be respected.

If boxing is banned at a point in the future, then it will simply cause the sport to go 'underground', totally unsupervised and unregulated, causing even greater number of fatalities and injuries. Many people want boxing banned, as they think it is barbaric to see two men simply hitting each other, with the intention of causing serious injury. You could argue that many sports have a similar intention. For instance, more injuries are sustained playing rugby than practically any other sport. All forms of 'contact sport' have some element of risk. Boxing could of course be made safer, by reducing the number of rounds or by the use of protective head gear, as in amateur bout. Already, boxers have to undertake stringent medical tests before being allowed to enter the ring for a bout.

I feel that boxing as a sport is a reflection of our society today, in the 1990's. If people did not agree with boxing, then why do so many people watch many of the big fight spectacles? The television viewer must like boxing, for if they did not, they would simply vote with their feet and



change channels. This is supported by the huge television viewing audience that tuned in to watch the Nigel Benn versus Gerald McClelland fight last year. Sky Television have invested millions in boxing, so one could conclude that they must feel that there is a good enough market to televise boxing, otherwise why not simply invest the money in another sport?

Boxing is good for society, as many youngsters, mainly from poor backgrounds, see the sport as a good opportunity, if not the only opportunity, to make something of themselves. A classic example of this is Mike Tyson, who was saved from a life of crime and poverty, by becoming a boxer. Over the years, there have been many stories of boxers from poor backgrounds, who have produced 'rags to riches' stories. For instance, boxers such as Rocky Marciano and Marvin Hagler, who reached the top of their chosen profession, all came from impoverished backgrounds. For those who do not make the 'big time', boxing is still good, as many boxing clubs throughout the country ensure that young juveniles are taken off the street and are kept away from the temptation of crime and drugs. Boxing teaches them respect, self-control and discipline, all of which are needed in other jobs in life.

I would conclude, by saying that yes, boxing has an element of risk, but at the end of the day, it is an individual's right to decide whether they should enter the sport or not. Banning boxing would only cause more problems than are already supposed to exist. Banning boxing totally, is not the answer and it will not prevent fighters from being killed in the ring.

J Cox (11T)

CRICKET COLTS XI

Played 11 Won 5 Lost 3 Drawn 3

There were two quite contrasting aspects to this season for the Under 15's Cricket XI. The first was a very positive one, with the consolidation of a very good nucleus to the side, which could call on any one of several key players to make valuable contributions, either with the bat or the ball.

Less encouraging was the tendency for other, equally able players to drop out of the squad, or to make themselves unavailable at the last moment. I was very grateful, therefore, to a number of players who turned out regularly without any guarantee of a lengthy innings or bowling spell, but who were nevertheless willing to support the school. Without these members of the team, we would not to be able to fulfil our fixtures. I thank them for their commitment.

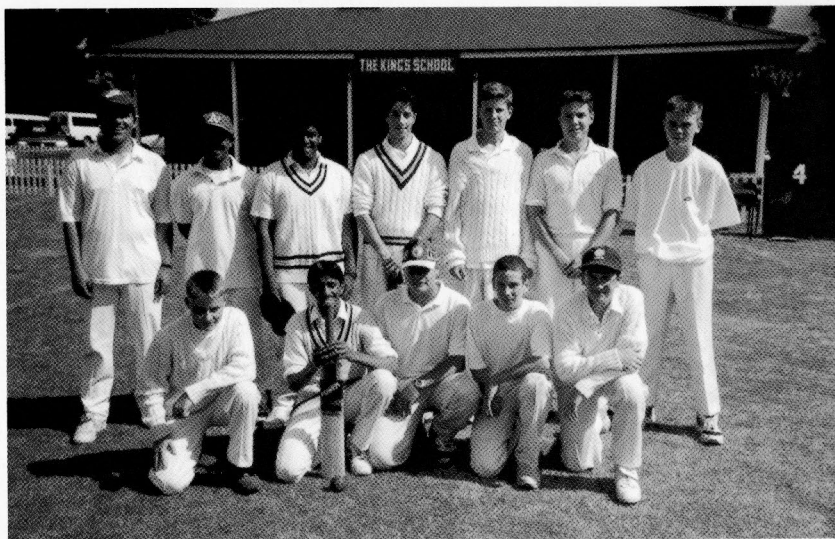
The consistency of performances was still variable this year, especially the bowling attack, which ranged from the near perfect against Crypt,

Newent, and Chosen Hill, (away) to the extremely wayward against Dean Close and Chosen Hill (home). The batting generally looked very solid, with sizeable partnerships built in every game.

This strength in depth was the main reason for the team reaching the final of the City Rotary Cup Final, which was played at Kings. In a thrilling match against Churchdown, both teams tied the match in terms of runs, but Churchdown won the match on the countback of wickets that had fallen. Consequently, the season has overall, been one of mixed fortunes and let's hope the players become more consistent in the coming years.

This year, Full Colours were awarded to Rakesh Patel, Sajid Patel, Peter Rose, Faidhl Daya and Colin Granger. Half Colours were awarded to Ben Mason and George Powell.

Mr R J Lockey



Above, the Colts Cricket XI, who reached the final of the Gloucester City Rotary Cup Final, in which they lost a thrilling match, due to a countback on wickets, against Churchdown, after both teams had tied the match on 119 runs each. Despite this, the team had a relatively good season!

CHESS

In the North Gloucestershire League, all three teams performed well against mainly adult opposition and ended the season with the first team gaining promotion to Division Two.

At the 13th Marlwood Tournament, the school produced its best performance, ending in the First Division and winning the cup for the best team from the Severnside Region.

At the Birmingham and District Under 18 Tournament, the team came 4th, ahead of notable sides, such as Nottingham High School and consequently won the Vistors' trophy.

Westgate won the House Chess Competition. Junior Colours were awarded to Leigh Workman and Dolin Bhagawati, while Senior Colours were awarded to Chris Poole and Chris Wilkinson.

Mr R L Fowler



THE WALTER RANGELEY SPRINT CUP - THE BACKGROUND STORY

One Friday morning, a few days after Sports Evening had been held, Deputy Headmaster, Brian McBurnie, strolled up to the stage to take assembly. In his hand was a small cup and I wondered what it was for and in particular, which pupil would receive it. All was to be revealed by Mr McBurnie, who being topical as usual, told the school a story relating to the background of the cup in his possession.

I, being a relatively new-comer to the school, with only ten years service to Rich's, had not heard about this story before and like many of the students who were listening in assembly, I



was to learn about yet another piece of Richian history. After the assembly, I asked Mr McBurnie a few questions and he suggested that I ring up Mr Michael Rangeley, who could supply me with all the specific details relating to the cup. So I did and Michael kindly responded to my request and subsequently, what follows is the story of the 'Walter Rangeley Sprint Cup'.

The cup is awarded to the best and most outstanding sprinter of the year in the school. It was presented to Rich's by the family of Walter Rangeley. Walter's son, Michael was Music Director at the school for twenty-three years and retired after a very successful time at Rich's in 1987.

Walter Rangeley was an exceptional sprinter himself. He was born in 1903 in Salford and represented England and Great Britain in sprinting events consistently for fifteen years, between 1924 and 1939. This was a time, of course, when athletics was an amateur sport, with no sponsors, no television, no interviews, no drugs; in short - no money. Indeed, compared to athletics and many other sports in the 1990's, the time that Walter competed in were really halcyon days. Athletes trained outside their working day and in the case of Walter Rangeley, this was two or three times a week at the Manchester Ship Canal Ground! Sometimes, athletes would ask for permission for time off work for the big events, such as the Olympic games or major internationals. This would be sometimes granted, but gaining the permission from employers could not always be guaranteed.

Walter Rangeley ran in three Olympic Games; in Paris in 1924, then in Amsterdam in 1928 and finally in the notorious Berlin Games of 1936. At Amsterdam, he won a Silver medal in the 220 yards, (now the 200 metres), missing out on the Gold by a tenth of a second. In addition, he won medals at the Empire (now the Commonwealth) Games, won International Caps against various nations, such as France, Germany, Italy and the USA. Walter even Captained the England Athletics team against Sweden. By the standards of top flight athletes of today, Walter's career was very successful and would certainly have attracted the interest of the media in the 1990's.

Michael Rangeley tells us that he was essentially a quiet, modest, but proud man, who also loved to compete locally in events, such as County Championships and the Northern Counties Championships, both of which he won countless times between 1922 and 1939. He would also successfully compete in the now extinct handicap events, which were the backbone of athletics, in the north of England. The cup that Rich's now presents to the best sprinter each year was won by Walter Rangeley in 1937 at the British Coronation Meeting of the Inter County Athletic Championships. After the war, he spent many hours coaching at the Salford Athletic Club and he would therefore have been pleased to see the eventual home of this cup, since the encouragement of others, particularly young people, was always important to him. So, that's

the story behind the cup and a pretty illustrious story it is! This year it was presented to James Thomas (9T), who cracked the school record for 400 metres, producing a time of 56.2 seconds. James not only excels at 400 metres, but is a fine sprinter over the shorter distances and is a real asset on the wing for his school rugby XV. It's not every day that you are presented a cup, which once belonged to an Olympic Silver medalist and Rich's is lucky to have such an asset in its trophy cabinet. Many thanks to Michael in supplying the details.

Mr M W Rangeley / Mr P D Lloyd



Above, James Thomas (9T), winner of the 'Walter Rangeley Sprint Cup' for the best sprinter of the year.

CRICKET UNDER 14 XI

Played 6 Won 3 Lost 2 Drawn 1

This was a season of two halves, in which the team displayed lots of commitment early on, with some good performances produced, such as against Recomb College. Over the second half of the season, the team lost their enthusiasm a little and consequently results suffered.

Mr B L North

CRICKET UNDER 13 XI

Played 7 Won 4 Lost 2 Drawn 1

This was a promising season for the the Under 13 XI, with several excellent performances from the team.

The opening fixture of the season saw some first class batting performances from Alex Dielt and Mark Hardcastle. Unfortunately, despite a good bowling performance, Rencomb managed to hold out for a draw.

Easy victories followed against Crypt and Churchdown, before a hard fought draw against Pates was played. The only defeat came at Marling in a very close contest. The season finished on a high note however, with another victory over Crypt. The team have lots of potential and strength in depth. Let's hope that they prove this in the coming seasons.

