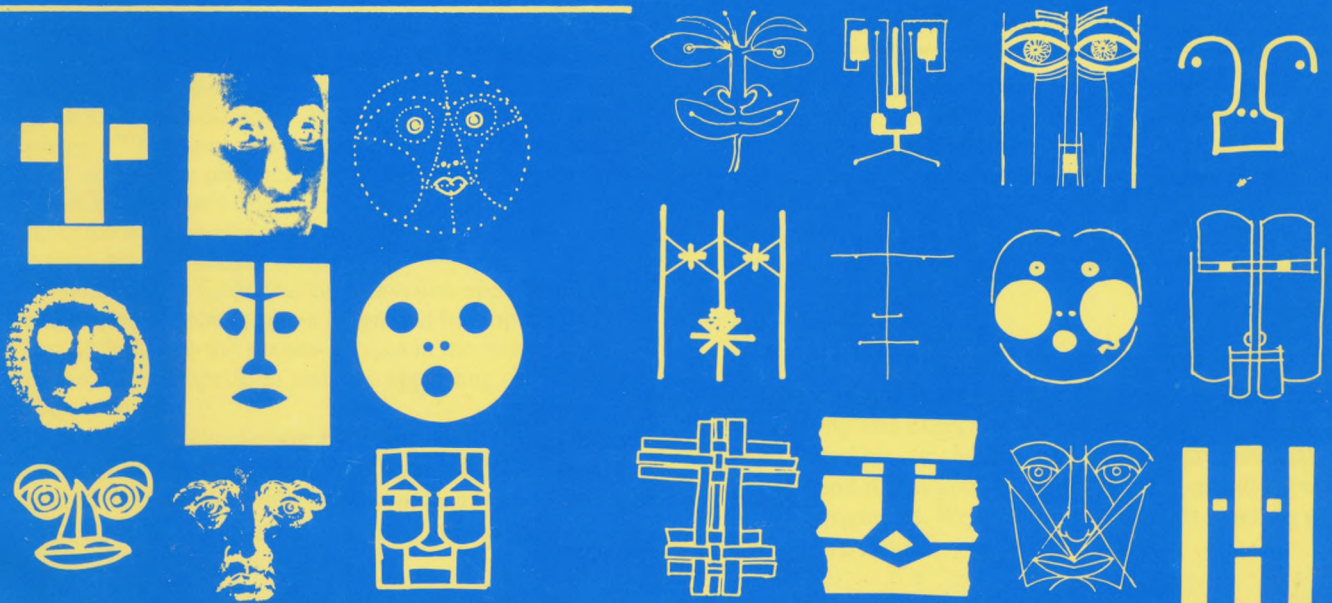




The
Wycombiensian



The Wycombiensian

1994

The Magazine of the
Royal Grammar School
High Wycombe

Editor: Dr M J Smith
Old Wycombiensians' Editor: Mr M W Cook

Art Editor and Cover Design: Mr R P Stevens

Staff Leavers

Mr Michael Smedley

Michael Smedley has been making the daily trek from Tetsworth Towers since his appointment as Director of Music in 1987, which, as those of us who have witnessed the painful curdling death-rattle of his car will know, is in itself something of a miracle.

Underneath his apparently casual and cavalier approach to hugely enjoyable rehearsals, there lurks a master plan of precise planning, which never fails to fructify into performances of the highest quality. 'Smedders' has never been afraid to stretch young musicians to the limits of their ability, and potential minefields such as *Carmina Burana*, Verdi's *Requiem*, *St John Passion* and the Gala Opera evening were huge successes. The main characteristic I associate with MCS is his complete 'unflappability' in a crisis, remaining totally unruffled when teaching a horn part to a junior boy three hours before a major concert, or leaving his sick-bed to conduct the Carol Service, when most of us mere mortals would have raised the white flag.

Michael has performed on many occasions himself, notably playing the viola in a Brandenburg Concerto, gracing the Jazz Band with his dulcet bass tones, and playing *The Teddy Bears' Picnic* on the tuba in the appropriate garb during a Staff Review.

During his incumbency he made the decision to hang up his cricket boots and adopt Hazlemere Golf and Country Club as his second home. "Can I speak to Mr Smedley, please?" "No, sorry, he's on a course." Oft-times has he teed off into the mist at 05.00 to take advantage of the hours of dedicated practice on Tetsworth Common, and he is the only member of the staff syndicate who always comes out of a bunker smiling.

Michael has made various television appearances in recent times, notably when he guided his superb Oxford Pro Musica into the runner-up spot in the Sainsbury Choir of the Year competition and also appearing on Channel 4's Fifteen to One.

We wish Michael every happiness in his new post as Director of Music at The City of London School, and extend our sincere thanks to Alison, Henry and Alexander for their major contributions to the music at this school.

A.R.Y.

Mr Steven Grundy

Steve Grundy was appointed as Chemistry teacher in September 1978. He made many valuable contributions to the life of the school as Officer Commanding the Army section of the CCF, master in charge of school tennis, coaching and inspiring the U13 cricket teams and the U16 and 2nd XI Hockey teams.

He also devoted his apparently limitless energy to taking part in staff football and golf, in organising staff cricket tours and taking part in the Staff Review.

Most boys met him as a zealous teacher of Chemistry. His pupils included those who achieved top grades in A Level, S Level and STEP exams and performed with distinction in the Chemistry Olympiad.

B.K.G.

Mrs Lydia Goldbloom

Mrs Goldbloom joined us in January 1993 for six months to take over some of the classes of Mr Adrian Griffin when he moved to the Medical Research Council. I am grateful that she was able to join us at short notice.

B.K.G.

Mrs Judith Miller

Mrs Miller joined the school on a part-time basis in January 1993. She brought with her considerable expertise and enthusiasm, and her professionalism was much appreciated by both junior and senior classes. She was involved in the wider life of the school, starting a Geography Club in the lunch hour. We would want to wish her well in her future teaching appointments.

R.N.P.

Mr Jack Purvis

Mr Purvis came to us on a part-time basis in January 1993 with a long and experienced teaching background. He approached his stay here in a thoroughly professional manner and it was good to have his wisdom and experience in the department. We wish him well in his teaching at St Bernard's School.

R.N.P.

University Entry 1993-94

OXFORD

F Anwar: Pembroke, Economics & Management
J Badman: St Edmund Hall, Metallurgy & Science
for Materials
A Cox: Magdalen, Engineering
M Hill: University, History
A Khan: Trinity, Medicine
A MacMillan: St John's, Engineering
S Milward: Hertford, Mathematics

CAMBRIDGE

S Baker: Downing, Philosophy & History of Art
C Bennett: Clare, Mathematics
E Bennett: Downing, Law
S Champion: Churchill, Computer Science
M Coakes: Queens', Engineering
N Corran: Trinity Hall, Computer Science
C Fletcher: Pembroke, History
M Goodfellow: Clare, Veterinary Science
S Hallam: Churchill, Natural Sciences
M Hulme: Christ's, History
C Irwin: Jesus, History
A Jones: Trinity, Mathematics
N Lamb: Churchill, Computer Science

S Large: Christ's, Engineering
A Mitchell: Trinity Hall, Law
S Routledge: Selwyn, Classics
R Steiner: Girton, History
S Tan: Pembroke, Mathematics
T Wallwork: Sidney Sussex, Law

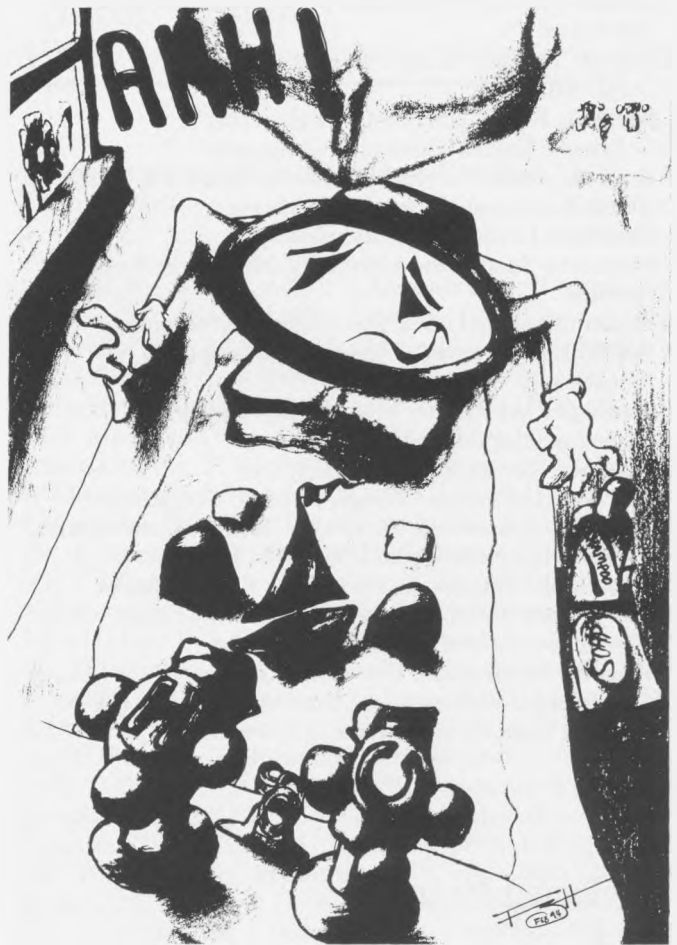
OTHER UNIVERSITIES

C Abay: Kent University, Chemistry
T Adams: University College, London, History
E Allen: Leicester University, Law/Economics
S Anderson: Reading University, Law
M Andrews: York University, Electronic Engineering
& Music
A Arora: Nottingham University, Chemistry
W Bailey: Heriot-Watt University, Economics
A Bain: Nottingham University, Engineering Surveying
R Barber: Exeter University, Economics & Statistics
C Barkey: Royal Holloway College, London, History
J Barrett: Swansea University, French & Italian
M Bassett: Manchester Metropolitan University,
International Relations
N Beecroft: Southampton University, French
A Bell: Nottingham University, Maths/Computing
N Benstead: Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth
J Blogh: Southampton University, Electronic Engineering
R Blow: Bristol University, Law
D Bocquet: Bristol University, Mechanical Engineering
M Brown: St Andrew's University, History



David Miller - Year 10

M Cameron: York University, French & Linguistics
A Carter: Bristol University, Ancient Mediterranean Studies
C Cavell-Clarke: Leicester University, Combined Arts
J Chapman: Aberystwyth University, Biology
A Chenery: Derby University, Education Studies
A Churchett: Bristol University, Town & Country Planning
O Clinch: Lampeter University, French & Swedish
P Colburn: Sussex University, Mathematics
P Cox: Southampton University, Biology & Oceanography
C Cranie: Exeter University, Cognitive Science
T Crompton: University of East Anglia, Music
B Cronin: Keele University, Philosophy (1994)
P Crozier: Sheffield University, History
A Demetriou: Nottingham University, Chemistry
D Dinnage: Southampton University, Archaeology
A Diplock: University of East Anglia, Law
B Dobson: Coventry University, French & Economics
S Draper: York University, Electronic Engineering & Music
G Edwards: Birmingham University, Money Banking & Finance (1994)
J Edwards: Manchester University, Mechanical Engineering
N Elliot: Keele University, Music/Electronics
M Emmett: De Montfort University, Chemistry (1994)
C Evans: Leeds University, Pharmacology
P Fairbairn: Nottingham University, Materials & Design Engineering
P Farrugia: Teesside University, Politics
M Fitzgerald: Worcester College of Higher Education, Psychology
D Foord: Loughborough University, Sports & Recreation Management
I Garner: Leeds University, Environmental Management
A Garrard: Nottingham University, Economics
A Gilmore: Bath University, Chemical Engineering
P Handley: Leeds University, Fine Art
A Harker: King's College, London, Ancient History
N Harwood: Nottingham University, Geography (1994)
P Hemmings: Leicester University, Business Economics
C Hemuss: Royal Holloway College, London, Management Studies & Economics
P Hills: Plymouth University, Personnel Management
M Hoare: RAF Cranwell
K Hodgson: Newcastle University, Mathematics
J Hopwood: Essex University, Accountancy & Finance
M Hutt: King's College, London, Pharmacy
T Jenkins: Sheffield University, Economics/Philosophy
M John: Edinburgh University, Linguistics
T Johnson: Edinburgh University, Psychology
J Johnston: Sheffield University, Archaeology
V Kapoor: Birmingham University, Medicine
S Kazi: Westminster University, Law/French
J Keefe: Surrey University, Economics with Computing
E Kingham: Warwick University, Electrical Engineering
T Lambert: Newcastle University, Music
S Lawton: Cardiff Institute, Business Information Systems
R Leigh: Warwick University, Management Sciences
A Lewis: Imperial College, London, Mechanical Engineering
J Lippiat: Leicester University, Biological Sciences
D Long: Sussex University, Environmental Science & North American Studies
G Lynch: Bristol University, Psychology
M Madden: Bangor University, Financial Management/French
J Mann: Royal Holloway College, London, History



'BATH TUB' - Faraz Hameed Year 13

L Marchant: Lanchester University, Philosophy
J Martin: Leeds University, Economics/Mathematics
A Mawhood: Leeds University, Modern Languages
S McBrearty: Queen Mary & Westfield College, London, Law
R McDonald: Liverpool University, Chemistry
S McKellar: Glamorgan University, Humanities
D McLaughlin: Keele University, Economics & Politics
J Meldrum: Queen Mary & Westfield College, London, Law & Politics
A Mirza: King's College, London, Anglo-German Law
R Monnington: Leeds University, Electrical Engineering
S Moody: Cumbria College of Art & Design, Heritage Management
A Morton: Bristol University, Economic & Social History
A Nichols: Aston University, Business Administration
N Noakes: University College, London, Building Management
A North: Surrey University, Civil Engineering
M Page: York University, History
J Pailing: Bristol University, French
T Palmer: Warwick University, Film & Literature
W Pepper: St Andrew's University, Medical Sciences
J Peters: Bournemouth University, Archaeology
M Ponting: Essex University, Biochemical Chemistry
D Pratt: Keele University, Maths & Computer Science
A Price: York University, History
A Purnell: Goldsmiths' College, London, Economics & Politics
B Rackstraw: Nottingham University, Pharmacy
M Randall: Leeds University, Medicine
T Rogers: Bristol University, Chemistry/Physics

E Rysdale: St Mary's Hospital Medical School, London, Medicine
S Saiyed: Thames Valley University, Business Administration
L Sargent: Bristol University, Engineering
D Schruers: Exeter University, Geography
A Seddon: Aston University, Business Studies & Politics
D Shaw: Liverpool University, Medicine
J Sheridan: Leeds University, History
P Simmons: Sunderland University, Philosophy/Religious Studies
A Sloane: Durham University, Classics/Archaeology
A Smith: Loughborough University, Transport Technology
J Stanhope: Manchester Metropolitan University, Manufacturing Management
R Stanton: Nottingham University, Law
A Starling: University College, London, Geography
J Steane: Bournemouth University, Heritage Conservation
R Stidworthy: Nottingham University, Biology
A Sweetman: East Anglia University, French Studies
J Tarry: Portsmouth University, Computer Science
A Thompson: Bristol University, Medicine
A Wardill: Birmingham University, Geology
I Welch: Leeds Polytechnic, Economics/Politics (1994)
N Wright: Manchester University, Computing



*Year 9 - Figure Sculpture (Plaster)
 S. Egan and S. Green*

“A” Level Results 1993

The successful candidates who took the GCE “A” Level Examinations were:

KEY: Ar - Art; Bi - Biology; Bs - Business Studies;
 Cn - Chemistry (Nuffield); Cs - Computing;
 Ec - Economics; El - English Literature; En - English Language; Ep - Economics & Politics; Et - Electronics;
 Fr - French; Ge - Geography; Gm - German;
 Go - Government & Political Studies; Gr - Greek;
 Gs - General Studies; Ha - Ancient History; Hi - History;
 La - Latin; Ma - Maths; Mf - Further Maths; Mu - Music;
 Pi - Philosophy; Pn - Physics (Nuffield); Sp - Spanish;
 Te - Technology; AS:Ph - Physics

AS denotes "AS" Level * denotes Grade A

C Abay: Cn Gs Pn AS:El **T Adams:** El* Fr* Hi* AS:Pi
E Allen: Ge* Hi Ma AS:Fr **P Anderson:** Bs **S Anderson:** Ec Gs Hi La Ma **M Andrews:** Ma Mu Pn AS:Ha
F Anwar: Bs* Ep* Ma* AS:Fr* **A Arora:** Bi* Cn* Ma* AS:Ph* **W Bailey:** Ec Ge Gs Ma AS:Et **A Bain:** Ec Ma Pn **S Baker:** El* Fr* Ha* AS:Pi* **A Ball:** El Ep* Hi* AS:Ha **R Barber:** Ec Gs* Ma Pn* AS:Gm* **C Barkey:** En Ge Gs* Hi AS:Ma* **J Barrett:** Bs Fr* Pn **M Bassett:** Ep Ge Hi AS:Fr **N Beecroft:** Bs Fr* Hi Sp* **A Bell:** Cs Ma Mf Pn* **N Benstead:** Gm* Gs* Ma Pn AS:Et
C Bishop: Fr* Ma* Mf* Pn* **J Blogh:** Cs* Ma* Pn* AS:Et* **R Blow:** El Ha Hi* AS:Ma **S Blows:** Bs El Ep AS:Fr **D Bocquet:** Gm Ma* Mf* Pn* **M Brown:** El Gs* Hi* Ma* AS:Go* **C Bryan:** Bi* Cn* La Pn* **M Cameron:** En Fr* Gm Mu **A Carter:** El Fr Ha AS:Ma
B Cave: Bi Cn Ma Pn **C Cavell-Clarke:** El* Ep Hi **M Chacksfield:** Bi* Cn* Ma* Pn* **D Chapman:** Gm* Gr* Gs Hi La* **J Chapman:** Bi* Cn Pn **A Chenery:** Ec

El Hi AS:Go **A Churchett:** El Hi AS:Pi **O Clinch:** Fr Ha AS:Go **P Colburn:** Ec Ma* Mf Pn **M Cooney:** Cs Pn **J Cox:** Cn* Ge* Ma Pn* **P Cox:** Bi Cn Ge AS:Pi
C Cranie: Cn Cs* Ma AS:Mu **T Crompton:** En Fr Mu **B Cronin:** Ar Cn Gs Ma Pn **P Crozier:** El Ge Hi Ma* **A Curry:** Bi Cn* Ma Pn* **T Davies:** El* Ge* Gs* Ha* Hi **A Demetriou:** Bi* Cn Ma AS:Ph* **P Dewar:** Bi* Cn Ma AS:Ph* **D Dinnage:** Ec El Hi AS:Ar **A Diplock:** Ec Gm Hi AS:Ma **W Dixon:** El Hi **B Dobson:** Ec Fr Mu AS:Go **A Dover:** Bi Cn **S Draper:** Fr* Ma* Pn* AS:Et* **G Edwards:** Cn Fr* Gs Ma AS:Ph* **J Edwards:** Fr Gs Ma Pn AS:Et **N Elliot:** Fr Ma Pn AS:Mu **M Emmett:** Cn Pn AS:Fr **C Evans:** Bi Cn Pn AS:Te **P Fairbairn:** Bs Cn Ma Pn **P Farrugia:** Ec El Fr AS:Go **M Fitzgerald:** Bs Cs Ma **D Foord:** Cn* Cs* Pn* AS:Ma **A Gambhir:** Cn* Ma* Mf* Pn* **I Garner:** Ec Ge AS:Go **R Garner:** Bi* Cn Gs Pn AS:Ma **A Garrard:** Ec* Ge* Ma AS:Go* **A Gilmore:** Cn Ma Pn **A Harker:** Ar El Ha* **N Harwood:** Ec Fr* Ge AS:Ar **S Hazelden:** Cn Ec Ma* Pn **P Hemmings:** Bs Ec En Fr **C Hemuss:** Bs Ec Ge Hi **A Hickman:** Cn* Ma* Mf* Pn* **M Hill:** El* Ep* Gs* Hi* AS:Pi* **P Hills:** Bs Ec En Hi **M Hoare:** Ep Fr Ge Hi **K Hodgson:** Cn Ma Pn AS:Cs **J Hopwood:** Ec Hi Sp AS:Ma **S Hutchins:** Bs Ep Ge **M Hutt:** Ar Cn Ma Pn **T Jenkins:** En* Fr* Ha AS:Pi **M John:** En Fr* Sp* AS:Ha **T Johnson:** Bi* Cn* Gs* Ma* Pn* **J Johnston:** Ar Cn* Ma* Pn* **V Kapoor:** Bi* Cn* Gs Ma AS:Ph* **S Kazi:** Ec El Fr AS:Ma **J Keefe:** Bs Gs Hi Ma Pn

A Khan: Ec* Fr* La Ma* **E Kingham:** Cn Gs Ma Pn
AS:Et T Lambert: Ar Gs* Ha Mu **S Lawton:** En Gs Hi
AS:Fr S Lea: Ge Gs Hi **AS:Go R Leigh:** Bs* Gs Ma* Pn*
AS:Fr S Leslie: Bs Ec Gs Ma Pn **A Lewis:** Cn Ma Pn*
AS:Fr G Limback: Bi Cn Gs Hi **AS:Pi W K Lin:** Ep Ge
Ha J Lippiat: Bi* Cn* Ma **AS:Cs K Lodhi:** Bs Ep Gs
D Long: Cn* Ma Pn* **AS:Fr G Lynch:** Ec Ma Pn* **AS:Et**
A Machacek: Cn* Ma* Mf* Pn* **M Madden:** Bs Fr Ge
AS:Ma J Mann: Bs Ec Ge Hi **L Marchant:** Bs Ep Gs Pi
J Martin: Bs Fr Hi Ma **S McBrearty:** Ec Fr* Gm* Gs
AS:Ma R McDonald: Bi Cn Fr **S McKellar:** El Ep Pi
D McLaughlin: Ec Ge Hi **A Meldrum:** Fr* Gm Gs Hi
AS:Go A Mirza: Ar Gm Gs Ma Pn **A Mohammed:** Bi
Cn Ma AS:Fr R Monnington: Pi Pn **S Moody:** El Ha
Hi A Morton: Ec En Gs Hi **AS:Fr J Newell:** Ec Ma Pn
A Nichols: Bs Fr Ge Sp* **N Noakes:** Bs Ep Ha **A North:**
Hi Mf Pn J Norton: Ar El Ge **M Page:** Bs* Ge Gm Hi
N Page: Bs* Ec Gs Ma* Pn* **J Palling:** El Fr* Ge **AS:Go**
T Palmer: El* Fr* Hi* **AS:Go* M Peasley:** Ec Fr Hi
W Pepper: Bi* Cn* Ma* **AS:Ph* J Peters:** Ar El Ha
M Ponting: Bi Cn Ha **R Pople:** Bi* Cn* Fr* Ge*
C Poyser: Ge Gs **AS:Cs D Pratt:** Ge Ma Pn **A Price:**
Fr* Hi* La AS:Go* A Purnell: Ec Hi **B Rackstraw:** Bi*
Cn* Fr* Ma* M Randall: Bi* Cn Ge* Gs* Ma **J Ray:**
Fr Ma Pn T Rogers: Cn Ma* Mf Pn **J Ryan:** Bi Cn
Pn E Rysdale: Bi* Cn Ma **AS:Pi S Saiyed:** Bs El Ep
L Sargent: Cn* Ma* Mf Pn* **D Schruers:** Fr* Ge* Gm
A Seddon: Bs* El Hi **AS:Go P Seddon:** Bs* Cs Ma
Pn P Sharma: Cn Ma Pn **D Shaw:** Bi Cn Ma **AS:Pi**
D Sheiham: Cn* Ma* Mf* Pn* **J Sheridan:** Ec Ha Hi
P Simmons: En Fr **AS:Pi N Simpson:** El* Fr Hi **AS:Go**
M Slagter: En Fr Hi **AS:Pi A Sloane:** El Ge Ha Pi
A Smith: Bi Bs* Cn Gs **AS:Ma J Stanhope:** Fr Pn
R Stanton: Ep* Fr* Hi* Ma* **A Starling:** Bs* El Fr Ge
J Steane: Ge Gs Hi **R Stidworthy:** Bi* Cn* Gm Pn*
C Strand: Bs Fr Sp **AS:Ma A Sweetman:** Fr Gm Hi Mu
P Szyszko: Ar Bi* Cn* Fr* Gs* **D Talbot:** Bs **C Tang:**
Cn* Ma* Mf* Pn* R Tang: Bi* Cn Gs Pn **AS:Ma**
J Tarry: Cs Fr **AS:Te P Taylor:** Ar **A C Thompson:**
Cn Ma Mu Pn* J Thrupp: Fr* Ge Ma **AS:Ar P Tidball:**
Fr* Gm* Hi* C Tough: Gs Ha Hi **J Twort:** El Ge
M Walters: El Fr Gm **AS:Ma S Walters:** Bi* Cn Gs* Ma
Pn* M Ward: El Fr Hi **AS:Go A Wardill:** Ge Gs Ma Pn
AS:Go R Weaver: Fr* Ge Gm **AS:Ma J Webb:** Ec En Hi
AS:Go R Webb: Ma* Pn* Sp* **AS:Et* I Welch:** En Fr
R Wetherell: En Fr Hi **M Wheeler:** Bi* Cn Ma* Mu
D Whiting: Ec El Hi **AS:Go J Whittaker:** Fr Ge Ma*
AS:Ph J Windle: Cn* Ge Ma Pn* **O Woodstock:** Bs El
Fr* Gm* N Wright: Cs* Ge Ma **AS:Fr.**

