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1997

## YEAR 7 1996-1997



FORM 7S



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# THE RICHIAN 1997



## SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

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*Above Craig Stevens (8c), who contributed to this year's Richian Magazine, by designing and producing the front cover. Craig also produced the various sketches found inside the magazine. Many thanks to Craig for his time and effort. Also a special thanks to Mr R Lockey for his kind assistance. (The Editor)*

## HEADMASTER'S SUMMARY OF 1996/1997

The 1996/97 school year started with plush new accommodation: a new quadrangle of ten classrooms and a multi-purpose Hall, plus a second computer room and an additional laboratory. Over the Easter break, the central area of the quadrangle was landscaped. We are fortunate to have such admirable additions to the School facilities and environment. In November, we welcomed back Mr J A Stocks, Headmaster from 1961 to 1973, to officially open the new quadrangle. However, the additions will not stop there - we were informed that the Sports Council have approved a grant of £400,000 to convert the multi-purpose Hall to a full sized Sports Hall together with a multi-gym and changing facilities.

We also started with many new faces. It was most unusual for so many (five) staff to leave us at the end of 1996, so we had a significant number of new staff - nine. I wish them all enjoyable and successful careers at Rich's, each has already contributed to enriching the opportunities we offer our pupils. 113 boys started in Year 7, 59 boys and 22 girls started in the Lower Sixth, giving a total of 727 pupils, up from 683 a year ago.



The 1996 examinations produced our best ever results which placed us amongst the top fifty state schools in the country and the best in the whole of the South West. Well done those students who took GCSE and A-level exams. In October nine Richians will commence their studies at Oxford University, our highest number in a single year.

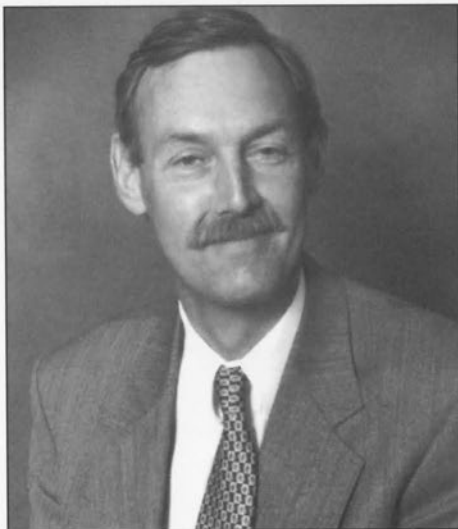
In October last year, we hosted a team of thirteen Ofsted inspectors. We tried to teach, as normal, under their scrutiny; confident that their report would reflect the high standards we strive for and achieve. The report was published in November, confirming that they were impressed by the excellence of the education offered, the commitment and professionalism of our staff and the behaviour and attainment of our pupils.

The Ofsted inspection week proved to be a particularly difficult time for us, we heard on the Wednesday that Mr Henderson had died. His contribution to the School and to generations of Richians has been immense, his presence will be sorely missed. He would have been pleased to see many ex-pupils and other friends gathered at the Memorial Service held in the School Hall to remember the idiosyncrasies, energy and devotion to others which made Mr Henderson a unique school master.

I do not have space to do justice to the many and varied achievements by Richians, singularly and in teams, considerable in number and in stature, on the sports field and stage, in concert and competition; trips to the theatre and Trier, from the Commandery to Wales, France, Germany and Kenya; the reinstatement of the Duke of Edinburgh Award and House Drama; the introduction of lunchtime ballroom dancing. The initiative and enthusiasm of our pupils and staff ensure that Sir Thomas Rich's continues to be a lively and exciting centre of excellence.

Garde ta foy!

Mr I L Kellie



Above, Headmaster, Mr I L Kellie

## EDITORIAL



Yet another edition of 'The Richian Magazine' and the sixth one that I have desk-top-published on my home computer. Rumour has it, that the new computer room has more than adequate desk-top-publishing facilities, so I may be shocked next year and find that some kind students volunteer to take on the job!

As usual the magazine is packed with news relating to all aspects of the school. May I thank all those individuals who contributed articles to the magazine, as well as those who provided me with something to write about. Ideas, suggestions and proposals on how the magazine could be improved, will be gratefully received as usual. One rewarding aspect of the job, is when you receive letters from Old Richians', who have picked up a copy of the magazine and articles have triggered their memories, resulting in them writing to you with snippets of information.



Please feel free to drop me a line at the school!

I hope that the magazine highlights to the readers the work and effort that various people connected with Rich's put into the school. As the Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie has stated before, Rich's is not just an exam factory. It can be proud of the extensive range of extra-curricular activities that it offers and also the strong connections it has with the local community. I hope that this is reflected in this year's magazine.

The school continues to go from strength to strength, with further building projects being undertaken and competition for places at the school greater than ever. The magazine reports on success for Rich's in many areas, from the sporting front, to drama and of course academic achievements. I would like to make a special

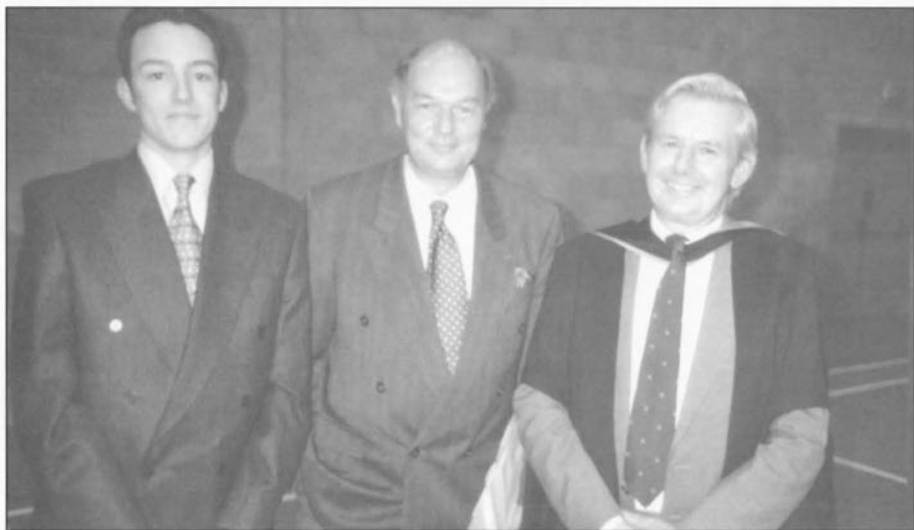


thanks to Mr David Hook, President of the Old Richians' Association for all his help, as well as my long suffering wife, who does not see me for hours, while I tap away at my computer and is often asked to proof read articles.

I have been at the school eleven years and in my early days the stability of the school was uncertain with the threat of re-organization. Yet, eleven years on, it seems inconceivable that Rich's was ever in such a situation. The school for me, appears stronger than ever and seems to be getting better each year. As the millennium draws closer, I hope that the series of Richian magazines that I have produced for the school have reflected this growing strength. Have a good read!

*Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)*

## SPEECH DAY



*The above photograph was taken at Rich's annual Speech Day, last September. Above, from left to right, Tom Harris, the 1995-1996 School Captain, who is reading Geography at St Catharine's, then Guest of Honour at our Speech Day, Professor Ceri Peach, Geography Professor at St Catharine's College, Oxford and Mr Alan Pilbeam, Rich's Deputy Headmaster. Over the years, Professor Peach has had strong links with the school, being a former Governor and tutoring a long list of successful Richians, sent up to Oxford by Mr Pilbeam. Let's hope that we can continue this tradition!*

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### THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S REPORT

"Time flies when you're having fun".

I don't think a truer phrase could be spoken about my seemingly short seven years at Rich's. From the tortoise-like first year to the Chris Evans look-a-like Sixth Form, (note - over-worked gag!), time has just disappeared out of sight. Holding on to the post of School Captain has been a great privilege and a great honour, but along with this comes hard work and responsibility. A responsibility not to be a showman and for example not read the lesson over-elaborately and dramatically. School Captain has been really good fun. It has been an absolute joy to be a member of the Class of '97, without whom I am sure, I would not have enjoyed myself half as much. Having said that, however, if I ever hear one of Radcliffe's awful puns again, it will be too soon.

Not only have they been a great laugh, but all the members of the year have been very supportive and helpful. I must once again thank all of the year, the prefects and most importantly, my team of Observers, without whom I would have been totally lost. The Vice-Captain's job is really cushy - isn't it Mark???

As I near the end of this short article, extra-ordinarily short, I find myself running out of things to say and that has not happened for a long time. Finally, I must thank all of the staff and pupils at Rich's who make it what it is today - GREAT! and who have ensured that my time has been loads of fun.

I must wish my successor, Michael Brown, all the best for the new academic year and if it is anything like the Class of 1997, it will be a really fantastic year for him, that he will remember and treasure for many years to come. Good luck!

*C Wilkinson (School Captain 1996-97)*



## AN OVERVIEW OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

### AUTUMN TERM 1996

The term was dominated by two major events. The first was the tragic death of teacher Frank Henderson in October. This news tended to overshadow the visit by OFSTED for one week in October, who eventually gave the school an excellent report. Earlier in the term, Professor Ceri Peach was guest of honour at Rich's Annual Speech Day. The Professor, who was an ex-governor of the school, told the audience about his long association with Rich's, particularly through Alan Pilbeam, who for many years had sent him young Richians up to St Catharine's, Oxford to study Geography. At the start of the term all the new major building work had been completed, with the star attraction being the new multi-purpose hall. A new reception area funded by the Old Richians' Association came into operation. In late October, Mrs E Stanley staged a production of 'A Man for all Seasons', with the cast and crew mainly consisting of Year 11 students. On the sporting front, the Rich's Cross-country league emphasized the strength of the sport in the school, with the Under 16's retaining their trophy for the second year. The highlight for the team was finishing in seventeenth position in the national final at Wycliffe Community School, Leicester, from an initial entry of three hundred schools, in the National School's Cross-Country Cup.

In mid November, former Headmaster, Mr Tony Stocks (1961-73), along with many key dignitaries and friends of Rich's, came to officially open the new buildings, which had cost £1.2 million pounds. The following week, the school held a memorial service in the school hall for the late Frank Henderson. Meanwhile, the Parents' Association held their Christmas Fayre, which was another great success, generating over £1,000 on the day and a total of £3,000 with the Christmas draw tickets. There was the usual quiz night and a Year 7/8 Disco. In late November, the Sports Council officially announced that Rich's would be receiving £400,000 to fund the extension of the new hall. The Government publishes its official 'League Performance Tables', in which Rich's had the third best GCSE results and second best 'A' level results in Gloucestershire. The Mikado was performed in December, while a Christmas Ball, with ballroom dancing being a key feature, was also held. A group of Upper Sixth Geographers completed some field work on the Devon coastline, while fund raising for the 1998 Costa Rica trip was well under way. The school received fifteen prayer mats from the Gloucestershire Inter Faith Action group. Mr Ian Bowie was appointed Head of Science and Mr Geoff Norton, Head of Year Seven. The Rugby teams had mixed fortunes, with the First XV only winning two out of twelve matches, while the Under 14's won eleven of their fourteen fixtures. Mr Lockett ran a successful Year 9 'Indoor Soccer Competition' and the school was presented with a £250 cheque to help the County's 'TravelWise Initiative'. The term ended with the traditional 'Christmas By Candlelight', which featured Mr Pickard's group of medieval music enthusiasts. All the staff agreed, that the term had been long, hard and exceptionally busy!

### SPRING TERM 1997

A record eighty-two members of the Upper Sixth, the highest ever, had applied to University. Costa Rica Expedition fund raising was in full swing, with a '200 Club' being formed. The Venture Scouts entered the Cotswold Marathon, with teams hiking over 18 & 38 mile courses. Five 6th Formers, who had taken their 'A' level Maths early, all received passes at grade 'A'. The Army sponsored alterations in the Careers Library and awarded Rich's some money for prizes for leadership and service to the school, to be presented at Speech Day. The History department took Year 8 on their annual trip to 'The Commandery', Worcester, while the Music Department, held presented an Instrumental Concert in the school hall. The Colts XV lost to Crypt and the Under 16's lost to St Peter's in the City Cup finals at Kingsholm. The German Exchange to Gottingen was completed in March, while a Geography group went to Snowdonia. Year Arts Week was based on 'Flavio's Disgrace' and all the Lower Sixth went on Work Experience. Finally, the Young Engineers went to Silverstone.

### SUMMER TERM 1997

Further building expansion was announced, with plans for a Sports Hall, multi-gym and changing rooms to be completed by early 1998. Mrs Arnold held a Caribbean Cookery Competition. Sports Evening was won by Westgate. The Cricket season was affected by poor weather in June. In July, a Staff Review, raised £142 for the Costa Rica expedition. Mrs Earl produced a French play, Moliere's 'La Bourgeois Gentilhomme', with the help of the Lower Sixth. Mr Smith and Mr Danai went to Runcorn for the National Youth Hovercraft Competition, with a group of Year 10 pupils, with Chris Taylor (10T) coming 3rd overall. Mr Thompson pulled off another very successful Summer Concert, while members of Year 7 went to South Cemej for a water sports day. Several Rich's students won CREST technology awards. The Under 12's Cricket team, won 7 of their 8 fixtures. Finally, Michael Brown was made School Captain for 1997/98. Yet another year over at Rich's!

*Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)*

## THE 'COCK HOUSE' REVIEW

As usual the first result this year was the Art Competition, with Northgate taking first place, closely followed by Westgate. Next came the rugby competition, with the Senior competition having to be re-run, due to injuries in the first attempt. This re-arrangement resulted in the form book being turned upside-down, with Eastgate winning overall, Westgate second, Southgate third and favourites Northgate last. In the Junior competition, there were some close matches in Years 8, 9 & 10, the eventual winners being Eastgate. With these early results, it was clear that this year's competition was going to be a much more closely contested affair than in previous years. It was evident, that West, North and South were determined to take the title off Eastgate and end their recent dominance of the competition.

After Christmas, came House Soccer and with it controversy in the Senior competition. Eastgate, in their last match, were accused of poor sportsmanship, by deliberately time wasting. As a result, despite being 1-0 up against Southgate, the tournament referees decided that the match



should be classified as void, with both sides sharing the points. This affected the overall result and allowed Westgate to win. Some cynics felt that this was a cleverly devised ploy by the Head of Westgate to secure the trophy, but such a claim has been unfounded. In the Junior competition, Eastgate comfortably won. Next, came everyone's favourite event - House Cross-country, which this year took place in the first week of the Summer term, in wonderful sunny conditions. At last, Southgate had their moment of glory, winning the Junior Cup. The Senior cup was well contested and to their credit Southgate obtained enough points in the Year 10 race and Senior race to win. The third year



of House Swimming proved successful and very competitive. In the Junior competition, Northgate romped home to win by a clear forty-three points over Eastgate, winning fourteen of the twenty-five events. The Senior event was more closely contested, with Eastgate narrowly piping Northgate, by just four points.

The Summer term marked the return of House Drama and this proved a tremendous success. It must be noted that every house place really grasped this competition with their hearts. They poured many hours into their plays and this ensured productions that were of a high standard. Westgate came out on top, with their production of, "Our Day Out" and Suzanne Branthwaite of Westgate was named as Best Actress in the competition. At this stage all four houses were well in contention, with points evenly distributed. Sports day was won by Westgate in real style.

However, the last three events really decided the year, with North winning the Quiz, Junior Tennis and Cricket competitions, while Senior Tennis was won by Southgate. Despite this, Eastgate secured enough points to become Cock House winners.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

### THE FINAL RESULT:

1st	East	47	points
2nd	North	45	points
3rd	West	44.5	points
4th	South	42.5	points

## VISIT OF THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER



*Above, pictured in Rich's new quadrangle, which features a beautifully landscaped garden, are the new Chief Education Officer, Mr Roger Crouch, Ms. Jan Wilton, Chairman of Governors for Rich's and Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie. During last Summer Term, Mr Crouch came to visit Sir Thomas Rich's in order to familiarize himself with the work of one many of the schools that he will oversee as part of his role as Chief Education Officer for Gloucestershire County Council.*

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*Above, Rich's new 'wetlands conservation area', which is situated outside the new classroom complex. As you can see, wildfowl have already started to inhabit the area and it is hoped that some of the birds that traditionally head to Slimbridge will settle instead at Rich's during the winter months. The birds that you can see are very rare Greenland 'yellow beak' ducks that travel thousands of miles southwards to escape the harsh and hard winters of the arctic north. NB. please try not to disturb them!*

## A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MR FRANK HENDERSON - THE VENTURE SCOUT UNIT

Last Summer the school's Venture Scout Unit had a trip to Norway. This was the thirty-first time that Mr Henderson, who led the trip, had been to Norway. The beauty of the country and the excitement of the activities both contributed to making our holiday very enjoyable, but as with many things, it is not so much what activity you are undertaking, but the people you are with who make it enjoyable.

The first week our holiday was spent on a volunteer site doing some work for the owner and this was typical of Mr Henderson. Instead of spending the entire time in Norway simply climbing, walking and doing other similar activities, we spent this week helping others. Mr Henderson was not centred on doing things for himself as many people are, but he was totally unselfish and tried to help others to the best of his ability. This was also seen in the work he did for the NANSEN Society, which is an organization involved in helping young people with special needs.

During our week in Norway, Mr Henderson was always cheerful and kept our spirits up during the hard work with his active sense of humour. After leaving the volunteer site, we went on a four day hike over fifty miles of wilderness country. Although Mr Henderson did not come with us, he would often join us for lunch or walk a few miles with us, lifting morale and encouraging us on our strenuous expedition. Having completed the hike, we went on to spend some time in the Norwegian mountains. Here we all learnt heavily on Mr Henderson's experience and learned a great deal from him. Overall, our trip to Norway was very enjoyable and the key factor in this was Mr Henderson. We were never bored and he had an interesting story for every occasion. Without Mr Henderson, our trip to Norway would not have been the same.

M Gilmore (6R)



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*Right, the late Mr Frank Henderson, pictured walking in Scotland, while with the 44th Venture Scout Unit.*

*As many of you will know, Frank was a former pupil of Rich's from 1952 to 1958 and much respected teacher, from 1965 to 1996.*

*Last November, a Memorial Service for Frank was held in the school hall. Mr Alan Pilbeam, Rich's Deputy Headmaster, introduced several guest speakers, ranging from representatives of the 'Nansen Society' to Tim Andrews of the Venture Scout Unit. The speakers talked of their memories of Frank. The service was interspersed with music from the Wind Band, a tape of Frank singing in a Rich's choral concert and Daniel Wright (6T) playing a saxophone, an instrument that Frank had learned to play.*

*Frank will be greatly missed by all who knew him at Rich's.*





# STAFF ARRIVALS

## Melanie Cormack-Hicks

Melanie joins the Art Department at Rich's after completing her PGCE course at Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education. During this time, her teaching experience was gained at Cirencester Deer Park and Cheltenham Bournside, where she quickly demonstrated her ability and enthusiasm for eliciting good quality work from the students. Melanie's main specialism is in Fine Art, which she graduated with, gaining a BA (Hons) from Cheltenham in 1996. Her specialist subject knowledge should prove to be a real asset for the Department and the school. We welcome her warmly and hope that she has a fruitful start to her career with us.

*Mr R J Lockey*



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## Matthew Parris

Matthew Parris joins out Biology Department. He graduated with "Honours" from Portsmouth University and completed his teacher training at Nottingham University. He has taught for the last three years at a school in Nottingham. Matthew is a keen tennis and badminton player and has taken an active role in coaching these sports alongside table tennis and squash. Other interests include drama, music and singing. This has led to Matthew participating in a number of drama and musical events. He can also list a number of cultural trips to France and Germany, an annual school camp in Derbyshire and a ski-ing trip to Italy. We hope that he enjoys his time at Rich's and the Science Faculty in particular welcomes Matthew to the school.

*Mr I R Bowie*

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## Marcus Griffiths

Rich's welcomes the arrival of Marcus Griffiths, who will be teaching chemistry at all levels, together with Physics and some games. Marcus has a keen interest in outdoor pursuits, having been a Venture Scout. This together with his captaincy of the Birmingham University Badminton team, as well as a passing interest in rugby, makes me think that we will be seeing him in more places than the laboratory! We wish him well, as he embarks on an active life at Rich's.

*Mr J Carr*

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## Dorothy Gladwell

Last Summer, Mrs Gladwell joined Rich's to teach mathematics part-time. As well as being a maths teacher, Mrs Gladwell is also experienced at teaching physics. Her husband, Chris, is also a member of staff at Rich's, being Head of Religious Education and teaching some maths on the time-table. The school connection does not stop here, as three boys currently attend Rich's. We wish them lots of luck!

*Mr P D Lloyd*



*Above, members of the Sir Thomas Rich's school Venture '44' Scout Unit gather round the memorial set up in memory of the 'late' Frank Henderson, who contributed so much to the Scout unit.*

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*Above, Rich's new members of staff, who joined the school in September, 1997. They are, from left to right, Mr M Griffiths, Mrs D Gladwell, Mrs Cormack-Hicks and Mr J Parris. We wish them a pleasant time at Rich's!*

### Mr Paul Dodgshun

Paul Dodgshun is retired! Well you wouldn't believe it when you know his age and the number of hours he puts in as our new Information Technology (IT) Technician. Paul's credentials for doing the job are impressive. He is a qualified mechanical engineer with experience of working as an engineering officer in the Royal Navy and as an engineer and design consultant in the power generation industry. Most of the latter has been spent with Nuclear Electric at Barnwood. Paul has trained as a sailing instructor with the Norfolk School Sailing Association and has volunteered to take a party of boys to the Broads in the future. Other hobbies include, computing, and fair weather golf. Without question, Paul is already proving to be a real asset to the school. Staff and pupils alike are benefiting from his knowledge and experience.

*Mr R M Byrne-Burns*

### Mrs Barbara MacDonald

Barbara Macdonald took over the new role of receptionist last September, a job to which she has brought a unique style of her own. Her previous jobs include working as a telephonist for BT, as a receptionist at Gloucester Royal Hospital Accident and Emergency and various secretarial tasks in Dowty and other large companies. None of these skills will go to waste.

Barbara's work includes telephonist, handling outgoing mail, the initial recording and assessment of first aid requirements for pupils, secretarial and accounts tasks and most important of all the reception of visitors and issue of security passes. With the current focus on school security, the latter forms a cornerstone of the schools approach to our new security policy. Barbara's hobbies include golf, squash, and keeping up with a lively nine year old boy.

*Mr R M Byrne-Burns*



### Mrs Karen Hemming

Karen Hemming joined us to take over the enlarged role of Midday Supervisor from Iris Dee, who retired in August last year. Karen has been employed in a similar role at St Peter's Junior School prior to moving to Rich's. She is already playing a valuable part to our support staff team. Karen tells us that the problems of Midday supervision are the same as at her previous school, except on a larger scale. This means it is noisier and messier! She lists her hobbies as gardening, badminton and an overwhelming desire to throw herself out of a plane - preferably with a parachute.

*Mr R M Byrne-Burns*

### Mrs Margaret Beeley

Mrs Margaret Beeley has joined Rich's as a Laboratory Technician. She has already accumulated seventeen years experience, having previously worked at the Central Technology College, St Peter's and Ribston Hall.

Margaret has quickly settled in to the Science department and has already joined the team of qualified First Aiders.

Her hobbies include Badminton and gardening. She is married with a son and daughter. We wish her a pleasant time in Rich's Science department.

*Mr J Drake*

## DRAMA - "A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS"

Every age is the Common Man's, whether he is Sir Thomas More's self-interested steward, the innkeeper, boatman, jailor or foreman of the jury, owing no loyalty to anyone, but willing to make risk-free money from anyone. Such a man is a survivor; so might More have been. He enjoys a seemingly secure life, happy in and with his world, his comfortable home, his family and friends, and his easy conscience. He is incorruptible, a loyal churchman and he knows that the law is his protection. That is, until King Henry VIII's need for a son makes him want to divorce Catherine of Aragon.