Mr G Watson

HOCKEY

This year, over the winter and spring months, the Sixth Form had the opportunity to play hockey, using the tennis courts and also the all weather pitch down at Plock Court. The sport proved very popular and a pleasant change from Rugby or Soccer. Eventually, a mixed team was selected and formal matches were played.

In their first match, the team narrowly lost to Chosen Hill, 1-0 and then produced a draw against the Central Technology College. Under the joint Captaincy of Nicola Bullock and Sue Branthwaite, the team performed valiantly and were determined to do well, despite the experience of many of the players being limited.

Overall, the emphasis was very much about enjoyment. It is hoped that next season, a greater number of fixtures will be arranged, as demand is high. Skills and fitness will be worked upon. It is hoped that further development will occur.

Mrs J M Grocott

CRICKET UNDER 13 XI

Played 9 Won 5 Lost 2 Drawn 2

This season was an up and down one for the 'A' & 'B' teams. It had its highs and lows, (some very low!) The record shows that there were two wins secured against Marling, Chosen Hill, Churchdown and Severn Vale. The team also managed to get two very good draws against Pates and Crypt. The only defeats came against Chosen Hill 'A' and worst of all, at Deer Park in a cup match, which is best forgotten for all those involved.

The season started brightly with a good win over Churchdown, after the school had been set a target of 98. This was accomplished with only two wickets lost and two overs to spare. We worked on our fielding, although Bilal Moolla had scored an unbeaten thirty-two. Our next opponents were Crypt, who were a tough side. They batted extremely well, making a high total and after a very poor start from Rich's, losing five wickets in the first few overs, Matthew Taylor stepped up to bat out the match for over one and half hours to secure the draw.

Our next opponents were Pates, another team that possessed a good all-round pedigree. They made a high total and Rich's decided to go straight away for the draw, especially as Pates had a number of County bowlers on show. This was again accomplished, although our batting was still very shaky.

An easy win was gained against a weak Severn Vale side, with Patrick Green scoring forty-one not out and Ryan Barnett taking three wickets for one run and Jack Hindley also taking three wickets. After this came Deer Park in the County Cup. After bowling them out for fifty-six runs, in which we had played really well, we decided to 'self-destruct' and in a major collapse, that almost caused Mr Lloyd to go and seek stress counselling, we were bowled out for thirty-six runs. Mr Lloyd remarked after the match that the result had been the lowest point in his ten year teaching career. He was rather angry to say the least! After this result, intensive batting practice was the order of the day.

We went on to play Chosen Hill, with the 'A's' narrowly losing, while the 'B's' stormed to a convincing win. Then two good wins for both sides were secured against Marling, with Ryan Barnett scoring forty-one runs.

So, overall a very inconsistent and erratic season by the Year 7's. Mr Lloyd has aged considerably this season and he has promised that the team will undergo intensive batting practice over the winter months, so that hopefully next year we will bat with confidence and competence. I hope this turns out!

P Green (7c)

CRICKET LEGEND, TOM GRAVENEY VISITS RICH'S

On the last day of the Summer Term, Tom Graveney came to Rich's to present Colours to those who had excelled during the cricketing season and on behalf of 'The Lord's Taverners Foundation', formerly open Rich's three new outdoor Cricket nets. He was accompanied by Mr C Pegley, who is Chairman of the Western Region of the Lord's Taverners Foundation. Mr Pegley addressed the school, explaining how the Lord's Taverners was originally formed and the type of work they now perform. He told the school that one of the major tasks the organization undertakes, is the development of Cricket in this country, with sponsorship and grants to assist schools and clubs. Rich's was lucky enough to secure a £4,800 grant from the Lord's Taverners and Mr Pegley told the school that Rich's was the first school to receive a grant since he had taken over as Chairman. To support this special occasion, Tom Graveney had been invited to formerly open the new nets. As many of you know, Tom Graveney started his first class career with Gloucestershire in 1948 and finished it in Queensland, Australia twenty-three years later. During his long and illustrious time in the game, he played all over the world and has been described as perhaps the most elegant and stylish English batsman since the war. His career with Gloucestershire ended in 1960 and after a year of no first class cricket he returned to play for Worcestershire. Within a couple of years he was helping his new county to two successive county championships. At the age of thirty-six, he was back in the England team. He continued at the highest level of five more years, before he decided to try his hand in Sheffield Shield cricket in Australia. It was not long before he was back in Gloucestershire and beginning a new career working for the BBC Test Match Commentary team. Figures are not everything, but Tom's record is worth looking at. He scored over 1000 runs in a season twenty-two times. Also, he scored 122 centuries and 47,793 runs at an average of 44.91. In the whole history of the game only eight other players have scored more runs and few can have given more pleasure to the spectator than "Long Tom" Graveney. Mr Graveney is now 69 and played in 79 tests for England. He was awarded an OBE for his services to cricket.

After he had presented the colours, Tom went out to inspect the new nets and talk to some of the pupils. He posed for the local press and Tom Radcliffe, (6B) was lucky enough to deliver the first ball to Tom Graveney. The boys also received a few coaching tips and some cricketing advice from Mr Graveney, before he departed to Lord's for the start of the test series against Pakistan. Rich's has applied to the National Lottery, in the hope of gaining a grant to obtain some indoor nets. The school is very grateful to the Lord's Taverner's Foundation for the grant and it will be a great help in ensuring that cricket at Rich's continues to flourish. Many thanks to Mr Pegley and Mr Graveney in taking the time and trouble to visit Rich's - the morning's proceedings were very much appreciated by the school and pupils.

Mr F Henderson



Above, from left to right, pupils Tom Radcliffe, Rakesh Patel and cricket legend, Tom Graveney pose for the camera during the official opening of the new school cricket nets.

THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

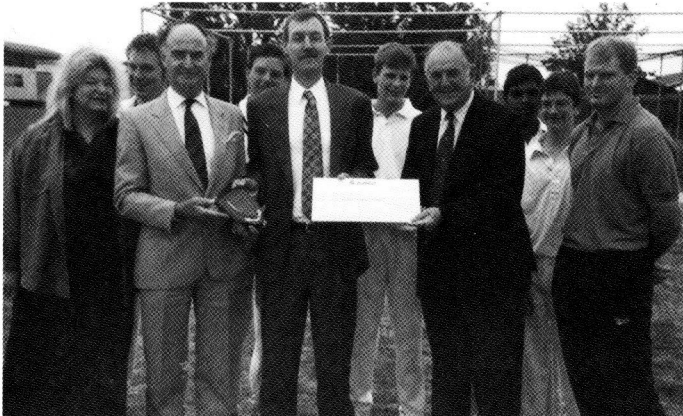


Once again, Rich's Parents' Association have been working tirelessly throughout the school year, raising funds and helping out at numerous events. At the Christmas Fayre, they raised almost £3,000, twice the amount raised from last year. Many projects have benefited from the Parents' Association. For instance, it was their money that helped to resurface the tennis courts and erect the new fencing around the perimeter. The purchase of four new table tennis tables and a CD-ROM for the library was down to the Association. Every time a school team or group use the two minibuses, it is thanks to the Parents' Association. For they help to run and service the minibuses.

Other areas that the Parents' Association have supported, include the Chess Club, who now have a trophy to compete for during the year. The library has had new books and CD's, again due to the support of the Association. The school is a more secure place, because the Parents' Association

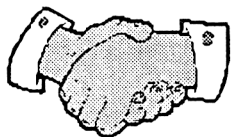
helped to pay for the security fencing that runs along the edge of the playing fields. School music has been assisted with the purchase of new music stand lights. Often, staff and pupils tend to take these facilities and improvements in the school for granted. If it was not for the support of the PA, the quality of life at Rich's would be seriously undermined. It is important that we do not forget all the effort, time and commitment of those involved in making the Parents' Association such a successful component of the school. This year, the Association says farewell to several long serving members: Derek Saunders, Mike Fry, (Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively), Chris Fowler, Graham Smith, Jan Burdett and Anne Lyne. Also Carole Fowler, who with Jan Burdett, have organized the refreshment rotas. The school thanks them for all their hard work and commitment over the years.

Mr P D Lloyd



Above, from left to right, Jan Wilton, Rich's Chairman of Governors, Mr C J R Pegley, Chairman of the Western Region of the Lord's Taverners, Headmaster, Ian Kellie, Tom Graveney and Head of PE, Mr Joe Gallagher, gather for the handing over of the cheque and plaque, during the official opening of Rich's new cricket nets.

THE OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION



PRESIDENT'S REPORT - DAVID HOOK

President:
Treasurer:

David Q Hook
Andrew K Bishop

Secretary:
Social Secretary:

David G Billingham
Ian R Poole

Old Richians' Committee:

Dennis Collins
Alan Pilbeam

Jack Dean
Duncan Sargent

Ian Kellie
Alan Speed

David Mayo
Tom Harris (School Captain)

The past year has once again seen the continued strengthening of the Association, both in its financial position and in its increased membership. As most members will be aware, we took our first faltering and belated steps towards computerization this year, which Andrew Bishop very kindly helped to instigate. There have been a few gremlins in the system, but most of these have, we believe, now been removed and my apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused to members or their neighbours!

In September, 1995, Old Richian, Peter Green presented the school, with his truly excellent painting of the 'Quadrangle and Blue Coat Boy'. We are still hoping to be able to offer limited edition prints of this painting, but to date, advance orders of this print have been disappointing and if there is not a significant increase in orders, we will be not be able to proceed with this fund raising operation. Peter's painting, now hangs in the 'Blue Coat Library' and is well worth a detour the next time that you visit the school.

The Association has been able to help the school in a number of ways this year, including agreeing to fund a new reception desk for the entrance hall and providing sponsorship from the 'Richian Trust' for Old Richian, Giles Croft and Sixth Former, David Frodin.

In March, the Association, held another successful Annual Dinner in the school hall, with Frank Henderson, as the highly entertaining guest

speaker. Next year's dinner will be held on the 22nd March, so book the date now!

The McKenna Room, Christ Church, Oxford, was the setting in May, for the Association's Oxbridge Dinner. Once again adeptly organized by Rob Bielby, who together with Deputy Headmaster, Alan Pilbeam, gave a speech after the meal.