“GCSE” Results 1993

The following boys obtained grade A-C in their “GCSE” Examinations:

J Agnini (9); K Akhtar (11); J Alexander (9); J Allan (11); N Allen (11); R Allom (10); P Bailey (10); B Barnett (9); D Barville (11); M Battle (9); M Beard (7); T Beecroft (9); J Belcher (9); R Bennett (10); R Benstock (10); J Blackburn (9); P Bond (7); L Booth (9); C Boucher (10); R Bounds (10); A Brant (10); J Brinn (10); C Bruckner (8); R Bucknall (10); S Cameron (10); W Chamberlain (10); I Childs (10); N Clark (7); T Clark (9); N Colpitts (8); S Conlon (5); R Coombes (9); J Cooper (9); M Cooper (7); J Cope (10); R Cope (8); C J Cornish (9); A Cox (10); C Daniels (10); A F Davidson (9); A S Davidson (9); A Davies (9); J Davis (10); J De Gelas (7); R D Devoy (10); A Diment (9); B Donnelly (10); D Donnelly (7); J Dormand (10); J Dorricot (9); P Douglas (9); J Dunnett (9); J Emans (9); A Farley (10); J Fisher (9); K Fountain (10); C Fullick (8); P Gibbs (7); J Gilbert (8); D Ginn (10); Z Ginary (11); D Goldie (10); D Green (10); J Greenfield (10); B Greenwood (10); C Grieve (9); M Hallam (8); J Hanson (10); P Harley (10); C Harris (9); J A Harrison (9); T Harrison (9); M Harvey (7); C Hatt (10); K Hawes (9); J Hayat (10); R Haynes (9); R G Holland (9); N Homer (10); J Horridge (10); J Hounsell (9); J Howard (7); D Irvine (11); K Johnson (10); J King (10); N Kingsnorth (9); S Kingsnorth (6); M Kinner (8); A Knox (10); R Knox (10); D Lambourne (9); J Latham (10); M Lawton (11); J Leach (10); A Leggett (7); P Lennon (9); M C Lewis (10); M D Lewis (4); D Lister (10); R Lowry (3); P Lynch (9); P Lyon (10); R Maknin (11); A Mann (9); P Mantle (7); A Marshall (8); A Mason (10); B Mason (4); P Mawhood (9); J Mawson (9); J Maxmin (10); A J McCallion (10); I McLaughlin (8); C Mee (10); A Miller (11); I Mir (10); S Molden (10); C Monnington (10); R Moores (10); R Moretto (10); R Morgans (8); A Munday (10); R Nash (10); P Nasr (9); D Nicholls (5); C Novell (9); I O’Callaghan (8); S Pack (8); D Page (9); J A Page (10); J P Page (11); T Parr (10); M Pavlovic (7); U Payne (10); D Peach (9); M Peake (9); E Pearce (9); M Peddle (10); N Pembroke (8); C Perring (7); E Phillips (9); I Phillips (7); G Phipps (11); M Pickles (10); C Porter (10); L Power (8); A Priestley (10); S Radforth (10); C Randall (10); J Rayfield (9); I Redpath (10); M Reid (10); K Riaz (9); A Robbins (10); J Robinson (10); T Roebuck (9); C Rose (9); G Rossiter (10); N Schwarz (8); R Sharp (9); T Shaw (9); J Shore (10); M Simpson (8); K Smith (10); R Smith (9); P Spackman (10); H Spurling (10); R Stacey (9); A Stubbs (9); G Sugg (9); M Suret (10); N Thorne (10); P Timms (10); M Tucker (9); N Tucker (3); J Tyzack (10); J Van Denbulcke (9); B Walters (9); M Warfield (9); P Watson (11); T Watson (9); N Weingard (8); C West (8); D Wheeler (11); J Wickremer (9); P Woods (9); R Woolnough (9); T Worsfold (9); D Wotherspoon (9); C Wright (10); B Young (7).



Year 13 - Acrylic Painting
Mark Suddaby

OPEN HOUSE

The following three articles are from the 'Pacific Rim' and contain accounts of how three recent leavers have spent the 'gap' year between school and university. The articles come from mainland China, Chile and Hong Kong.

The White Devil: tales from China

'Experience', wrote Wilde, 'is the name one gives to one's mistakes.' It is also an excuse that will justify almost anything in a foreign land. In its name I have found myself tucking into a plate of spicy dog and frog meat in a restaurant in downtown Changsha, and more fundamentally, it was the reason that I originally accepted an offer to come to China to teach oral English at Yueyang Teachers' College, Hunan.

There remains a lot of ignorance in the West about China: many friends expected me to meet pig-tailed men in silk dresses. The guides are similarly misleading: some advice helpful ('never stand too near a stationary bus for fear of being spat on'); some sublime ('if you're O-rhesus negative, don't bleed in China'); and some downright lies ('here beggars never go for foreigners'). Local advice is



Matthew Hill at Tiananmen Square, Beijing, with the Forbidden City in the background.

also invalidated by a Chinese habit of not telling the truth, but what they think you want to hear ('Oh yes, this train does go to Shanghai').

China is a country of contrasts. In Beijing, glorious examples of Ming architecture are to be found hiding among legions of uniform concrete blocks. The amazing Temple of Heaven could be missed if it were not for the multitude of street traders. The economy's transition is similarly juxtaposed: Colonel Sanders sells his fried chicken within stoning distance of Mao's mausoleum. Yet the man himself is far from forgotten, especially here in Hunan, his birthplace. While discussing religion with one of my students, I asked him if he had faith in God. 'No', he replied, 'but I *do* believe in Chairman Mao.'

The teaching itself is not the real aim of my visit, but is becoming equally interesting and enjoyable. My students are enthusiastic and friendly. Their average day puts their English counterparts to shame: up at 6.30 for morning exercise, four or six two-hour lessons, and finally two

hours' supervised study in the evening. Their impressions of Britain are amusing if not completely accurate: all Englishmen carry umbrellas all the time and love 'Yesterday once more' by the Carpenters. It is however easy to speak in stereotypes and clichés, especially when asked, 'What do people in Britain do on Sundays?'

Assimilation into the Chinese way of life is essential. I am here with one other English pre-university student, Dan, but apart from him and one Russian, I have not seen a white face since we left Beijing some months ago. As a result, Dan and I are the most popular show in town: over fifty people in complete silence watched us play pool one evening, and one young girl spent an entire bus journey examining my left cheek from a distance of three inches. Our freak status does have advantages though: we've appeared on television twice, and were the first foreigners ever to climb the sacred Da'Yun Shan mountain. That experience alone makes the whole trip worthwhile.

Assimilation does not yet quite extend to language – a murky bog of pronunciation traps and the quicksand of exceptions. Each word has at least four completely separate meanings depending on which tone you use. This can lead to problems: 'ma' can mean horse, mother, to swear, or numb, while the sentence 'zhai weng yi xia' can mean 'I want to ask you again' or 'I want to kiss you again', depending on the accent on the second word. GCSE French did not really prepare me for this.

China is not a quiet country. There seems to be a national competition to see who can speak the loudest, and the song of the bus horn provides a melodic backdrop at all times of day and night, amply compensating for the lack of sparrows since Mao had them all killed. At Chinese New Year noise levels reached new proportions as everyone let off fire crackers everywhere. A stranger feels like he's walked onto the set of a Vietnam movie. It's no use turning to the ancient parks for relief. Just to liven them up, the authorities have hidden speakers playing tinny Chinese pop music among the trees where you least expect them. But if it does get too much, there is always the possibility of a quiet stroll in the North-Western deserts. This is also about the only place that you can avoid the spitting as well. All the Chinese spit because they all have chronic bronchitis – and all the Chinese have chronic bronchitis because they all spit.

In Hunan, it's amazing that the food alone does not cure them, and in neighbouring Sichuan the meals are so hot that it makes most vindaloos look like jelly and ice cream. There's no refuge in the drink – snake (the more poisonous the better) and turtle wine (55%+ proof) are so strong that the prices are written in braille. Before I arrived, I'd not eaten meat for six years, but a mix of adventure and blind arrogance have meant that here, it is essential, and I've taken to it like a native. In addition to the dog and frog, I've happily knocked back most parts of pigs, cows and chickens, all of baby eels and squid (the crunchy parts are the skulls or eyeballs), and the legendary 'Thousand Year Egg' which is duck egg, marinated in horse's urine, and buried in lime for sixty days. I just hope that the horse was free-range. Details of 'Three Squeals' and monkey's brain are not fit for public consumption in a family magazine or, indeed, anywhere.*

Given patience and a decent set of ear plugs, China is an amazing and uniquely rewarding place to visit. The history,

myths and culture pre-date anything else on the planet, and there is certainly a feeling everywhere that I have visited that the country is now on the verge of another age of strength and success. Even the briefest of trips here will ensure you can never forget the place again. The giant is awaking.

Matthew Hill

* *'Three Squeals' is actually a dish of rat embryos. The first squeal comes when the embryo is removed from the womb; the second when it is dipped in the sauce; and the third when it is popped into the mouth. -Ed.*

The Project Trust, Chile

Probably like many students at the RGS, I was attracted in my Lower Sixth year by the idea of taking a 'year off' before university. Exactly what this involved I can't say I was ever sure, and after bluffing my way through various forms and interviews I found myself having been selected by the Project Trust to spend a year teaching English in Chile. This was generally recognised as being a Good Thing by my friends, family and teachers alike, and that it would certainly be a Great Experience was acknowledged by all.

Rather dazed by the enormity of what I was doing, on 16 August 1993 I waved goodbye to England and stepped onto the plane that would take me to the southern hemisphere for the first time and away from home for the next twelve months.

At the rather humble age of 18 I am currently spending a year teaching English to Chilean students aged 12 to 19 in an all boys' state school in the centre of Santiago. Only 5 years ago the school was the scene of some pretty violent political protesting when the students took over the school to protest against the *still* omnipresent General Pinochet; now, with 45 students in a class, most teachers' jobs consist more of crowd control than actual teaching. Morale is low due to an unsuccessful strike earlier in the year, pay at the same level as road sweepers, and the obvious stress of teaching 45 testosterone-charged high spirited latin gentlemen. However, thanks to the vagaries of the Chilean National Curriculum, my lessons are not obligatory and so I teach groups of between 5 and 20 students, all of whom have at least some passing interest in learning English.

It's incredibly rewarding being able to watch my students progress and see their ability in the language improve, and although the transition from student to teacher has been fairly difficult (it's much harder to fall asleep at the front of the class with chalk in your hand than it is hiding away at the back!), it's definitely worth it – even if teaching in 30°C heat, 50 yards above the twelve lane motorway that is the Avenida Alameda, Santiago's main thoroughfare and commercial centre, can be hard work at times.

Despite having Spanish GCSE, I spoke no Spanish on arrival in Chile, and hence in order to be able to converse I had to learn pretty quickly. Chilean is in fact a fairly distant cousin of Spanish, and whilst I'm far from being a master I know enough to get by and hold my own in most company, and I don't suffer from any in-class discipline problems.

Contrary to what several people warned me before I left

for Chile, my enthusiasm for studying at university when I return has actually been heightened by a year away from the academic treadmill. I suppose it must help to have a passion for your subject (in my case History), and having been introduced to the history of this amazing continent while in Chile, I hope to continue with my study of it when I get to Edinburgh in October.

During the lengthy Christmas/summer holiday I got the chance to travel in the south of Chile, the most beautiful region I have ever experienced. Walking through country full of snow capped smoking volcanoes, spectacular and huge lakes, immense glaciers, beautiful rivers and, of course, the mountains which run the length of Chile's eastern border, was an experience I could never have dreamed about having. I will never forget the kind and



Matthew Brown at Volcán Osorno, Southern Chile.

friendly people I met and the beautiful country I stayed in – it was hence rather a shock to get back to Santiago with its 5 million people all hustling and bustling and pushing and shoving beneath the dense smog which obscures everything, including the nearby 4000 metre mountains!

In February I went to Puchilco, a small valley inhabited by Mapuche Indians in Chile's lake district, with a voluntary work expedition from the University of Santiago. Here I worked in a group doing 'construction' work, i.e. renovating the village school and building an extension for it, building steps and bridges to make the journey to the school easier, and helped to run a summer school for the local children who, despite their inherent kindness, sense of fun and friendliness, simply would not pronounce my name. Max, Maff, Match, Pat, Mac, but said with such enthusiasm and smiles that I just didn't have the heart to belt them round the head and tell them to get it right!

I'm having a great time in Chile; the people are fantastic and it's a beautiful country which I'm becoming deeply attached to. However, the year away has also made me realize how much I love Britain, despite its many faults, and made me more aware of what I want to do with my life when I get back. It certainly isn't an easy life though – spending a year away from your family, your friends, proper beer, and the world's greatest football team, certainly is difficult at times. Nevertheless, the advantages, the people I've met, the places I've seen, the satisfaction I gain from the work I'm doing, and all the things I've learnt – well I'm just glad that I came to Chile. I would recommend to anyone contemplating taking a 'year off' that it is indeed a very Good Thing.

Matthew Brown

A View of the SSLC



Jody Davies with the Gurkhas in Hong Kong.

“Let the Army fill your gap,” it said in the Careers room. Five months later I found myself commanding a convoy of armoured personnel carriers and my 45 strong troop of Gurkha soldiers around the streets of Hong Kong. A long way to come in a short space of time, that is what a Short Service Limited Commission is all about. After being in the RGS CCF I was strongly considering a career in the Army, but as I was unwilling to commit myself, an SSLC was a natural progression.

After six weeks of basic soldier training and three weeks’ adventure training, which included most of the obstacles attempted on ‘P Coy’, I attended the Regular Commissions board. All officers in the Army have to pass this three and a half day board.

From here I went straight to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. There the intensive course taught us basic junior command and brought together school leavers and professionally qualified officers, a very enjoyable course which culminated in a commissioning and pass out parade.

I was extremely lucky that my posting was to the Queen’s Own Gurkha Transport Regiment in Hong Kong. Before departure I completed the troop commanders’

course in Aldershot, to learn my trade. It proved a great opportunity to meet other newly commissioned officers, and a chance to exercise for ten days on Salisbury Plain.

Arriving in January, my first few days were spent meeting the regimental personalities and being briefed on the roles of each squadron. The regiment contains a unique blend of Chinese, Gurkha and British soldiers which added to the interest and complexity! Still dazed by the urban jungle that was my home, I took over command of C Troop 28 Sqn, which contained 45 Gurkhas and 30 armoured personnel carriers. The soldiers of the Squadron were very friendly and I soon felt part of the set up, even though I was the junior member!

My tour saw me involved in a vast number of activities and enabled me to travel and to accept new challenges, not least of which was learning Nepali! I attended several adventurous training courses: Sub aqua, Parachuting, Outboard Motor Operator and a week’s water sports camp. I played regimental hockey and rugby and captained the regimental athletics team and squadron shooting team in the Hong Kong meeting. I also organised a Squadron exercise involving helicopters and amphibious landing craft. I was able to travel to Macau, Thailand, and spent two weeks with some of my Gurkha colleagues in Nepal.

I am very grateful to Col Barnard, the School’s Liaison Officer, for pointing me in the right direction. Also to Lt Col Cooper and all staff of the RGS CCF for giving me such an excellent military grounding, which has undoubtedly helped this year be such a success. I have had an immensely enjoyable year and would strongly encourage any prospective SSLC candidates. It’s a chance not to be missed and a brilliant year before university.

Jody Davies

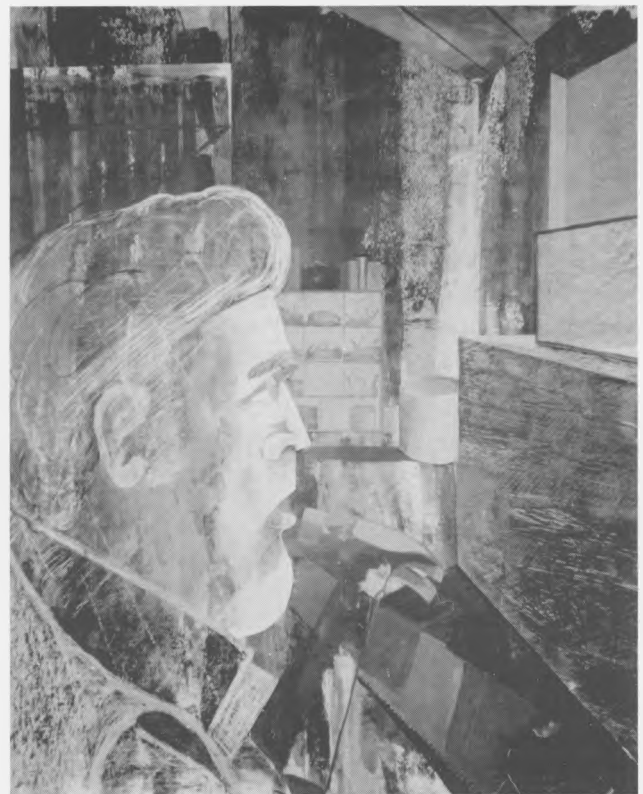
The Last Lesson

The last lesson of the day begins,
Even though it is a favourite subject
I am thinking beyond this class,
I ponder on more interesting things.

My attention is pulled back to the lesson.
Keenly I respond to a question,
My hand shoots up, I want to express my view.
Then the moment of enthusiasm passes.

Again, surreptitiously I peer at my watch,
Surely the hour has come - the buzzer sounds!
Frantically we pack, pens in pockets, books in bags,
One thousand boys pour out of the school.

Oliver Pearson 9F



*Year 11 - Collage/Mixed Media
Nicky Ward*

The French Trip to Northern France 1993

On Friday we arrived at school,
And then met all our friends,
We got ourselves onto the coach,
For off to France, school sends.

We had a driver for our trip,
His name was 'Rockin' Steve!'
He welcomed us to RGS,
This was the time to leave.

He greeted us and spoke to us,
And we were all deported,
But with his cheery voice to hear,
We said that we were, "SORTED!"

Miss Munday said to us, when left,
"I've counted 46!"
She said, "Now if you muck around,
You'll all receive ten kicks!"

Now next is the 'Miss JSK'.
Or ma'am to you, that is!
She sat herself behind young Steve,
With language as her bizz!

For History hear of AMR,
He likes to teach us dates,
We left the school at half-past eight,
Through "very nice old gates!"

Computer studies we all love,
We're helped by JMA,
Who's not quite often in this time,
It's early in the day!

On Monday we went on a trip,
And chatted up some wenches,
And having walked for quite a while,
We dived into some trenches!

With Mr Roebuck all the way,
We learned about the war,
Surprisingly for History, though,
It wasn't a total bore!

We spent our weekend with the French,
With frogs' legs and some snails,
At least if we do not like these,
We'll starve if all else fails.

So back in England it is dead,
We've finished having fun,
I must confess we've eaten well,
We weigh an extra ton!

So having written what's above
I'd recommend the trip,
It's tiring though with exercise,
I'm going for a kip!

Nicholas A. Heath

File Past

From the Wycombiensian of 1916:

TRENCH WARFARE

Captain H. H. Hill, while home on leave in February, visited the School, and gave an interesting impromptu lecture on some of his experiences in France.

He began with a description of their going up to the Front and the method of their taking over from another unit the trenches they were to occupy. It was a question of innumerable details, failure to observe which might cause grave results to the whole sector. Then he described the trenches in all their slushiness, the constant attention required, the ceaseless attention to details of supply, and the methods of warfare....

He described vividly a raid carried out by his own unit, the crawling out at dusk, the cutting of the enemy's wire a few yards from the sentry, the swift, silent assault, the bombing from traverse to traverse, and the safe return of the party. The lecturer spoke for half an hour with an obvious command of his subject, which is not surprising in one who has achieved the distinction of being one of the youngest, if not the youngest, Captain in the Army.

Since writing the above we have received the news of Captain Hill's death, which occurred soon after his return to the Front. Of his life at school, and of his inspiring example, we write elsewhere in this number.

From the Wycombiensian of 1945:

The war has brought many difficulties, but it has also made the development of the social side of Boarding house life imperative. Long black-out evenings and summer days of restricted travel have caused the boys to look to themselves for their own amusements. A display of patriotism led to the formation of the Gardening Club that raised about 3¹/₂ tons of potatoes in two years. The evenings that were once spent in boredom are now fully occupied by the Gym Club, Dramatics, Badminton (for a few select members) and Scouting activities. The Gym Club has produced two displays for the Parents and the Dramatic Society put on two plays last Christmas for the Red Cross.

From the Wycombiensian of 1970:

I MUST GO DOWN TO THE RGS

I must go down to the RGS, to the neo-Georgian tower,
And all I ask is a crusty teacher droning for an hour,
And the desk's creak and the pen's squeak and the BA
gown shaking,
And a grey fog on the master's face and a sore backside
aching.

I must go down to the RGS, for the call of the rugby field
Is a foul call and a shrill call that lets no skivers yield,
And all I ask is a biting day with the dirty ball flying,
And the flung mud and the sharp sweat and the
scrum-halves crying.

I must go down to the RGS, to the Sergeant's snappish bark,
To the hot brown clothes and the drill-parade and all that
Army lark,
But all I ask is an easier sum from the algebraic ogre,
And loud TV and a sweet dream when the long prep's over.

SOCIETIES AND ACTIVITIES

Don't forget your passports – Italy 1994

Once again, Munday Tours in association with Ratcliffe's Egg-jokes *Limited* brought us an amazing classical tour.

Rome's beauty and charm were sadly not apparent in the Hotel Michigan, parts of the Forum being more well preserved than our bedrooms. Our intrepid explorers were not perturbed however, even when breakfast decided to be boiled dishwater and hollow rolls.

Still, Rome held many surprises for us during our 2 day stay. We were staggered by the imposing St Peter's, awed by the vivid colours on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, amazed by the engineering feat that is the vast Colosseum, and embarrassed by Mr Ratcliffe (whose egg jokes have worsened significantly)...

Leaving Rome behind, we made for the Bay of Naples, via Monte Cassino: a beautifully restored abbey, and the site of a famous allied victory of 1944. Our journey's end was Minori: a small fishing village, which had a beautiful setting, sun-drenched beaches and over 27 different flavours of ice-cream!

Here we were stationed to visit the fabled towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum. Constantly shadowed by the looming volcano, Mount Vesuvius, Pompeii is a fascinating insight into the ancient Roman way of life. Taking a few minutes in a quiet part of the town, one can easily imagine what life must have been like for the ancient Romans. It was a fascinating experience and a definite highlight for most of us: Units 1 to 12 of the Cambridge Latin Course suddenly came alive. Widespread distress was certainly apparent when it was learned that Caecilius's house was closed for restoration, though there is a rumour that some Year 11s found this to be a minor obstacle to entry.

Herculaneum was slightly less impressive: it is much smaller and the only thing that looms over it is half a dozen blocks of flats. Slightly daunted at first by the threat of a prison sentence should we touch anything valuable, Miss Munday recovered enough to marvel over the pictures (of varying shapes and sizes) depicted on the walls. Mr Ratcliffe was nowhere to be found, although it is likely he escaped the 'heap of old stones' and sought out a nice café.

Sadly there was no café on Mount Vesuvius, but breathtaking views and a satisfying glimpse in the crater more than made up for Mr Ratcliffe's jokes: suggesting that we should stop to "av - a - launch" half way up.

Disaster nearly fell on the last day, when, 2 hours down the motorway, we pulled into a service station where we were told to 'go and eat our passports'... Needless to say, the more intelligent members of the party realised that the unthinkable had happened: we had left the passports back at the hotel. They finally arrived by courier and we were able to get to the airport, only to find it had been shut down and we were forced to leg it across Rome to catch a flight that was delayed by 4 hours. Arriving back at RGS at 5:30 am required maximum stamina from us, and our waiting parents, who of course still had to admire our tans, souvenirs, presents, pasta, and stories.

Greatest of thanks must, of course, go to the Green (Michelin Guide) goddess herself, without whom none of this would have been possible. A woman whose charm and wit are unequalled, and whose embarrassment factor



Queuing for the Roman bathroom at Herculaneum.

doesn't do too badly either: memories of the 85 decibel shout: "Any more for the loo?", in the centre of Rome, will remain with me for ever! We would also like to thank Mr Page, for counting us all; Mr Ratcliffe for his egg jokes (but please, we've had quite 'enoef' of them); Mr Edwards, for knowing everything there is to know about... well, everything; and Mr Wilson, for reading us the entire sports section of the *Observer*.

