



'THE COURT'

Shiplake College 1990'91

Avete

THIRD FORM

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Anderson, Nicholas James | E | Crosfields |
| Andrews, Max Irving Dundas | B | Millbrook House |
| Archdale, Edward Patrick Grattan | E | Millbrook House |
| August, Piers William | S | Cheltenham Junior |
| Bagnall, James Alexander | S | St.Andrews |
| Baker, Thomas Mark | B | Tockington Manor |
| Barnes, Benjamin Stuart | B | Ashfold |
| Barrett, Christopher Edward | W | St.Andrews, Buckhold |
| Bartlett, Charles Edward | B | King's Bruton Junior |
| Bell, Hugo Francis | E | Hampton Manor |
| Bevin, Matthew Richard | E | Rose Hill |
| Bruce, Jamie Douglas | S | Haileybury Junior |
| Carver, George William | S | Cothill House |
| Castle, James Michael Irwin | W | Felsted Prep |
| Charleson, Luke Mark | E | Kenton School, Nairobi |
| Chatwin, Mark Thomas Alec | W | Millbrook House |
| Constable, James Oliver Ian | E | Long Close |
| Cordingley, Adam Benedict | O | Piggot School |
| Cornwel-Smith, Mark | W | York House |
| Creed-Miles, Toby Oliver | W | St.Neot's |
| Cundell, Hugo Richard | B | Pangbourne Junior |
| Dobbin, Daniel Simon | O | Oratory Prep |
| Emmett, Neill Douglas | O | Crosfields |
| Emmett, Peter Robert | E | Hampden Manor |
| Eustace, Gavin David | W | Wellesley House |
| Fairweather, Edward Charles | W | Wellesley House |
| Fieldhouse, Jonathan Mark | B | Aysgarth |
| George, James Richard | O | Davenies |
| Gibson, Mark | S | Dorset House |
| Hadfield, Adrian Paul | S | Foreign |
| Hambrook, Alexander Charles | E | St.Edmunds |
| Harding, Timothy John | S | Pilgrim's |
| Harrison, Dhani | O | Dolphin |
| Henderson, James Edward | W | Highfield |
| Hewer, Peter Eric | E | King's House |
| Homer, Michael John | S | Hampden Manor |
| Howman, James Andrew | O | Oratory Prep |
| Ingram, Edward Maundrel | B | Moulsford |
| Jewels, Charles Ewan Moncrieff | B | Millbrook House |
| Jones, Richard Michael | S | St.Martin's |
| Kendon, Frazer Alastair John | B | Brentwood |
| King, Edward Oliver Marshall | S | Crosfields |
| King, Matthew | E | Westbrook Hay |
| King, Stephen | E | Westbrook Hay |
| Kurji, Hussein | W | St.Martin's |
| Lauder, James Rory McMillan | W | St.Edmunds |
| Lawford, Daniel David | B | Papplewick |
| Llewellyn, Robin Oisin | O | Gillott's |
| Lloyd, David James | O | Dolphin |
| Marshall Jones, Gareth Peter | O | St. Piran's |
| Mason, Harry Richard Guy | E | Taverham Hall |
| McLaughlan, Sam Philip | B | Twyford, Winchester |
| Midwood, James David | W | Ludgrove |
| Moore, Paul John | O | Crosfields |
| Newbury, Samuel William | E | Thorpe Hall |
| Orgee, Jody Roger | S | Haileybury Junior |
| O'Connell, Daniel John | O | Gillott's |
| Paice, James Francis Anderson | O | Dolphin |
| Palmer, Dominic | B | Millbrook House |
| Piper, Mark James | W | Papplewick |
| Pratt, James William | S | Old Malthouse |
| Reed, Jon Charles | O | Crosfields |
| Rowley-Conwy, Christopher Geoffrey Hugh | S | Packwood Haugh |
| Saunders, James Edward Appleby | O | Hamilton County C.S. |
| Scarlett, Alastair William Campbell | W | Highfield |
| Sinclair, Matthew Scott | O | Oratory Prep |
| Smith, Marcus David Ashley | W | York House |
| Surtees, Robert Andrew David | O | maintained |
| Tasker, Anthony Paul Beaumont | W | Wycliffe College Junior |
| Taylor, Christopher Robert | S | The Croft |

From the Horse's mouth . . .

'A SUPER CONFIDENCE BUILDING ESTABLISHMENT.'

This description of the College was not written by anyone at or connected with Shiplake. It appeared in The Observer as part of a survey of good independent schools and, as far as I know, no-one from the Good Schools Guide or any other publication has visited Shiplake since I have been here. One can only conclude that this is the reputation that we have earned in those circles where such magazines and articles are written and read.

I was, of course, delighted to see it, and I believe it is a very true description of what we do best. I hear frequently from parents of the remarkable transformation that has occurred during their son's time at Shiplake. I am then asked by prospective parents how this comes about and I find there is no simple answer, because so many factors combine to make a really good school. Indeed, those of us who work here know that we have our fair share of problems and disappointments. Boys let us and themselves down, much as they do elsewhere, and yet there remains something very special about Shiplake which I certainly recognise and which boys, staff and parents also feel. Boys who show prospective parents around the college do a wonderful job. Visitors are always delighted at the obvious pride with

which buildings and facilities are shown off, and with their guide's comments on the general happiness and purposeful nature of his life here.

The magic of Shiplake is a product of our history. It has been a struggle all along to keep our heads above water - everyone, from the Governors and the Headmaster down to the most junior boy, has been involved in the process of building the College and developing our reputation. This is also the result of the ethos of the school being based on care and consideration for those who have encountered difficulties with learning before coming to Shiplake. It is a vital part of our brief to provide such people with confidence and encouragement.

Shiplake boys are also fiercely proud and determined on the sports fields and on the river, and this has contributed to our competitiveness with older, more established and larger neighbours. Finally, of course, all schools have a unique mixture of staff, clientele and position, and there is something unique about the combination of our beautiful location, our mixture of buildings, new and old, and our similarly varied and talented staff, some sporting, some academic, but above all loyal and hardworking. All these, and the relative smallness of our site itself, combine to give the place a real sense of community. Everyone, boys and staff, have their own

individual contribution to make, and have done so throughout our brief thirty year history.

We build confidence in our pupils because we are also confident in ourselves, and clear as to where we are going. Shiplake works from a position of simple and straightforward moral values, sensitively explained and interpreted. There is nothing equivocal about our rules and regulations, and it is from this secure base that we continue to move forward.

N.V. Bevan
October, 1991



Tebworth, James Howard
Townsend, Oliver Richard D'Ewes
Tvedt, Christopher Thomas
Vatanasombat, Ativat
Vereker, Richard Neville Forester
Wedge, Simon David
Williams, Benedict Spencer
Woodward, Rolf Benjamin
Wright, Nicholas William
Wrisdale, Timothy Michael
York, James Alexander
Young, Paul James

B
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Millbrook
Junior School Cheltenham
Grenville College
Millbrook House
Beaudesert Park
York House
The Dragon
Davenies
Northaw
Witham Hall
Windlesham House
Hampden Manor

FOURTH FORM

Fitchett, James Alexander
Jefferies, Michael Joseph
Koo, Siu Kong
Llewellyn, Owain
Velling, Jesper Revsback
Wright, Stephen James

O
S
S
O
W
W

Runnymede Col. Madrid
Desborough
Wah Yan College
Gillott's
European School, Culham
Reading Blue Coat

FIFTH FORM

Fitchett, Simon John
Oliver, Rupert Gordon
Sheppard, Andrew William

O
E
E

Runnymede Coll. Madrid
Canford
Anglo Amer. Sch. of France

SIXTH FORM

Jacobs, David John Antony
Martin, Stephen Peter
Stephenson, Matthew Cameron

O
S
S

Sir William Borlase
Lord Williams's, Thame
Kingham Hill

As I sit writing the editorial, it is apparent, with the building of the expanding Everett around me; the College is advancing greatly. The new Goodwin building has played a dynamic part in helping to expand academic horizons. Now, with Everett's dramatic extension, more space will be available not only for those of us in that house, but for a new administrative suite and another classroom.

The main function of the 'Court' magazine, as I see it, is to make an historic record of school life here at Shiplake College. With the help of my two assistants, I have tried to provide as inclusive a picture as possible of the year that has passed, so that whatever your connection with the College, and the nature of your interests, we can provide you with a whiff of the atmosphere that surrounds us.

This year, for the first time, the Court Magazine has become a project for my two sub-editors and I as part of our 'Media Studies' A-level. It has been beneficial for us to learn about the running of a magazine, and as well as helping us with our coursework, we hope we have given some pleasure to our readers, and have not left too much out!

Charles Stuart-King
September 1991



The Editor (with, he tells us, his sister).

Contents – at a glance

The Arts Pages 3–12

Adventures & Expeditions 13–15

Welcomes & Farewells 16–19

The Gossip Pages 20–21

Rugby Reports 22–24

Hockey & Tennis 25–27

Cricket 28–30

Rowing 32–38

Rowing for Charity

The US Tour 36



Shiplake College



Ross Neill



Edwin Wolff-Metternich

Music Society

The Christmas Term Concert was given in the Great Hall on Advent Sunday before a large and enthusiastic audience of parents and friends. The concert began with the first half of Haydn's Nelson Mass in which the soprano soloist was Gail Kingston. She was joined in the Benedictus by Mark Bradley and the choir, and support from the gallery by trumpets and timpani produced a bright and enthusiastic performance. This was followed by Parry's Blest Pair of Sirens which sounded well in the confines of the Great Hall, the trebles in particular, producing a strong and pleasant tone. The more informal second half included short works for brass and woodwind ensembles and orchestra and the programme included the usual items for audience participation which brought the evening to a happy conclusion.

THE CAROL SERVICE

Once again we were let down by the coach company, but despite the absence of Skipwith House - leaving rows of empty seats in the middle of the church - the singing by the congregation was loud and robust. The traditional lessons were read and the choir performed several lesser-known carols as well as some old favourites. The treble line in particular was confident and mainly accurate and although illness had struck down some key members of the choir, it acquitted itself well.

THE MUSIC COMPETITION

This year's competition was hit badly by a bout of illness which decimated Orchard House and severely affected others. As always happens on these occasions, nerves took their toll on several of the less experienced players. As a result, hardly one of the instrumental groups did themselves justice. There is still a marked tendency on the part of house captains to go for modern pop songs, although quite unsuitable for mass singing, and the inevitable breakdowns came as no surprise. Although their instrumental group came to grief somewhere around the middle, Skipwith's overall discipline and articulation saw them through to victory.

PASSIONTIDE CONCERT

The concert this term consisted of choral music by Parry, Mozart and Faure - the main work being Faure's Requiem. This was given in the delightful 13th century church at Swyncombe for an audience which easily filled the building and overflowed into the choir stalls. Despite difficulty with acoustics, the performances were well received and enjoyed. For this and other performances this year, we have been indebted to Colin Davis the organist of Shiplake Church for accompanying the choir. The following Tuesday saw the annual Music Society

Dinner which was well supported and concluded with games of a mainly musical nature which caused the evening to end rather later than had been planned. Again, the audience was delighted to be subjected to one of DJS's amusingly personal speeches!

MOZART EVENING

1991 being the bi-centenary of Mozart's death, the evening was devoted to some of his well-known compositions. The programme included several solo performances and we were very pleased to welcome Judith Smouha, who contributed two concert arias and joined with the choir in the singing of the motet Laudate Domine. The slow movement of the Clarinet Concerto was sensitively played by Mark Bradley whilst Joe Cochran was a confident soloist in the Andante for flute and strings. The evening ended with the Concerto for two pianos in Eb major, in which the soloists were Benjamin Middlemiss and Matthew Jones. The soloists had obviously worked hard and as they gained in confidence in the first movement, providing some very good moments. In the second and third movements Matthew Jones's place was taken by Stephen Hose.

The accompanists throughout the evening were Felicity Burrell and Stephen Hose.

Malcolm Woodcock



'Summer Spectacular'

There may have been some people who left this year's production of Macbeth wondering why it was produced in 18th century costume, and there may have been some - hopefully only a few - who left wondering why it was put on at all!

It was the custom in the 18th century to give performances of Shakespeare in contemporary dress, and on occasions even to change the ending. Although some liberties were taken with the text in the school production, the plot at least remained true to the play. If some saw a loose connection between Macbeth and the Duke of Cumberland and Malcolm to the Young Pretender of Jacobite legend, they would not have been far wrong, since a Jacobite influence had been suggested when deciding on this year's production.

There were certainly some weak spots but - in the opinion of the producer at least - other moments well compensated for these. Before mentioning these good moments or paying tribute to the characters on stage, one must remember those who so willingly took on the less glamorous but very essential tasks behind the scenes in lighting, sound, set-building and "crown control". The final battle, for many the highlight of the production, and which at times was impressively realistic, owed its success to the commanders in the field, and without the calm control of Eric Pollard and Chris and Helen Foster at the other end of a walkie-talkie, would have been quite impossible. Some things of course were not planned. The scene re-telling Duncan's murder and the coronation of Macbeth did not combine well with the live jazz accompaniment of a passing riverboat, whilst the vagaries of the wind, and the enthusiasm of its operator, caused the smoke machine to obscure the unfortunate witches on several occasions.

Duncan's commanding presence on stage provided a good lead during the early scenes, whilst Lady Macbeth and Macbeth produced, between them, some very powerful moments. It would be unfair to single out other individual performances, but Lady MacDuff's murder scene drew universal applause each night.

The weather had been very unsettled during the weeks of rehearsal, and tribute should be paid to the cast who endured so many cold and wet May and June evenings, but at least it was dry for the performances. It says a great deal for the pioneering spirit of the audience and cast alike that weather forecasts were ignored, and our many supporters came warmly dressed and responded with equally warm enthusiasm to the production.



A scene from the College Play

College Play

"Unman, Wittering and Zigo", a play by Giles Cooper, which was the major production of the Autumn Term, 1990, was originally written for radio, and, incidentally, had its premiere as a stage play at Lord William's Grammar School, Thame, about thirty years ago. Set in a boys' public school, with a cast largely composed of boys, it would seem to be the ideal vehicle. However, as a radio play it was written in numerous short scenes and the College's director, David Welsh, had the difficult task of transporting his audience from classroom to cramped living quarters, from local hostelry to headmaster's drawing room as the story unfolded. This was accomplished successfully by means of the revolving stage - in use at last! - and suitable sound effects.

The tale of an inexperienced, young schoolmaster who discovers that his predecessor has been murdered by his class of public schoolboys, and who becomes himself a victim of their manipulation, must have disturbed some of the parents, so convincingly did the boys grow into their roles. One remembers

with some disquiet the menace behind the words of Cuthbur, Cloisternmouth, Lipstrob and Terhew, and the total amorality of their behaviour.

As the young master and his wife, John Ostroumoff and Laura Smail gave relaxed and convincing performances, which provided a valuable backbone to the play. They were ably supported by members of staff in some of the minor roles.

Wardrobe, lighting and make-up teams are to be commended for their share in the success of this most worthwhile production.

Liz Cooke and Marjorie White.

Junior Play

"Hans, the Witch and the Gobbin," a play written by Alan Cullen, was performed by Shiplake College Junior Drama Club in the Tithe Barn during March 1991. The play had all the characters of a pantomime: a witch, a king, princess, romantic hero, and some very strange beings indeed. Because the script was witty and lively, it could be enjoyed by people of all ages. A

lot of laughs came when boys appeared in women's parts. Stewart Quigley made a very good mad water diviner; Chris McLelland was a most convincing cruel Queen of the forest, and Richard Frank an exotic swineherd striving to control his "magic" pigs. Some of the parts were doubled to give more people a chance to act - Tom Boyle and Fahad Helabi each gave good performances as Daisy, the witch, who stole memories.

As absolutely useless doctors to the princess, Edward Froggatt, Ben Sherlock, Ed Hodge and I had some of the best lines, and a lot of fun when the witch stole our memories. We gave an extra morning performance for the Shiplake Primary School, and I think the small girls in the audience wished that they could be on stage taking the part of the princess that Emily Jacklin played so well.

No show can be presented without much hard work behind the scenes, and the production was lucky to have the support of many boys and dedicated members of staff.

Oliver Browning

Nellie's Nightlights

The Kenton Drama Festival entry for 1991 was a short Victorian comedy written by Harry Austen. Forty-two minutes of light relief for the adjudicator who had to sit through several evenings of fairly heavy, intense drama during the festival. The cast worked well as a team and coped admirably with the pressures and tensions created by the competitive atmosphere on an "away" stage. Both John Ostroumoff and John Everett were given a special mention as nominees for the Best Actor award. The cast in general were praised for their acting abilities, interpretations and costumes. George Squire and Edward Aghion had the difficult task of playing the parts of women, and hats off to them both for even attempting it. Laura Smail portrayed a delightful Nellie; slightly innocent but oh so willing to taste the delights of life offered to her by her elderly, benevolent employer, admirably played by George Neale and later by the dashing young Mr. Russell Spurgeon. For someone who had never trodden the boards before, Luke Collings certainly made up for lost time in this small role.

