

The Wycombiensian

Vol. XVIII No. 1 1990

The Magazine of the
Royal Grammar School
High Wycombe

Staff Leavers

Mr Derek Stubbs

In the most regrettable circumstances we are having to say farewell to Derek Stubbs, who after nearly thirty years' association with the school is having to embark on a totally new lifestyle as a consequence of permanent physical damage to his ears, suffered during the first few weeks following the opening of our new Sports Hall. His case against the County remains sub-judice.

He came first into our Sixth Form from the old Mill End School to do his A-levels. From a well known sporting family of High Wycombe, his mother was still playing a stout game of tennis not many years ago, and his father was a stalwart of the High Wycombe Cricket Club's 1st Team as its first-choice wicket-keeper for some decades, despite a severely crippled leg that required him to have a runner when batting. While not inheriting these specific skills, Derek was an exceptional athlete in all the throwing events and a powerful cross-country runner. He was also a talented basketball player and, although not so developed as a school sport in those days, he played for Wycombe Pirates with distinction. His involvement in school rugby, a game new to him, was confined to a few House games.

He went on to his Diploma Course in London at the Borough Road College, and found himself drawn into rugby and developed into a formidable back-row forward. By the time he returned to Wycombe and the RGS he was embarked on a rugby career that led to his becoming Club Captain, rarely to be seen without a book of raffle tickets in his hand or major plans for raising club funds - a field in which he has met few equals! At school, apart from running the Under 13 rugby for most of his teaching career, he also ran the 1st XV whose record was perhaps the most outstanding until this year's. Beyond rugby he will be best remembered on the sporting field for his involvement in athletics at school and at District level. Off the field and on the court he has been behind the great headway made by our basketball teams that have made their mark in competitions, reaching but never quite winning National finals.

As House Master of Uplyme Boarding House he has had a long spell, and it is difficult to imagine that corner of the RGS without the Stubbs family and their considerable livestock; ducks and geese as well as countless chickens - their egg production unabated even by Edwina Currie's bomb-blast to the industry. During his period of sick-leave he has set out on some characteristically enterprising

business ventures and hopes to set up his own company that already envisages seven divisions.

In my time I have both taught him and been a colleague; I have played against and played with him and know a survivor when I see one. For all his misfortune with his hearing I have no doubt that Derek will more than survive in his new life. It is a great pity that we will be losing Adam after only a year with us, along with Margaret who acted as Matron of Uplyme and their daughter Sarah. The Stubbs will remain in the RGS memory for many years to come, and we wish them well.

R.C.F.

Mr Stephen Goldthorpe

Stephen Goldthorpe arrived at RGS in September 1969. He somehow resembled Tolkien's Hobbit, having a slightly peculiar gait and a long, tangled beard; a legacy, I might add, of lethargy rather than student fashion.

His easy manner and total disregard of taste led to an early, successful friendship with M W Cook Esq, with whom he shared lodgings in Guinions Road for a number of years. During this rather fallow, settling-in period Steve devoted much of his time to the Junior School rugby and cricket sides, where he constantly showed a desire to explore and experiment. However, being a Yorkshireman, sporting attitudes were always paramount in Steve's educational input and he was often heard to criticise his captains for trying to win games before totally obliterating the risk of losing them.

Although a student of the English language, "losing" was not a part of Steve's vocabulary. So, in 1975, when Steve was forced to share his best friend with the future Mrs Cook, he decided to move closer to Bledlow Village. This was for two reasons: firstly Bledlow Cricket Club had become a major part of Steve's life, but more importantly the empty, sinuous approach roads to the village were more suited to Steve's motor bike dexterity.

For four years Steve commuted to RGS each day from Princes Risborough but eventually the physical burden of cricket kit, ever-increasing piles of English books and Indian takeaways made the journey too precarious - even for the most durable of motor cyclists - let alone Steve!

By 1980 Steve had become the complete "cricket man": involving himself fully with the School 1st XI; organising and participating in umpiring and coaching courses; and taking an ever-increasing lead in the Bucks Schools Cricket Association.

In a desperate attempt to be permanently closer to the cricket action he was persuaded in 1982 to move into

School House as resident House Tutor. Consequently, with less exercise and more food, Steve's girth and bowling run-up quickly became inversionally proportional to each other. To escape the realisation that middle-age was taking its toll, Steve embarked upon a spending extravaganza and has, over the last few years, acquired various material possessions to dubious advantage.

Yet it is this rather cavalier attitude to fiscal matters that makes Steve unique, endearing him to his many friends. Unlike many educationalists he still teaches purely for intrinsic reasons rather than for material or egocentric goals. It is partly this contemporary shift in emphasis within teaching that is easing Steve away from the profession.

Steve has not simply contributed to the RGS over 21 years, he has become an integral, if at times unpredictable, part of it. The School and his friends will miss his distinctive presence but wish him well in whatever the future has in store.

S.B.G.

Mr Trevor Durbin

Trevor Durbin is leaving the RGS this Summer to take early retirement. A graduate of Durham, he was appointed to the staff in 1971 and has given almost twenty years of devoted and loyal service to the Modern Languages Department of the School.

Throughout his career he has fostered and strengthened the teaching of German, which is currently being studied to Advanced Level by nearly forty boys, and has maintained and developed our links with Osnabruck. His sound scholarship, his infinite patience, and his constant interest in and concern for the welfare of his pupils, have earned him the respect and gratitude of many of his students, who have frequently expressed their appreciation of his efforts on their behalf. In his own quiet and determined way, he has always regarded the well-being of the School as his main priority.

A modest, unassuming, gentle man, he has brought a touch of civilized refinement to the life of the School which will be sorely missed. We all wish him every success in whatever the future holds in store for him.

D.J.F.

Mrs Mary Campbell

Mary Campbell joined the staff in September 1977 as a part-time teacher, teaching Biology, Chemistry, Physics and for good measure, English. We soon realised that we had a skilful and adaptable colleague.

She became a full-time teacher of Chemistry in 1982. An ex-RGS pupil when studying Sciences at Cambridge spoke of his appreciation of MCC, "it was in the 5th form and I hadn't done much work, then Mrs Campbell really drummed it into me".

The results of her A-level set for June '89 are a measure of her devotion to teaching and value to the department - all gained grade A.

Mary has made a great contribution to school life outside the laboratory: Chess, Bridge, Games, General Knowledge competitions and as Mistress of the Box Office.

As a Science Department we shall miss her friendship, no-nonsense criticism, loyalty and sheer professionalism.

B.K.G.

Mr Duncan Powell

Duncan Powell was appointed to the staff of the RGS in 1987, to teach French and German. A graduate of Durham, he spent a year teaching in Uganda before deciding to settle in this country on a more permanent basis. He is leaving at the end of the School year to take up a senior languages appointment at Oat Hall Community College in Haywards Heath.

During his time here, he has played a full part in the life of the School both in the classroom, where he proved to be an enthusiastic, dedicated and well-liked member of the languages department, and on the games field both in cricket and football (his prowess in the staff team earning universal plaudits).

We wish him success in his new post and should like to convey our best wishes to him and his fiancée on their forthcoming marriage.

D.J.F.

Mrs Linda Lunn

Linda Lunn joined the Maths Department in September 1988, coming from Boston and now, sadly, she is leaving for Blackpool, as her husband's job takes them there.

Linda has taught a full range including statistics at Further Maths level. I am sure, however, that it will be her warm personality and straight talking that will be remembered. She has been ready to help individuals and also to tell them when she feels that they are falling short of their responsibilities. Red Nose day was enlivened by her arrangements - and my beard was despatched by her only modestly practised barbering. The Choral Society will also miss a strong Alto voice.

The other members of the Maths Department will miss her friendship and almost unfailing cheerfulness. They will also miss the excellent birthday cakes - although other supplies are forthcoming. As one boy said to me - it's bad news that Mrs Lunn is leaving. I am sure that we all wish her well, and no doubt Blackpool will have a few extra visitors for the illuminations.

D.M.B.

Mrs Su Roberts

Su Roberts came to the RGS in September 1988 to join the Art & Design Department.

Although the post was part-time her devotion and commitment have been inspiring and significant. She has spent many hours after school and at weekends preparing and displaying work and developing her room into the exciting space for pupils to work in that many people have admired.

Her concern and genuine interest for the welfare and progress of all the boys she has taught will be greatly missed.

Su's involvement in many aspects of extra-curricular work from lunch time Art and Calligraphy classes, designing Graphics for a multitude of School Activities, Art Editor for the Wycombiensian Magazine and organising trips for the Vulture Club help to illustrate her energy and enthusiasm.

We will miss her, but wish Su all the very best in her new venture and life in Cambridge.

R.P.S.

UNIVERSITY ENTRY 1989-90

OXFORD

DO Allen	HistorySt. Peter's
NJ Baikie	ClassicsLady Margaret Hall
R Cayzer*	Maths.Balliol
PL Krinks	ClassicsMagdalen
RK Mills	GeologySt. Edmund Hall
MJ Nixon	EngineeringSt. Peter's
J O'Connor	EngineeringUniversity
JC Pinot de Moira	ChemistryTrinity
S Slater	GeologySt. Anne's
G Walker*	Mod. Langs.St. Hugh's

CAMBRIDGE

J L Ball	MedicineJesus
N W Edmonds	EconomicsCaius
M Harrison*	LawDowning
J Hart	Maths.Clare
JSA Hemuss	EngineeringRobinson
W Holden	Nat. SciencesSidney Sussex
AN Johansen	Oriental StudiesKing's
P Lewin*	GeographyJesus
N Orolin	EconomicsChrist's
SG Pratt	Nat. SciencesClare
B Proctor*	GeographyFitzwilliam
P Shotbolt*	MedicineGirton
MF Stidworthy	Vet. ScienceGirton
RH Tulloch	EngineeringTrinity

* Post 'A' level candidates

OTHER UNIVERSITIES

P.J. Allen:	Sussex University, Chemistry with European Studies
S.R. Andrews:	Southampton University, Economics
S.C. Ashford:	Southampton University, Music
A.S. Ball:	Durham University, Chemistry
J.P. Biles:	Newcastle University, Medicine
S.A. Brooksbank:	Leeds University, Geography/Geology (1990)
S.R. Bryant:	Manchester University, Zoology (1990)
M.A. Bussell:	Bath University, European Studies
W.S. Cartledge:	Birmingham University, Medicine
A.A. Chambers:	St. Mary's Medical School, London, Medicine
C.J. Corbett:	Southampton University, Maths.
J.M. Cravos:	Aberystwyth University, Geographical Science
P.K.E. Dollin:	Leeds University, Materials Engineering (1990)
S.P. Empringham:	Bath University, Materials Science
M.G. Evans:	Royal Free Hospital Medical School, London, Medicine
R.G. Evans:	Keele University, French/Business Science
F. Ghouze:	Birmingham University, Chemistry
N.J. Glenister:	Surrey University, Hotel & Catering Management
P.D. Glennon:	Norwich University, French & Linguistics
A.W. Goode:	Southampton University, Politics
M. Grant:	Southampton University, Civil Engineering
S.A. Guy:	Leeds University, Geography
K.S. Harrison:	Manchester University, French (1990)
D.P. Heasman:	Southampton University, Physics (1990)
M.C. Heppell:	Durham University, Natural Sciences
J.P. Higgins:	Exeter University, French & German
M.J. Hopwood:	Essex University, Government (1990)
S.A. Humphrey:	Southampton University, Computer Science
A.S. Jackson:	Southampton University, Economics with Statistics
J. Jacks:	London University, Veterinary Science
P.W. Jennings:	Manchester University, Life Sciences
G.D. Jones:	Swansea University, Philosophy (1990)
J.C.A. Kerry:	Manchester University, Structural Engineering with Architecture
M.T. Lock:	Cardiff University, History (1990)
F.J. McNeilly:	Warwick University, History/RE
J.B. Mansfield:	Kent University, Computer Science
M.J. Martin:	Exeter University, Engineering
N.W. Meldrum:	Loughborough University, Civil Engineering
J.D. Moore:	Durham University, Geography (1990)
R.J. Mould:	Exeter University, Physics/Chemistry
C.S. Mumford:	Newcastle-upon-Tyne University, Business Information Technology
B.P. Nielsen:	Exeter University, Politics (1990)
S.P. North:	Southampton University, Civil Engineering
S.S. Patel:	London School of Economics, International Trade & Development
M.J. Picton:	Aberystwyth University, Geology & Geography
B.A. Robinson:	Bristol University, Computer Science
G.P. Sellors:	Birmingham University, Medicine
T.A. Seymour:	Sheffield University, Politics/Sociology
D.C. Sharp:	Birmingham University, Law
I.M. Sharp:	Birmingham University, French/Swedish & Law
A.P. Sihera:	London University, Electronics/Computing
A.D. Smith:	Warwick University, Mechanical Engineering

M.R. Spratt: Leeds University, Physics/Astrophysics
R.M. Stenner: City University, Land Management (1990)
P.A.J. Thibault: City University, Property Valuation & Finance
S.G. Todd: Edinburgh University, Civil Engineering (1990)
A. Waheed: Bradford University, Chemical Technology
H. Wasantha: London University, Telecommunications Engineering
G. Watson: Exeter University, Economics/Politics
A.D. Yates: Exeter University, Geography

POLYTECHNICS (Degree Courses)

S.J. Busby: Polytechnic of Central London, Urban Planning Studies
G.M. Butler: Polytechnic of Central London, Social Sciences
S.J. Cleary: Portsmouth Polytechnic, French Studies
R.J. Cobb: Leicester Polytechnic, Building Surveying
R.D. Flack: Manchester Polytechnic, Applied Biological Sciences
R.P. Gillingham: Brighton Polytechnic, Hotel & Catering Management
J.L. Jennings: Polytechnic of Central London, Quantity Surveying
R. Khan-Gandapur: Portsmouth Polytechnic, Economics
D.W. King: Hatfield Polytechnic, Philosophy & Economics
T. Lewis: Trent Polytechnic, Urban Land Surveying
M.W. Metcalfe: Wolverhampton Polytechnic, Economics
C.S. Mumford: Newcastle-upon-Tyne Polytechnic, Business Information Technology
D.J. Pardon: Bristol Polytechnic, Financial Services
R.M. Rolfe: Kingston Polytechnic, Law
S.J. Russell: Brighton Polytechnic, Accountancy & Finance
S.S. Sahota: Brighton Polytechnic, Humanities
R.M. Saunders: Brighton Polytechnic, Maths for Decision Making
A.J.R. Whittome: Leeds Polytechnic, Building

OTHER COLLEGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION (Degree Courses)

S.M. Baker: Dorset Institute, Hospitality Management
R. Knight: Cambridge College of Art & Technology, Geography & Geology

"A" Level Results 1989

The successful candidates who took the Oxford GCE Board "A" Level Examinations were:

KEY: A - Art; B - Biology; C - Chemistry; Comp - Computing; CF - Contemporary French; DM - Decision Maths; E - Economics; EPS - Economics & Political Studies; Eng - English Literature; E.La - English Language; F - French; FM - Further Maths; Ger - German;

Geo - Geography; Gre - Greek; GP - Government & Political Studies; H - History; AH - Ancient History; L - Latin; M - Maths; Mus - Music; P - Physics; Phil - Philosophy; BS - Business Studies; GS - General Studies; Sp - Spanish; RS - Religious Studies; AD - Art & Design.

AL Denotes "A" Level, AS denotes "AS" Level
 * Denotes Grade A

PJ Allen AL - C,B; AS - CF: **AS Ball** AL - F,M*,C*,B;
WS Cartledge AL - C*,P,B*; AS - CF: **PJ Dearman** AL - E,C,B; **MG Evans** AL - C*,P,B*; AS - Comp*: **RD Flack** AL - Eng,B; AS - AD: **F Ghouze** AL - C,P,B; AS - Comp: **A Hameed** AL - M*,C*,B*; AS - Comp: **PW Jennings** AL - C*,P,B*: **R Knight** AL - Geo,B; **RJ Rainbow** AL - M,C*,P,B*: **GP Sellors** AL - M*,C*,B*; AS - H*: **JP Shotbolt** AL - M*,C*,B*; AS - Comp: **A Waheed** AL - C,B; **JR Bashford** AL - P,B; AS - E.La: **JP Biles** AL - M*,C*,B*; AS - H: **SR Bryant** AL - C*,B*; AS - Comp: **JM Buckley** AL - C,B; AS - E: **RP Buckley** AL - M,C*,P,B*: **AA Chambers** AL - M*,C*,P*,B*: **RJ Cobb** AL - Geo,B; AS - H: **RJ Gigg** AL - C; AS - Comp: **GA Heather** AL - C,B; AS - E.La: **JY Jacks** AL - M,C*,B; **AL Moody** AL - M*,C*,P*,B*: **RJ Smith** AL - M,C*,B*; AS - H: **CL Thomas** AL - M*,C*,P*,B*: **S Dutta** AL - L*,H*,M; AS - CF: **PD Glennon** AL - L*,F*,Sp*; AS - Comp: **ND Keating** AL - H,EPS; AS - Phil: **DG Moore** AL - Eng,L*,H*; AS - Phil: **JS Riley** AL - L*,F*,H*; AS - Gre*: **I Sharp** AL - F*,H,A; AS - Gre: **NP Smith** AL - L,F,H; **RM Stenner** AL - AH,E,Geo; AS - DM: **SDM Thornton** AL - L*,F*,H*,Sp*: **AJR Whittome** AL - F,Geo: **TM Arthur** AL - Eng,H,E: **JPP Burnett** AL - Eng,EPS,Geo; AS - DM: **SP Davis** AL - H,Geo: **PD Fines-Allin** AL - E; AS - DM: **MJ Harrison** AL - Eng*,H*,Mus*; AS - E*: **RJ Lomas** AL - Eng*,F*,E: **MJJ O'Toole** AL - H,EPS,Phil,GS: **AJ Swain** AL - Geo,BS: **MT Wilson** AL - A,BS: **PJ Ayton** AL - H,E: **CJ Bickell** AL - BS; AS -CF: **MD Clarke** AL - Eng,H,E: **SC Cutler** AL - E,Geo; AS - DM: **DP Ellis** AL - EPS,Geo,A: **RP Gilliam** AL - Geo,BS: **R Khan-Gandapur** AL - Eng,E: **T Lewis** AL - Eng,EPS,Geo: **DJ Miles** AL - M*,P*,BS*; AS - CF: **SS Rake** AL - Eng, EPS, Geo: **OM Tansley** AS - CF: **G Tucker** AL - H,EPS; AS - E.La: **JCF Burke** AL - E,Geo; AS -CF: **SJ Busby** AL - F,Geo; AS - Phil: **CJJ Charlton** AL - Geo*,M,BS*; AS - CF: **RJ Claydon** AL - Eng,H,Geo,A: **NJ Glenister** AL - H,E,Geo: **AW Goode** AL - H,EPS,Geo*; AS - E.La*: **MP Gordon** AL - F: **SA Guy** AL - Geo,Sp*, BS; AS - DM: **MJ Hopwood** AL - H,EPS*: **DJ Pardon** AL - E,Geo: **TA Seymour** AL - Eng,Geo,GS; AS - GP: **GR Ward** AL - E,Geo,M; AS - GP: **AD Yates** AL - Geo*,MP*,A: **JM Cravos** AL - H,E,Geo; AS - GP: **DW King** AL - Eng,EPS,Geo; AS - Phil: **PA Lewin** AL - F*,H*,Geo*,GS: **JR Monaghan** AL - Geo; AS - GP: **CS Mumford** AL - E,Geo; AS - CF: **SJ Russell** AL - EPS,Geo,M: **SS Sahota** AL - Geo, BS: **A Shankland** AL - A: **JW Summers** AL - H*,E*,Geo*; AS - GP: **PA Thibault** AL - H,E,Geo; AS - CF*: **N Ahmad** AL - H,E; AS - Phil: **SM Baker** AL - H,E: **RM Dawson** AL - H; AS - AD: **JA Holland** AL - H,E,M; AS - GP: **MT Humberstone** AL - Eng,H*,EPS*; AS - CF: **MT Lock** AL - Eng,H*,E*: **F McNeilly** AL - H, RS; AS - E.La,GP: **DN Middleton** AL - H,Geo*,M; AS - E.La: **MJ Picton** AL - H,E,Geo: **TM Rolfe** AL - Eng,H,Geo; AS - GP: **SJ Tongue** AL - F,H,EPS; AS - DM: **MA Tucker** AL - H,EPS; AS - CF: **JP Aranzulla** AL - F*,Gr*,H*; AS - Phil*: **SC Ashford** AL - F,Ger,Mus*: **MD Brown** AL - F,H; AS - GP: **MA Bussell** AL - F*,Ger*,H; AS - AD: **GM Butler** AL - Ger,H,EPS,Phil: **PVC Fison** AL - F*, Ger*,M,GS*,BS; AS - Phil: **JP Higgins** AL - F*,Ger*,M; AS - E*: **JD Moore**

AL - F*,Ger,Geo*; AS - E*: BPM Nielsen AL - Eng,F,EP; AS - AD: TS Swithenbank AL - Fr*,Ger,Geo,BS*: GR Walker AL - F*,Ger*,M,GS; AS - Comp*: MP Ball AL - F*,H,Sp*; AS - E*: SJ Cleary AL - F,Sp; AS - E.La: RW Davies AL - F*,E,Sp*: RG Evans AL - F,Sp,BS; AS - E: KS Harrison AL - Eng,F,Sp*,A: N Lewthwaite AL - F,E,Geo: DJG Parkinson AL - F,E,Geo; AS - GP: NMW Payne AL - F,E; AS - DM: NJ Sharp AL - E,M: OR Slater AL - F,Sp,M; AS - Comp: LR Stacey AL - F*,H,Sp*: FA Brooksbank AL - Geo,M,FM,P: RSE Cayzer AL - M*,FM*,C,P*: CJ Corbett AL - Geo,M,FM,P: DP Heasman AL - M*,FM,C*,P*: RF Holloway AL - M*,FM*,P*,BS: JRC Loadman AL - M*,FM*,C*,P*: JB Mansfield AL - E,M,FM,P; AS - Comp*: CJ Pethers AL M*,FM*,C*,P*: RM Saunders AL - M,BS; AS - Comp: D Sharp AL - F,M*,FM: PA Styles AL - P,BS: D Barnes AL - Geo,P; AS - H: SCG Evans AL - E,C; AS - ELA: SA Humphrey AL - M,C,P*: JC Kerry AL - M,C,P; AS - E: AD Smith AL - H,M,P: PW Blatchford AL - A*,FM*,C*,P*: MA Chandler AL - M*,FM,C*,P*: SP Empringham AL - M*,FM,C*,P*: MJ Martin AL - M,C,P: NW Meldrum AL - M,C,P; AS - E: MW Metcalfe AL - M,C,P; AS - Phil: MR Spratt AL - M*,FM,C*,P*: SG Todd AL - M*,C*,P*: H Wasantha AL - M,C,P: WS Atherden AL - Geo,M,P*; AS - E: TR Grapes AL - Geo,M,P; AS - E.La: SP North AL - Geo,M,P; AS - E: AJ Riachi AL - Geo,M,P; AS - E: BA Robinson AL - M*,C,P*,Comp*: G Watson AL - E*,M,P,GS*; AS - GP*: DB Callaghan AL - C,BS: PKE Dollin AL - M,P: MS Grant AL - M,C,P; AS - Comp: J Hawkins AL - M,C,P; AS - E: MC Heppell AL - M*,FM,C,P*: HJ Maddock AL - M*,FM,C*,P*: BL Thomas AL - M,C,P: JI Thompson AL - M,C,P; AS - CF: MJ Blackman AL - M,P,BS; AS - H: DG Crowdy AL - F*,M*,FM*,P*: GD Jones AL - EPS,Phil,P,GS: AC Lane AL - Geo*,M*,FM,P*: JP O'Connor AL - M*,C*,P*; AS - CF*: SS Patel AL - Geo*,M,P; AS - E: BJ Proctor AL - Geo*,M*,FM,P*: RJ Priest AL - H: R Mould AL - P: D Lewis AL - P: S Andrews AL - E,M,P; AS - Phil: A Jackson AL - E,M*,P: JL Jennings AL - M,P: M Rowarth AL - M,P*,Comp: A Sihera AL - M,P,Comp: W Mackie AL - M,P: D Turnbull AL - E*,M*,FM*,P*

Sheiham (10); DR Slater (10); MJ Spraggon (10); TS Stokes (10); GL Thomas (11); ME Thomson(10); SM Treherne (10); LEA Twizell (10); JA Vaughan (10); DJ Warboys (10); CE West (10); GE Wheatley (10); GL Wheeler (10); CC Widgery (10); MI Wightman (9); JC Bhat (10); SR Birney (9); TJ Channon (9); J Cook (8); JD Cronin (9); JR Cross (6); IA Danby (7); ND Edwards (7); MJ Elmido (8); CSM Griffin (10); D Hackett (10); ID Hardman (6); KC Herbert (9); R Holden (9); PM Hoskins (8); CR Jennings (10); CLD Johnson (9); TJ McCullagh (9); RJ Parker (9); JL Power (6); SD Richards (9); TV Ryland (9); ME Sparkes (5); R Sparks (9); RJ Storey (7); JM Widdess (9); J Wigglesworth (10); TA Woolliams (10); AB Yates (10); GM Addison (10); MC Albino (8); JP Aperghis (9); MR Audcent (9); SA Clouden (10); CP Darvill (10); JT Davies (10); RO Fell (9); CA Fielding (9); SD Gawne (8); AK Gibb (6); NC Grassly (10); MD Groves (10); DJ Harding (10); PR Hazell (8); DT Holland (10); JE Isaac (10); DC Kumar (8); BS Lipinski (8); CG Lockyer (11); AG McKellar (6); SR Priestley (10); JEG Richards (9); DP Rimmington (9); GP Rockett (9); AC Rysdale (9); DA Senior (9); AR Shahrkhi (9); SR Tyrrell (9); TB Wallace (9); RB White (10); JF Wyatt (10); IC Allison (9); R Barnicoat (8); CJ Blythe (10); AD Boyle (8); SA Bromwich (8); SJ Carter (10); M Cartledge (9); MJ Cooper (8); AW Davies (7); PHP Dixon (7); MCN Dunlop (6); CA Fines-Allin (10); PS Friend (10); JW Hall (9); MJ Koster (10); PE Marsh (10); SJ Noakes (6); AP Norton (10); CJ Payne (6); KW Power (7); RM Radler (5); GN Saunders (9); SP Shayler (6); JM Smith (9); AJ Taylor (10); IM Wright (11); JB Baguley (10); MJ Barnes (9); JP Blake (10); CS Booth (7); OG Currell (9); NF Darby (10); CB Downing (9); ME Eearthrowl (10); DJ Farey (8); MA Govan (8); SGW Hodgson (6); AE Jackson (8); LJ Jarritt (9); MW King (11); PS Kingsnorth (9); AD Lamyman (9); RM Lewis (10); DP Morris (8); RJ Oxley (9); RR Parker (9); MJ Plumridge (7); SM Prior (6); JDW Rea (8); RK Skarda (10); GJ Tucker (6); OM Vassib (9); MA Waldron (8); DP Wilcox (5); N Yaseen (10); MJ Cunningham (5).