To all reading this report, who are not Association members, but eligible to be, I invite you to join up. Likewise, if you have any family or friends, who might be interested in joining, then please send then a photocopy of the membership form, found at the back of this magazine. We need to continue increasing the number of Association members.

Once again, we have a sizeable Old Richians' section in the magazine, but we would like to hear about many more old boys and girls. Please send your information either to the Editor or myself to ensure next year's magazine is even better than this year.

Finally, I repeat last year's appeal for more help on the Association's Committee. I and all the membership are indebted to the Committee for all their hard work. "Many hands make light work" and we could do with a number of additional members for the Committee.

Garde ta Foy!

D Q Hook (President)



(Left) Mr Barry Legg, MP, 'Old Richian' (1960-68) was guest speaker at Rich's annual 'Speech Day' last autumn. In his address to those assembled in the school hall, Mr Legg made many references to his days at Rich's and in particular his memories of Headmaster, Mr Stocks.

Consequently, in the picture, we see Mr Legg standing next to his former Headmaster, Mr Stocks, (right) in the 'Blue-Coat Library', during the reception after the prizes had been awarded.

Right, Mr Clive Wixey of 'C F Wixey - Decorator', sits proudly in the school Foyer, which he helped to refurbish in 1994 and which last autumn was entered for the 'National British Decorators Association Competition', in association with Solvite. Mr Wixey was awarded 'third prize' in the 'Institutional Category'. Money for the refurbishment of Rich's Foyer and the presentation cabinet, was made possible by the kind assistance of the Old Richians' Association.



THE OLD RICHIANs' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER



Above, the central guests at the Old Richians' Association Annual Dinner

Old Richians and their ladies, together with members of staff, ex-staff and current school 'Observers', met at the school on Saturday, 30th March, 1996, to enjoy another reunion evening. Having escorted his guests, the City Sheriff, Councillor Ben Richards and Mrs Richards, Chairman of Governors, Miss Jan Wilton, the Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie and Mrs Kellie, as well as the guest speaker, Mr Frank Henderson, to their places, the President, Mr David Hook, opened proceedings by saying Grace. Everyone enjoyed a three course knife and fork buffet meal, whilst exchanging news and recalling events from individual school-days, ranging from the 1920's, right up to the last year or two. After coffee had been served, the 'Master of Ceremonies', for the evening, Mr Dennis Collins, called upon the President to address the gathering. Having proposed the loyal toast, David Hook, then formally welcomed the guests on the top table. He recorded a number of apologies for non-attendance and read out a letter from Mr W J Veale, who was Headmaster from 1936 to 1957. Now in his 90's, he lives in Paington and although unable to make the journey to be present, he once again sent his good wishes for a successful reunion event. The President referred to the tremendous contributions made to the association by the 'Immediate Past President', the late Stan Jones. He reported news of the death in New Zealand of Mr Cliff Organ, who was well into his 90's and had been one of the oldest old boys. Having encouraged everyone to purchase prints of the painting of the school by internationally famous artist, old boy, Peter Green; and having expressed his thanks to the 'Association's Officers', as well as for the help throughout the past year, he introduced guest speaker, Mr Frank Henderson. In inviting him to propose the toast, 'to Sir Thomas Rich's School and all that it implies', the President also expressed the hope that he might provide the entertainment for the evening.

Mr Henderson, who is both an old boy and a member of staff, as Head of Science, referred to his arrival at Rich's, as a pupil, despite some confusion over the colour of the school uniform. Following success at the school and university and an early teaching experience in Hereford, he recounted the build up to his appointment to the staff at Rich's, under Mr Stocks, the then Headmaster. In listing other Headmasters, whom he had known as both pupil and as a teacher at the school, he referred particularly to the respect and trust with which everyone regarded Mr Veale and he briefly and affectionately outlined the differing styles of the others who followed him. Before concluding with a formal proposal of the toast to the school, Frank naturally enthused about the extent of the 'Venture Scout Unit' and its value in the life of the school. In responding on behalf of the school, the Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie, indicated that having previously been Deputy Head had been an advantage in maintaining good communication with all members of staff. He warmly praised them for their support and commitment and he listed a wide range of successes, academic, sporting, musical and dramatic. Brief details of proposals for the further development of premises and teaching facilities to meet the needs of the school were announced; with a target of 750 pupils within the next year or two. Mr Kellie concluded with the motto, "Garde ta Foy", stating that the school was in good shape and getting even better. Following the traditional raffle, friendly conversations continued for some time to round off another very enjoyable 'Reunion Dinner'.

Mr David Mayo (Vice-President)

THE 'BLUE-COAT BOY' COMES HOME TO RICH'S

Last November, the Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie, was presented with a water-colour of a 'Blue-Coat Boy' and the old school shield. The water-colour was an original and was produced in 1882, by Margaret Price, of 'Tibberton Court', just outside Gloucester.

I decided as Editor of the school magazine, that the water-colour was so delightful, that it should be used as the front cover of this year's edition of 'The Richian'. I hope readers approve of my choice.

Margaret Price was a noted water-colourist and the water-colour of the 'Blue-Coat Boy' was named as, 'Fredrick William Pickford'. One can only assume that the Pickfords were a local Gloucester family, who had some connection with the Price family. Maybe, one of our reader's could shed some light on this and let me know.

Anyway, a sketch of the water-colour was discovered by Mr Gordon Fluck, who has connections with the 'Tibberton Court Estate'. Mr Fluck traced the original water-colour to London.

It was in the hands of Dr Tania Rose, MBE, who was the great grand-daughter of Margaret Price and who now lives in North West London.

Dr Rose was informed about the 'Richian Memorabilia Collection' by Mr Fluck and was asked whether she would like to donate the water-colour to the school. In response to the request, Dr Rose was very happy to do this. Consequently, the school arranged a formal presentation ceremony of the event, which was covered by the local press. The water-colour is now part of an ever increasing collection of 'Richian Memorabilia', which highlights the school's historical and traditional past.

We must thank Mr Gordon Fluck for all his hard work in tracing the water-colour and of course, Dr Tania Rose, for allowing the school to have a treasured piece of Richian history. Naturally, the school is always interested in any 'Richian Memorabilia' and if any reader feels that they have anything that may enhance the collection, the school would be delighted to hear from them.

As a footnote, many readers will be interested to note that Mr Gordon Fluck had a younger brother, born in 1936, Derek James Fluck, who came to Rich's, along with Gordon, as a 'fee-paying pupil' and entered the 'Junior School'. Derek stayed at Rich's until he was sixteen.

Mr P D Lloyd

THE OLD RICHIAN'S' INDOOR CRICKET TOUR



Above - the Old Richians' Indoor Cricket Team that once again played various sides from the School. From the top, left to right, Paul Critchard, Phil Brown, Mr T R Fearn (Umpire & Organizer), Adrian McBurnie and David Gamston. Bottom, left to right, David Freeman and John Jeffries.

PETER GREEN'S PAINTING OF THE SCHOOL QUADRANGLE



Above, Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie, (far left), is presented with the painting of Rich's quadrangle by artist and former pupil, Peter Green (centre). David Hook, (far right) President of the O.R. Association looks on at the proceedings. The picture is now proudly hanging in the school's new 'Blue Coat Library'.

Picture, by kind permission of 'The Citizen' newspaper, St John's Lane, Gloucester, GL1 2AY

Last September, Peter Green, an internationally renowned artist, presented the school with the above painting of the quadrangle. Peter left Rich's in 1979 and served as a Merchant Navy Deck Officer, obtaining over half a million miles of worldwide seagoing experience, before becoming a full time professional artist. Specializing in marine work, Peter has an impressive list of clients, including yachtsmen, senior shipping executives and major companies. In January, 1994, his painting of the world's largest ship, the "Jahre Viking", was awarded second place in the 'Transport Trust Award' at Sothebys, in London. It was exhibited at the 'Royal Society of Marine Artists' annual show, at the 'Mall Gallery', in London. Peter has also had his work exhibited at the 'Mystic International Exhibition', in the USA,

with his work being one of only one hundred and twenty exhibits selected for display from three thousand entries submitted. The painting of the quadrangle will now become a treasured part of the school's history. Already, a number of people connected with the school have ordered a "limited edition print" of the painting. Only five hundred prints will be produced, but more orders are needed if the fund raising scheme is to go ahead. It is pleasing to note that the Association will be using all the profits for the benefit of the school. Copies of Peter Green's painting can be ordered from David Hook, 1 Kingsholm Square, at a cost of £25, plus £2 postage for the UK and £4 for the rest of the world.

David Hook (President of the O.R. Association)

THE OLD RICHIAN'S' RUGBY CLUB 1ST XV



Above, The Old Richians' 1st XV, pictured at Kingsholm, before their 'Combination Cup Final' against Spartans, which they narrowly lost!

*Top Row - Standing, from left to right, Paul Toleman (Secretary), Nick Freckleton (Trainer), *Philip Akerman, *Paul Smith, *Andrew Cook, Tony Cox, *Neil Ward, Mark Tovey, Chris Theyer and Mike Gaze.*

*Middle Row - Seated, from left to right, *Pat Strutt, *Gair Carr, *Jon Freckleton, Andrew Pearce, Darren Nichols (Captain), Rob Gough (Coach), Steve Davis, Neil Sullivan and Will Cole.*

Bottom Row - Seated, from left to right, Ben Slatter, Rob Fletcher, James Sullivan and Martin Gamston.

** Indicates players who were former pupils of Sir Thomas Rich's School. - Picture taken by Mr Tony Hickey*

THE OLD RICHIAN'S' RUGBY CLUB 1ST XV's REPORT

Played 33 Won 17 Lost 15 Drawn 1
Points For 721 Points Against 556

This was a season of mixed fortunes, with performances inconsistent and results subsequently variable. From the start fortunes for the team did not go well, with the club losing the coaching services of Joe Gallagher, but by the end of the season, spirits were high, culminating in a thrilling cup final at Kingsholm against Spartans.