Richard Knox 6BW₁ and David Barville 6SW₁

American Exchange 1994

On Monday 28 March a group of six students from the RGS and Wycombe High said goodbye to their everyday lives and embarked on the holiday of a lifetime to experience true American culture and life in the small town of Exeter, New Hampshire.

Having been warmly welcomed by our host families we were dragged into school the following morning, all with severe jet lag, only to be greeted with the news that we were to attend classes immediately. Everyone in the High School showed us the typical American hospitality and people were only too happy to show us around, possibly taking pity on us when they found out we were English. The informal nature of the lessons startled us at first but within days we felt like part of the school and soon adopted a table in the cafeteria.

Our list of activities kicked off with lessons in how to play baseball. All left impressed by Dr Barker's skill and knowledge of the game and his attempts to steal base left me wondering whether he had ever played professionally. The theme of baseball continued with two trips into the wonderful city of Boston to lend our support to the Red Sox, and the interesting game of kick-ball (an unusual cross between soccer and baseball) was also organised for us.

Other activities besides baseball included a trip to the theatre in Portsmouth and a band concert where the local

bands shouted out many wonderful words, none of which we could understand. The witch museums of Salem were graced with our presence and Lowell National Park was lucky enough to enjoy our company for six hours; surprisingly however there weren't any trees. Ironically a few of us were taken to a Revolution Parade in Lexington to cheer on the people who beat us some two hundred years ago. During this trip we even caught a glance of Ted Kennedy, brother of the assassinated JFK.

Weekends and nights were usually spent with friends or the host families. Our first outing was to a restaurant, Cousin Richie's, where we experienced the excitement of dining in a truck stop. Being adventurous we opted for more all-American activities such as shooting pool, bowling and hanging out in the Mall. Numerous expeditions to shops left a few of us almost broke, although the rest did manage to restrain themselves from buying every cheap pair of Jeans or CD that they saw.

Time really did fly with all the hospitality and outings during our four week stay and to sum up the exchange it was pure fun, although saying goodbye to all our friends was hard, and being mistaken for an Australian is an experience I would rather forget. However, the exchange is not yet over as I look forward to welcoming back my host student in July along with four other students and returning their hospitality. Many thanks to Dr Barker for all his efforts and entertainment.

Paul Lyon 6GC₁

Ski Trip to Austria – Easter 1994

We arrived at Saalbach at 11.30 am after a 22-hour coach and ferry journey. Everyone unpacked their bags, and we went straight out again to hire our skis and boots. While we were there the teachers were all given a glass of schnapps each. They all downed it apart from Mr Howe, whom it knocked sideways. By the evening everyone was really tired so went to bed relatively early, after a good meal.

We were made to wake up at 7.15 on a Sunday morning. We took the coach to the next village, Hinterglemm, where we were to ski for the first two days. The instructors were all really friendly, and our instructor even tolerated us wanting to jump every bump we saw. On the first night we had some fresh snow and without it the week might have been a complete disaster, although there was still quite a bit of snow around 2,000 metres.

During the week we skied on three different mountains and probably skied around 20 different runs of a variety of colour. The evenings' entertainment included: bowling at Bobby's Bar, a trip to Zell Am See, and a trip to the local swimming pool. James Latham will not forgive MJD for making him go in a pool for the first time in three years.

On the last evening Mrs Henderson awarded her annual awards. Alistair Marchant won a prize for the best tumble and for the best timed comment, about the Milka cow being sexually frustrated because of its colour. Oli Cox won poseur of the week and Harry Eagle was awarded a map to make sure that if he went back again he wouldn't get lost again.

The trip was again a great success and in 'public'

everyone was well behaved. Thank you once again to Mr Davies who made the trip possible and all of the other teachers who helped us to have a great time.

Alistair Marchant 6ER₁ and Rupert Stephens 6ER₁

Activity Holiday at Anduze 1993

We were excited. A coach load of boys... and us for 10 days in France. We arrived at RGS to find Mr Howe desperately trying to count boys as they pushed past each other, shouting – anxious to get the best seat on the coach. When the doorway was eventually cleared of bodies, Emily and I crept our way onto the coach to take up our positions for the 26-hour journey, avoiding the accusing glances of the boys (who appeared to have never seen girls before). The journey was long, hot, noisy and smelly as the air purifying



Lee Richardson finally washes his tee-shirt.

unit in the toilet appeared not to be working, but nevertheless we arrived in France to be greeted by several enthusiastic (and not to mention brown) instructors.

We were allocated tents, fed and watered and then told about activities we would be participating in. These ranged from abseiling, swimming and gorge-walking, to a two day descent of white water rapids of the Ardèche river in tiny 2-man canoes (the rocks of the river being made of polystyrene – as told by the instructors, and as believed by most boys!). This was perhaps the highlight of the holiday – watching the boys' faces light up... as we passed a nudist beach! Also seeing staff and boys capsize, only to be rescued by our strapping instructors. Needless to say, Emily and I did not capsize at all!

It was at about this point in the holiday that we women realised that one member of the group, Lee Richardson, appeared not to have changed his clothes at all since we had arrived. Having already worn two suitcases worth of clothes we couldn't understand this, and so after much protesting Lee was made to change and wash his clothes – which were already walking to the sink by themselves!

The holiday was enjoyed by all and was certainly an eye opener to us young girls. My only other message is to the boys who are coming to Spain this year – learn how to use a tea towel *before* you come!

Bryony Russell

Osnabrück Exchange

An early start on a cold morning was soon forgotten as the coach left and the card games and Walkmans began. A reasonable journey with a 'moderate swell' in the Channel drew to an end with anxious faces getting off the coach wondering what the next two weeks had in store for them.

However, these worries were unfounded. The delights of the cities of Münster, Bremen and Cologne were explored and the virtually impossible task of finding an English newspaper began. A cost of over £1.50 just to see the football results represented an expensive way of keeping up-to-date with Wycombe Wanderers' promotion surge but it had to be done. A day in the 'well disciplined' and 'hard working' school brought home the fact that in this country we are worked too hard and our school day is far too long, and the lack of homework meant that young Germans had plenty of freetime to enjoy. What must they have thought when they came over here and didn't get home from school until almost 5 o'clock! The free days were spent practising our spoken German whenever brave enough and getting to know the town of Osnabrück better by visiting the many attractions of the pleasant town.

Other highlights of the trip included a pale Mr Yeates reacting to the term 'moderate swell', his new acquisition for his tie collection, and actually winning a game of cards on the journey home – a terrific personal achievement.

Darren Page 6LY₁ and Nathan Thorne 6LY₁

Isle of Wight Trip

During the February half-term, whilst mainland Britain was coping with the torrents of snow left by the Siberian winter, the expedition was preparing to leave. However, this sudden blizzard grounded the whole of the south to a halt. The group was then forced to abandon its planned route by minibus, and travel by British Rail.

The West Brook Centre, where we were to spend the majority of our time, was in pleasant surroundings – ten minutes' bus journey from Ryde and two minutes' walk to the sea (30 seconds for Mr Ashworth). It provided the perfect setting for a relaxing short break with as much or as little activity as possible, which ever you preferred. There was a variety of activities which catered for every need from football and shinty to table tennis and golf (although a coloured ball would be needed to find the ball in the snow). Another popular event in the programme was the evening wide game. This involved the taking of the other team's lives (breaking their armbands) and generally running headlong around a field in the dark, an activity which is surprisingly entertaining. Mr Ratcliffe swears by it as a method of removing the tension in his muddled life as a teacher.

While daylight remained even the most active of the party were satisfied and even as darkness fell the customary discussions figured only briefly, to my surprise, leaving the rest of the evening to relax after an eventful wide game.

Trips to Sandown swimming pool and Ryde Ice Skating Rink, together with an afternoon ten-pin bowling, added enormously to the fun of the holiday.

Tim Parr 6EC₁

Art and Design

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



Rhys Cannon receives from Lynford Christie the Art Challenge Competition's divisional prize at the Royal Academy of Art, London.

for all boys including Drawing and Painting, Print making, Ceramics, Sculpture and computer graphics.

Visits and Workshops: This year has proved to be an exciting one with a range of visits and workshops for years 10, 11 and boys studying A-Level Art.

Year 10 studied the Western Art collection of paintings at the Ashmolean museum and the ethnological collection at the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford.

Year 10 boys studying the 'short course' in Art were fortunate to attend a workshop in conjunction with the 'Portrait Now' exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery in London. The second workshop led by artist Marion Elliot took place at the Spring Gardens Arts Centre, High Wycombe, and involved the study of works by leading designer craftsmen.

Year 11 made a visit to the Imperial War Museum in London to study the 'War Artist' and the collection of paintings from the First and Second World Wars, including the famous mural entitled 'Shipbuilding on the Clyde' by Stanley Spencer.

A-Level artists visited the Royal Academy of Art in London to view the 'American Art in the 20th Century' exhibition and the master drawings from the Paul Getty collection.

Mr Webber introduced male and female life models into the A-Level art programme. For ten weeks of the spring term boys were subjected to a demanding and valuable experience in figure drawing.

Our links with the Wycombe Local History and Chair Museum enabled A-Level boys to attend a two-day portrait photography workshop led by national portrait photographer Nick Sinclair. We hope to take part in a wood carving workshop at the Museum later this year.

Finally, congratulations to Rhys Cannon on winning the divisional prize in the Midland Bank Charity Art Challenge competition. His prize of £250 was presented to him by Lynford Christie at the Royal Academy of Art in March 1994.

R.P.S.

Uplyme Report

Once again this year has seen several changes in house organisation, including the departure of a very sad Mr McNeil, closely followed by his successor, Mr Claye. Was it something we said?

But it's not all been bad. New additions to the house have included the very individual Martin "The Hut" Wallwork, and the frightfully aristocratic Rupert Stephens. Whoever said a classless society was a good thing?

Some inexperienced members of the house were introduced to the joys of that morning after feeling, with unfortunately dire consequences for Mr Roebuck's history set. James Baker was the poor soul involved in this discolouration of selected parts of the classroom. Others, namely Chris Coster, had slightly more legitimate reason to feel ill as he was rushed to Wycombe General with a mystery heart condition. This condition was found to be (to the disappointment of a couple of kindly companions) not fatal. Miles ('I failed my driving test') Nurnberger failed his driving test, and being a bit of a car nut (draws cars, loves cars, etc.), this was a huge disappointment. Shame.

Darren Mills took up karate class recently with the claim that this is merely for self-defence. Peter Northage on the other hand, claims not to need such training as he's

been practising on juniors for years. Hopefully his time pretending to run a religious sect with William "Decked by a little 5th former" Richards will help to ease William back to reality.

Inevitable events this year have included: Yet another Staff v Boarders football match. This (once again) ended in a crushing defeat for our side. On a completely different front, Uplyme won the recent Alphabet Football game vs School House. The match was scrapped six minutes from the end due to foul play by several participants from both sides. Needless to say, it was their fault. Honest.

A group was organised to watch Wycombe Wanderers, but this match was also cancelled. Fortunately enough they ended up indulging in an evening of Quasar, running around shooting each other with infra-red laser guns. Bowling was another great competition, with Ryan "Blink!" Wheaton dominating the competition from the first ball.

Well, yet another year has come to an end, yet another boarding house report written. Thanks as ever must go to Mr Edwards (somebody knows you're there), and of course Mr and Mrs Davies. Final farewells go out to last year's leavers, Joe Emans, David Bocquet, Stuart McKellar and wild man Simon Moody. Before they think we have forgotten them, hello to Mr Robson and Miss Moffatt.

CC, WR, DM PN, JB and MN (But mostly CC & WR)

School House Report

The start of the new school year invariably brings with it an influx of new sprogs. This event is seldom dull, and we were not disappointed this year. Led by the insatiable Ross Deering (who broke the record for the most punishments received in a week, previously held by Tom Hadley), this crop of pretentious delinquents, with a paranoid schizophrenic thrown in for good measure, kept us Sixth formers on our toes.

The sad departure of Mr Moore saw a staff reshuffle at the boarding house and the arrival of Mr McNeil. At Christmas we lost Tom Hadley to AC Milan for £6 million, but 'luckily' gained Tim Wallwork on a free transfer from Accrington Stanley. Tim has graced us with his ineffably God-like and condescending attitude. Indeed, Tim believes he is destined to have relationships with only "super-model" standard women. Consequently, this is the main cause of his severe lack of female companionship; as opposed to the slick "Julie" Ayling.

However, these outstanding feats have been bettered by the new head of house, Chris Bealer, who has managed to get by all year by doing absolutely nothing; and at the same time convincing the teaching staff otherwise. The daily repetitiveness of a boarder's life has been occasionally disrupted by Neal "petty" Colpitts, who has taken over from the long forgotten Jon Thrupp with his feeble attempts to seem amusing.

The Kingsnorth twins have had mixed fortunes whilst "playing the field". Numerically, Simon has exceeded all pre-season expectations; whereas, his brother, Neil, thought he had scored, only to have it disallowed as his opposite number was under-age.

In spite of the astounding oblianism endured this year we can only hope for a better and more productive one next year.

The Sixth Form

Chess Club

This has been a very busy season for the Chess Club. There have been meetings every lunchtime, inter-form competitions, and eight school teams playing in the local leagues with over sixty boys representing the school in these matches.

In terms of results it has been a mixed season. In the *Sunday Times* competition we reached the Zone Finals before losing to Dr Challoner's. In the recently established Plate Competition for the Zone runners-up we have reached the last 8. But in the Senior leagues we have had disappointing seasons. The first team will be relegated from the first division and the second team are in the bottom half of the second division. Both teams are young and we look forward to good seasons next year.

In the Junior leagues the third team did well and gained promotion.

Full colours have been awarded to David Haynes, Colin Hobbs and Robin Phelps.

Half colours have been awarded to David Smalley.

Daniel Lambourne
(Captain)

Many thanks to Daniel and those captains who have organised their teams so well, and others who have helped run the Chess Club this year.

I. R. Clark

Christian Union

This year has been an encouraging time for the Christian Union. In comparison with previous years, however, attendance has at times been low. Yet, in terms of Christian growth, the members of this year's CU have matured a great deal. In fact it has been an excellent time. After a change in leadership in September, the CU has attempted to address some of the fundamental issues at the basis of Christianity. With some sound and effective teaching from CU members and outside speakers, I feel we have covered these areas successfully.

All credit must go to Jon Brinn for his organisation of one of the most superb CU weekends ever. In cold February, at the Wycliffe Centre, Stokenchurch, students gathered from the Christian Unions of schools throughout the area for a time of fellowship and teaching. A record number attended and with speaking from Mike Pilavachi, the weekend went excellently. Everyone left refreshed and encouraged, having thoroughly enjoyed the time.

Overall an effective year with a stimulating programme. We have welcomed many competent speakers on varying, thought-provoking topics, among whom we would particularly like to thank the Reverend John Samways and Dr Ian Clarke. The CU is open to all who are interested in Christianity or wish to meet others of similar beliefs. It is essentially a non-denominational society, open to all. Finally, I would like to thank Peter Douglas and Jon Brinn for their leadership of the CU during this period.

Michael Reid 6HK₁

Benevolent Fund

So far this academic year the Benevolent Fund has run with little fanfare, the weekly Monday morning voluntary collections amounting, by mid-April 94, to just over £3000.

From this sum we have already made several donations. We supported the BBC's 'Children in Need' appeal with a collection of £250, and just recently made a £200 contribution to the Latin American charity 'Children of the Andes' which provides care for destitute street and slum children. At Christmas the Benevolent Fund donated £200 towards the grand total of £1016 collected for Oxfam through the sale of the CD 'Follow that Star'. This compilation of carols and Christmas music by the Oxford based 'Pro Musica Singers' has a special RGS importance because the choir was founded and is presently conducted by our own Head of Music, Mr Michael Smedley. It was to this same project that the school also donated the collection received at the school's Christmas Carol Service.

Following usual practice the final sum accrued through the year will be allocated to various charities according to the wishes of the boys' Benevolent Fund Representatives. My thanks go to both the staff and boys who have given their support and made it another successful year.

J. R. Barry Kempson,
Benevolent Fund Secretary

Forum

This year, Forum has enjoyed a number of changes under the paternal eye of Mr Ratcliffe. Meetings have been moved to Tuesdays, and attendance has broadened to include some chaps of lesser years.

Upholding the 'Foromic Tradition', our discussions have regularly ventured where none have gone before, often aided by pearls of wisdom from Mr Kempson and Mr Ashworth and I am sure that I am not alone in saying that I have found our discussions on the Christian faith both helpful and challenging.

A friendly atmosphere and a cup of coffee await those daring enough to be challenged about life, the universe and everything..... why not try it out..... Tuesdays, 1:35pm, room 4...

Mark Kingston 6ER₂ and Carl Bruckner 6SG₁

Islamic Society

Since December, an Islamic Society has been up and running at the school, the aim being to educate ourselves and others in most aspects of Islam.

The Society holds weekly meetings in which a talk is presented by various members of the Society. Discussions have been held on a range of topics including faith, prayer, charity and economics, all based around the Islamic point of view.

At present most Muslims who come to the meetings are from Year 11 and the 6th forms, but we would like to see more from the lower school.

The Islamic Society also encourages non-Muslims to come along and find out more about the Islamic way of life.

Many thanks to Mr Wolton, Mr Page and Mr Ratcliffe in helping and giving us advice on setting up the Society.

S. Hayat 6BW₂ and A. Mir 6BW₂

Model Aero Club

The club is three years old and we have 36 members. The first year we started with radio control with Sixth formers and then went on to control line. I try to encourage young members so that they can enjoy four years of club activity. Our first public appearance was at the Model Engineer Exhibition at Olympia which was a great success. We have been invited to two major events this year by the 1066 Society of Antique Models. Americans, Germans, French and Italians will be there along with 40,000 paying public. The Parents' Association kindly donated £500 this year to help with club expenses. New members are always welcome.

A. W. Chamberlain

Music Society

The first musical event since the last Music Society report went to press was the annual Summer Concert; this year, in honour of R P Brown (who was soon to retire). The concert was an enjoyable occasion with a memorable performance of Handel's *Zadok the Priest* by the School Choir, and notable performances by the First Wind Band and the First Orchestra.

The Autumn Recital saw the Music Society suffering from a severe case of wind in various shapes and sizes (mainly horn and bassoon), with Steven Medhurst and Mat Lewis dominating the programme.

In the Christmas Concert, the Junior Choir produced a slick, well practised rendition of *Daniel Jazz*. Following their highly dramatic (if not musically demanding) performance of Bernstein's *Gee, Officer Krupke!*, four senior members of FCH, still in costume, went on to form the rhythm section for the Second Wind Band's rendition of *Irving Berlin Suite*. (We apologise for Richard's hand-held-gong clanging: he was unable to find a wood-block.)

The Spring Recital was of its usual standard. The recital was ensemble based, the highlight of the evening being the Sixth-form String Quartet, which was doomed from the start when Boccherini was spelt 'HAYDN' in the programme. Things did not improve. The initial errors were rendered irrelevant to those listening, as it sounded more like Schoenberg.

Congratulations to all those involved with *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The Music Society feels that it is meet and right to comment on the remarkable performance of *Spread a Little Happiness* and *Somebody Loves Me So* (the medley) by the cast, and to renounce all responsibility...

The annual joint concert with the Wycombe High School was as popular as ever this year. Our thanks for the cooperation of WHS staff and students alike. Most notable was Sibelius's *Karelia Suite* and RGS's *Schubert Octet*.

At time of going to press, we look forward to the forthcoming Summer Concert, where we will say 'Adieu' to Mr Michael C Smedley – after seven years. When asked what he has achieved during his time at RGS, he replied, '...I've got a new jacket... er... my gear-box has gone...' Mr Smedley's organisation of Music Society events and witty assemblies will be sorely missed. He will be saying 'goodbye' in his own inimitable style, accompanied by the school Jazz Band, when he makes a last-ditched attempt to sound like an authentic jazz singer. We wish him every success in his new post as Director of Music at the City of London Boys' School. We look forward to welcoming Mr Tim Venvell as our new Director of Music, in September.

This year Fairly Close Harmony reached new heights, with particularly apt contributions in the Summer Concert and Autumn Recital. Singing in true close harmony, they performed two American folk-songs and two negro-spiritual songs, respectively. After the ambitious Christmas Concert, no more performances were given.

The Jazz Band has improved further this year, becoming a tighter unit. As well as their usual big-band performances, some members of the band have had the opportunity to experiment with 'trad jazz' on various occasions. The Jazz Band has also been given the honour of supporting the Bucks, Berks and Oxon Big Band at Wycombe Abbey on 2 July. Later this year they will be recording a new album (the third in the band's history). They should be able to maintain, and improve on, this very high standard, as only four members of the band will not remain at school next academic year. We wish the Jazz Band well.

The Upper Sixth musicians regret that they will be leaving RGS not having witnessed the introduction of colours for music.

Anthony Green 6C2 and Jonathan Walker 6E2

Concert by Royal Air Force Central Band

The school enjoyed a musical treat when the Central Band of the Royal Air Force led by Warrant Officer Peter Stockdale came to present a concert of popular music on Thursday, 2 February.

The event provided a perfect opportunity to highlight the success of a number of students who have recently gained Royal Air Force Flying and Sixth-Form Scholarships.

Pictured between the Headmaster and Warrant Officer Stockdale are six of the successful students who were awarded scholarships.

From left to right: Nick Hughes, Simon Hallam, Ben Sullivan, Glenn Walker, Julian Dunnett, and Chris Novell.



M.C.D.

High flying scholars meet top brass.

I.T. Centre

Yet another exhilarating year has passed for the I.T. Centre and have we got good news for you! The Network is spreading its tentacles all around the school, thus the appearance of those annoying little boxes with RM on them. This means that Networked computers will soon be arriving in your very own classroom, allowing you to access all the applications we have available.

We have had many new users come to the Network, many of them with great new skills in many areas, including programming. None of these has managed to outdo our very own Network Programmer, Jon Page, who has spent much of his free time re-writing I.N.S.I.D.E., the Show Day display program. He produced some stupendous and spectacular new effects for the display that ran so smoothly, due to great planning and control.

The Network Managers have survived the trauma of yet another year of hassle that both the users and the ever widening Network have caused them. They have EXCELled themselves in meeting every request of the 600 users on the Network (except jumping off cliffs, etc.).

After a democratic vote, we now have a new booking system in operation and it has proved to be more reliable and better presented than the good old version, which in fairness, was written hurriedly in order to be ready for the opening of the I.T. Centre. The new version uses the latest techniques in Network Communication.

Having had a very successful year it remains only to encourage more people to become users of the Network and to thank the people responsible for its operation. Thanks go to Mr Gibson, Mrs Briggs, Andrew Brant, James Page, Nick Lamb, Jon Page, and all the users who make the I.T. Centre such a dominant part of our lives.

Network Management

Computer Network

This year the computing department saw quite a change in the level of equipment and machines available. We are a separate entity from the main I.T. Centre computer madness, and as the I.T. Centre expands and spreads around the school, our network remains a local system. As some of our equipment is therefore fairly dated, the ongoing battle to update this equipment has been more successful this year than in years past, even a tad competitive towards the I.T. Centre.

This year the supervisors have been myself and Andrew Smy, who are now sadly(?) departing for alternate virtual realities. Over the months we've tried to maintain a bit of law and order in our network world. This has been a huge challenge due to the scale of it on a major network, and as we were fresh to the task this made it more difficult. But we coped.

The phasing out of all the (very, very old) 80186 microprocessor based Research Machines (RM) computers has been just about completed, to be filled by (very old) 80286 machines, a couple of (old) 80386 machines and several (very new) 80486DX33 machines which have been purchased, with more in the pipeline. This brings the department up to date (for the moment!).



On the software side of things, Microsoft Windows 3.1 and DOS 5 provide a stable operating system, running atop Novell's Netware 3.11. This set-up is quite a good partnership of power and flexibility for the users. Our applications software includes Microsoft Office, PagePlus 2 and DataEase. Programming languages available are Turbo C, Turbo Pascal, QuickBasic, and Visual Basic 3 for Windows.

The Computing Lab, Room 30, is open to pupils of all years before school, during break times and after school every day. This is thanks to Mr Lovell's generosity in being there with the room open whenever anyone wants to use a computer. We attract most of the Computing students and a large number of I.T. users, due to our smaller size, our well maintained software and our less Remedial Machines. We have about 170 users at time of writing. This is about a quarter of the I.T. Centre's current user base. Overseeing these users is time consuming if you want to do it properly, a bit like baby-sitting a technically challenged... well technician really.

Chris Coster 6MBE2 and Andrew Smy 6MBE2

Senior Vulture

The school year enters the home straight, and another season of expeditions on a quest for culture draws to a close. This is my sixth and final year as a member of Vulture, and this year's choices of evenings out were as strong as ever.