“GCSE” Results 1989

The following boys obtained Grade A - C in five or more subjects in the GCSE Examinations:

JP Palmer (9); RJ Pike (9); C Puddephatt (10); PJ Read (9); AS Rogers (9); SD Round (9); DC Smith (10); AJ Speedy (11); DA Stevens (11); AP Walker (11); R Wells (10); PT Woodward (9); CJD Camp (11); CN Carter (10); CD Claydon (10); JDW Crozier (10); AKD Denniston (11); AR Doe (10); AI Everett (10); JF Feasey (10); S Bowman (8); KA Burnett (10); BC Chadwick (10); AI Chipping (10); JA Cooney (10); DA Corris (10); ME Cracknell (6); P Deraney (10); M Delamere (6); JE Dewar (10); DN Downing (10); JN Drake (10); M Gambhir (10); MM Hammond (10); JP Johansen (5); M Keer (10); GH King (10); D Mailvaganam (10); GN Millward (9); JP Oldham (10); MK Foster (10); EJ Friend (9); AM Gill (10); JED Mawdsley (10); PT Maxmin (10); SE McDonald (10); BG Mitcheson (10); PM Oram (10); MB Reece (9); MD



Open House

Human Rights

In a world population approaching 5 billion, only one person in five can enjoy the knowledge that he or she is protected by laws and constitutions respected by his or her government, and only 40% of the world's peoples live under a democratically elected government. These are perhaps the most worrying statistics about human rights in the world today, a subject which is observed more closely now than ever before. This is not because more violations are occurring in 1990 than in 1950 for example, but because of developments in communications, the increasing concern of youth about injustices in society, and the increased respectability of the United Nations. Without this surveillance, it is likely that the above statistics would be worse still.

The list of an individual's human rights is long and slightly variable from person to person. Several treaties, dating back to the Magna Carta of 1215, have tried firstly to catalogue and then to legislate against infringements of human rights. The earliest treaties were based on principles of "natural law" - laws outside and above the realms of time, place, politicians and state. These principles, although modified, appeared in the next two major treaties to be drawn up, the French "Declaration des Droits de l'Homme et du Citoyen" (1789) and the American "Bill of Rights" (1791). These two treaties, both the outcome of revolutionary thinking of the period, bear more resemblance to the treaties of the Twentieth century than their English predecessor (the Magna Carta), which was concerned mainly with the rights of the privileged minority rather than all of the king's subjects.

The next great treaty was again drawn up after a time of major political turmoil - this time World War II. Adopted in 1948 by the United Nations without a dissenting vote, the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" provided the basis for two more far reaching conventions, the "International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights" and the "International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights", both of which came into force in 1976. Although many other treaties have been drawn up covering smaller regions of the world (eg "The African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights" - ratified by 30 countries, "The European Commission of Human Rights" - ratified by 21 countries), the three United Nations charters, accepted by all the organisation's 159 member states, are the most important and widely respected of all human rights covenants.

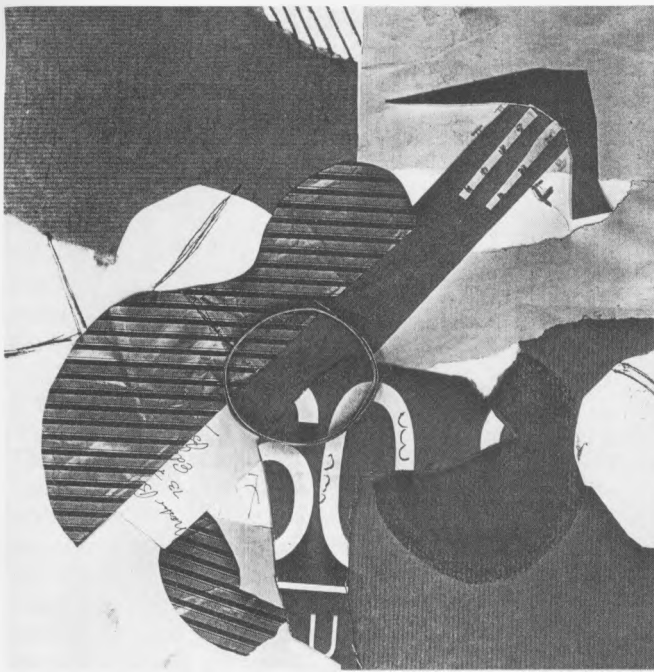
The ideals of the conventions have been attacked as having a Western, liberal bias. It is undoubtedly true that the above agreements do favour already socially and economically developed states, and that many developing countries do not have the same chance to fulfil the agreements as their richer neighbours. Also, some Islamic states' laws seemingly contradict many clauses within the treaties. However, all of the UN's 159 members have voluntarily signed the agreements and thus agreed "... universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all regardless of race, sex, language or religion" (Article 55c of the UN Charter). The treaties form the "rules of the game" by which all the UN's members have agreed to play.

What is to stop a country from ignoring the rights of an individual? The short answer is nothing. The United Nations - a potentially highly effective guardian of human rights - has frequently refused to even compile a country-by-country report on its members' human rights achievements, claiming that it would be unfair to compare states of different economic and social developments, religions and traditions. However, this goes against one of the main principles of the UN - equality for all members. Surely this equality means that an underdeveloped country is as accountable for its human rights record as a developed one? The United Nations does not follow this line of thought and with a government of one country having no right to criticise another over its human rights record unless its record is perfect (which no country's is), the only action that can be taken comes from individuals and non-political organisations such as Amnesty International. This action usually takes the form of letters from members or reports from correspondents of such groups. These are highly effective in isolated cases, but if the general human rights scene of the world today is to improve in earnest, Amnesty and the other organisations must receive the support not only of members of the public, but also of politicians. The changes in Eastern Europe today have provided an opportunity for that change in the rights of the world's people, but unless the pressure for freedom is kept up, the opportunity will again be missed, as it was (to a certain extent) after the revolutions of the eighteenth century, and the Second World War. A taste of life under any of the repressive regimes that have just fallen would be enough to convince anyone that that must not be allowed to happen.

Matt Hill, 4R



SHADOW PUPPETS. 2nd. YERT.



The Feminine Presence

When people find out that I teach at a boys' grammar school, reactions vary from mild interest to unashamed admiration - "How do you get on amongst all those boys and men?"

This surprises me somewhat. I'm so used to my working environment now, that I rarely stop to reflect on the significance of being a female teacher at a predominantly male establishment.

I realise with horror that I can even forget I am a woman on occasions. When I heard that an English Department vacancy a few years ago was to be filled by a Mrs Bushell, I thought to myself, "Ah, that means another woman on the staff," and then stopped short in my tracks, realising that I was (and still am) a woman too.

There are currently 17 females amongst the 76 teaching staff. I am amongst that strange breed known to the rest as the "Part-time women". (What do they think we are the rest of the time?)

When I started at the RGS nine years ago, we females were few and far between. Doris Wilson, Maths teacher and pioneer of ladies at the RGS, was still in the school, and the sum total of us was less than ten.

In those days, there was a Ladies staff room, tucked away safely from the men in the main staff room and within easy striking distance of the women's loos near the Queen's Hall. Doris used the room; the rest of us rarely frequented it, though I did go there occasionally to convalesce some Friday afternoons after a particularly unruly 4th form class I had in my first year here. It was all very well being given a special staff room, but the newspapers, coffee, coat peg, shelf, main locker space and over 90% of the staff were still in the main staff room.

After Doris Wilson's retirement, the Ladies staff room became the Committee room. From being treated as a race apart, we now became honorary males and were officially integrated into the main staff room with most of our colleagues. We were now based nearer to the coffee,

though further away from the loos. Did this signal promotion, or was it just a loss of privilege?

I am not sure whether the lessening of feminine distinction is a good thing. Should I take it as a compliment when a departmental colleague addresses me with the words, "Are you the bloke who's using the "Julius Caesar" video at the moment"? I suppose it's better than being greeted with "Yes, darling, what can I do for you?" when I approached another member of staff on one occasion.

Perhaps we are not being integrated at all, but just ignored. Many's the time I've filled in a special subject report card, patiently crossed out the "Master" indicating where my signature is required, and substituted it with "Teacher" or "Mistress", depending on how militant I've been feeling.

However, some male/female distinctions are preserved. It's an unspoken rule that female colleagues do not wear trousers, though as one said to me, "I wouldn't want to wear trousers anyway. My authority's tied up in my skirt." I suppose this is fair. Even in this enlightened age, I expect it would be unacceptable for a male teacher to turn up to school wearing a dress.

However, the ground may be shifting. It is not unknown for female staff who teach in Science labs and Art rooms to wear trousers. Another female colleague has recently worn culottes for several days in a row without attracting comment.

But even if our distinctiveness is gradually being eroded, we still exert a feminine influence. It's the female staff who bake the cakes and bring in the biscuits on birthdays and other special occasions, and who are most concerned about the tidiness of the Staff Common Room.

"Best" magazine appears to have replaced "What Car" amongst the assortment of daily papers and magazines on offer. I am not at liberty to disclose just how many men I have seen reading it.

And what about the attitudes of the pupils? One female colleague overheard a conversation between two new boys as they watched a lady teacher walk by. "And I thought this was supposed to be a boys' school!" remarked one disgustingly to the other.

Some boys have particular expectations of female staff, like the Oxbridge English candidate who suggested that "Mrs McGuinness can take the Jane Austen classes. She's been to a girls' school."

There can be confusion over how we are addressed. It is not uncommon for a second former to call out "Sir", and then collapse into a fit of embarrassed giggles when he and his friends realise what he has said.

At the other extreme, "Ma'am" can turn out to sound suspiciously like "Mum", though I am not aware having had this said to me yet.

At times I am woefully aware of a sex difference, particularly when talking about reading preferences with my classes. Why is it only a good book if it includes violent action leading to death or mutilation? Is it too much to expect emotion and the finer points of character development to be appreciated?

Generally however, contact with the boys reassures me that if I am losing my femininity at the RGS, it's only a sign of the times. These days I am not always the one with the longest hair in the classroom, or the only one with pierced ears. And last term, I saw the ultimate evidence of the amalgamation of the sexes lying on top of the lockers in one of the classrooms - a dirty rugby kit in a Laura Ashley carrier bag.

J.D. McGuinness

Wandering through this virgin field,
Short grass, dew-touched like manna,
Yields an offering to the walker,
Who takes the dewdrops on swaying dress.

No movement but the quiet one
Strides on and through this lonely place,
Savouring fresh morning's young scents,
As a soothing wind caresses her face.

Not a young face, too wrinkled and tired,
But troubles won't hold her here,
Indeed a healing work is found,
Seclusion from life's urgent way.

Stefan Tobler
SMS



The 1990's: A Green Decade?

1989 was the year of change and fresh outlooks on life; will the 1990's be the decade in which further great changes are made? The change which occurred in 1989 can be best illustrated by the reforms which swept through Eastern Europe in the latter half of the year. These events represented the fruits of intense public determination and persistence. 1989 also saw the emergence of environmental or Green issues onto the political stage. Many feel that the 1990's will be the Green decade, in which environmental issues will be addressed and solved, but this will only occur if public concern for the environment can be raised to match the zeal for reform in Eastern Europe.

Limited support for the Greens has already been revealed in Britain. The Green Party gained fifteen percent of the votes in the elections to the European Parliament last year and nationwide there are thirteen Green district councillors. Whilst this clearly does not indicate major political power for the Greens, favourable results in the May local elections may be enough to establish a sufficient power base for the Greens to have significant political influence.

However, in Britain Green issues may have already been overshadowed by other worries. At least in the short-term, environmental concerns have been replaced by public anxiety over the economy, interest rates and especially the new Poll Tax; these concerns are largely financial. It is very difficult, though, to assign a financial value to the environment and determine the monetary cost of damage being done to it; this may prove fatal to the Green cause. If vague estimates by scientists cannot be translated into a clear declaration of how much money damaging the environment is costing, the vital message of the environmentalists may lose much of its impact.

Can environmental issues maintain the high level of public support needed for such radical changes as are necessary? Many people will have to take hard decisions and make difficult sacrifices. Businessmen may well oppose demands that they cut energy consumption and reduce pollution, which will undoubtedly reduce profits.

The general public may resent having to pay for more costly environmentally-friendly goods and having vehicles converted so they cause less pollution. Politicians will dislike taking potentially vote-losing measures such as restricting energy consumption and road use, and protecting conservation areas against demands for more housing.

It may take a major environmental disaster, such as Chernobyl, an ecological disaster, such as occurred at the Valdez oil terminal in Alaska, or more prolonged and frequent storm damage than occurred in Britain at the start of the year, to raise public and political enthusiasm sufficiently to ensure that the very radical and difficult, but urgently needed, decisions to safeguard the environment are taken.

The vital question is this: are we sufficiently long-sighted to see beyond the short-term financial costs to the long-term benefits of maintaining and preserving our environment for future generations? If 1990 is to be the Green decade, the answer must be "yes".

Adrian Doe, 6GC₁

Four Seasons

Summer can be very hot.
Winter can be very cold.
Spring is somewhere in between.
And so is Autumn.

RG Ratcliffe

From the Wycombiensian of 1905 (1st issue):

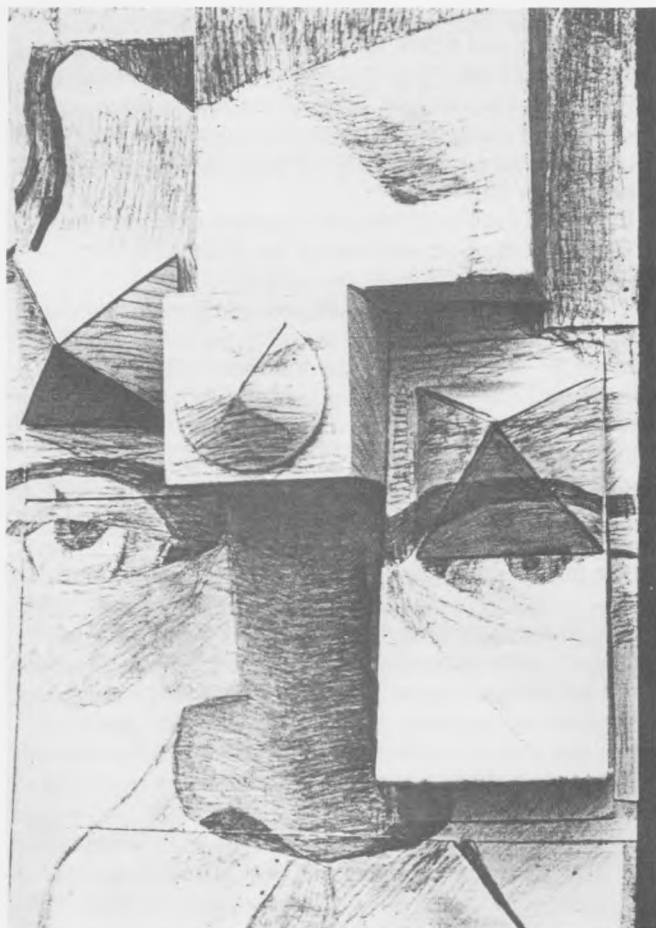
Thanks to the generosity of the Governors and the Head Master, we have to congratulate ourselves on the installation of the electric light throughout the School buildings. The work was carried out during the summer holidays, and at the same time a considerable amount of colour washing, varnishing, and painting was done, which has added greatly to the internal appearance of the School.

From the Wycombiensian of 1925:

The annual Boxing competition was held on Wednesday, March 18th, between Morrison and Thrasher. Morrison, with his longer reach, quickly set to work with some powerful body blows, which Thrasher endured unflinchingly. Both boxers hit furiously, and the fight was stubbornly contested. Morrison had much the better of the third round, and Thrasher was obviously in distress, though he fought gamely to the end.

From the Wycombiensian of 1940:

During the year the front of the School has been dug up and planted with vegetables; through the labour of the boys, three tons of potatoes were produced from about half a ton of seed (though I believe several hundredweights of wireworm were eventually extracted from the potatoes) and some three thousand cabbages planted.



Senior Vulture

This season of Vulture trips certainly opened impressively with a trip to the musical "Blood Brothers". Penned by Willy Russell (Shirley Valentine, Educating Rita) it combined strong music and fine acting with sharp humour.

Kenneth Branagh was given a chance to prove that he is not just a mouth and a lot of publicity with his film production of Shakespeare's "Henry V". It was effectively filmed with Brian Blessed, Robbie Coltrane et al. contributing a great deal. Centre stage deservedly belonged to Branagh's subtle Prince Hal.

Before Easter we went to Wyndham's Theatre. A brief tour of the theatre was followed with a new play - "Another Time". Despite the presence of Janet Suzman and some wonderful Jewish wit, many of the sentiments of the play were rather lost on those of us young enough not to be reminiscing just yet.

So far this year, then, it has been enjoyable for all and at the time of writing we are still looking forward to seeing the English National Opera's production of "The Marriage of Figaro", which at least promises to be "different".

The selections have kept interest up and the chance for a walk around London's West End is always appreciated. Thanks are owed to Messrs Mitchell, Keysell, Cowburn and Arnfield for organizing the trips and for not trying to look after us too carefully.

Finally, may I request one thing of Mr Ratcliffe and Mr Keysell on everyone's behalf? Please, please, please stop laughing so loud and embarrassing us all.

Colin Hazelden, 6E2

Junior Vulture

This year, Junior Vulture's customary four journeys into the Arts covered the media of theatre, dance, music and film, in that order. The trips held strong the usual friendly atmosphere, intellectual conversation and good food.

Our first trip was to see the play "To Kill A Mockingbird". This adaptation of the book by Harper Lee covers the issue of racial prejudice in the Deep South of America.

On a lighter note, our second trip was to see the Rambert Dance Company in Oxford, followed by a tour of the South Bank and a concert at the Royal Festival Hall for our third trip.

Finally we went to the cinema to see "My Left Foot", the Oscar-winning piece on the life of Christy Brown, an author who suffered from cerebral palsy.

Thus ends another successful year, full with dance, music, film, theatre and a conversation with a friendly teacher from Doctor Challoners.

Glyn Cannon, 3DC

BBC Computer Network

The BBC Network has had another successful year with the acquisition of several pieces of new equipment. The School has bought two Archimedes computers, which have impressed everyone with their speed and graphics capabilities. The Art Department have also had the benefit of an Archimedes this year, on which they have run graphics packages such as Pro-Artisan to help their students.

We have also bought a scanner and laser printer for the Archimedes which means that we can scan pictures and then load them into graphics packages on the computer, edit them, and finally print them out as high quality pictures on the laser printer. Thanks are due to Linus Twizell for his invaluable management of the Archimedes. He has been adopted by the second formers as an avuncular figure, who promptly referred to him by various amended versions of his name.

Our new CD-Rom station has proved to be a major attraction. The School has bought an entire Encyclopaedia on CD-Rom which can be scanned in only a few seconds for every occurrence of any particular word.

The network is also forging ahead in the field of Desktop Publishing, a product of which is the "Ikon" magazine. Other centres of activity have been the Puzzles directory from James Ayling, with many mind-twisting innovations, the modem, which has been used by some members of staff to communicate with other schools, and many user-groups which have been set up mainly by members of the Lower School.

Unfortunately we have had some bad news this year - the new IT centre project has been delayed by the council, which means that we will be unable to fully implement the Information Technology requirements of the National Curriculum.

Jon Hart will be leaving the School this year, and thanks must go to him for the excellent work he has carried out on the network. Thanks also go to Mr Berry, Mr Everett, Mrs Briggs and Mr Gibson.

Peter Mennie, 5H
Network Manager Elect

Computer Club

The Computer Club has enjoyed a boom in membership this year due to a sudden influx of second formers. As a result, the sixth form computer experts have been pushed off the stations and have been forced to use alternative methods of satisfying their computing needs.

The Modem User Group has also grown a great deal, with the result that, via the miracle of Bulletin Boards, pupils have been talking to people as far afield as South Africa, Australia and New Zealand for the price of a local phone call. The fact that Mr Lovell's brother has temporarily lent us a faster modem means that telephonic communication charges are now much less.

The demand on the resources in the Computing Lab is now so great that more equipment is desperately needed, for example more IBM compatible machines, a high speed modem and a laser printer similar to the one found in the rival BBC room.

SA Bromwich, 6E1
Assistant Network Manager

French Trip - June 1989

It was 5.30 a.m. when we had to arrive at School to board the coach. We got on board after putting our cases in the boot, everyone looking really tired. The journey to Ramsgate was long and tedious but when we arrived everyone seemed to brighten up. The crossing was calm and no-one was ill and most of the two and a half hours were spent either playing cards or playing the arcade games.

We arrived in sunny Dunkerque and were soon driving all the way to Paris. The journey was reasonably uninteresting and we were all thankful for the short stops where we were able to stretch our legs.

Once in Paris we made slow progress, mainly due to the traffic but as many of us had never been to Paris before, it was a chance to look at it for a first time. As we arrived in Bretigny early, we had to hang around for a bit, waiting for the families to pick us up, and naturally we were all worried about meeting them for the first time.

Gradually we were all picked up and driven off to their houses where the evening was spent getting to know them and beginning to converse in French. The whole of Sunday was spent with the families and some boys were taken for a day in or around Paris, and the remainder spent the day at home enjoying the sun and the surroundings.

On Monday we all met up again and went in the coach to spend the day in Paris. When we arrived at L'Arc de Triomphe, we were split up into our groups and set off in our separate ways. By the time we had regrouped at the Eiffel Tower we had all seen: Notre Dame, Sacre Coeur, les Champs Elysees, the Pompidou Centre, la Place de la Concorde, le Louvre, and we had been at least twice on the Metro.

After most of us had been up the Eiffel Tower and met back at the coach we found out that two boys had been lost on the Metro, and a man had jumped from Notre Dame killing himself and the thirteen-year old girl he landed on! Anyway we waited by the Seine in the heat of the afternoon for about two hours until we decided to start back to Bretigny, leaving Miss Munday and Mr Powell in Paris waiting for them.

Fortunately the two boys had managed to return safely to Bretigny before we arrived and we returned to our families knowing that they were safe.

The following day we packed and said goodbye to our families for the last time, and set off in the coach towards Dunkerque. The plan was to have stopped off to see the trenches at Ligny, but as it was pelting down we decided to give it a miss and go straight to Amiens. Amiens Cathedral, the largest church in France, was stunning inside, and remarkably light for a church, and after some time there we had to move on towards Dunkerque, and our final stop, the hypermarket.

The ferry journey back was pretty rough, and on deck it was very difficult to stand up due to the wind, but most people found something to do, and soon we had arrived in Ramsgate. After customs, and waiting for a new driver for about half an hour, we set off back to the School.

The journey back was mostly in the dark and was very tiring, and when we arrived back at the School we were all tired but we had enjoyed ourselves very much.

R Pople, 4M
and N Harwood, 4S

Focus (Or Christian Union)

There has once again been a change in the structure of our meetings this year, with two main meetings every week, one for teaching and one for discussion, as well as prayer meetings every break-time. This alteration has increased our number of regular members to twenty-five.

Most of our current leaders (John Crozier, Alastair Denniston, Philip Marsh and myself) have another year to go and now seem to be getting into their stride, with meetings which are actually organised more than twenty-four hours beforehand!

We had another week-end away at the end of February, held at the Wycliffe Centre in Horsleys Green, which attracted fifty young Christians from seven schools in the Wycombe area. We all enjoyed ourselves immensely, including the leaders, one of whom had a bit of a shock at midnight on the morning of his birthday. The Inter-Schools Christian Fellowship meeting which we held in the middle of March attracted ninety people and was addressed by the curate from one of the churches in the area.

SG Pratt, 6MP2

Forum

Vth and VIth form Forums have enjoyed a sizeable influx of people all through the year.

Vth form Forum has seen a couple of guest leaders of meetings including Dave Alderson from St Andrews Church in Hatters Lane.

A wide variety of topics have been covered in the meetings. From time to time members of the Group have led meetings.

In an informal relaxed atmosphere, people are able to talk freely.

Perhaps indicative of the future of Forum, the best meeting was held in the absence of Mr Ratcliffe!

We meet on Tuesdays at 1.40 p.m. in Room 4. Why not drop in and have a cup of tea if you are at all interested in Christianity?

Mark Parkinson, 5L

Benevolent Fund

A local girl called Jennifer Musselle, the High Wycombe Mayor's Appeal for stroke victims, the nationally known Imperial Cancer Research Fund, as well as a dozen or more well-known and lesser-known charities have received support from the RGS Benevolent Fund this year.

The fund is maintained by the regular voluntary gifts of the boys and staff on Monday mornings, and while there are special appeals from time to time the backbone of our fund raising for charity is the Monday collection. Several forms will collect well over £100 each this year, and as an experiment, we gave one class the option of raising support for "their" nominated charity. They have made gifts of over £150 for cancer research.

While, mercifully, we have not had any "emergency" collections this year, the special collection for Jennifer

Musselle who is suffering from cerebral palsy, came to £260.

£100 has gone to the Mayor's Appeal and a further £124 to the Armistice Day Poppy Appeal. By the end of this term the Benevolent Fund will have raised and given to charity over £2500 in the year.