His family and friends fail to understand More's need for "one little area where he must rule himself." His conscience can take refuge in his silence, as the law allows. Mere 'principles', such as his son-in-law Roper found possible to change, are no protection.

The sinister Thomas Cromwell, More's intellectual equal, but all too willing to use evil means to 'fix' things for the King, seeks to catch him out in bribe-taking, but fails, in spite of the help of Richard Rich. More's wife Alice loves More but cannot follow his intellectual, bookish thought-process, especially when it jeopardizes her lifestyle. Thomas Howard, a good friend but more at home with his country sports, sees



things too simply. More's daughter Meg, shares her father's cleverness, but is more pragmatic. Ironically, the King wants More's support precisely because of his honesty. In the end, it is not More's refusal to swear to the Act of Supremacy, which brings his execution, (silence, after all, implies consent) but the false testimony of (now Sir) Richard Rich. When no hope of life remains, More makes his honest view publicly plain.



*Above, some of the cast. Top, left to right, Janine Woodward, Graham Shann, Andrew Winsland, Chris Cattell. Seated, left to right, Lucy Wraith and Matthew Mundy. Bottom, Peter Storey.*



Peter Storey (The Common Man) was aptly coarse and cunningly venal. Lucy Wraith played Alice More with impressive conviction and Janine Woodward reflected Meg exactly. Alan Trott well portrayed Rich, this weak floundering character who might have been a success out of temptation's way as a schoolmaster, but whose ambition led him into "success" and his betrayal of his old friend. Andrew Winsland brought out Cromwell's ruthless trickery. All the other supporting roles were effectively played with no weak links.

Outstandingly, Matthew Mundy displayed More through all the mental acrobatics required, bringing out his love of life, his integrity and strength, his acceptance of his fate and his full use even of his final predicament in an attempt to benefit his King's spiritual welfare. Matthew sustained this demanding role consistently through the play. All other aspects of the production supported the drama. The music was sweet and authentic, the simple workshop setting effective, the lighting and make-up well thought-out and helpful. Particular praise must go to the appropriate and beautiful costumes made by Debbie Beaman. This was a production which Elizabeth Stanley can feel justifiably pleased. Congratulations to all concerned.

*Mr D F Moss*

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### DRAMA - "THE MIKADO"

For the past three years I have been to see the Sir Thomas Rich's play and thoroughly enjoyed the performances, so, as soon as I heard female volunteers were needed I jumped at the chance to be part of the traditional annual performance. I joined the chorus of Japanese young ladies just weeks before we were due to go public. Once we gained a general gist of the story, lunch time rehearsals increased to Sundays. We could see from the very beginning that the principles were going to make the production.



Having to get used to names like Nanki-Poo and Pooh Bah was strange to say the least! Everything was going to plan, apart from the odd word, or song! The dress rehearsal came quicker than some would have rather hoped. The costumes were made to perfection and only Joseph Hitchings, (Nanki-Poo) managed to escape wearing the voluminous, dressing gown type outfits, but at the end we still had a laugh at his expense. Chris Wilkinson had to wear a rather large pillow on his back making movement a struggle and the three little maids, (Laura Winton, Catherine Ellicott and Vicky Kerry) wore flowers on their heads in the design of something that reminded them of an alien. We must not forget the essential item of the Japanese - the fan! Yes, we all had them;



*Above, Laura Winton (front) as Yum-Yum, Vicky Kerry (left) as Peep-Bo and Catherine Ellicott (right) as Pritti-Sing. (Picture by kind permission of 'The Citizen' Newspaper, Gloucester)*

yes, we fluttered them constantly; and yes, we drove any assisting member of staff to distraction with our newly found toys. The biggest crisis of the dress rehearsal was only a minor one - Mrs Stanley (Katisha), lost her voice and it was only three days until the curtains went up.

The night finally arrived and a feeling of excitement, anxiety and nerves developed but all was fine. I did not manage to see all the play this year, but when I had the chance I would take a peek from back stage and saw very talented people being enjoyed by the audience. By the last night the whole cast was thoroughly enjoying themselves knowing that the hard work and effort was all worth it. Some members of the cast, such as Stephen Collins, (the main character, Ko-Ko) and Chris Wilkinson, (Pooh-Bah) were able to maximize their natural talent to the full and make the play really comical. The musical standard all round was also to be commended and Laura Winton (Yum-Yum) sticks in my mind for being able to sustain those high notes.

There were mixed feelings when it was all over. We were all glad, but it was a shame that it was over. Most of all, we no longer had an excuse to hand in that piece of homework a couple of days late! We have to give thanks to numerous people this year, who made it possible for 'The Mikado' to go ahead. The lighting and stage crew (who managed to cope with many situations back stage), the costume designer, Mrs Valerie Calvert and her assistants, the make-up artists (even though the design I had on my face was something to be desired), the orchestra, all the splendid main characters, Mr Thompson, Mr Moss and you the audience, for whom all the effort was made for. We hope you enjoyed watching us because we enjoyed performing for you.

*L Wright (6S)*

## THE YEAR EIGHT ARTS' WEEK

This year, Rich's was extremely fortunate to have secured the services of David Griffiths to co-ordinate the annual Year 8 Arts' Week. David is well known nationally, not only as a playwright, but also in educational circles as a teacher, lecturer and in his position as Associate Director of the National Youth Theatre of Wales.

The youngsters performed David's own play, 'Flavio's Disgrace', based on the Italian Commedia del' Arte format, which means all the characters wear masks. David led the pupils through a series of activities centred around mask-making, music, drama and movement, as well as introducing some pupils to the skills of stage management and lighting.

The most striking part of the production was the set of masks that the entire cast wore during the final performance, which brought together all the work that been undertaken during the week.

This was Rich's third Arts' week and like the others, it was an unqualified success. The week allows the pupils off their normal time-table, so that they can experience an intensive week of serious arts' activities, culminating in a live production.

Once again, many parents, friends and staff turned up to watch the final performance, which went down well with the audience.

Mr R Lockey



*Above, (left) Mr David Griffiths gives some advice to a Year 8 student during rehearsals of his play, 'Flavio's Disgrace', which was the focus for this year's Arts' Week.*

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## HOUSE DRAMA COMPETITION RETURNS TO RICH'S

"And now a notice concerning the House Drama Competition.....". This little phrase became a recurrent theme in assemblies as the directors of the four entries organized their set builders, cast and other helpers. No time off lessons was allowed until the day of the performances, but as I walked about the school at lunchtimes and the end of the day, I was constantly aware of rehearsals in progress, sets being built and lines learned.

On the day itself I admit I was as nervous as any of the performers. I know how many talented actors were involved and was aware of the hard work and dedication which had gone into the preparation, but I was worried about timing and the effect of an audience.....would it all prove worthwhile? It did. I can honestly say I felt privileged to be on the panel of judges.

Westgate gave a strong start with Act II of "Our Day Out", the story of a group of underprivileged children on a school outing. We naturally enjoyed the performances of the Sixth formers, who were cast as staff, particularly Stephen Morris in the starring role as Mr Briggs and Fiona Wilton as the young and sexy Susan, sorting our loudmouth Reilly, (Sam Crawford). Westgate made good use of mood from the cliff-top drama of Carol, (Sue Branthwaite) threatening suicide, to the wild exuberance of the fairground.



*Above, some of the cast of Westgate's winning House Drama production, 'Our Day Out'. Here, the cast are well into Act II of the play, pictured playing on the seaside. From left to right, we see Alex Kerry, Rachel Bladon, Melanie Evans and Fiona Wilton. Suzanne Branthwaite won the best actor award.*

Southgate had suffered from disorganization in the early stages, but pulled together well at the last moment. Dan Tiffney was a convincing Briggs and several of the younger cast should be commended for their role play and also for their contributions to props and sound effects. Tom Spencer and Ashley Burgum did particularly well.

Eastgate had probably attempted the most difficult task: a double bill chosen from Michael Green's "Coarse Acting Show". Green defines a coarse actor as someone who can remember his lines but not the order in which they come, or someone who can remember his pauses but not his lines. Both plays were hilarious parodies of clinched dramatic genres, but the really comical thing was that everything had to go wrong. It's very hard to do this and make it clear that the mistakes are deliberate, but Eastgate pulled it off and the audience laughed and laughed as the legs fell off the table, leaving the cast holding it up, the French Windows refused to open and false moustaches wobbled perilously. Tom Hinton dominated the first piece with a stereotypical Yorkshire miner and Daniel Garbutt hammed his way through the dramatic interlude of trouble dahn t'pit.

"Follow that!" we thought, and Northgate duly did, with a delightful comedy, "Something to Talk about" about a family who are thrilled when they catch a burglar in their house because at last something interesting is happening to them. Set and costumes were superbly appropriate and Dan Wright, the director, is to be congratulated on his inspired casting. We thoroughly enjoyed the whole performance: notably Sam Martin as the skittish daughter of the house and Matthew Bowden appearing in drag as the housekeeper.

The list of commendations could go on and on. I would like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to George Powell and Robert Haworth for their highly professional supervision of lighting and stage management.

Westgate were chosen as the winners, a tough decision for the panel, but we were unanimous. The winning play was performed after morning assembly the following day and was well received by all the school. My only regret is that the whole school did not get to see all four plays, but .....wait till next year!!

*Mrs E R Stanley*



## DRAMA - "LE BOURGEOIS GENTILHOMME"

We had just begun revising for our mock 'A' levels when Mrs Earl decided that we were going to perform, in front of the new Lower Sixth, a play that, as far as we were concerned, could have been written in Swahili. Despite thousands of tests and many lessons devoted to role play, I think I can speak for the whole french set, when I say that any mention of personnes de qualite or Turkish ceremonies, had sailed cleanly out of our heads. This is not intended to be a criticism of Mrs Earl's teaching methods, nor is it a suggestion that the 'A' level French set are anything less than magnifique.

Tackling an entire play written in French was a daunting prospect for us, having been brought up and nurtured with French newspaper clippings, listening exercises and vocabulary tests. The most taxing piece of French we had faced before was trying to work out how many apples Monsieur Dupont had brought from the market. The studying of a French text really shows the transition from GCSE to 'A' level and personally, I think this transition could not have been overcome without performing the play to an audience.

So, in the space of a fortnight, we had put together a cast, began learning our lines and even had our first rehearsal! The play was dramatically shortened for the performances, courtesy of script-editors, Kevin Hatchard, Simon Aldrich and Mrs Earl and a longer fight scene was added at the request of Dan "twinkle-toes" Garbutt, who took the role of the Maitre a` Danser, who was Monsieur Jourdain's personal dance instructor. Unfortunately, the feminine demeanor of this character proved a little beyond the acting capabilities of Dan, who as many of you will know, is a hard rugby player. Dan wanted the fight scene put in to maintain his macho, manly image, but when it came to it, he forgot half of his lines, so I guess now we will always remember him in his tights!

When the exam week arrived, things went on hold, while we all did two months' revision in one week. At the end of the exam week, we realised that we had only one week left before the performance and so things accelerated. Certain people had not actually been to any of the rehearsals, yet most of the cast still had a lot of lines and moves to learn. Mr Chris Willis, who played the lead, Monsieur Jourdain, featured in practically every scene. Despite the play being shortened, he had a lot of lines to learn, but in true artistic fashion he produced a fine debut to the acting world. On this subject, the whole cast did admirably, particularly, as many had not been on the stage before. One must not forget, that it was not just a case of learning lines, set moves, but it was about putting on a play in a completely foreign language.

However, as time went on, the play gradually came together. We rehearsed every day in the last week before the performance and despite a nasty moment on the Tuesday, when Monsieur Jourdain was taken ill, the play went ahead and everything went well, even though the turn out from the new Lower Sixth was poor - I think it was three! Special mention must go to Michael Brown, who had the longest speech in the play, as well as Nicola Knight, Dan Williams and Naushad Junglee, who have not studied french since their GCSE days and helped out the cast.

Other golden performances came from Cathy Potter, who played the refreshingly sensible Madame Jourdain. Kevin Hatchard was the hilariously evil Dorante, Simon Aldrich was the shrewd Corveille, while Susan Lazar was Monsieur Jourdain's delightful, but determined daughter - Lucile. One must also mention Michael Bell, who played the Maitre Tailleur and Hannah Godwin, as the Marquise Dorimene. Of course, I must mention once again, Dan Garbutt, as the slightly feminine Maitre a` Danser. A cast to remember and memories to treasure.

Finally, special praise must go to Mrs Earl, our director and teacher, whose enthusiasm and sense of humour made the play work. I will always remember Mrs Earl getting us to run around the school dining area pretending to be Jourdain. It's a good job none of the members of the SMT walked in at that point. The only sad experience of the play was the fact that so few of the new Lower Sixth could be bothered to turn up! However, it was a good experience for the cast and has helped us to improve our knowledge and understanding of French. Thanks Mrs Earl!

*M Mills (6C)*

## DO YOU REMEMBER?

### 1957

The Headmaster, who was Mr W J Veale, MBE, MA announced his retirement after twenty-one years' service to the school and he was to be replaced in May, 1957, by Mr A S Worrall. The Tercentenary Fund was growing steadily, reaching a total of £1,027 pounds by the end of the Summer term. Speech Day was held in February, with the guest speaker being the Bishop of Gloucester and Mrs Askwith. Trips were made to France and Scotland. House drama was thriving, with plays ranging from 'Old Boyhood' to 'Carpe Diem'. Overall winners of the Cockhouse trophy were Westgate. House events included Rifle Shooting. The School Council discussed items as important as the provision of cycle racks, the introduction of "quality and quantity meals", extra waste paper baskets and the re-introduction of Association Football into the school.

The Old Richians' Association held their Annual Ball at The Cadena Ballroom. A teak seat was presented to the school, as a tangible reminder of the Association's affection for the retiring Mr Veale and this was placed on the Elmbridge fields. Meanwhile, at the Gloucester Schools Swimming Gala, Rich's pupils took five firsts. The First XV played eighteen matches, winning ten of them, while the First Cricket XI only won one match out of twelve. Sports Day involved events such as the Pole Vault, the Cricket Ball, Hammer throwing, Hurdles and the Mile Walk.

The Scout Troop had Patrol Leaders, including the late Frank Henderson and the group had a total strength of twenty-one members. Maintenance work was devoted to a Spitfire and the troop had secured a permanent campsite at Minsterworth. Also, a new canoe had been named 'Venture' and during one exercise, the whole troop had been transported by canvas across the river Severn during what was described as a "Wide Game and Hike" in March of that year.

The Photographic Society reported that it was having its most successful session since it had been founded in 1952. In contrast, the year saw the foundation of a Jazz Club, while the Railway Society received various talks, one of which was on "Signalling and Automatic Train Control". Of interest, was a display of mime and dance performed by the Helen Tait School of Dancing. The boys taking exams studied for their 'O' and 'A' levels, taken with the Cambridge board and a D A Evans was the only boy to win a place at Cambridge, where he would read Natural Sciences at St John's College. Above all, this was the year that a very popular Headmaster retired. The magazine stated in its review that, "Under him our goodly heritage was both enlarged and ennobled".

### 1967

During this year, three separate editions of 'The Richian' were published. Mr John Holdaway, a graduate of Emmanuel College came to Rich's to take over the running of the Mathematics department. The Old Richians' RFC 1st XV won sixteen and drew four of their thirty-six fixtures during the 1966-67 season. Mr Arthur Negus, the famous antiques expert and TV star came to visit Rich's and offer advice during the annual Speech Day. Headmaster, Mr Stocks took a party to Switzerland, while a group of Geographers spent some time in Provence. A new society had apparently made its mark in the school, this being the Geographical Society, with Chris Bonnington addressing a large audience. School film shows included, 'The Spy who came in from the cold', as well as 'Huckleberry Finn'. One of the most striking events of the year, was when the legendary teacher, Mr Eddie Pritchard, persuaded the local authority to grant him permission to start work on a bowling green. Of note, was the fact that in early 1967, a young Bob Hanney joined the staff of Rich's, from Southchurch Hall High School, Southend. A concert version of the "Mikado" was produced by the Choral Society, while the school produced a performance of "Sweeney Todd" in March of 1967.

There was a sporting success, with Paul Fulman capped to play for England at Under 15, but unfortunately, according to the magazine, the First XV that year had one of the worst seasons for several years. Of interest, there was a report in the magazine about 'The Wrongly Shaped Ball Club', with a number of friendly matches played against Scouts, Staff and the Upper Sixth. The Peacock Club had four meetings, with papers ranging from, "The Consequences of 1066", to "Hucclecote" being discussed. The Aeromodelling Club celebrated its first birthday in 1967 and they exhibited many of their models at the Lower Tuffley Community Centre. The Angling Club were hoping to get permits for Walton gravel pits, while the Historical Society ventured to numerous places that included Stonehenge and Bath Abbey. During this time, The Richian reported on various activities that the boys were involved in during their studies. This included a project to rear trout, a study of Tennyson and his connection with Cheltenham, the Geology of Gloucestershire and a study of the development of cycles. I wonder how this would now fit into Key Stage 3 or 4 of the National Curriculum? Of interest, as is still the case in 1997, the magazine reported that a team of staff beat the pupils at Soccer or Association Football as it was quoted in The Richian. How strange, that some things never change!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## MUSIC

Another exciting year of music has been successful accomplished. The traditional musical 'outings' have been completed once more. The annual production this year, Gilbert and Sullivan's, 'The Mikado' was a great success. As usual, we had Christmas by Candlelight, the two carol services at St John's and Holy Trinity and then an instrumental concert in February. Then there was Founder's Day and the Choral concert in May, which this year featured Vivaldi's and Rutter's 'Settings of the Gloria'. Finally, to complete the year, there was the Summer concert in July.

It almost goes without saying, that the usual high standards have been maintained or even bettered, although I am always wary of complacency. Good performances do not just happen. I have to rely on the commitment and dedication of all participants from rehearsal to rehearsal, week to week and month to month. I feel privileged that at Sir Thomas Rich's, we do have that commitment and willingness to take part, which provides such great team spirit and reward to all the final performances that we eventually present.



For the first time and a most welcome debut, the music department now boasts a second teacher, Mr Richard Watson. It is refreshing to have a new face bringing new expertise and new ideas to a department which is thriving. Yet, the department is always open to extension and change. Mr Watson specializes in jazz piano and composition, having already written musicals and gained experience with various theatre groups. It is with great anticipation, that we look forward to staging a 'home grown' production at Rich's in the not too distant future.



The department is a hive of activity, with the traditional groups, such as the Choir, Madrigal group and Orchestra working hard. Yet, there are many other areas of the department, such as the Jazz group, the String group and the Wind band. Of course, the department tunes in on the annual school production, but it also boasts a guitar club and a Early music group. Overall, music at Rich's is buoyant and continues to flourish.

*Mr J W Thompson*

## DO YOU REMEMBER?

1977

New staff included Michael Bevan, who came to the school to teach PE and Biology, while Mr J D Meale and R T Moore both left Rich's. The school production was 'The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew', by Robert Bolt. There was a walking trip to the Lake District, by members of the lower school, while the French exchange was held in Rambouillet. Clubs and societies were thriving during this year, ranging from the Astronomical Society to the Amateur Radio society. The school Venture Scout unit were as active as ever, with trips to the Black Mountains, Painswick Beacon and climbing in the Idwal Slabs in North Wales. Meanwhile, the school had just acquired a new mini-bus and the Parents' Association were working hard, organizing Barn dances, prize draws and a Sherry Party. The Choral Society were busy during the year, performing Vivaldi's 'Gloria', while the Film Society held an Annual Awards Evening, with Mr Winstanley presenting the prizes, with many stars making guest appearances!

Sport continued to thrive, with Rowing very successful in the school. Numerous competitions were entered, with lots of success being accomplished, ranging from the Evesham sprint regatta to crews winning the Senior and Junior Ball Cups at Hereford. Meanwhile, the First XV won seven of their eleven matches, with good fixtures being played against the likes of Christ College, Brecon and St Brendans. Other popular sports included Squash, Basketball and Badminton. During this year, the Croquet club, under the guidance of Michael Rangeley, was well supported, with tournaments being played for different groups in the school and with two lawns marked out for players. The Cricket First XI only won one of their eight matches.

At this time, as many of you know, the trend towards a comprehensive system of education was growing, due to the 1976 Education Act. Due to the decline in the birth-rate, it was feared that there would be cut-backs and school closures. Rich's was under threat of being turned into a Sixth Form College under a local government reorganization scheme. Rich's Headmaster, Mr Gordon Heap, was working hard to prevent this and maintain the school as a 11-19 Grammar school. It is ironic now, as we look back, how this dark period in the school's history has been totally overshadowed by the tremendous growth and success of Rich's in the last ten years. Without question, it appears from reading the 1977 Edition of *The Richian*, that the atmosphere created in the school was one of uncertainty, but many connected with the school seemed determined to maintain it as a Grammar school and guarantee its role in the city.

1987

The Staff Editor of the magazine was English teacher, Pauline Smith. Her approach, according to the introduction to the magazine, was to make it less formal and cater for the younger boys in the school. During this year, German teacher, Eric Smith and Rich's Musical Director, Michael Rangeley, both retired from Rich's after long service. Also to leave Rich's that year, were Andrew Pearce and Graham Middleton. Meanwhile, a young Peter Lloyd and Steve Morgan had just completed their first year at the school.

The First XV won six of their nine matches and Cross-Country continued to prosper, with Adam Foster and Steve Mitten both representing the county. Indoor cricket was very popular, while Basketball was introduced into the school as an emerging sport. Mr Gallagher took a ski party to Telfes, Austria, while a number of German students went to Sonnenberg, in the Harz mountains. The school drama production was, 'She stoops to Conquer', directed by English teacher, Ron Matthews, in conjunction with Colwell school. Stars of the play included Michelle Hounsell, Andrew and James Methven. Another production included a junior school production, called 'Bang', based on the story of Guy Fawkes, with John Mcbeth taking the role of Fawkes. The music was arranged by Michael Rangeley and the acting directed by Donald Moss.

School music was thriving as usual, with an evening of piano music performed early in the October of the academic year and an Instrumentalists' concert in the February. The Chess Club had a highly successful season, with the highlight being at the Marlwood School's competition, where the school finished fourth overall. James Methven was the School Captain and reported that the school "flourished throughout the year". Bob Hanney joined the Parents' Association Committee, while Steve Morgan took the Naturalists' Society to London Zoo. Trips included one to York by train to visit the National Railway Museum and the First Years went on their residential trip to Welsh Bicknor, under the supervision of Roger Lockey. There was also a residential course at Cowley Manor and a group of pupils from the middle school went to the Apollo Theatre, Oxford, for a workshop on Shakespeare. Of note, a team won the Rotary Public Speaking Competition. Ten years on from 1977 and the school was still fighting the County Council's plans to turn Rich's into a Sixth Form College. Also, money associated with the Gloucester United Funds was being contested.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF RICH'S NEW BUILDINGS



*Above, Mr J A Stocks, (Headmaster of Rich's from 1961 to 1973 and the present school's Headmaster, Mr I L Kellie, formerly unveil a plaque to commemorate the official opening of Rich's £1.2 million building extensions. (Picture by kind permission of 'The Citizen' Newspaper, Gloucester)*

Last November, former Headmaster, Mr Tony Stocks, (1961-1973) formerly opened Rich's new buildings. As reported in last year's Richian magazine, the total cost of the new buildings was £1.2 million and took fifteen months to complete. The money for the new buildings came from the local LEA and 'J P Construction' of Tewkesbury undertook the majority of the building work. The project was undertaken in three phases, with the highlight of the new buildings being the construction of a multi-purpose sports hall and ten new classrooms around a new quadrangle. At the official opening ceremony, local dignitaries, businessmen, friends of the school and staff gathered in the hall to hear speeches from Rich's current Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie and Mr Tony Stocks. Mr Kellie highlighted the growing strength, as well as the great success of the school in many areas and thanked those from the LEA for their support towards Rich's. In his address to the audience, Mr Stocks recaptured fond memories of his time as Headmaster at Rich's and particularly recalled the day when the whole school moved from Barton Street to the present site. After the speeches, all those assembled in the hall went on a guided tour of the new buildings, eventually congregating in the multi-purpose hall, where Mr Stocks unveiled a plaque, commemorating the historic event. It is ironic, that after the many threats to Rich's under various reorganization schemes in the 1970's and early 1980's, that in 1996, new buildings were being formerly opened to help cater for 750 pupils. Rich's will certainly be here for the next millennium and thanks to the new buildings, the school will be well prepared for it.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## THE OFSTED INSPECTION

In December 1995 the school was informed that it would be inspected by a team called, 'Severn Crossing', who had won the contract from Ofsted (the Office for Standards in Education) under their programme of inspecting secondary schools every four years. We were somewhat surprised that we had been selected, since we received a full HMI inspection in April 1993, less than three years earlier. We assumed they were returning so soon in order to check on how a good school operates.