We began in great style with the play *Oleanna*, by David Mamet, directed by Harold Pinter. Starring David Suchet, better known as Poirot, and Lia Williams, this psychological and political (correctness) drama was slow to begin with, but became towards its climax deeply involving and disturbing. A cautionary tale on the perils of talking too much and listening too little, the play involved a university professor accused of sexual harassment by a student. The play certainly split the audience's sympathies, descending into all-in wrestling with the 'lads' in the audience cheering on the professor in the blue corner, but it was highly thought-provoking and is thoroughly recommended.

Next we stayed a little closer to home with a performance of the opera *L'Elisir d'Amore* (The Magic Potion) by Donizetti, at the Wycombe Swan Theatre. This production, set on a Steinbeck-esque farm in Middle America, was very well performed, with design and production values to match any London performance, with the added bonus of comfortable seats. The opera was perhaps not suited to everybody's tastes, but made for an excellent introduction to opera for those that had never seen it before.

Back in London, our next evening out was to see the film by Jane Campion, *The Piano*, starring Holly Hunter, Sam Neill and Harvey Keitel (also in my other favourite film of the year, *Reservoir Dogs*). This was a rich and fascinating film about a mute Scottish woman who is forced into an arranged marriage which takes her and her daughter to New Zealand. There, she embarks on an affair with an Irish (or possibly Scottish) man who has become part of the Maori community, in return for her treasured possession, which is, funnily enough, a piano. This was enjoyable and entertaining for everybody and continues Vulture's tradition for successfully picking Oscar winners (*My Left Foot* and *Howard's End* in previous years).

Our final visit was to the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, to see the Theatre de Complicité's play, *The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol*. This had a cast of seven highly talented actors acting the parts of an entire village's worth of characters, all the animals, and even the land, which is much more watchable and entertaining than it at first sounds. This athletic and energetic production had the cast leaping around becoming mountain paths, chickens, French resistance men, bushes, horses, and furrowed earth. The stunning set was as sparse as it needed to be, but fully complemented the actors, with a stunning finale of a roof collapsing with slates falling about the cast's ears. The story itself, based on a short story by John Berger, was always interesting, but was not always clear, with Lucie's third life being her death, and somehow was not always involving. It was, however, always impressive.

In all, Vulture is an excellent introduction to the arts, with a selection of productions that mixes the traditional with the cutting edge of theatre, film, or music. It is also an excellent introduction to London, giving ample opportunities for dining (Chicken McNugget meals all round!), and the entertaining sport of celebrity-spotting (this year's selection:- Nigel Planer aka Neil from *The*

Young Ones, Mr Cholmondley-Warner, Ken and Em (Apparently!), and the bloke who played the over-strict father in *Dead Poet's Society*. Or something.). As ever, thanks to Messrs. Keysell, Mitchell, Cowburn, Miss Kelly, and all other staff involved in giving us four thoroughly fun evenings.

Glyn Cannon 6E2

Junior Vulture

This year has seen another fine selection of Vulture excursions. The first was a trip to London to the National Gallery where Mrs Probert gave interesting talks on two famous paintings. That afternoon, we attended the Whitehall Theatre to see Giles Havergal's adaptation of Graham Greene's novel, *Travels with my Aunt*. This was performed excellently, the numerous characters being played by only four actors. It was extremely funny and the story line kept to the book well.

Next we went to the Wycombe Swan Theatre and we saw *Orpheus in the Underworld* by Jacques Offenbach. It was the Doily Carte Opera Company production and it was enjoyed by everyone.

Our last excursion this term was to London again to visit The Museum of the Moving Image. This museum tells the fascinating story of the development of film and television. It was, for me, the best part of Vulture's outings. After lunch that day, we went to the Playhouse Theatre to see Fay Weldon's adaptation of the Charlotte Brontë classic novel *Jane Eyre*. This reached the same high standards as all of Vulture's trips this year.

Our final excursion will be to a performance in the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park.

Many thanks to Mr Cowburn, Miss Kelly and all involved.

Edward Hill 9F

Social Services

There is a thriving Social Service activity, which takes place on Thursday afternoons. Our work is not mentioned much, but nevertheless is appreciated by those we help.

Our work includes visiting the disabled or aged, assisting in hospitals or helping at local schools. I have for the past four years taught drama to 10-12 year olds at my local school. Productions include: "Bill and Ted's Fashion Adventure", "The Jungle Book", "Macbeth" and "Murder at Chequers". The work I have done has been both enjoyable and worthwhile, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Clark on behalf of everybody who participates in Social Services for organising the programme.

Darren Weir 6HK2

National Mathematics Contest



Maths Olympic Gold Medal Winners.

This year 26 students obtained gold certificates in the National Mathematics Contest, and of these seven were subsequently invited to participate in the first round of the British Maths Olympiad. Despite its being a gruelling $3\frac{1}{2}$ hour exam, six of them eagerly volunteered, including three from the Lower Sixth. Only one candidate, Michael Pickles, reached the following round. He is very keen to enter again next year.

S.R.B.

Dr Barker's Maths Club

This year's Maths Club started off fairly well, with Gavin Winston (gold winner of the Maths Olympiad) as the sole participant for the first few weeks.

The number then increased to five after an in-class announcement to a few enthusiastic lads.

In the first week complex numbers, a bit in advance for Year 10ers, were studied, but it soon became clear to the class that this might be leading somewhere fairly interesting.

The following week included two new members, who

soon left for reasons unknown to others. Waves of Cos and Sin were studied, after a brief section on probability.

To keep the ball rolling, we then advanced to Quarks and other particle theory, where we have stayed for the rest of this year. Ball throwing to demonstrate photons was a necessity... MIND THAT CUP OF COFFEE, DR. B...

The course, for those in Year 10, runs on a Wednesday from 1.45-2.10, apart from when it is rescheduled to Tuesday.

Come along for some clear good fun.

Martin Coster 10DM and James Ward 10AM

Stage Lighting

This was an unusual year in many respects because there were no Upper Sixth form members wishing to take on the responsibility of being in charge of the team. We were therefore thrown into the thick of things and had to do some rather rapid learning.

Our first job in July was to select some new members for the team. We did not have that many applicants from Year 9, allowing those who applied to be accepted. We were lucky that our selection turned out to be reliable and efficient in setting out for assemblies and doing other duties.

Undoubtedly, one of the most important skills is delegation to the juniors (i.e. Year 11 and below), particularly in the tedious annual job of checking extension leads and cleaning lamps. Each member of the team has spent approximately 50 hours of their own time taking part in the technical side of music recitals, concerts, Show Day, the school play and most importantly assemblies.

The only new acquisition of the year was the Mirror Ball, which many of you may have seen hanging precariously above you during assemblies. This was used in the first ever play in the Arts Centre. It was a play produced by the junior part of the school and was a great success. *Bottom's Dream*, directed by Mr Gazard, actually had more lighting and sound cues than the main play. This was the first time that some of our Year 9 members had taken part in a production with help from Mr Everett in the smooth running of the technical side.

The main school play this year was Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The technical assistance consisted mainly of raising lights at the start of the act and dimming them at the end. The sound team had little to do, although by the third performance their cueing of 'Doop' was superb. Fortunately, there were no major disasters throughout the three performances despite a few mistakes in the two dress rehearsals.

Finally, we would like to say a special thanks to Mr Everett and Mr Moore, whose continuous support throughout the year has helped the running of many events. We would also like to thank the whole team, but in particular Mark Suret, James (Stormin' Norm) Whiteside and Matthew Cranfield for their extra efforts throughout the year. We look forward to running the team again in the year ahead.

James Page 6MBE₁ and Nigel Homer 6LY₁

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Yes, the D of E is still going strong in the RGS providing ample opportunity to get up early, go out and get soaked on expeditions or just enjoying yourself (while wet!).

Requiring only to complete the expedition section to complete my Silver Award I set out with great trepidation in September to walk on the Ridgeway, get wet and not sleep – I wasn't disappointed.

The expedition was fated from the start when one of the group members turned up half an hour late, which meant we had to pitch our tents in the pitch black...!

7.00 am Saturday morning (three hours too early!)

Deeply missing a regular Saturday morning lie-in, we set off for our walk.

20 minutes later... "Picture the scene: the middle of nowhere, a path runs from left to right, we're sitting down wondering if we're nearly there yet. Out come the emergency rations, they disappear, on we go... An hour has come and walked past, not far to go now."

AND IT'S RAINING!!!

Anyway we made it to our night-time camp-site, energated and joyous, ready to turn in and get up for more of the same tomorrow.

7.00 am Sunday morning (four hours too early)

Another day of walking – just to get to the end – at least it wasn't raining.... Yet! Sunday, a day of rest, peace, quiet etc. – what were we doing? everything except resting!

"The last mile is always the longest" – this is the theory I developed and proved over the course of the weekend, with the footnote 'especially when the end is in sight!' We finished, happy yet sad – I think at some point we were actually enjoying ourselves!

This was more demanding than a Bronze walk but just as much fun, even though it rained. The Award Scheme is a great way of getting to meet other like-minded people in the area.

Contact Mrs N. Catling if interested in the Award Scheme.

Edward Pearce 6BC₁

Role-Playing Club

Eight years have passed since the Role-Playing Club was founded at the school, and the club still has a massive gathering of devoted supporters. The club has flourished under a new wave of young committee members, who have combined their proficient role-playing skills and their resourcefulness to create a refreshing new atmosphere to the club.

The club has had many of its members seized by a craze which is known across the globe as 'magic'. This is a highly contagious condition, which turns rational human beings into compulsive buyers of 'magic' cards. The disorder is extremely addictive, taking merely one game before the subject is afflicted by a growing urge to purchase a deck of cards. Addicts have been disillusioned into paying up to fifty times the normal price for a particularly potent card. When supplies run out from the local dealer, they are forced to buy from black market traders.

On a brighter note, preparations are in progress for

organising a role-playing demonstration at the RGS Show Day. These are proceeding satisfactorily, and we hope the event will run smoothly. The club's library of games and books has been growing steadily, with seventeen games that can be borrowed by members free of charge. The membership fee (a mere fifty pence) goes towards the club's funds, and although most of the library was bought using the funds, 'Not Just Stamps' (the local supplier of games) generously donated some of the games.

I would like to use this opportunity to thank Mr Earl, the master in charge, without whom we would not have a club, and to Mr Cranie, the manager of 'Not Just Stamps', who has continued to give our members a 5% discount in his shop in Crendon Street.

Roger Bennett 6SW₁
Chairman

Bar National Mock Trial Competition

'Bill looks guilty', remarked a member of the Jury. William Wyman sat in the dock of Court 3 at Oxford Crown Court, accused of burglary: he was playing the part of the defendant, Sam Smith, in the National Mock Trial Competition. This annual competition is organised by the Bar of England and Wales, and the Citizenship Foundation.

The first round found RGS defending the aforementioned Smith, in a case of mistaken identity. Appearing for the defence were Sam Routledge and Darren Weir – Sam, decked out in an authentic wig and gown on loan for the day, looked distinctly Rumpolesque! Wyman stuck to his guns under fierce cross-examination; Darren Weir and 'Rumpole' Routledge argued the case so convincingly that the Jury returned a unanimous verdict of 'not guilty'.

In Round 2, Aidan Manktelow and Neil Allen were prosecuting a teacher who struck a pupil during a science lesson. A stunning defence by our opponents, Pershore High, made the Jury doubtful that the blow was deliberate, and a 'not guilty' verdict was returned. Pershore had the advantage of taking part the previous year, and made the experience count.

In Round 3 it was our turn to prosecute in Regina vs Smith, with Tim Wallwork and Paul Matthews representing RGS against Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School. Chief witness Aidan Manktelow estimated the female defendant's height as about 5 foot 6, and got a shock when she revealed that it was actually 5 foot 11! Despite this inaccuracy, we persuaded the Jury that Smith was guilty beyond all reasonable doubt, although victory in this case was not enough to earn us a place in the final, which went to Pershore.

The day was very enjoyable for all those involved, and an inspiration to those members of the team who have their sights set on a career at the Bar. All participants are very grateful to Mr Claye for his help and organisation; also we would like to thank Mr Justice Tyrer, whose legal expertise was a great help with our preparations. Will we do even better next year?

Matthew Richards 11B

Kart Club

The increasingly successful Royal Grammar School Kart Club began the 1993 season with high prospects.

Chris Smart and Andrew Smy remained in Class 6 (Low Power 100cc), vowing to improve on last year's results. Jon Tarry joined this pair with his newly constructed 100cc kart. John Goodfellow replaced his old Class 1 & 3 (50cc) engine with the newer ex-Jon Tarry unit. Ben Randles started the season in the same class as John Goodfellow, using a similar 50cc engine. Jake Conway, having perfected the set up of his Class 9 (125cc Gearbox) kart, began the season with high hopes, whilst Tim Malyon drove the Class 5 (80cc Comer) with the aid of some less experienced drivers.

May saw the first race meeting after the season began in March. Jon Tarry secured himself a well earned 4th place in the very large Class 6. John Goodfellow delivered the drive he has been promising by finishing 2nd in Class 1 and 1st in Class 3. Jake Conway outpaced the current National Champion to obtain 1st place in the premier Class 9.

June marked Tim Malyon and Neal Tucker obtaining 4th place in Class 5. John Goodfellow finished 1st in Class 1, and 3rd in Class 3, with Ben Randles snatching the 2nd place in Class 3 from John Goodfellow. Jon Tarry finished 6th behind some of the country's top 100cc karters.

July presented the National Championships in the Lake District. Rain and fog delayed racing, but when the fog



Jake Conway revs up.

cleared, some serious driving resumed. John Goodfellow drove excellently to obtain 3rd place in Class 1. Jake Conway also received 3rd place in Class 9 with his very fast 125cc engine topping 90mph on the straight.

October saw the final race meeting of the year with Daniel Bryars and Robert Beever taking over Jon Tarry's Class 6 kart. Peter Shaw and James Blanch received their licences to partner Ben Randles and Tim Malyon respectively.

John Goodfellow came 1st in both of his classes, securing the No. 1 plates in Classes 1 & 3, whilst Jake Conway could only manage 2nd in his 125cc kart, earning him the No. 2 plate. This was not enough for Jake to win the Rowland Trophy as John Goodfellow beat him by 1 point to become 1993's most successful driver. The Club wishes to thank the Parents' Association and Kart Components for their continued support.

Jake Conway 6SW₂
Team Leader

Careers

The various activities of the Careers Department have featured in previous issues of the *Wycombiensian*. A less well known area is that of work experience. For some students, particularly those in Year 11 who are uncertain about their future plans, work experience can be more beneficial than work shadowing.

The Careers staff make the necessary arrangements through the Education Business Service Unit which offers a wide range of placements.

Two current Year 11 students report on their work experience.

Mounis Hussain, 11RS, Brown's Ford Centre

During my two weeks' work experience at Brown's I was working as a motoring technician. First I had to find the fault on the car, then repair it. Or, if the customer required, I fitted an accessory like fog lamps.

The daily work varied from servicing/repairing vehicles to fitting alarms/immobilisers. It is a very labour intensive job so the level of involvement required is great. Though I tend to enjoy practical work such as working with the mechanics of a car, I would prefer working in a cleaner and less labour intensive job.

Seeing and doing work of this kind has most definitely moved me away from the idea that working shifts would be easy. But, if I have to do practical work, I hope it will be in the area of engineering.

Kenneth Saunders 11H, Crossroads Veterinary Centre

The first two days were spent locating where things were. The mornings were spent in theatre and the afternoons in consulting rooms. In the theatre work I had to get the animals from the kennels and then hold them whilst they were having injections. After I had done this I had to collect the apparatus and then fetch another animal. During theatre all the vets explained what they were looking for and also what they were doing.

Some days before going into theatre I helped with weighing the animals, and getting the consulting rooms ready for the morning session. In the afternoons I went to the consulting rooms and helped the vet.

During the two weeks I also went on a visit to get a deer which had lost its leg in a road accident. The two weeks have shown me that you need to be able to communicate well during work, and also you need to carry out instructions carefully. The two weeks were good fun and I have been asked if I would like to come back in the summer to help out.

H.R.M./J.E.G.

Model Railway Club

The newly revamped Model Railway Club has just opened, thanks to the generous donations of the Parents' Association. The working team has been formed, and we recently displayed our portable layout to a PA meeting.

The club room is based in a room at the end of the Maths block furthest from the main building; and its main doorway faces the main school field. The room used to contain a boiler and was used for storage, but it has been redecorated, had floorboards placed in the loft, had a new lighting and safe power system installed and a toilet has been plumbed in.

We hope to hold an exhibition in the spring of 1995 which should provide funding for the larger layout which will be permanently based in the upper part of the club room, and will provide opportunities for all members to add their own ideas to the layouts.

Towards this end, we are in the process of a large membership drive, and will be pleased to welcome any pupils from years 8, 9 or 10 who will help with the exhibition, and this new layout.

Unfortunately, the club has recently been broken into, resulting in the loss of about £400 worth of railway equipment. This should be covered by insurance, and we expect to be up and running again fairly soon, especially if we have the help of enthusiastic new members.

Any pupils interested in becoming members should see Mr Lovell, or visit the club immediately after the end of school (not during break or lunchtime – you will not be allowed in). We look forward to your visit.

Club Secretary - Illya Derigs 11RS
Vice Secretary - Michael Upton 11RS
Treasurer - Ken Saunders 11H

Thursday Afternoon Environment Group

This group has been very enjoyable and has done worthwhile work in the Wycombe District. It started the year working at Millfield Wood near Hughenden Manor, now a BBONT Reserve and a site of Special Scientific Interest. Under the leadership of TJNC we (Matthew, Neil, Adam, Oliver, Ashley, Jonathan, Tim, Jack and Lynton) cleared the site to promote the growth of wild flowers such as bee orchids, and make the area more habitable for dormice. Other projects before Christmas included dead hedging and building a pen for twenty sheep.

The Christmas holiday saw a change of leader. TJNC departed for Australia and was replaced by Mr Ashworth. Since Christmas we have had great fun working with Ian Butterfield and Julie Hopton of Wycombe District Council.

We started off by making a footpath at Chairborough Nature Reserve using wood chippings. Then came a spell of turning part of Kingswood into a coppice by dead hedging, and we made some dormice boxes to be used on a survey being done at Gomm Wood this summer. We spent several weeks tree planting to form a new hedge up at Cock Lane, where Matthew and Adam showed skill with a

pick-axe making holes for the young saplings. The year finished with some dead hedging at Sandsbank Wood, a beautiful spot despite its proximity to a Business Park.

Thank you to Messrs TJNC and JRA for their help in arranging activities each week.

Matthew Harvey 6C1

Public Speaking and Debating



*Edward Bennett, Rhodri Jones and Glyn Cannon victorious at the Wycombe round of 'Youth Speaks'.
Photograph: Bucks Free Press.*

This year saw the launch of a Senior and a Junior Debating Club. The Senior Debating Club failed to take off, holding only one thinly attended debate where not even all the main speakers could be prevailed upon to attend! The real success was the Junior Debating Club, which over the year held regular debates in front of large and enthusiastic audiences numbering up to *ninety* strong. Subjects ranged from fox hunting, euthanasia and co-education to abortion, the monarchy and the existence of God. We hope that as this age group moves up the school it will become possible in future to sustain a Senior Debating Club on a more regular basis. My thanks to Mr Gibson, Alexander Cook, Philip Andrews and Richard Lawrence for their help in running the club.

In the English Speaking Union debating competition we were not successful and went out in the first round. However, in the Rotary Club's 'Youth Speaks' public speaking competition, we continued to enjoy our customary success. The team of chairman Glyn Cannon, speaker Edward Bennett, and vote of thanks Rhodri Jones, speaking on the subject of 'Fads, Fancies and Fashions', won the Wycombe round in January, the Henley semi-final in March and reached the final in Oxford in April. Here they were pipped at the winning post by only half a mark – but to reach the final is always a magnificent achievement in a competition which this year involved 245 schools.

In four of the last five years the RGS has won either the senior or junior Wycombe competition, and in three of the last four years the teams have reached the final.

M.J.S.

Young Enterprise

The name of our company is The Elite Company. Half of the members of the company are girls from Wycombe High North Site (Lady Verney to you and me) and the other half are from the RGS.

Representatives of our company, sponsored by Equity & Law, were going to Aberdeen to attend the 6th Annual Young Enterprise Europe Trade Fair Convention. After names were drawn out of a hat, Nicki Gohil, Shalina Agarwal from Lady Verney and I were chosen to be the representatives. We travelled to Aberdeen on Thursday, 7 April.

On the Friday we concentrated on setting up our stall in the Music Hall in the middle of Aberdeen ready for the Fair the next day. Unfortunately, we were at a slight disadvantage as the lighting for our stall was not really good enough to show our main feature, which was CD clocks. Our other products for sale were scrunchies, tissue holders, pin holders, and drawer fresheners. We also had slightly more competition than we had anticipated as there were at least four other companies selling CD clocks. Despite positive advertising techniques, we only were able to sell six CD clocks and most of these were to other companies. Nevertheless, much valuable experience was gained. Surprisingly, though, the fair was only open to the public for three hours on Saturday afternoon, and therefore after the initial rush there were not really enough prospective buyers.

On Sunday we were divided into five groups, each group being given a question about Young Enterprise to discuss and answer. One person from each group was then chosen to give a short report on what had been learned. There was a closing audio visual presentation with music, which was spectacular, including fireworks. There was also a recital by a Scottish bagpipe band and this proved very popular. Sunday afternoon was dedicated to relaxation and everyone flocked down to the beach to go iceskating, swimming or sightseeing.

On Monday a number of field trips were organised to see whisky distilleries (the heart of Scotland), a castle, a museum, an art gallery and a bus tour. All these activities, together with many friendly people from all over Europe as well as discos on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights meant that everyone had an exhausting but enjoyable and unique experience.

Michael Jefferies 6GC1

Photographic Society

The Photographic Society is open to all boys interested in developing their skills in black and white photography. Skills courses in Design and Composition, and developing and printing processes are available.

We have recently been donated a Pentax ME 35mm camera by Mr Shaw of Wycombe Cameras in memory of Mr Wainwright, a keen and local amateur photographer.

The Society supports the Scouts and the Duke of Edinburgh 'Skills' Award Scheme.

R.P.S.

The Importance of Being Earnest

The producer of a school play who chooses a comedy, let alone a famously witty, epigrammatic comedy, is a brave man indeed. For comedy requires timing, polish and that urbanity which young actors and actresses usually have yet to acquire.

It is a mark of the success of this year's school play that we so often forgot that these were young actors and actresses, and could sit back and enjoy an evening's entertainment, with its fair share of wit and polish.

The "Jazz Age" ambience was, in the event, a strength of the production, and not only the school's jazz band, but also the accomplished P D Gazard at the piano before the



The Cast.

performance, and accompanying the delightful curtain call – all the more delightful for its occasional hiccups. The audience loved it.

And the performance? Well it looked superb, and especially the third act set, which was very attractive. The costumes looked just right – Jack's 1920's RGS blazer was a highlight, as were Lady Bracknell's tasteless outfits, and Georgina Dix, playing Gwendolen, always looked coolly elegant – no wonder Rhodri Jones's Jack was so nervous before his proposal of marriage to her.

Jack was played with a slightly manic air, which brought out a side of the character normally ignored. His proposal to Gwendolen, shuffling across the stage on one knee, was especially memorable. He and William Tait as Algy worked very well together, and overcame some fluffed or paraphrased lines with considerable aplomb. I particularly liked the moment in Act 3 when Algy explains to Lady Bracknell that his friend Bunbury is dead, and Jack prompts him and supports his tale of Bunbury's being exploded, with helpful nods, winks and other gestures.

Lady Bracknell too carried off his part with splendid assurance, Richard Benstock showing firmness on all points, with no doubts about society, the unfashionable side of Belgrave Square or anything else. His accent showed just a hint of Lady Bracknell's unaristocratic background, a nice touch.

Miss Prism, played by Lisa Bygrave, was just right in the part with a good grey head of hair, and governessy glasses, and a firm clear voice which carried better in the Queen's Hall's acoustics than some others. So too were the servants – Merriman (James Fagan) delivered Algy's list of luggage memorably, and Lane (Glyn Cannon) had not only gravity of delivery but also of deportment to

counterbalance Algy's flightiness. Cecily (Roz Leigh Dugmore) grew into the role and was a good foil to Gwendolen in Act 2, though perhaps Miss Prism might have paid more attention to Cecily's posture, rather than worrying about the melodramatic fall of the rupee.

In the three act version of the play, Canon Chasuble's role is diminished considerably, but from the moment Richard Knox dithered onto the stage, Canon Chasuble was brought to life. This was a definitive performance, with a real Soapy Sam voice, and most expressive face and gestures when his sensibilities had been shocked.

Was the production perfect? Well, no. The epigrams needed more polish, the lines weren't always quite accurate, the movements in Act 2 between Algy and Cecily didn't work very well in that narrow space, for example.