JR Barry Kempson
Benevolent Fund Treasurer

Airmiles Appeal

This appeal was set up by the Sixth Form Committee with help from Mr Grout and Mr Page. The Publicity Officer from the British Paraplegic Sports Society, Martin McKellaton, visited the School and outlined at a committee meeting the function of his society, the ways in which it worked, and how it was financed.

A very low target was set, easily reached within a week of the appeal's beginning. Local firms participating in the Airmiles Promotion scheme were notified, and generous donations were forthcoming from British Gas, Alfred Marks, and Granada TV Rentals. 7000 tokens were also redeemed against the Shell Petrol Points scheme, stemming from the many "in-school" donations.

Just after Christmas, unfortunately on one of the windiest days to hit High Wycombe, six representatives from the BPSS Basketball team turned out to play a demonstration game in the Sports Hall. The skill and agility of the players, all in wheelchairs, kept the large crowd of spectators enthralled. A close game was played with one of the school teams, showing just how high a level disabled athletes can attain.

The appeal has amassed a total in the region of 16,999 tokens, enough for 32 return flights to Amsterdam, the nearest Dutch airport to this year's World Disabled Games. On behalf of the Sixth Form committee we would like to thank all those people who have donated to this appeal, and also wish the British team the best of luck in Holland.

Matthew McCarthy, 6LY2 - Head Boy
Carl Walsh, 6LY2 - Secretary

Amnesty International

Full permission for group meetings was given in July 1988 and, with the aid of Mr Keysell, the first meeting took place on 21 September 1988. Letters were written to Turkey, Peru, Paraguay, China and Bulgaria, to name but a few. Very pleasing success came in the United States where the life of Dalton Prejean was spared after his death sentence was indefinitely suspended.

Starting in September 1989 preliminary meetings were arranged with the High School. After an intensive period of discussion and several personality "problems", the Car Treasure Hunt was born. On 3 December 1989 28 teams competed for a prize of £100. Another £100 was raised that was split 50/50 between ourselves and the High, with

part of the money being kept as group funds and part being sent as a donation to Amnesty. The Hunt represented a very satisfying culmination of organization and logistics and was on the whole a great success.

1990 has seen the introduction of Lady Verney and Beaconsfield High to the meetings with the aim of another fund raising event being organized. With our humble Patron, Mr Phillips, the majority of the members of this new phase of meetings are soon to move on to pastures new, and police stations (irony, Haggis, irony). Lower down the school, however, the group's membership has been further increased following a very successful week of assemblies. 1990-91 will see a move from the radical dictatorship style of management (irony again) to a more peaceful democracy in my own good hands (which also costs less!). We look to the future with much optimism. Morale is high. You might as well join now.

Phil Read, 6LY1

Careers Talks

Among the many opportunities offered by the Careers Department are careers talks. These take place every Thursday afternoon between November and March. We aim to cover as wide a variety of careers as possible and welcome further contributions.

It always seems a pity that, given the large amount of work which goes into organising the talks both by the Careers Department and the speakers, there is such a relatively low turnout. We would encourage all students (4th-6th forms) to attend a variety of talks, not just those they think they are directly interested in. The more you know about careers in general, the better informed your final decision will be.

This year talks were given on the following topics:

International Marketing	Mr Redpath (<i>Excel Power Ltd</i>)
The Civil Service	Mr Brown (<i>Dept of Trade & Industry</i>)
Accountancy in Industry	Mr Nicholls (<i>United Biscuits</i>)
The Pharmaceutical Industry	Dr McElroy (<i>Glaxo</i>)
Public Relations	Mrs Diment (<i>Jay Communications Ltd</i>)
Architecture	Mr Slade (<i>Thurlow, Lucas & Janes</i>)
INDEX, Careers in Geology	Mr Robson
Engineering in the Oil Industry	Mr Bond (<i>Amoco UK</i>)
Air Traffic Control	Mr Richards
The Merchant Navy	Capt Howarth (<i>BP</i>) 2nd Officer Julia Robinson (<i>BP</i>)
Airline Pilot	Mr Poole (<i>British Airways</i>)
The BBC	Mr Dormand
Chartered Surveyor	Mr Price (<i>Grand Metropolitan Est</i>) Mr Wagg & Mr Cross (<i>The Welling Partnership</i>)
The Leisure Industry	Mr Robert (<i>Wycombe District Council</i>)

Thanks are due to all those who have given up their time to talk to students.

HRM

RGS Work Shadowing Scheme

Over the last few years the School has created a Work Shadowing Scheme for first year Sixth Form students, involving shadowing someone in a company or firm at management level for between two and five days. The point of the scheme is to give insight into the world of work in general as well as more specific experience of careers in which there is interest.

One of this year's shadowers described his experience.

Shadowing at Excel Power

Following a TAA careers talk, it was arranged that I would be able to visit Excel's factory in Harlow to shadow Mr Redpath, the Marketing Director, and to find out about the basic principles and processes in running a hi-tech company.

The first day I was given a tour of the factory complex including the management suites, stock rooms for components and the factory floor itself. Excel Power is one of two major parts of Excel Ltd. This section concentrates on the production of power supplies whereas Excel Wound Components produces a large range of different transformers, supplying larger organisations such as Ferranti, IBM and British Telecom. In the course of the week I was shown over both aspects of production although most time was spent on the Power section.

The timing of my visit was very fortunate. Over the last five months, Mr Redpath, in his capacity as Marketing Director, has been working closely with the Chief Production Engineer, Mr James, on a new product called an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS). This is essentially a box which acts as an interface between the electrical mains supply and a computer, compensating for power surges or voltage drops and, in the event of a mains supply failure, maintaining power for a given period.

Excel designed, manufactured, assembled, marketed, sold and distributed a new version called a Hybrid UPS. The production engineer went over the design in detail with me about I won't explain it all here! Mr Redpath explained the financial breakdown of the company and showed me a planned 24 month forecast of costs, overheads, salaries, sales predictions, manufacturing costs etc; in short a prediction of the assets and liabilities of the company and thus the future profit estimation for the firm up to June 1991.

I then spent time with the main Design Engineer responsible for testing prototypes and learnt about the wealth of equipment in his laboratory. I then assembled some small transformers and was able to test them, getting better than expected results for the power specifications!

Later I learned from Mr Redpath the techniques for advertising and launching a new product such as the Hybrid UPS, including production of pamphlets and operation manuals.

I then spent two days on the factory floor with Mr James learning how to assemble the new UPS systems. (These two days could really be classified as work experience rather than shadowing.) Mr James also had a meeting with the stock man to discuss orders for the first four months of 1990. I found this meeting quite interesting with discussions on current stock, future requirements, new component suppliers, labour time for assembly on each UPS etc. I was allowed to assemble a complete unit on my own unsupervised. This was very good, considering each unit has a retail price of £995. Mr James, Mr Redpath and I worked late to complete the first ever Hybrid UPS and at 8.00 p.m. the first customer took delivery.

On my last day that first customer phoned in to say that, being an engineer himself, he had gone over the UPS, was very impressed with it and would recommend it to other potential customers which is good news for Excel.

I spent some time with the Finance Manager and Accountant who explained the detailed process of balancing books - another interesting and informative morning. The factory closed down at noon for Christmas and I was invited to a small celebration with all the managers and directors of Excel. We had a glass of Champagne to celebrate Christmas and the evidently successful launch of the Hybrid UPS.

So in the week I learned about facets of design, development, public relations, advertising, marketing, production and manufacture, sales and finance required in a hi-tech company. I have also been invited back next year to see the progress and modifications of the new product. I certainly look forward to this.

Antony Everett, 6MP1

The School is pleased to acknowledge, with grateful thanks, the support of the following companies registered as full participants in the Work Shadowing Scheme.

B Creative Ltd	Macintyre Hudson
Barclays Bank	Magistrates' Court Beaconsfield
BBC	Marks & Spencer
BDO Binder Hamlyn	Midland Bank
Bisham Abbey	National Westminster Bank
BKS Freight Forwarding	Ortho-Cilag
Bodleian Library	Parker Knoll
British Bakeries	Rev Philbrick
Brunel University	Rank Xerox
Cementation Piling & Foundations	Malcolm Reay
BP Collins	Rodgers, Horsley & Burton
Compair Broomwade	RTJ Environmental Services
Arthur Davis Game Farm	GD Searle & Co
Flare Services Ltd	Semi Gas Systems
Gamlens	A Sendall
Granada UK Rental	J Shaw
Grant Thornton	Tektronix
Halifax Building Society	Tricom Communications
Holland Automation	Trustee Savings Bank
Kingsley Computers Ltd	United Biscuits
W Knowles	Watson Hawkesly
Lloyds Bank Ltd	Widney Eurocraft
London Air Traffic Control	Winter Taylors
Lovells	

Music Society

1989 saw the departure from the School of a number of highly valued members of the Music Society, including both boys and staff. Of particular note was the departure of Mr Heath, who had been a mainstay of the Society for many years. However, the gaps were quickly filled by a blossoming body of talent from lower down the School, and by a number of new arrivals, to ensure a year of continuing vitality and diversity in the Society's music making.

The first event was the Autumn Recital, with a varied and challenging programme including solo items, wind and brass ensembles, and chamber music. There was a performance by a group of eight cellos, with three soloists

from Wycombe High School, of Villa Lobos's *Bachianas Brasilieras No 5*. The Choral Society performed a selection from Haydn's *Creation* to round off the evening.

As always, the Christmas concert was the major event of the Autumn Term. With a wide ranging selection of music from Berlioz to Count Basie, the concert provided the opportunity for an enthusiastic display of talent from all quarters. Of particular note was an inspired performance by the First Orchestra of Smetana's nationalistic tone poem *Blanik*, from *Ma Vlast*, which saluted the rapid democratization occurring in Eastern Europe.

The Choral Society completed a busy year by representing the School both at the Major's Festival of Carols in the Town Hall, and at our own Carol Service in the Parish Church, where they were ably supported by the Junior Choir.

The February Recital ranged over a broad spectrum, in terms of both the music and the performers. Lawrence Power of 2J and Alex l'Estrange of 6C1, impressed with solo items, and Alexander Walker (6E1) was the double bass player in only the third performance ever of his own rumbustious *Serenade for Cello and Doublebass*. The cellists reformed to deliver the opening of Rossini's *William Tell Overture* to an appreciative audience, which also enjoyed Schoenberg's arrangement of the Strauss *Emperor Waltz* for mixed chamber ensemble.

The climax of a busy year was on April 28th, when the Choral Society, together with Wycombe High School Choir, and the Oxford Symphony Orchestra, gave a rousing performance of Verdi's *Requiem*. This provided a fitting end to a year which has been notable for the continued dedication of boys and staff alike. The Society is indebted to the commitment of Mr Smedley and Mr Hussey; and to Mrs Campbell and Mr Edwards for their help in box office and front-of-house arrangements.

M Stidworthy, 6BK2

Duke Of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Once again the School's Award Scheme has enjoyed great success with a great deal of enthusiasm and initiative from the crowd of over 100 participants.

Although not very apparent within the School, the activity outside school hours has been tremendous. Last September 28 boys went to Rally '89 at Green Park - a meeting of over 300 Award Scheme participants, where people could try over 40 activities ranging from shooting to skate-boarding and canoeing to candle-making. With the good fortune of nice weather, everybody enjoyed themselves tremendously, whilst meeting many similarly active participants.

Last July a very successful expedition assessment saw the completion of the Bronze Award for 38 boys. Inevitably some then didn't carry on with the Award Scheme, but a surprisingly large number have taken on the challenge and are well on the way with the Silver Award. This summer more expeditions have been planned, not only walking at Bronze Level in July, but also Silver expeditions to the White Peaks and the Surrey Hills, and the preparation for a Bronze canoeing expedition is taking place.

As ever the Award Scheme has displayed a wide variety of skills, services and physical recreations. Probably the

most important of these is the service, as this section of the Award encourages boys to help the community in some way. Nature Conservation is, as ever, extremely popular, many boys helping with BBONT, but others have been helping out with Cycle Proficiency tuition and two boys have been doing some great work in their Thursday lunchtimes at Park Crescent School. This involves helping severely handicapped children with hydrotherapy treatment.

Last year a large number of boys successfully achieved an appropriate level of competence at archery for their physical recreation section. Orienteering, trampolining, sailing and a special canoeing course after school on Fridays have also been organised.

On embarking upon any level of the Award Scheme, I don't think that anybody realises the extent of the challenge and commitment that the Awards represent and we have been extremely pleased at the great success of the Award Scheme within the School, but as yet we have had no successful Gold Award entrants. With this in mind, it is with great pride, that I can announce that a number of sixth formers are well on the way with their Awards, but Tim Sparks and myself have the end of the tunnel in sight. We should both complete our Awards by the end of the Summer, having started in September 1988. This is an extra achievement as we are both Direct Gold entrants, meaning that a minimum of 2 years participation is necessary.

Although the Award Scheme has been hard work, it has also been great fun, and I really feel that I have achieved something worthwhile. It is with this in mind that I would like to thank all the Leaders and helpers of the Award Scheme, on behalf of all the RGS participants, particularly Mr & Mrs Orr, Mr & Mrs Skingley, Miss Goldsmith, Mr Catling, Mr Dover and Mr Bushell for their help with last year's Bronze expedition and above all Mrs Bushell, who has given a great deal of time and effort in single-handedly getting the Award Scheme off the ground and successfully keeping it going.

MJ Nixon, 6MP2



Whether in East or West, however, it was clearly a very special time to be in Germany and never have German studies seemed more relevant or rewarding. The whole experience was of immense interest and value, not only to the pupils who participated but also to the teachers who were responsible for this year's exchange: Mrs Shingleton of WHS and Messrs Kempson and Crease.

Auf Wiedersehen Osnabruck bis 1991 und, wer weiss, Deutschland einig Vaterland!

A.S.C.

German Exchange 1990

It could be claimed that the RGS first made contact with the Ratsgymnasium, Osnabruck, just five years after the end of the Second World War. The first intrepid exchange partner in 1950 was none other than Mr. Brown our Headmaster - we won't mention that he was then a pupil of Queen Mary's School, Basingstoke.

And now forty years on the 21st exchange party visited an Osnabruck very different from the war-torn town that Mr. Brown encountered. The 20 RGS boys and 17 WHS girls had the usual warm welcome and enjoyed excursions to Bremen and Hamlin.

A smaller group of sixth-formers spent three days in East Germany, where they experienced the problems of the emerging democracy at close hand. They saw some of the life in a provincial city, Magdeburg, where the group stayed and spent a fascinating day in Leipzig, the 'cradle' of the recent revolution. A school visit enabled them to speak with pupils of a Magdeburg secondary school.

Ikon Magazine

A new magazine came into existence this year to cater for the creative and journalistic writing talents as well as the artistic gifts of the pupils of the RGS. Ikon is not intended to be a rival to the eminent publication in which this article appears. A gap in the market was spotted for a magazine under no obligation to print Rugby and Hockey results which could be flexible enough to contain as much visual material as written. It was decided to keep an open brief and to work around the material submitted. Despite rumours to the contrary, the first edition of Ikon was never short of material and the time taken to publish was due largely to technical problems. When it finally appeared, Ikon sold out completely at the School play and due to

enormous demand it was decided to extend the run for Show Day by a further 500 copies.

The title of the magazine links artistic association with the jargon of computer programming (an "icon" being a visual sign which appears on the monitor to offer an option for a particular function). This was felt to be appropriate for a magazine intended to take full advantage of the desk top publishing equipment now available in the Electronics Laboratory and the 6th Form Art Room. We hope that the next edition will come into being far less "painfully" than the first, having now mastered some of the mysteries of laser printers, font sizes and desk top layout. Please submit your ideas, articles, poems, drawings, letters and photographs to the committee of Ikon for the forthcoming edition.

TNA

Model Railway Club

In a year which has been dominated by turmoil, progress has been limited. Cuts resulted in Bucks. Education Authority having to postpone the building of the new library, which would have spelt the demise of the present spacious Model Railway Club premises. Preparation was made by the committee to move out although a major problem was the "O" gauge layout, inherited from the Beaconsfield MRC, which was rather too large to be accommodated in our new premises. This problem was solved by the postponing of the library project. The only beneficiary of the Education Authority's action appears to be the Model Railway Club!

There was also a cut in MRC trips caused by high fares needed to meet the Government's strict financial targets.

On the bright side, the committee is presently considering organising an exhibition next year. My thanks go to Andy Palmer, the treasurer, and Mr Lovell for all advice given over the last year.

Richard Sparks (Chairman), 6EC1

Oh What A Lovely War!

The audiences hardly needed the programme note: "The scene is set during the August Bank Holiday 1914 on a seaside pier somewhere in Britain". Admittedly, the entrance to the Queens's Hall on a March evening does not seem to lend itself to such a proposition, but the sight of the co-director in a deck-chair, reading his newspaper, while a busker in a pierrot costume played outside, the bunting, members of the audience in costume, peddlers, and a small band playing on stage - even if not entirely successful in sweeping us up into the illusion - certainly helped get us into the right frame of mind.

This show depends on organisation, with a large cast, a lot of doubling of parts, costume changes. The need, and its supply, was highlighted on Friday by the unfortunate gap between the cessation of the pre-performance activity in the auditorium and the opening of proceedings on stage.



The emergence of the full cast and its spirited performance of "Row, Row, Row" quickly swept us back into the right frame of mind, and from then on we could thoroughly enjoy and admire the show.

Team work is essential in "Oh What a Lovely War", and successful team work was clearly on display. Some of the voices were rougher than others, some had better stage presence, some had lapses of concentration, but overall the show bowled along, lifted by those singable tunes and the witty and humorous words.

The other essential ingredient, of course, is irony: Sir John Haig's fanatical incompetence set against the numbers of casualties flashed onto the screen behind him; or the profiteers grouse shooting in Scotland, scared at the prospect of an early peace, while their faithful gamekeeper's sons are at the Front. It was a pity that the projected messages were not more clearly focussed on the screen, their impact would have been greater, but the message came across clearly. The blend of humour, farce, tragedy and sentiment worked - we laughed, were touched by the sadness, and given food for thought to take away at the end.

It would be difficult, and wrong, to pick out names of individuals, but the highlights for me were Denise Chandler's performance of "Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers" and George Rockett's instructing troops in bayonet practice. Denise had a lovely voice and real rapport with the audience, George was the archetypal, foul-mouthed, humorous NCO - his neck thrust out, the veins throbbing in mock indignation.

All in all this was a splendidly vigorous, varied show, worthy of the two schools - Lady Verney High School and the Royal Grammar School.

Jl Mitchell

Isle of Wight Trips 1989

At the end of August, a group of 30 boys ably supported by Mr Ratcliffe, Mr Powell, Mr Pantridge, Mr & Mrs Neal and Tara the dog, visited the wonderfully facilitated Westbrook Centre. A mini golf course and a heated swimming-pool were just a few of the many amenities that the Centre provides.

Each day comprised free-time and a trip to one of the Isle of Wight's many attractions.

On the numerous excursions, there was usually a set trip in the morning and then leisure time in the afternoon. For example, one day we visited Alum Bay and saw the fascinating coloured cliffs. After a boat trip and a chair-lift ride, everyone then had a few hours to do what they wanted.

After the more than adequate evening meal there was a short discussion led by one of the staff. After this, the games machine - kindly supplied by Mr Ratcliffe - got underway. This part of the day was optional and sometimes this was a good thing as the games usually entailed getting wet or covered with egg.

This trip was an excellent way to finish the long summer holiday and I look forward to the next one.

Andrew Price, 4R

A similar trip was held in April. A visit to the local "prison" followed by a Zulu charge and an attack from Japanese World War II saboteurs were among the highlights of a holiday which also included a visit to the local waxworks. At the centre, each day ended in a wide game or indoor games. Sport was also present, at the Centre's golf course, trips to the local swimming-pool and squash courts and even a game of football, which Mr Powell claimed to be refereeing. Trips to nearby towns were also organised in what was a very enjoyable holiday.

Matthew Hill, 4R

Photographic Society

The Photographic Society meets on Tuesday lunchtimes in the Photography darkroom. The aim of the Society is to teach boys how to develop and print black and white photographs.

Photographic assignments are arranged and cheap black and white film is available for purchase.

The Society supports the Scouts and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme by offering skills courses.

RPS

Art & Design

Extra-curricular Art & Design takes place during lunchtimes and often after school hours. Facilities for a range of two dimensional and three dimensional activities

are available for all boys covering Drawing and Painting, simple printmaking, Calligraphy, mixed-media techniques, Sculpture and Computer graphics.

Visits and Workshops: This year has proved to be an exhausting but exciting one with visits to the Ashmolean museum and the Pitt Rivers Ethnological museum in Oxford; and the "Tom Phillips Portrait Works" exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery where the 4th year boys took part in a gallery workshop as part of their GCSE coursework.

"Symbols and Transformations", an exhibition of Edward Durdey's work at Milton Keynes, was a particularly rewarding time with a workshop and project developed in collaboration with Radcliffe School in Milton Keynes.

"Scottish Art in the 20th century" exhibition at the Barbican Art Gallery was another illuminating experience for the lower sixth form A-level Art boys when they participated in a workshop working alongside artist Will Maclean.

For the first time this year we were fortunate enough to participate in the Royal Academy of Art's "Outreach" programme where an artist and model came to the RGS to work with our A-level and A/S-level Art students.

Developments: The new Exhibition space was completed this year with an Exhibition programme devised to promote and reflect the broad nature of Art & Design related activities. The development of good facilities for the public display of work of students and artists working within the community is an important aspect of the work of our department. Such developments have a vital role to play in establishing a proper ethos for the place of the visual arts within the work of the school and the community.



'Symbols & Transformations': an Art Workshop at Milton Keynes Exhibition Gallery.

Information Technology has made its mark on the work of boys in the Art and Design department with the arrival of an Archimedes computer, Hewlett-Packard Paintjet colour printer and a graphics tablet. The computer is used extensively in lessons, Tuesday Art Club, in after school sessions and in preparing material for IKON magazine. Linked with the existing video camera we have been capturing images in digitised form. The results are exciting and the impetus for further development in related areas of visual communication studies is apparent.

RPS

Turkey Trip April 1990

*Shall not thou and I compound a boy ... that shall go
to Constantinople and take the Turk by the beard?*

Henry V ii 218

This was our objective as we embarked on the school's latest classical/history trip (otherwise known as "Munday Tours") for indeed we were to "take the Turk" by his proverbial beard - (in the strictest metaphorical sense, of course!).

It was a damp April evening as we touched down at Istanbul airport - our intrepid party of travellers comprising 32 boys and 4 staff. We were to engage in a week-long campaign that was to take us some 1200 miles through western Turkey. Led forward by our guide, Macit, the first morning saw us boldly encountering the bustling streets of central Istanbul. We hurried past the persistent street pedlars and fellow tourists as we made our way from Constantine's hippodrome to the splendours of the Topkapi Palace via the "Blue" mosque and the Hagia Sophia - a building of gigantic proportions, built originally as a church by Constantine. The day's whirlwind tour was concluded by visits to an elaborate underground cistern and the famous Grand Bazaar. Despite our hectic schedule we had still found time to discover the high quality and variety of Turkish food - something that was to continue throughout the week.

Our second day in Istanbul was far more relaxing as we took a boat trip up the Bosphorus to the Black Sea - a waterway of great historic importance since the days of the



ancient Greeks, and the boundary of Europe with Asia. The appearance of several of our number in shorts seemed to cause great amusement amongst the Turks (probably understandable given Phil Krinks' taste in shorts and Andrew Hunt's taste in socks - or lack of it!) From here we transferred to Bursa, a prosperous and picturesque town nestled on the slopes of Uludag, the Turkish Mount Olympus. Many of us enjoyed the steaming Turkish baths provided at the hotel, none more so than the 6 sixthformers who shared a bath with all the staff including Miss Munday, before wandering through the streets to see the mosques; beautiful relics of an age when fabulously wealthy sultans ruled. Religion is still an integral part of Turkish life, despite the reforms of the ever popular Ataturk. But now we were to move deeper into Turkey's rich history as the coach took us south to Kusadasi.

The ancient city of Ephesus was next on the agenda and for many was the highlight of the tour, with its well-preserved and richly decorated temples, library and theatre. Not only was Ephesus a powerful Ionian state but it also has biblical significance; Paul stayed there for 2 years and some believe Mary, mother of Jesus, peacefully spent her final years there. The theatre which seated c 25000 was particularly impressive as it towered, carved into the rocky hillside - the scene of the notorious riot as recorded by Paul, and emphasised by Mr Ratcliffe, our modern day evangelist. We also spent some of the day learning how traditional hand-made Turkish carpets are woven into intricate patterns. Two of the wealthier, or more gullible, members of staff resorted to their Access cards here. It was while staying at Kusadasi that Mr Wilson led 12 of the lunatic fringe on a 3 mile run through the streets of the town, cheered and applauded all the way by incredulous shopkeepers.

Following a visit to the acropolis at Pergamum we continued along the Aegean coast to Troy - the setting of Homer's Iliad. Although little remains but rubble and sprawling wild flowers, one could gaze across the plain and imagine mighty Achilles bearing down on Hector, or silent figures descending from the belly of the wooden horse under the moonlight. We then crossed the Dardanelles, or the ancient Hellespont, following the route of Xerxes' bridge of Persian ships. The weather was such that unlike Xerxes we found no necessity to punish the waters - we took the ferry over an absolute millpond.

Back in Europe, we had moved to more recent history and the monuments to the First World War dead at Gallipoli. It was a moving experience, walking past the memorials to so many Allied and Turkish dead, and the quiet moments were made all the more poignant by the forthcoming 75th anniversary of the campaigns that was to attract world attention only a week later. The return to Istanbul presented us with one final opportunity to look around the city.

So it was a tired but happy party that returned to Heathrow, many of us sporting our new "Lacoste" T-shirts and clutching mementos of the holiday - packets of apple tea, fezes and of course the inevitable Turkish Delight!

We speak for all when we express our thanks to the teachers - Mr Wilson, Mr Edwards, Mr Ratcliffe, and especially Miss Munday - for organising everything, and to our guide, Macit, without whom we would have been completely lost and very hungry!

Andrew Speedy, 6C₁
and
Michael Groves, 6BK₁

School House Report

We have come to the end of another year in the School House saga. The House is somewhat quieter this year with the absence of last year's 62 - Martin Brown, Tongue-man, Richard "The Chest" Flack, Smitty and Jon Buckley. Luckily for us Jamie returned to share his fun-loving and considerate nature with us.