The inspection took place in the week of the 7th to the 11th, October, 1996, when a team of thirteen inspectors talked to staff, pupils, parents and Governors. They observed lessons, looked at books, schemes of work, school policies, examined our accounts and records. Meetings were attended of staff and parents. Assemblies were visited and many more aspects of life at Rich's were investigated by the inspection team. Late on Friday of that week, they left to write up their findings.



Their report was received in school on the 20th November, 1996. A version with punctuation and spelling mistakes corrected, was later sent to the school. It is difficult to summarize in a limited space over thirty pages of detailed comment, but these extracts reflect the tone of the report:

Impressive results are attained in GCSE and A level. Studies show that at each stage the school "adds value" to a notable degree.

Pupils are consistently well behaved in and out of class; the standard of behaviour overall is a strength of the school. Staff set, and expect, high standards.

Pupils' attitudes to learning, towards their teachers and towards each other are good. They concentrate well, listen to their teachers and to each other and co-operate effectively. Pupils believe they are privileged to be at the school and want to make the most of the opportunity. A purposeful ethos that derives from the school traditions, teachers' high expectations and pupils' desire to be successful, makes a strong impression.

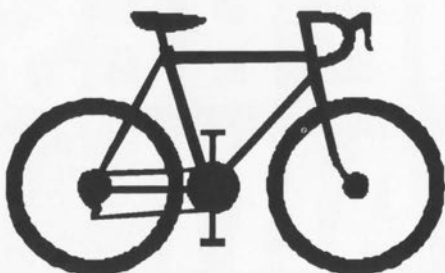
Governors, parents and teachers have succeeded in creating a very positive ethos. A good environment for learning has been created. Pupils have equal opportunities to share in what the school provides. With relatively low costs, effective management of its aims and the provision of an education of good quality, the school gives very good value for money.

It is an outstanding report, pupils and staff are to be congratulated. We know that Sir Thomas Rich's is an excellent school, but it is still satisfying that the inspection team reached the same conclusion.

*Mr I L Kellie (Headmaster)*



## THE TRAVELWISE CAMPAIGN



Three Rich's students, Robert Haworth (11R), Mark Little (11T) and Oliver Jones (11S) last December won book tokens for producing the most innovative and original ideas when they presented a transport plan for the year 2000 to Gloucestershire County Council's Environment Director, Mr Richard Wiggington, who was judging the competition. The boys were considered to have come up with the most environmentally friendly solutions to solve the problems caused by the overuse of cars on our roads.

The students presented the plans as part of their GCSE coursework and the competition has contributed to the 'Travelwise Campaign', which Gloucestershire County Council has instigated.

One of the most interesting statistics to emerge from the campaign, was the fact that more than 200,000 people in Gloucestershire travel an average of ten miles to and from work, producing a grand total of two million miles a day in motoring. Gloucestershire County Council's Road Safety Leader, Mr Garry Handley, indicated that the boy's plan had taken into account a lot of environmental concerns when it came to transportation planning and it was he, who initially encouraged them to submit their plans in support of the Council's ongoing 'Travelwise Campaign'. This campaign as many of you will know, is trying to encourage more people out of their cars and hoping that individuals will seek alternative forms of transport, such as bicycles, buses and trains. The campaign is also investigating future transportation needs in the area and looking at ways to ease traffic congestion on our roads. Congratulations to our three students and lets hope that their plans are implemented to make our roads safer and cleaner places!

*Mr G M Watson*

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## THIS YEAR'S OXFORD ENTRANTS



*Above, back row, from left to right, Chris Poole (Mathematics - University College); Sam Charles (Earth Science - University College); Catherine Ellicott (Law - St Catherine's College) and Ben Tipper (Classics - Exeter College). Front row, from left to right, Mark Aplin (Geography - Worcester College); Phil Clegg (Earth Science - Jesus College) and Tom Hinton (Geography - Jesus College).*

# TO BE THE BEST, START EARLY

The Army wants to attract only the best people. So every year we offer some powerful incentives to consider an Army career. As an Officer you'll be trained in a wide variety of skills – some technical, some management – but all requiring team leadership which will be invaluable whether you decide to stay in the Army or eventually follow a civilian career. Now have a look at what the Army can do for you – if you start early.

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Compete for an Army Scholarship and earn £350 per term while studying for your 'A' levels and guarantee yourself a great career.

## **AT 17-18 (BEFORE UNIVERSITY)**

Apply for an Army Cadetship or Bursary to finance you through University, and guarantee yourself a challenging career. Every year, 30 Cadets are awarded sponsorship which totals up to £25,000 each during their degree course. Bursars are awarded £1,500 per year.

OR

Find out how exciting an Army Career can really be by joining us for your Gap Year before University with no commitment. We'll pay you while you travel and face challenges both mental and physical. You'll learn as much about yourself as you do about us.

## RICHIAN BRAINTEASERS

*Below you will find questions to stretch your powers of deduction, intelligence and problem solving. Good luck! Answers can be found on Page 52.*

- 1 How can twelve equal seven?
- 2 A man leaves his 8th floor flat every day and travels down to the ground floor by elevator. On his homeward journey however, he only travels up to the 5th floor and uses the stairs for the remaining three floors. The elevator is in perfect working order. Explain this!
- 3 A man looking at a picture says, "Brother and sisters, I have none but that man's father is father's son." Who was the picture of?
- 4 How can £4.04 be made from an equal number of four different British coins?
- 5 Arrange the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9, with three '+' signs and one '-' sign, to give an answer of one hundred.
- 6 If you have 27 billiard balls and you know that one of them weighs more than each of the others, but in every other way they are identical, what is the minimum number of weighings on the balance?



(NB. You have no weights, you must weigh the balls against each other)

- 7 "I don't understand", said the sheriff, "the deputy just told me that a cowboy rode into Dodge City on Tuesday, stayed for three days and left on Tuesday. How?"
- 8 A tennis racket and a tennis ball together cost £101. If the racket costs £100 more than the ball, what is the price of each?
- 9 In Timbucktoo, a town in the middle of nowhere, there are two dentists. One has perfect teeth, the other has rotten teeth. Which dentist would you choose to take care of your teeth?
- 10 A lorry drives up to the start of a long bridge and spots a sign saying, "Bridge very weak - anything over one ton will cause collapse!" Luckily there is a weighing station at the entrance to the bridge and the weight of the lorry is exactly one ton. The lorry crosses the bridge, but half way across a bird lands on it. Why does the bridge not collapse?
- 11 Put the same three letters at the start and end of "ERGRO" to make an English word.



- 12 A cleaner has the job of replacing soap in a hotel bathroom. She notices that one bar gets used each week to the point where it is so small, as to be useless. However, if she puts eight of these used bits together, she can make a whole new bar. If there are 64 bars of soap in the store cupboard, how many weeks will these last?

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- 13 How is it possible to measure out exactly 5 litres using the two unmarked jugs above. (You may use as much water as you like.)
- 14 Philip said to me earlier this year, "Two days ago I was 12. Next year I will be 15". Explain!
- 15 Take six letters away from SIBXLAETNTEARSNA to spell a fruit.
- 16 A man pushes his car up to a hotel, pays the owner some money and a little while later pushes his car off again. What is happening?

*Contributed by Mr D Dempsey*

## THE CHRISTMAS BALL

All during the Autumn term, Mrs Spilsbury, helped by Mr Carew-Jones, ran ballroom dancing lessons for the Sixth Form on Thursday lunch-times. Surprisingly, the classes proved very popular and after the first five or so weeks, a regular clientele of twenty to twenty-four couples were attending. We started off with the basics, like the Waltz and the March of the Mods, then progressed to more difficult dances, like the Jive and the St Bernards Waltz, with the odd "Cha-cha-cha" and the Gay Gordons thrown in for good measure.

The classes proved so popular in fact, that it was decided that we would hold a Christmas Ball, as a culmination of all that we had learnt. The next ten weeks before Christmas were spent in organizing food, drinks, publicity, tickets and of course, the band. Everyone coming went out of their way to make the dress code of "smart-formal", a stunning reality. With sleek evening dresses and smooth dinner jackets, jazzed up with a touch of the Christmas spirit.

Mr Lockey worked wonders with the ticket and poster designs, while all the staff and students who helped to organize and prepare the food excelled. As a result, an exquisite culinary buffet display of pheasant, ham, vol-au-vons and other delicious food was produced for the evening.

The big day arrived and preparations lasted from the Saturday morning, all the way through the day and even right up to the scheduled time of the event. The hall was bedecked in great swathes of holly and Christmas greens, ribbons and candles, all organized by various members of the Sixth Form. The central dance floor was flooded with light from overhead spotlights set up by the lighting crew.

The Roy Kirby Paragon Jazz Band provided the music for the evening and it was superb. Any musical numbers that they did not know and that were requested were quickly learnt during their break. All in all, it appeared to be a great success and it is hoped that the school will make it an annual event on the Rich's calendar. Well done to all those involved, for their effort, hard work and time, which helped to ensure that the event was a great success.

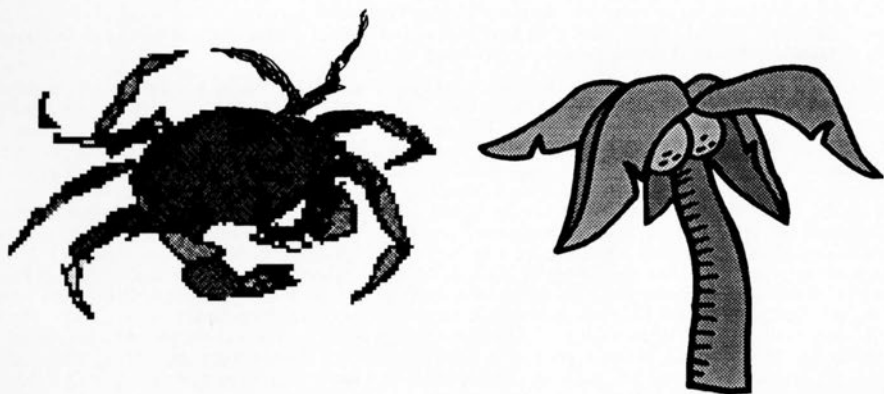
The behaviour on the night was remarked upon and the effort that had gone into organizing the event did not go unnoticed by the staff who were present. One or two improvements could have been made, such as organizing earlier ticket sales to avoid a last minute rush, but overall, everything worked in the end. Congratulations to all the Staff and Sixth Formers.

Good luck to those who organize it next year!

*D Wright (6T)*



## CARIBBEAN EXPEDITION



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By the time you read this article, Rich's teacher, Mrs Joan Arnold, will have completed her Caribbean crusade and will be back in Gloucester writing up her report for next year's magazine. Mrs Arnold was among one hundred lucky teachers and education officers from all over the country to win the first batch of Earthwatch Millennium Fellowships. This enabled Mrs Arnold to join a scientific expedition and the fellowships, awarded by the Millennium Commission, are designed to promote research projects around the world. For instance, projects are planned to include the study of Savannah birds in Bolivia, the Snow Leopard in India and Cloud Forests in Ecuador, to name but a few. In Mrs Arnold's case, her expedition project involved travelling to the Caribbean, where she and the rest of the party studied colonies of land crabs. Her visit will take her to Tobago in the Caribbean, where she will study the Manicou Crab. At present, nothing is known about the crab's ecological existence, yet they are an important component to the rain forest ecosystem, being voracious predators in water when young and on dry land when older. The group will be assessing the population dynamics by 'Mark-Release-Recapture' techniques and radio tracking. Ultimately, her research will help in Trinidad and Tobago's conservation efforts.

To win a place on the expedition, Mrs Arnold had to apply for one of the five hundred fellowships available, explaining what she would learn if she was successful in her application to go to the Caribbean. She also had to indicate how this new founded information could be passed on to her students and the local community. Upon her return to Rich's, Mrs Arnold intends to set up a conservation pond at the school. This forms part of the project and subscribes to the central theme of the Earthwatch Millennium Fellowships scheme, which is to promote the conservation of our environment. As Mrs Arnold stated in one of her newspaper interviews, "The idea behind Earthwatch is to think globally and act locally."

Mrs Arnold has already started to generate funds for the conservation pond at the school, with a Caribbean Cookery Competition, held last Summer, in which students and parents were invited to enter Caribbean culinary delights. The event was very successful, raising £26 pounds. To ensure that the pond project gets under way, Mrs Arnold needs £100 and she hopes that the pond will be built in the Memorial Gardens. It must be stressed that it will not be stocked with crabs!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## NEWS SNIPPETS!

The following article highlights some of the key people and news items, which have been featured in the various Newsletters published half-termly by the school.

At the start of the term, Rich's announced that it had a total of 727 pupils in the school and was en route to its planned maximum of 750. The examination results for 1995-96 revealed that at GCSE, the pass rate at Grade C and above was 92%, with the average number of passes at C and above, being 8.2 per candidate. At 'A' level, there was a 92% pass rate, with 42.3% of passes being at Grades A and B and the average number of 'A' levels passed per candidate was 3.7.

In October, Geoff Whittington (11R) and Mark Hardcastle (9R) were invited to the Football Association's South West regional coaching course. Meanwhile, Ben Dabbs (8T) reached the final of the Western Counties swimming championships and finished a creditable fifth. Still in the water, Daniel Oldham (7T) won a gold medal in his age group at the South West Diving Championships. Robert Haworth (11R) and Craig Lewis (10R) both performed at the Youth Drama Festival in connection with the Cheltenham Festival of Literature. Meanwhile, Mrs Roberts and various pupils from the school helped to raise £150 for the World Wildlife Fund, by undertaking a sponsored seven mile walk at Tewkesbury. During the Autumn term, Mr Smallwood launched his plans to take an expedition of Rich's students to Costa Rica in the summer of 1998. Dominic Wynn-Sands (7S) was selected to play for Cheltenham Under 17 team in the South West table tennis league. Thomas Plant (10R) joined the World's largest orchestra, which assembled at the Birmingham Symphony Hall, while Michael Randell (6R) and Michael Brown (6C) came first and third respectively in the County Under 20, then in the South West Under 18 Fencing Championships. Daniel Wright (6T) organized a successful Christmas Ball, in conjunction with The High School. David Frodin (6G), along with a team of Sixth Formers, organized and ran some activity days for Year 7 in the Forest of Dean last October, in weather which was less than kind to all who participated.

Other students who made the news, included Matthew Ward (9B) and Piers Camp (10S), who were selected for the England Junior Squad for slalom canoeing. Then there was William Radcliffe (10T) who was selected for the Gloucestershire Under 15 Cricket Squad. Mark Hardcastle (9R) was lucky enough to obtain soccer trials with the FA at the Lilleshall National Sports Centre. Finally, Peter Burlinson (9S) was the local winner of the "Conti Young Designer of the Year" Award. Ben Dabbs (8T) ploughed his way to victory in various events during the County Swimming Championships at the end of January, 1997. Of note, was the fact that Rich's had accepted eight students for Oxford and a record eighty-two members of the Upper Sixth were applying for university entry.



Andrew Brown (8T) and Clive Stuart-Smith (9S) represented Gloucestershire at hockey, with the County Under 14's beating Warwickshire 6-4. Michael Thomas (9S), at 14, represented the Western Counties Under 16 Water Polo team, while Matthew Dill played for the U18 County Tennis Team. A party of Year 10 and Lower Sixth students travelled to Gottingen for the annual German Exchange. Mr Dempsey started off the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme in March and Chris Wilkinson (6C) came away with the 'Best Speaker' prize at a Public Speaking Competition organized by Cheltenham Rotary Club. Of note, was a visit by a representative of the Daily Telegraph, with Rich's being selected to feature in the 1997 'Good Schools Guide'. A team from the school's Fencing Club went to Millfield School in March and won the Under 14 Foil event. Mrs Arnold was selected to take part in an Earthwatch Scientific Expedition, travelling to Tobago in the Caribbean, to study the Manico Crab. Mr Raees-Danai took a group of students to the Prescott Hill Climb in May, where they toured the paddock and the Bugatti Museum. Paul Beddows (8T) raised £35 for his sponsored silence on Red Nose Day. Meanwhile, Michael Thomas set a new school record for Year 9 High Jump, with a leap of 1.56 metres. Hassen Bali (6G) and Daniel Crowley (6H) won places on the prestigious Headstart in Engineering Course, which took place at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. Chris Poole (6H) won the U.18's Easter School's Chess Congress, held at Rich's. Malcolm Peckham was invited to play in the Junior European String Orchestra in Brussels. Well done to all our students!

Mr P D Lloyd

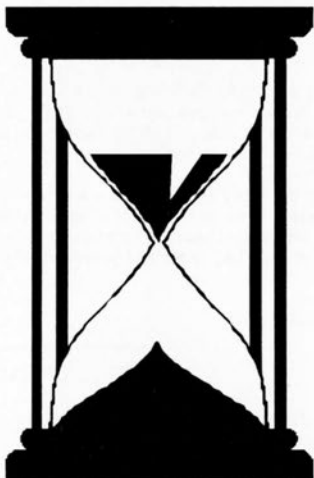


## JUNIOR RICHIAN TRIVIA QUIZ

Yes folks, another "Trivia Quiz"! See if you can improve on your score from last year by simply answering the questions below. Answers to the quiz can be found on page 63. Good luck!

1. Which science may be organic or inorganic?
2. Where would you see a Plimsoll line painted?
3. In the Bible, who was the father of Cain and Abel?
4. What organ do fish use to breathe?
5. The soldiers of which British Army regiment wear red berets?
6. What is the capital of Finland?
7. During which war were the battles of Crecy and Agincourt fought?
8. In which play do the characters Shylock and Antonio appear?
9. What is sushi?
10. In which American state are the Everglades?
11. Which sea lies between Sweden, Poland and Finland?
12. Which scientist stated the Theory of Relativity?
13. Which German leader was called the Iron Chancellor?
14. Mercury is a metal, but what does it look like at room temperature?
15. Which 19th Century textile workers smashed up machinery in fear of losing their jobs?
16. What is the former American city of New Amsterdam now called?
17. How many eyelids has a snake?
18. Who wrote the series of books that started with the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe?
19. Where in the human body would you find cone cells and rod cells?
20. How many lines are there in a sonnet?
21. Who was told by a soothsayer, 'Beware the Ides of March' but was still murdered?
22. What language do they speak in Austria?
23. What is the home of the gods in Norse mythology called?
24. Which two seas are connected by the Suez Canal?
25. Which scientists put forward his theory of evolution in On the Origin of Species?
26. From which chemical element is a diamond formed?
27. How far is the penalty spot from the goal line in soccer?
28. Which one of the following musical instruments is not played with a bow - cello, viola, bassoon or double bass?
29. What is done with clocks and watches when British Summer Time begins?
30. What precious stones are often used in lasers?

*Compiled by Mr P D Lloyd*



*The Editor would be pleased to receive contributions for the 1998 Richian Magazine. Remember, it's your magazine!*

## THE GOTTINGEN EXCHANGE



Due to a variation in term-time dates with our German friends, we visited Gottingen in April and this unfortunately resulted in some Rich's pupils being unable to attend, as they felt that they could not really afford to miss lessons. This was unfortunate and there is always the continued problem of coordinating "convenient" dates between the two schools which parents and schools need to really understand. In the case of the Gloucestershire-Gottingen Exchange, the exercise involves over a dozen schools. As public examinations spread their tentacles even further through the school year, and other pressures increase, staff committed to the continuation of such links need all their powers of persuasion and organization to ensure these opportunities will be available for the future generations of young Europeans. This brings me to an important expression of gratitude of thanks to Mrs Sarah White, a long-serving and now part-time member of the Modern Languages Faculty, who accepted with enthusiasm the challenge of leading the Rich's contingent. As she has a young family, her participation was all the more commendable. One should not forget the invaluable contribution made by her husband, Richard, left holding the fort! Many thanks!

*Mr D Slinger*

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### AWAY IN GOTTINGEN

Tommy's intrepid travellers struck out once more! The annual exchange to Gottingen was in April and we all braved the rain, snow and more rain. The weather may have been damp, but it certainly did not dampen our spirits. With an action packed fourteen days learning a foreign language and a different culture, everyone in the group had fun.

During the busy fortnight, we went to Goslar and Hanover, which entailed a visit to Hanover Zoo, ice-skating, town tours, a reception with the Mayor of Gottingen and of course a German school. On top of this we all had another separate agenda with our host families. The end of exchange was rounded off with a disco. Sad faces and promises of we would soon all meet again finally brought our fortnight to a close.

*B Meredith (10T)*

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### HOME IN GLOUCESTER

The German contingent arrived at lunch time in May, after a long and tiring journey. We had the afternoon off, so we all went home and let the Germans settle in. This was the start of a packed couple of weeks, including, for our German guests, excursions to London, Oxford and a visit to see the Mayor of Gloucester. As well as these events, they spent a few days in school, which they apparently found quite different, particularly the school assembly, which made quite an impression on them. Talking to them, it made them feel that they were in a church, rather than a school, especially first thing in the morning.

Overall, I think another successful exchange between Gloucester and Gottingen took place, culminating in a barn dance in the school hall, which was enjoyed by all. New links have now been forged, helping to secure the future of the exchange.

*W Godwin (10S)*

## THE GOTTINGEN EXCHANGE



*Above, students from Denmark Road High School and Sir Thomas Rich's, with their German partners, during this year's Gottingen Exchange. A traditional exchange that helps to forge cultural links!*

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## THE ANNECY EXCHANGE

If you were to go out and ask people what they knew about Annecy, they would probably not know a lot. "Isn't that a flavour of sweet?" This may be one response, but I'm afraid it's incorrect. Annecy is in fact a charming town in the east of France. It is situated at the southern end of the French Alps, bordering onto Lac d'Annecy. It is an important industrial and tourist town, with a population calculated at 52,700 in 1995.

However, this certainly isn't the full story. Every year, for the past twenty-five years, pupils from Years 9 and 10, as well as from other schools all over the county, have taken up the opportunity to visit Annecy a part of the French Exchange programme. Annecy as you may know, is twinned with Cheltenham and thus, the idea of an exchange between these two towns was formed. It is of course now an annual event and I took the opportunity this year to return, even though I had been in Year 9. "Encore une fois".

The objectives of the exchange are clear. It is an opportunity to practise and develop your French, kindly assisted by your French teachers, in a real place - France! Yet, it is also a means by which

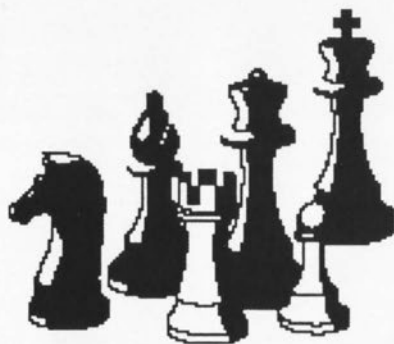


you can experience the culture, life and people of France. You also get an insight into what a French school is really like. This year, we went over to France in July.