Was it a success? Undoubtedly. It deserved the audience's affectionate and appreciative response, and deserved an easier venue than the Queer's Hall – a very difficult space to perform in. The fact that it was so enjoyable is a great credit to all who formed the team so ably directed by Peter Cowburn, for it was the sense of teamwork and ensemble that was such a feature of the performance. And at the same time each character took the opportunity to make the most of his or her moments without upstaging the others. They all seemed to be enjoying themselves, so how could the audience fail to respond?

J. I. Mitchell



'Tree of Life' - Year 13
James Roberts

Bottom's Dream

In early February of this year our multi-talented lower school, in league with the girls of Wycombe High School, presented *Bottom's Dream* by Alan Poole, an alternative version of *Midsummer Night's Dream* (that Shakespeare play known and loved by probably every single pupil of RGS).

Produced and directed by Mr Gazard and assisted by an expert production team of older pupils and staff, including Miss Campbell-Pickford and Emma Griffiths from Wycombe High School, the three performances were



Pyramus (Tim Stork) curses Wall (Toby Roebuck) for preventing access to his beloved Thisbe (Brian Peers).

a great success. On the second evening when I saw the play it was faultless; not a line forgotten nor a cue missed. I laughed most of the way through the performance.

The action is exclusively concerned with the sub-plot: as the Rude Mechanicals try to sneak off to rehearse their *Pyramus and Thisbe* tragi-comedy for the Duke's wedding, their women-folk become deeply suspicious. Some very promising actors in our Year 8 held their own valiantly with the High School girls who played their wives. The part of Ursula Bottom was superbly nagged by Catherine Bunni who dominated her husband Nick (Tim Stork) most convincingly. Francis Flute (Brian Peers) was suitably doted on by his elderly mother (Susan Beswick). The rest of the cast were very entertaining, not least of all Puck (Ryan Parrett), who was a worrying shade of green. (I wonder how long it took to wash off.)

The minimalist set, designed by Mr Webber, was highly effective, comprising black-out curtains, a few logs and an extremely small double bed for Mr and Mrs Bottom.

The lighting team under Mr Everett worked wonders, giving the professional effect we have come to expect now. The lively and intriguing techno-music backing was composed and performed by Robert Haynes of 61. The whole production was further enhanced by many small touches like Bottom's NASA baseball cap, and the green wellies and Barbour's of the hunters, Theseus and Hippolyta.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the production and thanks for a most enjoyable evening.

J. M. Frost



*Tom Beecroft
Year 12
Pastel drawing*

Barnaby Moore - Year 10



*William Tait
Year 13*



*Daniel Titterton - Year 13
'Tree of Life'
Fired clay and mixed media painting*

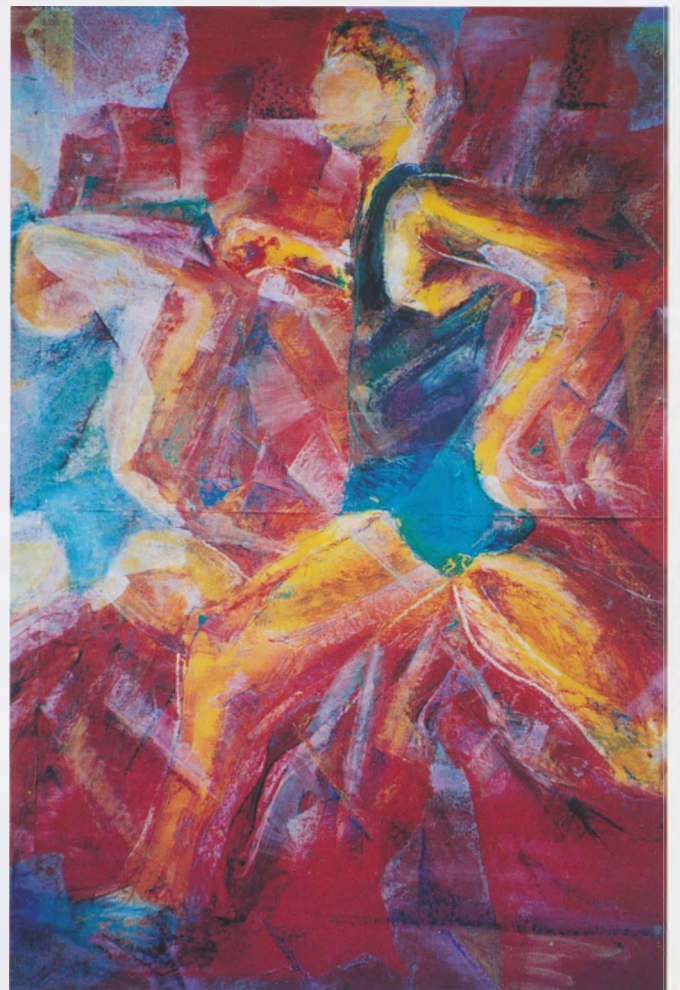
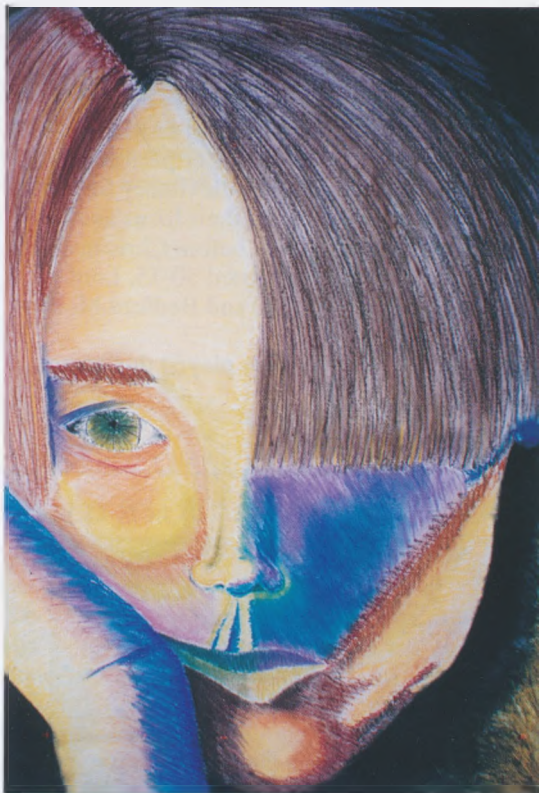


*James Roberts - Year 13
Oil painting*

*Matthew Locke - Year 10
Watercolour*



*Matthew Bryars - Year 10
Pastel drawing*



*Miles Nurnberger - Year 13
Detail. Mixed media*



*Alistair Bendyshe-Brown - Year 12
Oil painting*

Rugby

1st XV

The growth of the Daily Mail Cup has had a big impact upon the school's rugby circuit throughout the country, with the chance of playing at Twickenham and all the associated prestige and publicity becoming a very important factor to many schools. If our 1st XV is to be judged on how far we progressed in the cup competition, then it was indeed a very poor season for RGS.

The truth is that this has been an impressive year for rugby at school. More boys than ever before have taken part in inter-school games, with up to 15 teams fielded at various age ranges for fixtures. Pierre Villepreux, the former French National Coach, said at the World Cup Coaching Congress, "Remember when the whistle goes for the start of the game, I am going to sit in the stand with the spectators. I cannot play the game for you. You must be the decision makers and I want to be entertained along with the rest of the spectators." He would have enjoyed watching many games at school this year. With 14 victories from 19 games and with an open style of play which brought them 69 tries, the 1st XV entertained all those who watched them this season. The squad had worked hard on their pre-season training schedule and expectations were high from players and parents at the start of the year. As our fixture list continues to strengthen yearly, new fixtures against Radley and St Edward's Oxford were included.

Six tries in a dream start against Watford was followed by a good display at the Solihull Festival. Would this be an unbeaten season? Hampton shattered that dream the following Saturday as RGS suffered injuries and crumbled to defeat. The 1st XV bounced back the following day reaching the semi-final at the Douai Festival by inflicting a defeat over Champion who were later to reach the Daily Mail Cup semi-final. St Edward's Oxford's first visit to our field resulted in a deserved victory for RGS 13-8. Radley were given too much respect and won an entertaining game

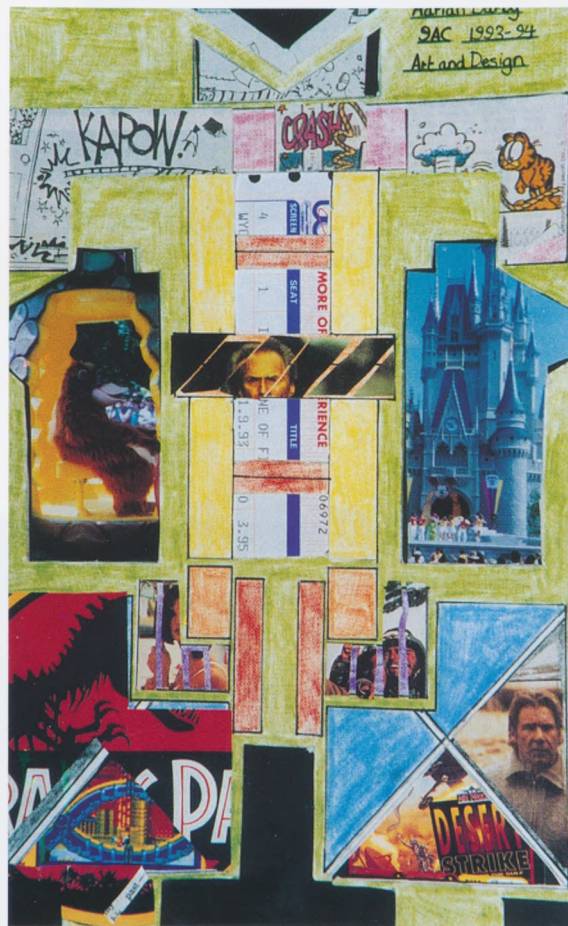
18-10. RGS returned to winning ways with victories over QES Barnet 23-0, Reading in the cup 24-3, St Benedict's 43-11. A good team performance paved the way to a 29-17 victory over Warwick and sent the 1st XV to the St Joseph's Festival full of hope. At the end of the first day RGS led their pool and qualified for the main cup competition. On Sunday they played some of their best rugby of the season to defeat Clifton 21-10 and Trent College 23-3. What a pity they had played so poorly in the opening game of the morning and lost 5-10 to Arnold School Blackpool – a performance that cost them the chance of playing Millfield in the final.

Windsor ended our interest in the Cup with a well taken try and dogged defence which sent us to a 3-8 defeat. Emanuel felt the backlash of our frustration as RGS scored six tries in a 44-13 victory, but another poor performance in wet conditions at Aylesbury saw a 7-10 victory for our local rivals. The 1st XV then regained their focus and scored 29 tries in the final five games before Christmas defeating Desborough 38-0, Berkhamsted 30-15, Lord William's 44-0, London Oratory 33-0 and Bedford Modern 29-7.

Tiffin were one of the best sides we played this season



*'Detail' by K. Weedon
Year 11*



*Year 9 - Adrian Darby
Sketchbook Cover design (Collage)*

and deserved their 37-3 victory at the start of a Spring Term disrupted by poor weather. RGS Guildford, another of the Daily Mail Cup semi-finalists, were beaten 13-6 and Reigate succumbed 20-3.

Throughout the year Jun Shaw captained the side with authority, always leading by example and often dominating his opposite number. Many tries were scored by the backs thanks to the strength of the forwards, ably led by Dan Gowers, which produced a plentiful supply of ball to work with. My thanks go to all members of the squad who have worked so hard throughout the year, particularly to all members of 62 who I hope now have the confidence to continue to play at college, and to the loyal band of parents that have supported the team in all kinds of weather.

With a number of players available again next season, expectations are already high from parents and boys alike. There is a new fixture at Solihull and of course another chance in the cup. This year we beat two of the cup semi-finalists and we can only reflect on what might have been. I wonder whether it will be same next year, but cup rugby isn't important, or is it?

C.C.T.

2nd XV

Played 21 Won 12 Drawn 2 Lost 7 For 407 Against 177

We started the season with only three members of the previous year's 2nd XV. This meant that a new side had to be built to play the traditional flowing style of rugby. The season appeared to be dipping around Christmas but the team soon returned to its usual good play.

Rob Moretto and Chris Harris were outstanding in the front row, even if they could not manage to tell the time properly. In the 2nd row James Lawrence always displayed aggression and was missed after receiving injuries. Adam Stubbs and Nathan Thorne always gave performances from the "Top Drawer". The Spicy back row of Hersh "Temperament" Tegala, the ever audible Calum Irvine and the amazing try scoring sensation of Jeremy Badman at No 8 were always in the thick of it. At half backs both Ollie Cox and Paul O'Hagan played well at scrum half. Ben Toone at fly half was on the whole accurate with his kicks and used his weight to make decisive breaks. In the centre Chris Horn was our 'Trusty' kicker, whilst Chris Bealer was always willing to give a demonstration of his tenacious animal instincts.

The back three all contributed to the cause in the season. Duncan Kottler had an inability to find the try line. James "Teflon Hands" Harrington, however, had an inability to hold on to the ball. There was never a dull moment with Sheridan Lord at full back. His adventurous and eccentric play caused several cardiac arrests amongst the touchline support.

I personally would rate our 10-10 draw with Reigate and our 10-0 win over Warwick as our two best performances of the season. I would like to thank all the players for listening to my pre-match talks!!! and all the coaching staff who helped us.

Calum Irvine
2nd XV Captain

3rd XV/U16 XV

Mixed fortunes this season for both teams. Both produced some spirited performances with the 3rd XV recording pleasing victories over Warwick and St Benedict's and a creditable draw with Bedford Modern.

The U16 XV included a number of new players as several regular members of the team were required for the 1st XV. They gained in experience and scored good victories over Sir William Borlase, Hampton and Berkhamsted. The U16 VII reached the later rounds of a number of tournaments and won the St Edward's Oxford Tournament where they were the only state side competing.

C.C.T.

U15 XV

The U15 rugby season was full of highs and lows, which was extremely frustrating considering the promising talent contained in the squad. There were a number of reasons for the teams not reaching their full potential. Often when faced with strong opposition, it was easy to lose any self-belief after conceding a score. However, we did show tremendous resolve in a number of games, when the odds were against us, and this led to what I believe were our most satisfying performances (St Edward's Oxford and Tiffin). It was a real shame that we could not have consistently played with this spirit. Often, we had to rely on our forwards to control the game for us and we lacked real attacking threats. There were so many games lost by narrow margins. One extra score in several matches could have changed the whole picture of our season.

Our cause was not helped by the number of injuries which affected key positions. A great deal of credit must go to several players who played virtually the whole season in unfamiliar positions. There were also players with very little 'A' team experience who found themselves in unfamiliar territory, playing at a new level for most of the season. It was frustrating having to constantly change the selection of the team, as this affects the opportunity to build a pattern and understanding. The 'B' team suffered the "knock-on" effect of the injury situation and I was very impressed with the boys who came into the squad, having rarely played school rugby in previous years. Some of them even pushed for 'A' team places.

The post-Christmas games were very much more enjoyable and, with renewed spirit, the boys played some excellent rugby. We had good victories against Guildford and Tiffin and finished with a spirited battle with Reigate, who had spoiled our Daily Mail Cup hopes in a game two weeks earlier. Despite losing the re-match 10-0, I hope the boys don't forget the second-half performance and the confidence which was starting to appear in that game.

My thanks go to the parents for all their loyal support in all weather conditions, both at home and away matches. The season must have been hugely disappointing for them but I hope that they enjoyed some of the final matches after Christmas as much as I did. Well done to all the squad who trained regularly in the cold, dark winter months. I hope to see many of them representing all the Senior sides, including the 1st XV, next season.

R.A.C.

U14 XV

The U14 XV squad fielded four teams in the fixture against Radley. The 'A' XV had had a good start to the season and gained a pleasing 5-5 draw. The 'B' and 'C' teams lost very close games but the 'D' team emerged victors 27-0. The 'B' XV had a good year winning the majority of their matches with some open rugby. The 'A' XV struggled with lack of size and were hampered by injuries and had an indifferent season overall. There were pleasing victories over Barnet 57-0, Aylesbury 34-0 and Tiffin 19-0.

The highest point of the season was victory in the Warwick School Sevens where the team eventually played to their potential and recorded notable wins over many of the Midland's strongest schools. In the final against Warwick School RGS came from behind to win, showing the gritty determination that this squad has. They will improve as they get older.

C.C.T.

U13 XV

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
A XV	13	13	-	-	768	28
B XV	13	13	-	-	566	32
C XV	6	6	-	-	142	34
D XV	2	2	-	-	86	0
Total	34	34	-	-	1562	94

What a record – an unbeaten season! The statistics and the record are perhaps the most unimportant features of the season. Everybody enjoys winning, but to win repeatedly by about 50 points is far less rewarding than a closely contested game. The U13 Squad outclassed all opposition – there were many outstanding players who had learnt the game in local club junior sections and prep schools. However, the number of boys who represented the School, who had not played before, and the quality of the Year 8 Inter-Form 'B' team competition are endearing memories of the season.

I anticipate a great future for the players of the U13 Squad of 1993-94 – not because they won all their games, but because there are many good players who realise they still have much to learn. The boys who played in 'B', 'C' and 'D' XV's produced some excellent performances and improved enormously as the season progressed. Confidence, not arrogance, was a feature, and a certain humility for opponents who had competed but fallen short.

I thoroughly enjoyed working with the squad, particularly in training sessions. My thanks to Messrs. Moffatt, Robson and Webber for their coaching support, to the parents for their touchline support and to the players for their commitment and performances – it was great to watch!

The National Sevens – a great disappointment to lose in the quarter finals, but a source of strength for the future!

M.J.D.

U13 'A' XV

A determined and eager team set about preparing for a potentially challenging first season together, and a good debut performance against Warwick saw the team, ranging in height from 4'8" to 6'2", overwhelm their opponents 66-0.

A confident Q. E. Barnet team and a crowd of equally confident supporters arrived at RGS with an unbeaten record to protect. They left, beaten 37-0. So the season continued.....

"This will be a tougher match" (quote M.J.D. before each fixture). This proved to be true when we confronted Emanuel one cold Saturday morning and conceded the only points all season.

Throughout the season, the core of players within the team demonstrated their potential. Strong performances were helped by good delivery from the base and firm offensive tackling in defence from the back row and midfield. The forwards hunted with aggression during the season and improved greatly.

In the 7's season we stormed through, winning the Warwick, Bedford Modern and Berkhamsted festivals. Unfortunately, when we reached the quarter final of the Rosslyn Park National Schools' 7's tournament, our team went down to Christ's Hospital 10-5. Our dream of becoming national champions like the Lower Sixth back in 1990, was dashed.

The team thoroughly enjoyed their first season for RGS. Mr Davies, with his tremendous early season coaching and ability to relate to us, was more one of the team than a teacher. Hopefully next year, with a team intact and a coach as good, this season's performance can be repeated.

Alexander Melrose



"Rock 'n' Roll Suicide" 1994
Andrew Levicki - Year 13

Sevens

From thorough preparation all players emerged to form the 1st VII squad. The Bucks Sevens title was easily secured with a sound win over Henley College. At Windsor the following Sunday we made a good start in our pool games against Berkhamsted but lost a very hard fought match with Wellington College. Forced to play in the plate



Kurt Johnson makes a tackle against Chichester High School at Rosslyn Park.

competition we reached the final and took the plate title. Wellington meanwhile won the main competition.

At Douai we were the only State School competing and won our pool matches and quarter final with ease to set up an intriguing semi-final clash with our Headmaster's former school, Cheltenham College. What a pity he wasn't there to see his new school score four tries in a resounding 29-7 victory! The final brought us together with Wellington College and a chance of revenge from the week before. Once again it was a thrilling, hard fought contest, but it was to be RGS who emerged victors to take the title. A slightly weakened team played with credit at Surrey to reach the quarter final before losing but it was the National Schools Sevens that was the focus of the season with everybody keen to do well.

On the first day a close fought victory over Merchant Taylors', Crosby, in the penultimate game of the group took RGS through as group winners and a place in the last 16. Wins over Chichester HS and Hawthorn School, Pontypridd, took us to a place in the semi-final. Could we reach the final for the first time in the history of the school? We had failed at this stage in 1990. The match with Millfield was a hard, vigorous exciting encounter with eight tries being scored. RGS scored first and were the only side to score three tries against Millfield in the tournament, but even a mammoth tackle by Ian McLaughlin couldn't stop Millfield defeating us on their way to winning the tournament.

This has been an outstanding season and reflects with great credit on the squad of J. Shaw (Capt.), I. McLaughlin, T. Shaw, L. Lathom-Sharp, N. Govan, J. Roberts, K. Johnson, M. Suddaby, D. Titterton, B. McLaughlin and J. Cornish.

C.C.T.

Hockey

1st XI

The success of the previous season's team in winning through to both Indoor and Outdoor National Finals and finishing with silver medals in each has earned the school the prestigious award of Bucks 'Team of the Year' in a competition open to all sports teams of amateur status in the county.

Clearly with a number of experienced, talented players leaving together, this season's team was not going to fare as well. After being outclassed by Kingston GS and Borlase, the school played really well in the South Indoor tournament to win our pool. Our semi-final defeat was a disappointing end to a most encouraging performance.

For the first time the school hosted an Australian touring team, Wesley College from Perth. Their three week European tour started in England and included matches against the top clubs in Belgium, Holland and Germany. Two goals from our Australian, Chris Murray, gave us a 2-1 victory.

The best victories were against Aylesbury GS 7-3 and Hitchin Boys' School 4-1. The run in the National Outdoor Competition ended when having held Marlow HC to 1-1 for three-quarters of the match, we lost our pattern and conceded late goals.

The ability of this season's team to retain possession was very evident in the St George's 6's at Weybridge when the school allowed opponents back into the game after RGS had taken the lead.

Mention should be made of Jon Axworthy, the school captain, who made the final 25 at England U18 selection.

It is hoped that all leavers will continue to enjoy their hockey at Club or University. The school was delighted to note that last year's Captain, Arshad Khan, received his 'Blue' at Oxford. Colin Carter who had a match for GB U21 was playing for Cambridge with David Harding on the substitutes' bench. Tim Townley won at Outdoor UAU gold with Bristol, and Scott Ashdown and Stuart Garvie Indoor UAU golds with Nottingham. James Dean played for the RAF and Jonathan Wyatt for Reading HC and England U21.

Honours:

S East England U18 – Jon Axworthy

Bucks U21 – Jon Axworthy, Stephen Barlow, Alistair Bendyshe-Brown, Daniel Ginn, Andrew Goodfellow, Tim Parr.

Full colours to:

Stephen Barlow, Neil Fitch, Andrew Goodfellow, Chris Murray, Tim Parr and Marc Washbourne.

Half colours to:

Roger Bates, Alistair Bendyshe-Brown, Jake Conway, Tony Fletcher, Daniel Ginn, Simon Hallam, Nicholas Hudson, Matthew Lewis, Simon Milward, Nicholas Pembroke, Ben Rayner and Karsten Smet.

D.G.S.

2nd XI

Played 13 Won 5 Drawn 6 Lost 2

This was one of the 2nd XI's most successful seasons. They were unbeaten up to February, and had beaten Kingston GS at home (if Wexham can be called home!) 1-0 and drawn with them away 1-1. These are two fixtures which we normally lose convincingly. Our defence was considerably bolstered by the arrival of Alistair Bendyshe-Brown, a goalkeeper well up to 1st XI standards. He was fearless and dominated his D, and the other defenders gained in confidence from having him there. We were lucky to keep him in the seconds until February, when the inevitable happened and he went up to the 1st XI.

One of the problems of a 2nd XI is that players are all too often promoted to the 1st XI leaving gaps behind, and with the 1st XI not so strong this year several players moved up, including Marc Washbourne, our chief goalscorer. In spite of these difficulties other sides found us hard to beat, with the exception of Radley School who gave us a hiding after Roger Bates, lynch pin of the defence, went off ill and injured. Ben Barnett took over as a regular goalscorer following Washbourne's elevation and would have had one more if his eyesight had not failed him at a crucial time and he had hit a goal-bound shot from within the D against Kingston away.

It was a good season. The side played some attractive hockey and they played as a unit. Everyone gave of their best and enjoyed the games which made the manager's job a pleasant one.

M.W.C.

U16 XI

After a very successful tour to Holland with victories recorded over Rotterdam HC, Victoria HC Rotterdam and Leiden HC, a good season was anticipated.

All members of the school team played for Bucks at this age group with Karsten Smet and Tony Fletcher going forward to S East England trials. Karsten played in the Inter-Divisional tournament at Coventry.

An excellent performance in the South Indoor tournament resulted in RGS winning its pool but a draw in the semi-final with Herne Bay HC led to a penalty competition which RGS lost when a well taken flick struck a post.

In the National Outdoor Competition RGS defeated local rivals Borlase convincingly 5-1 but injuries to two members of the squad and an indifferent performance on the day led to a 1-0 defeat in the key match against Simon Langton GS, Canterbury.

It was very encouraging that several members of the team – Karsten Smet, Tony Fletcher, Simon Grant, Philip Barlow, Joel Meyer and Greg Walton – all played for the 1st XI at some stage. Several others improved considerably and will be selected at senior level next season.