Our ranks swelled by the "Skate or Die" Junior dorm, most noticeably by Chris "Deck'em" Bealer and Phil "Bella" Carter. In the Middle School by Euan "The Body" Sey, Pob and Scott and in the Senior School by Dave "Crack-it" Hackett and Chris Blythe.

On the sports front several members of the Boarding House represented the school at Rugby and the set rugby was also well represented - well done Jerome "Demon-Tackler" Bhat and a mention should also go to "Windy" Keer for being in the School quiz team. For the second year running Uplyme declined any confrontation on the sports field.

Our excursions this year included the regular non-event at Oakdean School and our Christmas treat to go bowling in Aylesbury. Euan Sey must get a special mention for almost scoring a strike on the lane next to his by jumping the ball over the ridge between the lanes.

Special thanks must go to the staff of School House; Mr & Mrs G, Mr Goldthorpe, Jamie and Mrs Wilcox for keeping us in line? and looking after us so well. Thanks must also go to Gill, the cooks and the Ladies for keeping us healthy, fit and clean - no easy task.

Congratulations must also go to Jon Hart for gaining a place at Cambridge - at least one of us will get to University!

Next year's prefects have shown great maturity (not puerile at all!) and with such colourful characters as Matt Albino and Chris Claydon and also Paul "Deeper" Kingsnorth should stand the Boarding House in good stead for the next year.

PR, HJ, RSN, AS, JH, MAL, SB, CO, SH.

PS See you again next year Jamie, please come back!

PPS We wish Mr Goldthorpe all the best for his future.

Uplyme Report

Another year has flown by at Uplyme, with only five new arrivals at the House. Every year here has its moments and this year has been no exception. Each member of the house has contributed to the friendly, easy-going atmosphere, with some members' actions being less desired than others. This all adds to the spice of life here at Uplyme.

Jonny Gatward has had a good year despite somehow damaging an item of hardware in the bedroom. His Chemistry has shown a first order improvement, but he ought to spend more time studying and less time drinking on weekends away. Duncan Brockway, the most senior arrival this year, was perhaps a little shy in September but soon relaxed well enough to invent his very own girlfriend. You could have come up with a more original name Duncs, and get some new shoes, those boots are awful. Both of these well-developed young men are set to join the

national student body by moving on to University in October. Good luck to you both (you'll need it!).

In the first year Sixth Dave Harding has grandly represented the House on the hockey field, being a distinguished First XI player (well someone has to play the sport). It's a shame David's discovery of the opposite sex has interfered with his work so badly. But it's Dougie Smith who has clearly led the way in that field with experiments with ladies of all walks of life (but more importantly ages). Sadly Douglas suffered a severe leg injury which rendered him somewhat useless to the School rugby teams. Keep training Doug, and you will make the 1st XV next season. James Richards arrived with younger brother William this year and settled soundly. Their presence has been warmly felt by all. William must get a pair of pyjamas though.

Stuart McKellar, closely followed by Jamie Blackwell, have rather unfortunately both become victims of fashion and cool hairstyles, while James Baker is drawing the crowds with his wicked, silky tracksuit. Peter Northage consistently insists that this year's supper rota has been somewhat biased, but this is contrary to the knowledge of all seniors (honest!). Maybe things will change when he is silent for a period of time in excess of five seconds.

Mildly embarrassing moments seem to have descended mercilessly on Darren Mills. Bursting into Alcatraz unannounced has resulted in many awkward situations (and positions for that matter).

Young Chris Coster should most definitely apply for a job with British Telecom for services rendered during Prep time. Occasionally one wonders whether Chris eats scientific dictionaries for breakfast. Technicality is his speciality.

Robin Callister and Miles Nurnburger have both had a relatively quiet year along with Alan Davies, even if he is a might oblivious to all that goes on around him. Be on time for breakfast next year Alan (if you're still here).

Well that just about covers everyone. However, it's clearly not only the boys who make up the atmosphere. Great personal thanks go to Clare and the "B" family for making the last year here so enjoyable. Penultimately, thanks Mr Edwards, our House Tutor and keen Rowing Coach, for being so "fair and just". I still think too many "late beds" were granted to the juniors though.

Finally, the Stubbs family. An enormous "Thank you" from everyone here at the House. Sadly the Stubbs are leaving at the close of this school year. Good luck from all in whatever comes your way (no doubt rugby and clocks will feature somewhere). After 22 years of devotion to running the boarding house, you will be missed.

Shane Slater, 6SB2
Head of House

Biology Field Studies Course, July 1989

Biology is the study of life, and as such, begins in the field. Any good biologist should have a keen interest and firm grounding in those things which can actually be observed in vivo in the outside world. For this reason, the Biology field studies course occupies an important part of the syllabus.

The 1989 course took place at the Orielson Field Centre near Pembroke. Situated in a big old house, crumbling slightly at the edges, set in the midst of rolling woods and fields, the centre provides an atmosphere and ambience conducive both to work and leisure. Even the nearby Whitehaven oil refinery, when viewed silhouetted against the orange glow of late evening, contributes something positive to the aura of being at one with nature.

The course itself consisted primarily of investigations of rocky shore ecology. Each day was spent on the beach in the sunshine (a pleasant change from the windswept climate at the top of the science block) counting, measuring and classifying the diversity of life to be found cohabiting on the shore. In the evenings back in the laboratory, Tim, our knowledgeable and good natured leader, took us through a variety of statistical methods and even some biology. The seashore was revealed as a complex and diverse habitat, teeming with life, from the hermit crab in his bijoux borrowed apartment, to the limpet clinging for dear life to his rocky outcrop, to the voracious dog whelk. Sadly, the dog whelk represents a more permanent intrusion by man into the lives of the seashore animals than our transient day trips, since numbers of dog whelks are in rapid decline due to the presence of noxious paint residues from the hulls of passing ships. The female dog whelk is now rare indeed, for the compound causes a change in sex, and the shore is now a male dominated preserve.

Meanwhile, as land lubbers ourselves, we felt at first hand many of the problems of the littoral life, but adapted readily to overcome them. The problems we faced included desiccation, (luckily sustaining fluids were readily available nearby), temperature fluctuation (overcome following the example of our littoral friends, by periodic reimmersion in the cooling Welsh currents) and exposure to the Sun's rays. The latter was not overcome successfully by a number of people, who got a bit of a raw deal in the blazing sunshine.

However, all in all it was a most successful, informative and enjoyable week. Much biology and ecology was had by all. Thanks must go to the long-suffering Miss Goldsmith for her help in all matters, enabling the week to be enjoyed to the full by everybody.

M. Stidworthy, 6BK2

American Exchange 1990

Venue: Exeter Area High School, New Hampshire.

Why go?

Well-it's-a-fortnight-off-school-and-you'll-have-a-great-time.

Er, what I really mean is it's a Great Cultural Experience.

Oh yeah? So it's actually different from what all the TV shows and films suggest? No? Then surely there's no point in going.

It's a chance to spend three weeks Not-in-England where your daily living is all tied up with the debris of yesterday's living and the demands for tomorrow's, to explore being yourself away from the usual ties, to have a new go at the tricky business of working out who you are



International Kite Flying Team: Giles, Keith, Kimberley, Mike.

and making some progress, however apparently small, towards becoming who you think you would like to be.

Uh-huh?

It isn't really a trip to a zoo to see how the funny-peculiar over there choose to live, whether or not its "Gosh-Wow-Amazing"-ly different from ourselves. It's more about seeing contrasts to our own accepted ways up close in the flesh and reflecting on whether that has anything to offer as an alternative approach, or even just to acknowledge that an alternative exists: education yes, but not dressed in uniform and locked inside the confines of a classroom.

For instance?

For instance the whole "Have a nice day / How're yer doing?" thing. However apparently synthetic/plastic in delivery, it feels born of a real sense, alive in a community, to wish each person well and to try to express that feeling however cliched the phrase becomes. On a road crossing or not, the pedestrian is invariably braked for and ushered across, the drivers astonishingly polite, moderate and tolerant. And drink. When I did the French exchange the French students seemed pre-occupied with smoking, ours with alcohol. Well New Hampshire seemed moderate in the social pressure to consume alcohol. Not that any community doesn't have individuals who have addiction problems related to any particular drug, but generous hosts didn't appear anxious to press alcohol on guests as part of their hospitality, nor guests to glug for more.

And the language? The "two-nations-divided-by-one-language" thing? Well you can have a lot of innocent fun with it but the laid back slang is so often intriguingly mixed in with very formal, even archaic sounding, words and sentence structure. (Apparently I was "chaperone" to the RGS lads.)

New England seems full of charming old homes - "not old by your standards" the American host would invariably laugh self-consciously of a 1680's building. Well that's actually true for many, even most, of our castles and churches but our houses? And the general run of modern wooden homes fits in so well with the traditional styles. Was there a feeling that not having anything really old was a kind of communal failing? Does Europe in this way hold America by its roots? Look, at first hand I can vouch that Italian Americans are both very American Americans and very Italian Italians. Does this explain the need for so many union flags fluttering from so many flagstuffs at homes, workplaces, in each classroom? And the weekly

pledge of loyalty to that flag over the classroom speaker system that replaces our assemblies? Does it reflect a particular insecurity?

Yes it all raised interesting questions, and different and particular questions for each person who went according to who they were and what they saw and did.

I would hope that we will raise as many questions for the group coming back for the second half of the exchange in June, be it our inability to cram a glass chock full of ice before adding any sort of liquid to it, the extraordinary similarity between baseball and cricket lurking below an apparent multitude of superficial differences of detail, or the, for us, simple issue that London is not actually England. At any rate I invite you to make them all welcome in the corridors of the RGS.

TJNC

Kart Club

At the time of writing (April 1990), the Club has completed just over one full year of its existence. Considering that no-one had driven, let alone raced karts before, we did exceptionally well; and came home on two occasions, the proud possessors of a hard won trophy. These were awarded, in the time honoured fashion, by presenting them to the drivers concerned, in assembly. One or two eyebrows were raised during these assemblies when the report of the previous weekend's race meetings were read out, along with glowing rugby, hockey, fencing etc. reports. We could not relate heroic tales of second phase scrummaging, or sabre fighters gaining international honours. We tended to tell the unvarnished truth, of petrol being left out of tanks, ignition switches left in the off position and trying to start an engine with the spark plug left out. Nevertheless we have made a start, and poised on the threshold of a new season, we hope to improve on last year's performance.

I know the team members have learnt a lot about the trials and tribulations of trying to keep running a highly stressed miniature racing car, with generally a mind of its own and a great affinity for staying in the pit lane; or when it does venture out on the track, prefers to shake itself to pieces at the drop of a crash hat. This does mean that now at race meetings, I occasionally manage to eat lunch without being interrupted to replace a broken piston, and lunchtimes at School, it allows me to tell everyone how to put it back together, rather than having to do it myself.

Whether it was this feeling of being lulled into a euphoric state, where all I needed to do was turn up at some unearthly hour on a Saturday morning, drive the already loaded minibus and trailer to the circuit and the boys would do the rest, I know not; but, thinking I had plenty of time on my hands, I rashly agreed to lead a small team of sixth form gentlemen, in building a car for the International (must remember to quote this in our next assembly report) BP Buildacar Competition. The finals for this are in October of this year. I do not at this stage intend to let you into all the interesting fun and frolics we have had to date with this entry. Suffice it to say that, we are entering a single seater racing car, which if you like, is just a big kart. If you remember my rather jaundiced view of karts, further back in this article, and Howe's Law that: trouble is directly proportional to the square of the kart size; need I say more? I will give you an unexpurgated

version in next year's edition, if/when we reach the finals. Don't miss it!

I would like to thank everyone who has helped us over the last year or so. In particular I very much appreciate the donation of materials from various parents. The funding for the Kart Club by the Parents Association, including money to purchase a new engine (particular thanks to Mr Beever for his help in ordering this engine). Likewise the financial sponsorship from Instron in High Wycombe and British Alcan, for our BP Buildacar project. Finally the Mums and Dads of the boys involved for allowing their loved ones to hurtle round a strip of tarmac at terrifying (occasionally) speeds and those of you that have had to put up with the odd kart in the garage during holidays.

CW Howe

Chess

Overall, this has been a very successful year for the RGS Chess Club. The second team, led by Patrick Dixon, narrowly missed promotion from Division Three, with Paul Benstead, Daniel Lambourne and David Corris in particularly good form. The first team, somewhat disappointingly, was unable to field a full strength side for much of the year. However, fine results from Simon Long helped the team to an above average finish in Division Two.

Due to a reduction in the level of enthusiasm this year, the RGS entered only five teams into the Junior League. However, the standard was as high as ever with the first team winning Division One. At county level Tim Rogers, Simon Long, Paul Colburn and Daniel Lambourne all played regularly.

The highlight of the year is undoubtedly the Sunday Times competition. The RGS team has already won its zone and has reached the last sixteen in the country - equalling the school's best ever performance. The team faces a hard game away to Ipswich over Easter, and I have every confidence that we will progress even further. Many thanks to the organizers of the teams and to all of the players.

Nick Orolin, 6SW2

Role-playing Club

The club is still going strong in its fourth year with a record number of members (over 80). The club is held each lunchtime in room 5 which is usually very busy. Most people are content to come only during school time but members are also able to stay after school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Members still retain the privilege of a large and expanding range of games which they are able to borrow free of charge. The most recent additions to the collection have been "Cyberpunk" (a game based on the dark future), and "Panzer Leader" (the club's first wargame which is based on the First World War).

The club also held a trap competition which has just recently come to a conclusion. The winners received

money tokens for Wycombe's local game shop "Not Just Stamps".

Now that the original founders and committee of the club are leaving the School, the club will change hands in leadership next year but this should not stop it from continuing to run smoothly. The time and effort that was spent starting up and running this club has definitely been worth it. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all boys and teachers who have helped it to run so well, particularly the Deputy Head, Mr Clark, who is our Master in Charge.

Carl Rylett (Chairman), 6BK2

French Exchange 1990

Fifteen boys from the RGS and fifteen girls from the High School took part in this year's French Exchange with two schools in Nimes. Accompanied, perhaps for the first time in its history, by an Art teacher, the Exchange party set off from the school rather too early on the Sunday morning before the end of term. It was indeed too early for one member of the group who was 'rudely' awakened by a telephone call at 6.00 a.m. (departure time 5.45) and who had to make his own way to Gatwick Airport. Dan Air, perhaps confused by the late arrival of the above mentioned member of the group, betrayed dubious security standards by checking in an unmarked item of hand luggage inadvertently left on someone's trolley. Happily the bag was recovered before it reached the hold of the aeroplane, containing not a bomb but Mr Arnfield's brand new Walkman.

After a comfortable flight we were met by an expectant group of French families at Montpellier International Airport. International though it may be, this airport does not currently have a Duty Free Shop as certain members of the group were to discover to their great disappointment. Future visitors will be encouraged to know that a building development programme is currently underway.

The first week was the final week of the French school term and our group seemed to fit easily into life in the Lycee. I received encouraging reports from French teachers about the pedagogic value of having RGS pupils in their classes, notable stars being George Rockett and Tim Channon who both made a significant contribution to

communicative language learning. Their talents were equally appreciated in the cafe across the road where Nimes met the Wycombe Wanderers at table football on numerous occasions! A highlight of the first week was a fashion show staged in an impressive venue, part of the new football stadium complex in Nimes, by the Design staff and students of the Lycee Carmargue. "La mode", in Nimes, at least, included "doctored" Dr Martens shoes (even more huge and clumsy than they usually are) and an entire collection made out of newspaper. The originality and professionalism of this event was greatly appreciated by everyone present.

The start of the holidays brought a variety of activities for individuals according to their host family's plans. These ranged from skiing in the Alps to visiting Spain ('killing two birds with one stone' for someone who is also doing Spanish A level). The group met for excursions to Aigues Mortes and Avignon and with all partners present we were 60 strong. There always seemed to be some extra French girls not involved in the exchange keen to join us on these trips. Surely they would have visited Avignon before; what was the attraction?!

All in all the Exchange was a tremendous success for everyone involved and according to Mrs Coutts, the accompanying teacher from the High School, one of the smoothest running in the many she has helped to organise. We look forward to returning the generous hospitality of the French families in the summer holidays.

TNA

Stage Lighting And Sound

It would be true to say that over the past few years, the RGS stage lighting and sound set up has developed marvellously, to provide the school with an extremely versatile system, used in many areas of school life. Under the direction of Mr Everett and Mr Moore, 1989 has also seen several improvements.

In September, two new on-stage lighting bars were installed to replace the three existing ones. The two new bars are so positioned that the third is unnecessary. They are much longer and are both winched, making rigging of on-stage lights very much easier.

The fitting of these bars commenced the extensive rerouting and relabelling of every lighting circuit in the Queen's Hall, some seventy-five in total; quite a large task but, once again, ultimately simplifying operations.

The sound system has also seen some changes, primarily with the addition of a new twin cassette deck, record turntable and stereo mixer. Also a new amplifier means that near perfection has been reached with the backstage communications system, without which any production would simply not happen. New loudspeaker cables have been run to make the system totally flexible.

All these changes were very timely, coming together for the production of "Oh What a Lovely War", adding to the smooth running of this complex play. Once again, many, many hours were spent by an enthusiastic technical team both during, and outside, school time.

The co-ordination of all the special effects, such as the two slide projectors, Union Jack lights, Followspot and sound effects to mention but four, made for an extremely complicated play, technically speaking. It required very careful planning (during a fourteen hour technical



The 6th Form practice their French conversation skills!

rehearsal), and concentration of quite a large team for some slick changes.

Much of the acting in the play was on a large thrust stage. This caused something of a problem. None of the bars would enable this area to be lit sufficiently. The solution to this was to install another bar, this time in the auditorium. This was done quickly and easily, with no expense incurred, using one of the bars taken down from the stage.

As in previous years we are pleased to report members, both past and present, helping out on the technical teams of other organisations. Steve Drage left us two years ago and is now involved in stage lighting at a theatre near his university in Leicester. Peter Denison, in his second year at Cambridge, has been appointed technical director of the University theatre. Three members of the present team are also involved with local community drama groups. David Morris and Antony Everett have designed and operated lights for High Wycombe's "Four Ways", whilst Magnus Stewart has also operated lighting for various Beaconsfield drama societies.

None of this could have occurred without the generous financial support of the Parents Association who have funded the ongoing improvements year by year. Their help has been very much appreciated.

Kelvin Sampson, 6SW₂

Debating Society

In difficult conditions a young and inexperienced team struggled to maintain the fine performances of last season.

In an unruly first debate against Wycombe High School, incompetence from the chair allowed disorder to establish itself amidst a flurry of insults. Apologies though eventually eased any tension and in a return debate the aggression of the opposition could do nothing to undermine Philip Krink's use of fruit to boost his fading ego.

The young ladies of Beaconsfield High were the next victims of the society's collective inability to come up with an interesting motion and an entertaining evening, trying finally to crack the old chestnut of capital punishment, was far from marred by their stubborn refusal to admit we were right.

It was, however, in the return of the short but distinguished old boy Matthew Leigh and his partner from the Oxford Union that the year's most valuable lessons were learnt, principally, of course, that motions about musical rabbits seldom make for a good debate.

We hope to end the year with a flourish against the mighty Wycombe Abbey, whilst on a less exalted level, Beaconsfield and Wycombe High Schools have requested re-matches and plans are in hand for an "All-star", end of year event.

Thanks again go to Mr Roebuck (and Brian) who were always on hand to savour the pervading air of jovial incompetence. We hope that next year's 6th form will not be daunted by the task of upholding our unswerving commitment to excellence and will once again rise to the most dizzy heights of rhetorical sublimity with style and elegance.

David Allen, 6C₂

6th Form Report

An exciting year has elapsed, with a number of projects successfully executed, and the execution of the pigeons successfully halted. The ever-punctual committee, with a full turn-out always assured but never gained, chose several schemes from the many suggested.

A Hallowe'en party, in aid of Scannappeal, was staged at which the two deputy-head boys Shane Slater and James Dean excelled themselves by performing the Birdie Dance ("with a little bit of this and a little bit of that"), in front of fellow party-animals. The evening was a success and we would like to thank the fear-instilling bouncers, namely Mr Page, Mr Yeates, Mr File, Matron, Mrs Nicholls and of course Mr DAN Stone.

During the Spring term the main fund-raiser of the year was launches, "Airmiles for Athletes". The tokens flew in, fuelled by interest from local organisations such as British Gas, Alfred Marks and Granada TV Rentals, which helped the campaign take off. The outcome of the project is that with a total of approximately 16000 tokens nearly 30 disabled athletes will be able to fly out to the World Disabled Games in Holland at no cost to the BPSS (British Paraplegic Sports Society). Our thanks go to all those who have sent in donations, and to Mr Page and Mr Grout for piloting the scheme.

The common room itself has been completely redecorated, new bins have been bought and even used, an impressive stereo has been installed although problems have been encountered with a shortage (about 5 inches) of speaker cable. The catering department, superbly run by James Dean Esq with assistance from Richard Parker, has just about managed to keep up with an ever increasing demand and has also widened its range to include the much sought after YES bars (a favourite of the Head Boy).

The latest project has been to find a new home for our displaced pigeons. The RGS's own Dovecote is now going through planning permission; does anyone build them??!!

Matthew McCarthy, 6LY₂ - Head Boy

Carl Walsh, 6LY₂ - Secretary

Senior Library

The Senior Library has once again seen a fruitful year, despite a stark reduction in our numbers due to the early defection of three of our team to the CCF. The recently announced postponement of the new library project means that for the foreseeable future at least, pupils will have to endure being packed in the current library like sardines, with books and folders strewn everywhere.

The intake of new books has continued to increase significantly, most notably in the art section - possibly due to Mr Stevens' determination to recommend at least one vastly expensive new book each week. However, Mr Jones put up a gallant fight in the History section but must resign himself to second place for the moment!

Thanks must go to Mr Yeates, primarily for his incessant quibbling over paper bills which the newsagents vehemently denied receiving payment for almost each week, and also to the inestimable Mrs Grieve, not only for her work in the library itself but also for helping possibly half the upper sixth with their university queries! Thanks must also go to Mr Mitchell for ensuring the rapid classification of new books.

Congratulations are in order for James Peters for enduring Mr Yeates' constant taunts about his less than impeccable appearance and to Robert Pople for his ability to relabel book spines week after week without a single complaint. Many thanks to Robin Johns for covering the extremely busy and much-hated Monday lunchtimes and to Robert Elliot for covering Tuesday lunchtimes (when he felt the urge, at least!). Lastly, thanks must go to Richard Sparks and may I wish him the best of luck as next year's Library Prefect and hope for his sake that he has less trouble with the wretched clock than I have!

Robert Swain, 6LF2

YHA Club

Since the last issue of the magazine, the club has had two trips - to Scotland and to south Wales. By popular request, the summer holiday was in the Highlands of Scotland. Five nights were spent at Crianlarich, and five near to Fort William at the foot of Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in Britain. One of the School's minibuses took some of the boys and the food for the holiday to Scotland, and the rest of the party travelled by overnight train from Euston to Crianlarich, where a hot breakfast was waiting at the station tea room.

Crianlarich is a small town consisting mainly of a road and railway junction, with a modern Youth Hostel. However, some of the highest mountains of the highlands are nearby together with the famous Loch Lomond. The weather started out hot and sunny, and several boys suffered from the heat. However, Scotland soon showed more normal conditions and the weather varied from this hot weather to the howling gale experienced on Ben Lomond and the driving rain on Ben Arthur. A highlight of the stay was the climb of Ben Lui and the view to the coast from the summit.

One of British Rail's most scenic routes, the West Highland Line, was used for the journey to Lochaber and Ben Nevis and the stay in Glen Nevis at a more traditional hostel. Two groups made the journey through the glens and over Rannoch Moor to Loch Ossian, a remote bothy style hostel which used to be a boat house for the Corroul Estate. The warden there is one of Scotland's characters and some of our boys rose to his challenge to run around the loch in under an hour, John Crozier distinguishing himself. Also on the agenda had to be the ascent of Ben Nevis, on a day of mixed weather, with low cloud spoiling

the view from the summit. However, the older boys did manage the famous horseshoe route over Carn Mor Dearg and the arete to the summit. There were those who were glad that they couldn't see the views while on the ridge!

The trip to Wales was the traditional one to the Brecon Beacons in October, with the traditional weather. Edward Bennett of 3B includes the following in his comments about the holiday:

After arriving by minibus or train, the two groups walked from a derelict railway station north of Merthyr Tydfil to the Youth Hostel which is near to the main road south of Brecon.

The weather was occasionally sunny, but mostly drizzle and gusty winds.

One of the groups was very disappointed when they were prevented from climbing a peak on the final day in 40 mph winds and horizontal rain. Fortunately we did manage to climb Pen-y-Fan, the highest mountain in South Wales.

Surprisingly enough, Mr Ratcliffe turned up one evening to tell us that he was coming on the next day's walk. This provided entertainment for us ...

DMB

Beat The Boss

A first year sixth form team was entered for the Young Businessmen of the Year contest. This took the form of a computer simulation called "Beat the Boss".

The team struggled to grasp the concepts of the game, at first. Basically they repeatedly became bankrupt! Going into the regional qualifying round in Wolverhampton, nobody in our team fully understood the simulation. It was no surprise when we went bankrupt. Fortunately for the team, the Chairman suggested we sell our goods at a price which covered the cost of production. Our idea was to minimise losses.

Having qualified as best losers after a much improved second attempt, we travelled to Surrey to participate in the semi-final. By this time our squad had much improved and we were confident of our chances, guaranteeing a place in the National Final.

On 30 June 1989, the RGS High Wycombe elite four came face to face with their opponents. At the Chartered Accountants' society HQ in London, RGS made a strong start. The team played well except for the fourth year of the simulation, leaving them in 4th and Runner-Up position. In the final, 40% of the total was given for the presentation. Needing a miracle RGS produced a worthy



Simon Shaw (captain), Simon Hough (OHP slides controller), Jamie Ross (chief keyboard presser), Keith Wooton (late replacement for the injured James Dean).

show. We were later to discover that, although we remained runners-up, we closed the gap significantly with by far the best presentation. The team would like to thank both Mr Claye and Mr Grout for travelling with us. We enjoyed the experience very much.