The season began in the usual manner with good numbers turning out for training. However, with a few poor results in the first series of games and several league games going against the First XV, the numbers turning out for training dwindled, until only the "Die-hards" remained and morale was very low. As a result, Joe Gallagher decided that his commitment to the club outweighed the commitment given by some of the players and subsequently, in the best interests of all concerned, he felt it best to sever his coaching links and make way for new blood. This status quo continued for a period before a few good results materialized against much bigger and larger opponents. This had a positive effect on the team, with spirits lifted and upon reflection was the turning point of the season for the First XV. The team started to play with renewed confidence and this was mainly due to the resurgence of the Forwards and combined with some intensive training, they began to take the game to the opposition. Consequently, with the Forwards winning more first and second phase ball, the backs were allowed to run more freely and with greater confidence. With a change in fortunes for the First XV, some

important league results, together with an excellent 'Combination Cup' run materialized. Richians beat Hucclecote, Saintbridge and Tredworth, resulting in a very successful close to the season. The season's climax came with the 'Combination Cup Final' at Kingsholm, in which the team was pitted against Spartans, a side with a solid reputation and a number of leagues above Richians. It was always going to be a difficult match for Richians, against a powerful Spartans side. However, the side proved to be a worthy match for their opponents and if Richians had converted their kicks and taken the game more to the opposition backs, then a shock result may have been produced. Nevertheless, with the half-time score at 13-13, Spartans were more determined in the second half and emerged winners, with the final result 25-16, after their forwards had secured a try in the final minutes of the match. The top try scorer this season was M Wheeler, while the top points scorer was P Smith.

Mr Paul Smith



Above, action from the 'Combination Cup Final', played at Kingsholm, in which Richians went down 25-16 to Spartans.

Here we see Darren Nichols (Captain) jumping, with support in hand, from Andrew Cook and Mark Tovey. Tony Cox, Will Cole, Gair Carr and Neil Ward are all set to join in on the action!

***Picture by Mr A Hickey**

THE OLD RICHIAN'S' CRICKET CLUB REPORT

Due to the fact that 'The Richian Magazine' is usually printed in late August, various articles cannot be included and subsequently have to be in the following year's edition. Thus, the article below, is a report of the Old Richians' Cricket Club, for the 1995 season. Many thanks to Mr Steve Huckfield for contributing the article to the magazine .

Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)

A magnificent Summer in 1995 proved to be another very successful season for the Old Richians' Cricket Club. The First team led by Stuart Burrows were piped to the post by Arcadians for the 'Cheltenham and Gloucester Premier League' title, but runners up still proved to be the club's best league achievement to date. The Second team once again under the Captaincy of new Club Chairman, Phil Gabb, finished third in the 'Cheltenham and Gloucestershire - Division 3'. Fortunately, due to restructuring in the above leagues, they gained promotion to Division 2. In mid-week, the team did well under the guidance of Martyn Tyreman and they also achieved promotion in the 'Citizen League', finishing runners up in Division 3.

The season saw numerous outstanding individual performances, as club records were broken, but pride of place must go to Martin Burrows, who set a new club bowling record of most wickets in a season at the lowest average. He claimed forty-two wickets at an average of 7.5. He was also awarded the 'Cheltenham and Gloucester Premiership Award' of most five wickets in the league. Stuart Burrows was named 'First Team Player of the Year', finishing top batsman with an average of over fifty and second in the bowling averages behind cousin, Martin. Paul Burrows, yet another member of the family, achieved best bowling figures, of 6 for 11. Paul Montanaro scored the only hundred of the season and his 'ton' helped to set a new wicket record of 182 against Barat, aided by opening partner, Mike Wikes. Jason Garrick, a left-arm seamer from Carlise, picked up the second team 'Player of the Year' award. His all-round team spirit and the fact that he had the best bowling average, gained him the award above his nearest rivals. Steve Huckfield topped the batting averages, but lack of consistency amongst the batsmen saw the Seconds lose games that they should really have won.



Above, the 'Old Richians Cricket Club'- Backrow (left to right), Steve Huckfield, Ade Pearce, Ade Nash, Paul Cresswell, Phil Ackerman, Martyn Tyreman, Nigel Jones, Paul Burrows, Rich Hudson, Gair Carr, Ben Slatter, Pete Hoyes, Bob Bolton and Shaun Price.

Middle row (left to right), Mike Hoyes, Phil Gabb, Stuart Burrows, Martin Burrows, Mike Wilkes and Chris Green.

Front row (left to right), Rich Brown, Jason Garrick, Jim Slatter, Glyn Collins and Paul Montanaro.

Due to the end of the season tour to Blackpool, the Club could only send a small party to the 'GCCF Presentation Dinner', where the guest speaker was David Lawrence, the England and Gloucestershire Fast Bowler, who proved to be quite entertaining. The club received 'Cheltenham and Gloucester Premier League' medals and a trophy for being runners-up. Martin Burrows collected a medal for his outstanding bowling in the league. The Elmbridge Club for the second year, hosted the end of season dinner and dance. Thanks must go to Gair Carr, who organized a highly successful event.

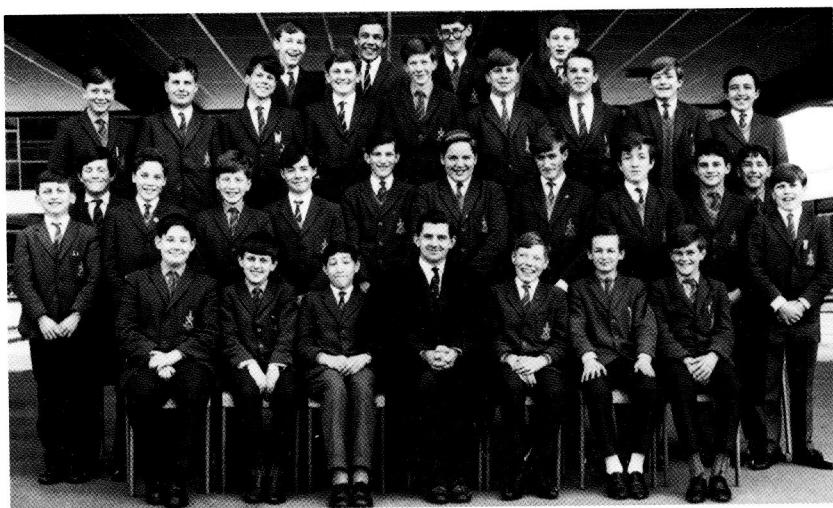
The 1996 season started much the same way as the last, with the First Team competing for the top spot in the Premiership, with arch-rivals, Arcadians. The Seconds have had a mixed start, losing as many as they have won. Although, a major achievement has been gained in the Second team, with Glyn Collins, a Sixth-former at the Central Technology College, striking out to gain an unbeaten 137 against Malvern. This has consequently beaten the nine year club record, held by current First team Captain, Stuart Burrows. Other young players are now starting to find their feet in the Seconds. Brothers Jim and Ben Slatter, have recently scored maiden half-centuries and Rich Brown looks to be a promising spin bowler. For the club to remain

successful, more young players must be attracted to play for the teams. It would be good if the School First XI versus the Old Richians' could be resurrected. Many feel that links with the school have been lost and it would be good to rejuvenate them.

The Old Richians' Cricket Club have now reached a cross-roads, applying to join the County league. They have been helped by the signing of a long term lease for the land outside the Elmbridge Club, where the club's square is situated. By the start of the 1997 season, the preparation of the wicket and the maintenance of the outfield will be no longer in the hands of the local Council. The work will be down to the members of the Old Richians' Cricket Club. A small amount of work has already started under the guidance of Bob Bolton, with members of the club rallying around, helping to cut and roll the wicket before match days. This is just a start and for the club to move forwards, much more work must be done, especially in the winter when people are thinking of other sports and Cricket is a distant memory. Exciting times for the Old Richians' Cricket Club lie ahead and with everyone's help and support, the club will move forwards and who knows, with a bit of hard work, we might see County League cricket at the Elmbridge Club in the near future.

Mr Steve Huckfield

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



This photograph was believed to have been taken around 1964 - 1966. In the centre, we see a 'young' Alan Pilbeam, now Rich's Deputy Headmaster. What are these 'Young Richians' now doing nearly thirty years on? If you know, let the Editor know, c/o of Sir Thomas Rich's School, Oakleaze, Gloucester.

COMMITTED FLANKER MAKES THE BEST OF LATE ACCEPTANCE - BY MARK SOUSTER (PRINTED IN 'THE TIMES' NEWSPAPER - 29th FEBRUARY, 1996)

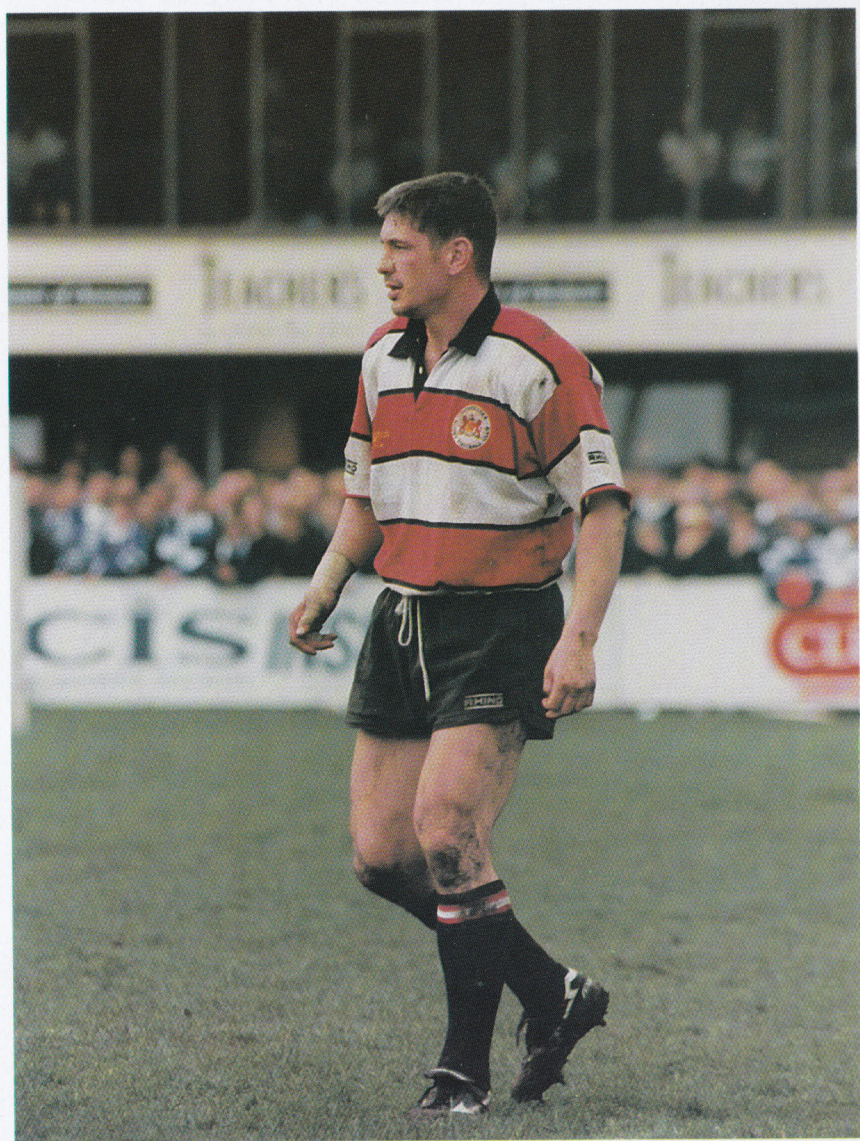
Six years ago, Ian Smith was the only Scot watching Scotland win the grand slam on a big screen at Gloucester Rugby Union Club. When Tony Stanger scored the try, he alone stood up and cheered; and he has never let Mike Teague, his clubmate, forget that it was his knock-on that led to the scrum from which Scotland went over. This time, Smith, not Teague, will be at Murryfield, for what could be the crowning moment of a career which, at 30, has belatedly burst to life. After opting for Scotland five years ago (his father was from Aberdeen), Smith had been the understudy to a succession of Scottish No 7's, most latterly Iain Morrison. In the three years after his debut in 1992, he won only 11 caps. When Morrison retired after the World Cup, Smith seized his opportunity and this season has been a revelation.