D.G.S.

U15 XI

This season has seen mixed fortune. The team has much skill and potential for the future with individual players showing particular promise and pushing for places in the senior sides.

We concentrated on team work, forsaking the temptation to work on set pieces which had its repercussions in some matches when a short corner goal would have been useful. However the team was complimented on several occasions for their attempts to play good constructive hockey. This came of particular notice against Shiplake College when Shiplake were lucky to lose only 4-0.

To name individual players is always dangerous, but Chris Murray deserves special mention (although he spent most of the season in the 1st XI); and Marc Antoine for doing a good job as Captain and showing much skill and determination. These two were well supported by a much improved Nick Finch, Chris Mavers and Andrew Burnette plus the enthusiasm of the rest of the squad. I hope the players enjoyed the season as much as I did. Finally, but not least, a sincere thank you to the loyal parents who supported us home or away in some awful weather conditions.

R.M.P.

U14 XI

The U14 hockey season was one of building firm foundations for the future. This was, for most of the team, our first season of playing hockey and we were thrown in at the deep end with a match against Kingston GS which we lost with 2 quick goals given away in quick succession due to inexperience.

The match experience quickly grew and we started to play good hockey, which was not always reflected in the results. We often lost to goals which more experienced teams would deal with easily, but eventually we soon began to tighten up and win a few hard fought matches.

The high point of the season was the 7-0 victory over Cheney School in Oxford. This was accomplished in good style, with the team combining well to overwhelm the Oxford side.

Our thanks go to Mr Pantridge for his help and guidance throughout the season.

Squad: (c) county

George Stothart, Chris Hopkins, Daniel Grant(c), Daniel Flint, Ben Meyer, Robert Syner, Paul Helmers-Olsen, Edward Williams, Tim Beresford, Charles Middleton, Craige Makinson, Richard Lawrence(c), Martin Gibson, Chris Russell-Jones(c), Paul Channon, Sean Egan, Selim Vassib, Adam Stuart-Wallace.

Richard Lawrence

Cricket

1st XI

In a season when the 1st XI were invariably the underdogs the team showed only sporadic glimpses of its true potential. The season started with the RGS showing great promise in the batting department, with stout opener Robert Morgans notching up three half centuries in as many matches, and Arshad Khan also hitting form, most notably with a tigerish 98 against Windsor. Unfortunately the useful totals scored were not complemented with a penetrative bowling attack, although journeyman medium-pace Miles Davis picked up his customary haul of wickets and rookie Daniel Ginn hit a consistent line and length.

The first six matches were frustrating draws but the RGS achieved their first victory with a comprehensive trouncing of John Hampden. Mid-season saw a dip in performance levels and a string of three defeats. This was a less than ideal build-up to the highlight of the season, the RGS Festival, where as host school we hoped, if not to win outright, to cause a few major upsets along the way.

This was not to be in the opening match as High Wycombe lost heavily to Lancaster, after the visitors' total of 320 in 50 overs proved far beyond us. The second game saw disastrous batting from High Wycombe give Colchester a comfortable victory by 8 wickets. It appeared at this stage as if the host team would turn into the whipping boys for their remaining opponents. However, after stern words from captain and coach the team returned the following day with an inspired display against Newcastle. An impressive 43 not out from Neil Fitch kept us right up with the run rate until the last ball with four runs required to win. A thrilling climax produced a tied game as our batsmen could only scamper for three runs.

The next day against Guildford saw a dazzling exhibition of seam bowling by Michael John and deadly accurate leg-spin from David Forrest, which kept Guildford down to 178 batting first. This should have been a formality but lessons were not learnt from the previous day's run-chase, as wickets fell and over defensive batting on our part gave the initiative away and we lost by 21 runs.

On the final day wet weather produced a reduced overs game against Worcester. Spectacular fielding displays from some of the more languid High Wycombe players briefly stunned our opponents by removing their two best batsmen, but this was against the run of play and we were soon steamrollered to a big defeat.

The Festival as a whole was a tremendous event on both the playing and organisational side of things. Hearty thanks and congratulations are expressed on behalf of all the teams to all those involved.

This season was a success if the players learn from it and continue to improve as they did, and show more of the talent which is unquestionably there.

Many thanks must go to coach Mike Davies whose efforts to unearth these often deeply buried talents were constant and much appreciated.

Richard Weaver
1st XI Captain

2nd XI

Played 8 Won 2 Drawn 3 Lost 3

The 2nd XI had a mixed season which was disappointing because early season hopes were high.

We had good wins against Hampton GS by 5 wickets (J Greenfield 44 n.o. and 2 for 28), Aylesbury GS by 6 wickets (S Large 55, S Lord 53, N Fitch 5 for 36) and Desborough School by 10 wickets (N Fitch 7 for 24 and 34 n.o.). These successes were dimmed by disappointing performances against Tiffin GS and Sir William Borlase when we should have disciplined ourselves to the conditions and batted accordingly. The low point of the season was our failure against Latymer Upper to capitalise on a good bowling performance (S Hayat 5 for 17), leaving us to score only 94 to win. We lost by 17 runs.

The pleasure of being associated with the 2nd XI is watching young players develop under the guidance of more senior players, and with all the named players returning next season bar one, the 1994 season looks promising.

R.M.P.

U15 XI

Played 15 Won 8 Drawn 4 Lost 3

This season has been one to remember with some very good performances in every game, with every player contributing well with the bat or ball. Our only disappointing performance was our first game against Hampton in which seven batted for a short time at the crease.

Our most exciting win was against RGS Worcester where we scored our season's highest total of 189, with some very good batting from Simon Grant, Tim Crompton and Nick Washbourne. Worcester then began well with a series of fours and sixes from the No. 3 batsman (including a greenhouse getting smashed twice!) until he was caught on the boundary, bowled by left arm spinner Simon Grant. From then on the game turned around and we ripped through their wickets with devastating bowling by Duncan Moore, James Pickering and our other left arm spinner Paul Tester who took four wickets.

Kaushik Guha did well with the bat, scoring four 50's with an average of 48, including a few good partnerships with Andrew Francis (one of which was 99!!).

We had a very strong bowling line up this year with pace from Duncan Moore, James Pickering, good away swing from Mudasser Hussain, and of course our match winning spinners Simon Grant, Andrew Francis, Paul Tester and Geoffrey Watts.

The team has improved over the years at the RGS and we are all looking forward to next season where hopefully we will have improved some more.

Many thanks go to Mr Yeates for his work in the nets and his patience out on the field, and also to Dr Barker for umpiring and occasionally driving us to our fixtures.

Representative Honours:

Bucks U15: Kaushik Guha, Andrew Francis,
Duncan Moore and Geoffrey Watts.

Kaushik Guha

U14 XI

Played 14 Won 6 Drawn 4 Lost 4

After a disappointing start to the season when Hampton defeated us by 6 wickets after RGS had been bowled out for 102, the team developed very well under Andrew Bentall's captaincy and no further Saturday matches were lost.

Andrew Bentall, Andrew Kahn and Chris Murray were the main run scorers. Kahn made a very good 58* v. Aylesbury GS, Murray made several 50's and together with Bentall (78*) put on 133 for the 2nd wicket against the Oratory, Reading.

The main bowling thrust came from Rizwan Ali (7-25 v. Windsor) and Matthew Ginn (8-27 v. Enfield GS). Chris Murray bowled left arm in-swing well at times and there was promising support from off-spinners Andrew Bentall, Sam Musk and David Wilson. Andrew Pilkington provided some variety with leg-spin. Alex Lloyd and Daniel Smaje shared wicket-keeping duties, with Daniel contributing usefully with the bat.

The leading players all performed regularly at County level and it was encouraging to see good attendance at nets from a number of keen cricketers unable to gain regular selection.

D.G.S./J.W.

U13 XI

A very enjoyable season was had by this side, who managed to win more games than they lost. They started coaching with Mr Goldthorpe in February and the dividends of this were evident. The batting was particularly strong, with several players who could be relied on to make a good score. Highlight of the year was Simon Duncombe's 104 n.o. against Sir William Borlase, one of several innings which marked him out as a player of great potential. Other good scores were achieved with Andrew Pembroke's 96 against Aylesbury GS and Jehan Jayanetti's two 50's against Abingdon School and Enfield GS.

The bowling lacked penetration against the better sides which meant that it was difficult to force victories. Against Abingdon School we scored 153-4 dec. but loose bowling saw us lose by nine wickets with time to spare. The fielding was generally good and everybody tried hard to improve.

All in all it was a satisfactory season with some grounds for optimism about the future.

M.W.C.

Badminton Club

The Club meets on Wednesdays from 4.00 - 5.00 pm in the Sports Hall and runs throughout the academic year. The Club holds 'league' and 'knock-out' doubles competitions as well as 'free-play'.

This year's 'open' league winners were James and Nick Darbyshire who retained their title, and the U13 doubles winners were P. Skelton and D. Dickson.

The Club supports the Duke of Edinburgh 'Skills' Award Scheme.

R.P.S.

Swimming

After several years' absence inter-schools swimming matches were again staged this year. Both juniors and intermediates gained success against local schools but neither team could make progress in the National competitions. This honour went to the senior relay squad of Dominick Shaw, Toby Shaw, James Horridge and Anthony Wright. Victory in the Freestyle Relay at the Division 10 event held at Bedford gained us a place in the National



The Senior Relay Squad, winners of the National Freestyle Relay Final.

Finals. Second place in the Medley Relay in one of the quickest times in the country allowed us to swim in the National Medley final as well.

In a magnificent day at Coventry a great swim in the Medley Relay gained us second place in the final to the old rivals Queen Elizabeth School, Barnet. A wonderful swim by the squad gave us victory in the Freestyle event only 0.4 seconds outside the championship record. In winning our first ever National Swimming Title we defeated such major swimming schools as Millfield and Kelly College. An outstanding achievement and an inspiration to all the younger swimmers within the school.

C.C.T.

Cross-country

The senior team lost most of its strongest runners last year and although the season has, as always, been most enjoyable, we have never been really strong enough to be medal-contenders at the big races. Both the junior and intermediate teams won their respective District Championships, the juniors helped considerably by the fact that there were no rugby fixtures that morning. But we made little impact at the County Championships at Stowe School the following month, Tim Gardner being our only runner to earn County selection by finishing in the top eight. Our strongest year group has been Year 10 which, led by Tim Gardner and Ben Walters, made it to the final of the U15 National Schools' Championship where only Ben really performed well on the day.

We must hope for greater success next year.

I.J.W.

Fencing

The 1993/1994 season has proved to be a most memorable year for the RGS Fencing team. This year has seen the greatest rise in beginner enrolment (I think it was 30 at last count) and the arrival of the long awaited electric sabre gear.

The Fencing team's unbeaten record in school matches seems to have survived intact (despite no offers of a champagne dinner!), with victories over Wellington, Marlborough, Bradfield, Aylesbury Grammar School, Eton and Harrow. One match against Whitgift, a school renowned for their depth in epee and sabre, was drawn.

The RGS dominated the Southern Section championships. Simon Fawell and Tim Whitfield did well, coming 2nd and 3rd in the U16 sabre, while Alastair Gerrard won the epee. At U18 level, Roland Levan was 2nd in the foil, with S-L Tan and Colin Gerrard coming 1st and 3rd in the sabre. S-L Tan also managed to win the Master-at-Arms, keeping the shield with the RGS for the 4th year running. Ross Howlett was 3rd in the U14 foil.

The Bucks, Berks and Oxford fencing championships also resulted in a proliferation of medals for the RGS. Richard Coombes won the U18 epee with Tom Roebuck placed 2nd. Chris Fletcher was 1st in the U18 foil and 2nd in the sabre. At U16 level, William Rysdale was 2nd in the foil, and Chris Smart 4th.

Other results worth mentioning are Tim Whitfield's 2nd in the Ashton Leon Paul, Simon Fawell's 9th in the National U16 sabre and Alastair Gerrard's 6th place in the U16 epee.

The fencing season concluded with the Public Schools' Fencing Championship at Crystal Palace, the largest tournament in the country. The RGS once again excelled, with a list of good results too long to detail in this report. Best results were in the Junior events. Toby Roebuck was 12th in the Mount-Haes foil, with Chris Hopkins 21st and Ross Howlett 24th. Alastair Gerrard was placed 5th in the Junior epee with William Rysdale 7th. The Junior Sabre saw Alastair placed 3rd and Tim 8th. Senior events saw Austin Jones 10th and Tom Roebuck 27th in the epee, S-L Tan placed 6th in the foil. Austin and Tan were also placed 31st and 3rd respectively in the Sabre. The team returned with the Jack Wheeler cup for 3rd place in the championships, while retaining the Pearson cup for the highest placed small-entry school.

Many thanks go to Mr Harry Jones, who has been an excellent coach to the team while also being decisive in our battle against duff kit; Mrs Whitfield, who has organised the juniors (and therefore stopped me from shooting them) throughout the year; and the Parents' Association for their generous financial support. Thanks also to the Technology Department for allowing us to use (and abuse) the tools to repair our equipment, and Matron who has done an excellent job in patching up faulty jackets. Second last and least, thanks to Colin "Skinnyman" Gerrard, "Toucan" Tim Whitfield, Austin "The Hat" Moelwyn Jones, Chris "Mr Sarcasm" Fletcher, Alastair "I think I'm brilliant but am not" Gerrard, Simon "I support Watford" Fawell and Lil' Will Rysdale for all the help they have given me while not resenting my bullying them into various jobs.

There is, however, one person who never seems to get the credit that is due to him. More often than not, it is the fencers who get the praise for their achievements, while the man who made those successes possible is forgotten. This is, of course, Mr Roebuck, and it is to him that my last (and biggest) word of thanks goes. I wish him all the best in future years.

S-L Tan 6MBA2

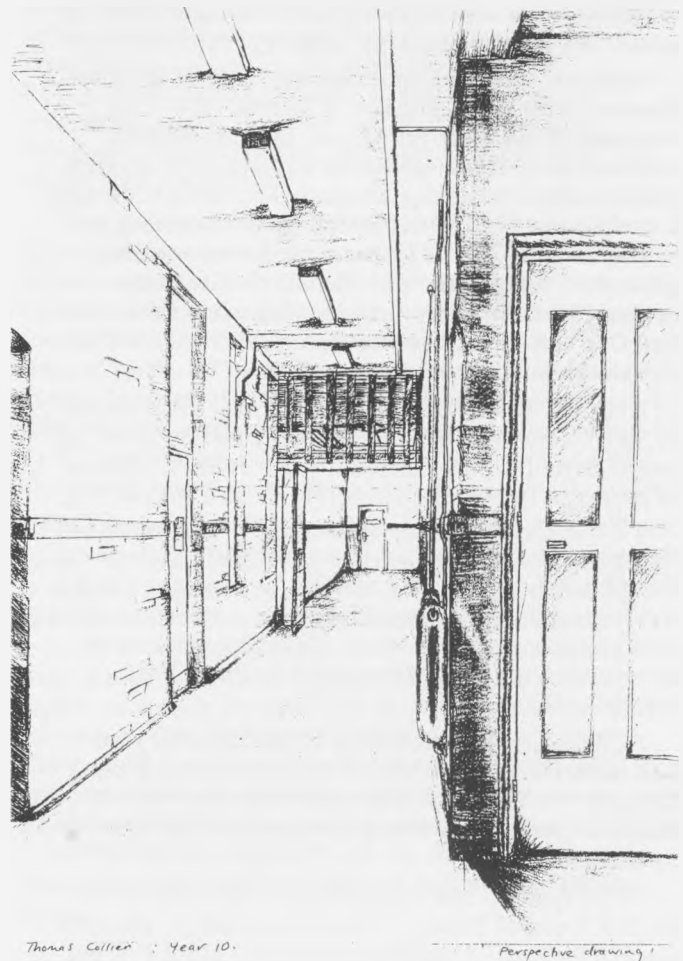
Tennis

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
1st VI	8	1	1	6
Colts	9	4	1	4

The season was rather a mixed one for school tennis. The 1st VI were stronger than last year, and had many close matches. However, there was insufficient strength in depth and most of these matches resulted in narrow defeats. The only victory was against Sir William Borlase's School in the Bucks Cup, but a hard fought draw was achieved at Magdalen College School, Oxford. With most of the senior squad still available, there should be a further improvement next summer.

The Colts team were more successful, winning four of their nine matches, and were runners-up in the U15 section of the Midland Bank Cup. The squad played with skill and enthusiasm, and this augurs well for the future.

M.E.



Thomas Collier - Year 10.

Perspective drawing.

'Perspective Drawing' - Year 10
Thomas Collier

Boat Club

1993 Regattas

The Boat Club attended eight regattas this season, and achieved a total of five wins and five second places.

At Marlow Spring Regatta, rowing in the Novice IVs event, the J16 IV beat a crew from Marlow Rowing Club easily in their heat. This put them into the Final with University College London and Dulwich College. With Dulwich struggling in the rear, RGS and UCL fought it out all the way down the 1000 metre course. The undergraduates finally proved slightly the stronger crew, beating RGS by just a third of a length.

At Avon County Schools' Regatta, held on Coate Water near Swindon, high winds all day made boats hard to control and racing extremely difficult on the open lake. The 1st IV suffered a mishap early on when they were forced into the bank by another boat while waiting to race, and had their rudder bent. In attempting to race with this handicap, they damaged a rigger. Despite hastily effected repairs they were unable to compete further. The J16 IV, in spite of somewhat disappointing performances in their heat and repechage, made it to the final. Here, in a close race with Windsor Boys' School, King's College School Wimbledon and Monkton Combe, they rowed very well. With all four crews overlapping for most of the course RGS eventually secured third place, beating Monkton to whom they had conceded two lengths in an earlier round.

This year, the Ball Cup Races were held on the River Trent in Nottingham. The J16 IV and the 1st IV both competed in the School IVs event. In the first round they were both drawn against crews from the local Trent College whom they defeated easily. This brought the J16s a semi-final against Wycliffe College to whom they lost by two lengths. The 1st IV had a good win over King Edward VI School Stratford. Then in the final they defeated Wycliffe by two lengths. This win returned the Ball Cup to RGS for a second year. Sculler Nick Webber also competed, but without success.

At Coate Water Park Regatta, in Senior 3 IVs, the 1st IV, in a 3-crew heat, beat Avon County Rowing Club, but lost to Oxford Brookes University, the eventual winners of the event. In Novice IVs, the J16 IV, in a 3-crew heat, beat Henley Rowing Club and Avon County Rowing Club. This put them into the final against Wycliffe College and Hampton School. In a race delayed for 45 minutes by the windy conditions they started slowly and were well down on both opponents at half way. Getting into their stride, they pulled back most of the deficit by the end, but Wycliffe held on to win.

At Worcester Regatta the 1st IV put up by far their best performance of the season in Senior 3 IVs. Beating Stourport convincingly in the semi-final, they contested the final fiercely, only losing in the end to Bath Minerva by half a length.

At the Bedford Star Junior Regatta the 1st IV lost in the first round of Senior 3 IVs to Eton College. The J16s reached the final of both Novice IVs and J16 B IVs, but unfortunately succumbed in both to the might of St Edward's School, Oxford. Sculler Nick Webber had better luck, beating opponents from Windsor Boys' School and Bedford Schools' Rowing Association to win the Novice Sculls event.



The 1st IV, winners of the Ball Cup, Nottingham.

At the Thames Valley Park Regatta held over a 500-metre sprint course in Reading the J16 IV competed in the Novice IVs event. After a comfortable win in their heat over King's School Rochester and Wallingford Rowing Club they faced a final against Maidenhead Rowing Club and Reading University, both young adult crews. Producing some of their best rowing of the season they won by a length over Maidenhead, and, in the process, bettered the course record for the event by some five seconds. The 1st IV had failed to progress beyond the first round of their event.

To end the racing season, the Club continued the tradition initiated by Mr Iain Meyer and made the long journey down to the West Country. At the 126th Totnes and Bridgetown Royal Regatta the 1st IV (with Iain Dykes replacing David Farr, and Chris Pearman moving to stroke) were entered in two events. In the Senior C IVs they beat Bideford "Reds" to reach the final against Bideford "Blues" and Exeter Rowing Club. Though trailing by just half a length to Exeter for much of the course, they were unable to make up the deficit. Earlier in the day, however, they had already contested a straight final in Junior IVs with Bideford "Blues" and Dartmouth Rowing Club. Here they were comfortable winners, steadily building a lead from halfway to finish three lengths up on Dartmouth. Not to be out-done, the J16 crew beat Bideford "Reds" in their heat and Bideford "Blues" and Dartmouth Rowing Club in the final, all by considerable margins, to win the J16 IVs event.

The J15 squad suffered severe disruption to their winter training programme because of the poor weather and dangerous river conditions. As a result they were not ready to race in open competition this season, but showed much promise for next year.

At Prize-Giving, the Saunders Rowing Cup was awarded to Paul Spackman of the J16 IV.

Summary of Entries

* win ** second place

Marlow Spring	J16 IV**
Avon County Schools	1st IV - J16 IV
The Ball Cup Races	1st IV* - J16 IV
	- Junior Scull

Coate Water Park	1st IV - J16 IV
Worcester	1st IV**
Bedford Star Junior	1st IV - J16 IV** - J16 IV** - Novice scull*
Thames Valley Park	1st IV - J16 IV*
Totnes & Bridgetown Royal	1st IV* - 1st IV** - J16 IV*

Crews

Captain of Boats: D.J. Farr

<i>1st IV</i>	<i>Junior Sculler</i>	<i>J16 IV</i>
M.F. Burman	N.C.Y. Webber	P.C. Spackman
M. Aperghis		J.D. Brinn
C.J. Pearman		A. Farley
D.J. Farr (str.)		A.J.E.R. Cox (str.)
C.D. Fletcher (cox)		G.D. Sugg (cox)
Replacement (Totnes):		
I.D.C. Dykes		

J.P.E.

Table Tennis

A year of steady activity and involvement. Once again the club's membership just topped the fifty mark and was drawn from the whole range of year groups in the school.

We have twice weekly club nights, and have had nine teams playing competitively in the High Wycombe and District Senior and Youth Table Tennis Leagues. The club has also let its tables be used by non-club members for the Thursday Afternoon Activities. We also entered teams at U19, U16 and U13 in the County competition of the National Schools' Championship, although we failed to win through to the next round this year.

The Senior 'A' Team, under the captaincy of Simon Woolliams, has had a strong season in Division 4, finishing sixth, while the 'C' team in Division 6 finished even better in fourth place, with Simon Gillett gaining 6th place in the individual averages in that Division.

Towards the end of the season full school colours were awarded to Christopher Monnington and Stephen Barlow, and half-colours to Christopher Butterfield, Philip Barlow, Richard Royce, Matthew Peake, John Cummins and Simon Gillett.

In the Youth League, which for most players is their introduction to serious table tennis, our six teams (3 boys per team) worked hard and have gained considerable experience which it is hoped will pay off with success next season.

We record our grateful thanks to the many parents who have encouraged their sons and given practical help in time and supervision. It would not be possible for so many boys to take part if this were not offered. Last, but certainly not least, we are grateful to the RGS Parents' Association, for allocating to the Table Tennis Club a gift of £660. Together with the careful saving of club funds, it means we will be able to commence the next season with three new, and much needed, table tennis tables.

J.R.B.K.

Basketball

RGS again enjoyed mixed fortunes during the season. The U16 and U19 teams failed to make an impact in any competitions, but the U14s and U15s achieved notable successes.

The senior team lacked height and were heavily reliant on their captain, Andrew Priestley, as a source of points. In the English School Championships the group games against Ichen College and Queen Mary College were lost by 10-15 point margins, but a re-match against Oxford School proved to be another nail-biting affair as RGS missed the last shot to lose 57-59. The Bucks Cup semi-final against Denbigh was played with a weakened side. A lethargic RGS performance saw the team beaten convincingly (68-51). In the Herts League a number of fixtures were cancelled, but of the four games played RGS won one. Ultimately, the season was frustrating. There are some real basketball enthusiasts in the senior school, but there is a need to make a greater commitment to practice if we are to compete effectively at the top level.

The U16 played with great enthusiasm throughout the season, and worked hard to develop their individual games. When they gelled they played some excellent basketball, but on other occasions they were outplayed by teams with more individual flair and pace. Despite a convincing win against Stantonbury, progress in the Nationals was halted by a small athletic Gyosei side. RGS gained their revenge in the Bucks Cup beating Gyosei 93-88 in a good match, before confronting a talented John Colet team in the semi-final and losing 74-50. In the Herts League, RGS generally found themselves outclassed by some outstanding teams. However, the 79-75 win against Beaumont emphasized the team's quality when they played with confidence.

The U15 and U14 teams, coached by Mr Chuter, made superb progress during the season. The U15 side reached the regional final of the National by beating Oak Farm and Gyosei. In the final against Easthamstead, RGS failed to convert from the free-throw line and lost 45-49. In the Bucks Cup the U15 team comfortably won three matches to face Chesham High in the final. In a dramatic game, RGS led with seven minutes remaining, but failed to halt a Chesham flourish in the latter stages and lost by 61-65. This squad, nonetheless, offers great promise for the future.