Simon Shaw, 6GM₂

General Knowledge Quizzes

School Teams

The *Schools' Challenge* team started well, beating Wallingford School (480 points to 390) and the John Lyon School, Harrow (660 points to 510). This brought them into the regional final with Aylesbury Grammar School. RGS were on good form, but a virtuoso performance by the Aylesbury captain carried his team through to victory. Scores: RGS 500 points, Aylesbury 610.

TEAM: "Paddy" Keer (6H1), George Thomas (6BG1), David Chapman (4DP), Andrew Meldrum (4S).

Junior Schools' Challenge is still in progress at the time of writing. After excellent victories over Wallingford School (640 points to 50) and Sir William Borlase's School (550 points to 350) our team is awaiting a semi-final against Belmont.

TEAM: Peter Bailey (2N), Jonathan Brinn (2K), Robert Moretto (2HM), Iain Redpath (2K). Reserve: Nicholas Weingard (2K).

Internal Competitions

The Fifth Year competition was won by 5B (118 1/2 out of a possible 187). The other scores, in order, were 5MS

(110), 5H (97), 5RS (84 1/2), 5L (77) and 5G (65 1/2). An entry by 4R achieved a creditable 103 1/2 points, suggesting that they will be a force to be reckoned with next year. The force that is always to be reckoned with, the Staff, raised a total of 144 1/2, although, apparently, their guns were spiked and their feathers ruffled by some of the questions.

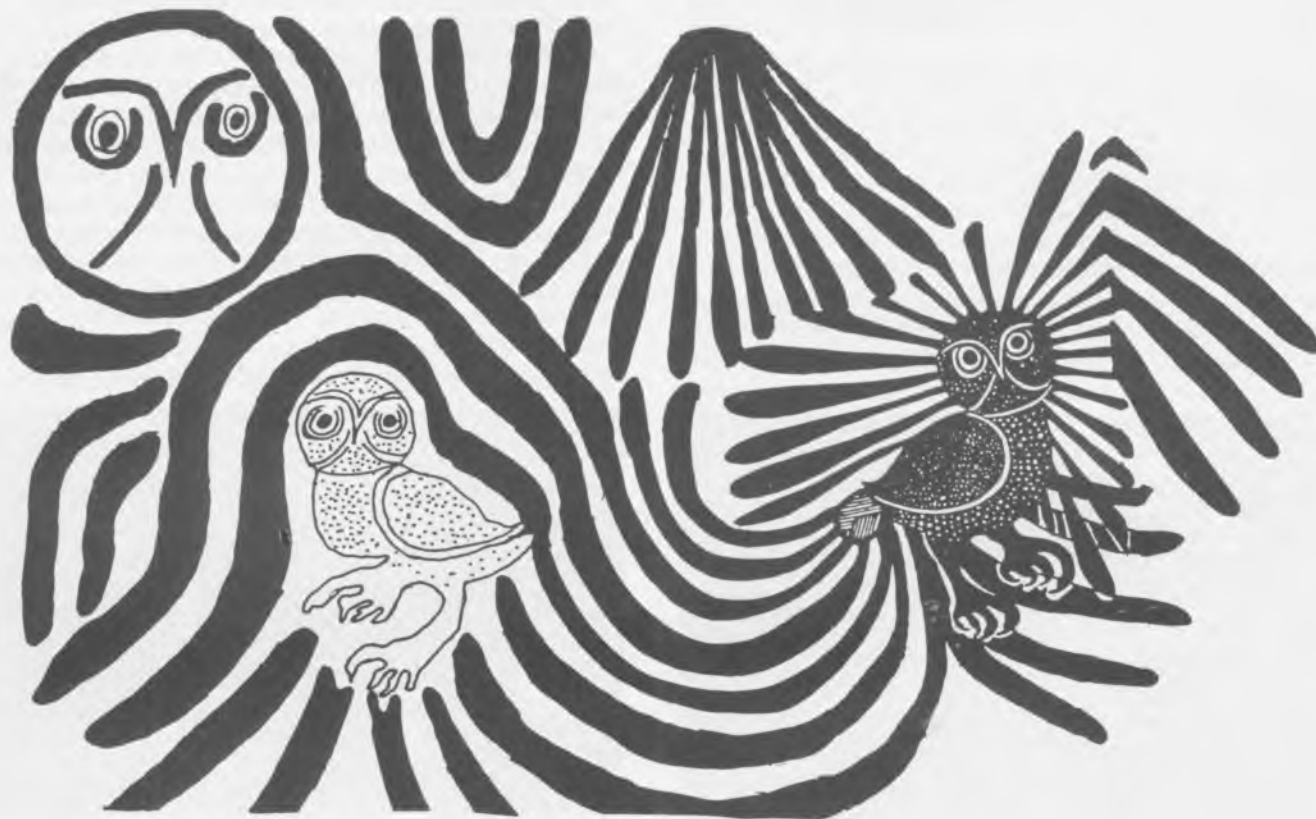
The Fourth Year competition was won by 4DP, the Third Year by 3B, and the Second Year resulted in a tie between 2K and 2HM, the first time that such a thing has ever occurred.

Endurance 80 (23-24 February '90)

This was an 80 km hike around some of the highest and most picturesque points of the Chiltern countryside. The four-hundred and twenty four walkers started out on Saturday morning, and went through the night until returning to Great Missenden HQ at various times on Sunday. Although the weather was much better than last year, with this time only one short shower, it was still an excellent achievement for our school's finishers:

Chris Lockyer	6SE ₁	15 hours 32 minutes
Jeremy Clark	6H ₂	18 hours 32 minutes
Chris Camp	6H ₁	18 hours 36 minutes
Andrew Boothroyd	6GM ₂	18 hours 56 minutes
Matt R Brown	5RS	21 hours 19 minutes
Matt D Brown	4DP	21 hours 41 minutes
Ian Danby	6MT ₁	22 hours 54 minutes
Gareth Herschel	6SE ₂	22 hours 56 minutes

Matt Brown, 4DP



Sport

Rugby

RGS rugby enjoyed a vintage season in 1989-90. Many boys played for the county, area, and regional sides with Andrew Hazell gaining an England U16 shirt as replacement for England U16 "B" XV v Italy. The 1st XV set an excellent example to the rest of the School winning 24 out of 26 matches. Their hard work and improved team play was often reflected in wonderful displays of open running rugby. Yet many of them still found time to help out with junior team coaching sessions. The award of National Junior Team of the Month in the April 1990 edition of Rugby World and Post was richly deserved.

In the Junior School the U13 XV were unbeaten and crowned a memorable year by winning the National Schools Junior Sevens Tournament at Rosslyn Park, whilst the U15 XV's only defeat of the season came in a thrilling quarter final tie in the Daily Mail Cup.

I cherish two particular memories. The first was seeing the U13 VII sitting on the touchline at the Rosslyn Park Sevens watching in awe at the 1st VII played. I overheard a conversation between two of the U13 VII in which one boy said "I hope that one day I will be good enough to play and captain the 1st XV". The second was a quote from one of the many national press write-ups the team received during the year which said, "The Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, consistently produces good sides."

The success of our School teams reflect the time and effort given by members of staff working with them. This year three of these staff leave; Duncan Powell, whose sheer effort, enthusiasm and energy will be much missed by the U14 XV; Stephen Goldthorpe has given a great service to many aspects of School sport. For many years he took charge of the U14 XV, and more recently coached the U14 "B" XV. With his quiet efficient preparation and gentle manner he has been a great ambassador for the School. Derek Stubbs leaves after coaching a whole range of School, district and county sports and has coached rugby at every level in the School. In recent years he has taken responsibility for the U13 XV and with the help of colleagues working at that level has turned raw talent into cohesive teams, in what is possibly the most difficult rugby task in school. We wish all three well in future years.

Finally our thanks to all those parents who have travelled and supported our games in all types of weather and hope that we will produce teams worthy of your support in the future.

CCT

1st XV

**Played 26 Won 24 Drawn 0 Lost 2 Points For 787
Against 163**

Pre-season training revealed that given enough possession the RGS threequarter line could become a match winning unit and the 1st XV faced the season with confidence.

However the first match was to shatter that early expectation as the forwards were totally out-scrummaged by a huge Berkhamsted pack and lost a 12-3 lead collapsing to a 12-16 defeat in the closing minutes. To make matters worse captain Simon Shaw later required stitches for a cut on his wrist. The following day the 1st XV played in the Douai 15-a-side Festival, which attracted a strong entry from Independent Schools throughout the



*Matthew Dawson in action at the Rosslyn Park Sevens.
From The Independent, photograph by David Ashdown.*

country, and what happened reflected the ability, courage and determination of the team throughout the season. Pack leader Simon Pearson moved forward to play at prop and the forwards were re-organised.

Adjustments were made to the threequarter line and RGS were ready for the first game of the day against Berkhamsted School in a repeat of the fixture from the previous day. There was no need for a team talk, Simon Shaw playing with his wrist strapped led his team to a 15-4 victory. The play of half backs Shaw and Matthew Dawson was quite magnificent as Berkhamsted crumbled.

RGS went from strength to strength during the day, and as the forwards started to win possession the threequarters scored tries with flair and style. The final saw RGS emerge as victors with a 15-6 win over Abingdon School.

Twenty four victories followed the defeat in the opening game. The forwards, although small, worked hard to improve their scrummaging ability and used the Powerhouse scrummage machine to good effect. They were tenacious in the line-out and in second phase and started to provide good possession for a talented back division to score 107 tries including 33 by left wing Shane Slater.

Notable victories in the Autumn Term included those against Shiplake College 31-9, Emmanuel 15-12, together with an outstanding team performance away to rivals Aylesbury GS which brought a 30-0 win. The 27-3 victory over London Oratory was marred by the loss of No 8 Joly Hemuss with a broken arm, and prematurely brought to an end his best season for the team.

The Spring Term started with a fixture against one of Ireland's strongest school teams Clongowes Wood College. In an excellent game, RGS came from behind to win 10-3. The 1st XV run of success continued in the Spring Term with wins over Tiffin 15-8, and RGS Guildford 16-0. Finally the senior squad departed for an end of season tour to Eire. Unfortunately the return fixture with Clongowes could not be played as they had reached the Leinster Cup Final, but excellent opposition and hospitality was found at King's Hospital School, Palmerstown. King's took a 14-3 lead but slowly RGS fought back into the game before Simon Shaw sealed a 15-14 victory with a 30 metre penalty in the final minute of the game. A 25-6 victory over the High School, Rathgar followed before RGS moved from Dublin to Limerick to play their final game of the season against Crescent College. Crescent College were unbeaten, about to win the Munster Schools Cup, and were the best team RGS had faced during the year. Their big forwards dominated the early stages of the game. RGS tackled well and an excellent try by Dawson tied the scores at half time.

Playing with the wind RGS opened a 13-9 lead and held it until the closing minutes when they conceded a penalty and then a pushover try to lose the final game 13-16.

So the season finished as it had started with a loss, but what a wonderful season it had been. For the first time in several years a number of fifth formers have held a regular place in the team, and will have gained a great deal of experience playing alongside the senior players. Their experience will be invaluable as we look to rebuild the team for next year, under the captaincy of Matthew Dawson.

Those leaving this year can look back with a great deal of pride. Duncan Sutton, the players' "Player of the Year", improved with every game and thoroughly deserved the county full back position. Ian Gould has developed into an outstanding centre and Shane Slater will have been grateful for the many try scoring passes he received. Matthew McCarthy, Daniel McNamara and Joly Hemuss were excellent in the back row, scavenging possession and tackling ferociously. The mobile Richard Mills improved throughout the year and had an outstanding Sevens season, Matthew Bickford, Julian Fieldhouse and Simon Pearson provided a stable front row and their strength will be missed next year. Captain Simon Shaw and vice captain Pearson led the team by example and should feel very pleased with their efforts.

Special thanks go to Mr Tattersall who devoted a lot of time towards making the season enjoyable and successful for all members of the team and to Mr Davies and Mr Yeates for their help in arranging the tour to Ireland.

Simon Shaw (Captain) and CCT

2nd XV

Played 26 Won 18 Drawn 0 Lost 8 Points For 520 Against 220

The 2nd XV have enjoyed a successful season, although their form could have been described as somewhat erratic. This was probably due to the fact that a lot of players were lost either through injury or promotion to the 1st XV. After a poor start to the season, coach Mike Davies, under threat of the sack, made an inspired change of captain. After this the team began to gel together, and remaining unbeaten until Christmas and losing only a few matches in the new year.

Particularly good wins were recorded against Emmanuel, Verulam, and local rivals Aylesbury. Luckily there was a large squad from which the coach could make his somewhat imaginative selections. These included playing a prop, Phil Read, in the centre although he knew Dougie Smith would have been more at home in that position. Hooker Jody Davies combined well with line-out experts Fraser Currie and Willie Walters, securing a lot of possession from this area. An effective back row of Jay Cross, John Stephens and Hoadie, "hunted as a pack", providing good second phase ball for the backs. The half-backs controlled things, before feeding the ball on to the wingers Gavin Carson, Tad Kawakita, Chris Hamp and guest star Richard McGrath to each score plenty of tries. These were all converted by the golden boot of Andy Hazell. At the other end of the field the defence of Tony Gibb and Adam Levan was excellent. The team's motivation was kept high by vice-captain Scott Couper and the occasional growling of Wyn Davies.

At the end of the season we went on a tour of Ireland, in which we won 2 out of 3 matches, with everyone who played producing some excellent rugby. Most notably Gareth Stythe and 4th year David MacLaughlin who both scored debut tries, and Gareth Wheatley who scored a hat-trick in the second match.

My thanks go to everyone who has devoted their time to the team this year. The three wise men, Manager Mr Yeates, coach Mike Davies and their boss Mr T, must all be thanked for arranging the matches and organising such an enjoyable tour of Ireland.

Mike Weaver, 2nd XV Captain

3rd/U16 XV

Played 15 Won 11 Drawn 0 Lost 4 Points For 290 Against 111

The 3rd /16 XV was based on the influx of very capable players from the Daily Mail cup side of the previous season, and a large pool of sixth form enthusiasts. The same side was never selected twice. This was a reflection of the need to provide opportunities for all players. The results achieved illustrate the adaptability of the team when boys were unable to play on a consistent basis.

The season began in fine style with eight consecutive wins, the performances against Emmanuel (21-3) and St Benedict's (14-10) being particularly impressive. Narrow losses against Haberdashers Aske's and Watford followed. However, three victories against Windsor, Desborough and Reading indicated the squad's strength in depth. A close contest against Tiffin (10-12) and a game played in appalling blizzard conditions (4-6) resulted in two defeats, to end the season on a disappointing note.

The strength of the side usually focussed on a competitive forward unit, as the backs were largely inexperienced, though sometimes inspired. The strength of the U16 contingent was sapped by boys playing for the 1st and 2nd XV's. The fact that nine boys played for the county, six for the region, and five for the division (all levels incidentally captured by Simon Schlaepfer) illustrates the strength at this level.

MJD

U15 XV

Played 18 Won 17 Drawn 0 Lost 1 Points For 536 Against 46

The results of the U15 XV speak for themselves. It has been an outstanding season. The only game the team lost, was the quarter final of the School's Daily Mail Cup against King Edward's School, Bath. Coached by Andy Robinson (England Flanker) and John Palmer (Bath RFC Coach), they were always going to be formidable opposition. Completely undaunted the RGS battled courageously to trail 15-16 with a few minutes remaining, when King Edward's ran in a final try to win 20-15. They were subsequently well beaten by King Edward's, Lytham St Annes in the semi-final.

The RGS conceded only 31 points in 17 games which was a reflection of their very solid defence. The back row of Windle, Hutchins and Nicholls tackled ferociously all season, well supported by McLaughlin in the centre. Ahmid at full back punted the team well up field on many

occasions, and Lippiat and Price ran in many splendid tries from their positions on the wings.

Philip Hills captained the side with growing confidence, and channelled the energy of our big pack with great effect. Line out jumpers Kapoor and Shaw improved all season, and Sargent proved to be an outstandingly mobile prop, often out-sprinting the opposition defence. Lin continued to bulldoze his way up field, trailed by the back row, who dodged the fallen bodies in his wake.

Many of the team have improved their technique over the season, and should look forward to joining the senior rugby squad in September.

MJG

U14 "A" XV

Played 20 Won 16 Drawn 0 Lost 4 Points For 537 Against 142

With motivation and commitment high, the U14 rugby team has had an extremely successful season, both in terms of the spirit in the team and of the results achieved.

Various permutations were tried in the front row, where Stuart Black was solid at tight-head and Nick Walker and Jack Tasker competed for the loose-head position. Brian McLaughlin soon fitted in at hooker, but was always pressed for his place by Robert Highett-Smith, who was also impressive towards the end of the season. Paul Munday won much line-out ball and "Zulf" Shamim was fearless in the tackle. The addition of Philip Carter gave extra drive to the second row. Martin Downing was frequently responsible for breaking through opposition defences and Jeremy Badman and Calum Irvine were quick to support.

Jon Shaw took over the captaincy of the side very capably indeed, enthusing and encouraging the others and assuming the role of play-maker. Neil Fitch and Matthew Hotston were elusive runners and excellent ball handlers, while Nick Humphrey provided extra "punch" in the centre. Neil Govan's pace and change of direction left many an opponent for dead and Rhodri Jones and Simon Blackwood gave extra speed and width to the attack and defence. Tom Hadley's kicking was a great asset and his tackling improved throughout the season at full back.

The most exciting fixtures of the season were the victories at Oratory (7-4) and Tiffin (8-4). Kicking away good possession led to narrow defeats at Watford and at home to Desborough, but we learnt from this to put together 10 consecutive wins to finish the season.

At the Queen Elizabeth Barnet "7's" tournament, RGS won their group convincingly and were even more impressive in their quarter final. They were knocked out by Sherborne in the semi-final.

With such a dedicated, enthusiastic squad of A and B teamers, all is looking good for next season and I wish the team well.

DRP

U14 "B" XV

Played 9 Won 4 Drawn 2 Lost 3

A number of the previous season's Under 13 "B" team players having opted for hockey, it was necessary to re-structure the side. It was difficult to get a balanced front

five, but eventually a reasonable mix was obtained. Apart from being well beaten by a strong Dr Challoners's "A" XV, the side competed well in all games and played some good rugby. Several individuals developed well and won "A" XV places, and some players in the season's team have promising futures in school rugby. I wish them all well.

The following played: Levan, C; Levan, R; Bealer; Andrew; Horn; Brown; Mir; Payne; Roberts; Addyman; Smyth; Waldron; Walker, G; Walker, N; Lawrence; King; Long; Radley; Tan; Lathom-Sharp; Highett-Smith; Large; Wallace; Maharg; Sparks.

SRG

U13 XV

	P	W	D	L	P For	P Against
'A' XV	14	14	0	0	634	18
'B' XV	9	8	0	1	268	24
'C' XV	2	2	0	0	64	0
Overall	25	24	0	1	966	42

SEVENS

	<i>Bedford Modern</i>	
	Queen Elizabeth Barnet	10-0
	Sponne	22-0
	Silver Jubilee	24-0
1/4-fin	Bedford Modern	22-0
semi-fin	Solihull	16-12
Final	Dulwich	0-10

	<i>Roslyn Park Nationals</i>	
	De la Salle	28-0
	Campion	10-0
	Colfes	32-0
1/4-fin	Emmanuel	7-4
semi-fin	Lord Wandsworth	13-6
Final	Bradford GS	20-4

	P	W	D	L	P For	P Against
1st XV	12	11	0	1	182	36

TOTAL U13 SQUAD	37	35	0	2	1188	78
------------------------	-----------	-----------	----------	----------	-------------	-----------

Highlights of the season were every Saturday, RGS bobble hats, Roslyn Park, the tour in Devon, TV coverage and - tackle, tackle, tackle, attack, attack, attack!

DJ Stubbs, Parent i/c

U13 "B" XV

The U13 "B" XV team enjoyed a season of outstanding success suffering only one defeat all season at the hands of a strong Tiffin School side. That result apart, the side eased to some very creditable victories with a blend of excellent teamwork and individual flair. The team remained settled for much of the season and this allowed a fine spirit to be developed within the side which was evident in much of their play.

Stuart Gatie proved to be a captain who led by example. When roused, the pack displayed formidable strength and much skill. Robert Smith at No 8 constantly threatened the opposition line and he was ably supported by the workhorses Philip Mantle, Chris Harris and Paul Lyon, and the dashing bursts of Jameel Hayat, Drew Wotherspoon and Matthew Peddle. Paul Woods proved a valuable introduction too, in the latter stages of the season. Gavin Sugg at hooker, although dwarfed by many an opposition prop, hooked fearlessly and effectively throughout.

The backs were no less effective. Simon Molden's intelligent distribution and support play complemented the elusive Iain Redpath and the fearless Guy Holland in the centre and our two wingers Gareth Rossiter and Chris Monnington displayed much aggression and strong running. Tim Parr at full-back had a quite outstanding season.

My thanks also go to the "back-up" team, particularly Nathan Thorne and Alex Mann who stepped in on numerous occasions and proved the great strength in depth of the squad.

It was a real pleasure to work with such an enthusiastic squad. They must surely go from strength to strength in the years to come. I wish them all every success.

SJN

Sevens

The rugby success continued into the Sevens season as the 1st VII swept to victories in the Bucks Sevens and Douai Sevens competitions. The team included Richard Mills, Simon Shaw, Simon Pearson, Matthew Dawson, Ian Gould, Peter Maxmin and Shane Slater, all of whom had been instrumental in the success of this season's 1st XV. They played with a confidence born of ability and the knowledge of each others' play right from the opening match of the first tournament. They swept opposition aside to win the Bucks Sevens for the third successive year.

The Douai Tournament in which RGS were runners up last year provided the first real test of their ability. The three opening pool games were won easily. Simon Pearson and Richard Mills were dominating the forward encounters, Shaw and Dawson linked well to allow Ian Gould to relax and show his full range of skill and ability releasing Maxmin and Slater for an abundant number of scores. A quarter final tie against the strong Downside School, Bath, was a repeat of last years tie, but they had no answer to an RGS team that romped to a 26-6 victory. Another excellent team display brought a 28-6 victory over Wellington College, Berkshire and a final against host school Douai. A tense match saw RGS emerge victorious 6-4 and become the first school to win the Douai 15-a-side festival and sevens competition in the same season.

In the National Schools Sevens at Rosslyn Park the 1st VII made a great start defeating De Aston Lincs 28-0, Rydal, North Wales 34-0, Merchant Taylors Crosby, Liverpool 30-0, and St Olave's, Kent 28-4. At the end of the day they had won their Group with the best record of all the teams playing in the competition. Day two brought a very difficult game against Strade, South Wales, in which RGS hung on for victory. In the quarter-final RGS defeated opponents Trent College 17-4. The semi-final against Mount St Mary's College, Sheffield, saw our opponents take a 12-0 lead at half time. RGS reduced the deficit but we could not break down their defence and we lost 8-12, but were content in the knowledge that this was

the best ever performance given by an RGS 1st VII at this tournament.

At Oxford the following day the spirit was willing but the legs tired and we slipped out of the tournament in the early rounds.

The U13 VII reached the final at Bedford Modern only to lose and went to the National Schools Junior Sevens Tournament full of hope. What a wonderful two days they were to enjoy, for having won their group with ease they overcame Emmanuel School 7-4 in the quarter-final, Lord Wandsworth College, Hampshire 13-6 in the semi-final and completely overpowered a very strong and previously unbeaten Bradford Grammar School 20-4 in the final, to bring the national cup back to RGS for the first time. To see the team jump up in delight at the final whistle will be something we remember for many years as it was a victory they thoroughly deserved.

In other tournaments the U16 VII were runners up at the prestigious Queen Elizabeth Sevens and then gave some very good performances in the All-England Sevens before being finally beaten in the quarter-finals. The U14 VII played well to reach the semi-finals of the Barnet Tournament.

CCT

Hockey

1st XI

**Played 23 Won 16 Drawn 5 Lost 2 Points For 111
Against 28**

Honours:

Nial Sawa and Jonathan Wyatt earned gold medals with the England U18 team which became European and Home Countries champions, the first ever England team to have achieved this.

In addition to Nial and Jonathan, school captain James Dean, Colin Carter, Simon Noakes and Simon Samuel played for the South-East England U18 team which became Inter-Divisional champions at Coventry in December.

Tim Townley gained selection for the South-East U17 team in March.

James King played regularly for Bucks at U21 level.



Captain James Dean in action.

Colours:

As a result of consistent performance at 1st team level the following were congratulated on receiving full colours: Scott Ashdown, Colin Carter, Stuart Garvie, David Gatcum, David Harding, Pavan Krishnamurthy, Simon Noakes, Simon Samuel, Nial Sawa, Jonathan Wyatt.

Half colours:

Daniel Anderson, Martin Cartledge, James Isaac, Tim Townley, Murad Vassib.

A very strong all-round squad has led to an exceptional season. After becoming South U18 Indoor Champions the team finally finished runners up to Bedford School in the National Finals held at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre in front of a large crowd.

Outdoors, despite often not being at full strength with University interviews, injuries and 5th form GCSE study preventing a settled team for selection, results have been excellent with only two defeats in a season of 23 matches.

The most memorable moments were in the St George's, Weybridge 6-a-side tournament in which the School drew the final 3-3 after qualifying from a very strong entry of 28 schools and becoming South-East U18 champions. In the latter, fine victories of 4-2 against Kent College, Canterbury (considered to be their strongest ever team) and Eastbourne College 2-0 take us into the National Finals for the third successive year.

The reputation the School has earned itself in recent years gave us an invitation to play the opening match on the artificial grass pitch of St George's, Weybridge, a game which was won 3-0 and also a triangular tournament where a win over a Dutch touring team and a draw with KCS, Wimbledon gave us another trophy.

The contribution of our new coach this season, Mr Auld, has been valued.

DGS

2nd XI

This season promised well with a nucleus of good players coming through from the successful U16 side of last season to join the few second teamers with experience from last year. Early results were encouraging with a 1-1 draw and a 3-1 win being gained over local rivals Sir William Borlase.