*M Webber (10S)*

## CHESS

This year's chess has been a busy season, with a varied crop of results in the North Gloucestershire League. The top team in Division 2 fared well against strong opposition, with most matches being decided by one crucial point. The second team finished fourth in Division 4, whilst the third team, under the excellent captaincy of Mr Swann, finished strongly, eventually winning Division 5. During the lead up to Christmas, we took part in the 'Times National Chess Tournament'. The school emerged as convincing victors in the first round, but lost the second round, owing to a weakened team, due to university interviews and an age handicap. At the Birmingham & District Under 18 Tournament in Solihull, the school competed well with a young team against strong competition, having played the eventual winners. In the Under 14 tournament, the team gained a very creditable fourth place.



The Easter Holidays saw Rich's hosting the Secondary School's Easter Congress. The tournament had a high proportion of Rich's players, with many of them ending up with prizes - myself winning the Under 18 category, while Leigh Workman and James Ibbotson came joint third. Other players also did well in the Under 15 and Under 12 categories. The House Chess competition was a lot closer than for a number of years. Eventually, Westgate and Eastgate came out as joint winners. Thanks must go to those people who have helped throughout the year, especially to Mr Fowler, who has transported the team to various parts of the country. Next year, we are losing many of our top players and as a consequence, we expect to have only two teams in the North Gloucestershire League, in Divisions 3 & 4. I now leave Rich's and hand over my captaincy to James Ibbotson. Good luck for next season!

C Poole (6H)

## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME



The awards' scheme has been available to Venture Scouts in the School for many years, but it recently became apparent that there was demand from other pupils at Rich's, who were not connected to the Venture Scouts. Hence, a scheme to cater for these pupils was set up and around thirty Year 9 and 10 pupils put their name down to join the scheme. They are currently working towards either their Bronze or Silver Awards. To obtain an award, participants must follow a hobby or skill, take part in a physical recreation activity, undertake some form of service and complete an expedition. For much of the scheme the onus is on the individual to plan his options and find suitable adults to assess each section. Thanks must go to Lorna Wright, Daniel Wright, David Frodin, Gareth Clarke, Tristan Meredith and Lucy Payne for supervising the expedition groups training.

Mr D Dempsey



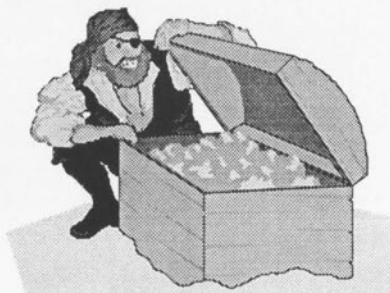
## RICHIAN TREASURE HUNT COMPETITION

This is an exciting treasure hunt, aimed at any pupils who wish to enter. By investigating the surroundings of your school, simply answer the questions below. Some questions are easy, others need careful consideration. Try to be observant!

*The winner of this competition will receive a £10 gift voucher. In the event of a tie, a draw will take place. Simply write down your answers, name/form and supply them to Mr P D Lloyd. The closing date for entries will be Friday, 13th February, 1998. The winning entry will be presented with their prize in assembly during the Spring term, 1998. Good Luck!*

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- 1 Who was Rugby Captain in 1976-1977?
- 2 How many gym climbing ropes are there?
- 3 Who was the last Captain of Boats?
- 4 How many lights are in the gym ceiling?
- 5 Who was the first Captain of Athletics?
- 6 This photo of Mr Kellie was taken in 19\_\_?
- 7 Who painted 'Minsmere'?
- 8 G H Bridge's 1984 Award was?
- 9 Which man is celebrated by Northgate?
- 10 Where would you find a camel?
- 11 What was opened on the 16th March, 1995?
- 12 Which Royal blood is found in the Foyer?



- 13 Where would you find William J Lane?
- 14 Cheadle Hume school crest hangs here?
- 15 Rich's moved to Oakleaze on what date?
- 16 Players must not do this on the green?
- 17 This company protects the bowls pavilion?
- 18 Where can Victor Mundy be found?
- 19 Who gets wet on top of the bowls pavilion?
- 20 What was rehung on the 14th May, 1964?
- 21 Where must you beware of a car?
- 22 What is G291 DDF?
- 23 Which college has lost its oar?
- 24 What prickly company protects the school?
- 25 Where are 'HaG shutters & grilles' based?
- 26 What 'wet' team was commemorated 1896?
- 27 Where would you find Delia Delderfield?
- 28 Whose phone number is 01452 883337?
- 29 Where are you advised to take caution?
- 30 Why is 'Tann Synchronome' hot property?
- 31 Who must not be disturbed between 1-1.30?
- 32 Who was a musical captain in 1983?
- 33 What did J Kemp paint at 11.10?
- 34 Where would you find a Tawny Owl?
- 35 Who formerly opened the school foyer?
- 36 Where does Fredrick W Pickford hang?
- 37 What happened to L C Dean?
- 38 A Martin/R Gabb are commemorated here?
- 39 What can park here only?
- 40 Where is the old Deputy Head's office?

*M Peckham (9R), T Patience (9S)  
& Mr P D Lloyd*

## GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP TO COUNTY MAYO, IRELAND

A vital part of the 'A' level Geology syllabus is the field work aspect. Although Gloucestershire boasts an impressive range of geological features, the more "classic" examples of various rock types are more obvious further afield. For this reason, North Mayo, in Western Ireland, was chosen for this year's major 'A' level field trip. The wide variety of rock types, ranging from the highly deformed metamorphic and igneous rocks exposed on the Mullet Peninsula to the unmetamorphosed sediments to the East, certainly provided an interesting challenge. The group comprised the budding Lower Sixth Geology set, some of the more "seasoned" Upper Sixth and a large contingent from Mr Green's evening classes. Mr Green led the trip, aided by Mark "Super-star" Campbell, who has had fifteen minutes fame on the TV programme, *The Natural World*. All travel took place in two very cramped mini-buses, with the ferry crossing from Holyhead to Dun Laoghaire being surprisingly rather calm. Our accommodation was in four old Deanery holiday cottages, situated in the quiet bay-side village of Killala. The cottages were well equipped, being able to cope with up to eight people self-catering. During our stay, despite pouring rain on a couple of days, we managed to complete a study of the geology in all four compass directions from Killala, including the beautiful Achill Island, the Ox mountains and the spectacular fossil rich ocean floor at Easky. We tried to work out geological histories that have not entirely been explained by even the most professional experts. In addition, we undertook mapping exercises on three different scales and drew a metamorphic / sedimentary graphic log sequence. Hard work was interspersed by the evenings off, for the writing up of notes or relaxation, in which a number of the group became acquainted with the locals. There was also the excuse for a good party, with Tom Hinton's 18th birthday celebrations. On our day off, we were rewarded with bright sunshine, which was of benefit to those, who decided to make an ascent of one of the peaks in the Nephin Beg mountain range. Overall, despite a small "incident" involving the school minibus and an Irish tractor, the trip was successful with everyone coming away with a better understanding of the amazing geology for which this part of Ireland is renowned, particularly in relation to the area of metamorphism.

A Clifford (6G)



*Above, the Geology group who went to County Mayo, Ireland in March. The twenty-seven members of the party, are pictured here at Keem Bay, on Achill Island in County Mayo. The party was involved in studying, logging, mapping and hammering rocks up to 1800 million years in age.*



## A SHORT STORY - 'THE FIGHT OF THE GOSERONKS'

"Hey!" shouted Tom, but Mick seated firmly on Kestrel, took off for Ten Acre Wood. Mick watched as Tom got smaller and smaller, until he could see him no more. Well, Tom was only six centimetres tall, just like himself. Mick whizzed away on Kestrel, his state of the art spaceship and it was capable of going at 55, 221, 000,000 metres/second, pretty fast for something which is fifty-two centimeters long. As he turned round he saw through the grubby back window, The Forest, his home planet and winced as he saw huge great big black markings on it. They were, from where the Goseronks had come and destroyed his home, father and mother. He thought back to that day his father was working on a virus to kill the Goseronks. He thought he had found a perfect, unbeatable virus and had sent it out to them in an attempt to kill the Goseronks. Not long after the Goseronks had attacked their planet and the virus had proved to be a failure. Within a few minutes they had devastated the planet and Mick could only think of how he could get revenge. Also, he remembered a message coming through, just before they came. It said, "Evil Lliw Lla", but nobody knew what it meant anyway. Mick shook his head and said, "Computer, how long till we get to Ten Acre Wood?". The reply soon came, "1.2469". "Thanks", said Mick, but for some reason the computer continued, "65421". "Thank you!" shouted Mick, but the computer had the last shout, "Hours". Half an hour had passed, when Mick came up with trouble. The Goseronks' spaceships had found him and were in his way. The ships were hailing him, but he would not answer. "I know what to do". Mick suddenly started to tap in a load of instructions into the computer at super speed. The noise of the Goseronks was drumming in his ears, but he went on. Then Mick pressed one button and leant back. His ship jumped into maximum speed and quickly stopped right in front of their ships. The Goseronks had no time to think and before they knew what had hit them, they were all blown up! "Yessss!" cried Mick. Soon after, Mick was in the atmosphere of the Forest and landed safely. He scanned the area and found that there were no Goseronks for fifty metres. As Mick clambered out of the spaceship, he thought, "I have advantage with my size". He was only six centimeters tall, while the Goseronks were over five metres tall, with wolf-like heads and brown/grey bodies. They scared the life out of Mick, but he had to go on. Soon, he found himself weaving in and out of a Goseronk's legs. He had travelled through a sandy, barren valley and was soon face to face with another Goseronk, who was staring him right in the face. Mick dived to the floor and pulled out a phaser and blasted the Goseronk, who subsequently fell into a heap of cogs and bolts. Yes folks, the Goseronks were robots! Mick had now walked for over two hours without meeting anybody he knew and as the sun soaked the valleys with its intense rays, he eventually came to the top of a ridge. He looked downwards and below, he could see what he had been waiting for, the city. Mick rushed down and was soon moving through the streets, in a quiet and careful manner. Eventually, he came to the market square. It was busy with Goseronks shouting their heads off and creating havoc with every step they made. On the other side of the square was a huge building, the one he had to reach. It was dark and grey and outside the building was a wide expanse of grass. He crawled through the undergrowth, until he was stopped in his tracks at the sight of three armed guards, armed to their teeth with heavy military hardware. Without any fear or hesitation, he jumped out and blasted one, then dived into a bush for cover. Within a few minutes, there were more cogs and bolts littering the entrance to the building as Mick eliminated the other two guards. Standing over the heaps, Mick exclaimed, "Bit slow aren't you!" He now thought about the next stage of the operation, which was to prove to be the hard bit. He tapped in some numbers on the key pad, which did not allow him entry into the building. Then he contacted Kestrel and before you could blink, Mick's computer had worked out the code and the door was opening. He ran in, phaser at the ready, the adrenaline in his body working over-time. He still could not figure out what the message was all about, just before the Goseronks had attacked the planet. "Evil Lliw La, what does it mean?", he thought to himself as he scanned the foyer of the building. He moved further into the building, creeping quietly just in case there were any Goseronks around. Up the stairs and down a few corridors, he came to the room that he had been looking for and slowly turned the door handle. There she was, the computer which controlled the Goseronks. Quickly, he tapped in a few codes and a computerized voice answered, "Are you The One?". Mick quickly confirmed that he was and the computer continued to process the data that Mick supplied, totally unaware that he was the enemy who had hacked into the Goseronk central computer system. The Goseronks were on course for self destruction. Mick suddenly realized what the message stated. "All will live" He tapped in the last few instructions and the Goseronks were no more. Mick had saved the planet from disaster!

*M Key (8B)*

## PAWS - PETS AND WILDLIFE SOCIETY TRIP TO DORSET



*Above, a selection of the members of PAWS, who went to Monkey World, to see "Charlie", a monkey adopted by the society. Here they are seen monkeying around and waiting for the Bursar to throw them a few bananas. They certainly look a right bunch of Charlies!*

In April, fourteen members of PAWS entrusted themselves to the Bursar and his son for a two day trip to Dorset. The main purpose of the trip was to see "Charlie", a monkey adopted by the society, who is resident of the large community of rescued monkeys at Monkey World. Charlie is an ex-beach chimp from Spain. He was a drug addict with numerous scars over his body and is missing all but seven of his teeth. Charlie's background is typical of virtually all the monkeys at Monkey World. He was exploited for commercial gain and is one of the lucky ones that have lived. It is estimated that eleven monkeys die for each one successfully captured and of those that are captured and exploited, very few live beyond five years at which point they are dumped or killed in favour of a younger model! In the wild the normal life span of a chimp is forty to forty-five years. Today, Charlie is a full and popular member of the community. The picture above, shows some of the skills that the boys picked up during their trip.

The evening was spent settling into the YHA accommodation at Lulworth Cove and included a hike across the hill to the famous cove. At this point, one of our group, (Jason?) decided that an early evening paddle in the freezing cold sea would improve his appetite for dinner. The anonymous boy did not believe that paddling involved taking one's shoes and socks off and rolling one's trousers up!

After a relatively quiet night, breakfast and some household chores, the party set off for Poole to the water theme park of Splashdown. An early start meant that everyone got the opportunity to try out the numerous water slides before the crowds arrived. Jason (whoops), one of our group remembered on this occasion to don a swimming costume before entering the water and numerous races were in progress very quickly over rides aptly named Torpedo Run, Baron's Revenge and Black Thunder. It must have been good as even the Bursar was seen acting like an eleven year old! Consequently, the trip home was very quiet and peaceful.

*Mr R M Byrne-Burns (Bursar)*

## THE FIRST PEAL FOR RICH'S



Each year the bells at Gloucester Cathedral are rung for the Founder's Day Service by pupils at the school and friends of the Cathedral. Unfortunately, due to the change in time of the service this year, we were unable to ring the bells in the traditional manner. The 1997 Founder's Day Service was to be my last one as a pupil of the school. Consequently, I was keen to mark the occasion in a memorable way. Therefore the decision was made to ring the bells at St Mary de Crypt, in the centre of Gloucester in the evening. The event was to be of national significance, as the bells were rung for a full "peal", lasting three hours and fourteen minutes, in a new method named, "Sir Thomas Rich's Surprise Major".

A peal of bells takes approximately three hours and is always published nationally and documented by various societies. The "method" of "Sir Thomas Rich's Surprise Major" was rung for the first time and any other bands wishing to ring the method will have to use the name which it has been given. Thus, Rich's now goes down in the annals of bellringing history! It was rung by eight ringers, which included two members of the Upper Sixth at Rich's and six Friends of the Cathedral. The ringers belong to the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Church Bell Ringers and included the following: Grahame Groves, Janet Fox, Philip Abbey, Ian Unsworth, Francis Byrne, John Ridley and Rich's students, Thomas Hinton and Christopher Poole. The band was conducted by Thomas Hinton. During the three hours and fourteen minutes, the ringing proved to be tiring, physically and mentally. Afterwards, the band retired for a well deserved drink after a very satisfactory evening's work. I now look forward to ringing another peal for the school, although I must say this was rather a nice way to finish one's career at Rich's. Besides, this was the greatest compliment that bellringers are capable of giving.

*T Hinton (6R)*

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## NO UPSTAIRS WINDOW

***Inside my head is my brain,  
It fizzes all day long.  
But no one can see it because  
There's no window in my head.***

***If I feel happy, no-one can see,  
If I'm sad, no-one knows,  
If I'm angry, I can't hide it  
behind closed blinds.  
There's no window in my head.***

***If I feel scared,  
The shadows will loom up,  
And when I'm bored, I'd have to  
draw the curtains.  
There's no window in my head.***

***But maybe it's a good thing,  
People can't see my secrets,  
And no-one would spoil it if you  
wanted to play a joke,  
No-one would see.  
So maybe it's not such a bad  
thing that there's no window in  
my head.***

*E James (7T)*

## CONTI YOUNG DESIGNER OF THE YEAR AWARDS



Peter Burlinson of 9S achieved great success when he entered the Conti Young Designer of the Year competition. Conti, the timber firm were impressed with Peter's innovative designs. His plans revolved around children's furniture, based on a rocket theme.

In a preliminary regional round, his designs were selected to go forward to the national stages. Peter designed and made the furniture during his lunch times, when he attends a Young Engineer's Club, run by his technology teacher, Mr Andrew Smith. The purpose of the club is to encourage members to enter different types of competitions and give them the opportunity to try out new equipment, as well as make things.

Peter had to transform his designs into reality and he was provided with advice from Barnwood Builders of Gloucester. In the final, Peter sent three pieces of furniture for the judges to assess. The idea for the rocket style furniture came after Peter had been to a bonfire

party, last November. Conti had specified that the furniture had to be made from melamine or wood veneers. His entry was one of only ten that qualified for the national finals. Of course, standards were very high and Peter did exceptionally well to reach the final.

The finals were held at the Royal College of Art in London in May. His furniture was completed in March and had to be sent to London for the panel of judges to assess. Peter, accompanied by Mr Andrew Smith, Head of Design and Technology, went to London to attend the awards ceremony. Both were delighted to find that Peter had won second prize, a great achievement. The winner was a Sixth Former from Scotland. Peter's prize was £150 and a piece of Darlington glass, with £300 being contributed to the school. This was a tremendous achievement.

Congratulations to Peter!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SECURE THE RICH'S CONSTITUENCY

In the last school 'Mock Election' of 1992, the Liberal Democrat candidate, Louis Delwiche won with 184 votes, 48 votes more than his nearest rival, the Conservative candidate, Ben Fletcher, with the Labour Party candidate, Paul Kingsbury, only recording 64 votes. In this year's election, four new candidates took up the challenge to win the Sir Thomas Rich's constituency. Mark Aplin represented the Liberal Democrats, Richard Gavin, the Referendum Party, Joseph Hitchings, the Labour Party and Jeremy Lai-Hung, the Conservative Party.

Unlike the national political campaigning, the school's experience was a subdued affair, concentrated largely on the last few days before the ballot. An attempt was made to involve the Gloucester constituency candidates, but unfortunately their tight schedules made this impossible. The 'turnout' of Rich's voters on the day was very high, at 89% of the total pupils on roll. This may have been partly the result of the Form Tutors being responsible for collecting the ballot papers, rather than requiring voters to forego the delights of the canteen or the football field to present themselves at the voting booths!

The result of the Rich's Mock General Election was as follows:

### SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL MOCK ELECTION RESULT

					<u>% of votes cast</u>
Mark Aplin	-	Liberal Democrat	293	votes	45
Jeremy Lai-Hung	-	Conservative	243	votes	38
Joseph Hitchings	-	Labour	75	votes	12
Richard Gavin	-	Referendum Party	32	votes	3

Once again, Rich's stood against the tide of national opinion. Was this the result of a perceived long-term threat to grammar schools under a Labour Government? Was the high vote for the Liberal Democrat candidate a statement about the perceived unfairness of our "first-past-the-post" electoral system? Did personalities play a larger role in a school election than they would be likely to play in a real constituency? Sadly, we did not have at our disposal the research facilities of Gallup or NOP to find out the answers. Against the national trend, Joseph Hitchings could only manage 75 votes and interestingly, the Tory vote held strong, despite the collapse in the rest of the country. The difference between the Liberal Democrat and the Conservative was fifty votes, only an increase of two votes from the last election, although the turn out was much higher this time. Hopefully, in the next election, the campaigning around the school will be more high profile, with fringe meetings, an airing of policies and importantly, lots of constructive debate in open forums, so that the voters of Sir Thomas Rich's school can really judge the worth of the candidates that have put themselves up for office.

As Returning Officer, I would like to extend my thanks to my small, but very efficient band of Year Eight Tellers, who were assisted by Tristan Meredith. Also, a special thanks must go to Julie Austin for producing the ballot papers and to all the Form Tutors for their cooperation. Possibly, only another four or five years to go before the next one!

*Mr D Slinger*

## LOWER SIXTH GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP TO THE LAKE DISTRICT

A motley crew of thirty-eight students, Mr Pack and myself set out bleary-eyed for the Cumbrian lakes and fells at eight o'clock sharp on the last Sunday of the Summer half-term. Our mission was to acquire lots of original and interesting ideas for 'A' level projects that would be undertaken closer to home, during the next academic year. Geography Department staff must occasionally cast an eye over these research tasks, so perhaps the reader will understand why we try to discourage studies, such as, "The sphere of influence of chips shops in Longlevens", or, "The Distribution and Social Significance of Bowling Alleys in Gloucestershire." The long drive north was interrupted for sufficient time for the purchase of a football, ironically one which sadly spent most of its first hour blowing gently across a service station duck pond. Throughout the week we saw ample evidence that "the lads" could not rely on full-time employment at Old Trafford or Anfield and it was best that they stuck to rugby. Consequently, a little extra Geography seemed to be an investment! For those of an even less sporting type, the Field Centre was comfortably equipped and to the surprise of one female student, "it even had showers!"

The group soon settled into a routine of breakfast at 08.15, classroom sessions and fieldwork until 18.00, with supper at 18.30, followed by another hour or so back at the desks. Our days included investigations into river dynamics, (getting wet), the impact of tourism on the fells of the National Park, (getting windswept and tired) and how soil type varies from fellside to valley floors, (getting muddy). Despite all the students appearing worn out by the academic routine, the 22.45 curfew seemed to breathe new life into weary limbs and minds. Mr Pack and I thus spent the late evenings breaking up discussions on current political issues, tea parties, poker games and water pistol fights, (not necessarily in that order). I was very impressed by the field work done by all the members of the group and our initial aim was achieved, as many intriguing projects have been set in motion, often using techniques introduced by the Field Centre staff. Next year will use the Beddgelert area of Snowdonia as our base. I hope we will be able to work with as highly motivated and good humoured a group of geographers as we did this year.

Mr D C Proudlove

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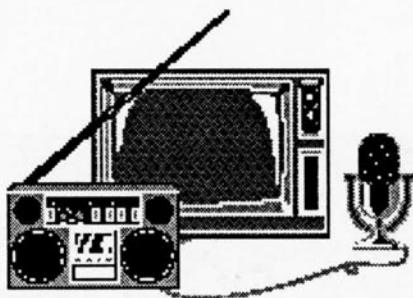
*Above, we see some of our intrepid Lower Sixth Form Geographers, admiring the scenery of the Lake District. In recent years, the school has seen a large increase in the number of geography field trips.*



## YOUNG COMMENTATOR OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

Kevin Hatchard of 6C entered the BBC's Radio 5 Live's Young Commentator of the Year competition. Entrants from all over the country were asked to produce their own commentary of the final five minutes of the 1997 FA Cup final.

Out of the hundreds of entrants, Kevin was selected down to the last ten in the whole of the country. He was told by Stephen Hughes at Five Live. The final ten were judged by Trevor Brooking, Alan Green, John Motson and Mike Ingham. Unfortunately for Kevin, although being selected in the top ten, he did not materialize as the overall winner of the competition. However, he was pleased to have reached the last ten of the competition and it was a good experience overall.



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Kevin is hoping to eventually make a career out of broadcasting and wants to specialize in soccer commentary. He is determined to become a sports journalist and has already tried his hand down at Gloucester City Football Club, where he had the opportunity to help out with the commentating. At present, Kevin is studying for his 'A' levels - English, French and Classics and hopes to go to University next autumn to embark on a course related to the media or journalism. Already, Kevin is on the look-out for opportunities to gain further experience working in radio and who knows, we may all be listening to him on a major sports station, like 'Five-Live'.

*Mr P D Lloyd*



SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

YEAR 11 1996-1997

## CARIBBEAN COOKERY COMPETITION



In the Summer term, Mrs Arnold organized a Caribbean cookery competition, which tested the ingenuity of chefs in preparing and baking cakes and biscuits with a Caribbean influence. Without exception, all those who entered produced results which were both inventive and delicious.

The event raised £26, with the money being contributed towards the maintenance of the school's pond. Mrs Arnold organized the event in conjunction with her Earthwatch Millennium Fellowship Trip to Tobago, which she went on during the Summer. Part of the expedition brief for Mrs Arnold, was the task of setting up and studying a conservation project back home at Rich's. Subsequently, the reason for the cookery event, with the money raised being used to ensure that students at Rich's have a specific conservation site to study, monitor and preserve.