Finlay Calder, the Scotland open-side flanker in 1990, is generous in his praise. "Ian Smith is the best open-side forward Scotland has ever had," he said. "That is speaking as a purist, and I know what I am looking for. He is instinctive and has speed about the park - incisive speed. If you roam around, you do not have the same impact. On top of everything else, he tackles well and keeps the game alive." Smith smiles at the tribute. "I have had a few ups and downs over the past couple of years, so it is nice to come in and establish myself and get a good run," he said, "I think the side is playing a brand of rugby that suits me and hopefully it will continue." The style emerged from the debris of defeat against Italy in January, a match that Scotland used as an experiment to develop a more fluid style. "You've got to be prepared to take a bloody nose in search of what you are trying to achieve," Smith said, "We did and it has worked." After a disappointing World Cup, when his only appearance was against the Ivory Coast, Smith felt particularly dejected. However, having discussed his situation with his wife, he decided on "one last season," to try to secure his international place. The commitment has paid off.

(Printed with kind permission from "The Times" Newspaper - 29th February, 1996)



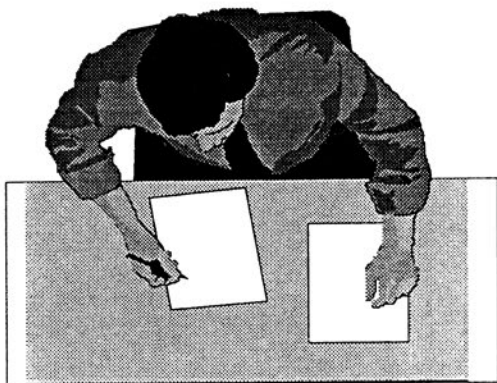
Above, Ian Smith gets to grips with Bath and England Centre, Jeremy Guscott, in last season's bruising encounter with Bath. (Photograph by Tony Hickey)



Above, former Rich's pupil, Ian Smith of Gloucester and Scotland.

(Photograph by kind permission of Mr Tony Hickey)

NEWS OF OLD RICHIANs



EDITOR'S NOTE

The Editor would like to thank all those individuals who have contributed reports and tributes on various 'Old Richians'. In particular, he would like to thank the President of the 'Old Richians' Association', Mr David Hook, for all the information that he has supplied in the last year. 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)

OBITUARIES

BLOXHAM JOHN - John served at Sir Thomas Rich's School for thirty years and retired in 1981, along with another dedicated teacher of thirty years' service, David Joseph. John used to cycle to and from Corse Lawn, every day, in all weathers, to get to Rich's. He was remembered for his famous anecdotes and his clear-sighted and sane opinions about the world. He could be best described as a teacher of "the Old School". He loved his biology and enjoyed unravelling its secrets to all the pupils that he taught over the years, particularly those in the Sixth Form. Yet, he will be best remembered for his own, distinctive and original style of teaching. His methods and approach would not go down well with today's administrators, inspectors and educational managers. Their jargon and bureaucratic methods would have received some suitably apt comment from John's famous dry wit. John was a kindly man, whose voice was seldom raised in anger. He had little time for pomposity and over-blown rhetoric. He was famous for cutting down anyone to size who was guilty of displaying any sort of pomposity or arrogance with a few choice words. He was well loved and respected by his colleagues, as a person and a teacher. Many doctors, researchers and educationalists, who came under his influence will be sad to learn of his departure.

Written by Mr Frank Henderson (Head of Science, Governor & an 'Old Richian')

HAWKER Frederick J (1942-48) Frederick died suddenly of a heart attack in Sunderland, during last September. Fred, as he was known to all his friends, was one of those all rounders upon which a successful school depends so much upon. He could always be relied upon to participate in most school activities. Fred was awarded his 1st XV Rugby colours, played Cricket and actively took part in shooting, gymnastics and the Air Training Corps. All this is surprising, since Fred suffered from a Kidney weakness, which prevented him from undertaking National Service when he left Rich's. He worked in the laboratory of the Pathology Department at Cheltenham Hospital and obtained his academic qualifications at Technical College. He played Rugby for the student Union Team, but immediately joined the Old Boys Rugby Club when it was formed in the 1950's.

He and his wife Ursula, were married in Hucclecote, Gloucester in 1955 and moved to Sunderland, where Fred had secured an academic post in Sunderland Technical College. This institution advanced eventually to University status over the years and Fred's career progressed with it. He never left the area and retired from the University after a very successful career. In his retirement, he found great satisfaction in participating in Bowls. He and Ursula made the long journey to be at Stanley Jones fiftieth year special dinner in 1992 and it was a great joy to see them after so many years.


My wife and I feel the loss of Fred, particularly strongly, since he was Best Man and his wife Ursula was one of the Bridesmaids at our wedding in Gloucester in 1954. We would like to join many Old Boys and their families in extending our deepest sympathy to Ursula and her family.

Written by Dr Dennis B Powell (1946-50)

ORGAN Clifford T (1911-1916 Approx) Clifford died on the 18th January, 1996, after a short illness, aged 95. Clifford was a widower since 1965 and lived in Ngaruawahia, North Island, New Zealand. He enjoyed a good healthy life, remaining fully independent until a few weeks before his death. He was a great one for the outdoor life and his letters sent back to Gloucester told of someone, who in their late 80's, still enjoyed amongst other things, travel, golf and chopping up large quantities of firewood for the winter!

Clifford was immensely proud of his family, with three daughters and one son, plus ten grandchildren, as well as one great-grandchild. His letters were full of their achievements and whilst Clifford was one of the oldest Old Richians and furthest away from Gloucester in distance, he never lost interest in his old school. He corresponded many times during the year to England, especially to a number of members of the Association's committee. We offer our condolences to his family.

Written by David Hook, President of the Old Richians' Association



**THE
OLD
RICHIAN'S
ASSOCIATION**

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NEWS OF OLD RICHIAN'S

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED IN
NEXT YEAR'S MAGAZINE, THEN SIMPLY
SEND DETAILS EITHER TO DAVID HOOK
OR THE EDITOR,
C/O SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL,
OAKLEAZE, GLOUCESTER GL2 0LF**

NEWS UPDATE ON OLD RICHIANs

(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.)

**The Editor would like to thank Mr David Hook, President of the Old Richians' Association, for supplying him with the bulk of the information relating to former pupils that is listed below and on subsequent pages.*

ASHBY Colin J (1962-70) Left Rich's to read Chemistry at Birmingham University, where he also captained the University Rugby Club. He then went to Oxford for a PGCE, where he became the first Old Richian Rugby Blue. After teaching at Epsom College and Bromsgrove School, he was appointed Headmaster of Trinity School, Teignmouth in 1992. Trinity is an independent co-educational day and boarding school, with a joint Roman Catholic and Anglican Foundation. In 1995, the school, which has 320 pupils aged, 3-18 years, was credited with being the most improved independent school, based upon its performance in doubling the percentage of pupils obtaining five or more A-C grade GCSE's to 71%. Colin is married to Patricia and they have three daughters, Rachel (20), Laura (16) and Anna (13).

BADDELEY S (1984-91) Has recently graduated from the University of the West of England, Bristol, with a 2.2 in Biology.

BARKER Andrew (1972-79) Still works for Barclay's, as an Information Technology Consultant, designing new computer systems. Andrew's first job was in London, after which he spent three years back in Gloucester before moving up to Cheshire, where he lived for thirteen years. It was while up in Cheshire, that Andrew met his wife, Kathryn, (he was her boss). They were married in 1988 and they now have four children, aged 7, 5, 2, and 4 months, (two boys and two girls). Andrew writes, "We'll probably call it a day now, otherwise I'll have to buy a mini-bus. I notice from last year's Richian, Dave Amos has managed a similar achievement. We could almost field a football team between us". Andrew now works at Barclay's House, Poole and has recently moved to the Isle of Wight, where his wife grew up. It is a two hour trek, (each way!) into Poole every day to get to work, but it is worth it to live in such a lovely place. Andrew has nearly an acre of land attached to his house and weekends tend to be dominated by wearing wellingtons and lawn mowing. 'Daffodil Valley Lodge' is Andrew's idyllic sounding address.

BEARD David (1980's) last August, received sponsorship from the 'British Academy', to undertake a D.Phil, in Music, at St Edmund Hall, Oxford. Last Summer, David went on a trip to Singapore, before starting his course.

BENNETT Simon William (1973-79) Once again Simon has changed countries. He is now resident in New York and hopes to receive his 'Green Card' in the next few months. The move to the States was as a result of a promotion to manage a division of the 'ALLTELL Corporation'. After obtaining his MBA at Kingston, his time with the 'ALLTEL Corporation' has seen him working in such diverse places as Hong Kong and Omsk, Siberia. He is still single and continues his passion for flying, having taken advantage of the low cost in the US and recently obtained his multi-engine instrument rating.