Ivan Jacklin

THIRD FORM VISIT TO THE TATE GALLERIES

From outside, the Tate Gallery is a splendid affair, but few people seem to pause at the entrance underneath the great pillars, to look across the river to the part of London where the great Christopher Marlowe, yea even Shakespeare, used to hang out. I suppose one can take anywhere in London and get sentimental about it; the general rush does tend to take you elsewhere; in this case though, we went inside.

Inside too, the place is impressive, if a little stark. The first cavernous hall contains a few smashed up cars, a smashed up DIY fireplace, and a cattle grid, among other such objects. I hope the reader will forgive me for glossing over these sculptures, but I find it hard to take contemporary art seriously. However, the vast halls leading off do contain more graspable material; even though the walls are painted a most ghastly cherry colour, doubtless the gallery forgot to employ the team of psychologists/quacks to advise them on the correct colour to inspire aesthetic appreciation.

Looking at the types is just as interesting as the pictures; the hells angels who are there to be noticed, the intellectuals who are there to maintain their image, the ex-sports commentators who are there to check out the 'vibrations,' and the tourists who are there to tick the Tate off their lists. In fact, we seemed to be the only ones with a true mission. There are some worksheets to be filled in, and if you're not lost at 12.30 there is a packed lunch. After that there was a gallery tour in which the guide attempted to give us a taste of the whole

spectrum of fine art (successfully in our case). But then we were turned loose for an hour; a chance to sort out what you really like in the gallery and how much you cannot afford.

Unfortunately the Turners are off the wall and a glimpse through closed doors reveals part of the modern section, closed for dusting. As you cross the Pre-Raphaelite section for the sixth time, trying to reach the Max Ernst exhibition on time, you begin to wonder what it is like when downstairs is open too. What's more, one does not want to get between a viewer and a picture, and when it happens six times, that's embarrassing. Furthermore, as a viewer, one is constantly under view from the wardens, which feels uncomfortable, so I did not get much viewing done.

It seems strange to me, when confronted by a picture, to gork at it, but there is not much else one can do, within reason. I have tried particularly with the big ones, to "walk through them" but I feel a bit like a camera shutter, getting in people's way. Alternatively, if you find a room where the warden is not buring your back; the capacity to appreciate, surfaces and your hour is happily spent there.

However, it is time for a token nip round the shop to get some postcards. But again, people nudge and crowd around the racks and the best tactic is to buy what you can reach and swop them on the bus (nudes have highest swopping potential). Once on the bus, the self conscious awkwardness dispels and I have another experience under my belt. The pictures are always there, in my mind, to be appreciated at my own leisure.

Seymour Jacklin.



Mark Wilson



In the New Art Department

The Art and Design Department had a busy time with the move to new facilities in what was previously the maths block.

We now have much more space, which has become very necessary, particularly as interest grows in the department and numbers increase.

As usual the 3rd form outing took place at the Tate Gallery, followed immediately by our first art exhibition in the new premises from 5th—9th March.

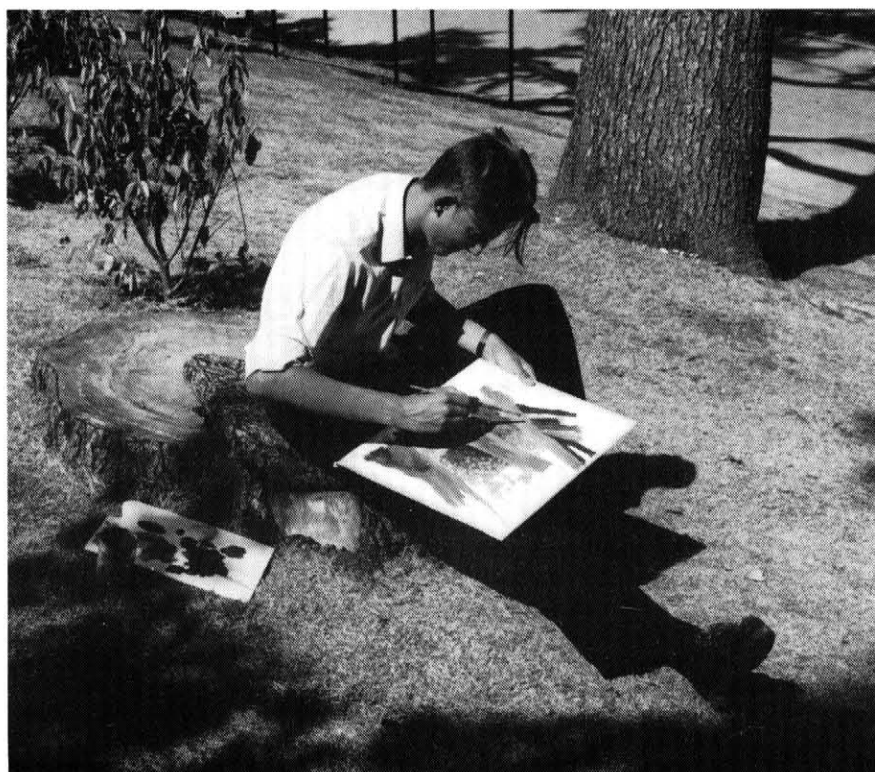
The next exhibition was the GCSE exhibition from 3rd June.

Sadly for the Art Department Miss Duhig, who had built up a very keen ceramics department in the two years she was at Shiplake, decided to move on to teach ceramics at Radley. Her marriage to a member of the CDT Department at Radley no doubt influenced her decision.

We will all miss her very much and wish her well with her marriage and with her future career at Radley.

Next year Miss Sheard will be taking up the post to teach ceramics and carry on the high standards already set. We look forward to seeing her next term. We hope she enjoys her time here.

James Johnson



Poetry from the Fourth Form . . .

The Eleventh Hour

Come here my little children,
I can give you whatever you
desire.
I won't touch you,
Or hurt you.
Trust me.
Trust me.
Don't be scared of my pale,
wrinkly face,
Or my matted, craggy hair.
My penetrating eyes cannot
harm you,
Trust me.
Trust me.
Why are you scared, you idle
creatures?
Why do you not trust me?
For hell shall open its gaping
mouth
Before me,
And shall take away these icy,
cold statues that stand
worthlessly before me.
Take them away.
And be gone for ever.

James Mellor

Mirador

Trickles of water,
Ice water
Run down sagging rocks,
On rocks
Perfectly formed figures
Of ice and snow
With sharp points and brutal
edges
Dominate, dominate.
On the horizon
Mountain peaks washed in
purple
look high up into the sky,
Each one adding
To the saw shaped range.
Snow driven they stand
Bend and curve
A wild glint in its eye, it rules
The Mirador, the Mirador.

Piers Rake

Heroes
Who brave the blizzard
Unarmed,
Save with the warmth of their
Soul.
Heroes leaving,
Heroes returning.
Tell us.
Seymour Jacklin

Ect Boyle

Time longs
Here we have none

and primitive.

past

orange universe

sounds

land of purity

yellow

live

temperature and no wrongs?

on a pavement with

randomly

an ice cream cone.

29th October 1991

Tell us
What lies
Without the bowels of this tree?
Beyond the flicker of lantern
and cosy wooden walls?
Tell us
Are there heroes, like us
Out there in the howling wind?
Unlike the wrecked trees
Which
Lean
And
Fall
?

Koyotuma

For recognition

For here it is an ancient

A sound of purple streaks

Into a ricochet in an

of mystics.

Aztec people and Aztec

Living in this astonishing

With no strains ignorance.

How can a civilization of

Ideas and yellow houses

In a place of no

temperature and no wrongs?

Yes the people are crumbs

ice cream cones dropping

from a child's grasp.

Love is typical of

Splitting up

*We rowed by the old mill
All quiet and happy,
All we could think of was when
we were young,
I looked up at the sky,
And saw that the moon would
come out.
I looked into the water,
And saw that the fish would not
bite,
He shouted at me,
He did not love me,
He hated me,
For knowing things.
We sat back to back,
We did not speak,
But our thoughts,
Talked in the silence.
I was sick of it all.
All I could think of was him.
I shouted at him
And stormed off,
I rowed back.
Back past the mill.
Back past our history.
Back home.*

Bill Robson

The shedding of skies

*From the first day of light
They told you who you are
You live to their decisions
Ideals, ways, religion and
thoughts.
You grow in their shadow,
They channel your life
Like a new river,
Expecting of you, hoping
For you, but disappointment
Always shreds clear the best
Of times until the permanent
Tear is left to soak
In the memories of failure.
As you grew – you shed
Attitudes like the skin
Of a snake, living
Hating, being with, all
The feelings defined and strong.
You feel an urge of
Independence surge through
You, the company you
Seek outside the family
For something they can't
Ever give to you, as
The gap grows wider
A stone is unrolled
Before you, as parents
Pay in an unconstructive
extravagance.
Your life on the outside
Brings indecision on the
Inside like a decor with
Cracks letting in the ants
To complain and nag
At you for the rest of your
growing years as change
Widens the gap until
the ground falls out
From under you
To leave you alone
In a motionless solitude
To create for yourself
From the foundations that
Once fell from the
Soles of your feet.*

Ross Neil

The Unknown

*He was safe,
Behind his dirt-covered face.
How scared and tired,
He treads his lonely path.
Separated,
Alone,
He sits in a corner,
Of a foreign field,
France.
Delirious,
Unknowing,
Desperately he stumbles,
Trying to get home,
Avoiding THEM at all costs.
With five bullets remaining,
He stalks the countryside
With God as his saviour,
He follows his every stride.
Like vermin he scavenges,
No rations left,
Relying on theft,
At every opportunity.
THEY are advancing,
In his direction.
He can feel their presence,
He's in trouble,
No-one can help him.
No-one cares,
He's one of the many,
Forgotten.
A statistic on someone's wall,
He doesn't care.
He isn't in a foreign country.
He's in England.
Home and safe.
People care.*

Dave Cockrell

Media Studies

Over the past year, a group of volunteers from the fourth form to the upper sixth have been working towards a G.C.S.E. pass in this new and developing subject. Much of our work is practical, and students have been collaborating on the production of videos, audiotapes, animations, newspapers, posters—and even T-shirts! The ‘circulation war’ that grew up between our two rival newspapers, the more conservative ‘Viking’ and the outrageous ‘Two Sides,’ was both entertaining and quite virulent.

There is a critical and analytical side to Media Studies as well, and so powerful is the influence of the Media in all aspects of modern life that there is no doubt in my mind that this will be an important subject of the future.

We are grateful to ‘Team Video’ of Reading, and the Audio-Visual Department at Reading University, for their expertise and support. We would also thank the Headmaster, Bursar and the Ball Committee for their help in providing funds for technical equipment. Should any readers have surplus audio-visual equipment of any kind, such as 8mm. cameras, mixers, lighting, microphones, or even still photography equipment, we would be delighted to give them a good home and add them to our growing—but always under pressure—stock.

I am delighted to be able to report that our first set of examination results were generally very satisfactory indeed, and that a number of the ‘founder-members’ of the course are moving on this year to begin ‘A’ Level in Media, now as a timetabled course.

Max Tilney

Library

The present phase of the library development has been completed by the installation of new lighting, and the further development of the book-stock. Although there are still fewer books on the shelves than before our purge began, it is hoped that the material now provided is more accessible and up-to-date. There is also now a wide range of periodicals—from the solemn to the silly—available for perusal.

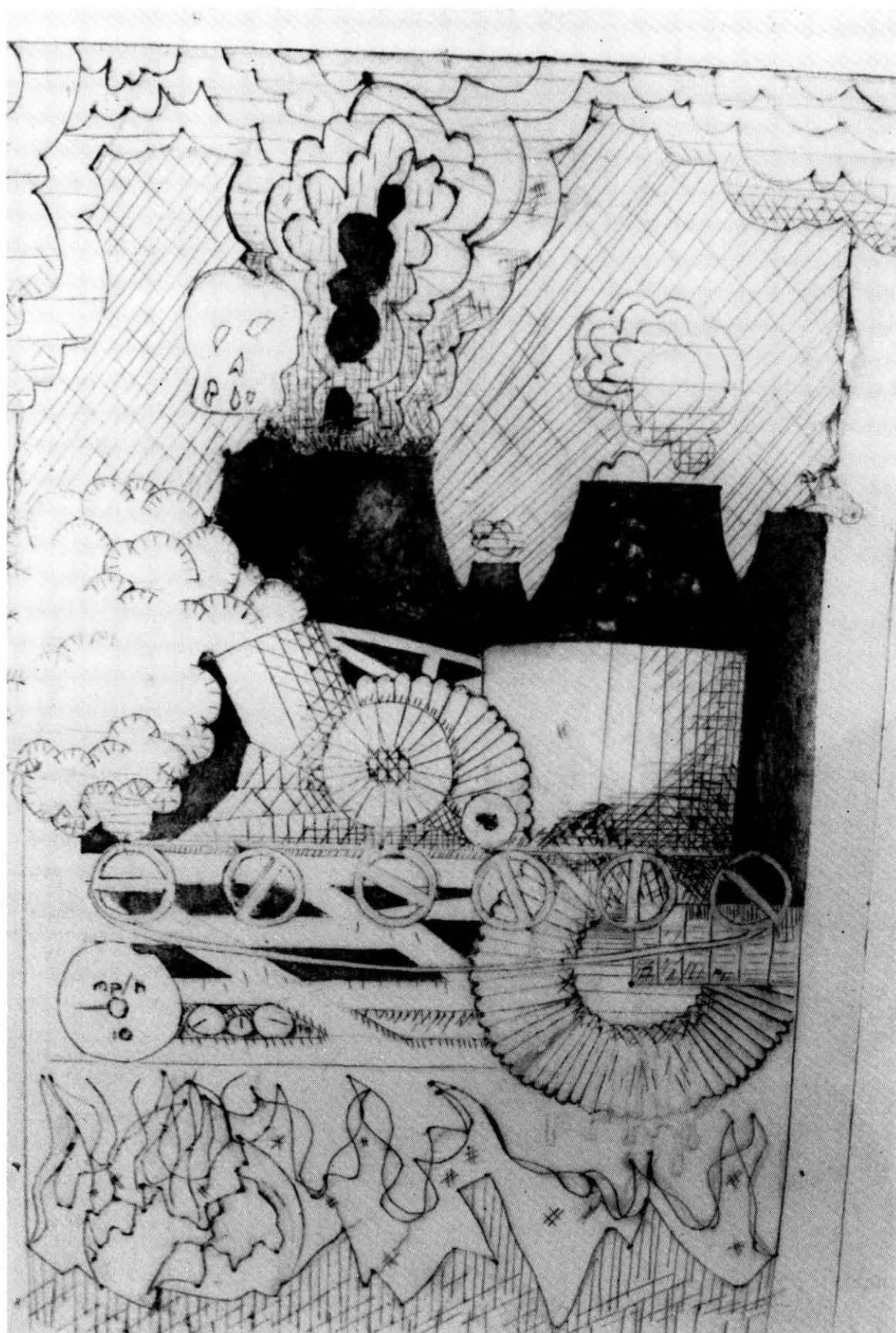
The fiction library has moved up to the English Department and it is our aim that the library should now become essentially a reading and reference room. The boys can help by taking an active and critical interest in the library, and also by putting ‘bums on seats.’

This will be my last report as librarian, as I pass the responsibility to my successor, Ian Lowry, with very best wishes for the future. I would like to thank Liz Cooke and Simon Brown for their help in refurbishment, Marjorie White for her constant creative interest, and above all Trillia Scoins for her lively ideas, and enthusiasm even for the uphill slog of re-cataloguing.

Mike Llewellyn



A media student realises his wildest dreams



James Smurthwaite



British Heart Foundation Sponsored Row

Early in the New Year a few members of the J16 VIII had an amazing idea.

“Why not row from Oxford to Putney in a four”? “Yes”, was the answer, and that’s how it began. With lots of help from Paul McCann and members of the BHF, we started to plan our five day trip down the Thames.

The start to our row didn’t go quite as well as planned. The transit lost its towing facility somewhere between Shiplake and Reading, so we had to return, then off again to Oxford University B.C. Before lunch we had covered ten miles with fifteen to go. We ended that day at Pangbourne School B.C.

The next stretch was Pangbourne to Maidenhead, with ten locks along the way. We passed through Shiplake and into Henley with a slight delay. On our way down the Regatta course we overtook Redgrave and Pinsent, Harvard and Yale, but Eton passed us. We made our goal, and met up with the director of Keystone Consultancy who had sponsored us for a large amount. We presented him with a well earned college tie, which he claimed to be proud of. On Wednesday, we passed through Marlow, and went for rather a long swim, which made the whole event more amusing. The crew went through Eton the next day, where Philip Carle ‘decided’ to cut off some of his thumb on the saxboard, so for once in his life the cox, M. Grace, took the orders and began to row.