The winners of the competition were; Small Cakes - Kevin Penter (8S), Adrian Scott (10B) and Mrs B McDonald. In the Sweet Biscuits Section, the winners were; Richard Scott (8R) and Mrs Dodgshun.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

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## TAKING A STANCE!

Last March, the Lower Sixth 'A' level French set were carefully preparing for one of the most challenging aspects of their course. This was preparation for the 'STANCE' course, which apparently stands for, "Simulations Dans Le Monde Industriel". The seminar is a tough day of speaking French and this year it was held at the Birdseye Walls Ice-cream factory in Barnwood, known affectionately amongst the students as, "La Fete des Glaces".

When we arrived, we were briefed about the day, which centred around solving hypothetical business problems with a team of French students from other schools in the area. Some of us saw as the main point of the day, as being the consumption of lots of ice-cream. We also had to engage in the traditional role-play exercises, with each member assuming a particular role, ranging from "Agent de Maitrise" to Chef de Planification". Each group had to resolve a scenario problem situation and through discussion in French had to come up with suitable solutions. Then after fifteen minutes, it was time to report back to the other groups and the exercise Co-ordinators. We were awarded points on the merits of our solutions. The day was shared with students from Denmark Road, Chosen Hill and Rencomb College. At the start, after an initial briefing, we were given a talk by the STANCE co-ordinator, about how Feast

ice-creams are made - naturally it was given in French. This was followed by two tours of the factory floor, one in English, the other in French. Overall, it was an enjoyable day and it helped us overcome any reservations that we may have had about speaking French to complete strangers in an unfamiliar environment.

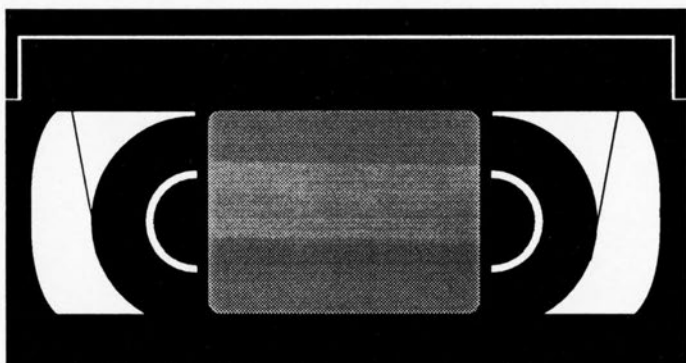
*S Aldrich (6C)*





## YEAR 10 FILM PRODUCTION

At the start of our Year 10, Mrs Roberts, our English teacher introduced us to extracts from the novel, 'Flowers For Algernon'. After this, we were asked to produce our own version of the play, before fully reading the play. Then it was decided that we would make a film, which would form part of our English media coursework. We decided to produce film for a number of reasons and soon set about casting. I was chosen to play the star role, as Charlie Gordon, a mentally challenged boy, who is made intelligent and then becomes handicapped once again. Other member of the cast included Paul Baker, Ben Panting, Nick Cousins and Janine Woodward.



To ensure that the final production would be top class, we had a talk on film production, with emphasis on filming techniques and we also obtained permission to use the editing suite at Archway School, Stroud. A special thanks must go to Chris Smith and Sulaiman Moolla, the film crew, for their patience and expertise behind the camera. All of the scenes were taken on location around the school, from the Caretaker's bungalow, to Mr Pilbeam's office. After many hours of perseverance and many retakes, the film neared completion. By the time you read this article, the final cut will hopefully be completed and the film will be out on general release around the school! Many thanks to all those people who helped in its production and especially to Mrs Roberts, who worked so hard to ensure that the idea became reality.

*B Meredith (10T)*



## THE YOUNG ENGINEERS CLUB - HOVERCRAFT COMPETITION



*Above, Mr A Smith (seated at the rear of the hovercraft) and some of the Young Engineers who took part in the National Hovercraft Competition, which was held in Runcorn. Here we see some last minute adjustments before the competition. Congratulations to Chris Taylor, who achieved 3rd place overall.*

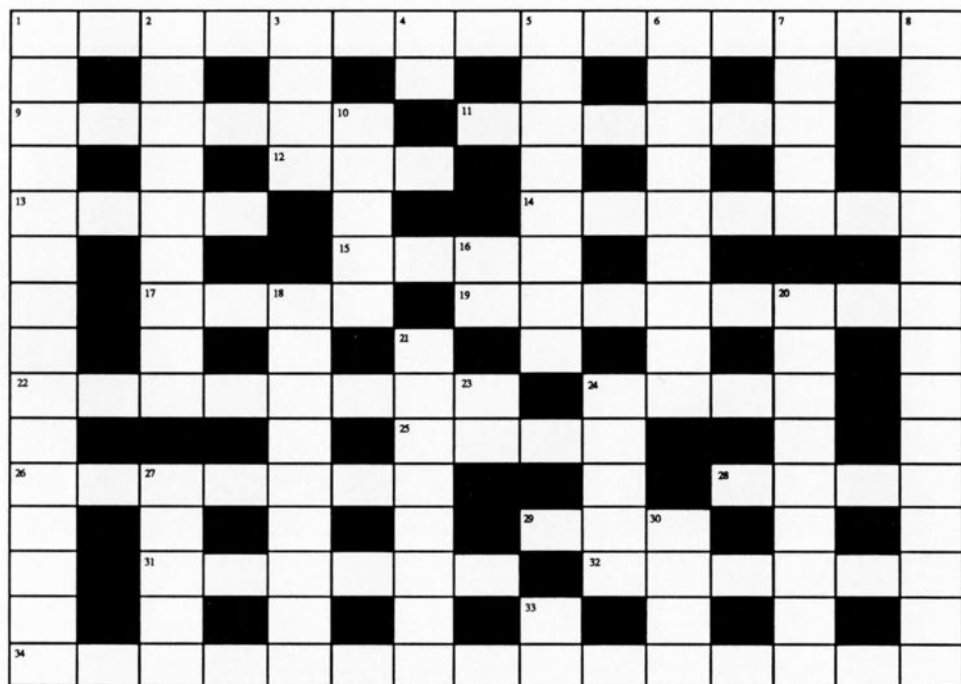
The Young Engineers Club was lucky enough to gain access to a hovercraft, through Mr Smith's contacts. The hovercraft had been built five years ago and had suffered some damage in a previous competition. The group set about repairing it and ensuring that the hovercraft was overhauled completely. Every spare hour was spent on the hovercraft, to ensure that it would be ready for the competition. The project was eventually completed with about a week to spare. This time was used for some final practice and fine tuning.

Unfortunately, the day before the event, we discovered some damage to the engine and consequently, we had to strip it and rebuild it. The trouble continued and on the first morning of the competition, we had to improvise a little, before a few experts came to our rescue. We completed the trials and obstacle course. The next day were the time trials, with Chris Taylor being fast enough to qualify for the finals, in which he came third overall. This was a great achievement, considering the problems that we had faced and the lack of practice time.

At present, we are modifying and improving the hovercraft, using the knowledge that we gained from the competition. We are also looking for sponsorship, so that we can build a second craft and enter more competitions next year. So, if you are prepared to help us, then contact Mr Andrew Smith at the school. We need approximately £1,500 if our plans are to be put into operation.

*A Dorn (10R)*

# RICHIAN CROSSWORD - ANSWERS ON PAGE 70



## Across

- 1 Administrator is shocking around half-cut hooligan and private. (6, 9)
9. Strange word fond in Arab's Urdu. (6)
11. Chemical relation to show off. (6)
12. Bruce comes back for fish. (3)
13. Sword defeat. (4)
14. Some is cut - nearly everything. (7)
15. Kate goes all peculiar producing timber. (4)
17. A little green aquatic - initially. (4)
19. Capital of Massachusetsets is pre-eminent for trouble. (7)
22. Lose second position after I'm back. (8)
24. Boy found in abysmal anarchy. (4)
25. God is lazy, we hear. (4)
26. Final release for lorry found among Ulster gunners. (7)
28. But one is abominable! (4)
29. Bowl's competition. (3)
31. Cultural priniciples about first of neo-classics. (6)
32. Flower did have back trouble returning. (6)
34. A place to plant forget-me-nots? (8, 7)

## Down

1. Rod stands on the open land with space for a place for teachers to relax. (5, 6, 4)
2. Odd hats spoil old schools. (9)
3. Gore around evil giant. (4)
4. A short siesta? Yes in Madrid! (2)
5. Hide from about fifty loud southern relatives. (8)
6. Same about four commander? Doubtful! (9)
7. In pursuit of succeeding. (5)
8. Annual fetes provide timely celebration between the yard and the pole. (6, 9)
10. Greek symbol for river mouth. (5)
16. The morning is a little american. (2)
18. Haggler Al upset PE teacher. (9)
20. Strange alien-like head. (3, 6)
21. CIA Act is about neuralgia. (8)
23. Mr Lloyd! (2)
24. Authorised, we hear, noisily. (5)
27. A chamber, we hear, for watery discharge. (5)
30. Couple parking in front of display. (4)
33. Small weight? (2)

Contributed by Mr D Dempsey



## SPICE FEVER HITS RICH'S



*Above, some of Rich's very own 'Spice Girls' - Mrs Austin, Mrs Spilsbury and Mrs Earl. What is Mr Watson doing? Before your minds run away with you, the staff in the picture were involved in Rich's very own 'Staff Review Show', which was produced to raise money for the 'Costa Rica' trip that is being organized by Mr Smallwood. The show was a great success, raising £142 and was performed in front of a packed school audience on the day that the Chief Education Officer visited Rich's!*

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*Above, another picture taken during the 'Staff Review', which was produced and directed by Mrs E Stanley. The script was based on the play, 'Our Day Out' and here we see the staff in full choral flow during one of the scenes. Credit must be given to the staff, for putting themselves in the firing line!*

## COMPUTING AT RICH'S - THE APPLIANCE OF SCIENCE!

Approximately, the information processing power of computing equipment doubles every eighteen months. The latest technology has to be absorbed within a year or two, if obsolescence is not to be the outcome. Keeping track of this relentless advance in technology is not easy. It is also difficult to ensure that any developments identified are quickly implemented into the existing system. This problem is what industry, commerce and the public services have to overcome, if they wish to remain competitive and efficient. One must remember, that it is very expensive to install, modify existing systems and train staff. Often, new innovation places great demands on staff to adjust and learn new methods. At present, computing is not examined in the National Curriculum, with exams within the school only taking place with 'A' level Computer Science at the moment. Yet, as Information Technology mushrooms in the world, it will be essential that all students become familiar and comfortable with computers and all the benefits that they offer. If they do not, then they could be seriously disadvantaged in the job market.

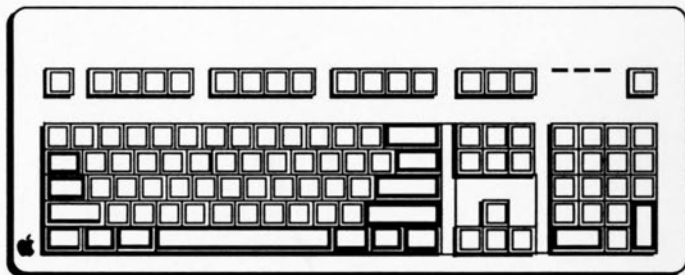


*Above, Mr Paul Dodgshun, Rich's Information Technology Technician, offers some assistance and help to Nathaniel Campbell and Craig Stevens, (8c), in the G4 Computer Suite. Staff and students alike have really benefitted from Mr Dodgshun's expertise, experience and enthusiasm for computing.*

Today's student and tomorrow's Old Richian, who cannot word-process and then E-mail a Curriculum Vitae or letter, or solve a problem with a spreadsheet or access a database to obtain information, is someone who will be at a distinct disadvantage at university or in the workplace. If he or she is disadvantaged, so the organization that they may be a part of, that is if they are lucky enough to get a job without these basic computer skills! Large numbers of new jobs are based purely on computing, or computing with another subject or technical skill, ie. Accountancy.



Increasingly, computing resources are accessed over a network and this is the key technology that the Rich's computer suite offers. A 10MB Ethernet controlled by a Windows NT server allows students and staff to store their own files, privately and securely, with access from any machine. Any machine can access the network printer, the CD-Rom tower or the public filestore.



The quality and content of current CD's are remarkable. A student can watch a full multimedia performance of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, or view a video of a chemistry experiment, (including bangs and smells) or undertake an interactive French lesson. At lunchtimes the room is invariably full of students undertaking private study, completing projects, browsing CD's or writing programs. Already, the old computer room is gradually being re-equipped and upgraded to the latest standards, along with the staff room, via the network. Computer communication starts to become a real possibility. Imagine a class exercise, placed on a public filestore; worked on using a variety of programs and information sources; possibly taken home on a diskette for further development or even E-mailed to staff when completed. This in turn could be commented upon, marked and returned to the specific student via the network. The work could even be displayed on the public filestore, which could be a Web site that is accessible to the whole world via the Internet. We are not quit there yet, but an Information Technician can dream!

The original computer room, G10 is five years old now and until recently, was starting to show its age. Subsequently, over the last Summer holidays, refurbishment started, with a new suite of networked computers, with the original PC's being relocated around the school. The refurbishment will help to ease the pressure on G4 and allow greater access to all students who want to improve their computer skills. Students will increasingly realize that this is the way professional work and academic study are being undertaken. If they have acquired the skills at Sir Thomas Rich's, then the outside world will reap the benefit of their expertise and enthusiasm. The students themselves will secure their futures as well!

*Mr P Dodgshun (I.T. Technician)*

## SCENES FROM ELECTION '97

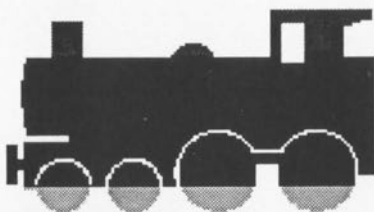


*Above, the candidates who contested the Sir Thomas Rich's Constituency. From left to right, we see Mr David Slinger, Chief Polling Officer, Joseph Hitchings, (Labour), Mark Aplin, (Liberal Democrat) and Jeremy Lai-Hung, (Conservative). The seat was retained by the Liberal Democrats, gaining 45% of the vote, while the Conservatives gained second place and Labour third. Richard Gavin of the Referendum Party is not pictured above - rumour has it he was on holiday in Europe!*



*The moment of truth! Mr David Slinger announces the results of the Sir Thomas Rich's election in the old quadrangle. The candidates, party workers, supporters and voters blatantly express their views on the result. Once again, the school must thank Mr Slinger for organizing the election.*

## THE RAILWAY SOCIETY



The Railway Society aims to provide a variety of activities to interest all members, whatever their age. This includes visits to castles, beach resorts, museums and of course, old fashioned steam railways. We travel all over the country on long and short distance journeys, occasionally enjoying the luxury of first class travel for absolutely no extra charge! Each year, the Society tries to go on a special outing, such as travelling to Glasgow or Edinburgh in a day. The only set back to this of course, is that you might have to get up at 4.30am in the morning.

This year, we travelled on four major trips. The first of these was to Minehead on the West Somerset Steam Railway. This journey was well suited to the new recruits in the Year Seven and the line is one of the longest preservation lines in the country, being well worth the money. It runs from Bishops Lydeard and ends up near the seafront at Minehead. In February we travelled up to the Aerospace Museum at Cosford, Shropshire. Then in March the society did a circular tour to Glasgow, Edinburgh and Newcastle. On this trip, we planned to go to Edinburgh Castle, but unfortunately, the train broke down at Warrington, so we did not get the time to go. However, in compensation for the lost time, the group did receive a round of free drinks and free First Class seats. On the way home, we had a Monopoly Championship, which Mr Pack won! Our next trip



*Above, Adam Moffatt, Laurence Haigh and Ashley Lewis, all of 7R, step onto the footplate of a GWR Prairie Tank Engine, during their visit to the West Somerset Railway last October.*


was in May, when we went to North Wales. The journey took us to Bangor, the seafront at Llandudno and then on a tram up the Great Orme. The trips are well worth the money and well organized by Mr Pack. A shorter trip may cost around £10 to £15, while the longer journeys, such as the main summer trip, may cost in the region of £18 - £15. In July, the Society's major excursion was a three day trip to Yorkshire, Scotland and the North East of England. The trip included a visit to Whitby and Newcastle, as well as a journey on the famous 'Heartbeat' line, the North Yorkshire Moors Railway. Of course, we went to the National Railway Museum at York.

Many of you are thinking that the Railway Society is made up of members who can be described as train spotters in anoraks, just taking down numbers on a soggy platform. In fact, we are a group of people, who enjoy travelling around the country by rail, to destinations that are interesting and varied. So try not to stereotype us and make wild assumptions, for we get up and do things!

*L Haigh, A Moffat & R Buckle (7R)*



## RUGBY 'ROUND-UP'



	PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST
1st XV	12	2	1	8
2nd XV	11	3	1	7
Under 15's	20	11	0	9
Under 14's	15	11	1	3
Under 13 'A's	12	9	0	3
Under 13 'B's	7	3	0	4
Under 12 'A's	9	7	1	1
Under 12 'B's	4	1	0	3

Overall a mixed set of results, with a young and inexperienced 1st XV rather exposed against some accomplished schools, while the 2nd XV were too inconsistent and erratic in their matches. On a brighter note, the Colts progressed well in 'The Daily Mail Cup', eventually losing to Hereford Cathedral School. Meanwhile, the Under 14's had a fine season, with some notable wins, eg. Cheltenham College. The Under 13's, A's & B's highlighted the emerging strength in depth that the school is now enjoying, with some good wins, resulting from some fluent and expansive rugby.

Without question, Rich's rugby is moving through a transitional period, with the fixture card being upgraded, more competitive rugby being played via the cup competitions and an emphasis to increase participation amongst the pupils, with more 'B' team fixtures being played. The Under 12's 'A' team notched up some notable successes, while the Under 12's 'B' team was frustrated by some cancelled matches. Overall, the PE department expects a few seasons, in which results are a little inconsistent. On an encouraging note, the Under 15's and Under 16's both reached the City Cup finals at Kingsholm. Eastgate won the Senior House Rugby competition for the Rowe Gabb Trophy. Finally, the PE Department, would like to thank all those who have contributed to Rich's rugby this season.

*Mr P D Lloyd*



## BRAINTEASERS -

### ANSWERS FROM PAGE 25

- 1 In the Roman numerals, ~~XII~~, the top half is VII.
- 2 The man is too short to reach the '8' button.
- 3 His son.
- 4 Six each of 50p, 10p, 5p and 2p coins.
- 5  $98-76+54+23+1$
- 6 Split into three sets of nine. Weigh two sets against each other. If one set is heavier, it contains the heavier ball. Otherwise the unweighed set must contain the heavier ball. A similar process for 3 sets of 3 and 3 sets of 1, enables you to identify the ball in three weighings.
- 7 His horse is called 'Tuesday'!
- 8 £100.50 and 50p. (Not £100 & £1)
- 9 The dentist with rotten teeth, as he must have treated the other dentist and vice-versa!
- 10 The fuel used to get to the middle of the bridge weighed more than the bird.
- 11 UND (Underground)
- 12 73 ( $64+8+1$ )
- 13 Fill the 4 litre jug. Pour into the 7 litre jug. Refill the 4 litre jug. Top up the 7 litre jug from the 4 litre jug, so that 1 litre remains in the 4 litre jug. Empty the 7 litre jug. Put the 1 litre into the 7 litre jug. Refill the 4 litre jug. Pour into the 7 litre jug.
- 14 She spoke to me on the 1st January and her birthday was on the 31st December.
- 15 BANANA
- 16 A game of monopoly.

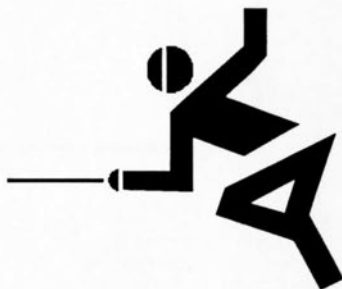
Contributed by Mr D Dempsey



## SPORTS COUNCIL FUNDING



As many of you will know, last November, former Headmaster, Mr J A Stocks, (1961 to 1973) visited Rich's to formally open the school's new buildings, which included the new multi-purpose hall. Soon after this historic event, the Sports Council officially announced that Rich's submission for £400,000, to fund the extension of the new hall had been approved. The grant from the 'Lottery Sports Fund' will be used to double the length of the new hall, provide new changing facilities and provide storage space. Gloucestershire County Council agreed to find the rest of the cash for the project. It is hoped, that by the time you read this edition of the magazine, the extension work will have been completed.



The new hall will be available for community use outside school hours and this factor formed part of the criteria in the initial bid to the Sports Council lottery fund. Naturally, the new hall, with its extension, will be used for a variety of sports and will be the size of four badminton courts. The new facilities will further enhance the school and will be of great benefit to the PE Department. No doubt they will be extensively used by the local community.

Mr P D Lloyd

## RUGBY SEVENS



*Above, Rich's successful Gloucestershire Under 16's Seven's Champions and winners of the Chosen Hill Sevens Tournament. Top, from left to right, James Ballard, Chris Rooum, Dan Tipper, Ryan Bevan, Tim Jacobs and coach, Mr Mike Swann. Bottom, from left to right, Simon Wilkinson, James Weyman, Chad Thomson (Captain), Adam Mohungoo and George Powell.*

The Senior 7's were involved in two tournaments this year. Hopes were high after last year's success and with the return from injury of several senior players, the side appeared stronger than ever. In the Wycliffe Tournament the players unfortunately displayed a lack of timing and with not enough practice before the event, the side knew that they had not done themselves justice. Subsequently, this resulted in one draw from three matches and an early exit. Following on from Wycliffe, the Gloucestershire Tournament provided the opportunity for the players to redeem themselves. They initially drew with Bournside, 24-24, in a game that they should have won. This was followed by a victory over St Katherine's, Bristol, by 29-5. In order to qualify for the semi-finals, Rich's had to beat Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, Bristol in their final group game. The school put QEH under lots of pressure, but quick counter-attacks resulted in Rich's being 15-0 down at half-time. In the second half, the school came back strongly to narrow the gap down to three points, but they were unable to close the gap any further, with the final score being, 15-12.

The Under 16's 7's obtained greater success, winning the Gloucestershire 7's Tournament at Marling, beating Wycliffe, Bournside, Crypt, St Peter's and Marling, scoring 122 points and conceding only 31. The side then won the Chosen Hill 7's, beating Chosen Hill, Bishop of Hereford, Crypt and St Peter's in the final. Two great achievements for a talented group of young players!

Unfortunately, the juniors were unable to play in the traditional Crypt 7's due to the fact that the weather had made the pitches far too hard for the tournament to go ahead.