The U14 squad in the first representative season produced some outstanding talent, and reached the regional final in the English Championship. Their opponents, the European School, were a multi-national, multi-talented team with vociferous support. RGS held them to a four point lead at half time, but were overrun in the second period, eventually losing by 59-76. In the Bucks Cup RGS reached the final by beating Radcliffe and Dr Challoner's. Chesham High were our opponents and this time RGS made no mistake. Ben Gilbert capped a fine season (in which he played for every school team from U14 to U19) to lead the team to victory by 58-48, concluding a year where the talent in the junior teams augured well for the future.

M.J.D.

Athletics

A number of RGS athletes represented Wycombe District in the County Championships at Milton Keynes. Colin Wright qualified for the final of the Intermediate Boys' 400m and went on to produce a season of excellent performances. Ross Parrett finished third in the Junior Boys' 800m. The school has several outstanding distance runners and Tim Gardner finished well-placed in the Junior 1500m. In the Field events, Peter Clothier was third in the Junior Long Jump, Owen Marshall finished second in the Junior Shot Put and Ben Gilbert completed an excellent trio of results, finishing with a throw of 27.08m in the Junior Discus. The Intermediate Boys were represented by Adam Stubbs (third in Javelin) and Ian McLaughlin, who broke the County Record in the Shot Put (15.70m) and won the Discus competition comfortably.

Ian has been an outstanding athlete for the School and individually has had a remarkable season. He represented Bucks at the English Schools' Competition (placed fourth nationally in the Shot) and was present at the AAA Championships where the best throwers from the United Kingdom compete. Ian finished second in the Discus with a throw of 49m 96cm. He holds several school records in Track and Field.

The District Schools' Championships were very successful. Our Year 8 team were placed second and both Years 9 and 10 finished overall winners of their respective competitions. There were excellent performances by so many boys in the School. In Year 8, Andrew Scott (100m), Robert Ogden (200m), Matthew Hickman (1500m), and Christopher Biggs (Triple Jump) all finished in first place. In Year 9, Tim Gardner (1500m), Ross Parrett (800m), James Locke-Hart (High Jump), and Ben Gilbert (Discus) were overall winners. The successful Year 10 team had Karsten Smet (100m), Colin Wright (400m), Tim Gallagher (800m), and the 4 x 100m Relay team leading their respective events.

It was not surprising, therefore, that both our Junior and Intermediate Teams qualified for the South-East Finals of the TSB National Competition. A number of school records were also broken at various stages of the season. Ian McLaughlin broke the Intermediate Shot and Discus records and Colin Wright produced a tremendous effort to break a long standing Intermediate 400m Hurdles record. I can only hope that the 1994 season can live up to all expectations, following this extremely successful period of athletics.

R.A.C.

Golf

Unfortunately there has been very little activity on the golf front this year and at the time of writing the county had not been able to hold its annual county championship. In the one competition we did enter, the National Schools' Championship, we were beaten into 2nd place in the regional qualifying round and so did not make the final. There are, however, plenty of decent golfers in the school, and the school team of Luke Donald, Nicholas Pembroke and David Novell will all be available for selection again next year. In Luke Donald the school has probably its finest ever golfer with a handicap from Beaconsfield of less than 2.

I.J.W.

CCF

O.C's Report

The most important acknowledgement we have made this term has been of our debt to those whose names are on the War Memorial at the ceremony on Sunday, 8th May 1994.

Nothing can take away the endless pain their loss has caused. We can hope that it has in some way been made more bearable by our gratitude and by the opportunities made for us by their lives and – though they would probably not have used the term – their sacrifice to the end. We are honoured to have been asked to play a part in the service of rededication.

What we owe continues in relation to the Services now, both on that great scale and in the particular friendly and positive contact we have week by week which is enjoyed as a partnership by both sides, thanks to the Services' help and the well deserved and normally good response from members of the Contingent here.

In fact it is this extraordinary network of friends in the Regular Services at many levels, the CCF Association, TAVRA, the Governors, especially the Chairman of the Governors, Mr John Prior, Headmasters and colleagues, other OCs CCF, fellow Officers and CCF Staff, Old Boys, not to mention current NCOs and Cadets, come wind, come weather (which it does), that will remain my abiding impression as I hand over command to Captain R G Hollingworth.

It is, I think, partly because we have all been engaged on something whose aims have been thought through fundamentally and found valuable in practice that our activities contrive, in spite of all sorts of frustrations, difficulties and apparent impossibilities, to be eminently enjoyable in the achieving as well as the achievement.

To all of these friends I am most deeply grateful. It is hard not to write a much longer list of those with whom it has been such a pleasure to work – everyone of them devoting their energies to ensuring members of the School have the opportunities which this partnership makes. I hope I shall not hurt any feelings if I mention only some and those inadequately.

R Q M S Macreeedy ("Q") came to my rescue in those saddest of days when I was asked to take over after the sudden death from a heart attack at Summer Camp of Colonel R Pattinson. The administration, dealing as it does with all three Services, has its fraught moments. "Q"'s motto is "No problem" and he makes it true for the OCs he serves by taking the solution of the problem on himself.

The Contingent for a long time has relied on the sheer generosity of those who are not even on the School Staff.

Mr Tony Boreham has been ready at the drop of a hat to come to help us from Sheffield; Mr Tony Sollars and Mr Boutland have similarly given us cheering and valued assistance. Mrs Vivien Seymour in a moment of crisis used her WRAF experience and kindly took command of the RAF Section with results that were a credit to her and to the Section at the time. Mr Ian Brown regularly comes to help with RAF shooting and weapon training.

Mr Geoffrey Rysdale, just at the right moment, when TAVRA had built us a handsome new Range, took on the responsibility for shooting and a Commission in the Army Section.

Mr Christopher Cunningham also just at the right moment has agreed to become OC Army Section.

Mrs Elaine Thorp spirits paperwork on its way and takes

a constant interest in the activities of the Contingent for which that paperwork is vital. Mr Steve Morris exerts a calming, benign and orderly influence over the Stores.

Then there is the home team. Mr Clive Rowlands, skilled Chief Technician in the RAF (on Vulcans especially), now for years here as SSI, has firmly, unobtrusively and above all, considerably gone far beyond the call of duty in making sure the admin is properly seen to and where necessary ensuring that high spirits find an appropriate channel for their expression. He is an expert too in ceremonial.

Lieutenant Ross Barker and Sub Lt Joan Henderson run the RN Section with promise of increased activity as RN qualifications are gained.

Air Commodore (Ret'd) Michael Darby has descended generously and gracefully for CCF Establishment reasons to the CCF rank of Flight Lieutenant to take Command of the RAF Section which flourishes.

I should also like to pay tribute to Captain Steve Grundy who has just left. In common with many others I miss his exuberance and vigour.

Captain Hollingworth has been connected with the Contingent as cadet and then as CCF Officer for about 35 years – most of them while holding a very senior position at R A E Farnborough but now I am glad to say as a member of the School Staff. He has kindly asked me to stay and give some assistance. It can never begin to match his endless, loyal, imaginative help and hard work, especially in out-of-school activity, without which there might well have been no CCF here by now. He will need the loyal support of all the Contingent and I am confident he will have it as he so richly deserves.

Finally there are those members of the Contingent – colleagues and cadets – who, in the words of that splendid King's College, Cambridge prayer, "rejoice with us but upon another shore and in a greater light", whose memory is more valued than can be expressed. I feel I must mention one, since through a deep affection and regard I shared for him, he has been my inspiration as he has been of so many others – my predecessor Colonel R Pattinson ('Pat') as he was and remains to all his friends, including Mervyn Davies whom we are delighted to see when he comes up to School. The inspiration, as I know he felt, has also come continuously from members of the Contingent at all levels.

The most vivid picture at present in my mind which epitomises what, at best, we are doing is that of the recent Adventure Training Camp in the Peaks, to which members of all three Service Sections came.

There, in a variety of activities was the common purpose in the different challenges met with commitment, determination and good cheer. They were physically demanding and on top of that involved the learning and passing on of skills, individual and in groups, by the cadets and cadet NCOs themselves. We know from letters and contacts over the years that these skills have been extremely useful in business and pleasure in civilian life, as well as in the Service life to which a small number of cadets go.

They included that growing perception, through experience, of the demands and rewards involved in working out a style of exercising authority in an effective and civilised way – with an eye not only to the unit itself but also the community in which it found itself.

I am extraordinarily lucky to have been in such good company and wish all the very best to each and every one of you in all three Sections.

F. N. Cooper

Royal Naval Section

The Royal Naval Section has been a veritable flurry of activity this past year, with diverse activities ranging from Orienteering (in Wendover Woods) to Dinghy-sailing at the Queen Mary Reservoir kindly organised by Mrs Henderson. The latter was, in fact, possibly the most



Members of the Naval Section during a sailing weekend on "Acquisition".

enjoyable activity of the year, not only giving inexperienced cadets a taste of the real thing, but also allowing the competent sailors to try their hand at sailing more advanced boats, such as catamarans.

Other activities the Section has enjoyed this year have included several visits, most notably on MCM (Mine Counter Measures) day in Portsmouth and a visit to the Section's parent establishment, HMS Dryad. The MCM day was spent almost entirely on a minesweeper, HMS Catterstock. Cadets were given a chance to tour the boat, and later in the day to get actual hands-on experience.

The second visit to HMS Dryad also included a ship tour – HMS Manchester, a type 42 Destroyer – and also a chance to use the training facilities at the base itself, which simulate actual combat situations. In contrast to the technical side, however, there was also a competition – a bizarre but extremely enjoyable mix of an assault course and a swimming pool!

Further activities this year have included shooting, in which all cadets now have plentiful experience and, likewise, climbing. This is mainly due to the efforts of Captain Hollingworth, which we gratefully acknowledge. Credit must also go to CPO Rhodes, who has provided many an enjoyable Thursday afternoon this year.

Coxswain L. Booth 6LF1

Army Section

The Army Section has enjoyed a busy and successful year and has attracted an encouraging number of recruits from within the school. Last year saw 32 join in July and brought the total strength of cadets of all ranks up to 53. Captain Grundy, who had been OC Army Section since 1989, has left the school and resigned his commission. He served with the Contingent since 1978 and we are grateful for the considerable contribution that he has made.

Much of the training programme on Thursday afternoons is devoted to instructing the recruits in the Proficiency Syllabus. A total of 24 cadets gained their Army Proficiency Certificate during 1993. The training programme also included visits to the Assault Course at CMETS Beaconsfield, use of the school climbing wall, orienteering using the excellent courses in Wendover Woods, and a presentation by the Royal Engineers.

Members of the Section have taken part in a wide range of weekend training and camps, many of which have been organised by the Section itself. Last summer the Section attended the Central Camp at Wathgill in North Yorkshire and enjoyed a wide range of activities skilfully organised by 15 (North East) Brigade and 8 CTT. The Adventure Training Camp in March was once again based in the Peak District. Battlecraft exercises were carried out on Leek Training Area, rock climbing on the Roaches and a day was spent on expedition across Kinder Scout. The Section has taken part in the Patrol Competition, the Target Rifle Competition and the Skill at Arms Meeting, all of which are organised by HQ Aldershot Area.

Other activities have included a Battlecraft Field Day, two Range Days, a Night Navigation exercise in the Chilterns, and weekend expeditions to the Black Mountains and Snowdonia. More detailed accounts of several of these activities follow.

Six senior cadets attended a Methods of Instruction course at Bicester which was organised by 16 CTT. They benefited greatly from this course, as was demonstrated during the Adventure Training Camp, and are now junior NCOs. The contribution of our Cadet Training Team, and in particular Sgt Kevin Pollitt, to the well being of the Section cannot be overstated.

We said goodbye last July to a number of Senior NCOs who had served the Section very well indeed. We wish good fortune to Neil Benstead, Andrew Curry, Giles Edwards and John Lippiat. They have been succeeded by RSM William Richards, CSM Alex King and C/Sgt Mark Burman. I should like to record my appreciation of their efforts and of the support they have given me during my first year on the teaching staff of the RGS.

We rely heavily on regular support from adult instructors who are not on the teaching staff of the school and yet give of their free time. Many are Old Boys. I am thinking in particular of Lts Chris Cunningham, Geof Rysdale and Tony Boreham. This year we have also been helped by Lt Rex Stenner, Joseph Baguley, Martin Cooper, Giles Edwards and Kevin Hodgson. Thank you very much indeed!

Captain R. G. Hollingworth
OC Army Section

Adventure Training Camp Leek 1994

The main party arrived in the early evening of Friday 25th March, the advance party having arrived the day before and set up camp. With twenty-odd cadets and eight officers, the camp lived up to its "cramped but cosy" image. Apart from the inevitable disagreements over music the camp quickly settled down for a week of training, battlecraft and moaning about weather conditions.

Saturday saw the cadets take part in a 'training circus' exercise. This featured first aid, camp craft, map and compass work and survival skills. Fortunately the hail encountered by the advance party on the recce the previous day did not come back and the lessons concluded without interruption. That afternoon featured an orienteering course set up in the morning by some of the senior cadets. Again, thanks to the bloke upstairs, we were not interrupted by the weather. L/Cpl Oliver Atkins and L/Cpl James Crompton won, Captain Hollingworth and Giles Edwards having been disqualified for being too good.

The cadets were given a chance to use the information gained on the training circus in the two day battlecraft exercise on Sunday and Monday. Terrorists equipped with a bomb, expertly constructed by Sgt Jonathan Dormand, were encountered in the training ground and a battle followed leading to the taking of Lum Pool. The platoon commander (me) was ruthlessly cut down by enemy fire shortly into the second day and was promptly resurrected as one of the enemy. The platoon continued forwards, "neutralising" all of the enemy encountered. They retrieved the bomb but they could not get the BOGLIN (private joke!) and were returned to the camp to nurse their injuries.

On Tuesday morning we set out for the Kinder Scout mountain range to 'seek out new life and new civilisations'. However, after 'boldly going where no man has gone before', we only found a wrecked aeroplane half buried in the top of the mountain.

The rock climbing was not so bleak as Tony Boreham's briefing made it out to be: it did not involve any injuries. The same could not be said for the initiative exercises. Two teams were blown up when they dropped a bomb in a river. But the casualties were only simulated.

Having finished the exercises, all that was left to do was clear up the camp, pack up and go. That we did, leaving Leek with only one black eye, a cracked radio and a few extra stripes here and there to show for it.

Company Sergeant Major Alex King

UKLF Leadership Course XXXIII

It is unfortunate that the people who plan courses of this kind all think along the same lines. They do not believe that leadership under 'easy' conditions is testing enough; instead, they assess your leadership under 'adverse' or 'difficult' conditions. Those running this course preferred not to begin their assessments until we had been woken up at 5 am, taken on a seven-mile run in the pouring rain and then left standing outside in a force seven wind while our platoon commander finished his breakfast.

After this wonderful beginning to the day we were

thrown straight into the day's tasks, usually involving water, mud or both. The typical Army command tasks of building a bridge across a gorge (in fact, a shallow ditch – we had to use our imagination), picking up equipment from a minefield and crossing a stream all came up, as well as many others.

Other leadership tasks were more arduous and prolonged. The first was a 'gentle paddle' up the River Severn in a Royal Engineers assault craft. By the time we found out that we had to pick up the boat, run several hundred yards with it to the river bank and finally paddle it several miles upstream against the current it was too late to pull out. On another occasion, five of us had to push a fully-loaded trailer one kilometre uphill to a waiting Land Rover, the catch this time being that someone had stolen one of the trailer's two wheels. The final event, a stretcher race, left us with one sprained ankle, a damaged wrist, a

dislocated shoulder and a badly damaged back in our ten-man section alone.

The course was a great chance to learn new skills and to improve our teamwork, leadership, organisation and self-confidence. The Royal Regiment of Wales also learnt from the low cunning displayed by cadets, particularly during the final exercise. Having occupied a building in strength (machine-guns, sandbags, barbed wire ...) the section of soldiers inside was surprised to see two hissing black canisters thrown in through the window. They were surrounded and disarmed while still putting their respirators on, and became dangerously upset when we showed them that the canisters were aerosol deodorants covered in black masking tape. Revenge is sweet ...

Jonathan Brinn

Summer Camp 1993

On the first week of the summer holidays, the Army Section cadets had a chance to stay at Catterick Army base for our annual summer camp. We were very grateful and privileged to be invited to Catterick, and we had high hopes for the camp.

During the camp, one day was spent by either going caving or canoeing. The canoeing was great fun and despite the cold conditions all of us enjoyed it thoroughly, and we progressed to ride a rapid water trail. Likewise the cadets who took part in the caving found it exciting, challenging and certainly different.

Another of the activities was going over the assault course. We were shown the obstacles and how to pass them and then we accomplished the course several times. We all did well and had great fun despite the masses of flies which seemed to wish to complete the course with us.

As usual on our annual camps we had a competitive and challenging orienteering course to complete which took us around the neighbouring countryside.

One of the best days for us was the day of the battle exercise which the Army training teams made possible. During the exercise we all grew in knowledge and experience thanks mainly to the invaluable teaching and advice of the Regulars.

Another great activity was the March and Shoot competition run by the camp. This is a competition where teams of eight have to march as quickly as possible for 1km, completing some tasks on the way, and then each member has to shoot at targets from 100m. The reason why it is so physically tiring is because as it is a march you have to keep one foot on the ground at all times. We had two teams and both did extremely well, the A-team achieving a camp best for about fifteen minutes!

The camp was a tremendous success and enjoyed by all the cadets. The camp had excellent facilities, and the food and quarters were top class. Thanks to the Army training team's outstanding efforts we were able to gain essential and invaluable experience and knowledge. We appreciate the efforts of all the people who made the camp possible and are hoping to return to Catterick in the summer of 1995.

Sgt C. Porter



The blind leading the blind along the rope maze.

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RAF Section

This has been an interesting and very productive year for the RAF Section. Faced with two outstanding candidates for the coveted position of Section Warrant Officer, Flying Officer Seymour and I decided as an experiment to split the duty by appointing Nicholas Hughes and Simon Hallam for one-and-a-half terms each. Whilst this achieved the objective of sharing the valuable experience that this post offers, both cadets found it frustrating that their period of tenure was too short to really get to grips with this demanding job. Nevertheless, it is a tribute to both Nick and Simon that the double act worked as well as it did, and between them they took the RAF Section from strength to strength. Flight Sergeant Steven Campion provided sound administrative backing as adjutant, and Flight Sergeant Edward Bennett, as Chief Instructor, made further improvements in the organisation of our training. On the command side, Flight Sergeant Mark Kingston demonstrated strong leadership in his training of the senior cadets, whilst Warrant Officers Simon Hallam and Nick Hughes led this year's large and highly enthusiastic entry of junior cadets, ably assisted by the three flight commanders: Sergeants Ben Sullivan, Andy MacMillan and Glenn Walker. Of the retiring SNCOs special mention must be made of the excellent support given by Sergeant Miles Davis in stores, which has been of great benefit to the Section. Having successfully guided the Section through the school year to date and trained their successors, the Senior NCOs of the Upper VI Form handed over their CCF responsibilities to the next generation at the end of the Spring Term in order to concentrate on their 'A' level studies. It has been a pleasure to work with such an effective and co-operative team. We all wish them good luck with their examination results and in their future careers.

Once again our cadets have been fortunate in the award of Flying Scholarships; in addition to Nick Hughes and Simon Hallam who were awarded one as part of their VI Form Scholarships last year, Steven Campion and Glenn Walker both completed their flying scholarships last summer, whilst Julian Dunnnett, Chris Novell and Ben Sullivan are this year's lucky recipients. We wish them every success with their flying.

The Section is fortunate to be allocated a day's gliding

each month at No 613 Volunteer Gliding School at RAF Halton. The gliding is carried out in the new Grob 109 motor glider, which is more akin to flying a light aircraft than gliding, and allows much better continuity of training than a conventional glider. We are able to take advantage of this valuable facility through the help of a small band of parents who drive the cadets out to Halton and supervise them whilst there. The Section is grateful to these volunteers who generously give their time to allow the cadets to enjoy this superb form of flying.

We extend our warm thanks to all the many people that have helped the Section enjoy another excellent year, in particular Squadron Leader Mike Neil and the officers of No 6 Air Experience Flight at RAF Benson for their enthusiastic support in introducing our cadets to flying in their dual-control Chipmunk aircraft. Mike has now retired and been replaced by Flight Lieutenant David Burnett to whom we extend our best wishes and thanks. The Section is also greatly indebted to Squadron Leader Ian Mullan and his dedicated band of pilots on No 613 Volunteer Gliding School for acquainting a large number of our cadets with the thrills of powered glider flying. As always, thanks go to Flight Lieutenant Dave Quick and Flight Sergeant Andy Waddell of our RAF Liaison staff at HQ CCF (RAF) Central and East Area for their stalwart support throughout the year.

The RAF Section can only operate because a large number of people give their free time for the benefit of the cadets. As well as our own dedicated section and contingent officers, special thanks go to Flight Lieutenant Iain Brown who gives up his annual holiday entitlement to train our cadets; to Mrs Sylvia Randles who finds time in her very busy life to teach the boys first aid; to Squadron Leader Peter Drissell (RAF) who is accompanying us to both Easter and Summer camps this year where his extensive professional knowledge and skill are of tremendous value; and to all the others who have helped the RAF Section so generously over the last year.

Flight Lieutenant M. C. Darby
OC RAF Section

International Air Cadet Exchange

Each year IACE gives about 500 air cadets from around the world the chance to live in a foreign country for two weeks, living and socialising with people who share an interest in aviation.

After spending a night at RAF Lyneham, the eighty British cadets boarded an RAF Hercules to be taken to US Air Force base Rhein Main in Frankfurt. A large reception was held that evening so that all the nationalities could get to know one another. Next morning the twelve cadets visiting Switzerland flew by Swiss Government plane to Zurich, where we met our hosts.

The hosts were all members of the Alterrhein Gliding Club. I was staying with a family along with a Dutchman who conveniently spoke fluent English and German! The other cadets included six from the USA, two from Sweden

and two from Israel. We soon got to know one another and embarked on the very full programme travelling the length and breadth of Switzerland. We went gliding, powered flying, white water rafting, visited tourist spots, military bases, museums and aircraft factories. In the evenings we attended official functions, and on several occasions crossed the border into Austria to sample the hectic nightlife. The highlight for me was the trip in a Super Puma helicopter into the Alps, where we climbed the Coaz-Hutte mountain (9,000 ft) and spent the night in a small cabin on the edge of a glacier. We were all sorry to leave Switzerland, but on returning to Frankfurt were able to hear the tales of the other British cadets.

Overall, the trip was an incredible experience in which I was able to sample life in a friendly home environment and

get to know people of my own age from very different backgrounds. The Swiss Aeroclub met almost all the expenses, and the trip is in effect the ultimate holiday. I can heartily recommend IACE to any cadet lucky enough to be offered the chance to participate.

Warrant Officer Nicholas Hughes

Alpine Challenge 93

Alpine Challenge is an adventurous training exercise run annually by 16 Cadet Training Team, and is open to Army and CCF cadets from Bucks and Oxon. Based in the picturesque Bavarian Alps, it combines the experience of travel to a foreign country with the challenge of sometimes new, and always slightly daunting, outdoor activities.

The main aim of the exercise was to reach the summit of the highest mountain in Germany, the Zugspitze. Involving



Onward and upward but not yet.

an ascent of over 1500m in one and a half days, this expedition was to prove an exhilarating experience for us all. Trust, confidence, a good head for heights, and a keen sense of humour ensured that we all reached our goal. A final scramble along a tortuous ridge gave us access to the snow-capped summit itself, where we proudly took photographs to mark our achievement. The superb panoramic views into Austria and Germany alone justified the effort we had put into this impressive ascent, and it was an occasion that none of us will readily forget.

Other activities included further mountain walking, rock-climbing, water skiing, visits to Munich and Dachau, as well as some eventful canoeing during which many of us ended up swimming or clutching desperately to rocks!

I cannot over-emphasise how valuable an experience Alpine Challenge was for me and all the other cadets involved. It developed our personal qualities and was an object lesson in the importance of team-work – as well as being a lot of fun!

My thanks go to 16 CTT and all involved in organising Alpine Challenge 93. I wish them luck for Summer '94, and hope that cadets from the RAF Section will continue to take advantage of this superb opportunity.

Section Warrant Officer Simon Hallam

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

Annual General Meeting

25 Old Boys attended the AGM of the Club, held in the new School library, before the Annual Dinner. A moment's silence was held in memory of Norman Sears, former Chairman of the Club. The Minutes of the last meeting were read, agreed and signed.

Treasurer/Auditor's Report

Mr J. Read (Auditor) reported a deficit of £1,291, larger than the previous year, mainly due to an increase in the distribution costs of the magazine. Subscriptions were received from 69 new life members totalling £2,070, which added to the Capital Account balance of £7,149 less the year's deficit of £1,291 gives a balance at the end of the year of £7,928.