BISHOP Nigel (1971-76) was appointed part-time 'Lay Worker', at Longsdale Road Methodist Church, Gloucester in 1995. Nigel, also works for 'Mencap' in Hucclecote and in 1996, became a fully 'Accredited Methodist Local Preacher'.

BROWN Jason (1988-95) Since leaving Rich's, Jason has travelled extensively through North Africa and recently wrote to staff at the school, from a kibbutz in Israel.

CLUTTERBUCK Steven (1979-86) obtained an English Degree from Huddersfield Polytechnic, after working for Eagle Star in Cheltenham upon leaving school. After teaching in St Pauls, Bristol, Steven is now teaching in Malvern and living in Cheltenham.

CROFT Giles (1984-91) Is currently training to be a doctor at Leeds University. After leaving Rich's, before entering university, Giles worked in Sailsbury at a children's home. After taking a year off to complete a BSc in Psychology, funded by the 'Medical Research Council Scholarship' and a small grant from the 'Richain Trust', towards an investigation on "Manipulation of Expectations and self-reported daily mood: Investigations of the 'Blue Monday Phenomenon'", Giles returned to his third year studies into 'Clinical Medicine'. This involves teaching on various medical and surgical attachments - getting out of the lecture theatre and into hospitals. Prior to Christmas 1995, Giles was at Airedale Hospital, near Keighley and in 1996 studied at St James' Hospital (Jimmy's), Leeds. Giles reports that he is still enjoying working at the Union Bar two days a week. (it beats Walls Ice Cream Factory any day!) In his spare time he enjoys cross-country running and getting out into the Yorkshire Dales on his bicycle whenever possible. With all these commitments, it was good to see Giles at this year's Annual Dinner, where he got Guy Worth to make a welcome reappearance.

DAVIES Christopher J (1972-80) Now has a daughter, Lucy Miranda, as well as a son, William, (born while Daddy was at work during the Conservative Party Conference). Christopher has a new job, Director of Government and Public Affairs for Bristol Myers Squibb, United Kingdom - a branch of the world leading pharmaceutical companies.

DEMPSEY David / HUGGINS Ruth - These two former Richians, who met while in the Sixth Form at Rich's, got married in July at Holy Trinity, Longlevens. We wish them a long and very happy marriage! Congratulations must also go to David on his appointment to the Mathematics department at Rich's. It seems that David has truly got 'Richian blood' in his veins - Good luck with your teaching!

EASTWOOD Harry (1946-50) Harry transferred from Rochdale High School to come to Rich's in 1946. He is retired now and lives in 'Col-St-Aldwyns', near Fairford, Gloucestershire. After leaving Rich's, he joined the 'Gloucestershire Constabulary Cadet Force', then did 'National Service' between 1952-54 in the 'Royal Military Police', serving in Berlin. On his return, he went back to the 'Gloucester Constabulary', serving from 1954 to 1984. Harry then worked at the 'Cotswold District Council Offices', Cirencester, in the 'Administration Department, from 1987 to 1992. He tells us that he still plays the occasional game of Cricket and can be seen cycling the local country roads to keep fit!

FISHER Steve (1970-78) Lives in Gloucester and last autumn made a brief visit to the school. He is a 'Freelance Computer Consultant'. In his spare time, he teaches and performs 'juggling'.

FITCH LUKE A N (1986-93) Has just graduated from St Catherines College, Oxford, with a 2:2 in Mathematics. He will start work in September, in Birmingham, for the Rover Group.

FRODIN Richard (1985-92) graduated from Liverpool University with a 'First' in Economic & Social History.

GAUNT J M (1966-73) After graduating at Birmingham University, Mike worked as a Chemical Engineer in 'Water purification', for Pharmaceutical and Allied Industries. Currently, living in Hertford, after spells in Slough and Wolverhampton, he travels quite a lot, including overseas trips. He says, "it's all hard work of course!" He is married to Alison and has two daughters, Rebecca (10) and Claire (8), as well as a boy, Joshua (5). They all keep him very young. Experience as a 'Stage electrician' at Rich's made him keen and proficient. So much so, that he is now a 'DIY Buff'!

GAUNT N R (1970-77) Joined the Navy and having survived Dartmouth, Culdrose and Portland, found himself on HMS Invincible, bound for the Falklands as a helicopter observer. Now a Lieutenant Commander, with a new job at R.N.A.S. Yeovilton, life is rather less exciting, but has its moments. He is married to Kerry and has three children, Sam (10), Emily (8) and Joe (5). Life is never dull with these three and living in Weymouth, the call of the sea is strong, especially on a hot sunny afternoon.

GOODWIN S (1985-92) Has graduated from Reading University with a 2:1 in Modern Languages.

GREEN Peter (1971-79) As many of you know, Peter is a well known marine artist and last October, Rich's welcomed him back, when he presented the school, on behalf of the Old Richians' Association, a painting of the

school quadrangle and new 'Blue Coat Library'.

GYPSON J (1985-92) Has just graduated from Aberystwyth University with a 'Third' in Accountancy.

HANSFORD Ben (1988-95) Continues to display cricketering excellence while studying at Birmingham university. He has had the honour of being Captain of the University First XI this season.

HARDING Kristen (1990-92) Kristen wrote to the Editor in late February of this year with lots of good news. Since leaving Rich's in 1992, Kristen has graduated from Liverpool, in 1995, with a BA (Hons) Degree in English & Music.

Upon graduating, Kristen has been travelling extensively and at the time of writing, she was in Sydney, Australia and had been touring the country for about three and half months, first starting in Perth, Western Australia.

She intended to continue touring, travelling to the East Coast to Cairns and then possibly go to New Zealand for a few weeks. Yet another successful Richian travelling the world!

Right, Kristen Harding pictured standing opposite the world famous 'Sydney Opera House'.



** Note: the Editor would be pleased to receive pictures of other Old Richians who find themselves at various famous locations around the world!*

HARRIS Nick (1970-79) Left Rich's to undertake a 'Foundation Course' in Art at Cheltenham and then went to Harrow College, London, to complete a three year HND course. Currently, Nick lives in Gloucester and works as an 'Illustrator' for various book publications.

HOOD D (1985-92) Has graduated from Reading University with a 2:2 in Modern Languages.

HOOK Gordon N (1957-65) Has left teaching at Brighton and Hove Sixth Form College and moved to Shaldon in South Devon, where he and his wife, Linda have bought the local Spar shop. The grocery business involves long hours, especially during the height of the summer season, when a one hundred hour week is the norm. Old Richians are very welcome to drop in and say hello - and even buy something!

HUGHES Brian (Bill) (1944-51) Now lives at North Wootton, King' Lynn, Norfolk. He is enjoying five years of retirement from teaching and tells us that he is pleased to be away from the latest hassles that the profession is currently enduring. Brian plays golf regularly, having given up cricket after many very enjoyable years at the wicket. He regrets not being able to attend the annual reunions, but he is pleased to hear of news of many of his contemporaries, such as Eric Snow.

HUGHES Steffan M (1985 - 92) Has obtained a 'First' in Civil Engineering from Manchester University.

JARVIS Tony (1990-94) Former Headmaster of Rich's, Tony Jarvis has enjoyed a busy year at St Olave's, Orpington. The year has involved work on a new Science building and the admission of more pupils into the school.

He keeps a watchful eye on news from both Kingsholm and Oakleaze. Tony particularly enjoyed viewing the architect's drawings of Rich's new quad on display at a National Education Conference. In addition to work in the Head's study, Tony spent a week at RCB Westbury, as a Headmaster member of the Army Scholarship Board and in July celebrated his election to membership of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC). He sends his best wishes to all at Rich's.

JEFFRIES John J (1986-93) Recently graduated from Bath University with a 'Third' in Economics.

JERRARD David (1976-1983) is now living in Napa, just north of San Francisco, California. David is in possession of a 'Green Card' and is working in Marketing, for the Export Department of Sutter House Winery, which is little known over here, but is about the fourth largest wine producer in the United States.

JONES T P (1985-1992) Left Cardiff Institute, with a 2.2 in 'Tourism'.

KINGSBURY PAUL T (1986-93) Has graduated from St David's University College, Lampeter, with a 2:1 in Geography.

LATHAN B (1985-92) Graduated last Summer with a First, from Loughborough, in 'Electronic Engineering'.

LEGG BARRY, MP (1960-68) who is a Conservative Member of Parliament, representing Milton Keynes, (South West), came to Rich's last September and was 'Principal Guest'. In his address to the audience, he outlined many fond memories of his life at Rich's, when Mr Stocks was Headmaster and was pleased to see that the school was in good shape.

LLOYD Peter (1986- to date) Member of the PE department and Editor of 'The Richian', is pleased to announce, that his wife, Anne, on the 7th August gave birth to a boy, Rhys, who weighed 8 lbs 8 oz. Peter and Anne already have a lively boy, Owen, who will be three in January 1997.

LONDON Michael (1978-1985) Left Rich's to undertake a Graphic Design course at Gloscat, from 1985 to 1987. He then went to Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education B S Graphic Design Department, from 1987 to 1988. Michael then went to the London School of Communicative Arts from 1988 to 1989. As part of his work experience placements, from 1989 to 1992, Michael was involved with various advertising agencies, such as Ogilvy & Mather, BBH and Saatchi & Saatchi. Since 1992, he has been employed as Art Director at Duckworth Finn Grubb Waters. The advertising campaigns that he has been involved in, has included Pizza Hut - "Hit the Hut", Daewoo - "That'll be the Daewoo", Ovaltine Light, a health authority drugs awareness campaign, Toshiba lap top computers and various press/TV items. Michael has served on juries for the Design and Art Directors Association of Great Britain and Creative Circle. He is also a council member for the Watford College Advertising course.

McBURNIE Adrian (1988-1995) Adrian has been awarded an 'Exhibition' in Mathematics at University College, Oxford.

MARTIN A J M (Late 1980's) Has graduated from Leeds University with a 2:2 in Human Science.