*Mr B Nicholas/Mr M Swann*

## RICH'S TEAMS VISIT KINGSHOLM - CITY CUP FINALS



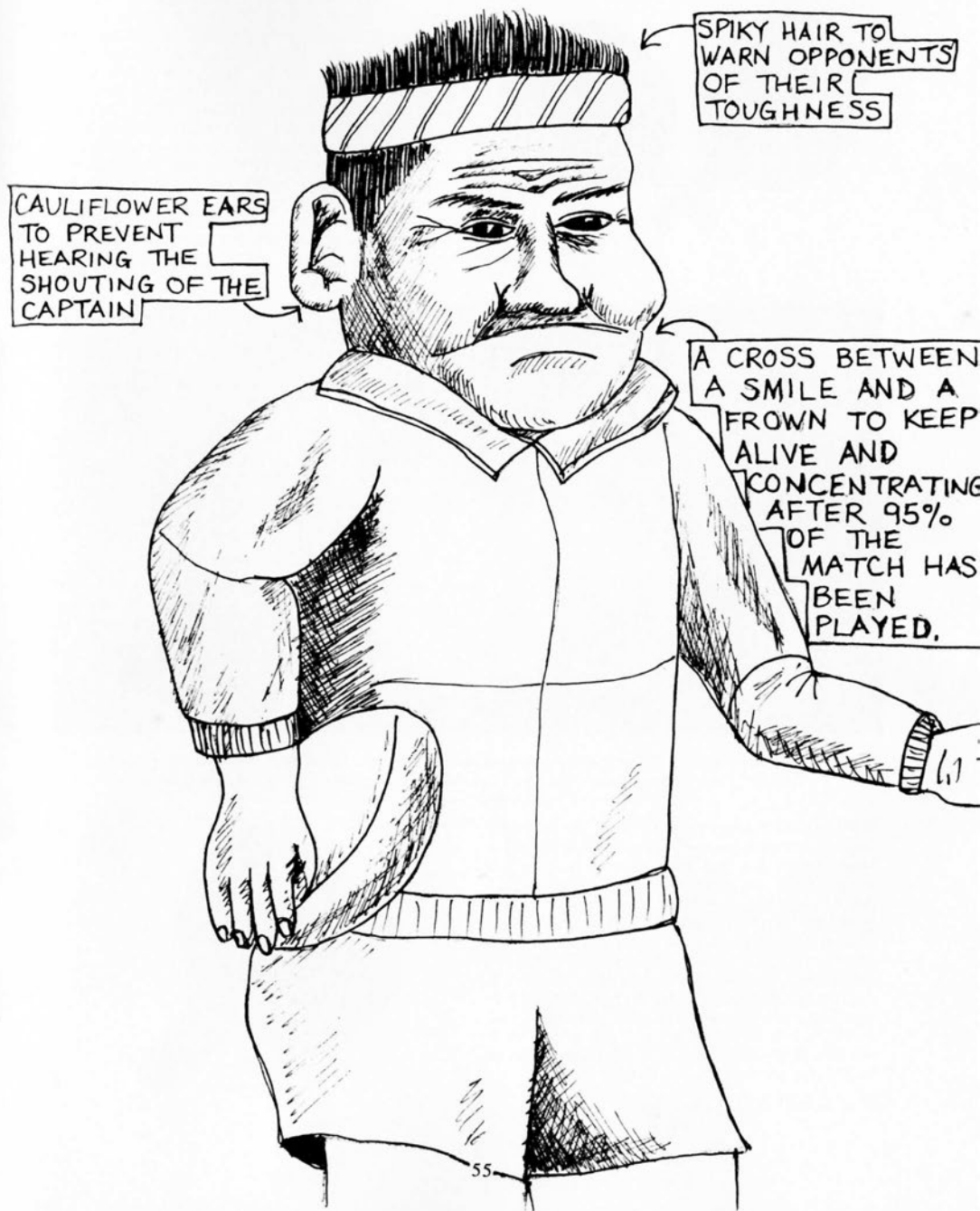
*Above, Rich's Under 16's, who reached the City Cup Final. Before the kick-off, expectations were strong that an upset against St Peter's could be produced. However, despite the match being initially very close, St Peter's eventually ran out as winners.*

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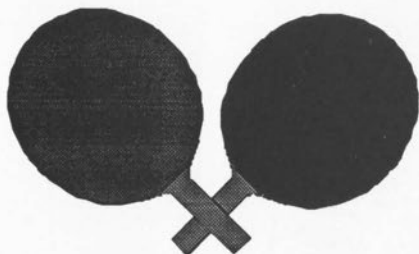


*Above, Rich's Under 15's, who reached the City Cup Final but unfortunately lost to a strong and powerful Crypt side. The team had a great season overall, winning the bulk of their official fixtures, progressing to the regional rounds of the Daily Mail Cup and reaching the City Cup Final. Thanks to all those who supported the team during the season.*

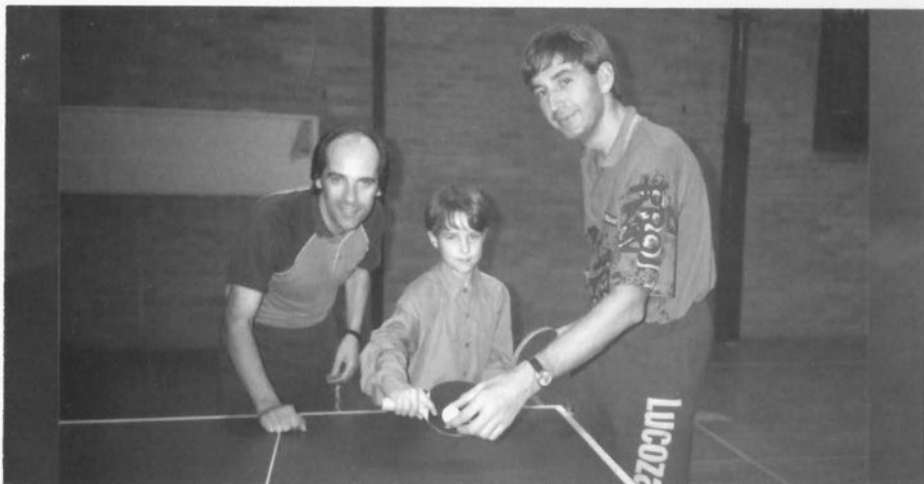
# Anatomy of a RUGBY PLAYER



## TABLE TENNIS TASTER EVENT



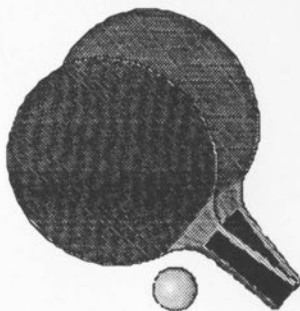
Last November, we took part in a table tennis demonstration and taster event, organized by Mr Swann. It was part of the English Table Tennis Association's nationwide campaign to promote the game in schools. The school was lucky enough to have Graham Slack, the Gloucestershire Development Officer and Steve Morman, the Gloucestershire County Coaching Officer, run the event. They provided an excellent session, with coaching tips, practice drills, personal tuition and various fun activities to develop specific skills. We were also taught the basics, ranging from correctly gripping the bat, to specific strokes, such as the backhand and smash. Many of the drills were demanding and difficult, but Steve and Graham made it look easy. The games we played included, 'Killer' and 'Cricket'. At times we had



*Above, Michael Butler (7R) gets some coaching advice from the Gloucestershire County Coaching Officer, Steve Morman and the Gloucestershire Development Officer, Graham Slack.*

difficulty in competing with some of the older pupils who were present, but we still managed to have lots of fun and learn things. As you can image, when you really get good at table tennis, it can be extremely fast, skilful and energetic. We both like the table tennis club at Rich's because you get the chance to have a real go and play lots of games. It's fun and enjoyable, without being too serious. We would certainly recommend it to anyone in the school, whatever your ability or standard. Our thanks to Graham and Steve, who provided lots of valuable help and advice to us novices at Rich's. They both certainly made us realize that we have a lot to learn!

*M Mohamed & M Butler (7R)*



## CROSS-COUNTRY

The season started off in encouraging style for the lower school teams. The Rich's Cross-Country League, in the early part of the Autumn term, saw the Under 14's finishing in third place overall. However, Patrick Green and Peter Kellie shared top spot for the overall individual title. Further up the school, the Under 16's built upon last year's success, to once again retain their team trophy. Once again, Marcus Rayer displayed excellent form, to take the individual title overall.

This success by the Under 16's was taken a stage further, when the team scored a very convincing win in the preliminary round of the English Schools Athletic Association's National Schools cup competition. This was a notable achievement, as it was the first time that the school had entered the competition. The team eventually qualified for the National Final after they had travelled to

Chase Terrace School, Walsall, for the regional round. The team came second overall behind All Hallows School and qualified for the finals. This was held at Wycliffe Community College, Leicester and the team eventually finished a creditable seventeenth position out of twenty-five. This was a great achievement, as the competition overall, from the initial stages, had attracted over three hundred entries from all over the country. Well done to Marcus Rayer, Simon Kellie, George Kirby, Alex Diett, Michael Thomas and Stuart Dennis. The future looks good with these runners! Unfortunately, the season for the Seniors proved to be rather tough, with the team finishing in fourth place in the traditional West Mercia League. The reasons for the relatively weak performance by the team can be put down to a lack of fitness, strength in depth of the team and of course, stronger opposition. Yet, on a bright note, it was very pleasing to see Rich's entering a girls' team, with Abbie Saunders being selected for the County team. One must mention that the fitness levels of many of the girls who formed the team, would put many boys in the school to shame!

The House Cross-Country was held in the first few weeks of the Summer Term, with conditions very dry and warm. The overall winners of the Junior Competition were Southgate, with Michael Thomas (North), winning the Year 9 race, Patrick Green (East), the Year 8 winner and in Year 7 there were joint winners, Ross Herrick and Michael Short of Westgate. The Senior competition was won by Southgate, with Simon Kellie (South) the Year 10 winner and Ryan Newport, (South), winning the senior race.

The Worcester Spring Relays over the gruelling Old Callow Hills, near Worcester, were to be a tale of what might have been. Our talented Under 16's were too hot to handle in the initial legs of the race, but unfortunately, in the latter stages the pace Rich's set was not sustained. This resulted in third place overall, with Shrewsbury School winning. Yet, Marcus Rayer produced the third fastest lap in the race. The Seniors fielded a make-shift squad and displayed lots of spirit to finish in 13th spot out of the 14 teams taking part. There is a message here about how we must try to retain continuity and commitment to Cross-Country in Year 11 and the Sixth Form.

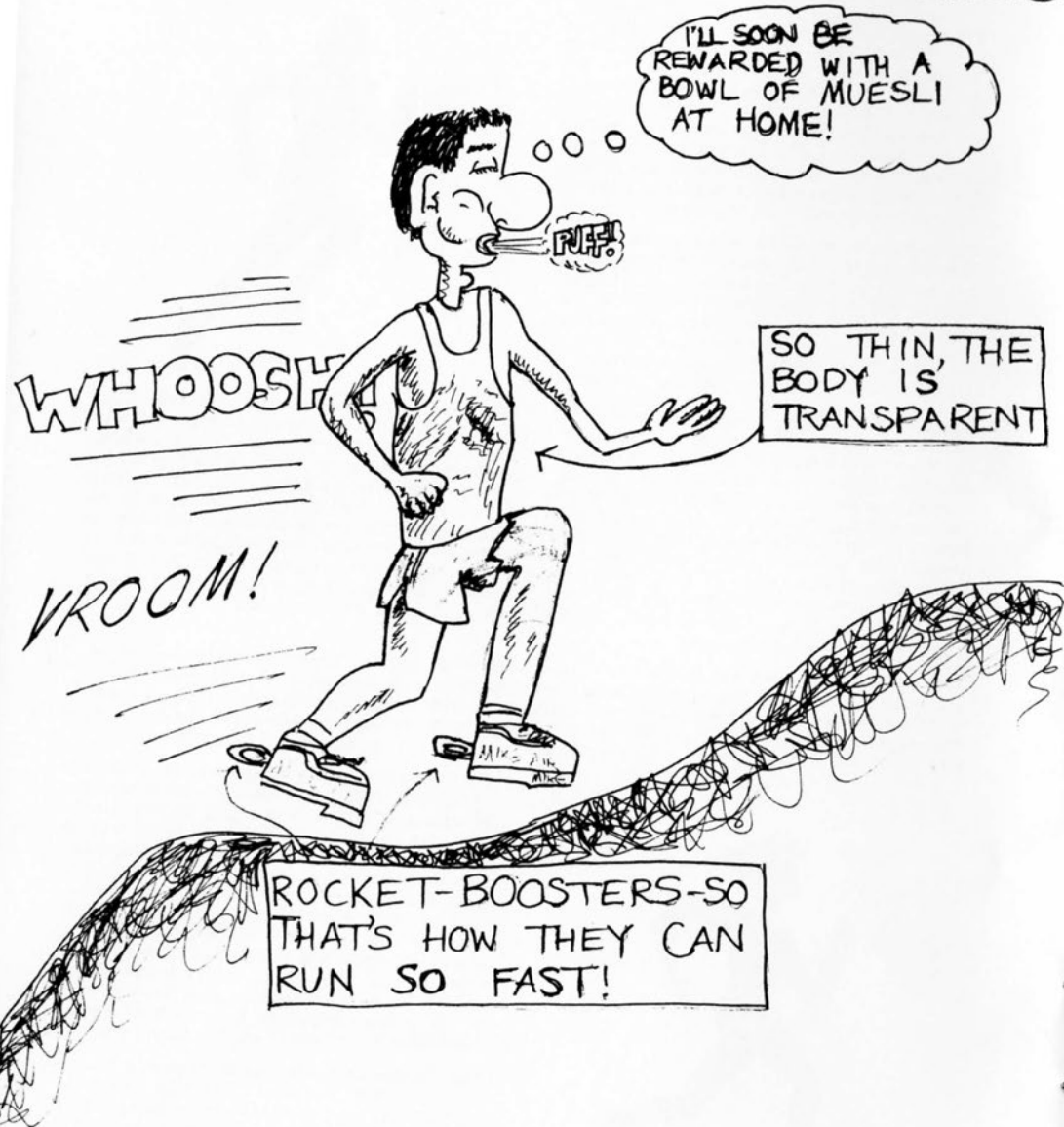
The Cheltenham Relays yet again proved elusive to Rich's, with the team tantalizingly close to success. At the Junior College, a strong Rich's team came from 6th spot, after a mishap at the wall in the first leg, to give the eventual winners, Abberly Hall, a close run, only to lose by seconds.

*Mr P D Lloyd/Mr S Smallwood*





# Anatomy of a CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNER



## SPORTS QUIZ

Simply answer the following questions - Answers can be found on Page 63



- 1 Which former Rich's pupil played for the England Under 15's Soccer side last year?
- 2 In which country are international rugby matches played at Ellis Park?
- 3 Which number on a dart board is left of number 19?
- 4 If the Redskins come from Washington, where would you find the Bronco's?
- 5 Which team has won the NBA Basketball title the most?
- 6 Name all the clubs in the English Soccer Premiership who have united in their title?
- 7 Which former Olympic Swimmer was a 'Gladiator' on TV and is now a presenter?
- 8 Who scored a 'hat-trick' in England's historic soccer World Cup Final of 1966?
- 9 Which snooker player is nick-named the 'Whirlwind'?
- 10 Who is the only British Athlete to have won four gold medals at four different Olympic games?
- 11 What country does equestrian horse rider, Mark Todd, come from?
- 12 What colour is the 'jack' in a game of bowls?
- 13 What colour separates red and black on an archery board?
- 14 Which Formula 1 racing team did Nigel Mansell finish his career with?
- 15 Which country has won the Olympic hockey title the most?
- 16 In which sport would you find the Davis Cup contested for?
- 17 Who has won the World Darts Championships the most times?
- 18 What is the minimum number of points required to win a table-tennis game?
- 19 Where is the women's Oxford versus Cambridge boat race held?
- 20 Which Welsh Rugby club are nicknamed the 'All Whites' and also 'The Jacks'?
- 21 What is the national sport of Japan?
- 22 Who is the current British No.1 Women's golf player?
- 23 Which Soccer club did Jimmy Hill manage in the 1960's and take from non-league football to the First Division?
- 24 Where will the Olympic games in the year 2000 be held?
- 25 Which Rugby Club play at 'The Knoll'?



*Compiled by M Rayer, L Cook & N Clark  
(Year 10)*



## LLOYDS BANK RUGBY ROADSHOW

Last September, representatives of Lloyds Bank and RFU officials from Gloucestershire came to Rich's as part of a national promotion campaign to raise the profile of rugby among youngsters. The venture targeted seventy schools in the South-West region, with Rich's selected to host one of the sessions. Players, mainly from the Upper School participated in the morning's activities, which included individual skills development, unit skills coaching, general decision making strategies and video analysis. A competition was held at the end, with all participants attempting to select the best try from a video selection. Also, a presentation was held, in which the coaches selected some of the pupils who had impressed them with their rugby skills. As part of the promotion, Lloyds Bank kindly presented the school with a batch of rugby balls. Rich's would like to formerly thank Lloyds Bank for organizing the event and the coaches who provided our players with some valuable tips and advice.

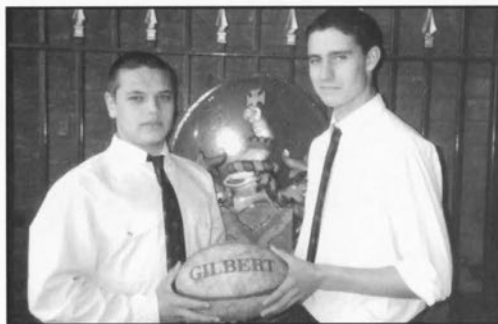
*Mr P D Lloyd*

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*Above, the students, officials and coaches that helped to make the Rugby Roadshow a great success!*

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*Left, we see two successful Rugby Captains. On the left, Dale Rennebach (11R), who captained the Gloucester City Under 16's and right, fellow team-mate, Chad Thomson, (11T), who captained Gloucestershire Under 16's.*

*Both students played for Rich's First XV and made a tremendous impact to the team, despite only being in Year 11.*

*We wish them continued success in their future rugby careers. Both Chad and Dale play regularly for Old Richians' RFC.*

## SOCCER ROUND UP

This was a strange season, mainly due to the term being so short and the school heavily involved in various Rugby Cup fixtures and Sevens competitions. Pride of place must go to the 1st XI, who under the expert player/management of Jody Bevan and Tom Radcliffe, had a very good season. Although, it must be said, that if they had not lost to Bourmeside, 2-1, in the cup, they would most probably have got to the County Final. The team played in a very competent and stylish fashion, but form was lost a little when the incentive of the cup was lost. The 2nd XI were repeatedly let down by other schools cancelling and subsequently only played three matches. Despite many of the team not being natural soccer players, they displayed lots of commitment and spirit. Overall, Rich's has got to decide what it wants to do in relation to soccer. With a little more support it could do very well, without undermining Rugby's dominant status.



Unfortunately, lower down in the school, results were mixed. Many of the teams displayed lots of enthusiasm, but consistency was lacking, as well as skill at certain times. The Under 15's proved a little lightweight against stronger opposition, but battled well to achieve some respectable performances. The Under 14's, were on paper the strongest side, but due to County selection and injuries, they never really settled and produced some mixed results. The Under 13's lack of skill at times was exposed by some better opposition, although results improved towards the end of the season. With Rugby commitments, the Under 12's lost out badly, with only one thrilling match against Beaufort, in which they narrowly lost.

The Junior House Soccer Competition was won by Eastgate, while Westgate won a very contentious Senior competition.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

### SOCCER - FINAL RESULTS

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
1st XI	6	4	2	0
2nd XI	3	1	2	0
Under 15's	4	1	3	0
Under 14's	6	3	3	0
Under 13's	5	1	3	1
Under 12's	1	0	1	0

# Anatomy of a SOCCER PLAYER



## JUNIOR RICHIAN - SPORTS QUIZ - ANSWERS FROM PAGE 59

- |    |                                                |    |                                   |
|----|------------------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| 1  | Shayne Bradley, now of Southampton FC          | 13 | Blue                              |
| 2  | South Africa                                   | 14 | Ferrari                           |
| 3  | Number Seven                                   | 15 | India                             |
| 4  | Denver                                         | 16 | Tennis                            |
| 5  | The Boston Celtics                             | 17 | Eric Bristow                      |
| 6  | Manchester, Newcastle, West Ham & Leeds United | 18 | Twenty-one                        |
| 7  | Sharon Davies                                  | 19 | River Thames, at Henley-on-Thames |
| 8  | Geoff Hurst                                    | 20 | Swansea                           |
| 9  | Jimmy White                                    | 21 | Sumo Wrestling                    |
| 10 | Steve Redgrave                                 | 22 | Laura Davies                      |
| 11 | New Zealand                                    | 23 | The 'Sky-Blues' - Coventry City.  |
| 12 | White                                          | 24 | Sydney                            |
|    |                                                | 25 | Neath                             |

Many thanks to Marcus Rayer, Lewis Cook and Nick Clark for the quiz!

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## JUNIOR RICHIAN - TRIVIA QUIZ - ANSWERS FROM PAGE 29

- |    |                                |    |                           |
|----|--------------------------------|----|---------------------------|
| 1  | Chemistry                      | 16 | New York                  |
| 2  | On the side of a Ship          | 17 | None                      |
| 3  | Adam                           | 18 | C S Lewis                 |
| 4  | Through the gills              | 19 | In the eye                |
| 5  | The Paratroopers               | 20 | Fourteen                  |
| 6  | Helsinki                       | 21 | Julius Caesar             |
| 7  | The 100 Years War              | 22 | German                    |
| 8  | The Merchant of Venice         | 23 | Valhalla                  |
| 9  | Raw fish - a Japanese delicacy | 24 | Red Sea/Mediterranean Sea |
| 10 | Florida                        | 25 | Charles Darwin            |
| 11 | The Baltic Sea                 | 26 | Carbon                    |
| 12 | Albert Einstein                | 27 | 11 metres/12 yards        |
| 13 | Otto Von Bismarck              | 28 | Bassoon                   |
| 14 | A silvery liquid               | 29 | Put Forward one hour      |
| 15 | The Luddites                   | 30 | Rubies                    |

Compiled by Mr P D Lloyd



## CRICKET OVERVIEW

This was a season in which poor weather prevented many fixtures not taking place. However, although the overall results are 'mixed', there is plenty of encouragement for the future. The Under 12's look particularly strong, with plenty of strength in depth. Over twenty boys represented the school at this age level, with lots of all-round talent and the future looks very bright for them. The Under 13's suffered with many fixtures being cancelled, but in the ones that did take place, batting is still a major cause for concern. The Under 14's narrowly lost to Cheltenham College in the Lord's Taverner's Cup Competition and Alex Diett continues to be worthy a mention for his excellent cricketing skills. The Under 15's produced a good record, being the only side to be unbeaten in a limited season. The 2nd XI had a disastrous start to the season, with a defeat by Marling by nine wickets. However, they bounced back with good wins over King's School and Rencomb College. Finally, the 1st XI had a reasonable season, with Tom Radcliffe once again being the main force behind the batting in the side. Encouraging performances came from Rakesh Patel and Peter Rose. Overall, a fairly satisfactory season, but it is hoped with the possibility of some indoor nets when the new sports hall is completed, that standards will improve and Rich's will be a real force in the coming years.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

### CRICKET - FINAL RESULTS

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
1st XI	7	3	2	2
2nd XI	3	2	0	1
Under 15's	4	3	0	1
Under 14's	5	2	3	0
Under 13's	3	1	2	0
Under 12's	8	7	1	0

## THE CENTRE FOR NOTATIONAL ANALYSIS

Last Summer, Mr Gallagher and a number of Sixth Formers, all keen on sport, made a visit to the Centre of Notational Analysis, which is based at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff. It is an independent research centre, within the sports faculty of the university. Its aim is to analyze and investigate both team and personal sports' performances, using the information collected to advise and assist the various parties concerned, in order that standards can improve. The service is naturally used by a number of Welsh sporting agencies, such as the Welsh RFU and the Welsh FA. We had a brief tour by the head of the centre, Keith Lyons and then we had the opportunity to use various computer packages. After lunch, we looked at soccer statistics with John Stanhope. The centre has a database with millions of statistics, taken from hundreds of soccer matches, both domestic and internationals. These can be obtained quickly and effectively, so that managers and coaches can analyze players and teams.

We then saw some video tapes, which have been used to motivate various Welsh teams before big matches. One tape had been produced to be used by the British Lions in South Africa before the first test. One of the tapes focused on the line-out play of the French and English, which had been used by the Welsh team before their games in last year's Five Nations. The visit to the centre was most enjoyable and enlightening. Hopefully, the link between the school and Rich's will grow, so that future students will gain an insight into the evolving world of sports analysis. Without doubt, as sport becomes even more professional in general, the demand for more sophisticated information, which will assist players, coaches and teams will grow.

*D Garbutt (6C)*

# Anatomy of a TENNIS PLAYER

YOU CANNOT  
BE  
SERIOUS!