The last lock on the Thames was the worst of all, because we had to pay a three pound fare into a pot which was lowered down by a fishing line! With an hour to go and seven miles to cover, we pulled our oars till we bled, finally reaching Putney at 12.00 exhausted.

The participants were: J. Chetwode, P. Carle, H. Furniss, B. Stanley, M. Grace, P. McCann, A. Riding, A. Walker.

James Chetwode.

Community Services

Last year was a very successful year for all the groups that took part. The boys, despite being a little hesitant at first towards the boys suffering from Downs’ Syndrome generally all took part to their full ability with the boys from Bishopswood Primary School.

Each week some boys went to Gillotts and others went to Bishopswood. The boys who went to Gillotts swam there and those who went to Bishopswood went into a Hydrotherapy unit which is a hot pool specially designed to ease stiff limbs.

I would like to thank Mr McCann, who left the school last year at the end of the summer term, Mrs. Stewart-Clarke and the Chaplain, for their help and advice over the year.

Alexander Day

Combined Cadet Force

CCF

During the last academic year the three sections of the Shiplake College CCF have been very busy. Field Days have been successful because training programmes have been interesting and varied.

A great effort has been made by the C.C.F. officers to improve the cadets' attitude towards training and the results gained by the cadets has risen. Cadets now pass their relevant proficiency levels at an earlier date, which has meant that senior cadets have been able to assist with instructing junior cadets much more than in the past. Senior cadets are volunteering to remain with their sections in the Upper Sixth which has meant that they not only add to the number of instructors, but they have also passed 'Advanced proficiency' subjects, which has led to a number of cadets becoming Junior Under Officers.

The Inspection format has changed, we used to be inspected annually, however, it is now biennially. To create further interest in our 'turn out' and training we now entertain an invited Inspecting Officer to review us each term, who also tours the three sections during their training periods.

Last Easter we completed our first visit for our Adventure Training Programme and Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions in the Beacons, South Wales. The area is an interesting one and thankfully all passed at their respective levels. We included rock climbing, abseiling, canoeing and pony trekking. We were able to do this because the pre-expeditions had taken place on weekends prior to the Easter holidays. The new activities were spread over two days and were a success.

The CCF Annual Camp held at Okehampton was very enjoyable and the results gained by the cadets were pleasing. Thirty-one cadets attended the camp; if one includes the cadets who attended the Naval and RAF camps Adventure Training and the various courses during the year, over eighty cadets have attended camps or courses during their holidays.

Next term we are hoping to have a survival course run by the Army on a voluntary basis for the senior boys.

P.J.F.W.
Contingent Commander

Army Section 1990-91

This was a very successful year for the army section with many boys working hard and achieving good results. The numbers varied slightly during the year but typical values were;

| | |
|-------------|----|
| fourth form | 27 |
| fifth form | 31 |
| sixth form | 23 |
| band | 14 |

The fourth form Adventurous Training Course started well leading eventually to 11 boys passing their Duke of Edinburgh Award Silver Expedition.

The Duke of Edinburgh expeditions took place over the Easter break in the Brecon Beacons. In addition to the "silver boys", 11 senior boys passed their Gold Award Expeditions. Many thanks to all adult helpers who volunteered their time for this

most worthwhile Award Scheme.

The Army syllabus continued throughout the year and resulted in 30 boys (21 fifth formers and 9 fourth formers) passing all subjects required for the Proficiency Award. In addition 4 senior boys passed their Advanced Proficiency Award and went on to become Junior Under Officers.

Three field days were held during the year. In the autumn a party of sixth formers visited the Royal Green Jackets at Winchester, a visit organised by 'Old Viking', Lt. Hugh Marsden. The fifth form undertook fieldcraft training at the 'Bramley' training area and the fourth form were based on campus.

The spring field day involved an overnight exercise at Bramley for the fifth and sixth form, with orienteering and abseiling at the same location for the fourth form who had just moved into uniform.

The summer field day again involved fieldcraft training and shooting for those who had passed their Skill at Arms test. This was based around Ash Rangers and we were joined by an officer and cadets from the Air Force section.

Many thanks to the 15 Cadet Training Team and our sponsor unit, R.E.M.E. Arborfield for their help at all field days and throughout the year.

Summer camp involved 31 boys, 3 officers and the S.S.I. and took place at Okehampton. A full report is given by the Contingent Commander in his review. Cpt. G.Cassells O.C. Army Section



H.M. Officers and N.C.O.s

Venezuela '91

From the cold of the Andes and the heat of the jungle to the remarkable prehistoric world of Roraima and the sand of Caribbean - this was the format for this year's Trekking Society expedition. Not many expedition groups can boast such a variety of destinations stretching from the mountains of the west bordering on Colombia to the Amazonas jungle in the centre and the flat-topped tepuis of the east near Guyana and Brazil.

After flights to Caracas and on to the University city of Merida we arrived at our hotel at the foot of the world's highest and longest cablecar. We had little time to prepare that evening and early the following morning we set off for our trek in the Andes. Our starting point was near El Morro and as we walked steadily upwards above the Rio Nuestra Senora canyon it was clear that we were going to have to camp a little short of our planned destination.. Tents were erected and we cooked our evening meal of Steak Rossini and Chicken Kiev - at least that's what it was called on the dried food packet.

We reached Los Nevados before lunch the following day and, hot and dirty, we rested in the small square of this quaint Andean village - at 2711 metres the highest in Venezuela. We were now beginning to feel the effects of climbing quickly to this height and the following day we climbed to the Loma Redonda cablecar station at a height of 4,045 metres. Several of the group took advantage of the mules that we had with us and as the weather worsened we decided to sleep the night in the station itself.

In the morning we took the first cablecar up to Pico Espejo and as we emerged onto

the platform and looked towards Mr. Humboldt it was obvious that the previous day's storm had made the path dangerous. There was too much ice and we were not equipped for such an undertaking. We returned to Merida and spent the following day climbing through cloud forest from La Mucuy, our original finishing point. We enjoyed the local hospitality for a couple of days and then set off for our two day bus journey through Venezuela's cattle country, Los Llanos. Even from the bus we could see plentiful wildlife including spoonbills, scarlet ibis, storks and great black hawks. The rains had made part of the muddy track almost impassable and we had to push vehicles out of a swollen river before we ourselves could cross.

We had planned to travel into a remote jungle area near the Colombian border, but just before we set out we heard that a local tribe of Piaroa Indians was attacking visitors with clubs and bows and arrows! We changed our plans and headed further east to Las Trincheras from where we set out by canoe for fifty miles into the jungle bordering the River Caura where the local Ye'Kuana Indians were more friendly. We caught occasional glimpses of toucans, macaws, monkeys and parrots and when we reached El Playon, a beautiful sandy area at the foot of some massive falls, we were able to camp there. After walks in the jungle where we were careful to avoid the deadly bushmaster and fer de lance snakes we returned to the camp and swam in the water where we were assured there were no alligators and piranhas. We were visited by one eight foot snake which decided to swim with us and he was quickly despatched by a blow from Rupert Titley's two foot machete!

It was time to return to relative civilisation and another bus journey took us to Ciudad Bolivar where we stayed in a small hotel overlooking the Orinoco. We had tried to hire a local bus to take us to Santa Elena, but by twelve o'clock - five hours after we were supposed to leave - it had not turned up. Hasty phone calls were made and after another night in the hotel we left in a different bus. We arrived at Santa Elena late in the evening and managed to find some of the few remaining rooms in a hostelry called Botel Canaima, a place that few of us will forget in a hurry! After some difficulty we managed to hire three jeeps to take us to Paraitepy, the last village before the trek to Roraima. We hired six Indian porters to help us with some of the gear and after a wet night we set out for the Lost World of Conan Doyle.

Once again it was clear that not everything was going to go smoothly. The first river we had to cross had been swollen by the overnight rain and we decided to camp before it rather than risk what would have been an awkward and dangerous crossing. Our other worry was that, if we crossed this river, we would not be able to cross the next one and we might be stranded for some time. By the following morning the water level had fallen and we crossed it without major problems although one of the group did manage to slip and soak himself.

After crossing the Kukenan River we camped at the foot of the sheer face of the 9094 foot Roraima. To our left was Mt. Kukenan and that evening the rays of the setting sun made spectacular patterns over its summit. As we looked at Roraima it was difficult to see how we would be able



to climb it, but in the morning we followed a narrow path, which headed at first straight at the wall and then turned and began to climb diagonally upwards. The walking was not easy as we had to clamber over rocks and roots of trees, but eventually we emerged from a small forest to see the summit ahead of us and after a short, sharp climb we were all at the top. Some went to explore this fascinating place with its weird rock shapes, beautiful deep pools with crystal formations, the numerous orchids and also the frogs that walk instead of hop. The walk back to Parateipuy was relatively easy and we soon reached Santa Elena again. While Graham Vick disappeared for a few days to collect some dragonflies another two day trip by bus took the remainder of the group to the small town of Puerto Piritu where we pitched our tents on the beach itself and relaxed for a few days before our flight back from Caracas.

The aim of any expedition is to succeed and to return safely and in spite of the risks that are inherent in any expedition to remote areas the following members all returned safely; David Partridge, Graham Vick, Mark Bradley, Simon Buck, Simon Cherry, Matt Coombes, Gareth Davies, Alex Dyson, John Everett, Chris Myers, Ben Phillis, Tim Phillis, James Smurthwaite, Henry Tilney, Rupert Titley, Toby Wilson and Edwin Wolff-Metternich. Our thanks go to Jerry Keeton, Ewaldo and Jose of Montana Adventure Travel and Sister Robinson for her help with the medical preparations.

DSP



A Welcome to . . .

Diana Bleaze

The influx of young teachers this year to the Senior Common Room is greatly to be welcomed, and the female staff will do much to refresh the rather jaded monastic atmosphere in that retreat! Diana, a chemist from Oxford University, has already demonstrated that she is unwilling to be a narrow specialist, but is involved already with remedial reading, house tutoring, and on the games field.

Richard Boulton

The second teacher to arrive from Hampton in recent years, Richard has followed Steve Fox not only to the same school, but to the same department, Geography. He will also be working with Steve in the Boat Club.

Educated himself at Hampton School, he coxed their First VIII to their first ever 'triple' of Schools' Head, National Schools' Regatta, and Princess Elizabeth Cup at Henley Royal Regatta, in 1985. He also coxed the G.B. Junior National Squad coxed four in 1984 and the G.B. U-23 VIII in 1986.

After a year at Richmond College, and three years obtaining an Honours Degree, an earring and a 'flat-top' at Brighton Polytechnic, Richard turned respectable, and completed his P.G.C.E. at the London University of Education.

In addition to his many other skills and qualities, he is an experienced and qualified lorry driver. Odd, then, that he should consider the Mini (of which he has a growing collection) "the ultimate automobile!"

Oliver Gomes

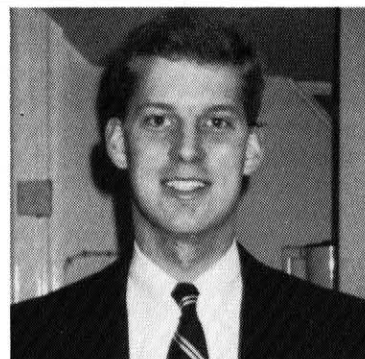
Oliver comes to us for a year with a difficult task. Pickering College, Newmarket, Ontario has taken from Shiplake several "Junior Masters" to help with tutorial work and boarding school life. Oliver is the first Pickering trained Canadian to come to us. He has seen several of our leavers making themselves useful in all kinds of boarding school duties and has certainly learned how to make himself useful at Shiplake. He has helped with most sports; proved his ability as an athlete, taken on anything asked from helping in the shop to travelling to Spain with the Rugby tour.

Oliver is taking a year out from University studies in Planning and will be back in Ontario in September 1992. So far he has shown himself to be broad minded and a versatile tutor especially in the field of Media Studies. He has considerable abilities as a conversationalist, as becomes the product of a school with a strong international tradition. He is to be congratulated on adding to the already strong links between Shiplake and Pickering.

Blair Haarlow

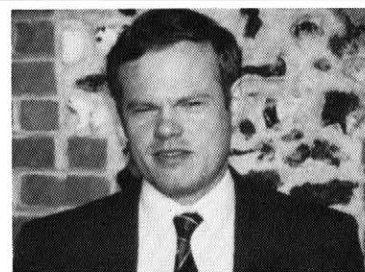
Blair is the second Princeton Fellow to spend a year at Shiplake. He follows Andrew Trees and is certainly helping to build up this new tradition of having a graduate of a leading American University here for three terms. Blair got the appointment in competition with a very strong field and we await his full contribution to Shiplake Rowing later in the year.

Already, however, he is running a lively and popular American Studies course, and involving himself to the full in the classroom, on the sportsfield, and in the cultural life of the college.



Michael Edwards

Michael joins us from Beanwood School, to teach English, coach cricket, and take command of the squash club. An English teacher of considerable experience, and an all-round sportsman, he has also travelled widely in the USA and Europe. One of that breed of English teachers who practice what they preach! Michael contributes regularly to a range of national and local journals.



Jenny Tudge

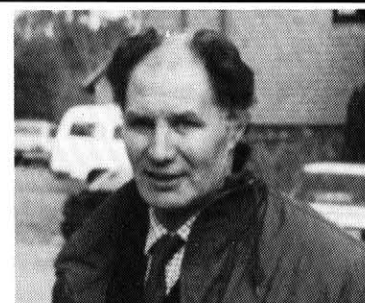
At both Myton School and Keble College, Oxford, Jenny combined academic success with sporting excellence. Her three full 'blues' for hockey included a year as captain of O.U.W.H.C., she was awarded two 'half blues' for cricket, and also played scrum-half for the University's Women's Rugby Football Club. As some members of the Shiplake College U-14 rugby squad have found to their cost, gender is no barrier to her forceful training methods!

Jenny has settled rapidly into College life, and has left her mark not only on the Geography department, but also on one of the minibuses we took to Wales on a recent field trip. She no longer thinks that all vehicles are as long and low as her beloved Maestro, "Babs."



Reverend Michael West

Anyone who has been an Anglican priest in the Holy Land, and driven a taxi in Reading, must be seen as having enjoyed considerable experience of "life's rich tapestry". A gentle and liberal churchman, Michael has thrown off the backwards collar worn by his predecessors as Chaplain, and wishes simply to "bring a simple Christian perspective to the daily life of the school." His quiet wit and thoughtful counsel are already appreciated by boys and staff alike.



Farewell to . . .

Nigel Baldwin

Nigel Baldwin did not settle at Shiplake, and we were sorry to see him leave only a year after his arrival. A brilliant chemist and a conscientious and original teacher, Nigel brought to us a fierce honesty and a refreshingly independent judgement. As a tutor in Orchard House, as a coach on the river, and above all as a concerned and caring human being, Nigel gave to a number of us here more than I think he ever gave himself credit for. He takes with him our very best wishes.

Mike Llewellyn.

Rev. David Dale

David Dale, who was Chaplain at the College for eleven years, brought to the role a wide variety of previous experience. A legal background, years spent as an army subaltern in Malaya and elsewhere, and a spell as incumbent of a rural parish that straddled the Anglo-Welsh border, prepared him for most of what boarding school life could throw at him.

He will be remembered for his common-sense, no-frills approach to religious life, for his forthright views and sharp wit, for his love of music and his breadth of interest. Students of law as well as divinity will have benefitted from his expertise in the classroom, and many a rugby player, on a chill late autumn day, will recall having his resolution stiffened by the booming call "Put him down, Shiplake, put him DOWN."

David is now Chaplain at Reading School.

P. C. H. G.

Helen Duhig

The post she took up as pottery teacher at Shiplake College was only Helen's second, and the change in atmosphere and attitudes from the girls' convent school in Eire which had been her first must have been enormous. To her great credit, she adapted rapidly, without ever losing the fire and independence that made her such an honest and stimulating teacher, and such an exciting and valuable colleague.

An artist to her fingertips, she was never satisfied, in her own work or that of others, with less than absolute commitment; and the rich variety of imaginative and ambitious work emanating from the pottery during her two years here is a measure of her success both as a teacher and encourager. Despite the intensity of passion that earned her the nickname 'Semtex', Helen's delight in her work, and the spontaneity and sense of fun that was an irrepressible part of her, meant that the pottery was always a centre of social life at breaks and in the evenings. Especially among the younger staff, too, evenings spent at the cottage or in the 'Plowden', with Helen at the centre of a lively group, were always happily - if at times indistinctly - remembered.