Election of Officers

Geoffrey Green (Chairman) informed the meeting that according to the rules of the Club, there had been regular breaches of the rules relating to Election of Officers, in that all officers should be re-elected every year. The new Headmaster David Levin was elected President of the Club, Mervyn Davies, George Ray and Rowland Brown were elected Vice-Presidents. The committee and other officers were re-elected. Geoffrey Green said that the Constitution of the Club needed to be brought up to date and the Committee was empowered to redraft the rules.

President's comments. The President reviewed the school's current situation, mentioning the building programme and other needs such as an all-weather hockey pitch. He also referred to the 'Who's Who of Old Boys' that is in the process of being compiled and the re-dedication of the plaques commemorating Old Boys killed in the wars taking place on May 8th. He had been shocked at the state of the plaques: a school must revere its past if it is going to have a future. He paid tribute and expressed his gratitude to Rowland Brown for handing over a school in such good heart.

Annual Dinner 1994

86 Old Boys attended the Annual Dinner. The Guest of Honour was the recently retired Headmaster of the RGS, Rowland P. Brown Esq, OBE, JP, MA. He was proposed by A. J. McTavish (1948-55), Headmaster of The John Hampden Grammar School, High Wycombe. B. C. Peatey (1941-49) proposed the toast to the School and Club to which the Headmaster, David Levin, responded.

Deaths – Old Boys

A E FLEET (1938-44) died on 19th December 1993.

J F LUTTMAN (1915-21) died on 24th December 1993.

N SEARS (1924-29) died in May 1993. Norman was Chairman of the Club 1990-93. He was a 100% attender at committee meetings, travelling from Twickenham no matter what the weather or time of year.

Notes

5Sc Class of 1947-48 held their 15th Reunion at The Fox at Ibstone on 26th February 1994. R. H. Wynands sent the following information.

Thirteen members enjoyed the merriment of trying to know who was who after 46 years! Bryn Bennell got taken for 'Tubby' John Tournier. Mike Durham only got one out of ten right, and was rapidly advised to quit while he was ahead. Ted Binder left his toupé at home. Dick Wheelband kept flashing his Gold Card, saying "I never carry cash". Reg Stone was selling pensions to the gullible; Jim Rear bought three as he was retiring in April. Dick Bird would have liked one, but had spent all his pocket money on fags. Reg Tapping limped around on a walking stick soliciting sympathy - heavens he'd only fallen over a wall and broken his leg! Bernie Bowler was as young as ever, and instantly recognisable - must take Sanatagen every day. Colin Kennedy urbanely discoursed and quietly sank the left over wine, white and red mixed! John Stevens resolved to visit Willy in Canada. Ron Wynands lost £1.40 on the evening: never could count. Dave Miles was subdued contemplating the 385 houses now being built in his backyard c/o Nick Ridley - 'could always move to Canada!' Alan Cussell, John Tarrant and Eric Peddle sent their apologies, will be there next time. Dave Jennings was on bar duty at HWRFC.

The Governor of Australia decided not to release our three detainees there - Tony Ball, Bob McCulloch and Dudley Bishop - on parole: they are currently repainting Sidney Bridge and chatting up the sheep. Better luck next time, boys.

5 Science.

Royal Grammar School. High Wycombe. Class of 1947-48

**TONY BALL	NSW Aust'lia, Cht Surv'yr, prop' & finance, rtd
**BRYN BENNELL	Wycombe, Barclays Bank, still in Sally Army, rtd
**TED BINDER	Cryers Hill, Aboral surgeon, trees beware, rtd
**DICK BIRD	Chal St P. doing p/t OVS in Bulgaria, Hungary rtd
**DUDLEY BISHOP	S Aust'lia 1961, Industry & business
**BERNARD BOWLER	Leeds, Senior personnel management
TONY BURROW	No trace (provenance 1948, Beaconsfield)
FRED CLAXTON	No trace (prov 1948, Denham), moved away
JOHN COLLIER	No trace (prov 1948, High Wycombe), Accountant
# DUDLEY COLLARD	USA, BA Maths, Aeronautist, member Royal Ae Soc.
**ALAN CUSSELL	Milton Keynes, Senior Police Officer, rtd
**MIKE DURHAM	Weston Turville, Aylesbury, Barclays Bank, rtd
# ALAN ELBURN	BSc Camb Un. Rtd RAF 1972 (Eng) Sqd Leader
**PETER FOWLER	Wycombe, Print industry, Cent Off Information rtd
**DAVE JENNINGS	Wycombe, Timber industry, real ale consultant

**COLIN KENNEDY	Wycombe, Cht Architect, retiring soon
# BOB McCULLOCH	Australia, ret RN, Lt Cdr 1970
**DAVE MILES	Reading, Construction industry management
++TERRY NORCOTT	S Africa/moved Aust'lia, died, Hosp Med Ser --
**ERIC PEDDLE	Warminster, still working hard - at what?
DAVE PHILLIPS	No trace (prov 1948, London)
# JOHN RAY	Rtd RAF 1985 (Med Sec), Sqd Leader
**JOHN REAR	Solihull, Olympus Photographic, marketing/sales
**JOHN STEVENS	Hazlemere, Sports goods retail, tennis fanatic
**REG STONE	Longtown, Heref. Financial consultant, rtd
**REG TAPPING	Holmer Gn, Marketing, rugby/beer consult't, rtd
**JOHN TARRANT	Southgate, London, BSc Maths, teaching
JOHN TOURNIER	No trace, not known IEE, (prov 48, Flackwell H)
++BRIAN WALKER	died, MSc Maths, Sperrys, teaching, keen cricketer
**DICK WHEELBAND	Canada, Aborist; hospital haematologist, semi rtd
MIKE WISE	USA, Washington, living there in 1973, tracing
++DEREK WHEELER	Died Holmer Green 1990 ---
**RON WYNANDS	P Risboro', Building Research Est, Dept Env rtd

(33) ** = contacted, ++ = died, # = have written

ANDREWS. S T H (1972-80) Simon has just finished a year at The Royal Military College of Science in Wiltshire where he was doing technical training in all current and potential military technology. He left at the end of 1993 and is now attending the Army Command and Staff Course at Camberley, Surrey for the remainder of 1994. He is expecting his second child in April 94, but is finding time to get in some offshore sailing and attain RYA qualifications to boot!

BARRETT. K R (1962-69) When the Hon. Sec. started playing RGS staff football, 26 seasons ago, Keith was the leading footballer among the boys. Indeed, Keith can claim to have founded the RGS Soccer Club and he ranks as one of the finest achievements of his life the securing of the use of a noticeboard in the main corridor for the purpose of advertising inter-form matches and games against The Staff. Keith played 505 times for the now defunct Hughenden Rangers before becoming a referee. However, when he moved to the Midlands he resurrected his playing career, eventually taking over the running of the Central Warwickshire Over 35's Football League. He has also researched veterans' football throughout the country and he had an article published in the FA News Annual last year. His son Neil is an Associate Schoolboy with Aston Villa.

BARRETT. P R (1966-73) is now working in Bournemouth. Whilst renewing his passport recently in Newport he met BARTON. C M J (1966-71) at St Woolos Cathedral Church where he continues to be organist and choir master. They had not met for over 15 years when

Christopher had been organ scholar at Worcester College, Oxford and he had invited Paul to play trumpet in a Haydn Mass. Paul had also seen GAY. S (1967-74) perform in two lunchtime recitals at Poole Arts Centre. They reminisced about the last time they had shared a platform, with David Lowe, for a Geoffrey Holmes presentation of Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* nearly 20 years ago.

BOWELL. K C (1948-54) runs a private investment company for a wealthy New Zealand family and he is the New Zealand representative on the board of Metal Manufacturers Ltd, an Australian public company, majority owned by BICC plc of the UK. He keeps in regular contact with GRIFFITHS. D J (1947-54) who is a senior executive with Union Carbide in Houston, Texas. Their families try to meet somewhere in the world every two or three years or so.

BRITTON. G R (1978-84) now lives in New York and works for American Express. He has spoken recently to TOPPING, N (1978-84) who also will be working in Park City, Utah, USA. KNOX. A (1978-84) has been in touch and is currently working in France.

BROOKS. J E (1947-53) retires 12/12/94 after 41 years with Barclays Bank – latterly Manager at Marlow for 9 years during which time several RGS students have “shadowed his job” – none followed his footsteps!

COPPING. D (1979-85) David, now married to Karen, a physiotherapist, qualified from St Mary's Hospital 1991. After house jobs he spent a year abroad, working in Sydney for six months. He is now living in Reading and has been accepted for the GP Vocational Training Scheme. He very much enjoyed being an usher for HILL. J M (1979-85) July '93 in Belfast.

CUNNINGHAM. M (1984-89) Matthew has now moved from Charleston Southern to North Georgia College where he is majoring in Business Studies and playing for the Basketball Team. In the summer of 1993 Matthew gained his full England Basketball Cap playing in the European Championship qualifying rounds.

DARVILLE. J M (1960-67) is still a lecturer at the University of Bristol, trying to find the time (and the funds) to pursue research into the molecular epidemiology of virus infections as well as teach and assist with the diagnostic virology service at Bristol Public Health Laboratory. He is in touch with COLLEY. J P (1960-67), COLLEY. P M (1960-68) and HERON. R L (1960-67). He has news of two former staff members: STRICKLAND. R M (1963-66) has retired from teaching at a Bristol school and is living near Thornbury; WEEKS. J (late 1960s) recently retired as head of Gordano School near Bristol and is now acting as an adviser to governors of schools in Avon. He is a governor and Chairman of the PTA at Marlwood School, which is reviving its Old Pupils' Association; if anyone knows of former pupils of Thornbury Grammar School (to 1972) or Marlwood School (which TGS then became) he would be pleased to hear about them.

FOSTER. M (1971-78) was promoted to Associate Partner in Anderson Consulting in 1992. He has moved to the country and is now throwing himself into village life in Peaslake, Surrey. He and his wife Sandy have enjoyed adventurous holidays in Sri Lanka and Costa Rica over the past year.

FREDERICKS. R J (1938-45) ceased practising as a solicitor in 1990 and is enjoying retirement at his home in Surrey with his wife Delia after commuting daily to London for over 30 years.

FRY. P D (1941-48) Congratulations to Peter, MP for Wellingborough, who was knighted in the New Year's Honours List.

GAMESTER. S B (1962-69) Stephen is now Senior Boarding Master at the RGS, living in School House. He plays regularly for the High Wycombe Rugby Club veterans' side and at six week's notice he ran in this year's London Marathon. “Never again” was his immediate post-race comment! He dead heated for 20,781st place with a Mr R. Giles – a splendid achievement – what would he do on a proper preparation?

GILLINGHAM. M (1976-82) Martin moved to South Africa in October 1992 where he now works as a journalist. He is the Athletics and Olympic correspondent for the South African *Sunday Times* in Johannesburg. He is also a TV commentator and sports presenter for a local radio station in Johannesburg. He is getting married in August to a colleague at Radio 702 – Janet White.

GRAFTON. P R (1960-68) Paul left British Airways after completing his MBA at Lancaster University and is now an independent management consultant specialising in Customer Service. He married Denise in 1989 and now lives in Binfield Heath, near Henley, with Sophie (3) and Simon (1).

GRAPES. T (1983-89) Tim graduated from Leicester University in July 1993 with a First Class degree in Applied Ecology. He is currently studying for an MSc in Hydrogeology at the University of East Anglia in Norwich.

GREGGOR. I J (1981-87) Having gained a degree in Geography at Sheffield University, he obtained a place on the National Health Service's General Management Training Scheme. After two years, based mainly at Northampton General Hospital in a number of different management roles, he took a ‘career break’ of six months to travel in South East Asia and India. Having just returned he is now working as a Business Analyst for BUPA in the City of London. He is in regular contact with WALSH. R (1981-87) who now provides the finest ales and food in the county at his public house “The Friend at Hand” on West Wycombe Road. Other OWs who have aided Richard in reducing his stock include JACKSON. J (1980-86) and HARPER. R (1981-87). At the last two Wembley appearances of Wycombe Wanderers F.C. Ian has also seen SINGLETON. T (1981-87) and GOSS. A (1981-87) who is pursuing his legal career in the Bucks area.

HACKETT. P (1965-66) Phil on leaving the RGS joined the Metropolitan Police as a temporary measure while he decided what to do with his life. Twenty years later he was retired with various injuries caused by several assaults. He then worked in the fitted furniture industry before setting up his own company, Langbourne Partners Ltd. Quite by chance he found himself working with Dennis Fowler who put him in touch with John Laurie and Michael Beatty.

HARRIS. O E (1933-38) was honoured to be presented to HM The Queen at a small luncheon party at Reading University where he is a member of Court and Council.



Year 10 - P. Harris

HAZELTON. A R (1976-81) After 8 years' service as Senior Buyer at Safeway, he has now taken the plunge and opened a fine food shop in Thame called "A Taste of Italy". In 1988 he married Nicola and has three wonderful children, Vanessa, Tom and Lily. He is still playing basketball with Simon Lane (1976-81) who is a financial controller at Mars UK. He also sees from time to time CARPENTER. P (1974-80) who is a currency dealer in the City and ADEY. J (1975-81) who is a self-employed entomologist!!

HICKMAN. H C (1939-46) Retired from full time employment at the end of last year but still does some consultancy work (for a modest fee) on the design of acoustic structures. When the better weather arrives will get to grips with his garden which has got neglected in recent years. Rhododendrons and Azaleas are the main attraction - lawns are out. He has set up a word processor and started to write memoirs so look out if you were at school during the war - you may be mentioned in Chapter 5 or 6. He continues to take an active role in the Institute of Management as Membership Secretary of the large Guildford branch.

HOLE. A E F (1925-30) Franklin has moved from Cornwall to Cambridgeshire to be near his daughter. It must be a popular retirement area as he has already met three ex-employees of The Davenport Vernon Group and a neighbour from Chinnor whom he knew well whilst residing at Bledlow Ridge.

HOPWOOD. M J (1983-89) joined British Rail at Reading after 'A' levels at RGS, then taking 3 years' unpaid leave to study at the University of Essex (1990-93).

He returned to BR full-time in June 1993 and is now Duty Manager at Slough station, responsible for twelve stations in the area. He retains his interest in railways and travels extensively to pursue this.

HUGHES. C (1957-64) Clifton is still working in machine intelligence at Logica in Cambridge. He recently met Steve Jenner who is playing the trumpet and flugel horn in CATS.

JENNINGS. R H J (1931-37) plays bowls for Worthing Pavilion Bowling Club and they have an annual fixture with Gerrards Cross. Playing opposite to him as number three in a fours match was an Old Boy named Anderson, aged 80, who lives in Knotty Green. Whilst at school Ron lived at 3 Green Road and his father was gardener to Mr Arnison and Mr Tucker.

JONES. J A (1982-88) sends news of BESFORD. S P (1982-88), GREGSON. J S (1983-88) and HAMMOND. D J (1982-88), with whom he remains in touch. Steve completed his degree at Durham in 1992 and now works for British Airways at Heathrow. He was married last year to Jo, whom he met at University. John graduated at Cambridge in 1992 and joined Rolls-Royce Aerospace Group, after three months working in the Philippines. Dave is in his final year of medical training at Leeds, after which he will become a junior houseman at a hospital in Northallerton.

JORDAN. R W (1974-80) is presently the Assistant Professor of Earth Sciences at Yamagata University, located in the mountains of northern Honshu Island, Japan. The post involves minimal teaching, with plenty of time and good facilities for research. Ric is continuing his studies of marine phytoplankton and their importance in understanding the Earth's past climate. Incidentally, this is the first time a British scientist has been offered a tenured post in a Japanese university, and the first foreign appointment at this university, so the administrators are kept rather busy here rewriting the regulations.

JOUHAR. K (1969-76) Kelvin works for Morgan Stanley, an American Investment Bank, trading currency options in Canary Wharf. He lives in Seer Green.

KEELING. S (1984-90) Simon has been awarded College full colours for fencing at UCL. He is looking forward to graduating this year. He is currently training with the British Sabre team at Salle Fröhlich, London and hopes to do well in the British Sabre Championships later this year.

KNOWLES. T C T (1920-26) Tommy has donated one of the first school ties in the present school colours to the school's archive collection. He has been awarded the Royal British Legion Gold Badge.

KNOX. A J (1958-64) has been Managing Director of Macrovision UK since 1987, a company active in video copyright protection. He has recently been given responsibility for the parent company's new Cineguard Division, which is developing electronic cinemas in Poland and other Eastern Bloc countries.

MADLIN. R P (1968-75) Robert spent 1993 inventing the 40-hour day (not on a regular basis) in order to conclude the GATT negotiations, and is spending all too

ANNUAL DINNER 1995

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The Dinner will be held on

Saturday 1st April

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much of 1994 ratifying the results. The current European Commission retires at the end of the year, and the future, whether in Brussels or London, will only become clearer in the autumn.

McNAUGHT. B D (1974-81) Bruce qualified as a chartered Accountant under articles with Safferg Champness in the City of London before joining their Guernsey office. There he specialised in Offshore Trust and Company administration but later moved to Bank of Butterfield as the Financial Controller. He moved back into practice last year and now works for KPMG Peat Marwick still in Guernsey. Bruce is married with three children all under 4 years!

MORGAN. N J (1967-74) Nick is a Project Manager for Construction English and Overseas Properties plc.

MURRAY. J W (1977-79) is currently working as a Director of Henderson Pension Fund Management, running several UK equity portfolios.

PARKER. S J (1969-76) After only 18 months in Belgium, Steven is on the move again. He has been promoted to Vice President Strategic Management for Holiday Inn's Asia Pacific Division. Once a globe-trotter... always a globe-trotter – this is his family's 10th move in the last 5 years. His two daughters aged nine and five were both born in Hong Kong and are looking forward to going back "home".

PARKINSON. D W (1953-59) is enjoying developing the confectionery market in Europe and the Baltics since joining Cadbury International at Bournville in 1990. He and his family moved near to Stratford-upon-Avon in the same year. His son, **PARKINSON. D J G** (1983-89) has just graduated from Durham University, after spending 1992-93 teaching English in Paris, and hopes to move into Public Relations. His brother, **PARKINSON. M D** (1985-90) completed his A-Level studies at King Edward VI's School, Stratford-upon-Avon. Having discovered a latent passion for farming, he has just completed his first year at Harper Adams Agricultural College and will eventually graduate in Rural Land Management.

PEAZEY. B C (1941-49) was re-elected to Bucks County Council in May 1993, and appointed Vice-Chairman of the Education Committee (and several other jobs). Retirement is still busier than full-time work.

PETTITT. K (1968-75) Keith is currently living in

North Yorkshire in a village called Bishop Monkton near Harrogate. He has just completed 10 years as a Salesman/Business Associate Manager with IBM (UK) Ltd. He has also been married happily for 10 years to Jane and has two children, Mark (5) and Holly (2). He is Secretary to the village cricket club and is actively included in amateur dramatics. He would particularly like to be remembered to any of the 'A' stream, i.e. (2A, 3A, 4A, 5A) which started in September 1969.

SLADE. A J (1978-84) After completing his PhD at Southampton in 1988, Andrew worked at N.I.B.S.A.C. at South Mimms and is now with Roche in Welwyn Garden City. He married Judith, a teacher, in 1992. He sees **DENMARK. C** (1978-84) from time to time.

SMITH. G (1961-68) Graham returned to London in 1992 after two years running the Brussels office of his firm, Clifford Chance, a large City law firm. He is occasionally in touch with K. Elias, who lives in Huntingdon, W. Harry, who works as a personnel officer in Dubai, and D. Mills, who is still designing landscapes for Nottingham County Council.

STEVENS. D W (1933-40) It was good to see Denis at this year's Annual Dinner. After nineteen years in Santa Barbara, California, he has returned to England and is at Morden College, Blackheath. He is busy working on a revision of his 1980 edition of *The Letters of Claudio Monteverdi*, and is revising and augmenting his edition of Monteverdi's *Vespers* for Novello and Co.

PREFECTS' MEETINGS

1930 - 33

The minutes of these meetings have been published in booklet form.

Anyone wishing a copy can acquire one from
Mr J. Roebuck at the school.
Price: £1 – including postage

SWINHOE-STANDEN. R A P (1975-81) is still serving at HQ British Forces Cyprus, and heading for another summer here! The autumn will find him in Northern Ireland, with a course to begin in January 1995. Brother **SWINHOE-STANDEN. C D S** (1971-78) and Virginia have just produced their third, a son, Timothy.

THOMSON. K (1970-77) Keith is married to Alison with one daughter and he is living in the Cotswolds, working in Cheltenham, where he is responsible for manufacturing at Ultra Electronics. (The company was part of a management buy-in from T I/Dowty in late 1993.) He completed an MBA in 1990. He also sends news of **THOMSON. IAN** (1972-80) who is married with a son and working mainly in the North Sea as a Hydrographic Surveyor.

TOMES. I M (1951-58) Ian, having spent many of the last 12 years as a British Army Adviser in Africa (Nigeria 1982-85, Ghana 1987-90 and Zimbabwe 1991-93), is now stationed back in England where he is the Army Public Relations Officer for the 1993 Royal Tournament. He retires in January 1995 and plans to then move to the West Country. His eldest son, Sacha, has followed him into the Army and is now a Lt in the Household Cavalry.

TUBBS. I H (1936-42) having been Warden of the local almshouses for a year has retired to concentrate on his duties as Verger of St Mary's Nantwich. Any news of ex 'Risborough line' old boys?

Bow Ties

*Either tied or untied, in the School Colours,
can be obtained from:*

Mrs S. Priestley – 0494 862862

WALTER. J F (1923-27) Had a pleasant surprise early this year when he received a letter from a contemporary OW with whom he had been out of contact for many years. It was from one Les. Harris living in Thame. He is one of only two founder members of the original OW's Rugger Club still around, the other being J.F. himself. J.F. and his wife Mollie (née King) continue to enjoy living in North Yorkshire which is scenically superb and steeped in history. He hopes to reach July by which time he will be 84, but admits he is beginning to feel his age. They still walk regularly on the Moors or in the Dales, but the walks do take longer these days. Their village still has the table across which it is reputed the English paid a ransom to the Scots to hand over Charles I!

WARBURG. M W (1939-46) wrote to congratulate The President of the Club on his appointment as an OBE in the 1993 Birthday Honours List. He is now Chief Executive of a small publicly quoted company in the City, nearing retirement.

WHITE. D B (1968-75) Danny is marketing manager of Warner Jenkinson Europe, makers of regulated colours, i.e. colours for food, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics etc. He is based in King's Lynn.

WILLIAMS. S C (1958-65) After 21 years in industry, ending up as Computer Services Director at the largest consumer magazine publisher in the country, Steve returned to studying and completed 2 years' theological training in Oxford before being ordained into the Church of England at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford by Richard Harries, the Bishop of Oxford, in July 1993. Steve is now serving his curacy at St Birinus, Booker, where he has various current and former RGS pupils among his congregation.

WILLIAMS. T C (1947-52) Having retired in April 1993 as deputy Group Treasurer of P & O, reflected on a busy and successful school and business career. Chess captain, 1st team X-country and senior cadet in the CCF

at RGS, short service commission in the infantry, 13 years' banking in West Africa, and 24 years in corporate treasury in UK. Now spending time travelling and pursuing various hobbies and pursuits whilst money and health permit. (Home is within jogging distance of school!)

WOOD. R (1971-77) is Senior Manager Logistics of Sony Music based in Aylesbury and London. He is Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of The Wendover Darts League, plays squash and runs half marathons.

The Old Wycombiensian Lodge

The Lodge continues to provide the only organised association of Old Boys of The School other than the Old Wycombiensian Club.

Masonically it has been a year of contrasting fortunes ranging from the loss of a well loved and distinguished member to the appointment of another to very high rank.

The sudden death of our Immediate Past Master – W. BRO. A.E. (DICKY) FLEET – was indeed a great loss. He was an enthusiastic and very able Freemason which he demonstrated in many ways – none more than by his many years of service as Almoner, an office which he filled with great sincerity and understanding.

Whilst not only the Lodge members, but many others, were saddened by the death of W. BRO. Fleet, there is a genuine feeling of great pleasure throughout the Province of Buckinghamshire in general and our Lodge in particular over the appointment of our current Worshipful Master, W. BRO. DON VARNEY, to the office of Assistant Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire – a very high and amply justified honour. Freemasons throughout the Province look forward to many years of active participation and guidance from him.

The Worshipful Master for 1994/95 will be W. BRO. JOHN MILLBOURN, the Senior Warden W. BRO. W. SHACKELL, the Junior Warden BRO. C. SWINHOLE-STANDEN.

Several members have joined the Lodge recently and the Secretary P.A. LANGSTON, 20 William Smith Close, Little Woolstone, Milton Keynes, MK15 0AW will be pleased to provide any information required regarding membership.

THE
WYCOMBIENSIAN