MAYO Christopher N (1978-1985) Christopher is a 'Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries' and is a partner in a firm of Consultants based in Reigate. Having studied Italian, Chris is now seconded to an office in Milan for two years. He continues to run whenever possible and has been introduced to a local Italian athletics club by a fellow 'Herne Hill Harrier'. Before making the move to Italy last December, Chris had managed to add Jordan, Vietnam and Thailand to his list of countries visited on various holiday travels.

MAYO David E (1945-1950) David is now retired, but keeps busy with work around his home and garden in Longford Lane, Longlevens, Gloucester. He hopes to extend his hobby interests by trying 'Woodturning'. Under a national scheme involving Professional Engineering Institutions, he is one of a small team of 'Chartered Engineers' giving voluntary support for the 'Design and Technology Curriculum' in school. David is 'Vice-Chairman' of the 'Old Richians' Association and at present a member of its committee.

MAYO Peter D (1973-1981) Lives in Surrey and works in central London as 'IT Manager' for the 'UK Consumer Division' of an internationally known cosmetics company, whose office is in Paris! Peter and his wife, Sally, live in Coulsdon and have two young sons, Jonathan who is two and half years old and Rosy, who is only six months. Although, no longer running in their colours, Peter, supports 'Herne Hill Harriers' at cross-country meetings as often as he can. Like his brother, Chris, Peter has also had to extend his ability in a foreign language, French, to cope with the business discussions in Paris.

MIDDLETON Martin V (1941-48) of Perth, Western Australia, recently visited Rich's in July, 1996 as part of a tour to trace old friends and renew old memories. Martin, a Chartered Engineer, numbered his main interests at Rich's as the Sciences, Languages, Sport and Music. He joined the Royal Navy in 1948 and served twenty-four years as an Officer, transferring to the Royal Australian Navy in 1972. He left the RAN in 1985 and for the next ten years worked in Senior Executive positions in industry. He is currently Director of Music at an Anglican Church in Perth.

While at Rich's he studied music under Mr Sumsion, the Gloucester Cathedral organist and also managed to play the organ in just about every church in Gloucester. He had a first class rugby career, which lasted nearly twenty years and played for the Royal Navy, the Combined Services and the Eastern Counties. Martin is also a first class Russian Interpreter and served in Moscow and Warsaw as a Naval Attache in 1962/63 during the Cuban Missile Crisis - an incredible period when espionage was in full flow around the world.

His wife died in late 1995, after forty-four years of marriage. He has three sons, one daughter and ten grandchildren, seven of whom live in the United Kingdom. His ninety-two year old mother still lives in Gloucester. After forty years of virtually no contact with the school, Martin intends to join the Old Richians' Association and recapture the past. We wish him well!

MILLS David J (1952-1958) is still working for 'Tewkesbury Borough Council' as a Senior Officer in the Administration and Legal Department, responsible for Land Charges, Road Safety, Emergency Planning, Electoral Registration and Elections. With the creation of the new Parliamentary Constituency of 'Tewkesbury, David as Assistant Deputy Returning Officer, will be responsible for all the local and Parliamentary Elections in the Borough. Married to Jeanette, they have two children, Helen, who last year obtained a BSc in Environmental Sciences and Andrew, who is still at school and a keen musician. In his spare time, David is Chairman of the South West Branch of the Association of Electoral Administrators, Clerk to the two Civil Parishes of Hucclecote and Badgeworth, Hon. Treasurer/Secretary of the Gloucestershire Youth Wind Orchestra, a member of the Management Committee of the 11th Gloucester (Hucclecote) Scouts, a Patron of the Cotswold Savoyards and a supporter of Gloucester Rugby Club. Did he say in his spare time!

MORSE Eric - 'REMINISCENCES OF LIFE AT RICH'S IN THE 1940'S' - Eric was kind enough to provide a few details to the 'Old Richians' Association', in response to the 'Young Richian's Quiz', that appeared in last year's magazine. As a consequence, many readers may find Eric's points interesting. He tells us that during the war, Rich's played soccer and a few games of Rugby on the ground at the bottom of Denmark Road. He remembers that the ground was dug up eventually and used to grow vegetables during the "Dig for Victory" campaign and he tells us that his class were volunteered to help with the initial digging. Eric explains, that one day, one of his friends had to be rushed to hospital for treatment. This was due to an accident, during some 'bayonet practice', which did not involve real bayonets, but garden forks, with his friend being accidentally speared in the leg. The other ground used by Rich's for sport, was at the top of the Stroud Road, between St Barnabas and Tuffley Avenue.

Eric also explains that Rowing was introduced into the school around 1946. It was popular with pupils who would be normally found in the second row of the school rugby teams, although sometimes crews were graced by some of the backs. These early oarsmen would use the premises of Gloucester Rowing Club, by the bridge at Hempsted. Those lucky enough to be in the second boat, spent lovely summer afternoons, paddling sedately up and down the canal, watching the first boat trying to go through the maritime equivalent of the sound barrier. Interestingly, Eric tells us that after each outing, they would put the boat away and then go for a refreshing swim in the canal and then would cycle home, past the sweaty cricketers, still toiling on the 'Spa Ground', offering them words of encouragement.

In relation to the first ever school magazine, Eric has an amusing story to tell us about its origin. It was revealed to Eric and his friends, by English teacher, Mr Nicholas, that the original intention was to give the school magazine a 'Classical' name. Plutus was the God of riches, probably riches of health and good crops, rather than money. The

magazine should therefore have been called, 'The Plutonian'. Calling it, 'The Plutonian', dedicated it to Pluto, the devil himself.

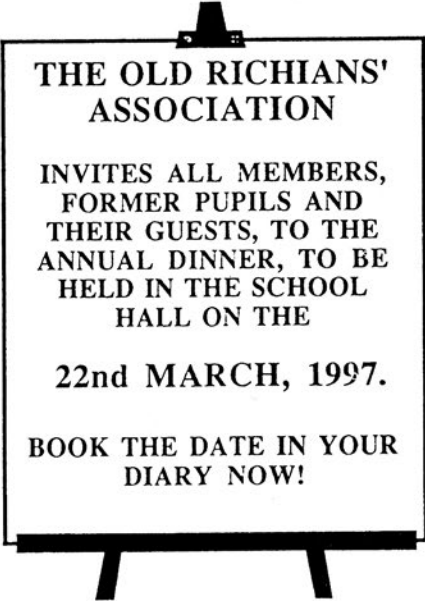
As stated in last year's magazine, clubs and societies have always been popular at Rich's and Eric tells us that he recalls clubs involving boxing, Geography and Shooting. This latter activity involved the use of .22 Calibre rifles, with the range being along the corridor at the old school. He continues, by telling us that a ballroom dancing class was held at Ribston Hall School, in Spa Road, where young Richians, as well as boys from Crypt School, met girls from Ribston and Denmark Road with some sort of blessing!

Finally, there were 'Four School's Dances' held at Denmark Road. The teachers maintained a dark alley and deserted classroom patrol to ensure that dancing was the main activity of the evening. On one occasion they did not notice that the school clock had stopped, allowing the dance to go on a lot longer than intended. Eric tells us, that he and his friends, never did find out who put the ball of paper in the clock to stop the pendulum. Does anyone out there reading this article know who did it? Please inform Eric or the Editor of the magazine!

Many thanks to Eric for his reminiscences of his school days in the 1940's! If anyone else has any amusing stories or memories of life at Rich's during their school days, which they feel readers would be interested in, then please do not hesitate to contact the Editor at the school.

MOSELEY Jonathan (1976-1983) Jonathan ended his six years' employment with the U.S. drug company, 'M.S.D.' at the end of 1995, to take up a post in 'Development Chemistry', with Zeneca Pharmaceuticals, at their site near Avonmouth, near Bristol. On the 27th May, 1995, Jonathan's wife, Angela gave birth to a son, David Nathan, (7lbs 12 oz), a first grandchild for Dudley Moseley. Jonathan tells us that for fun, he studied and passed 'A' level English Literature at night-school in one year.

MOWBRAY Alex (1974-1981) After leaving Rich's, Alex went to Worcester College of Higher Education, to undertake teacher training. After leaving Worcester, he then went to teach at Delues Junior School, Walsall. At Delues, Alex met his wife Julie, who was also a teacher. They have two children, Daniel 9 and Katie 2. In his spare time Alex is a Walsall F. C. supporter - someone has to be!



THE OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION

INVITES ALL MEMBERS,
FORMER PUPILS AND
THEIR GUESTS, TO THE
ANNUAL DINNER, TO BE
HELD IN THE SCHOOL
HALL ON THE

22nd MARCH, 1997.

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MOWBRAY HAYDN (1978-1983) Studied Information Technology for a year after leaving school at the ITEC Centre, Gloucester, before working as a Technician with two computer firms. There then followed six years with Dowty Aerospace at Staverton, where Haydn was promoted to be in charge of 'Despatching Technical Manuals' to all the company's international clients. In September, 1991, Haydn moved to the City Secretary and Solicitors Department of Gloucester City Council as a Printing Officer. He is now the Admin Finance Officer, in charge of the Admin Support Office. Hobbies include guitar playing, cinema and computer artwork and design for local bands, one of whom, "Strain", recently released a single featuring his work on their cover.

MOWBRAY Richard D (1981-1986) Spent a brief spell in the army after leaving Rich's, before deciding it was not the life for him. Richard lives locally in Quedgeley and in his spare time, as well as keeping fit, is a keen motorcyclist, both riding, renovating and customizing.

NICHOLAS Philip (1939-1946) Philip tells us that life is very eventful for himself and his wife, Sue, in 'Medical Retirement'. They are very proud to tell us, that they now have six grand-children, with the most recent, a boy, being born on St Valentine's Day, 1996. Philip now lives in Orlingbury, which is near Kettering, Northamptonshire.

PAGE-JONES Nigel (1981-1988) married Tanya Mangos at St James Church, Gloucester, on the 9th December, 1995. President of the 'Old Richians' Association', David Hook was 'Best Man'. The couple initially made their home in Widnes, where in association with the 'Frontline Church', Liverpool, they headed a 'Church Planting Mission'. They are now back living in Liverpool and working for the same Church in the city.

PAGE-JONES Richard (1983-1988) is spending 1995/96 as a member of the 'Omega Team', a Christian training programme, which is part of the Frontline Church, Liverpool. The year will include work in the Republic of Ireland, Spain and Morocco.