Helen's influence throughout College life was considerable. She played a leading part in the choir, and in a number of Malcolm Woodcock's spectaculars. She helped to produce two successful plays, produced scenery for others, and took part in a summer expedition to the West of Ireland. As a tutor in Skipwith House, she is remembered by her tutees as a caring - if demanding - figure who was involved and warm, at an important and trying time in their lives. She left Shiplake to become Artist-in-Residence at Radley, and to marry Ben. We send them both our very best wishes.

Mike Llewellyn

Nick Dunlop

During the Easter holiday of 1988, the then headmaster, Peter Lapping, asked me if I would show a young fellow Irishman around the College as he had applied for a teaching post from a school in South Africa. He added that the young man was a graduate of Dublin University, my own alma mater, and that his name was Nick Dunlop. I knew of Nick by reputation through the newsletters of Dublin University Boat Club. He had captained the Club in 1981, he had won his 'pink' the highest sporting accolade the University could bestow and he had been an international oarsman.

It was immediately obvious to me, as indeed it was to Peter Lapping, that here was a man who would make a considerable contribution to Shiplake both inside and outside the classroom. Peter, unhesitatingly, offered Nick a contract.

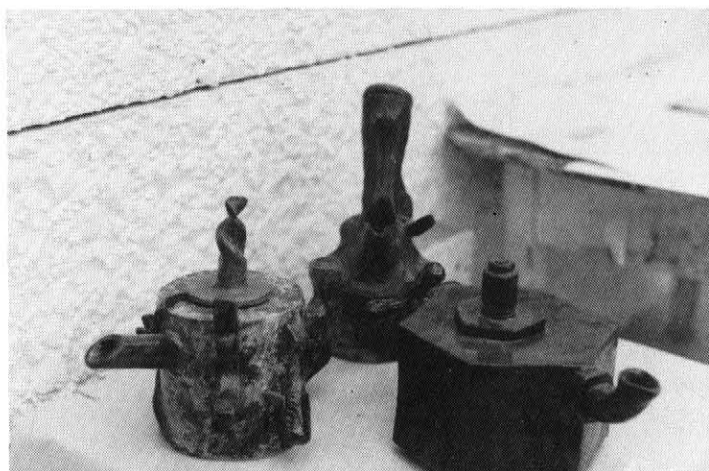
Nick joined the staff in September of that year. He taught French and history, he lived in the lodge and was a Welsh House tutor. In the Christmas term he coached rugby and for the other terms took to the water where he was an excellent rowing coach.

Later he became a member of the Senior Common Room Committee and he was an instructor with the Duke of Edinburgh expedition.

He had made it clear from the outset that his medium term plan was to return to Dublin to teach French. Before he puts his roots down there he plans to spend a year in Switzerland teaching in Lausanne. We will all miss his dry Dublin wit, a wit that is acutely perceptive but not unkind, his reliability and integrity and his modesty.

Nick should not be lost to Henley on Thames for ever. I expect he will return from time to time at the beginning of July to watch the racing, to meet up with friends in the Stewards' Enclosure and to join the party at "the barrel" in Butler's field on the Saturday evening of the regatta.

IRL



Chris Foster

During his four years at Shiplake Chris did much to revolutionise the teaching of Geography, and helped to bring a new confidence and dynamism to 'A' Level study in general. As an international yachtsman himself, he was ideally placed to bring a new competitive edge to the College sailing club, and he also built up great respect as house tutor and understudy to Andrew Smail at Burr House.

He was far from being 'all work and no play' though, and his quiet wit did much to enliven departmental meetings as well as the everyday life of the school. Although he seemed to fill his holiday hours with field trips and sailing competitions, it is a measure of his organisational powers that he also made time to meet and marry Helen.

Chris has moved to become Head of Geography at his own old school, Lancing College.

Nautilus.

Paul McCann

In which Paul McCann learns to ride a Heffalump, and bounces on to Greater Things.

One day when Paul was strolling through the forest, he came upon an Enchanted Place. He knew it was enchanted because it lay beside a magic river, just right for playing Paul-sticks. There were places to be unbounded or unsquashed, and there were Extravanzas, when he could dress up as a monk and hum a special hum.

The Other Creatures in the forest called it Shiplake College, which was a long word for Paul, and bothered him. So he called it Home for short and for a while. He helped the other creatures in the forest to look after those-even-smaller-than-themselves, and called it Soshul Surfaces.

He often had to share his honey-pot with the younger creatures. He loved to listen to them because they never used long words. The creatures felt happy telling him their troubles, because he was really a Very Small Animal, just like them.

Paul scratched his head, wondering aloud what a Paul liked to eat.

"Paul likes everything", he said, to everyone in particular, "but what I like best makes me a Large Animal"

"Try haycorns", said Piglet. Paul knew he really meant brown rice.

"Try thistles", said Eeyore, slowly. Paul knew he meant brown rice too.

"Go back to chocolate cake", said Kanga. Paul knew she didn't mean brown rice, but High Calories bothered him. It sounded like he couldn't reach it.

To travel in the Enchanted Place, Paul had to learn a new Way To Go. He couldn't carry all the Smalls to Soshul Surfaces. One day he saw a great white Heffalump bouncing down the drive. It was splendid, and in no time at all he learned to tame it.

One day, Paul knew it was time to leave the Enchanted Place, and Wol said he was probably right. He had learned how to teach the Smalls, and had told them all his stories about the World Outside. He had made them laugh with strange grey suits, bristling haircuts and the False Moustache (which wasn't). Now he was ready to ride a Heffalump into the sunset.

Piglet said, "will you come back sometime?"

"Yes Piglet", said Paul, trying to remember where he'd left his video tapes.

"And you won't ever forget us?"

"Not ever", said Paul, and waved a paw to the Smalls. They went to the squash courts to be unbounded, just as he'd taught them. For the Smalls will never forget the days in the Enchanted Place, when Paul came to play.

Trillia Scoins.

Andy Trees

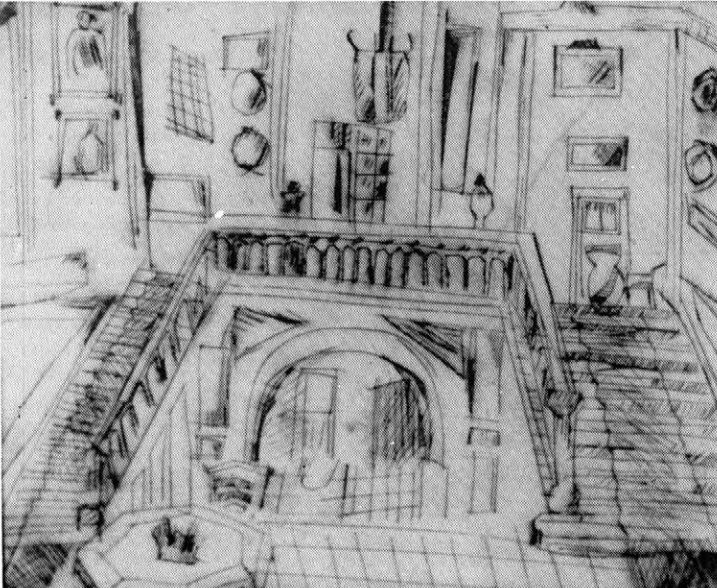
Andy Trees was the first Princeton Fellow to spend a year at Shiplake College. From the first day he spent here to the last, he was an ideal colleague; always cheerful - in fact, often extremely funny - , always helpful and eager to become involved as fully as possible in a wide variety of activities, and at the same time able to keep a shrewd sense of tact and proportion. These latter qualifications are of the utmost importance for a young man operating in those dubious grey areas between the old fogeys of the Common Room and the young bloods of the upper sixth - and doubly essential when you're a Yank!

As well as his own teaching timetable, which involved English and American Studies, Andy played a big part in helping the fledgeling Media Studies department to find its feet, and subject teachers across the curriculum had reason to be grateful for his willingness and enthusiasm when other calls on their time brought them in need of a replacement.

On the sports field, Andy's expertise was much appreciated by the participants in something he quaintly described as 'field hockey', but over the year there can have been very few Shiplake sports that he did not take some interest in. In his final term, certainly, the cricket field came to exert an intense fascination over him, and his hard hitting in the nets (always, of course, 'across the line') would be interspersed with triumphant shouts of "Didya see that?!!"

On his arrival, Andy told us that he was considering teaching as a career, and shortly before his departure confessed that he was now thinking of it a little less hard than before. Whatever his decision turns out to be, he generated enormous enthusiasm among all sorts of people, and in a number of fields, while he was here, and there is no doubt in our minds that he would make a truly excellent teacher!

Mike Llewellyn.



Monday - It usually is Monday - Is there more than one Monday to a week these days? 7.30-ish - Step over yawning boys and the odd cup of cold tea on the bottom step. Try to dislodge the breakfast queue from the banisters and get enough space to battle up the stairs. Fight office door, but its lock has been filled with superglue overnight and needs more than brute force. Maintenance Department to the rescue.

Time for a swim? - No chance - Laundry - There's always laundry!

Glance at Sewing Room - Wish I hadn't! Have they really been risking life and limb to climb through that side window again? How many more times before someone is badly hurt? Are those shelves really the ones tidied only yesterday? Rubbish bin overflowing - "Oh, blow this - Why me?" Someone comes to collect laundry before the 8.30 deadline. (Cannot let machine stand empty - it might break down later!) Work 'at the run' to try and keep momentum - This becomes normal pace for the day.

Dayroom and Basement duties - Have they been done? Heaven help someone if they have not. Top landing - Who on earth was supposed to do those bins this morning? Right! It just would be him. Make mental note to deal with him later - Probably won't, though - Well, he is a nice lad really.

In passing, yell at boys still hovering in Dorms. when they should be in Chapel. Very sceptical about excuses offered. Will check with Sister later to see if that one really DID go to see the Doctor - Would take a bet he did not! (Goodness, how gullible do they think we are after all these years!)

Single rooms - we rely on and trust our Seniors - Crikey - That duvet moved! He can't be - He is - still in bed? - 8.40? "Move it, you stupid boy!" That poster - He can't have THAT on the wall, he really can't. Whatever would visiting parents think? (Take it down. The boy concerned will probably never dare ask about it - he would be pretty embarrassed at having to admit it was his. Just wonder if he realises how well I know his Mother - and can he trust me not to tell her what he gets up to!!). See Housemaster's sitting-room - bit of a mess; but close door quietly - Not a word - I need him on my side.

Laundry goes - comes back all too soon. Clean sheets to be put round; weekend 'damages' to be listed - should have been with the 'powers that be' half an hour ago. Photo-copier broken - again - (three guesses who used it last...) Lists re-typed with carbon copies, or someone will complain. 'Break' time - far too late! - Stream of "Matron, could you just" "Did you know someone broke ..." "Can you get someone to look at my ..." "Someone has taken my ..." " ... but I do need this right

now. - I DID come yesterday, but you weren't there ..."

Quick telephone call to worried 'Mum' - No, her son has not hurt his hand - His arm is not broken - He hasn't written home because - well, he just hasn't written home! Will see boy later and explain about worried Mums.

Mending mountain on side table - The Laundry Ladies say they NEVER deliberately pull off shirt buttons - but sometimes I do wonder However, they give terrific service - Their 'speciality' has to be Cricket Whites - Many are the Mothers who telephone to ask for Shiplake's secret treatment for removal of grass stains! Slippery polish on the wood floors today - a necessary evil, but must have a word with someone and try to find a better time for this potentially lethal operation, especially when we are Duty House. Wet polish and visiting parents - not a good idea.

Lunch time - Check pigeon-hole in Marking Room for any second post - I don't believe it! - our beloved Shop Manager cometh yet again - More clothing to mark - and more of the dreaded initials to sew on. Will I ever learn that one has to avoid sewing them THROUGH the pocket of rugger shorts? A mangled mouth guard comes to light, having been through wash and hot dryer - by the way, a £5 note washes quite well, we found! (All right, so I failed to check trouser pockets one morning!)

Somewhere along the line I WILL have a swim (have to make the best of that pool until, far too early, 'They' switch it off for the winter).

More boys in and out - more problems - "No, lad, I did NOT know you had permission to wear your jeans to Chapel - No-one tells me anything!

Dry cleaning comes back, is checked and put round. Games, classes, Corps.; and gradually one becomes aware that, at last, there is peace. - The man was right - Silence really can be almost deafening at times.

Nearly time to go - I wonder, though - would anyone mind if I played a favourite Te Kanawa tape just once more What bliss! Now, did I put the machine away, hide the keys, lock the cupboard, secure the office, leave things as I would wish to find them, but so seldom do! - Exemplum Docet is quite a difficult College motto to follow! Back down those now deserted, quiet stairs - Oh, please do not let there be another drawing pin in my cycle tyre - not tonight

Monica Tomlin.



William Rosser

How to become a Prefect!

The assumed objective is that you want to be a House or school prefect; whether for the glory, the privileges or the masochism is not relevant here. It is also assumed for the purposes of this article that the desire for prefecthood occurs before the sixth form.

(i) The Reputation: In the fifth form be your natural revolting (both senses) self. Do NOT suck up to prefects, but go out of your way to be awkward, difficult and argumentative. Do not let things get out of hand though; the objective is to cultivate a reputation among your peers (same year as you) for being "one of the lads", and among the prefects for stirring it, without actually crossing any masters unduly. Sides and detention should be avoided if possible, but if you slip and actually are awarded them, the punishment must be met promptly and immediately.

(ii) The Sweat or the Swot. With the sixth form looming on the horizon, a dose of hard work will not go amiss in the fifth form. You don't want to be without any A-level courses, and you need to be in the Upper Sixth to make prefect, so you have to have an excuse to be at school. Staying on for National standard games (see Skiving in this series) doesn't work in this context.

Having successfully reached the sixth form, you next have to keep your head down for a term. This will probably work to your advantage in other ways, since the objective of course teachers is to brown you out of their subject by overloading you to the point where you give up all but your absolutely best subjects. The ulterior motive for this is the necessary cooling off period for your reputation's sake.

If you are an absolute duffer at work, then

your only hope at this point is to keep the parents convinced that Shiplake is your one and only salvation, the only conceivable way you'll be employable (and tall, fit, bronzed, handsome, desirable, handsome, sexy,). In this case you must still appear to work hard, but it would help if you can fill in some gaps in a school side or three, thus becoming a necessary member of a team (or two, if possible).

(iii) The Transformation. This is the fun part, because now you apply what you learned about winding up prefects in reverse. First you continue keeping your head down, and watch carefully how the existing prefects function. Make a list of privileges they have; add a couple to try out on the Headmaster when you are a prefect; wait patiently for your turn to do a duty. In this period you need to learn to get on with the lower years, using your own previous experience of being a reprobate, and enhancing your growing reputation as someone who has reformed. When at last you are offered a duty, it will be horrid. Smile, be grateful, do it perfectly, and you won't get that one again. Do it wrong and you'll be on it for ages.

(iv) You are now well on your way; what you need now is to be Noticed. This requires a Sponsor, and they come in four classes; in decreasing order of effect; Housemaster, House Tutor, other Teacher, and School Prefect. What you need is an event at which you show up as future head of house material. It doesn't matter whether you eventually reach that post; you have to look like a contender. Weekend duty is great (but tiring and genuinely hard work, unless you pick an exeat weekend).

House colours is a little obvious and doesn't count as a Notice. Having a new, constructive idea that you spring on a teacher you previously did not get on with

is brilliant. This sort of Sponsor can't stop telling other teachers how amazed they were at your idea; how you were so helpful and persuasive; how you've clearly come so far that you must be a prefect next year The objective in the Notice is to affect one of those people who has a say, however small, in picking prefects, and must be someone who regularly communicates with your Housemaster. Crawling to the Headmaster is too obvious and can have a reverse effect on your chances. But it does affect.....

(v) The End-Game. Once you're on the map as a potential prefect, you have the hardest part; survival as a contender. Keep your nose absolutely clean; if you see colleagues heading for trouble, try to stop them or, if you cannot, clear out. Now is the time to impress the Headmaster, but it will suffice to impress someone outside the House, preferably who likes guessing who the future prefects will be, and who is likely to want to tell the Head. It does no great harm to have several Mentions. Impression has its risks; the harder you try the more obvious it is that you are trying - and prefects who try too hard are sometimes more trouble than they are worth. You run the risk of being so successful you are made Head of House; is that your objective? If so, you need to work well with your year and the year above - a difficult balancing act, and one that you need to crack for success at this rarified level.

Of course, if you fancy the top job, there's one other catch; someone else has to be Head of House, so you have to tell them how it's done. Do this too soon, and who can tell which of you will get there?

David Scoins.