LONG THIN  
EYES WHICH  
HELP THE DUMB  
EXPRESSION

DUMB EXPRESSION

BUSHY EYEBROWS  
FOR COLLECTING SWEAT

LARGE NOSE

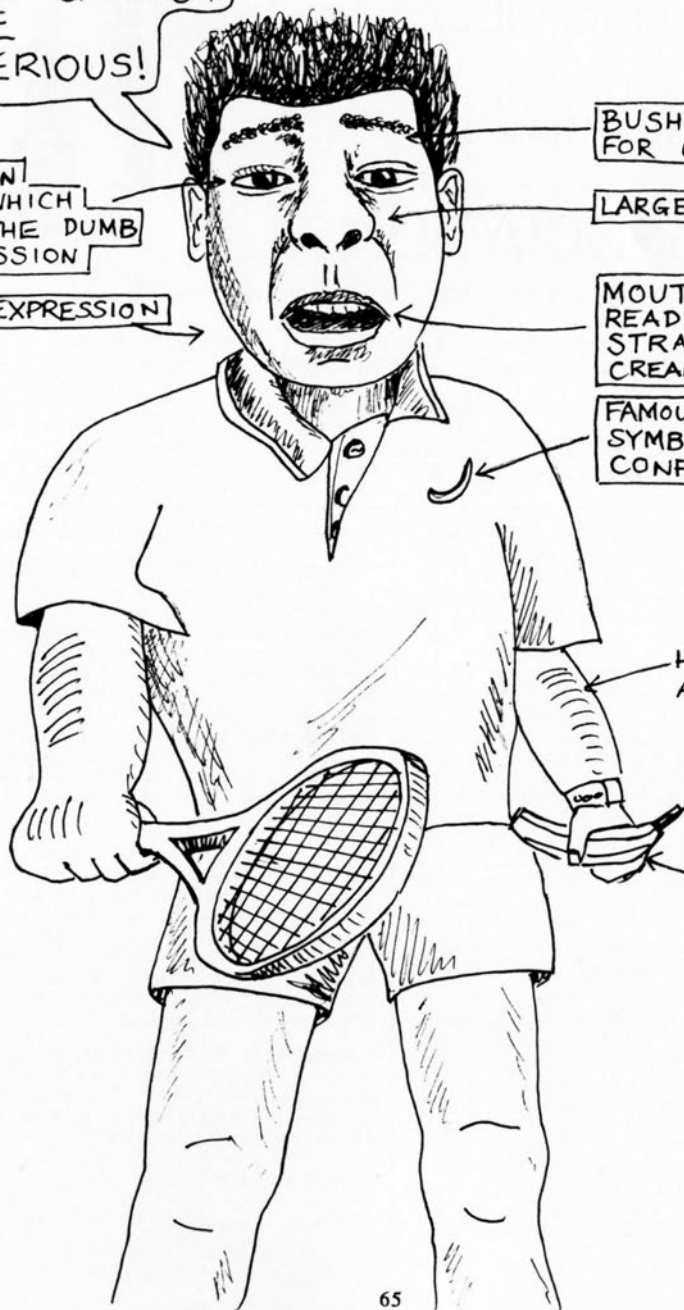
MOUTH OPEN AND  
READY FOR  
STRAWBERRIES AND  
CREAM

FAMOUS BRAND  
SYMBOL FOR  
CONFIDENCE

HAIRY  
ARMS

BANANA  
TO EAT  
BETWEEN  
SETS

ARE  
THEY  
ALL  
ACTUALLY  
MONKEYS



# THE OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT - DAVID HOOK

President:	David Q Hook	Secretary:	David G Billingham
Treasurer:	Andrew K Bishop	Social Secretary:	Ian R Poole

### Old Richians' Committee:

Dennis Collins	Jack Dean	Ian Kellie	David Mayo
Alan Pilbeam	Duncan Sargent	Alan Speed	Michael Brown (School Captain)

This has been a quieter year for the Association, although as I leave office, plans are being drawn up for changes to the constitution, which if supported by the membership, will I believe help us to place the Association on a firm footing for the 21st Century.

The Association needs new members on its committee, not to replace the existing members, but to bring new ideas and enthusiasm, as well as help with the general administration. For example, helping to organize the Annual Dinner or send out the mail-shots. Our membership continues to grow with more people of various eras joining than the number lapsing, yet the membership remains a small fraction of the potential. We need to launch a concerted drive to increase membership. Only with a larger and more involved membership will we be able to ensure that we fully achieve our objectives, "to foster a spirit of comradeship, to encourage sport amongst Old Richians and to further the interests of the school".

Reviewing the past year, one has to begin with the untimely death of Frank Henderson. The Association shared with the school and the wider community the great sadness and sense of loss caused by Frank's passing. Frank, an Old Richian, master and Governor of the school, was guest speaker at the 1996 Annual Dinner. Always a strong supporter of the Association, helping with numerous sporting and social events over the years. Frank was a truly unique person, who enriched the lives of countless Old Richians over

the years, both at school and after they had left.

A disappointing event at the beginning of the year was the decision not to proceed with the special edition prints of Peter Green's painting of the quadrangle and the statue of the Blue Coat Boy. I personally was very much looking forward to owning a copy of Peter's excellent painting, but orders in sufficient numbers did not materialize. Subsequently, after much discussion, the committee regrettably decided not to go ahead with the order. We are very grateful to Peter for his painting, which hangs in the Blue Coat Library and regrettably, now the only place that it can be seen!

On a happier note, the Annual Dinner in March was treated to a highly entertaining speech from former Richian, Mr Colin Ashby, (1962-70), who is now Headmaster of Trinity School, Teignmouth. Mr Ian Kellie provided the audience with a very heartening report about the academic, sporting and artistic success of the last year, together with an update of the school's continuing physical expansion.

I would like to end this brief report, by thanking all those who have helped and supported me during my term of office. To conclude, I would like to wish the next President, whoever that may be, every success for the future.

Garde ta Foy!

*D Q Hook (President)*



*Left, Mr David Q Hook, President of the Old Richians' Association and Rich's Receptionist, Mrs Barbara McDonald, are pictured in front of the school's reception area.*

*The money for the construction of the new reception area was kindly donated by the Old Richians' Association.*

*Yet another project that the Association has supported and which has helped to enhance the working environment of the school.*

## THE OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER REUNION

The slightly reduced number attending this year's event, still did not affect the usual good 'mix' and 'age range' of those attending. This included, Old Richians with their ladies, representatives of the present staff, former staff and members of the present 6th Form. A new table layout enabled separate groups of eight to enjoy convivial conversation throughout an excellent buffet meal.

The President, Mr David Hook, was accompanied on the top table by the Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie and Mrs Kellie. Also present here, was guest speaker, Mr Colin Ashby and Mrs Ashby.

Following the meal and after the President had proposed the loyal toast, he formerly welcomed the assembled company making special mention of Mr Stanley Bubb, who started at Rich's in 1923. In his remarks, David Hook referred to the great sadness of Frank Henderson's death, particularly as he had been guest speaker at last year's reunion evening. After reporting that the membership of the Association was increasing and giving a brief details of its activities during the past year, he expressed thanks to Andrew Bishop and Ian Poole for making arrangements for the evening and to Philip Brown, with members of the school's Venture Scout Unit, for running the bar once again. He concluded by referring to an apology for the absence received

from former Headmaster, Mr Tony Jarvis. He also read out the customary letter from Mr Peter Veale, who sent his good wishes to the Association and the assembled company in particular. The President then invited the guest speaker, Mr Colin Ashby to propose the toast to the school.

In his remarks, Mr Ashby said he considered it a great privilege to be asked to speak at the event. After referring to memories of one or two escapades and spare time jobs during his schooldays, Mr Ashby recalled the problem of selling milk at break, when many boys thought it was still a free issue. He then talked about his rugby career and Mr Ashby said one of the highlights had been playing in the Varsity Match at Twickenham, when the school sent him a telegram of good wishes, which he received before the game and which had meant a great deal to him. Mr Ashby concluded by noting with pleasure, the increasing success of Old Richians' RFC in recent years. All present, then enthusiastically followed his request to drink the time honoured toast to the school.

In his response, the Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie gave a resume of the very satisfactory GCSE and 'A' level results. He also made reference to the excellent OFSTED report the school had received, as well as news of some staff retirements

and the return of a few old staff, teaching on a part-time basis. Mr Kellie said that girls in the Sixth Form, now number forty-three, making up a quarter of the present Sixth Form and this number was growing each year. When referring to Frank Henderson's sad death last year, after being a Rich's pupil, then a teacher at the school for thirty-one years, Mr Kellie confirmed the intention to incorporate a sundial memorial in the landscaping of the new quadrangle, in memory of Frank. As you read this article, you will be pleased to learn that this has now been completed. In conclusion, he indicated that in addition to the recent major extensions to the various school buildings, officially opened by former Headmaster, Mr Tony Stocks, it was now likely that by 1998, the school would also be benefitting from a £400,000 Sports Council grant. Mr Kellie emphasized how this would allow further enhancement of the excellent facilities already now available at the school. Finally, he thanked the Old Richians' Association for its continued support and liaison with the school in various ways.

The draw for the traditional raffle was made, followed by continued conversations with those present and renewed friendships. This subsequently brought the curtain down on another successful Reunion Dinner event, which was much enjoyed by those who were present.

Garde ta Foy!

*Mr David Mayo (Old Richians' Committee)*



*Above, from left to right, Mr Robert Hanney, Rich's Senior Master, centre, guest speaker at the Old Richians' Annual Reunion Dinner, Mr Colin Ashby, (Old Richian (1962-70), who played in the Varsity rugby match and is now Headmaster of Trinity School, Teignmouth) and far right, Mr Alan Pilbeam, Rich's Deputy Headmaster. As many of you will know, Mr Ashby was a very keen and excellent rugby player and during his time at Rich's, both Mr Hanney and Mr Pilbeam had the opportunity of coaching him in various successful school teams as he progressed through Rich's.*

## A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE FRANK HENDERSON

(The following address was given by Mr A S Pilbeam to the School at the assembly of Wednesday, 18th, October, 1996)

My first recollection of Mr Henderson was on board a ship at Newcastle in the summer of 1965. In those days we always held an overseas geography field course and Norway was the destination that year. We had two centres, one a mountain lodge close to a glacier, the other, a camp right on the edge of the Atlantic, amongst the rocky low islands. Three Old Richians were invited to help run the camp. They had been Scouts in the school troop and after graduating had begun their teaching career. One was Mr Henderson. He was then teaching at Hereford High School and had already taken a dislike to the Headteacher, and no doubt had shown it! So when a vacancy occurred for a chemistry teacher here, he wisely moved for it. That was thirty-one years ago.

Before such things as National Curriculum and Health and Safety regulations, chemistry lessons were more exciting I am told. His practicals were unpredictable. Some experiments did not work at all, others gave spectacular effects. But he was really a geologist, his degree from Cardiff University was in Geology and in the 1970's he was appointed Head of Geology. A number of former Sixth formers have become professional geologists, inspired by his knowledge and enthusiasm and even on cold, wet days, his classes have always enjoyed hammering away in quarries. He had a vast collection of rocks, to which he added choice specimens each year, gathered from different parts of the world.

Mr Henderson's main impact on the school has, however, been with the Venture Scouts. Over the years he attracted groups of most loyal boys, who came under his spell. When he was guest speaker at this year's Old Richians' Reunion Dinner, former Venture Scouts came from all over the country to listen to him and to renew friendships. He became Chairman of the Common Room, a staff Governor and then Head of Year 7 and this only touches on parts of his life.

He was a good naturalist and a keen gardener, taking a pride in his leeks, parsnips and raspberries; he knew his Wisden and the exploits of Gloucestershire cricketers; he enjoyed his weekly pint with members of the SMT; he was very widely read, keen on the poetry of John Donne and familiar with Norse and Icelandic legends; he spoke Norwegian - or at least that is what he said it was! Prior to a series of vans and mini-buses, willingly put at the school's disposal, he had motorcycles - always Nortons, always

painted red. He played several musical instruments, first the violin, then the guitar and more recently the saxophone. He had a good singing voice and this year's production of the Mikado will not be the same without him.

Mr Henderson always enjoyed a challenge, whether physical like skiing to school in snowy weather or wrestling with a prefect, or mental, like quiz games and crosswords. He was always a bit of a rebel, he hated everything pompous, he had strong socialist principles and was attracted by the genuine. He was a man of generous nature, cheerful and loyal - a true Richian. He was very proud of the school. Those of you who knew him have memories to treasure. Those of you who didn't know him have missed a good man.

Garde ta foy!

A memorial service to Mr Henderson was held in the school hall on Friday, 22nd November, 1996, when a gathering of several hundred friends heard tributes from Mr J Cooper and Tim Andrews from the Venture Scouts. Also, tributes were heard from, Mr P Davies and Mr P Hofseth from the Nansen Society, Canon John Evans, Old Richian, Mr I L Kellie, Headmaster, and Mr A S Pilbeam, Deputy Headmaster, representing the school. The school wind band and Daniel Wright, (Saxophone) made their contributions to a fitting celebration.

*Mr A S Pilbeam (Deputy Headmaster)*





# **RICHIAN CROSSWORD - ANSWERS FROM PAGE 45**

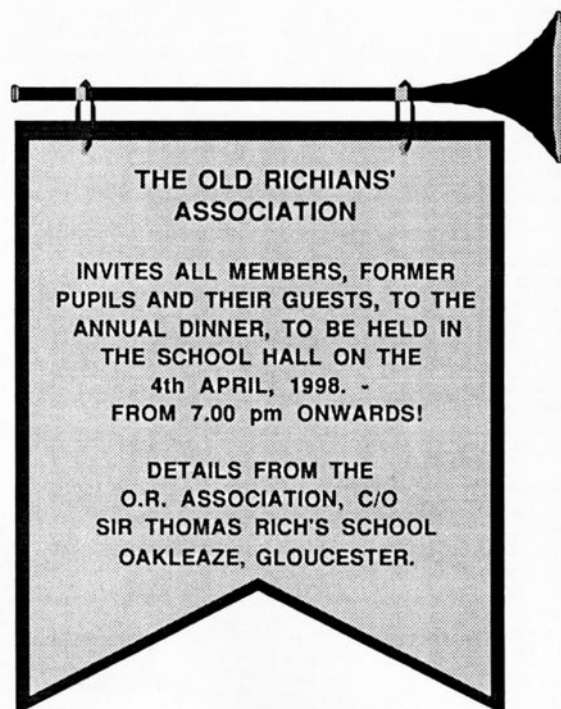
## **ACROSS**

- 1 School Secretary
- 9 Absurd
- 11 Flaunt
- 12 Eel
- 13 Foil
- 14 Several
- 15 Teak
- 17 Alga
- 19 Mischief
- 22 Misplace
- 24 Alan
- 25 Idol
- 26 Nirvana
- 28 Yeti
- 29 Cup
- 31 Ethnic
- 32 Dahlia
- 34 Memorial Gardens

## **DOWN**

- 1 Staff Common Room
- 2 Hospitals
- 3 Ogre
- 4 Si
- 5 Calfskin
- 6 Equivocal
- 7 After
- 8 Yearly Festivals
- 10 Delta
- 16 Am
- 18 Gallagher
- 20 Ian Kellie
- 21 Sciatica
- 23 Ed
- 24 Aloud
- 27 Rheum
- 30 Pair
- 33 Mg

*Contributed by Mr D Dempsey*



## 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

To ..... Bank PLC

Branch Address .....

Date ..... 19.....

Please cancel all previous 'Bankers Orders' in favour of the Old Richians' Association and in future make the payments detailed below, debiting my / our account:

Bank and Branch to which  
payment is to be made: Lloyds Bank PLC

Account to be credited: 'Old Richians' Association'  
Number 1 Account

Account Number of Payee: 0519145

Amount: £10.00 (Ten Pounds)

Date of Payment: 1st July, each year

Date of first payment: .....

Payments are to continue until you receive further notice in writing from me / any one of the joint account holders.

Title / Name of Account  
to be debited: .....

Account Number: .....

Member's Name: .....

Address: .....

Years at Sir Thomas Rich's School:

From ..... to .....

Signature. ....

## AN INTERVIEW WITH MR PETER VEALE

In the sixth chapter of the book of Genesis and the fourth verse, it is written, "in those days, and even later, there were giants on the earth.....they were the great heros and famous men of long ago". In the story of Sir Thomas Rich's school and in the memories of those who knew him as its Headmaster, Peter Veale is a giant. As President of the Association and living as I do in Gloucester, I regularly meet old boys, not necessarily always Association members, who had Mr Veale as their Headmaster. The stories may differ, but respect, admiration and gratitude remain the constant theme and I have yet to meet anyone who holds a dissenting view.

Mr Veale may have retired four years before I was born, but no sooner as a child did I become aware of the existence of Tommy Rich's, than I also became aware of this "great headmaster", living in South Devon. In this, my last year as President, I suggested that the Richian magazine should carry an article on Mr Veale and like all good boomerangs, the task returned and landed at my feet. For many reasons I do not feel equal to the task and apologize now for failing to truly encapsulate a living legend in a few brief paragraphs. Born in Camborne, in January 1903, William John Veale won a scholarship in 1914 to the new boys County (Grammar) School, at Redruth. It was here that some of his fellow pupils started to call him Peter and as they followed him on to Higher Education, so did the by now well established name by which he is universally known.

In 1920, Peter went to University College, Exeter, studying Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, for the two year Schoolmaster's qualification. Teaching posts, with what today would be known as a middle school pupils, at Hanover Street school, in the slums of South Islington and then at the more prosperous Isle of Dogs followed for the young teacher. After two years, a friend wrote to Peter telling him of a vacancy in Cambridge and he moved first to Milton Road Mixed school and then to the Central school, where he taught maths. Whilst at Exeter, Peter had learnt that a number of former Exeter students had managed to enroll at the university after having obtained teaching posts in Cambridge. At this time an Oxbridge education was beyond the means of anyone without considerable financial backing. A highly coveted County Scholarship still left a student requiring a sum considerably in excess of the average annual salary, to meet their fees.

In 1925, Peter matriculated, joining Fitzwilliam House (now college), where due to the times of lectures, which involved, lunch-times, one evening and Saturday mornings, he was able to read Geography and was still able to keep his full time teaching job. After qualifying in 1928, Peter went to the Skinner's school, Tunbridge Wells, where he was a housemaster and taught Geography. When the sports master left, Peter started to teach rugby as well. In the Spring of 1932, Peter was appointed second master at Sir Thomas Rich's, which at that time, had approximately three hundred pupils, divided between the main school, (11-18 years) and the Junior school, (8-11 years). The school consisted of fee payers, who paid three guineas per term and the scholarship boys, with a Sixth Form of between thirty and forty, who were either on the science side, (which did not include Biology) or the modern side. There were also a Sixth commercial of about a dozen boys who spent twelve months after the School Certificate, preparing to go into Banking, Insurance or the Civil Service. At that time, the number of Sixth Formers who went to university could be counted on one hand, not because of the lack of ability, but because of the lack of finance.

Being honest, Peter admits that if he had truly known what the school was like, he would not have taken the job, but he did not see it prior to acceptance. The then Headmaster, Mr H F Rogers-Tillstone held staff interviews at a hotel at Paddington station, precluding the need to visit Gloucester. Little of the school in Barton Street, (now Eastgate Street) remains, except what is now the Winnie Mandela House and the Hampden Way car park. The demolition of the old school in the 1990's was not wanton vandalism, however, since ever since 1932, the accommodation was far from ideal. There was a gymnasium, but it had no equipment and no changing facilities and the playing fields were at Denmark Road, (the Civil Service ground today). Mr Veale is more generous to Mr Rogers-Tillstone than many Old Richians I have spoken to, but agrees that he was something of an eccentric Francophile.

Four years after joining the school, the Headmaster's health broke and the governors appointed Peter to be Master-in-charge, a title he was to hold for several years, before being made Headmaster of Rich's. Although initially denied the title of Headmaster, Mr Veale set about modernizing the school, as well as leading the opposition to the Local Education Authority's plans to recognize the city's educational system. This, if it had been successful would have made Rich's a secondary school, with a commercial and technical bias, rather than a Grammar School. "Changes had to be made, if we hadn't made changes, four or five years from then, we would have been too late". School uniform was introduced, prior to this there had been a school tie and cap, but no blazer or uniformity in the remainder of the dress. A School Council was set up, with the boys electing representatives who met once a month without staff

present, to make recommendations to the Headmaster. The House System was modelled on the Public school lines, with approximately one hundred boys per house being divided into groups of about twenty-two, under a Group Master. The groups would be made up of boys of all ages and would stay with the same Group Master throughout their time at school, (unlike Form masters). A House event took place on the last period of the first Monday of every month. With the outbreak of war, the boys of the George Dixon Grammar School, Birmingham, came to share buildings for six months. The Rich's boys would use the school in the mornings and in the afternoons, use local church halls and other appropriate buildings, while George Dixons used the school. The old school Corps had been disbanded, but in 1939, an Air Defence Cadet Corps was established, which in 1940 became the Air Training Corps, 181 Squadron, commanded by the Headmaster. Members of staff and Sixth Formers took part in fire watching and half of the school fields were turned into allotments as part of the "Dig for Victory" campaign.

December the 22nd was 'Tommies Day', when the school would process along Eastgate Street to St Michael's Church at 'The Cross'. On the same day, there was a school versus Old Boy's soccer match and Speech Day was held in the Guildhall at about the same time. During the war years, the first Four Schools Dances were held, the fore-runner of the current Five Schools Association. After the war the Eleven-plus replaced the scholarship system and fee paying was abolished. Despite the loss of the Junior school, numbers rose to just under four hundred. Rugby replaced soccer as the main winter sport and school journeys abroad started in 1938, were reconvened. The school was evicted from its grounds at Denmark Road and after a few years of playing at locations all over the city, secured a site at Elmbridge, now the home of the school campus, as well as the playing fields. In 1952, despite the rising popularity and good name of the school, the Local Education Authority once again introduced plans to modify the Schools Grammar Status and reduce the number in the intake. Once again, Mr Veale led opposition to the plan, which after much effort was narrowly defeated. In the last forty years, since his retirement in 1952, Peter Veale's interest in Rich's or Richians has not diminished. At the age of 94, Peter still has a better memory than most people half his age, being able not only to recall the names of former pupils, but their family histories. During his time as Headmaster, the school was transformed. Morale, academic results and even some of the physical facilities improved. Demand for places and numbers attending the school increased and Rich's became widely recognized as the best school in Gloucester. Old Richians and present day Richians owe Peter Veale an immense debt of gratitude.

Garde ta Foy!

*D Q Hook (President)*

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*Above, Mr Peter Veale & his wife, Gweneth at their home in Paignton in August, 1997.*

## A 'POST-SCRIPT' FROM MR PETER VEALE

Asked to comment on any particular success or regret during his time as Headmaster, Mr Veale wrote the following, with characteristic modesty.

"In respect, I appreciate my sins of omission and commission were constantly recurring and I hope they are forgiven, if not forgotten entirely, by the long-standing and long-suffering staff, (Bless them!) and boys.

Old Richians', staff, boys and parents - I was ever conscious of their support and loyalty. When I came to Gloucester, I was immediately aware of the affection in which Tommies was held in the city, and I like to think that sentiment is stronger than ever.

Regrets? Yes, for the injustice the boys suffered through my discipline. I hope that any resentment felt at the time has faded, but I am still sorry.

In 1957, I 'packed my bags', in favour of new leadership with increased drive and fresh ideas. One heartache (and body ache!) to me and all connected with Rich's was the apparent disinclination of the powers that be to provide new buildings. I felt that a change in the Headmaster's study might provide a stimulus in that direction and so it proved to be - at Elmbridge - in time for the Tercentenary!

Palatial buildings are things of pride and certainly of comfort, but let's not judge any school on its bricks and mortar and glass! Those who pass out through its gates are the only yard-stick of its worth."

Garde ta Foy!