After Christmas the results were very disappointing. Several players were unavailable for one reason or another and it only needed somebody to drop out of the 1st XI for the team to be weakened further. At this stage of the year we also begin to meet schools who have played rugby during the previous term. Their more physical approach always unsettles us and a variety of surfaces always means that we have problems with adaptation.

Even so games we lost could quite easily have been won if we had shown more sharpness in the D. Much of our approach play, nurtured on the artificial surfaces, was a delight to watch. The highlight of the second half of the season was a 3-2 win against Desborough School on their shale surface. The side that day was mainly a fifth form team, which augurs well for the future. As usual we were scratching around for sides on Saturdays. So many boys now play regularly for club sides that some thought must be given to the value of these games, which are often played on sub-standard surfaces.

MWC

U16 XI

**Played 11 Won 5 Drawn 3 Lost 3 Points For 30
Against 22**

Overall this has been a most satisfactory season. We had a disappointing start, losing to East London Schools. However, after regaining last season's unity, we bounced back with an excellent victory over Daneford School, a team which eventually emerged as South-East champions.

Fine hockey and composure on the ball earned us a well deserved draw against the touring German champions Uhlenhorst from Mulheim.

Outstanding hockey was played in the Bucks Final against Marlow HC but many good scoring opportunities were missed and the team disappointingly lost 3-2.

Goal keepers Alan Morton and Steve O'Donovan improved beyond recognition making some great saves. Mark Darby, who progressed consistently, John Symmons, Robert Flint and 4th formers Adam Smith and Arshad Khan were key members of a team which listened, learned and executed. John Gordon was always reliable in defence and his assistance was invaluable in organising the team.

Finally on behalf of all players I would like to thank Mr Stone and Mr Auld for their time and effort.

T Townley (Captain)

U15 XI

The season began with RGS in most impressive form, most notably against Watford GS (6-0) and Bucks U14 (4-1). This was thanks mainly to some fine attacking hockey, in particular by Adam Smith and Matthew Ward. However this was soon followed by a run of games where RGS couldn't get it together. Firstly RGS were torn apart by Kingston GS and then lost to Abingdon in a game they deserved to win. But as the season drew to a close, RGS picked up again with a sound team performance against Hitchin Boys (5-2), and RGS played their best hockey against Kingston in their final game. RGS didn't allow the opposition, who were unbeaten all season, to settle and thanks to some stout defending and keepng by Alan Morton the result was a goalless draw.

The team was captained ably by Arshad Khan and looks forward to next season and their prospects in the National Finals.

Team squad: Arshad Khan (C), Adam Smith (C), Alan Morton (C), David Bocquet (C), Mark Madden (C), Michael John (C), Matthew Cameron (C), Matthew Walters (C), Andrew Ball, Matthew Ward, Andrew Wardill, Giles Edwards, David Schruers, Aumran Mohammed, Richard Stidworthy.

(C) denotes member of Bucks U15 squad.

Arshad Khan

U15 Hockey Tour to The Hague - Easter 1990

In the last week of the Easter holidays the U15 team went on a three match tour to Holland. On the first day we played HDM, one of the leading clubs in Holland. They had a mixed age-group team which included a very large

and fast forward line. In the first 5 minutes Matt Ward scored from a rebounded short corner and although HDM came back strongly the RGS won 3-2 thanks to a hat-trick by Matt Ward.

The second game was against Alecto in Leiden. The opposition had just won their league and were determined to do well against us. It was a good game and we controlled it convincingly to win 2-0.

The final match was against Klein Zwitserland, again one of the leading Dutch clubs. At half-time the score was level, but we began to tire after our previous matches and training sessions and the Dutch scored two goals in quick succession to win 3-2.

It was a very successful tour and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves and would like to thank Mr Pantridge, Mr Stone and Mr Auld for organising the tour and giving up their holiday to take us.

Adam Smith

U14 XI

The U14 side started the year on a very rocky note. However, as the season went on the team gained confidence and made some solid performances both on astroturf and grass.

Some of the games played were against strong schools who had played a year's extra hockey but thanks to Mr Auld's coaching, our skills and teamwork improved and we managed to hold our own.

Six boys were chosen to play for the County squad and from those six Jonathan Axworthy was chosen to play for the U14 and U15 South East Divisional Team at the National Tournament in Coventry.

We would like to thank Mr Pantridge for his dedicated help towards the success of our hockey team and giving up his valuable time to help us improve. Also we would like to mention Miss Goldsmith for her commitment to the team.

SQUAD: Yasser Taher (C), Nick Hughes (C), David Forrest (C), Stuart Large (C), Jonathan Axworthy (C,D), Mark Richards (C), Steven Barlow, Ben Rayner, Andrew Goodfellow, Mark Washbourne, Edward Phillips, Simon Milward, James Richards, Roger Bates.

(C) - County (D) - Divisional
J Axworthy (Captain)



Cricket

1st XI

Played 16 Won 5 Drawn 8 Lost 3

Batting Averages:

Roger Mould	664 runs at 66.4
Shomit Dutta	483 runs at 40.2
Andrew Swain	453 runs at 34.8
Richard Flack	157 runs at 22.4
Simon Shaw	177 runs at 17.7
Jonathan Wyatt	89 runs at 11.1

Bowling Averages:

David Harding	24 wickets at 21.3
Richard Flack	24 wickets at 22.0
Shomit Dutta	12 wickets at 23.9
Anthony Ball	15 wickets at 31.7

With limited penetration in the bowling department, the 1st XI captain, Shomit Dutta, inserted the opposition whenever possible, and then asked his batsmen to chase the runs. It was much to their credit that no target was spurned, and batting for the draw was only used as a last resort, once victory was no longer a possibility. The highlights for the team were the victories over Latymer Upper School, and the two victories in the enormously successful RGS Festival, which High Wycombe hosted. Latymer Upper School had taken full toll of some ragged bowling and set a daunting target of 248. Roger Mould (76), Shomit Dutta (72), and Andrew Swain (41) all batted superbly to set up a 5 wicket win, in what must have been one of the best games of school cricket anywhere last season. Having been humbled by a very competent RGS Worcester side on the first day of the RGS Festival, we then beat both RGS Colchester and RGS Guildford, thanks mainly to two excellent displays of accurate bowling and determined fielding. The 1st XI ended the season by beating the Masters' XI by 7 wickets, but not before they had received a batting lesson from their coach Mr Noyes who scored 80.

The batting relied very heavily on Roger Mould, whose 664 runs included 5 half-centuries and 1 hundred, Shomit Dutta with 483 runs, and 5 half-centuries, and Andrew Swain, who passed the 50 mark 4 times while scoring his 453 runs. Simon Shaw and Richard Flack also made notable contributions in the latter part of the season. Special congratulations go to Roger Mould, who crowned his prolific season with 101 n.o. against Lord Williams's Thame.

On the bowling front, Richard Flack and David Harding often made in-roads into the opposition batting, but until the emergence of Richard Parker late in the season, there was a lack of support. Alastair Whittome seemed able to beat the bat more often than not, but for the most part he bowled without luck. The most remarkable spell of bowling came from off-spinner Anthony Ball during the Festival. Against RGS Colchester, he bowled his allotted 11 overs at a cost of just 8 runs, 9 of his overs being maidens.

All members of the squad worked particularly hard on their fielding in training sessions, and this was reflected in the high standards achieved throughout the season. Behind the stumps Simon Shaw kept wicket with distinction, and

was in his element when flinging himself full-length to catch or stop the ball. Simon's whole-hearted approach will be a great advantage as he captains the 1st XI in 1990.

Special thanks go to Messrs Goldthorpe, Page and Tattersall and Mrs Dodds, who worked throughout the School year to ensure the success of the RGS Festival, to Mr Noyes for his expert coaching, and to Rita for the excellent teas.

AR Yeates

2nd XI

Played 10 Won 5 Drawn 3 Lost 2

The season started with a defeat by Tiffin School but five of the next six games were won. There were several fine batting performances helping to win these games, with the swashbuckling Arthur Goode in outstanding form. He received good support from Ian Hardman and Tim Seymour, the latter recovering well from a poor start to the season to become a solid and reliable opener. Both Dr Challoners and Lord William's, Thame were beaten by 8 wickets, batting second and reaching the target set with time to spare. Richard Parker made tremendous progress during the season as an opening bowler and he will do well in first eleven cricket in due course. Ian Gould bowled consistently well and the two main spinners James Vaughan and Nick O'Doherty both had their moments.

The last three games were against Aylesbury Grammar School, Abingdon School and RGS Worcester. Having scraped around to field a side we arrived to find Aylesbury only had nine men. Nine proved enough as we lost by three runs! The Abingdon game ended in a draw, as many games against Abingdon have done in the past, but the season ended on a high note with a fine game against RGS Worcester which ended in a draw. Worcester scored 193-7 with Ian Gould taking five wickets and we made 189-6 in reply, with David Warboys making 55 and Devin Till 49.

Tim Seymour captained the side with enthusiasm and generally led the side well. Modern schoolboy attitudes to the game are interesting to observe. Nobody watches any part of the game they are not directly involved in, preferring to play some sort of game on the fringe. Nobody regards the keeping of the scoreboard up-to-date as any of their business.

MWC

U15 XI

Played 11 Won 4 Drawn 3 Lost 4

RGS made a good start to the year with a very creditable performance in a drawn match at Hampton School. Captain Alex Toone took four wickets and Mark Howell was unlucky to be dismissed on 48, just as he looked like getting his half-century. Justin Sugg batted with a confidence he was to retain throughout the summer, scoring 69.

It was disappointing therefore that the team did not build upon their early season promise, but were only outclassed once, against a very strong RGS Worcester team. Two of the other defeats came in 20-over games. Good wins were achieved against Latymer Upper, Aylesbury GS and the Staff 2nd XI. Sugg continued his excellent batting form scoring 89 and 80 in his final two games to top the batting average, and gained a place in the

Bucks SCA U15 XI. Andrew Hazell showed he had ability with bat and ball scoring two half-centuries and taking 16 wickets. Mark Howell eventually scored the elusive half-century denied him at the beginning of the year when rain cruelly denied RGS victory over Enfield GS.

Alex Toone 23 wickets and Jonathan Symmons 22 wickets were the leading wicket takers in a squad which holds a number of potential senior cricket players for next season.

CCT

U14 XI

During the summer of 1988 this side had been defeated in every school game. Consequently they began this campaign with limited confidence. Nonetheless, throughout the season they displayed great enthusiasm, humour and character in adverse circumstances, and a willingness to overcome their weaknesses. Their two triumphs brought a response not dissimilar to England's victory over the West Indies this winter!

Three successive defeats - at Hampton by 9 wickets; against Lord William's by 57 runs; and in the Lord Taverner's Competition against Dr Challoner's by 172 runs - could have humiliated some teams into early retirement. However, a narrow loss to Desborough was followed by the first win in a 25-over game against John Hampden. Four more defeats were suffered at the hands of St Benedict's, Latymer Upper, Dr Challoner's (25-over game) and Aylesbury, but in the penultimate game against Abingdon, a fine victory was recorded for the first time in a full length game. Chasing a score of 155, the target was reached with 4 wickets to spare, with Arshad Khan contributing 40 not out. Philip Hills led the side with authority if not subtlety, and produced some aggressive bowling performances. Michael John added some penetration to the new-ball attack. The remainder of the bowling showed potential and variety but lacked consistency. The weakness of the batting was reflected in the inability to score one hundred runs in each of the first seven games. Arshad Khan was comfortably the best batsman, averaging 28.8. However a general failure to play each ball on its merits made our batting look very fragile. This should not disguise the great improvement made overall and particularly in fielding and understanding of the game. With hard work and application this side should produce some good cricketers.

MJD/IJW/MCS

U13 XI

After nets trials in February some 40 second-formers were selected for coaching. The coaching took place in the Sports Hall in two groups, each once per week from March through to July. Eventually, a "squad" of 23 emerged as follows:

2B - Miles Davis, David Forrest; 2C - Sajad Hayat, Simon Mackinder, Jun Shaw; 2E - David Catling, Asif Khan, Dominic Redmond, James Roberts, Zulfikar Shamim; 2G - Neil Govan, Nicholas Humphrey, Stuart Large, Neil Tucker; 2H - Robin Ghosal, Laurie Lathom-Sharp, Mark Richards, Yasser Taher, Christopher Waldron; 2S - Neil Fitch, Thomas Hadley, Matthew Hotston, Simon Woolliams.

All of these boys represented the School team, which played 12 matches and one "B" team match.

The Record:

Played 12 Won 9 Drawn 1 Lost 2 (79.2%)

Batting:

Neil Fitch	237 runs at 26.3
Jun Shaw	192 runs at 27.4
Nicholas Humphrey	169 runs at 24.1
Stuart Large	100 runs at 16.7
Mark Richards	100 runs at 14.3
Thomas Hadley	81 runs at 10.1
David Forrest	76 runs at 10.9
Zulfikar Shamim	65 runs at 13.0
Miles Davis	65 runs at 12.8
Neil Tucker	40 runs at 10.0

Bowling:

Jun Shaw	29 wickets at 7.8
Nicholas Humphrey	13 wickets at 6.2
Neil Fitch	11 wickets at 15.6
Miles Davis	9 wickets at 4.2
Stuart Large	9 wickets at 20.2
Thomas Hadley	8 wickets at 13.7
Asif Khan	6 wickets at 17.3

Wicket-Keeping: Robin Ghosal - 7 stumpings, 5 catches

Catches: Fitch (7), Richards (5), Large (4), Davis, Shaw (3), Hadley, Humphrey (2)

It is rewarding, when a wholly new team is forged under pressure of time, to see them learning the game so quickly and so successfully. Cricket is a game which requires time in so many ways: time to learn, time to practise, time to develop, time to play. When boys begin to play it well, it is all the more encouraging. The U13's in 1989 were a side which individually and collectively promised well for the future of RGS cricket. The policy was, whilst keeping a balanced and capable side, to share opportunities around as far as possible. Over twenty players were selected; five boys were given captaincy opportunities..

Three players stood out as all-rounders: Shaw, Fitch and Humphrey. Humphrey was also successful as a batsman for the Bucks Schools U13 side, but he needs to be more positive in attitude to the wider, human aspects of his development. It would be a great pity to see his talent obscured by personality problems. Shaw, converted to an off-spinner, was also very successful in many aspects of the game. He too achieved selection for the Bucks Schools U13 side. Fitch had an excellent season, particularly with the bat, but also as a close fielder.

The side's batting was promising. Apart from the three already named, some ten others showed promise for the future, and all played at least one important innings. The difficulty was accommodating them all in the batting order. Most of these need to work hard at their techniques and to gain experience of playing in order to progress to major scores. Any one of the following could develop into major batsmen: Large, Richards, Hadley, Forrest, Shamin, Davis, Tucker, Ghosal, Govan, Taher, Mackinder, Hotston.

The bowling lacked anyone of genuine pace. Humphrey and Hadley extracted most bounce. Davis emerged late as a useful inswinger to complement the outswing of Humphrey and Khan, and Fitch could always be relied upon to pitch the ball up and bowl straight. Variety was provided in the attack by Shaw's off-breaks. He is a

promising bowler. Large's rolled leg-breaks added a vital ingredient. Strangely, there was not one single left-arm bowler among the 40 selected for coaching.

There was no natural wicket-keeper. Robin Ghosal, however, did a useful job and, with continued work at the position, he could develop into the genuine article.

As a fielding side there is much potential here. Fitch, Shaw, Richards and Large stood out as above average performers.

I look forward to the development of all these young cricketers and wish them successful and enjoyable future cricket.

Finally, my thanks to Mr Grout who jointly ran the side with me. I wish him all the best with future U13 sides.

SRG

Badminton

It is somewhat disappointing that despite a strong U19 team this season relatively few fixtures have been played. Several matches have been cancelled at short notice and an increasing number of schools appear unwilling to play at competition level.

Nonetheless the strength of our School team has been evident throughout the season.

The RGS is now developing the sport at grass roots level with Badminton now being encouraged in the Lower School games lessons. The Badminton Club meets on Wednesdays from 3.45 - 5.00 p.m. in the Sports Hall. The Club remains as popular as ever and is open to all boys in the lower and middle years.

Captain: M. King, 6SE1
RPS

Golf

The School team, comprising Michael Weaver, Jon Blenkarn and Mark Howell, won the qualifying round of the National Schools Golf Championship, held in October at Stoke Poges GC. Thus they qualified for the final play-off of 27 schools at Robin Hood GC in Solihull on April 12, where they acquitted themselves excellently to finish in 7th place, the School's highest ever placing. Captain Mike Weaver distinguished himself with a round of 78, the fifth best individual round of the day.

Michael Weaver and Jon Blenkarn were selected to represent Bucks in the Inter-Counties Championship in June at Ellesborough GC.

The School has a wealth of good young golfers, and I look forward to future success in the coming years.

IJ Wilson

Fencing

This year there have been about forty boys doing fencing and at least three quarters of them have represented the School in matches or competitions. Junior fencing in the School is particularly buoyant with plenty of talent coming through in the second and third form. Numerous younger

fencers have taken the Achievement Awards and the good attendance at the two training days was encouraging. In other words the level of participation is high and future prospects are good.

Fencing in the Middle School is also strong with Jeremy Parkinson, Mark Chacksfield, Edward Rysdale and David Whiting making an increasingly strong quartet in all weapons. Jeremy and Edward were selected at U16 level for the England Schools team after good individual results in national competitions and in the Leon Paul series.

Senior fencing received an unexpected boost by the return of Nick Payne. He has been the mainstay of the School team and remained undefeated in inter-school matches. Individually for him the year has been remarkable. He won the Bristol Open, the British U20 Foil and retained the prestigious Senior Foil title at the Public Schools. This kept the trophy at the School for three consecutive years (his brother, Tom, won it in 1988). All these achievements were capped by his selection for the British Team for the World Youth Championships held in Austria. Thus Nick's association with the RGS came to an end and I would like to pay a personal tribute to the outstanding contribution that both he and his brother, Tom, made to fencing. They were conspicuously loyal to the School when many of their calibre might have preferred to go their own way in outside clubs. The standard of sportsmanship set by Nick was admired by other schools. He was a great ambassador for the School and the sport and all young fencers should try to emulate his attitude.

The Public Schools competition this year was the School's best yet. Besides Nick's triumph, Seang Lim Tan won the U14 foil (with Roland Levan runner up) and the RGS competitors as a whole won two team trophies (third overall as well as the cup for the best placed small-entry school). Peter Gould (this year's captain) has lacked competition practice but had a good run at the Public Schools in the epee event. Hiroshi Kamide and Richard White have also had their moments, particularly in the Berks, Bucks and Oxon competitions where RGS fencers had something of a field day winning nearly 20 medals in all. Simon Brown, semi-retired from active fencing, has been a great help in presiding and organising (he may also, one day, figure out how to use his camera!). Other second year sixth formers will be leaving us this year (Carl Rylett and Mike Nixon) and I thank them for the contributions they have made.

Inter school matches brought a rush of victories over St Edward's, Eton, Marlborough, Wellington, Bradfield, Douai, Merchant Taylor's, King's Canterbury and Harrow. The one defeat was against St Paul's where we have difficulty matching their depth in epee and sabre. Next year there will be tougher fixtures against the giants of school fencing; Brentwood and Whitgift. Our results will not look so good but the quality of the competition will be higher.

I was personally sorry that Oxford won the Varsity Fencing Match against Cambridge but delighted that two of our old boys got Blues (Simon Aspinall was also captain.) Adrian Griffin, making it into the Oxford team on the PGCE ticket, will be making the short trip down the M40 to join the Chemistry staff at the RGS next year. He should be a great asset to fencing at the school. Public Schools champion, captain of London University, Oxford Blue ... if he cannot do something for RGS fencing with those sort of credentials then we will give him a free transfer. Finally, I would like to thank three people whose contributions to School fencing this year have been invaluable. Mrs Dodds, the School Matron, has, through

her skills with the sewing machine, kept large numbers of our ageing jackets in use. That has enabled us to save money which could be spent on other equipment. Mrs Payne has kept faith with us once again this year correcting on guard positions, developing lunges, improving point control ... she, like her two sons has given loyal service to the School. It is much appreciated and I, for one, hope that it can continue in the years ahead. Mr Rysdale is perhaps regretting getting a licence to drive the School minibus as fencing competitions are rather a long way away, Leicester, Crystal Palace ... but I have been grateful for his help and company on some of these jaunts.

The results have been good but the high level of participation and team spirit has been better. That is the most pleasing aspect of fencing at the School.

Full colours were awarded to Peter Gould (Captain), Simon Brown and Carl Rylett.

Half colours were awarded to Hiroshi Kamide, Richard White, Jeremy Parkinson, Mark Chacksfield, Edward Rysdale and David Whiting.

The RGS Fencing Cup was awarded to Jeremy Parkinson for his epee results, his selection for England Schools and his positive attitude to School fencing.

J Roebuck.

Cross-country

The Senior team have enjoyed only modest success this season, their best performance being 4th place in the Merchant Taylor's Cup. The captain David Allen and 3rd year sixth former, Paul Fines-Allin, have provided the backbone of the team, but it was Craig Fines-Allin who managed to earn County recognition despite a persistent shoulder injury.

The Intermediate team have performed excellently, narrowly defeating Great Marlow School to win the District Championships, but being beaten into 2nd place themselves in the County Championships by Dr Challoners. There is an excellent nucleus of runners in the 5th form, but the outstanding individual has been fourth former, Matthew Hill, who was second in both the District and County Championships, and second Bucks scorer in the National Championships in Cornwall.

The Junior team, comprising mainly 2nd formers, romped home easy winners in the District Championships, with Tom Beecroft and Simon Molden 2nd and 3rd respectively. In the County Championships the team again ran well to finish in 3rd place, with Tom Beecroft earning a County place by finishing in 5th place.

There is clearly a lot of running talent in the School which augurs well for the future, and the next 2 seasons in particular.

IJ Wilson

Tennis

1st VI:

Played 10 Won 6 Drawn 0 Lost 4

Colts VI:

Played 7 Won 0 Drawn 0 Lost 7

This was one of the most disappointing seasons for many years, for the strength of the squad at the start promised another unbeaten season. However, owing to several availability problems, only weekend teams were put out and inevitably the team lost many games that could have been won.

In the Bucks Cup the RGS won every match but did not play Aylesbury owing to bad weather so there was no overall winner this year.

The Colts have some promising players but we lacked the necessary strength in depth and hence many close matches were lost when a greater drive and will to win would have produced more points.

SJG/ME

Staff Soccer XI

The early games against the juniors provided the usual easy wins for the staff, although it was only the goal-keepers of 5RS and the Boarders who had to retrieve the ball from the net ten times. In the second half of the season the Masters were virtually unbeatable. Their counterparts from Misbourne were defeated 5-2; staff from Windsor Boys' School were defeated 7-2; while the fixture against John Hampden was abandoned 6 minutes from time with the score at 1-1 because of a serious injury to Mr Auld, who is happily now recovered.

Only the 6th Germans, of the boys, beat the Masters (by 4-2), though the staff were subsequently victorious by 6-3 in a re-match. 6th Geography, who held the staff to a 4-4 draw; 6th History (lost 4-3); and 6th Maths (lost 2-1) deserve a mention. The quickest goal of the season, which came only 18 seconds after kick-off, was scored by 6th Economics who subsequently lost 4-2.

And so to the Masters' end of term report. Mr Wilson successfully tossed the coin each week as the home team captain and continued as a stalwart central defender. After he had scored in one match, however, he did develop a taste for moving upfield to try and repeat the event. Mr Hussey and Mr Noyes scored most of the goals, and Mr Yeates was dropped from the team one week. As this was the first time in 8 years he was rather upset. Mr Claye has learned to throw the ball in legally - not elegantly, but at least legally. Dr Dosser showed on several occasions that he should be teaching applied geometry since he can instantly work out all the angles involved in an off-side decision whichever way he happened to be looking at the time.

The task of goal-keeping was shared by Messrs Grundy, Howe and Pratt. The latter, a transferee from Ramsey Street, Melbourne Rovers, showed a disturbing tendency to hurl himself at the feet of oncoming forwards. However, he remained unscathed and enjoyed the season as much as the rest of us.

The final match of the season against the Best of the 5th form augured well for next year, for the boys won an exciting game 3-2.

It was a pleasure to once again referee the RGS Masters' matches last season. The first game of the season will be held in early September. Would any father like to run the line? Apply to Mr Yeates, please.

Derek J Read, Parent

Rowing

1989 Regattas

After the successes in the spring "Heads", the 1989 regatta season was awaited with some enthusiasm. That the results were in the end only mediocre was due in part to ill luck and in part to the fact that neither of the VIII's managed to boat a settled crew throughout the season.

The 1st VIII never quite succeeded in making the transition from the steady-state of long-distance racing to the explosive, higher-rating style demanded in close side-by-side encounters. They were always a man short, and among the various substitutes could be numbered one of the J16's, and, at Reading Town, their coach (who did not greatly enjoy the experience). Their best moment, and only win, came early in the season at the Marlow Spring Regatta. Sixth place at Avon County Schools was also a pleasing result, given that over the short course only a couple of seconds separated them from the higher places. The chastening experience at the National Schools' Regatta in Nottingham only served to emphasise the domination of VIII's rowing by the major public schools.

The 1st IV, with A levels in sight, raced only up to half-term. They reached the semi-final at Avon County Schools', but in open regattas they found the competition at Senior 3 level very tough. However, their achievement at the Ball Cup in rendering two boats (their own and that of the J15's) unusable during the course of a single regatta remains unsurpassed in RGSBC history. (Only one boat actually sank!)

The J16 VIII had a frustrating season. After an encouraging start in the multiple races of Avon County Schools', they gave Abingdon a very close race at Putney Town, but failed to sustain a mid-course lead. They rowed well below their best form at Twickenham, and at the National Schools' were forced to row a class above their status because of an unfortunate administrative blunder. Their performance was creditable in the circumstances, and it is worth noting that they were the only crew from a state school in a field of nineteen J16 competitors. In spite of then losing their strongest member to Marlow Rowing Club, they rowed well, though without success, at Reading Town. Reduced to a IV at Huntingdon they came very close to defeating our local rivals Sir William Borlase's School (who row all the time in IV's), losing by just half a length in the final.