School prefects 1991

Rugby Football

1st XV

1990 SEASON

"Ten press-ups, ten sit-ups, come on boys if you want to make the 1st or 2nd team this season, you have got to be prepared to work hard," were the words from Mr. Emerson and Mr. Webb, who were looking closely at the talent we had. After all there were only eight upper sixth form boys in game one. Surely this was a mistake. From these boys only three of them were in last year's 1st's, that had only lost two games!

There had been no rain for several weeks so the ground did not help; in fact we had to cancel our first game against RGS High Wycombe because it was so hard. Some of us thought it was the cricket season still, as we could not work out why the sprinklers were on the cricket squares and not on the rugby pitches. That was soon put right. Teams were now beginning to be sorted out. It was not until quite late on the second Friday that Radley College telephoned and asked to play us; Reading School could not play them. It was talked over and we decided not to miss out on this opportunity, so on Saturday's training Mr. Emerson told the squad that the 1st XV would be playing away at Radley, for the first time ever.

My goodness, what a game it was to lose only by 28 points! 10 points to 0 was the

score at half time, it was a great triumph for every one and for Shiplake, as Radley went on to be unbeaten, beating schools like Pangbourne 52—0 and Stowe 33—0; even Wellington College they beat 15—0. It was really a good game. Bill Tatchell was replaced by Simon Cherry, as moving from a flanker to a prop did not really suit him.

We obviously still had a lot of room for improvement, and bearing in mind that we had eleven players who all still have another year, we were not going to slack at all, as there is nothing like experience within a team. Our second game was against Lord William's Thame. The ground was fairly hard still, and it was a good result, which gave us more confidence, especially knowing that our next game was against St. Edwards School. This again was not a disaster, as we put up a very strong performance throughout. As we were such a young side, they were very impressed, not only with our courage to strive to the end, but also with our behaviour and turnout after the game. I think we were happy because it was raining at last! We then played The Oratory School, a match known as the Local Derby, this was a fairly close game which we were lucky to win, Russell Bartram scoring the try to win 10—8.

Lord Wandsworth was at home this year. We started off well but then seemed to

deteriorate towards the end. Ben Chamberlain played very well and tidied up numerous mistakes, and we were on top though, from start to finish. Our next game, against Abingdon, was at home and rather disappointing for us, as we took the game too light heartedly; it was a game we and our coaches said we really ought to have won.

Training us the following day, we had an American national champion boxer who also knew a little about American Football, teaching us with our tackling skills; it was fun, and we learnt a lot from Mr. Polansky, who told us that the 'Peanut always tackled with his shoulders'. Now we knew someone was on the touch line keeping record of our tackling, we saw more attempts to tackle and against Magdalene College School we played the best of our abilities; however it was one of those games where we got off to a good start and then lost it 21—15. We held onto our Bearwood-Shiplake Trophy which has been held for two years now, in a well contested game, although I think we had the edge, as we beat them quite convincingly 34—4.

Our next game was against Pangbourne and with two newcomers to the side, John Polansky in on second row and Alisdair Kidd on the wing, it was a game to remember, and a well fought battle right to



First XV

the end, in which we deserved to beat our opponents. The tackling throughout the game and the determination from the forwards was excellent.

During training the following day we were told that Wayne Shelford was coming in to coach us; the funniest thing that anyone said is who is "who is Wayne Shelford". I won't embarrass anyone. Anyway he did come in the end, and he was a great laugh, his coaching was excellent, and of course impressed us all. Thank goodness Russell did not open his mouth again or we would still all be doing press-ups now. No really, it was great for us to be taught by him, even if it was only a couple of hours. We certainly showed the results when we played Douai, playing with a lot of guts and determination. Anthony Hall, our captain saved it for us in the closing stages of the game to win 9—8.

Training the following day was again tough, we now had Tony McArthur back to give us some more tips and train us to the limit. We were all grateful to him for the time he gave up to coach us.

Our next game against Henley College proved to be very good, Charlie West having only played for Shiplake's 2nd XV now playing for Henley College. We beat them 17—0 which was one of the highest scores ever against them. Our next game was against the dreaded Bloxham; we had not won for six years, and this year it was decided in our hearts and minds that we would change that. Well, we certainly did and it felt excellent to play in the game, as the team spirit and our eagerness to beat them gave us success in the closing stages. Our captain captain and vice captain played outstandingly. It was a great performance by everyone and it is certainly a game we shall all remember.

Having never played Laymer, it was a little surprising to see that they were not quite as we had expected. The game itself was a bit scrappy at times but we had full control throughout. Our final game was away against Reading School; at half time our coach Mr. Emerson and supporters were gritting their teeth, as we were losing by fourteen points. What could we do? Well, it was decided that in the second half we would play rugby and actually show them how to play, instead of them showing us. We certainly did frighten them, and it was an excellent finale to the season to win 30—22.

So what do you say at the end of it all? All one can say is what an excellent season we eventually ended up having; we should not forget that two of our losses were new fixtures in our calendar, and our overall result, playing fourteen games, winning eleven and losing three cannot be bad at all. Goodness knows what next year's team

will be like with twelve of us still here. All I say is that we will take example from our seniors Anthony Hall, Richard Alldrick and Max Tilney, and hopefully, who knows? We may have an unbeaten 1st XV.

The whole of game one are grateful to all the time Mr. Emerson and Mr. Webb put in to coaching both us and the 2nd XV, and we showed our gratitude at the Rugby Club's annual dinner which was a great evening, enjoyed and will be remembered by all. Finally, one other person who must be thanked is Mr. Brian Doble, because without the generous loan of his land what would we have done, and especially where would Shiplake's Rugby stand?

John Ostroumoff
Secretary of Rugby 1990.

2nd XV

The season opened with a sound performance against Lord William, Thame and Magdalen College and it seemed that the team were set for a successful season. St. Edward, however, proved to be too strong for us, but, lessons were learnt by both backs and forwards. The team played with great spirit and refused to 'throw in the towel' at any stage during the game. The next three games were won. Unfortunately an injury to full back, George Neal, meant that our three quarter line had to be re arranged; this left the team rather open to 'incisive attacks' and Abingdon capitalised on our mistakes.

The fixture against Reading school was enjoyable because the team played very well. The backs played an expansive game and the tries which came from their willingness to run the ball were fabulous to watch. Drop goals are not normally viewed as being part of a second team's armoury but we were adrift by one point and in the closing seconds of the game two attempts were made, the second of which was successful. In the two fixtures which followed the forwards had to work hard to gain the upper-hand, but, having done so they maintained their pressure and created a good platform from which various attacks were made. However, the game against Bloxham was extremely 'tight' and the teams were evenly matched. It was therefore, unfortunate that a defensive error lost Shiplake the game.

My congratulations to all who played during the season; the games were played in the correct spirit and with enthusiasm. Bill Tatchell, the captain, deserves a special mention because it was a season when the necessary duties of running a team were shouldered by its captain.

PJFW

3rd XV

A non-vintage season, but nevertheless a lively and entertaining one, with a medley of robust flavours, well suited to please a range of palates. We had a large and rumbustious pack, inspired by Dan Heppner - the ideal man for any potentially boring long journey; he can sing any song composed after 1950! - and the irrepressible Dan Morphy. Ben Oliver and Nick Darke distinguished themselves particularly in the second row, and they possessed an excellent quick, aggressive hooker in Ed Horner, until his season was sadly cut short by a serious muscle injury.

The backs were less consistent, mainly perhaps because the pairing at centre of the fast, direct Henry Felix and the more elusive Hugo Spencer never quite gelled, and the line as a whole suffered. Despite this, there was much to admire in Jeremy Sheddons pace and courage at full-back, Jannis Geremoschos' destructive talents and straight running on the wing, the determination of Andrew Mackenzie at scrum-half (many of whose immediate opponents learned - the hard way - that there IS a considerable difference between a Scotsman with a grievance and ray of sunshine) and, above all, the artistry and flair of Pierre Lefort, the fly-half and captain.

Pierre had lost most of a season through injury during the previous winter, and would otherwise, I am sure, have been performing last winter in a more senior team; but his sportsmanship, enthusiasm and quiet leadership earned him the respect of all those he played with, or indeed against.

Mike Llewellyn.

4th XV

Another smashing season from the iconoclasts of Shiplake rugby! Neither interested in, nor in the least respectful of, the pedigrees of others, the 'bargain basement' players revelled in the chaos they created, and in the dents they made in the reputations of others. Triumphs against other schools were of course welcome, but like all fourth division sides, they revelled most of all in the opportunity to embarrass their own seniors.

A measure of their success and improvement can be gained from the fact that two of last year's team are now in the current first fifteen — Bill Elliot and Henry Tilney; congratulations to both of them. Other memorable contributions came from Chris 'Oh my knees!' Barwell, Adam 'I'm not unfit' Etheridge, Tom 'I didn't need to pass' Pearce, and Henry 'I'm better than the lost of them' Furniss.

Mike Llewellyn.

Under-14 A

Autumn, "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness." Not exactly! The season started in sub-tropical heat, with bone-hard pitches and not a dead leaf in sight. Trainers and no physical contact were the orders of the day. We were, therefore, well into the term before the team began to take shape. In S. Quigley and K. Sanussi we had powerful and very quick wingers, but would the forwards win enough ball for them to use?

J. Nicholas, the captain, had his work cut out to organise a pack of mixed ability, but led by example encouraging his men to give total commitment. A. Bishop was excellent in set scrums but lacked mobility about the field. D. Jessey improved rapidly all season and his line-out work was a major factor in securing good ball for the team. J. Gillespie, when he remembered to curb his impetuosity, worked constructively in open play, and he was well supported in this area by D. Kennedy.

Undoubtedly, the feature of the team, was the quality of the backs, in both attack and defence. The position of scrum-half was never satisfactorily filled. M. Smith certainly had talent and skill, but was a little selfish at times. T. Sannussi was tenacious, and these two shared the spot between them. B. Pontin at fly-half, managed to catch and distribute anything thrown at him and was very strong in defence. The centres: L. Thompson and R. Asai also defended well and ensured the ball moved quickly to the wings. By the end of the season the Under-14 A's were playing a high standard of rugby as the less knowledgeable players took their lead from their more experienced colleagues, and the future looks bright for a number of this year's team.

Team: J. Nicholas, A. Bishop, D. Jessey, J. Mellor, D. Dickinson, J. Gillespie, M. Sandringham, D. Kennedy, M. Smith, B. Pontin, T. Sanussi, K. Sanussi, L. Thompson, R. Asai, S. Quigley, B. Frogatt.

Under-14 C

Our increasingly challenging fixture list is an indication of the success of recent years. This year we took on two new fixtures, St.Edward's Oxford and Bloxham - two school clubs with a fine rugby tradition. We also lost two fixtures with friends who can no longer guarantee to field suitably competitive teams at this level. To these we say thank you for the good sport and friendship we have shared in the past.

Our opening fixture was against St.Edward's and though the players, many of them new to competitive rugby, played with determination, they were no match for the experienced St.Edward's boys and we lost by 58 points to nil. The next match was against Radley and, having gained some experience, we managed to concede 28 points, a slight improvement. It was a similar story in the Pangbourne match: Shiplake did not manage to put any points on the board and the well drilled opposition thoroughly deserved their win.

Then the tide began to turn and it is a credit to the boys that they continued to train hard and with genuine determination. Against Lord Wandsworth, traditionally a tight fixture, we won 42 points to 6 and against Bloxham, our second new fixture, we managed to score 36 points and concede only 6, in a fast open game.

Our final game was a return match against Radley. Having been beaten by 28 points to nil early in the season the boys knew they would have to settle down very quickly if they were going to avoid another defeat. They did exactly what they were told to do and, in a genuine nail biting game, they held on to win by the narrow margin of 6 points to 4. This I feel was a measure of their improvement during the course of the term.

I am grateful to Peter Gould who, despite an ever-increasing workload, maintained his commitment to the team. I am also grateful to Nick Dunlop who, as coach to the 'B' team, worked in close cooperation with me. As a successful international sportsman himself, Nick was a fine example to the boys. Next year I will miss this modest fellow Irishman and fellow Trinity Dublin graduate when he returns to Ireland, in a characteristic Irish way, via Switzerland.

I.R.Lowry 1990

Shooting

This year we fired in the British Schools Smallbore Rifle Association Leagues throughout the Autumn Term and needed a good score in Round five to win our Division. However it was not to be.

In the Spring Term we concentrated all our efforts on practising for the Country Life Competition. Most weeks, whatever happened in the Rapid and Snap, all the team produced half-inch groups as a starter but on the day of the competition two of the team had to settle for three-quarter inch groups so we were ten points worse off than expected. Nevertheless the Rapid and Snap scores were better than usual and PAJ Croll produced his highest ever score. The best was still to come. With Malcolm Ferguson carefully giving simple and accurate Fire Orders we nearly doubled our previous best score on the Landscape target and ended up with our highest ever score and position in the last ten years, beating some sixty schools. We still have a long way to go to make the top ten but I confidently expect this year's result to be even better.

At present we have fifteen seniors shooting who regularly produce scores better than 90 and I cannot remember as good a start to a new season. Where we are short is at the junior end where we will have to struggle to produce a junior team of four next term.

The only noteworthy result at Fullbore was AE Rouse's third place in the Cadet Target Rifle meeting in the Summer Term.

The House Competition results were as follows;

| | | |
|-----|----------|-----|
| 1st | Skipwith | 286 |
| 2nd | Burr | 282 |
| 3rd | Everett | 272 |
| 4th | Welsh | 269 |
| 5th | Orchard | 261 |

The top scorer was T Li (Sk) with 99 Colours were awarded to AE Rouse and J McCaldin.



1st XI

It is with great relief and pleasure that I look back at the 1991 season, having been in charge of the Hockey Club for the first time. Organising coaches, teas, changing facilities, minibuses to Reading Hockey Club and running the 1st XI was quite a test.

At the opening practice, I had little idea as to who would be playing where, but as it worked out, the team picked for the first match remained virtually unchanged throughout the season. What an important opening match it was, against Pangbourne, to come back twice from behind and to score the winning goal from a well-executed corner was a hugely encouraging performance. This was followed by a fine victory over a useful Reading team—for me the goal of the season was scored here with the possession being won in defence, moved skillfully through the midfield to inside-right Peter Miller, whose great stickwork broke their defence and when everyone expected a hit-shot, he squared the ball for left-half Chris Barwell to sweep into the open net. Merchant Taylor's had a very good side and only our determination and team work, plus a rare goal from tireless Tim Phillips—I'm still not sure how much skill and how fortune was responsible—brought about a good draw.

Early thoughts that we were a good side were dismissed when R.G.S., High Wycombe gave us our customary lesson—this fixture is a guarantee to dispel any hint of complacency. The senior players continued to play extremely well, none better than captain Andy Rance at left-back, who was so consistently the rock on which opposition's attacks floundered. Antony Hall used his pace and hard hitting to great effect on the right-wing, being both provider and scorer of goals.

A comfortable victory over Ranelagh, and a more fortunate one over Windsor Boys led to the A.A. game. A hectic first half, for at one stage we were 4–2 up but turned around 5–4 down, was followed by a quicker second half—perhaps this really was the year when we could have won, but most years have that feeling I'm told.

The Magdalen College fixture turned out to be a hard-fought draw, but the Abingdon College victory was the reward for great enthusiasm and teamwork. Guy Philp was more secure at right-back by now, Richard Wilson was able to recover swiftly in front of him, and Pierre Lefort, at centre half, always gave of his very best. A special mention should be made of the players' player of the year, Daryl Harding, who showed great bravery and athleticism in goal as well as very few errors. Centre-forward Alistair Kidd found his scoring touch late in the season and claimed a bagful of quality goals by the end. Left-winger Kieran Smith also scored goals, fewer in number but important ones each time he did score.

1st XI Results

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Pangbourne College | 3–2 |
| Reading School | 4–1 |
| Merchant Taylor School | 2–2 |
| Royal Gram. Sch., High Wycombe | 0–7 |
| Ranelagh School | 3–1 |
| Windsor Boys School | 1–0 |
| Hockey Association | 4–6 |
| Magdalen College School | 2–2 |
| Abingdon College | 3–1 |
| Leighton Park School | 7–1 |
| O.V.S. | 5–2 |
| Reading Blue Coat School | 4–1 |
| Bloxham School | 1–1 |
| Reading Hockey Club U-18 | 2–2 |
| The Staff | 4–3 |

The season closed with good wins over Leighton Park, O.V.S. and Reading Blue Coat. The final two matches were drawn, for by this stage of the term there were some tired individuals.

I did get a great deal of satisfaction from the last, both the outdoor and from the successful indoor tournament at Wellington where we reached the finals night, losing narrowly (2–1) to the eventual winners. If being in charge of the 1st XI is so much fun, then I shan't want to give it up for a long time!

Peter Gould.