*Mr Peter Veale,  
former Headmaster of Rich's,  
from 1936 to 1957.*

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*Above, pictured at the Old Richians' Association Annual Dinner, which was held last Spring at the school, are, from left to right, Mrs C Ashby, guest speaker Mr C Ashby, President of the Old Richians' Association, Mr D Hook, Rich's Headmaster, Mr I Kellie and Mrs I Kellie.*

# NEWS OF OLD RICHIAN'S'

## EDITOR'S NOTE



Many thanks to all those people who have contributed to this section of the magazine. As usual, I have tried to cover as many news items relating to the 'Old Richians' Association' as possible. I would like to thank particularly, the President, Mr David Hook, in helping me compile this section. As customary, the Editor would welcome any news of of any former 'Old Richians' for the 1998 Richian Magazine. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the school. News items, photographs or suggestions will be most welcomed. Many thanks!

*Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)*

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## OBITUARIES

**ALDOUS John A V** - (1938-43) Last Autumn, the Editor of the Richian Magazine obtained news from K G Aldous, Truro (1931-1936) that on the 7th February, 1996, John Aldous died of cancer. As many of you will know, John's father and his other brothers, E R Aldous (1938-46) and G Aldous (1937-43), all went to Rich's.

**HENDERSON Frank** (1952-58) Last October, Frank Henderson, former Rich's pupil and much respected teacher, (1965-1996) died. Frank read Geology at University College, Cardiff and then undertook teacher training, starting his career at Hereford High School. He joined the staff of Rich's in 1965. Frank became Head of Geology and later chairman of the Staff Common Room. Other duties Frank performed, included being the staff representative on the school's Governing body. In 1994 he took over as Head of the Science Faculty and in 1995 he became Rich's first Head of Year 7, overseeing the welfare of the Year 7's and running an induction programme, which saw him giving up most of his weekends. One of Frank's greatest loves was his Venture Scout Unit, to whom he devoted much time and energy, with regular activities and excursions. Frank will also be remembered for the running and supervision of Rich's tuck shop. The funeral was held on the 17th October, 1996 and late November, 1996, many people attended a Memorial Service in memory of Frank in the school hall. The service was led by Mr Alan Pilbeam, Rich's Deputy Headmaster and there were several guest speakers. Without question, Frank was a true Richian and left his mark on Rich's. He will be sadly missed by many people!



*Above, Frank Henderson, student, teacher, Richian and a man who was devoted to Sir Thomas Rich's school!*



**TAVENER John: (Former teacher of art at Rich's)** John arrived at Rich's in 1959, having previously taught at Rougeley Grammar school. Over the many years, he enriched the Common Room with amusing anecdotes. A Francophile who possessed a collection of 300 model Citroen cars, he also owned several full-scale examples of that marque over his twenty-six year teaching career at Rich's. Known for sporting brightly coloured pullovers, John was a man of style and great charm. A frustrated actor, he was a superb designer and exponent of Gilbert and Sullivan. Yet John was also a very private man whose generosity, wit and patience truly changed the direction of people's lives. He was a man of great personal courage whose capacity to help others knew no bounds. Upon retirement, he returned to Bristol from where he made a weekly journey to St Peter's, Gloucester, to assist those whose lives had been devastated by despair. His commitment was always the same: come rain or shine. "Tav", as he was affectionately known, is remembered by man and boy for his humour, his craft, his idiosyncratic cricket umpiring and his splendid moustache. A man of panache and one of great humanity.

**Written and contributed by Mr G Barrington - (Head of History at Rich's)**

**TUCK DAVID - (1995-97)** The School was deeply saddened to hear of the tragic death of David Tuck (8R), early in the Spring term of 1997. This was a tremendous shock to all who knew him. The School is indebted to Winston's Wish, in particular Tim Gisborne and Diana Crossley, who spent a morning in school conducting counselling sessions with 8R and with other pupils who knew David. Their work was much valued and appreciated. Donations received at school, which amounted to £70, were sent to Children in Need, as requested by David's family.

**WITHERS Henry -** Henry died in June 1997 at the age of 81, just six weeks after the death of his wife Joan. Henry lived all of his life at Arlingham, apart from a few years after he married in Charfield. He had been active in the church since the age of 15, a Churchwarden for the last forty years and he edited the church magazine for fifteen years. Until his retirement, he ran Church Farm, Arlingham and was an active member of the National Farmers Union and Freemasons. For forty years, Henry served as a Parish Councillor, a long standing Conservative, he was a member of Stroud District Council. Until May of this year, he was also a County Councillor. Henry was a leading campaigner against the closure of Saul and Arlingham Primary Schools. He was also a good friend of the Grammar schools, both in Gloucester and Stroud. He attended the Old Richian's Associations's AGM in 1989 to offer his support in opposing the County Council's Sixth Form College Proposals. Henry spent twenty-six years as a Special Constable, followed by twenty years as a Local Magistrate, in addition to working more recently with the local Victim Support Group. It would be hard to find anyone who gave more freely of their time to such a variety of public service duties.

**Written and contributed by Mr David Q Hook - (President of the Old Richians' Association)**

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## **EDITOR'S APOLOGY**

*The Editor would like to make an apology to Ms. Alison Woolley, in relation to the information concerning last year's front cover of 'The Richian'. As you may recall, it features an 1882 water-colour of a 'Blue-Coat Boy', which was painted by Margaret Price of Tibberton Court and which had been kindly donated to the school by Dr Tania Rose. Readers should be aware, that Dr Tania Rose was Margaret Price's grand-daughter, not great grand daughter. The Editor apologises for this error and any distress that it may have caused to Dr Tania Rose.*

## 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).*

**\*IF YOU HAVE NEWS OF ANY OLD RICHIANs OR WOULD LIKE TO BE MENTIONED IN THE MAGAZINE YOURSELF, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT THE EDITOR C/O OF SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL.**

**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).

**AUBREY Steve** (1960-68) After nearly twenty years with Shell UK, the last three as Head of their Property Division, Steve is now a Real Estate Director at Smiths Industries PLC. Although he remains based in London, he now has an international property portfolio to look after, which is one of the reasons why he accepted the job. Their biggest site, however, is still in Cheltenham, so trips back to Gloucester probably will be more frequent than in recent years. His musical interests have moved on a little since his days at Rich's. He has given up the Philharmonia Chorus to run, in the little spare time he has, the Stephen Sondheim Society, for those interested in "by far the best" contemporary composer of stage musicals. He also hopes to promote The London Pops Orchestra, which specializes in Stage and Screen music.

**BEARD Malcolm** (1986-93) Congratulations must go to Malcolm, who has just obtained a First Class Honours degree from Imperial College, London, in Mechanical Engineering.

**BENNETT Simon W (Major)** (1974-79) Simon left the All Tell Corporation in New York in September 1996 and is now a regular army major, serving with a 1 Division at Banja Luka in Bosnia. Upon returning to the UK for his annual TA camp, Simon discovered the possible need for TA Officers with the British Army in the Former Yugoslavia. A month later, he was at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, thence to Salisbury Plain for a spot of training with the Parachute Regiment, to be followed by a six month tour of duty with the Implementation Force, (IFOR). Simon wrote in November 1996 that, "things are reasonably quiet now between the former warring factions, but there are still local warlords who enjoy rattling their sabres. However, we are now a peace enforcement force, our hands are less tied than during the UN days and we can call us some heavy help".

**BEWLEY ROB** (1974-82) Rob will be leaving Cadbury-Schweppes in the Summer of 1997, where he had worked for eleven years, mainly in marketing, (he is now Trade Marketing Controller) and he will be moving from Bournville with his wife Rosie to start training to become an Anglican Clergyman at Ridley Hall Theological College, Cambridge.

**BIRCHER Gary** (1978-85) Gary lives in Yate and became a father for the second time in July, 1996, when his wife Judith gave birth to Matthew, a brother for Frances.

**BOURNE MICHAEL** (1987-94) Congratulations to Michael, who has just obtained a First Class degree in Geology from Bristol University.

**BROADY Fred** (1966-71) Fred left Rich's to serve a technical apprenticeship with Fielding & Platt Engineering and on completion joined the family business, Broady's Wallpapers & Paints - Retailing & DIY. He now owns and runs a shop, with the assistance of his wife Tina. They live in Barnwood Avenue with their two boys. Fred hopes that many of his old school friends will drop into the shop, which is situated in Vicarage Road, Lower Barton Street, and say hello!

**BUBB Stanley George** (1923-27) Stanley qualified as a Pharmaceutical Chemist in 1933 and established a group of four pharmacies in Reading, after the war. Then he moved to Poole/Bournemouth, where another four pharmacies were opened under the title of Branksome Chemists Limited - also, in association with five other Pharmacists, the Parkstone Health Centre Pharmacy. Stanley has been President of Bournemouth Chamber of Trade, President of Parkstone Chamber of Trade and is currently President of Poole and District Chamber of Trade. He was also for nine years, South of England representative on the National Pharmaceutical Association and is still Hon. Treasurer of the Rural Pharmacists Association.

**BYFORD Lee** (1984-91) Graduated with a BSc 2.1 from the University of Humberside, in Hull. Lee studied for four years a sandwich course in European Integrated Business Technology, with Marketing (Computer Software). The third year of his course was spent in industry, as part of a University Industrial Placement, at Nuclear Electric PLC, in their Barnwood Headquarters, working in the Information Technology Department as a PC Engineer. During his year, Lee gained a qualification in Computer Aided Design at GLOSCAT. Upon leaving university, Lee was offered a permanent job at Nuclear Electric, where he is a PC Support Engineer to 1,500 computers using Windows over both LANS, (Local Area Networks) and WANS, (Wide Area Networks). In his spare time, Lee is a VW enthusiast, who attends many national VW rallies. Lee currently drives a VW Golf and is renovating a VW Camper. He lives in Gloucester and is engaged to Kirsty.

**CARTER Nick** (1980's) Nick, a former School Captain, starts his Doctorate in Geography, in September, 1997 at Oxford.

**CHAPMAN Lee Richard** (1979-81) Lee married Michelina Caterinea Mora, of Tuffley, Gloucester, at St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Gloucester in the Summer of 1996.

**Chitty John** (1978-83) John has been appointed as a Probationer minister to the Plymouth Methodist Mission, with effect from September, 1997. He is married to Jill and they have a son, Benjamin and are expecting another child about the same time as when they move from the Wesley College, Bristol, to Plymouth.

**CHRISTIE Shane** (1987-94) Shane has just obtained a 2.2 from Brighton in Business and Finance.

**CROFT Giles** (1984-91) As reported in last year's magazine, Giles with the financial help from amongst other sources, The Richian Trust, completed a study into, "Manipulations of Expectations and Self Reported Mood: Investigations of the Blue Monday Phenomenon". In July, 1997, the national newspapers, The Independent & The Guardian, reported that his research was to be discussed at the Annual Meeting of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Giles is not spending the Summer basking in his new found professional acclaim, but is off to a hospital in Hanoi, Vietnam for several months, with a small grant from the Old Richians' Association, this time to study breast feeding!

**DEAN Nigel** (1961-66) Nigel lives in Southampton and continues as a producer at Sky Sports, working full-time on the Rugby Union coverage. The department he works in covers the game from grass roots level, through to the Courage League and International fixtures. Nigel hopes Gloucester can continue to be one of the 'big clubs'. He is married to Christine, a nurse and they have two daughters, Lucy, 12 and Jennifer, 10.

**DELWICHE Louis** (1987-94) Louis is to be congratulated after obtaining a 2.1 from Magdalen College, Oxford, in Politics, Philosophy and Economics. He must also be congratulated on his 'Exhibition'.

**DEMPSEY Mark** (1987-94) Mark, whose brother, David currently teaches maths at Rich's, has just obtained a 2.1 in Geography from the Cheltenham and College of Higher Education.

**EVANS David** (1950-1957) Recently, David wrote to the school congratulating us on our 1997 exam results, which he had read on the Internet. In his letter, he said that he many happy memories of "Tommies". Many of you who know David, will know that he was School Captain, until he left at the end of the Lent Term, 1957. He has lived in the United States for the past thirty-two years and explains that he has become out of touch with recent developments in education in the UK. Interestingly, David warns us all in the UK not copy the American system. David wrote to us from The College of William & Mary, Virginia, where he is Associate Dean of Graduate Studies. At the end of his letter, he once again congratulated Rich's on its success.

## ALL OUR YESTERDAY'S!



**1st Cricket XI - 1947 - Fifty Years Ago!**

*(Top row / left to right - B James, R Bayliss, F Rigby, R Villies, D Voyce & D Simpson)  
(Bottom row / left to right - H Sims, W Jennings J Crouch (Captain) D Powell & W Davis)*



**1st Rugby XV - 1976-1977 - Twenty Years Ago!**

*(Top row / left to right - (Coach) Mr R Hanney, W Price, K Ball, M Calver, G Winstanley, D Brown,  
C Bishop, M Bryans, P Gabb, A Rose & (Coach) Mr A Pilbeam)  
(Bottom row / left to right - P Jennings, M Hazzard, I Fletcher, S Baker, J Mellon, P Davis, P Calver,  
C Pashley & N Dyson)*

**FREEMAN David** (1987-94) David has just obtained a 2.1 in Maths from Nottingham University.

**GAMSTON Paul** (1987-94) Paul has just obtained a 2.1 from Reading University in Classics.

**GEORGE Glyn (DR)** (1971-77) Glyn has lived in St John's, the capital of the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador, since 1988. He continues to enjoy a career teaching mathematics in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science at the Memorial University of Newfoundland. He gained his tenure in 1994 and in September, 1996, he was promoted from Assistant Professor to the rank of Associate Professor. Glyn has also continued to volunteer his time with the local school boards. Since 1990, he has been an elected member of the Avalon Consolidated School Board, which operates twenty-six Protestant Schools (grades K-12) in and around the cities of St John's and Mount Pearl. Every year that board has elected him to be its Secretary. In 1996-1997, the provincial education system is being overhauled and the Cabinet has appointed Glyn to be one of the eighteen members of the interim Avalon East School Board, which will operate all 86 schools for the 35,000 students in the eastern half of the Avalon peninsula, an area some 150 km across. Next year promises to be a very busy and interesting time! For Old Richians with the appropriate technology, Glyn has a world wide web home page: <http://www.engr.mun.ca/~ggeorge>. His E-mail address is: [ggeorge@engr.mun.ca](mailto:ggeorge@engr.mun.ca). George's home address is 124 Freshwater Road, St John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1C 2NA.

**GILES Steven** (1990-94) Steven has just obtained a 2.2 from Salford University, in Economics.

**GOLDUP Steven** (1989-1996) The school was notified in the Summer of 1997, that Steven, who is studying Chemistry at Exeter College, Oxford, had been very successful in his end of year exams, ("Prelims"), with his results being recognised by the award of Distinction. Only thirty-seven candidates, out of a total of one hundred and seventy-nine were honoured in this way. The letter also indicated that Neal Hanson, who is studying chemistry as well, at University College is also safely through his exams.

**HAINES Christopher R** (1979-86) He married Natalie (nee Chapman), sister of Old Richian, Lee Chapman (1979-1986), in April of 1994 and they have a baby daughter Hannah, born in October 1996. They are now living in Hucclecote and Chris is currently working as a Senior Consultant Surveyor and Group Manager for Unicorn Consultancy Services in Gloucestershire. He and Natalie are happily married and are planning a large family!

**HAINES Jeremy R (DR)** (1981-88) Jeremy graduated from Liverpool University Medical School in 1993. He is a Senior House Officer in Anaesthetics at Aintree Hospital in Liverpool. He lives in Moreton, Wirral, with Dr Nicola Dobson and their daughter Kate, who was born in February 1996. He and Nicola will be getting married on Valentine's Day, in 1998.

**HAINES Nicholas M** (1985-92) Nicholas graduated from Liverpool University in 1995, obtaining a BA (Hons) in Accountancy. He is now training with Hazlewoods in Cheltenham for his qualifications in order to become a Chartered Accountant. He has been successful in his intermediate examination and hopes to take his finals in December. He still lives at home and expects to be there until he qualifies.

**HODGE TIM** (1994) Has obtained a 2.1 in Geography from Salford University.

**HODGKINSON Ian** (1989-95) Ian, who was former Head of Business Studies and Economics at Rich's, has become a proud father once more. His wife, Lyn, on the 25th April, 1997 gave birth to a baby girl, Heleanor Robyn, weighing 7lbs 4 oz. Ian and Lyn already have two children, Tamali and Katie. Since leaving Rich's, Ian has been undertaking various projects, including working as an official OFSTED Inspector and he has completed a number of inspections already around the country. Rich's wishes him and his family all the best!

**HOOK David Q** (1972-80) David, President of the Old Richians' Association since 1994, made the local newspaper last November. In Gloucester's newspaper, 'The Citizen', a report was printed about David's campaign to free a Briton held captive in Cambodia. Christopher Howes (36), from Bristol, who is a mines clearance expert, was kidnapped by the Khmer Rouge, while working for the British Charity, 'The Land Mines Advisory Group'. David started a letter campaign appeal, after a friend who knows Mr Howes asked him to help. As a result of the request, David made an appeal for letters at the Lonsdale Road Methodist Church, asking the Cambodian government for assistance in helping to release Mr Howes. The campaign mushroomed, with other church dominations in the city and

and other parts of Britain becoming involved. At the timing of printing this magazine, the campaign to release Mr Howes was still running, but unfortunately despite various rumours of immanent release, his fate remains unknown.

**HOWKINS Keith A** (1974-82) Keith became Head of Education Finance for Derby City Council when it became a Unitary Authority on the first of April, 1997. Keith lives in Belper, where amongst other things he is chairman of the Belper Singers, a not dissimilar group from the Rich's Madrigal Group, performing religious and folk music. An enthusiastic traveller, Keith's recent holidays have included Jordan, Israel, Bolivia and South Africa.

**HUGHES Gareth** (1990-1997) Gareth has obtained a RAF Scholarship for his University entrance.

**JERRARD David** (1976-83) David became a father in 1997, when his wife Marion gave birth to a baby boy, Tyne. They live in the beautiful Napa Valley, California, where David is working for Sutter Home Winery and Marion works for Robert Mondavi wines. Old Richain President, David Hook's visit in May, 1997, confirmed the excellence of both wineries' products.

**JENKINS Tim** (1977-84) Tim has worked for Smith Kline Beecham of Coleford for six and half years, before being made redundant in 1996. Interviewed in the Citizen Newspaper in March, 1997, he said, "I want people to realize that redundancy need not be the end of the road. In my case it was the beginning". Tim comments came after receiving his First Class Degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at a graduation ceremony at Bristol Cathedral. Besides the degree, part of his final year project was a research paper, which was read and published in Chicago, in September, 1996. Tim, who lives in Saul, now works for the Ministry of Defence at Abbeywood, near Filton, as a Project Manager.

**KING Steven** (1977-81) Steven lives in Saul and smashed the world record for surfing the Severn Bore in August, 1996. He was watched by officials from the British Surfing Association, with Steven surfing from Weir Green to Maisemore Weir, a distance of five and half miles, more than double the previous record. Steven has been surfing for more than fifteen years, including at some of the worlds top wave centres, such as in Hawaii and California - somewhat warmer and cleaner than the Severn!

**KINGSBURY Paul** (late 1980's) Paul will start his Doctorate in September, 1997 at Oxford.

**LAZAR Sam** (1987- 1994) Sam has just graduated from Kings College, London with a 2.1 in Anatomy.

**McBURNIE Adrian** (1987-94) Adrian, whose father Brian, is Deputy Headmaster at Rich's, is to be congratulated on obtaining a First Class degree in Mathematics, from University College, Oxford.

**ONIONS David** (1981-86) David joined Kingsdale Morris on leaving Rich's and then went to Gloucester Computers, who were bought by ICL. With ICL, David moved from Gloucester to Heathrow, but he now lives near Warwick. In his spare time, David is a Director of the National Road Motorcycle Races and is a keen walker.

**ONIONS Michael** (1977-82) Upon leaving Rich's, Michael joined the army, with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, being stationed in Canada, Germany, Northern Ireland and Turkey. On leaving the army in 1987, Michael worked for a number of local automotive businesses, before joining the family business, City Auto Storage, in 1990. In 1988, Michael married Joanne and they have two children, Sarah, 6, and Christine, 5, and live in Churchdown. Hobbies include Fell walking since the arrival of the children's birthdays - cake icing.

**OSBORNE Hilary** (1992-94) Hilary has just graduated from Oxford with a 2.1 in English.

**PALMER Michael** (1987-94) Michael has just obtained a 2.1 in Geography from St Catherines College, Oxford.

**PAGE-JONES Nigel** (1981-82) Nigel became a father on the 6th June, 1997, when his wife Tanya gave birth at Liverpool women's hospital, to a baby girl, named Sophie, who weighed 8lbs, 3 ozs. Nigel is currently studying to be a computer programmer by correspondence from 'Computeach', who are based in Dudley.



**PAGE-JONES Richard** (1983-88) Richard married Claire on the 25th January, 1997 at St Bridget's Church, Surrey. The couple met on a training programme with the Frontline Church, in Liverpool, with whom they are still working.

**PERKS Professor Anthony Manning** (1943-51) In January of this year, the school received news from Peter Veale, about Tony Perks. Tony has retired from the Zoology department at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver and has become Emeritus Professor. We are told, that to Tony's joy, he has been appointed to an honorary professorship in the Obstetrics and Gynecology department. He hopes that this post will keep him busy for many years, before retiring to Longlevens and a closer relationship with the school. As many of you will know, Tony was School Captain from 1950 to 1951, before going to Christ's College, Cambridge, to read Natural Sciences.

**POOLE Tim** (1987-94) The school was informed that Tim has obtained a First Class award in Part 1 of the Mathematics Tripos and Scholarship at Trinity College, Cambridge.

**RAMSAY Chris** (late 1980's/1990's) The school heard this Summer, that Chris obtained a 2.2 from Bradford University, in Computer Science.

**ROBINSON Ben** (1987-94) Ben has just obtained a 2.1 in Geography from Nottingham University.

**SELWOOD Ian** (1976-84) Ian became a partner with the Stroud firm of Chartered Accountants, Randall and Payne in November 1996. He has been with the firm since 1984. Since qualifying as a Chartered Accountant, Ian has specialized in Information Technology in addition to his general practice work.

**SKIDMORE Chris** (1987-94) Chris has just graduated from the University of East Anglia with a 2.2 in Politics.

**STOCKS Anthony (Former Rich's Headmaster - 1961-1973)** As many of you may have read in the Citizen Newspaper, Mr Stocks finally ended his teaching career, after fifty years, by formally retiring from the King's School, Gloucester, where he had been teaching Classics for the past ten years. You may recall, that Mr Stocks joined Rich's when it was at the Eastgate site and oversaw the move to the present buildings. He was a graduate of Wadham College, Oxford and saw active service in the Second World War, with the 17th Field Regiment, serving in North Africa and Italy, eventually reaching the rank of Captain. Between 1957 and 1961, Mr Stocks was Vice-Principal of the Liverpool Collegiate School, before becoming headmaster of Rich's in 1961. All at Rich's wish him a long and happy retirement!

**SOOD RAJINDER** (1988-95) Rajinder is currently studying law at Bristol University. In his first year, he was on the Hall of Residence Common Room Committee, organizing entertainments for over four hundred people, which include many diverse activities, ranging from a beach party, freak show and Black tie Ball. In his second year, he is currently holding the position of President, in the Law Club, organizing social events and activities, as well as representing students on various committees.

**TEA Brian** (1968-74) After leaving Rich's, "During the last days of the reign of Jasper Stocks", Brian spent five years with Barclays Bank, before joining the family firm of heating, venting and air conditioning, R C Cook and Co., which he now runs. He married Susan Bowdler in 1982 and they have three daughters, Stephanie, (10), Jessica (8), and Nicola (4). Living locally, Brian is still in touch with a number of old boys from the same era and is a ardent supporter of Gloucester Rugby Club.

**EDITOR'S REQUEST:** If you would like to be included in next year's magazine, then simply write to the school, c/o of the Editor of The Richian Magazine. Many thanks!

The Editor is also happy to receive photographs of events, activities or items of interest involving Old Richians'.





## YEAR 7 1996-1997



FORM 7R



FORM 7B



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