PALMER Mark (1972-79) Mark is married with two children, Christopher, who is seven and Jonathan, aged four. He lives in Gloucester and works for the 'Prudential Assurance Company'. Upon leaving Rich's, Mark worked for 'Trident General Insurance Company', from 1980 to 1981. He then worked for 'Jardine Insurance Brokers' from 1981 to 1984. He then moved to the 'English and American Assurance Company', until 1989, when he started with the Prudential.

PALMER Michael (1988-95) Michael continues to go from strength to strength in the sport of badminton. He had been captain of the Oxford University Badminton team.

PARISH J J (1986-93) Has graduated from Aston University with a 'Third' in Civil Engineering.

POWELL Dennis Baden (1946-50) Is a retired Marketing Manager of 'R D Medical Packaging', before the company was taken over by 'Bowers'. In 1950, Dennis went to Bristol University for four years and took a BSc and PhD in Biochemistry. He joined the 'UK Atomic Energy Authority' as their first Biochemist and developed radiation as a method for sterilization. This venture also encouraged the Government authorities, medical profession and industry in general, to accept and utilize radiation as a method for sterilizing medical products. He then joined 'DRG Packaging' of Bristol in 1962 to develop packaging suitable for new methods of sterilizing. The new market started in 1968 and grew very fast into a large international industry. Dennis stayed in this market for the next twenty years, developing it technically and commercially. The market is very large now and the level that it is currently at can be seen by the new high technology factory, now named, 'Rexham Medical', at the side of the M4, travelling from Bristol to the 'Almondsbury Interchange'. Dennis has been happily married for forty years, with three sons and four grandchildren. His interests have centred mainly around gardening, Bridge and he has been a life-time member of Bristol Rugby Club. With his wife, they have attended the last eight 'Old Richians' Association Dinners'. Dennis lives in Mangotsfield, Bristol. He is still in regular contact with fellow Old Richians, John W Lewis, Eric Morse, Peter Holmes, Gerald Hodder, all of whom live in and around the Bristol area. Dennis is also in touch with Gordon Cumming, who lives in Norwich.

POWELL R A (Late 1980's) Has graduated from Sheffield University with a 2:1 in Electronic Engineering.

PRICE Richard (1970-76) Upon leaving Rich's, Richard trained to be an 'Architect', but recently has decided to move into the music business, specializing in composing. Much of his time has been spent in Cardiff, but he now lives near Chepstow and recently paid a visit to the school, to see the new building developments.

PROUD Nicholas (1985-92) Nick was interested to read about himself in the last edition of the school magazine, but he would like to point out that he was never a member of the school choir. Yet he did play for the rugby team for several years. He has graduated from Manchester University with a 2:1 in Economics, not Accountancy. While studying for his degree, Nick won the 'T S Ashton Prize for Economics' in his second year at Manchester. He would like to thank Mr Hodgkinson, who taught him Economics while he was at Rich's.

RAWCLIFFE Rt REV. Derek (1929-39) continues to be very busy with numerous projects and organizations, having moved recently to Leeds. Derek is very much involved in the 'International Ecumenical Fellowship', (with conferences attended in a different country each year) and in the acceptance of Gay Clergy in the Church of England. (A contributor to 'Rediscover', published by the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement and given to each member of the General Synod). In addition to working for the LGCM, Stonewall (speaking to their meeting at the Liberal Democrats 1995 Conference in Glasgow) and AGLO, Derek helps out at St Aidan's Church, Roundhay Road, Leeds. He has been getting involved with an old Catholic Church in Portugal and has had some poetry published. In May, 1996, Derek returned to the South Pacific for a month to help consecrate two Bishops. He has also previously been Bishop of Melanesia. All in all, not a particularly quiet retirement.

RAYNE Catherine (1993-95) Since leaving Rich's last year, Catherine has been embarking upon a world tour and in February, she wrote to staff at the school from Nepal.

ROBERTS I (1985-92) Has recently graduated from Swansea University with a 2:1 in Classics and English.

RODERICK Andrew J (1986-93) Andrew has just graduated from Exeter University with a 2:2 in Mathematics.

SARGENT Duncan (1977-84) Duncan became a father in February, 1996, when his wife Elaine, gave birth to a baby boy, Matthew Nicholas. He tells us that he was thankful, that the birth did not manage to clash with either a home game at Kingsholm or one of the 'Five Nations Matches!'

SARGENT Justin (1983-90) graduated from Southampton University, with a 2:1 in Geography. He now works in the Manchester area, where he is a 'Projects Officer', working for 'ADAS', advising farmers in Lancashire on environmentally friendly methods of farming.

SARGEANT Peter S (1964-71) was awarded a M.Phil. in English Studies by Nottingham University in July, 1995, after seven years of study on the 'Life and works of Booker Prize-winning novelist, J G Farrell', who drowned at the age of forty-four, following a fishing accident in Ireland in 1979. The thesis brought Peter into contact with many of Farrell's relatives and friends, including the novelist and literary critic, Margaret Drabble. In addition to being Head of Sixth Form General Studies at Loughborough Grammar School, Peter writes and performs songs in the style of 'Flanders and Swann' and hopes to soon record another album as a follow up to, 'Picking up the Hat', which was released in 1992.

SMITH Ian (1974-79) As many of you will have witnessed on the television, Ian's international rugby career continues to prosper, with many more caps for Scotland being won by the Gloucester flanker. We all saw excellent displays by Ian against Ireland, France and Wales. It was pleasing to note, that despite Ian's hectic rugby career, he was still able last December, to come to the school and award our students their colours. Most of us, last saw Ian on the TV, when he played for Scotland against the Barbarians. We wish him another successful club and international season for 1996-1997.

SPILLER Mike (Late 1950's) The Editor would like to thank Mike for his letter last December. Mike was writing in response to Terry K Stevens (1955-1962) request for news of Old Richians who played in the school First XV of 1960-62. Terry was trying to organize a reunion of the team. Mike lives near Wotton-under-Edge and was able to provide information about Geoff Dew, who now lives in Sussex; Brian Smith, who works in London; Alan Pontin,

who lives in South Africa and Terry Roberts, who is believed to be still in Brazil. Many thanks for your help Mike!

STOKES Adrian S (1986-93) Adrian has just graduated from Exeter University with a 2:2 in Mathematics.

TOMLINSON Tim G (1986-93) Tim, who was a good sportsman while at Rich's, particularly with his Cross-Country & Athletics, has just graduated from Leeds University with a 2:2 in Mathematics and Business Studies.

TURNER Joseph (1988-95) Joseph left Rich's last year, after completing his 'A' levels, decided to take a 'year-out' and went to southern India, where he undertook voluntary work, which involved helping to build homes for very poor people.

VOONG C P (1991-93) Has graduated with a 2:1 in 'Molecular Biology' from Essex University.

WESTON Paul (1981-84) Paul became a father in July, 1996, with the birth of a son, Daniel.

WHITE Stephen P (1977-84) Stephen is a Chief Weapons Engineer on RFA Fort George. He lives in Gloucester and will marry Fay Bowman on the 30th December, 1996. In his spare time, Stephen tries to see the odd Gloucester game, but his main focus at the moment is studying Maths with the Open University.

WHITMORE Marcus (1979-86) went to work for Stroud District Council upon leaving Rich's. He now works for a Painswick based firm of Town Planning Consultants, 'Smith Stuart and Reynolds'. Marcus has a degree in 'Town Planning' and is married to Lisa. They recently had their first child, a boy called Jacob.

WILLIAMS David (1979-81) is a Purchasing Manager for Rhone-Poulenc Chemicals and is currently based at the Bristol Road Plant, in Gloucester. By the time the Richian is published and distributed, David will have got married to Beverley. The marriage took place on the 20th July, 1996 at St Aldates Church.

WILLOUGHBY Duncan (1988-92) Has obtained a 2:1 in Estate Management from Glamorgan.

WILSON David J (1977-84) Upon leaving Rich's in 1984, David went to Portsmouth Polytechnic to read Geology. Having graduated from there in 1989, he moved to the Potteries, where he worked as a geologist for a firm of mining/geotechnical consultants. He married Karen in 1994 and he is pleased to announce the arrival of a cat called Ambrose. He tells us that he has no other plans yet! He plays rugby for a local club, but still finds time to follow Gloucester to Sale and Orrell etc. David is an 'Associate Member of the Institute of Quarrying' and is hoping shortly to become a 'Chartered Geologist'. He currently lives in Penkhill, Stoke-on-Trent.

WILTON Matthew (1986-93) Has just graduated from Manchester University with a 2:1 in Geology.

WISE Peter (1975-82) No sooner was the ink dry on last year's copy of the magazine, than Peter moved from Frankfurt to Bern in Switzerland. Peter is still working in computing, but he is now programming in French, rather than German. One problem of living in a multi-lingual country!

WRIGHT Rev.FR. Anthony (1942-49) Last November, Anthony retired from the incumbency of Perranzabuloe, in Cornwall. This follows thirty-two years of teaching. (Head of Tresco, Isles of Scilly and Port Isaac, Cornwall) and twelve years in the full-time ministry, in the Diocese of Truro. Anthony has with great reluctance resigned from the Church of England over the new legislation relating to women priests and will after a period of "sorting things out" at home, will be embarking on a further ministry in the Anglican Catholic Church, "which is the traditional Church of England."

WORTH Guy (1984-91) Guy revisited the school last spring for the 'Annual Dinner' and told the Editor that he was currently living and working in Birmingham at the BBC's 'Pebble Mill Studios'. Guy is involved in production work, involving sound engineering and frequently has to travel out on location all over the country, which at times can be tiring, but enjoyable.

*** DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR ENTRIES FOR NEXT YEAR'S RICHIAN MAGAZINE!**

THE 'OLD RICHIAN'S' ASSOCIATION'

Return to: Mr A K Bishop, Hon. Treasurer, 'Island Cottage', The Leigh, Gloucester or
c/o Sir Thomas Rich's School, Oakleaze, GL2 0LF

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NOTES



Above, the successful Colts, celebrating after receiving their trophies and winning the Under 15's Crypt 'Sevens' competition.
Top row, from left to right, James Ballard, Chris Rooum, Chad Thomson, Ryan Bevan, Adam Mohungoo and Mr Peter Lloyd, (Coach).
Bottom row, from left to right, Russell Gough, George Powell, Dale Rennebach (Captain) and James Weyman.



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