SHIPLAKE COLLEGE HOCKEY CLUB 1991

RESULTS

| XI | Played | Won | Drew | Lost | For | Against |
|------|--------|-----|------|------|-----|---------|
| 1st | 14 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 41 | 29 |
| 2 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 25 | 17 |
| 3 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 17 |
| 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6 |
| U15A | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 16 | 11 |
| U15B | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 19 |
| U14A | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 25 | 13 |
| U14B | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 19 |

2nd XI

This year's side continued the recent trend of our Second XI teams - playing open and fluid hockey without recourse to serious tactical considerations. The result was an enjoyable mixture of successful outings against good opposition, but there were also a couple of occasions - against Pangbourne and St. Edward's - when we allowed the opposition to score too many goals and in the event the results flattered them. Each player contributed to a fine all-round performance and the results reflected the genuine commitment and skills of this year's side.

In goal Miles Gilbert pulled off some fine saves, but then managed to let in some apparently "soft" goals, possibly because his new high-tech helmet obscured his view. Richard Jones and Tim Foster made a good partnership as full back, although occasionally their approach was somewhat too rumbustious!

The half-backs, James Gregory, Iain Wetherall and Jeremy Shedden, worked well together and were a strong midfield trio who were able to turn defence into attack very quickly and effectively. The wings, Michael Simpson and James Williams, were both experienced campaigners who enjoyed the freedom they were often given and both were fast enough to get behind defences and cause problems. Ed Wardale and James Mackie were converted into inside forwards, the former from an oarsman and the latter from a centre half, and they were both effective links between the forwards and the halves. Mackie had enough skill on the ball to create good goal-scoring chances and Wardale's skill began to return as the season progressed, even if he did seem to forget occasionally that hockey is supposed to be a non-contact sport. James Rook seemed to have the Jimmy Greaves knack of being able to be in just the right (goal-hanging?) place at the right time to score some good and much-needed goals.

Richard Mannix.

3rd XI

There were many changes to the side during the season, due in part to illness but also to movement to and from the 2nd XI.

Justin Levy captained the team from the back, where both he and Nick Thomson could be relied on. Ben Phillis moved from a busy half to goal scoring forward during the season. A variety of halves played; Hugo Spencer was particularly in evidence in all games, and his superb back stick passes won admiration. Bill Ashton-Wickett's "sticking tackles" were a source of amusement. Charlie Lowden put in many fine runs on the right wing and, with Raman Purewal, he was responsible for a number of goals.

Many of the matches were played on slow, muddy pitches which did little to enhance the games. When we came up against U16 sides who had practised on astro-turf they had the edge on us with regard to skills but, to our credit, we never gave up working.

4th XI

Although there were few fixtures, the fourth eleven had an enjoyable season. The difference between the 3rds and 4ths was particularly small

this year, so there was a lot of jockeying for position between the two.

Simon Cherry was captain for most of the time, but his rock solid defence was needed by the thirds later in the season. Jeremy Drake also played for both teams, where his somewhat wild hitting was at times the only way to get the ball moving on damp pitches. James Walker, with his attacking runs, played for 4ths, 3rds and even 2nds. Andrew Mackenzie and James Ashton-Wickett were very useful inside forwards, and Shinsaku Ikeda earned a reputation for terrier-like determination. Nick Kennedy was moved around so much that he never knew where he would be playing next. Chris Partridge saved a number of very good shots at goal, and Matthew Jones often looked very dangerous on the right wing.

Under-15 XI

The U15's had a lot to live up to after an excellent season the previous year. Mr Mannix retired from coaching the 1st XI to coach the U15 A's, while Mr A. Trees coached the U15 B's.

The beginning of the season started badly with a loss to Pangbourne. From then on, the team gradually started to work together. Probably the most satisfying game was against RGS High Wycombe. The score was 1-1 with seconds to go when they were awarded a penalty flick, saved brilliantly by Andrew Howell, who went on to have a good season.

Throughout the season Duncan McCrum and Paul Haskell performed outstandingly in defence, saving many vital goals. Burt Folawiyo, having only begun to play hockey in the 3rd. form, earned his position at left half back, while at right half, William Ingram did a proficient job in both defence and attack.

On the left wing Morgan Pearse dominated play, making many impressive runs, and scoring some very useful goals.

Vim Patel and Ed Sinton were inside left and right respectively. They started off the season unsure of their roles in the team, but soon adapted and played well. Max Moore, at centre forward, worked with determination, unsettling defences and creating many openings.

On the right wing Bill Rosser played magnificently. The team's attack was built around him, and he made many successful runs down the wing, finished off with high quality crosses.

The season ended in style with a resounding victory against Bloxham.

Thank you to Mr Mannix and Mr Trees for coaching the teams and of course, well done team for an impressive season.

Mark Stockill (Captain)



Senior Tennis

1st VI Tennis

In spite of the weather's determined effort to dampen our spirits and make the season a disappointment, good play and positive attitude did bring a lot of satisfaction and good cheer to the tennis court. It was a season also when the pairings took a long while to be sorted, for loss of form, injury and exams seemed to bring endless disruption.

However, Ed Wardale (captain) and Ben Chamberlain did establish themselves as a competent first pair — although they did tend to favour the spectacular rather than the percentage shots too often for my liking. Jo Cochrane, partnered by Jamie Mackie and/or Simon Barter, played very consistently, but his partnership seemed to lack real commitment and did not achieve all the victories that I would have liked — I'm sure this will be achieved with that bit more experience and maturity next year. Chris Myers and Ed Aghian played a number of matches each and both have the ability to play very well, but perhaps their application is questionable.

The highlight of the season was an excellent team performance to achieve a rare victory on the grass at Magdalen College School, on an equally rare sunny day. Also, Tony Hooper brought a girls VI from West Buckland School in Devon, and this was a very successful weekend visit — I cannot remember so many boys watching tennis before! The season evened out in terms of victories and defeats, and with all of this year's team returning for at least one further season, the future looks good.

Peter Gould.

Under-15

Squad - M.Moore (capt), F.Ferrero, M.Smith, C.Raper, D.Kennedy, B.Folawiyo, D.Eden.

After a lot of early changing of pairs, the squad settled down into a steady team with the third pair swapping about from match to match. Ferrante Ferrero and Max Moore played well at first pair, but sometimes seemed to get into a rhythm of beating the opposing first pair, then losing to the second pair. Although frustrating, they got their act together and collected a good string of wins against some quite hard opposition. Matt Smith, although sometimes erratic with his shots, played hard and fought well against better players. Chris Raper also played very well sometimes, but occasionally went off the boil! Our third pair, having been swapped around a lot, was hard to judge as a whole, but Bert Folawiyo, Dax Eden and Dominic Kennedy eventually settled down despite some controversy among them, to pick up valuable points by beating opposing third pairs and sometimes opposing second pairs.

In the Midland Bank Schools Competition involving the first two pairs of the team, we played Chiltern Edge School, Gillotts School, and Thame School, and beat each convincingly. However, in the next round we lost to a strong Radley 1st team in a very closely fought match. It seemed unusual to play singles, but many tight exciting contests took place.

We had good wins against Wellington College, Lord Wandsworth College, Radley College 2nd team, Pangbourne College, Bearwood College and Reading School. We played well but lost against Bradfield College, Abingdon College, Magdalen College, Oratory College and R>G>S> High Wycombe.

Colours re-awarded to Max Moore and awarded to M.Smith, F.Ferrero, C.Raper and B.Folawiyo.

Max Moore

Cricket

1st XI Cricket

Played 13 Won 5 Lost 1 Drawn 6
Abandoned 1

Shiplake College was looking forward to a very promising season in 1991. The team consisted of an ideal blend of experience and promising newcomers. The one factor that we had no control over was the weather and this proved to have a crucial bearing over the shape of the cricket last season. There was scarcely a fixture played when the weather was not so intrusive as to make cricket a far from pleasurable pursuit. Sports outfitters must have been the sole beneficiaries as two, three or even four sweaters proved to be inadequate protection on bitter afternoons.

It is not therefore surprising that so many matches ended as draws. What is surprising is the fortitude and enthusiasm that the whole team managed to sustain. For match after match, players whose only involvement in earlier games had consisted of stopping a hard-hit ball with freezing fingers, optimistically set out on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. Very much a triumph of hope over

experience I'm afraid.

Despite this, notable wins were achieved and there were some excellent individual and team performances. Anthony Hall, the captain, topped the bowling averages for the second successive season and also managed an average of over 50 with the bat. He was only bettered by Tom Caston who finished with an average of 68. Caston was denied two centuries. A declaration at Oratory left him high and dry on 97, and impetuosity saw him get out on 98 at Bearwood. Hopefully lessons will have been learnt and he can look forward to a maiden century next season?

Andrew Rouse had the success with the bat that he had threatened in previous years and Guy Philp, also in his final season got just requard for the season's sterling service with very little luck. For the other members of the team for whom this was the final season, I hope the mists of time obscure the grimmer moments whilst keeping the better moments clearly in view. John Wood made some spectacular catches close to the bat, but the weather was never conducive to spin bowling. Pierre Lefort again looked very

good, but contrived to get out in ever more elaborate ways. His fielding was always an asset, however. Richard Drummond had the misfortune to be third in line as a seam bowler, but performed well on the few occasions permitted, to the extent of taking a wicket with the last ball he bowled at Shiplake.

Of those still available next season: Tim Ratcliff deserves weather and pitches to facilitate his excellent spin, 5-20 v Reading suggests he has plenty to offer, Jeremy Shedden will find his time has come, and I hope he gets in shape off-season to bear the brunt of the bowling. Alastair Kidd has one season left to make a name for himself (surely he cannot come up with any more excuses?) and Tom Caston and Michael Baker will have considerable responsibilities with the batting, as so many of the 'old reliables' have moved on.

Thanks once again to Charles Boxall for his umpiring and the splendid example he sets for the cricketers at Shiplake, and to Mike Hobbs for his coaching.

PMD



First XI

2nd XI

It was a highly successful season for the 2nd XI with wins against Bloxham, Lord Wandsworth, Leighton Park, St Bartholomews and Pangbourne. The match against Oratory was drawn and we lost only the one match against Magdalen.

The early matches were noted for the solid opening batting of Glover (top score 62 n.o.) and the more swashbuckling approach of Wallis (top score 82 n.o.). Success, however, was also due to excellent performances from the whole team with best batting figures for Jemmeson 49 n.o., Drummond 72 n.o., Williams 40 n.o. and Barwell 50 n.o., and best bowling figures for Walker 3-17, Young 3-19, Miller 5-15 and Jemmeson 4-5!

RCS

Under-15

After last season's results it seemed likely that this year's side, which was bound to be basically the same as last year's, would have a difficult time. As it turned out the team was remarkably successful and although there were some fine individual performances it was good to see the contribution made by all members of the small squad.

Initial defeats by Leighton Park and Bloxham School, the former in cold, miserable conditions, did not dampen the team's spirits and from then on there was a remarkable change. The fielding had lacked urgency, but now there seemed to be an all-round improvement. V.Patel captained the side well and led by example, although he did occasionally run out of ideas when faced with a good partnership. His bowling was not quite as effective as last year, but he did bat and bowl well on occasions. P.Haskell produced some fine figures with the ball and took over five wickets in a match five times, including none wickets against Reading School. After he had gained some confidence he played a few useful innings, including a very good match-winning score of 49 against Pangbourne. Among the most improved players was D.McCrum, whose determined sensible approach staved off defeat on more than one occasion, and whose batting average did not reflect his true value to the team. He also bowled well on occasions, but has yet to develop a consistent rhythm. When he does so he will be an asset to any team. A swashbuckling approach by A.Akinloye often contributed much-needed runs to our totals and he showed that he was

capable of playing some very good shots indeed. A lack of confidence affected our opening batsmen, but both A.Howell and J.Gordon-Finlayson had some success. M.Pearse, D.Pearce, P.London, A.Ramsbottom and L.Hill all had days when they played well, and the overall success of the team would not have been achieved without their enthusiastic contributions.

During the season Junior Calts' Colours were awarded to V.Patel, P.Haskell, D.McCrum, A.Akinloye and L.Hill.

Junior Calts

Played 14; Won 8; Drew 1; Lost 5.

This team gave its coach more pleasure and satisfaction than any other he has been associated with, either at Shiplake College or anywhere else. A combination of 'second-string' players from both the under-14 and under-15 year groups, they were slow, at first, to gain confidence in themselves, but once this began to happen, they flowered into an exceptionally happy, positive team. A number of players learnt and developed extremely fast, and the team spirit and bonhomie that emerged was an absolute delight.

Much of the credit for this must go to the captain, Nevzat Mehmet, a careful, even stubborn opening bat, who was worth his weight in gold for his shrewd commonsense and sympathetic handling of his players. He was given great support, though, by both Shola Macarthy and Ed Reed. Both of these players have enormous potential; Shola is an all-rounder in the Botham mould, a correct batsman capable of devastating attacking hitting, and a 'think them out' seam bowler. Ed is an elegant and forceful batsman, and a quicksilver fielder when he isn't keeping wicket. I expect them both to play at the top level during their careers at the College, and yet they both contributed as much as people, to the team's success, through their cheerfulness and enthusiasm, as they did as players.

Other key men were Tim Jackson, a rapidly-improving slow left-arm bowler who only discovered in the last couple of weeks that he could BAT left-handed too; Chris McClelland, of the classical swoop in the covers, and Fahad Helabi and Bill Iredale, who both, in their different ways and styles, contributed greatly to the success of the team. One should really name them all, but space forbids; thank you all, lads, for a superb summer!

Mike Llewellyn.

Under-14

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|------|
| Played 11 | Won 3 | Lost |
| 7 | Abandoned 1 | |

On the face of it, the results line does not paint a very impressive picture: seven matches lost, only three won, and the lack of draws suggests the inability of the team to stay in, or bowl and field to contain the opposition. However, further details and analysis allow room for considerable optimism for next season.

The three victories were the last three matches of the season. A young and inexperienced team needs a good result or two early-on to boost morale, and fire enthusiasm, and usually one can expect a portion of luck by way of assistance to this end. Unfortunately no luck at all came the way of the under 14's during the early part of the season. They had to keep trying, and really working, despite lowering spirits, to achieve a much-needed victory. When it came, it was followed by another, and then another.

It was interesting that while the run total, when they batted first, doubled in each of the first three matches, and from then on stayed on the respectable side of 100, they could never take more than four wickets. But in the five matches when they bowled first, they took 49 wickets! Having said that, when faced with respectable scores, the batsmen were unable to deliver the goods.

M.J.H.C. and I have never been in any doubt that there is very considerable potential in this side: not even seven lost matches in a row shook our optimism (well - not too much!) We believe when determination, consistency, and confidence begin to take hold, the team will be a force to be reckoned with. This season it has been like having a batting line-up of Gowers, and a bowling force of

Lawrences! There were great moments, but never real consistency or reliability.

The players and some of their notable characteristics:

Eddie "The Gloves" Curzon: Our only left hander. Loves to flick the ball off his legs - even if it is outside off stump!

Rhodri "The Runner" De Lloyd: The only fielder who walks in so enthusiastically that he can start at long leg and finish at silly mid on!

*Edward "Late cut" Froggatt: Bowls very straight. Loves to cut the ball off middle stump.

John "Wicket-keeper's nightmare" Gillespie: Can throw the stumps down from anywhere on the field. Potentially an excellent batsman.

Tom "No-yes-sorry" Hawkins: Always more interested in the game on the other pitch when he is fielding, but an excellent and stylish player when opening the batting - apart from his calling!

James "The Wrist" Hunt: Our leg break bowler - has been known to fool everyone with his action - by bowling over the boundary!

Frank "12th Man" Nixey: Always keen and enthusiastic.

*Ben "The Whirlwind" Pontin: Something akin to Gordon Greenidge's description of David Lawrence: "all arms and legs"! Takes a lot of wickets.

Peter "Clubber" Roberts: When he gets hold of the ball, it really goes. When he doesn't - he goes!

*"Captain Taiwo" Sanusi: Very solemn, very thoughtful - but always itching to hit the bowler for a straight six!

Robert "Stonewall" Spreckley: They'll never get him out as long as he doesn't try to score runs. (Every side needs one!)

Luke "Lightning" Thompson: The ball never gets past him in the gully, but it seems to when he's batting!

Piers "Container" Woodnutt: A very steady bowler, but not too sure what to do with his bat!

*Colours awarded.