The J15's lost one of their most promising oarsmen with chronic knee problems after the "Head" season, and consequently had to spend the early part of the summer



The 1989 J16 VIII

rejigging the crew. The loss of their boat, through no fault of their own, at the Ball Cup deprived them of a possible success in the Junior Plate. They were in several close races which they just failed to clinch, notably at Reading Town, and ended the season on an encouraging note by reaching the final of Novice IV's at Huntingdon.

In sum, then, a season of might-have-beens. It was a shame to have just one win to show for so much endeavour and hard work throughout the club.

Crews:

<i>1st IV</i>	<i>1st VIII Squad</i>
RM Saunders (cox)	JL Ball
MJ Harrison (str)	JD Dyer
JP Shotbolt	DM Hancox
PW Jennings	DT Holland
DJ Miles	AJ Hunt
	RH Johns
	IR Meyer
	NA Seymour
	MF Stidworthy (cox)
	TCB Webber
	ST Zabel

<i>J16 Squad</i>	<i>J15 Squad</i>
JB Baguley (cox)	WH Spooner (cox)
JP Blake	JL Farley (str)
SJ Carter	AC Mawhood
AM Gill	CM Denison
MD Groves	MDP Wynter
R Holden	
DT Holland	
CR Jennings	
SE McDonald	
ME Thomson	

Summary Of Entries:

Hammersmith	1st VIII
Marlow Spring	1st IV - 1st VIII* - J16A IV - J16B IV
Avon County Schools	1st IV - 1st VIII - J16 VIII
Ball Cup Races	1st IV - J15 IV
Putney Town	1st VIII** - J16 VIII** - J15 IV
Twickenham	1st IV - 1st VIII - J16 VIII - J15 IV
National Schools'	1st VIII - J16 VIII
Marlow	J16 VIII
Reading Town	1st VIII - J16 VIII - J15 IV
Huntingdon	J16 IV** - J15 IV**

* win ** second place

1990 Head Of The River Races

The exceptional weather conditions of January and February brought devastation and flooding to the Thames valley, as to the rest of the country, and put a stop to all rowing for more than a month. Several "Heads" were cancelled or postponed and the loss of water-training was not at all good for crew morale.

However, the 1st VIII still managed two good performances, winning the Senior 3 pennant at the Thames Valley Trial Head, rowed between Cookham and Marlow, and retaining the Small Schools' 1st VIII's pennant in the Schools' Head on the Tideway in London, coming in 31st place overall.

The 1st IV had suffered perhaps more than the VIII from lack of time on the water and coaching. Nonetheless, they achieved 37th place in the Tideway Schools' Head, and in the much smaller Reading Schools' Head they came in a creditable second place.

The J16 IV had their only competitive outing at Reading and did well to achieve fourth place, only four seconds behind the 1st IV.

The new J15's were looking promising just before Christmas, and the long, enforced lay-off hit them hard. Thus it was that they came to row in a IV in the Schools' Head with only one recent outing to their names and sadly lacking in experience and fitness for distance rowing. Eighth place out of nine was not a disgrace in the light of this. Later, rowing in an VIII at Reading they came seventh overall, a reasonably encouraging performance.

Crews:

<i>1st VIII</i>	<i>1st IV</i>
MF Stidworthy(cox)	JB Baguley (cox)
JD Dyer (str)	AM Gill (str)
AJ Hunt	R Holden
JL Ball	CR Jennings
MD Groves	DT Holland
ST Zabel	
SE McDonald	
NA Seymour	
DM Hancox	

<i>J16 IV</i>	<i>J15 VIII/IV*</i>
WH Spooner (cox)	JC Martin (cox)*
JL Farley (str)	JA Goodwill (str)*
AC Mawhood	A Sweetman*
CM Denison	GM Lynch*
MDP Wynter	TJ Crompton*
	JS Ray
	MD Hoare
	AM Lewis
	ATM Bain

JPE

Athletics

RGS athletes enjoyed many successes during the 1989 season. In addition to the local district championships, twelve boys competed in the County Championships at Waddesdon, and David McLaughlin appeared in the All England Championships at Wigan. The inaugural Royal Grammar Schools Meeting at Newcastle, as reported in last year's magazine, provided an experience that heightened the aspirations of many emerging performers.

RGS dominated the High Wycombe District Championships, beating John Hampden by 32 points in the overall competition. However, John Hampden were superior in the U17 age group. Despite some brave efforts on the track and good placings in field events, only James Cronin was able to secure a first place, in the discus. Nonetheless a creditable second position was achieved by the team.

In the U15 age group RGS were outstanding. From an exceptionally talented team the following boys achieved first places - J Lippiat (200m); N Beecroft (800m - district record); D McLaughlin (Shot - district record - and Discus).

The relay team also broke the district record in winning that event. The team triumph was a reflection of great strength in depth as at least one RGS athlete was placed in the first three places in all but two events. David McLaughlin was also the individual District Champion.

In the U14 age group - a meeting held later in the term - the RGS team was placed second to Cressex. An unfortunate relay disqualification was largely responsible. In a fine team effort when many good places were gained, inexperience in the competitive environment affected many performances. Shamim (Shot) and Green (Discus) took creditable first places.

In the County Championships, M Cunningham (High Jump - 1st; Discus - 3rd) and M Humberstone (Shot - 2nd) produced very good performances in the senior group. However, the U15 team made a great impact in the junior section. The following positions were achieved: J Lippiatt (200m - 2nd); A Price (200m - 1st); N Beecroft (800m - 4th); E Allen (1500m - 1st); D McLaughlin (Shot - 2nd); L Sargent (Shot - 4th); D McLaughlin (Discus - 2nd); WK Lin (Discus - 5th); W Pepper (Triple Jump - 3rd).

Rarely can one school provide representation of that quality at a county championship. RGs can look forward to the future in athletics with plenty of optimism.

MJD

Table Tennis

1989/90 has been another notable season for RGS table tennis. The 50 club members have come from the whole age range of the school and apart from the regular twice weekly club sessions, we have had three teams representing RGS, in the Senior League of the High Wycombe and District Table Tennis Association, and a further six teams in the HW & District Youth League.

In the Senior League, our A Team, of Joel Mawdsley (Captain), Trevor Woolliams, Sean Priestley and Edward Belcher (reserve), had another excellent season conceding only one defeat in eighteen matches to win Division 4 by six points. In the Handicap Cup, after a narrow defeat in their first match they progressed through another six rounds before winning the Dame Basherville Consolation Cup in a closely contested final. This team began playing competitive table tennis in their first year at RGS, and have risen over 5 years from champions of the 2nd Division of the Youth League to their present leadership of Division 4 in the Senior League. However, despite their four previous successes this is undoubtedly their best season to date.

Our B and C teams have both had good seasons and in the Youth League our very promising A and B teams have come first and second. Future prospects are looking good!

This year School half-colours have been awarded to Timothy Sparks, Captain of our Senior B team, and to Edward Belcher of our Senior A team.

Parental support has been greater than ever this year and we are so grateful to all who have helped to supervise our home Youth League matches. Such help is invaluable. The club owes a special thank you to Mrs JE Monnington who has given a lot of time especially during the Spring Term when the club secretary was unwell.

Our tables are much used and deteriorate fairly quickly. To replace one table nearing collapse the club members collected £150 for the purchase of a good second-hand table. Finally, once again this year, the club's equipment has been used for RGS Thursday Afternoon Activities. We acknowledge a cheque of £50 from School funds for the help given by the club to the School this way over several years.

JR Barry Kempson, Club Secretary

Basketball

U19: Played 9 Won 7 Lost 2

U16: Played 16 Won 11 Lost 5

U15: Played 6 Won 4 Lost 2

U14: Played 6 Won 3 Lost 3

During the 1989-90 season, RGS Basketball achieved considerable success. The School again proved a dominant force in the local area, but when tested against opposition focusing their efforts on this one sport, our resources were severely stretched. On occasions it illustrated the number of fine all-round performers the School can boast, but more frequently the limitations of "thinly-spread" coaching and a lack of specialised skills was exposed. Nonetheless, this should not detract from the great enthusiasm the game develops amongst the players.

U19:

The Senior team, having lost the services of Matthew Cunningham (now playing successfully for Kingston) benefited from contributions from all players rather than one man. Captain Simon Shaw and Matthew Dawson, showing great agility and pace, were more than most teams could handle. When supplemented by Anthony Charles and Simon Schlaepfer, the team played with fearsome pace. Fraser Currie showed a great improvement in rebounding and utilizing his height to score from close range. Jamie Monaghan made a fine all-round contribution and Ian Gould improved with every game. Walters, Edwards, Morjaria and Currell played with skill and enthusiasm and added valuable support from the bench.

After an early exit from the English Schools Championships at Winchester College (losing 66-65), the team made fine progress in both the Bucks Cup and the Herts League. Lord Grey were beaten conclusively (90-54) as the Bucks Cup was retained, and only one game was lost in the league. The most memorable effort of this campaign was a three point shot on the buzzer by Dawson to beat Hemel Hempstead. Hillside, who with two internationals were in another class, inflicted the one defeat.

U16:

After two successive National Finals this squad boasted great experience and ability. Few teams could cope with their "fast-break" game and those who did inflicted the five defeats. After convincing victories in the first four English Championship games, Hillside, boasting their two internationals, scored freely from all areas, but not before RGS had responded with 86 points in a fine game (112-86). The Bucks Cup was retained as RGS avenged an earlier defeat to beat Chesham 78-55. However the performances in the Herts League lacked consistency as RGS inflicted some heavy defeats but suffered setbacks against Chancellors and St Columba's.

Charles and Schlaepfer dominated the play with their penetrative driving to the basket. Walters offered the threat from close range and rebounded well with McGrath. Rendall, Clark, Davis, Brooksbank, Edwards, Sugg and Brown provided great strength in depth and made valuable contributions when required.

U15:

The U15 team played only games within the county. Having gained limited success in their previous year, the side was transformed into a cohesive unit by the latter part of the season.

A fine comeback in the second half of the County Cup semi-final was not quite enough to resist defeat by Denbigh. However, sound victories against Dr Challoner's and Aylesbury culminated in a superb win against a very intimidating Lord Grey team.

Morton, Ward, Khan and Smith showed great improvement in the guard positions. McLaughlin and Sargent were strong rebounders and became more skilful shooters as the season progressed. Bocquet and Cronin displayed plenty of talent and made fine contributions. Shaw was unorthodox and often effective, despite rarely leaving the ground! All played with great commitment and developed a fine spirit which augurs well for the future.

U14:

In their first season of competitive basketball the U14's

gained much experience and improved considerably. However, despite the physical assets and general ability favouring this squad, performances were always undermined by a failure to shoot with any consistency.

In the Bucks Cup, having defeated Aylesbury and Misbourne, RGS faced Chesham. Despite a valiant performance in the second half, they were unable to avoid defeat. In the English Schools Championship second round, John Bentley School displayed vastly superior skills in winning by 60-36.

Downing, Munday, Fitch, Govan and Dadachanji played most minutes, and Holloway, Wallace, Hadley, Radley, Lathom-Sharp and Routledge provided able support.

MJD



O.C.'s Report

What we wish to do is to give the opportunity of worthwhile experience. On the whole, this seems to come by "having a go" in a committed way and then thinking and reacting positively. This applies to all levels from the early organisation of oneself as a recruit to the later development where increasingly the opportunity for exercising responsibility for others is given.

Some of the most important components in what we have been doing over the years (eg living away from home, contact with the world outside school, work experience) are, interestingly, absolutely in line with ideas being emphasised in educational thought these days. In relation to this we should like even more members to take advantage of MoD courses in a wide variety of subjects including Engineering, Electronics, Telecommunications.

The outcome can be remarkably encouraging. We hear informally from many Old Boys - not least from those who come back to help. We also hear in more detail how potential skills in presentation, and more generally in dealing positively with their fellows, are brought out.

Being in the middle of things, I am perhaps made especially conscious of the goodwill and efforts of all the "training team". It is difficult in one report to express the thanks of members of the Contingent to them all individually each time. When we say, "Welcome" or "Good-bye" however, this does give a special opportunity.

This year, first, our thanks go to three Regular Liaison Staff who have helped each Section and now move on, CPO Clutton, Sergeant Sadler and Flt. Sgt. Wood. Their contribution has been generous, imaginative and vital. To this list should be added an Old Boy, Flt. Lt. Ian Brown who has given unstinted assistance and now, because of a change of employment, is no longer able to do so.

Then there are the two parents who have committed themselves to helping regularly, particularly on parade afternoons, Flying Officer (W) Vivien Seymour (ex WRAF) and Mr Geoffrey Rysdale (a very keen shot, also in the process of gaining a CCF Commission). Most recently we welcome Commander Christopher Fleming, RN, who has come to be our School Burssar and to assist with the RN Section.

The shortage of Officers and adults, part of the national picture, continues. I must express warmest appreciation for all the efforts and goodwill of the adults in the team here, for the way in which the cadets, particularly the NCO's, take on genuine responsibility for keeping up the worthwhile efforts that are our *raison d'être*.

We are conscious of the whole friendly network of Regular Service Support. This year we must especially mention TAVRA itself for the replacement of our old range. The fact that we have a range is a great tribute to my predecessor, Lt. Col. Pattinson, who during destruction of "temporary" buildings at the end of the war somehow managed to arrange to save one and have it transported to the School Field where it did duty until last year. We must express our warmest appreciation and thanks to Eastern Wessex TAVRA for the Replacement Range and to Colonel Ted Shephard in particular for the whole manner in which the key project is going ahead.

All sections have benefited from training at the RAEC Beaconsfield Assault Course, Command Tasks, modern weapons, first aid, physical training.

Finally, our very best wishes go to 5 RGJ on the opening of the new TA Centre in High Wycombe with a particular note of both appreciation to them and pride in our First

World War Old Boy after whom the Centre is named, Frederick Youens, VC, 2nd Lieutenant, Durham Light Infantry.

This was opened by HRH Duchess of Kent on April 26, 1990. She met and spoke to Frederick Youens' nearest relation, his cousin, who had also served in France. He is now a sprightly 92. As representatives from the School, we also had a lively and cheerful conversation with him.

We shall be keeping up the connection with 5 RGJ. Rex Stenner was also on duty on the day - he hopes to go through the final stages of gaining his TA Commission this year. Dr Damien Griffin is already commissioned and gave a first class presentation here during the year as well as visiting us on Adventure Training.

FN Cooper

Royal Naval Section

Over the past year the section has continued with its range of activities aimed at introducing cadets to water sports and the Royal Navy.

On our visits to the River Thames at Danesfield the teaching of canoeing, sailing and windsurfing has led to a grasp of the basic techniques and to frequent soakings (accidental and otherwise). This aspect of our programme will be much enhanced by the acquisition of two new "Topper" dinghies and a motor-powered "Dory".

Our basic naval training at school has been contributed to, in various ways, by Lt. Seaton. His practical leadership task afternoons have seen teams of fourth formers balancing on a plank, suspended from a tree, singing "Ten Green Bottles", and perching atop a precariously placed oil drum singing equally inane ditties.

Away from School, members of the section have continued to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Royal Navy. Twelve cadets spent a day at sea on the Fast Training Boat HMS Pursuer and a similar number attended the cadet air day at Portland. Courses of varied natures were attended last summer and over Easter. At the end of last summer a number of senior rates went sailing off the West coast of Scotland. A report of this trip is made separately.

The section, now numbering 35, has been run by a team consisting of Lt. Claye, Cdr. Fleming and five capable senior rates. All are to be thanked for their effort. PO Keeling's computerisation of the RN stores earns him our congratulations. The efforts of these people, and the attitude of the cadets has made it an enjoyable year, not only for myself but for the whole section.

Coxswain Jeremy Clark

Senior Rates Sailing, The Clyde, August 1989

At 7.00 am on Friday August 25, 1989 seven senior rates convened at Wycombe Station and after overcoming initial financial difficulties (?) spent the day travelling to the wilds of the Clyde Estuary. They arrived in the rain, but sailing over the following week took place in varying weather and sea states. These varying conditions promoted varying states of sea sickness and particularly large waves were known to cause tea-spillage. One vessel suffered a fire followed by a water leak, just to compensate. The yachts spent the evenings berthed in such parts as Caladh Harbour, East Loch Tarbet and Rothesay, while their crews

spent their evenings in the local hostellers sampling the products of the nearby distilleries. Certain people struck up liaisons with members of the crew of the all-female yacht, which added to the last night socializing. The return journey saw a hat fly out of the train window somewhere between Rugby and Preston, to disprove a suggestion that it couldn't actually be done. The hat has now been replaced by an inferior item. This made a suitable end to a venture that is to be repeated again, on a smaller scale, this year.

LS Hardie

Army Section

Well, once again this has been another extremely busy and active year for the Army Section. Many NCO's and Cadets have taken part in activities such as CADSAM and SEDSAM (Shooting and Patrolling), Longmoor Central in the Summer, weekend battlecraft exercises, Adventure training in the Peak District to name but a few. A lot of these cadets have gained plenty of experience whilst they have learnt many skills such as leadership, reliance on fitness and intelligence, initiative, resilience in the face of adversity and about their own limitations. The Section itself has been run in a well-drilled and organised fashion and the Senior NCO, RSM Shane Slater deserves much credit for the smoothness and response by both NCO's and Cadets alike. This really has been a very good year and a very good crop of NCO's have developed which should ensure another excellent year in September.



Leon Edwards on the RGS Climbing Wall.



The Wild Bunch.

Several exciting visits have been undertaken, particularly to the Royal Artillery at Larkhill and a superb demonstration of firepower (including Harriers, A10's and Lynx helicopters!) at the School of Infantry at Warminster. As usual the Army Air Corps have visited us twice to give some of our boys short Helicopter flights in the smaller Gazelle (4 man) helicopter. These have been quite exhilarating.

This year has seen the Section gain some invaluable assistance from Mr Geoffrey Rysdale, a father of one of our NCO's, whose particular specialisation is shooting. This part of our programme has now received its much needed boost and once our new Indoor Range has opened, who knows what might develop in the future. Mr Rysdale is also going through the process of gaining his TA commission and I look forward to working with him next year.

No report is complete without the usual thankyou's and sadly, goodbye's. Once again where would we be without the capable and quite frankly, invaluable help of Capt. Roger Hollingsworth in all aspects of the CCF? To Lt. Tony Boreham for his highly entertaining Rock climbing talks and his great skill and enthusiasm in applying it at many camps and finally to our SSI, Clive Rowland for all of his cheery help in stores and the Armoury.

A special thanks is saved though for the two stalwarts of my NCO team. RSM Shane Slater and C. Sgt. Chris Bray. These two have been the backbone of everything in recent years and in particular, thanks to Chris for his undying and unseen work in a particularly difficult and time-consuming area, the Armoury.

Shane has been a great leader of the Section. It is due to him that the Section has cheerily and efficiently gone about its business and he will be a sad loss. I cannot remember a time when he hasn't smiled even in the marshes at Leek!!

To these two I warmly give you my heartfelt thanks and wish you well in your future careers.

Finally a goodbye. As usual after a period of 2-3 years we lose our 16 CCT Sergeant, Steve Sadler. We thank him greatly for his assistance in Rock Climbing, adventure training, survival, battlecraft etc. etc. and wish him every success in his new posting to Germany.

Capt. SJ Grundy,
Officer Commanding Army Section

CCF Shooting Competitions

The past year has seen the two annual shooting competitions "SEDSAM" and the far more popular "CADSAM".

Using the Cadet GP rifles in "CADSAM" we came in the top twenty teams in all the various parts of the competition, and at the end of the two days we were placed 16th out of 80 teams. Considering we only use these rifles about three times a year this was a very good result.

The "SEDSAM" competition is a one day competition held over 300 and 500 yards using the School's 4 x 0.762 Cadet Target Rifles. Unfortunately we had not used these rifles since the same competition the year before, and it was not surprising that the sights had not been set. However owing to the help of many people we did eventually set them so that the rounds hit the target but this was after our captains had shot.

During the coming year we are hoping to enter not only the competitions mentioned above, but also some 0.22 competitions on our new range, which is due to open in May.

Finally I would like to thank all members of the School staff and the outside help for managing to get us in the right place at "nearly" the right time at all the shooting events during the past year. Many thanks also go to Mr Geoffrey Rysdale who has joined the CCF as an adult instructor and whose specialisation is shooting.

Capt. A. Rysdale

Longmoor Central - Summer Camp 1989

It all started one hot, sticky day in July, when our small, select company moved out from RGS at 0930 for "Operation Longmoor". We were about to find out that this was going to be one long, very hot, arduous week and many would fall by the wayside, but the rest would fight on to survive and win.

It all started with the notorious drill, on a parade square, that to our NCO in charge looked like a dream from above - and not a soul on it. We had it all to ourselves for a few hours and a few more!

The next day included a demonstration by the Gurkhas - a group of men from Nepal who are renowned for their ferocity when fighting. It was only later after they had jumped out at us with 11 inch bowie knives and the brutal killing of a defenceless dummy, that we understood the meaning of their ferocity. What followed was the demonstration of what a well drilled section could do in the event of coming under effective enemy fire. That certainly counted some of us out.

After practising these battlecraft drills that had been shown to us, we had the chance of showing off what we had learnt, in an exercise the following day. Although on the whole this exercise was somewhat slower than our usual ones, being directed by some Regulars, the pace did become a little hectic sometimes, particularly on a platoon attack, uphill when a certain member of the platoon got lost amongst the dense undergrowth, only to re-emerge to find himself being fired upon by forty so-called friendly allies! Our very own Sergeant Slater got his chance to be Platoon Commander and I have to admit that he did impress the Regulars with his complete control of the

situation at all times! All in all it was an enjoyable exercise, and I heard that those amongst us who were enemy members had a good time in the Landrovers. Our officers must be thanked here for allowing us to have our own night phase in the exercise.

The other highlight of the week was a competition run by the signals corp. This included an obstacle course, putting a radio together and then taking it apart, and lastly going for a brisk 200m jaunt. This had to be done by 5 people, one at a time in under 5 minutes 10 secs - the current record. No problem! Well almost no problem, our team completed it in 5 mins 21 secs - at least it was 2nd best. Commiserations must go to the team for an extremely good effort and the officers for a tremendous effort!!

The camp finished with some die-hards opting for an all night party, going round the camp searching for fires. There was also the infamous barrack cleaning to be completed, that included a lot of hard work on everybody's account, except for a newly promoted CSM who disappeared for an illicit liaison.

Thanks must go to officers and NCO's alike for a good, if rather warm, camp.

Sgt. M Foster

Exercise Alpine Challenge

Alpine Challenge is an Adventurous Training exercise organised by the 16CTT based in Bicester. It gives all types of land force cadets in Bucks and Oxfordshire an opportunity for many types of Adventurous Training in the Alps and the Bavarian Austrian Border.

On arrival at Bicester we all met the team which consisted of three Sergeants, each with a particular training skill, RSM Compton who was leading the exercise, Captain Nicholson OC of the CTT team, Major McRitchie, Major Womersly and Ben, the cook. There were twenty Cadets attending from ACF's and CCF's from all over the two counties. We were squeezed into two minibuses for kill and canoes!

After a two hour drive to Dover, a 4 hour crossing to Ostend and a 13 hour drive to Bavaria we arrived in Wertach, a small town in Bavaria. The place we stayed at was a converted cafe which belongs to the Royal Artillery. We were given a communal room of 6 or 7 and settled in. Sleep was the order of the day after 13 hours in the buses.

The first day's activity was a so called leg-stretcher! The truth was a 15-20 Km slog over a close-by mountain led by the ever smiling Captain Nicholson. For the next 3 days we were split into groups and given different kinds of Training by the 3 sergeants. My first event was mountain climbing again. Sgt. Sadler led us up the side of a very steep mountain whilst practising some emergency procedures. The next day was rock climbing which was quite a tame experience compared to the days preceding, and the last day was canoeing, where we shot some moderate rapids! (Captain Nicholson didn't smile so much then.) A restful day followed where we visited the concentration camp at Dachau. The next 3 days were set aside for the attempted climb of Germany's highest mountain, the Sugspitz at 9738 ft. The plan was to get to the top on the second day and stay in a mountain hut to return on the last day. Unfortunately, it snowed as we reached the hut which was about an hour's walk from the summit. We had to go down, but some sense of achievement was felt.

The next day was either rock climbing or canoeing the ice canal. I canoed!! The ice canal is the 1972 Olympic course so we all got very wet. The last day had arrived so water ski-ing was the only choice. (I got vertical after 6 attempts!) but corners proved a problem. After saying farewell and twenty hours of travelling, we arrived home, all absolutely exhausted but with many fond memories and stories to tell.

Sgt. Richard Knight (left RGS July 1989)

Aldershot Field Day - November 1989

For all the Fourth Form cadets this was to be their first chance to put into action the combat skills learnt whilst running about on the school field trying to dodge the rugby players!

The main object of the day was to seek and destroy a band of rampant drug-smuggling terrorists (oh yes, and there was a light green missile involved but no one was quite sure where it came into the whole scenario!). There were of course more allies than enemy, but this did not stop the terrorists from putting up a very good fight!

The daylight phase involved a lot of blank firing and running which proved exhausting and exciting for all. The night phase was when the cadets found out how many dry twigs there were on the ground, and also how incredibly difficult it is to see in the dark when people keep shining torches in your eyes.

The exercise ended in a general melee in the dark with people running in all directions. The verdict was a victory to the allies though this was widely disputed. The drugs/flour ended up all over a certain pair of corporals and the infamous missile found its way into a tree. Overall, the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all concerned.

Sgt. J Baguley

Leek Camp, Easter 1990

On arrival at the small village hall in the Peak District, hearts dropped as the new cadets realised the size of the temporary "barracks" and the limited washing facilities, i.e. two wash basins between 25 people.

The first event was a 36 hour long exercise in which a platoon of 20 men had to defeat a diehard enemy force consisting of 6 men who were doing their best to disrupt the platoon's advance and execution of their mission. This exercise involved a night under canvas for the platoon and due to someone forgetting the bivvi poles, the enemy spent an uncomfortable night under "bashers". The following morning, the usual moans about lack of sleep were soon forgotten as the exercise once again got underway. Despite a hard fight, the enemy was eventually defeated when several escaped from the ambush site and were pursued courageously by a now very tired platoon. When their mission had succeeded, the platoon made its way to a site for a helicopter pick up at 1500 hours.