Richard Frank

Ski Trip

St. Gervais

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Travel: | Coach. |
| Journey: | Long but pleasant. |
| Hotel: | Rooms good, hotel restaurant had numerous fish tanks in it. |
| Skiing: | Very good — extensive for all grades. |
| Views: | Excellent, picturesque area. |
| Apres Ski: | Average. |
| General View: | Good value for money. |

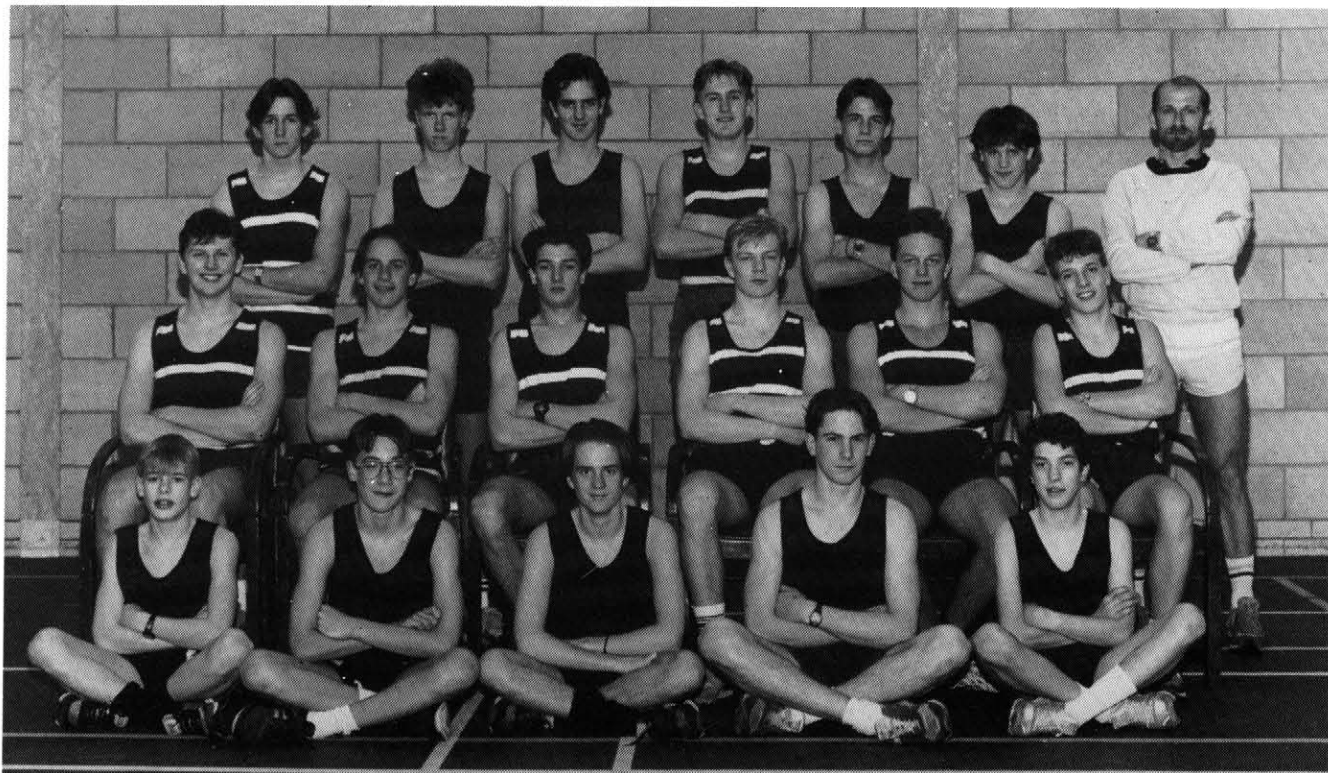
Many thanks to P.G.H., D.L. and H.B. for their support and guidance which made the trip a great success for all of us.

MAS



Cross Country

Cross-Country



Cross Country team

A very succesful year, in which the seniors usually won, losing only to Portsmouth Grammar and Radley College, teams we have not raced before, and which we came to race largely because of the team success. Sterling running from Neil Morris and Peter Simpson with strong support from Ostroumoff, Neale, Mackie (now our front three), Rhodes and Diamantino gave us such victories.

Not that the runners stopped enoying themselves. We now have a regular triangle of matches with St Edwards and Charterhouse, characterised by a strong sense of enjoyment, a feature largely missing from races elsewhere. One feature of the spring season was an invitation to join a schools league, where we met schools from the south coast. One unlikely race at Bearwood found us racing in a university league match - the telling point was the number of undergraduates who recognised Shiplake runners and said hello. We had raced against them when they were still at school.

The very variety of last year's races engendered a new spirit among the runners and I had the dubious pleasure of actually having to reject runners in favour of others, instead of the usual process of persuasion. Long may this continue.

1991/2 season looks as though it may be better still; the seniors are very strong with last year's good fifth form more than replenishing the leavers. Several of the new fourth form are better than they admit, so the intermediate team may have victories too.

Colours awarded were near the maximum allowed; 8 at senior, 6 half colours and 5 at Junior level. Simpson and Mackie were County reserves.

DJS.



Sailing team

Rowing

1st VIII 1991

A larger, but much younger group than usual, assembled in January with high hopes but some misgivings at the beginning. There was clearly a lot of talent in evidence, but with a lack of experience at this level some testing times were ahead.

During January five eights were boated, and in order to allow the coaching team MGHG, SAAF, NJD and NVB an opportunity to see all the oarsmen in the best possible light; no selection was attempted for the first ten days. Some potential surprises seemed on the horizon as the crews settled, with three J16s looking distinct candidates for the top two crews. Eventually a core crew, containing three from last year's eight, formed itself. Jon Polansky's continued search for an England Rugby cap meant that it was only in the last two to three weeks that he was able to claim a seat in the crew at the expense of John Pratt.

Disappointing early season rows, especially that in a head gale at Henley Schools, indicated that something was not right, but ten days before the Schools Head a visualisation session and a good pair row by Ali Tucker and Bill Chetwode at Peterborough trials helped finally to turn the corner.

Seventh place at the Schools Head demonstrated that the underlying potential was there, especially as the captain Ali Tucker, who had been intermittently very unwell, seemed now fully fit. The row at the Tideway Head with two substitutes was encouraging for the subs, but constituted another unwelcome hiccup in a season that resembled a roller-coaster ride at times - especially as next stop was America, of which more elsewhere.

Unfortunately our jubilant return from an apparently highly successful tour of New England to meet schools only just back on the river, served more to highlight the gulf between British schools and our American counterparts than demonstrate our progress. Indeed, if anything, it did us a short-term disservice as we entered our first regatta with, clearly, overconfidence. Wallingford, often a regatta to upset the unwary, dawned bright and clear with suspiciously good conditions. The crew disposed, rather less ably than expected, with two lesser crews, and then lost an initial advantage to Oundle, to demonstrate once more that hope and talent are welded only by experience - and that, at times, painful.

The following week saw a grand sortie to Ghent where two years before the same group had had two rather easy wins as J15s. Bill Chetwode was rather seriously

sick,, and with the Captain racing in squad pairs and fours, the weekend looked distinctly worrying on Saturday. However, Ali's pair partner Steven Grant (Winchester) was prevailed upon to take Bill's seat at 3 and with 'Gary' Garwood moving to 7, we were able to see off a Belgian squad, and Emmanuel school, in Junior Eights after a slow start and later also comfortably won Junior 4s.

The first wins restored confidence and on return to Shiplake we were greeted with the news of the second 8's success at Avon. It looked like the crew had 'come good' in time for the National Schools Regatta.

Some over-zealous night-time 'training' led to some missed team work but still there were hopeful signs for Nottingham. Conditions which had appeared fair earlier played a crucial role allowing no crew from lanes 1 and 2 to compete on equal terms with other lanes during the middle of the day. So in lane 1 the crew had a 'private' race with Winchester for fourth place in their semi - 2 lengths off the pace of the centre crews. No complaints, however, about two of the events on the Sunday.

Chris Marett, having stroked with astounding rhythm and maturity throughout, partnered Bill Chetwode to the final of coxless pairs, from a semi-final at the start of which their cause had looked lost. A superbly timed last 500 saw them move through from 4th to 1st within 350 metres. Though they were unable after a traumatic coxless four race to repeat this in the final, their result was good enough to secure invitations to GB trials in July. The BEST was yet to come. Guy Jackson piloted the coxed four, who started as rank outsiders, through to the final of the Hedsor Cup by a narrow margin. While the rest of the squad were busy looking glum, Caspar and John - probably the biggest pair of juniors in the event - found the inspiration to lift the boat under Ali Smee's outstanding stroking, to allow Henry Felix - definitely the smallest oarsman of the event - to cross the line first in the final. I think my voice only came back on Tuesday.

After this euphoria it was back to training in real earnest for Henley. At the Docks, captain Al won his novice sculls, rather to his surprise, but later at Reading the squad were able to celebrate as a whole. Saturday saw a finely balanced race lost to Cherwell by 4 feet in an exceptionally fast time, while on Sunday the Hedsor Cup 4 were able to win Senior 3 fours and, Al, Bill, Chris and Gary finally got it right - perhaps Guy's steadying influence sorted them out - in Senior 2 fours; Bill added a little personal icing to this cake by winning Novice Sculls. The one sadness was the lack of a win in the eight - for all the eight; and so to Marlow.

As always, Marlow was rough and the bends never straighten; the first round was straightforward enough - a 3-length win over Midland Bank. The semi-final not too daunting, two-and-a-quarter lengths..... An all-school final was going to be more of a test. Westminster, who had disposed of Radley earlier, had centre station while Kingston GS took Bucks. On Oxon you have to get the best of the early stages - we did, but Westminster remained very much in contact; in the final 500, however, the crew finally put together the sort of row which Chris and Bill had proved possible at Nottingham, and pulled out clear water - on the disadvantaged station - a good win at last, and Henley only just around the corner!

In the last ten days quiet progress - another 2 seconds faster over 500 and a certain amount more confidence, but when the draw was announced..... Shrewsbury - second seeds. Still, some said Shiplake always do well at Henley. A careless statement, perhaps a dangerous one; was there enough determination to win at any cost?

Well, Shrewsbury had had a pretty good season, but not an outstanding one. The race demonstrated that hope and effort were equally present in both crews, determination too was not lacking nor speed, as with the exception of Bristol University (ultimately winners of the Henley Prize) no crews went faster that day. Sadly the roller-coaster ride, and maybe a lack of winter conditioning compared to our opponents, meant that the quarter length Fawley deficit we could not overturn, and indeed we faded in the last 200 yards (no, not metres - this is Henley!).

Well, it was sad to finish on a disappointment, but five of the crew went on to gain international honours. Ali Smee was in the England eight who finished second at the Home Countries match; Chris Marett stroked the Coupe de la Jeunesse eight, to two victories; Ali Tucker won a silver and a gold at the same event, and Bill Chetwode and Guy Jackson, who raced at 5 and cox respectively in the World Championship eight, travelled to Spain, where they missed a bronze medal by the thickness of a blade. Well done to all!

Finally, I must express my thanks for the enormous support to all the parents who came to so many of our races, and gave unstintingly to further the Shiplake cause. I would particularly like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Marett, whose steaks and sausages are surely the best in these counties, and the undoubted star - and our chief sponsor - Mrs. Olive Jackson. She not only provided, through her company Jokyle Holdings, a brand-new boat to race in, and was the chief instigator of a memorable barbecue at Nottingham and lesser feasts

almost everywhere else, but even helped to keep me calm when the roller-coaster took a dip.

To all those who race in the top two eights this season, may I extend my good wishes for a successful season, and may you remember that the best way to repay the support of parents and coaches is always to go three miles where you are asked for two. Good luck rarely comes to those who haven't earned it!

Mark Hayter.

Crew of '91

| | |
|-----|---------------------------|
| Bow | Henry Felix |
| 2 | Alistair Smee |
| 3 | Lawrence Garwood |
| 4 | Alastair Tucker (Captain) |
| 5 | Caspar Ouvaroff |
| 6 | Jon Polansky |
| 7 | William Chetwode |
| St | Christopher Marett |
| Cox | Guy Jackson. |

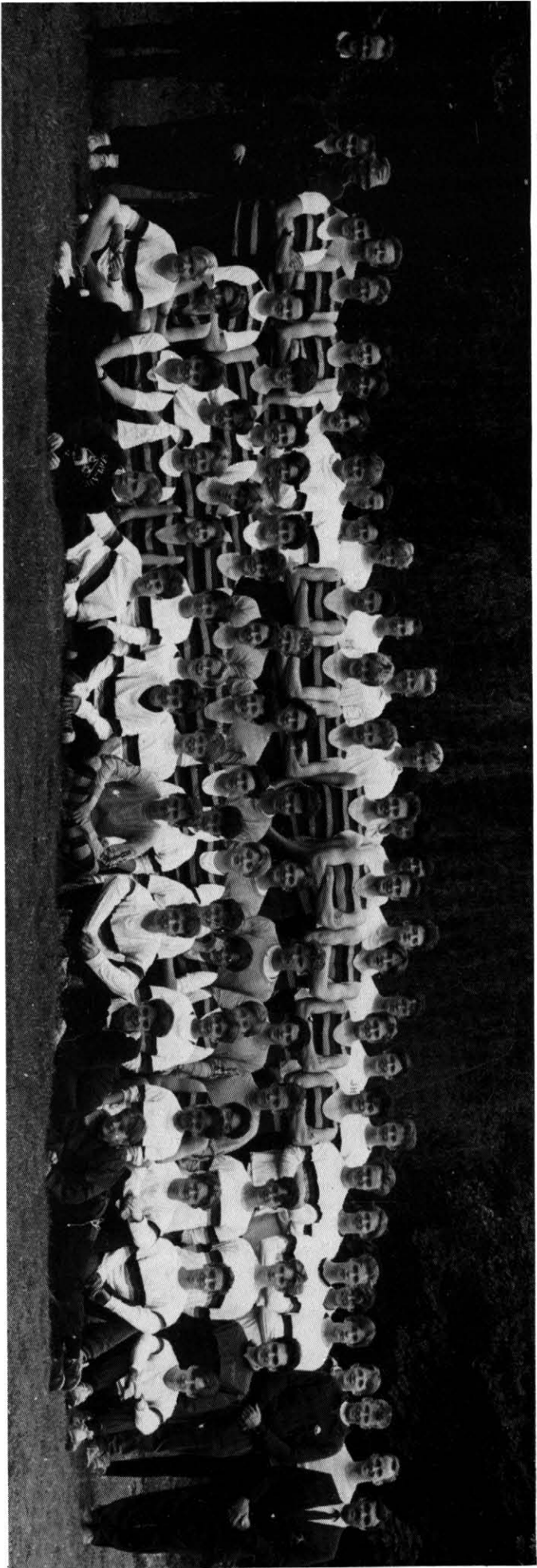
MHGH

1991

Second Eight

The Second Eight had one of their most successful seasons ever, competing with distinction at a dozen major heads and regattas. Although the crew were slow to get started in January, probably because they were competing against some other schools who had been training throughout the Autumn term, their string of achievements began as early as Hampton Head, when they finished 3rd in their class. A disappointing row at Henley Schools Head was notable only for the establishment of Willett and Alldrick as the stern pair - a partnership which later proved to be highly rhythmical and effective. It was unfortunate that no suitable category existed at Reading University's Head, because 4th place in the School/Junior class meant that only other schools' First Eights were faster. Hence, it was even more of a shock to finish only 9th at the School's Head, although, encouragingly, only 21 seconds behind the winning Shrewsbury crew. Just 12 seconds separated the six crews above us in the final results table - so it was clear that the Regatta season would be very tight!

At Wallingford, with Neale coxing now, Pratt was needed by the First Eight, so it was no disgrace to be knocked out of the Senior 3 event by a fast Hampton crew, especially as the defeat resulted in a reshuffle to put Elliott and Oliver back to 5 and 4 respectively - forming, with Pratt, the real "power house" for later success.



Potential was first realised at Avon County School's Regatta, where several First Eights and St. Edward's Second Eight fell victim to the eventual winners of S/J 'B' VIIIs ... Shiplake College. Unfortunately, the elaborate recharge system became so complicated that it took the organisers three attempts before finally handing pots to the correct crew.

It was clear that Eton College Second Eight were the crew likely to win the National Schools' Regatta. As it was, after an untidy and, hence, a slow start, Shiplake rowed magnificently to take the bronze medal ahead of King's School, Canterbury, St. Edward's School and Hampton School. They could probably have snatched silver from Pangbourne, if their gutsy performance had been allowed to continue for a further ten strokes.

Another bronze was earned at Docklands Regatta in the final of Senior 3 Eights - just in time, as it happens, because the event was later cancelled due to appallingly windy conditions.

Arguably the finest performance for the entire Boat Club was at Reading Amateur Regatta, where the Second Eight did their bit by coming 2nd in S/J VIIIs on Saturday, being beaten, narrowly, by Westminster School First Eight, and then winning Senior 3 VIIIs, beating a big, neat-looking Nottingham University crew in a tight semi-final, before demolishing the Polytechnic of Central London in the final on Sunday.