After a long rest the Kinderscout Expedition took place. This went successfully with all members including officers returning safely despite demoralising weather and low

visibility. All credit must be given to cadets for their map reading abilities. Unfortunately, the rock climbing scheduled for the next day was cancelled owing to typical Peaks weather, making the rocks too slippery. Every year, despite the weather, the initiative exercises always take place. Fortunately, the weather was warm and these exercises were enjoyed by everyone including those who got wet.

A football match then took place against the local team, the "Wallabies". After an enthralling first half, the score stood 3-0 in favour of the Wallabies. After an inspiring team talk, a courageous effort by all the team enabled CSM Slater and Cpl Cracknell to score stunning goals. These do or die tactics enabled us to bring the final score to 6-2 in their favour.

That evening after the camp debrief and promotions, excitement reached fever pitch as the clearing up started. Several hours later, everybody bedded down to awake for yet more tidying up. This was carried out enthusiastically resulting in the village hall being restored to its former glory.

On collection of their kit from the rear party, people returned home for a well deserved bath after a smooth running, successful and rewarding camp.

Sgt. Gibb
Cpl. Cracknell

RAF Section

Cadets from this section have again continued to take advantage of the many camps and courses available, as well as competing for the few places offered by Sixth Form and University cadetship and Flying Scholarship schemes.

In the last year, cadets have attended camps at three venues - last Summer at RAF North Luffenham, and this Spring at RAF Shawbury, both well attended by a mixture of junior and senior cadets. Cadets have also been to Gibraltar.

Flying Scholarship "wings" have already been worn by Ayling and Seymour, while Dewar and Wells will be undergoing training this Summer. Individual courses have been undertaken at RAF Hereford (Leadership - Holden), at UKLF (Ayling), RAF Odiham (careers seminar - Read), gliding proficiency (Chan, Dyer, Read, Woodward, Yates), NCO instructors at Bicester (Albino, Bhat, Calleja, Dewar, Milward, Wells) while special mention and congratulations are to be made to Richard Wells on earning a Sixth Form RAF Scholarship and to Neil Seymour for being selected to represent the UK in the International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) scheme (only 20 places are awarded each year).

As usual, thanks are due to the senior NCO's for running the programme, to Flt. Sgt. G Woods on the Liaison staff for attending frequently over the last two years. We wish him well on his promotion and move, and welcome Flt. Sgt. Waddell to continue the good work.

Finally, thanks to Flt. Lt. I Brown for giving up much of his free time with help on parade days and camps; also to Flt. Lt. Boutland for his attendance at camps, and to P.O. V Seymour for all her time and enthusiasm which she has brought to the CCF.

Sqn. Ldr. AJ Sollars,
Officer Commanding RAF Section

Methods Of Instruction Course, Bicester, February 1990

Staying at St George's Barracks, Arncott, the 9 cadets who attended this course found it invaluable for their further instructional uses within the CCF.

The time was spent on the principles of teaching, using visual aids, planning and giving a lesson, and so on, whilst "the threat" - a mock-up Russian nuclear offensive - was played at by the instructing NCO's.

Altogether an invaluable course for junior cadets and NCO's. Those attending were corporals Wells, Dewar, Bhat and Albino, and cadets Edwards, Milward, Calleja, Havelock and Shearer.

Cpl. JE Dewar

CCF Gibraltar Camp, Easter 1990

This year, like last, two RAF corporals attended the camp; there being an equal number of about 70 army and RAF cadets from areas around the country. On arrival we were divided into two parties, one to stay at the Army barracks and one at the Naval station, at which Cpl. J Dewar and myself stayed.

Life was very easy going with the Navy, the mess being the barracks, which had the sea gently lapping against the shore a mere 2 metres away; whereas the boys staying at "Alcatraz", as it was known, had a very harsh week with regards to marching. The programme was very full and well organised, comprising three days for activities from each of the three services, exploration as some of the 34 miles of tunnels in the Rock, a trip to Spain and various other attractions. On the last but one night, everyone went to a restaurant. This night will not be forgotten by all who attended (including officers) for quite a while, I imagine.

We were very privileged for all the things we were able to see and learn, and we are very grateful to all involved. Our thanks to Squadron Leader Sollars.

Cpl. Richard Wells

RAF Hereford Cadet Leadership Course

Hereford is the site of the RAF's training station devoted to the General Service training of all aircraftmen and women, in addition to that required by its NCO's. It was hence the natural choice for this second RAF cadet leadership course.

The earlier part of the course involved intensive physical exercise, ostensibly to ensure we were fit enough to complete the course, but in reality to create an atmosphere of stress induced by fatigue. The course then progressed through a classroom treatment of the theory of leadership, and then various exercises to instruct us in the practical. The week culminated in two nights under canvas in the Welsh hills, where the exercises became more laborious and assessment more critical.

I can thoroughly recommend the course to any cadet as a supplement to the NCO cadre and an extra grounding in leadership experience.

Cpl. Richard Holden

RAF Shawbury, Easter 1990

The Camp proved interesting not only because of the full programme but also because of an unforeseen mix of ATC and CCF cadets from RGS and Reads School. The atmosphere was somewhat tense at first but soon cheered up as everyone sorted out their differences.

All cadets flew in Chipmunks at least once, and some more fortunate ones flew in Gazelle and Wessex helicopters.

Land-based exercises included the Wrekin Exercise (which involved searching for an "injured" casualty, applying first aid and returning him to the Tri'g point at the top of the Wrekin on a stretcher), as well as many navigation and map exercises.

Shooting the new L98.A1 cadet rifle proved interesting. Off-station, there were visits to RAF Cosford Aircraft Museum and swimming pool, to Shrewsbury, and to Bridgnorth Motor Museum.

A pleasant surprise was to see Old Boy Alastair Green (now Pilot Officer) who had just gained his wings and was flying Wessex helicopters at Shawbury.

Thanks must go to Sqn.Ldr. Sollars, Flt.Lt. Brown, Flt.Lt. Boutland and Flt.Off. Seymour for running the camp so smoothly.

WO Seymour

RAF North Luffenham, Summer 1989

Last Summer, a group of nine cadets from the RAF Section went on the camp to RAF North Luffenham in Leicestershire. Unfortunately, this is not a flying station, so no aircraft were seen on base. However, there were plenty of physical activities, in the form of canoeing, orienteering and a day's walk around Rutland Water, in addition to flying at RAF Newton and shooting with the L98 Cadet Rifles. Most enjoyable was the night exercise, while perhaps (for the NCO's in particular) the least enjoyable thing was the drill competition.

This was a very varied camp with a great time being had by all, and many friends were made amongst cadets from the other School present - Tadcaster Grammar School. Our grateful thanks to Sqn.Ldr. Sollars and Flt.Lt.'s Boutland and Brown.

Flt.Sgt. DM Hancox

RAF Odiham - A 6th form visit

Last October I was given a place on a week-long sixth form visit, with eleven other students from the South East, to RAF Odiham which is a helicopter base near Basingstoke. The visit was an insight into the RAF way of life and in particular the officers' way of life as we were lucky enough to be given accommodation in the Officers' Mess - something which was a bit of a novelty. We were treated as potential officers as we were shown around all the different sections on the camp - such places as air traffic control, the fire section, ASF, the ground school and the RAF Regiment. Also included in the programme was

some swimming, canoeing and almost four hours of day and night flying in the Chinooks and Pumas - a great experience. The evenings were spent in the Officers' Mess talking and asking about the lives of different officers both young and old. The week was both informative and enjoyable and gave, I think, a good indication into the life and job of an RAF Officer.

WO Phil Read

Old Wycombiensians' Club Annual General Meeting

20 Old Boys attended the A.G.M. of the Club, held in the Masters Common Room before the Annual Dinner.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, agreed and signed.

Matters Arising. The area of the old canteen had not been re-instated. Twenty-one months ago the Duke of Gloucester planted the first tree; the second tree has yet to be seen. Some progress has been made - yellow crosses now mark the positions of the trees. The yellow crosses have just had their second coat!

The County Council has postponed the refurbishment of the Old Hall as the new School Library. The reason for this is that the Government cut the 1990-91 capital allowance to Buckinghamshire.

The Treasurer read the Auditor's Report on the state of the Club's finances. The deficit for the year of £530 was £8 greater than the previous year. Life subscriptions each year are credited to the Capital Account and these amounted to £870, an increase of £90. After deducting the deficit, the balance on the Capital Account increased by £340 to £4,894.

All the Officers of the Club were re-elected. A vote of thanks was given to John Read for his work as Hon Auditor. The Hon Sec was also thanked for his work during the year.

The President in his comments said that a Chartered Librarian would be appointed to organise the new library when it was completed. A Governor's working party was looking into the science and technology facilities at the school, bearing in mind the needs of the National Curriculum. The National Curriculum assessments at 7, 11, 14 and 16 had made Bucks consider changing back to 11+ transfer, but there was strong pressure not to do so as it would cost approximately £25m in building costs. J K Prior reported that the school had produced a zero budget. Local Financial Management meant that the school could appoint a maintenance man.

Annual Dinner 1990

115 Old Boys attended the Annual Dinner, the Guest of Honour was D.G. Ashby M.P. (1953-59). The toast to the Guest of Honour was proposed by N.R. Monaghan (1965-72) who had been a pupil in David Ashby's chambers. W.M.R. Ramsay (1970-74) proposed the toast to the School and Club to which the Headmaster responded.

Deaths - Staff

CLARK W.J. (1936-77). Wally Clark who died in December 1989, aged 80 years, was appointed to the Staff as Head of the Mathematics Department in January 1936. At that time the school had a strong classical tradition and there were two boys only studying Mathematics in the Upper Sixth. However the Headmaster (the late E.R. Tucker) was keen to promote scholastic success in all fields of learning.

Wally, a former scholar of Selwyn College, Cambridge, a man of strong character with the drive and dedication to develop the talent of the brighter pupil, laid the foundations and was responsible for the initial successes in what has become over the years a somewhat larger department.

Apart from six years' War Service with the Royal Artillery, he taught fulltime until 1974 and then continued teaching for a further three years on a part time basis. He gave invaluable loyal service both to the school and to the vast number of boys who will remember him as a firm disciplinarian and an inspiring teacher of his subject.

An accomplished pianist, he proved a great asset when Gilbert & Sullivan operas were an annual feature of school life.

A forthright, kindly Midlander with a slightly abrupt manner disguising his element of shyness, Wally mellowed over the years; many old colleagues envied him his ability to enjoy a lunch-time snooze and awaken promptly for the afternoon teaching session.

A family man, Wally was happily married for 58 years to his dear wife, Dave, who cared for him so well particularly towards the end of his life. He will be greatly missed by her, his daughter Jane and family and also by his many friends.

Deaths - Old Boys

DODGSON A. (1913-18) Allan Dodgson died suddenly at his home on May 3rd 1989, in his 89th year. He leaves two daughters, both living abroad with their families.

Allan was born in Gerrards Cross on November 30th 1900. From the R.G.S. he went to the College of St Mark, Chelsea. He took a teaching post at Harrow Weald Junior School, where he met his future wife. He married Irene in 1929 and moved to a new home in Harrow Weald, where he remained for the rest of his life. In 1935 he took an appointment at Byrom Court School, Wembley and in the early 50's became headmaster of Vicar's Green School, Alperton. His retirement from the profession in 1961 gave him greater opportunity to travel and he often visited his daughters in Canada and Sweden. On his travels abroad he often travelled by cargo ship. His great joy was witnessing the growing-up of his grandchildren and he became a great-grandfather in the last year of his life.

GRIMSDALE W.T. (1919-24) W.T. (Bill) Grimsdale was born in Stokenchurch and came to the school as a boarder in 1919 and left in 1924. He pursued his ambition then to become a chartered accountant with the firm of R.M. Blaidie & Co in the High Street, where several other Old Boys were on the staff.

In 1939 he anticipated the call and enlisted before the outbreak of war in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. Bill married Joyce (who survives him) in 1940. Promoted to the rank of Colonel, his war service then took him through the Middle East, Italy and the Normandy landings in which

he served with distinction, being awarded the O.B.E. (Military Division).

Emigrating to Hong Kong in 1946 he and Joyce spent the remainder of his life there until his death in February of this year. He was first Secretary and Commercial Manager of Kowloon Docks and after what most people would regard as a lifetime of service, retired from that post and took up a position as a director with Sir Elly Kadoorie & Sons Ltd. Bill developed a great interest in Hong Kong affairs, particularly charitable pursuits, of which The Society for the Protection of Children was one of his favourites. He was made a J.P. in 1961. Bill was also President of the Kowloon Residents' Association, which was at that time a dynamic forum for presenting Kowloon views to the Government.

Up to the last moment Bill enjoyed good health and was able to pursue a variety of interests, and on his annual return leave to this country his great delight was in hosting an informal luncheon reunion for about twenty of his old school friends.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Joyce and other members of his family. Bill will retain a special place in our memory for all time.

MEAD H.W. (1917-22). Harold Mead died in Amersham Hospital on November 23rd 1989, aged 84 years. Harold began his musical career by playing the organ at Sands Church. When at the R.G.S. he was awarded the first Art Scholarship by the county. Later he became a freelance artist and worked for The Queen ladies journal as an illustrator. Music dominated his life for he had a fine tenor voice; he became organist at West Wycombe and in addition to private teaching, he conducted many choirs. He will be remembered for the many concerts and musical shows he organised and for his artistic ability to create stage properties and scenery. In the latter years of his life he entertained at many clubs for the elderly and one of his last endeavours was with the Blind Club Choir. He served in the communications branch of the R.A.F. during the Second World War and finished his service in Burma.

McCUBBIN A. (1970-73). Anthony McCubbin was working as a stage designer in Hollywood when he was murdered, shot through the window of his Jeep, near Sunset Boulevard, during an attempted robbery.

PEARCE J.N. (1968-75). After a long fight against the debilitating disease of Multiple Sclerosis, John lost his battle for life on February 16th 1989. Having never accepted the disease, his fight was an inspiration to all those around him.

One of John's former masters recently remarked that "his humour, courage and earnest appreciation of life made John delightful company". He will be sadly missed.

As a tribute to John, a fund has been established which will be used to train medical and nursing staff at Islay Hospital (in the Hebrides) in the care of the terminally ill. Anyone wishing to contribute to this fund should send donations to Dr Hardie, Islay Hospital, Isle of Islay, Argyll.

PUGH P. (1968-75) Peter Pugh was in Belize with his sister, when he drowned while canoeing. Peter went to Westfield College, University of London to study Zoology. He was greatly interested in birds and professionally he worked in zoos as a bird expert.

The Hon Sec has also received news of the death of **COLE W.A.** (Bill) (1928-34) who died on October 30th 1989.

Notes

ANDREWS S.T.H. (1972-80) is still living and working in West Germany with the British Army, but is wondering with interest what the future holds. He is also desperately trying to buy a Trabant car from an East German, but with no success so far. He was married in December 1989 where he caught up with news with **SUMMERS M.T.** (1972-80) who is still working in Cheshire and has just had a son Benjamin.

AUTHERS D.J. (Staff 1963-67) taught Greek, Latin and Ancient History at the R.G.S. before eventually moving over to administration in 1971 with Cornwall County Council. In January 1990 he was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association.

AXTON J.A. (1922-26) is still delving into his family genealogy, and he has met a distant cousin at Penn. 'The Beech Tree' public house at Terriers Green was given to Frederick Axton by his father Charles of Amersham in 1840.

AYRES L.O. (1978-84) is doing a Ph.D at Merton College, Oxford. He gave a paper on St Augustine, at a symposium at Lancaster University in May. He has had articles accepted for publication.

BENNETT J.M.J. (1981-87) has gained a commission in the Parachute Regiment. He was a member of the Great Britain Military Pentathlon Team in 1988 and 1989. He has had considerable success on the rugby field playing for the Army, Combined Services and the England under 21 squad 1989-90. He is in his third year studying French at Liverpool and is spending 1989-90 in Bordeaux before going to Sandhurst in 1991-2.

BOND S.J. (1958-63) is currently in aircraft engineering management for the Royal Air Force in Leicestershire and will shortly be taking up a full time career in aviation journalism after many years freelancing. He would welcome contact with anyone who remembers him, especially Henry Thompson and Peter Wilson.

BURNHAM P.J. (1966-73) attended the University of East Anglia 1974-75. He was an engineering storekeeper 1975-84, being a shop steward 1983-84. At present he is working as an engineering assembly fitter and was Branch Secretary of the Amalgamated Engineering Union 1984-88. He is a member of the Socialist Workers Party.

CANN G.J. (1979-85) graduated from Birmingham University with a III in History in 1990. He will join the West Midlands Police Force in August as a graduate entry. He passed the Home Office Selection Board and this should guarantee him command rank ultimately.

COX G.S. (1976-82) is number-crunching with Peat, Marwick McLintock and will be sitting his finals this summer.

DAVIES A.R.G. (1978-84) is now working as a Systems Engineer for Honeywell Control Systems Ltd.

DELLOW J. (1944-45) joined the City of London police in 1951 and is now deputy Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police.

EVERSON S.D. (1971-78) is a tutor and lecturer at St Hugh's College, Oxford - in Philosophy. He has edited two books recently.

FEIRN D.R.A. (1974-78) married Kim in 1988 and is now practising dentistry in Hull.

FENNER S.G. (1970-1977) is an anaesthetic registrar at St George's Hospital, London. He gained his Fellowship of the College of Anaesthetists last year. He now has a son, aged 10 months. Recently he met **GRAY P.A.** (1970-77) who is an anaesthetic senior registrar in Cambridge. He is married to an anaesthetist, [what one calls a sleeping partner I suppose - Hon. Sec.]

GRIFFITHS C.S. (1955-62) wondered if the Guest of Honour at the Annual Dinner was the same Ashby who was in Tylers Wood and who one winter failed to negotiate the sledge run on the hill behind the school and went through a hedge with rather horrifying results. He is in regular contact with an old friend from the R.G.S., Ian MacWhinnie, now principal of a college in North London. Christopher is the in-house lawyer of a Saudi group known as Jamul, based in Monaco.

GOODWIN C. (1974-80) has recently married into a musical family. Honeymoon plans were hastily re-arranged when his stepson Matthew reached the national final of the BET Choirboy of the Year, held three days after the wedding. Present at the marriage blessing at All Saints, Ascot, were Chris's brother, Nicholas Goodwin (1980-86), then in his final year at Southampton reading Geography, and fellow Old Boys Robert Jenkins (1974-80) and Ivan Woolfenden (1974-80)

HANDS S.E. (1915-20) At 87 he lays claim to being possibly the oldest Old Wycombiensian alive. He and Jock Hunt (1916-20) are possibly the only two founding survivors of the Old Boys' Rugby Club, founded in 1929.

HEDGELAND D.R.S. (1959-66) has been awarded the Mullard Award by the Council of the Royal Society.

HUNNIBELL M.J. (1976-82) is completing his Articles with a commercial firm in Suffolk. When not drafting briefs and partnership agreements he finds time for hockey, rowing and other sporting activities.

JENKINS R.C.P. (1974-80) lives in Pimlico and works in Victoria, London for financial and corporate communications group, Valin Pollen. Regularly sees **JENKINS A.L.** (1973-79), who has changed his surname to **LENARD.**

LANDROCK G.J. (1974-80) Up until August 1989, Graham was a Divisional Officer, responsible for training new entry officers at Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth. Previous to this he had spent 6 months in the Gulf during mine clearance operations, known as Operation Cimnel and also did a tour of duty with the Army at Hereford. His next appointment is in Northern Ireland. Brother David (1976-82) is a housemaster at Millfield School, where he teaches RE and PE. Graham has been married for 3 years to Jill, with a one year old daughter, Felicity. David is single but working on it

MADLIN R.P. (1968-75) will be married to Marie-Christine on August 11 1990 in Albi Cathedral. He is still posted in Brussels, at the UK Representation to the

EC. Recent visitors include Stuart Woodward (1968-75), who flourishes in accountancy, and his wife.

PEATEY B.C. (1941-49), having taken early retirement in 1988 defeated the object by getting elected to Buckinghamshire County Council in May 1989. In between looking after such things as the Fire Service, Museums and the Record Office, he has found opportunities to speak up on behalf of the selective system and R.G.S. in particular.

PHIPPS M.R. (1966-73) worked at London Transport Executive from 1980-85 and then did a Ph.D at Essex University on "State - Trade Union relations in Nicaragua 1979-86". He keeps himself busy by teaching Politics, History and Economics in London Crammers. He wants to travel the world and broaden his mind instead of earning a lot of money.

POOLE C.W. (1976-80). Chris Poole is married with two children and lives in Bracknell. He works in the Health and Beauty Division of Procter and Gamble where he is Sales Technology Department Manager.

PRICE P.A. (1976-82) qualified as a Chartered Valuation Surveyor in April. He now carries the letters ARICS (Associate of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) and works as an Estates Surveyor for Grand Metropolitan Estates in Thame.

ROBERTS S.C.M. (1965-72) has been promoted to become a Chief Planning Officer following restructuring within Cheshire County Council's Planning Department. He now manages a team of professional planners dealing with transportation, retailing, tourism and special projects, including the Mersey Barrage. Although his R.G.S. days were "longer ago than he cares to remember", he still fondly recalls his time at the school.

RUNNACLES M.P. (1964-71) is an executive with the Volvo car company.

SANDON H. (1939-44). Henry, after a professional musical career (Worcester Cathedral Choir, Worcester R.G.S. Music Staff), an interest in archaeology and ceramics led to curatorship of Royal Worcester Porcelain and the Dyson Perrins Museum for 17 years, 8 books on ceramics and a large number of TV programmes starting with 'Going for a Song' and culminating with the BBC 'Antiques Roadshow'. Regrettably lost touch with the school, but would love to revive memories of the war time days and would welcome knowledge of pupils and staff of those days to 11 Perrywood Close, Worcester WR5 1EJ.

SANSOM K.G. (1954-62). After ten years in Australia, Keith Sansom returned to the UK mid 1990 to take up the role of a Director of Laporte PLC. He will be based in Luton - so after many years of travel he will not be far from High Wycombe!

SEARLE R. (1969-76). Ralph Searle would like to hear from Graham Murname, David Gardiner, or any others involved with the production of Arthur Sproat and his Roving Skullwangers' Farewell Concert in Sidney Sussex, Cambridge, as an irreplaceable cassette has been stolen. Address from school.

STAINTON C.G. (1976-78) has recently been appointed a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Accounting and Management Science at the University of Southampton.

He started his own business in marketing and strategic management consultancy in 1983, with his father and brother Andrew (1976-83). They are currently working for several large companies, including ICI, BAT, IBM, Norwich Union and Mars, focusing upon marketing strategies by building bespoke computer simulations. His work at the University of Southampton is concerned with teaching information technology subjects and the marketing of the new Southampton Business School.

STIBBON R.J. (1964-69) left the R.G.S. with one O-level. Robin had various jobs after leaving but whilst working at Wiggins Teape paper mill in Bourne End a friend took him up in a small aircraft at Booker, and he decided to learn to fly. He could afford one hour per week and it took him about a year to get his Private Pilot's Licence. After this he spent all his money on building up his flying hours and by 1978 he had completed an instructor's course and was instructing at Denham airfield - building up hours for a Commercial Pilot's Licence. In 1979 he completed his Commercial Licence and in April 1980 joined Loganair in Glasgow, eventually being promoted Captain on Twin Otters and Brittan Norman Islander aircraft in which he flew scheduled services all over Scotland and the islands.

In 1984 he gained his Air Transport Pilot's licence which enabled him to be a Captain on any size of aircraft - doing this by self-study as the airline could not give him time off to go to college. In 1987 he joined British Caledonian based at Gatwick as a co-pilot on BAC 1-11 jets. When BCal were taken over by British Airways he transferred onto the Boeing 737 and he is now a First Officer with BA.

SWINHOE-STANDEN R.A.P. (1975-81) is still serving with the Royal Artillery and is now stationed in Larkhill on Salisbury Plain, as is COUPS J. who is with the Regiment across the road. Sadly missed this year's dinner because of a large exercise he was taking part in in Hong Kong and New Zealand. **SWINHOE-STANDEN C.D.S.** (1971-78) is to become a dad in August, having got married in the summer of 1988.

TUBBS I. (1936-42) is one of the guides at Nantwich Church and if any Old Boy is interested in churches he would be pleased to show anyone around.

VOUTE L.C. (1976-82) is now a qualified vet. He is working in a specialist equine practice serving dancing braves throughout the Cotswolds.

WALTER J.F. (1923-27), although nearing 80, has started a new career - journalism! He is village correspondent for his local paper, the Darlington and Stockton Times, and it gives him an added interest in the many activities of his village's 1,040 inhabitants. John and his wife celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in May 1989 and his daughter and son-in-law came back from New Zealand for the first time since they went there twenty years ago.

WILLIAMS J.C. (1949-56). John Williams took up his appointment as Secretary of the Institution of Electrical Engineers on August 1 1989. He gained a first-class honours degree at Queen Mary College, London in 1960 and his Ph.D in 1964. His thesis was on the subject of all-dielectric bandpass microwave filters and his principal engineering interests since then have been in the fields of microwave techniques, antennas, radar, satellite communications and satellite remote sensing. He was a member of the team that installed the first operational parametric amplifiers onto the British Telecom earth station at Goonhilly Down in 1968. He joined GEC in 1978 and recently has been managing director of GEC Research and director of the GEC-Marconi Research Centre.

Dr Williams was elected a Fellow of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in 1986 and is a member of the Royal Institution. He has served on numerous Government committees and advisory bodies to Government research establishments. He is on the Court of the University of Essex, he is a Board member of the Artificial Intelligence Applications Institute in the University of Edinburgh and he maintains close links with the Electronic Engineering School in the University College of North Wales at Bangor.

He is currently president of the Chelmsford Engineering Society and is a director of the Chelmsford Festival Committee.

WILLIAMS T.C. (1947-52) has completed 15 years with P & O, the last 10 as Treasury Manager at the Head Office in Pall Mall. He recalls many happy years spent banking in Sierra Leone, but has no wish to return - nostalgia is sometimes better than the real thing! His son, Gary (1977-84) is still with the Standard Chartered Bank in the city and brother-in-law John Messenger (1947-50) is a long established, successful businessman in fish processing in the Isle of Man.