The remaining weeks of term were fraught with near-misses at Marlow Regatta. It seemed unlikely that the St. Edward's School Second Eight, whom we beat so convincingly twice in the previous month, would prove to be much opposition, but they rowed well enough to knock us out, before going on to win this prestigious event.

At Thames Valley Park, we beat Reading Blue Coat School's First Eight, before losing the final to the same St. Edward's crew! Barnes and Neilsen nearly made up for the eight's loss by winning Senior 3 double sculls, beating Reading University and Henley College in heats before the exciting final against Walton Rowing Club; they were delighted with their well-earned pewter tankards.

Reading Town Regatta fell after the end of the school term, but Ostroumoff and others decided that the keen squad should still enter both an eight and a four. In a very fast heat, the Senior 3 eight lost to Kingston Grammar School's First Eight (who went on to win the final) by a length and a half. While four boys rowed back to Shiplake, the remainder beat Reading University, Clare R.C. and the Royal Navy

in heats of Senior 3 fours, before losing an exciting final to Bewl Bridge.

All-in-all, a thoroughly rewarding season in every respect. It is interesting to imagine how good next year could be, given that all but one of this crew are returning to Shiplake in September 1991.

| CREW | (subs) |
|-----------------|----------------|
| b T. Barnes | |
| 2 M. Neilsen | |
| 3 J. Ostroumoff | / C. Mellor |
| 4 B. Oliver | / C. Campbell |
| 5 W. Elliott | / A. Binns |
| 6 J. Pratt | |
| 7 R. Aldrick | |
| s D. Willett | / A. Tucker |
| c G. Neale | / G. Churchill |

S.A.A.

Fox

The 3rd VIII is a rather motley crew of those boys who want to row pretty seriously but have not quite made it into the 2nd VIII, some talented but less keen individuals unable to make the full commitment to rowing of the senior squad and one or two old lags with some experience who turn out for the major events. The result is a group rather than a crew which from time to time gets together really rather well. The BIG problem this year was fitting Geoffrey Dunnnett into the boat at all - a secondary problem was getting him to row effectively. Eighteen stone doing the wrong thing could be devastating.

Once or twice it all went very well, notably in the Reading Schools Head in the Spring Term when the crew held its own splendidly against the first boats from Reading Bluecoats and the Oratory. But the high point of the season was undoubtedly the final of the West Cup at Nottingham, the championship for schools 3rd VIIIs. Shrewsbury, Eton and Kings Canterbury raced away from the start but a tremendous battle raged for fourth place which was narrowly won by ourselves over the Hampton School 3rd VIII. It was an excellent row and a fitting climax to the season for the VIII. Thereafter the crew

| CREW |
|---------------------------|
| b S. Johnston/L. Collings |
| 2 C. Stuart-King |
| 3 G. Dunnnett/A. Sherrock |
| 4 T. Boyes |
| 5 G. Dunnnett |
| 6 A. Sherrock/T. Boyes |
| 7 C. Mellor |
| s M. Rhodes |
| c J. Riley |

raced in IVs and produced some excellent performances and times although almost always against school 1st and 2nd IVs; so no pots in the end, but a lot of fun.

Junior-16

The biggest problem these crews faced was their sheer lack of size. N J Dunlop welded a very happy group around a clever, if underweight, stern pair of Horner and Chetwode, who always set a good rhythm, and Carle, who improved throughout the season. No event was eventually won, but the most significant thing about the crew was their evident enjoyment of rowing. The season was completed by a sponsored row from Oxford to London on behalf of the British Heart Foundation, completed with enthusiasm, remarkable planning and keeping well to time under the guidance of P. McCann Esq. The crew would like to extend their thanks to Mr. Dunlop and Mawgan Grace in particular, for their leadership and support throughout the season.



1st VIII on tour in USA.

Junior-15 Rowing

| | | |
|-----------|-------|---------------|
| Quad/Four | Str | D. Marett |
| | 3 | R. Eltze |
| | 2 | T. Bishop |
| | 1 | D. Cockrell |
| | Cox | C. Vos |
| | Coach | Henry Trotter |

After early trials under coaches Henry Trotter and David Lister as to what crews boats would be raced this season, it was decided that the top four oarsmen would be in a quad and four to represent Shiplake at the National Schools Regatta. The next best would then be in an 8. The Quad's first race was at Coate water park regatta, where they narrowly came second to last year's J14 National Champions Windsor Boys.

Although the quad proved to have ample strength and power, it was soon shown that they did not have enough discipline and technique that would push them ahead of Windsor Boys. Their second regatta was to be the National Schools where they reached the final and came 4th; some 2 and a half lengths behind the winners again Windsor Boys.

The quad members also rowed in Coxed Fours conjured up with some two to three outings, came out with similar results. They raced at the National Schools Regatta on Sunday where they again came 4th; the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th positions all being within 1.5 seconds, it showed that there was considerable potential if a little underdeveloped.

| | | |
|--------|-----|-------------|
| Eight; | Cox | C. Vos |
| | Str | D. Marett |
| | 7 | R. Eltze |
| | 6 | T. Bishop |
| | 5 | D. Cockrell |
| | 4 | D. King |
| | 3 | A Custance |
| | 2 | W. Harding |
| | 1 | D. Jessey |

For the second half of the season the quad/ four was put in an eight with four of the original J15 'b' 8. This proved to be successful. At Bedford Invitation Regatta it came first, although to relatively inexperienced crews.

The same eight also raced at Thames Valley Park regatta, where they won the final by 1 lenght from St. Edwards. There is clearly some real potential for next year which new coach Mr. Boulton can tap.

D. Marett

Junior World Championships 1991

As Bill Chetwode, Ali Tucker, Chris Marett and myself sat waiting in the conference room at the National Watersports Centre in Nottingham, we wondered what was in store for us after a weeklong final selection camp, which had been preceded by an eight-month period of other selection races. Finally the moment came when the selected crews were announced and much to our elation I found myself coxing the World Championship Eight which was to include Bill as well. Chris and Ali were to go to the Coupe de la Jeunesse in an eight and coxed four respectively.

Bill and I, almost immediately, headed off to a two week training camp in Chester where we settled into an intensive training schedule that included three rows a day. During this period we got to know our fellow oarsmen to the extent that we began to think and act as one unit. The exact line up of the Eight changed during this period, but it ended up containing a mixture of boys from Shrewsbury, King's Canterbury, Eton, Emanuel, Kingston Grammar School and of course Bill and I from Shiplake. We were coached by Mike Partridge, Shrewsbury's 1st Eight coach.

The World Championships were held at Bangoes, north of Barcelona on the Olympic course, from the 1st August to the 4th. The British squad arrived a little earlier and stayed in a nearby hotel. Once a few of the crew had got over the initial shock of seeing the size of the Russians and Germans, we got down to the last minute preparations and prepared ourselves for the imminent races.

We went into the first race not really knowing what to expect, as we had to win to go straight to the final, and we found ourselves lacking the required pace and ended up third behind the Russians and Italians.

Therefore, the next day we had to race in the Repechage, in this case the first four would go through to the final. We knew this was the last chance to make the final, so we went into the race much more aggressively and found ourselves coming second rowing well within ourselves.

At last we lined up in the final, the last race of the 1991 Junior World Championships, along with the Russians, the Americans, the Spanish, the Germans and the Italians. Many thoughts passed through our heads in the second before the start, but then we heard the infamous words 'Are you ready? GO!'; and we were off. Being rather smaller than the others, we were not a fast crew off the start and found ourselves with a lot of work to do over the middle section of the course. It had become obvious early on in the race that the gold and silver medals were going to be secured by the Russians and Germans, but the bronze was still up for grabs. As we entered the last 500m, it was clear that third place was between us and the Spanish, we entered a form of rowing that most of us had never experienced before and that was to row ourselves to total exhaustion and still look for more.

Then it ceased, we crossed the line not knowing who had won the bronze medal. The result of the photo finish which took a lifetime to decide showed that the Spanish had beaten us by 0.1 of a second, perhaps four inches, and that they had won the bronze medal and we had not. Even so, it was consolation to realise we were the fourth best Junior Eight in the world, and that we had rowed as well as we possibly could and had done our country proud.

Now after two fourth places in consecutive years I am hungrier than ever to carry off the elusive medal in Canada—who will join me?

T. G. Jackson.

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Coxed four: | B. | P.Carle | Eight from: | A. Riding |
| | 2. | A. Binns | | W. Stanley |
| | 3. | J. Chetwode | | H. Furniss |
| | s. | E. Horner | | M. Jarvis |
| | Cox M.Grace | M. Midwinter | | |
| Also rowed | | J. Pratt (Nat.Schools) | | J. Hayes |
| | | H. Furniss (Thames Valley) | | T. Pearce |
| | | P. Carle | | |
| | | A. Binns | | |
| | | J. Chetwode | | |
| | | E. Horner | | |
| | | Cox M. Grace | | |

Squash 1991

Once again, Squash at Shiplake proved itself to be one of the School's outstanding sports success stories. With a total of seventeen victories at all levels against ten defeats, the Club maintained its reputation for winning many more than it loses, and against opposition of the highest calibre. A fixture list which includes the likes of Wellington College and St. Edward's provided some tough tests and lively competition, but the young and talented Shiplake teams held their own.

The first five were led by the highly talented John Wood, whose personal record was excellent, losing only one of his twelve matches. The number two slot was initially filled by the much-improved Gareth ('Wash and Go') Davies, who had many an entertaining match. After his departure at Christmas, his shoes were filled by Jo Cochrane and Matthew Baynes, who battled hard for the number two slot. By the end, Matt had just pipped Jo, and earned my award as player of the season.

Other great contributors were Simon Bowler, the hard working Andrew Fleming, and the acrobatic James Mackie. Their most memorable performance was against Oratory in February, winning three-two in a gruelling and nerve-racking battle.

The U16 had a fine season, winning three out of four matches. The U15 also enjoyed a great record, winning six out of nine. Prominent amongst this team were Mark Stockill and Chris Raper; two very contrasting players. Mark provided power and agility when he wasn't busy representing his county at 101 other sports, whilst Chris provided displays of grace and delicacy. Chris represents to me a great talent for the future, when he compliments his natural skill with strength as he grows. Also figuring this year were Bill Tattersall and Dax Eden, both displaying great potential and extraordinary keenness. Their most memorable victory came at Reading School when they ran out three-two victors.

The Club flourished on the home front, too. The addition of Mike Johnson and Rick Wetherall from the Caversham Club, as coaches, increased the Clubs' ability to realise the potential in so many players. They also provided for visits to the National League fixtures, where professional Squash of the highest standard is on show.

This report would not be complete without mentioning the hard work of Viv Daly and Derek Dovaston, who have provided the smooth running of the Club throughout the year. I now hand over to Mike Edwards, who I am sure will continue to enjoy success at the Helm of Shiplake Squash.

Paul J. McCann

Athletics 1991

STANDARDS

Result: Everett 7.88; Welsh 7.22; Skipwith 6.52; Orchard 5.82; Burr 4.46.

Note that this year saw the introduction of S Standards, based on national statistics; we fare badly at the long jump, but well at shot, 400m and 800m. Incompetent timekeeping helps score in the 100m; the 200m, with more care, shows that sprinting is not as good as the 100m might suggest.

Overall, the standards continue to decline: only Orchard and Skipwith juniors showed improvement. Total points across the school dropped; 1990 was 7% better, 89 10% and 88 32% better. Worse, Skipwith's score of 1988, when they finished 4th, would have won in 1991. Two excuses for this decline are obvious; boys are now restricted to the four standards days for attempts and games lessons no longer exist, so there is no athletic training.

INTER-HOUSE AND INTER-YEAR

Results:

Senior: Everett 102; Skipwith 87.5, Welsh 81, Burr 80, Orchard 64.5 Junior: Orchard 104; Everett 92.5; Skipwith 88.5; Welsh 87; Burr 43

InterYear result: L6 98; staff 95; U6 93; Juniors 63; Fifth 59.

Records set in Senior & Junior Steeplechase (Ostroumoff, Marett D), Junior 400m & 800m (W Harding); 200m (K Sanusi). First two new event, so not surprising. Amusing that Ostroumoff lost his 800m record just before he put himself back on the list by equalling the old record in the seniors.

MATCHES

The enthusiasm remains, as demonstrated in matches against other schools; Shiplake can offer athletic training to a select few without conflict with other sports, and a team of five can compete successfully against teams of 30 (as we did at Bearwood with success, and at Bradfield. At the County championships, we provided the majority of the senior area team, and about a quarter of the intermediate team. If you include heats, we had several firsts, seconds and thirds; most notably Kehinde Sanusi broke the meeting record for the 200m, making a national qualifying standard and was presented with the cup for the most promising track athlete. He reached the semi-finals in the Nationals, which are held out of term, and has his County Colours. Peter Simpson was the Senior Steeplechaser and Warren Harding won the Intermediate 800m.

Most constructive and encouraging is that our enthusiasm is the envy of the other, larger teams. I am sure that this is the future for athletics at Shiplake, and although I would dearly like to see the general standard rise again, there clearly is room for a small elite corps to carry the flag elsewhere.

Boston Tour

As the Shiplake College First VIII drifted under the bridge towards the start of a 1500 metre race on the Merrimack against Kent School from Connecticut and Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, it must have crossed their minds to consider whether a tour to the States had made enough difference in their boat speed for them to beat the best school crews in New England - especially as Kent had already beaten both the Pangbourne and Radley 1st Vllls. When they found themselves half a length down after thirty seconds of rowing flat out at a rate of 44 strokes per minute, the crew must surely have wondered

1. whether they had learnt anything at all from the experience ...
2. whether it had all been worthwhile ...
3. whether they could now win ...

Less than a fortnight earlier, the ten oarsmen, two coxes and two coaches had congregated at Heathrow Airport in time to catch BA215 to Boston. Resplendent in new "Tour Kit" (generously donated by Mrs Jackson and the Marettts, to whom we are very grateful), and looking much larger than the average Terminal 4 user, the party certainly attracted a lot of attention - not least because we were carrying a set of 12 blades, which customs officers seemed convinced contained all sorts of illegal contraband in their hollow shafts. In addition, MHGH had his bag searched by hand because the X-ray machine could not cope with its varied contents of video equipment, tool bag, rate watch, stroke metres, gate inserts and sundry other trappings all essential to a successful rowing tour and SAAF had his body searched, probably because of its large size and suspicious shape!

After an uneventful flight, notable only for the appallingly low standard of the film, "Off And Running", and the ability of Messers Tucker and Chetwode to obtain and devour three meals each at one sitting, washed down by scores of baby cans of coke, supplied by a bemused steward, we endured a long wait for immigration and a second wait for our transport. MHGH's initial fears about being able to cope with the enormous size of our hired "Dodge 'Ram' V8 minibus" turned to dismay when we tried to fit all of our bodies, bags and blades into a volume that was obviously far too small: but we managed!

The local McDonald's proved to be anything but "fast food" and we were all very tired by the time we got back to Days Inn for our first night. Two time changes on successive days were a recipe for a sleepless night, and most of us woke 3 or 4 times before 8.00 a.m., which was actually 2.00 p.m. GMT, when we were supposed to get up for our huge "marble toast" breakfast.

By some navigational miracle, we stumbled across Belmont Hill School in time for their break. Tim Wood allowed our boys to attend lessons for the remainder of the morning, before getting one of his crew to show us around the site, which included 4 indoor tennis courts that could be flooded and frozen in the winter for ice hockey. After lunch, we rowed in borrowed Scott 4's against their 1st and 2nd boats in a series of five controlled pieces between 5 and 8 minutes long. Initially the crews seemed well matched, with our 'B' crew (John Ostroumoff, Henry Felix, Caspar Ouaroff, John Pratt, cox Mawgan Grace) doing particularly well, although at a slightly higher rate. Fatigue and jet lag took their toll on our 'A' crew who faded so badly towards the end of the outing that Belmont Hill won the last two pieces embarrassingly easily. With hindsight, it was a mistake to include Bill Chetwode and Alistair Tucker in the same crew after they had rushed down from a hard weekend of junior assessment trials immediately before the flight.

An early outing in an 8 the next morning went very well indeed, primarily, I suspect, because most boys had been spoiled rotten by the parents of the American students with whom they were staying. It was followed by an all-too-brief visit to Burlington Mall where Ali Smee found relaxation in an erotic massaging chair, whilst Bill Elliott and other mature individuals invested in battery-operated water pistols for their own version of rest and recovery. The afternoon's more successful work-out against BHS 1st VIII was only spoiled when the thunderously black heavens opened and we were all soaked and frozen by a torrential hail storm. However, the local saying: "if you don't like the weather, wait a while" proved reliable the following day, when an enjoyable extended lunch hour in and around Harvard was spent in T-shirts because of the fierce heat!

Migrating downstream from Belmont Hill's boat house, we rowed three 6 minute pieces against Boston University's Freshmens Crew in the huge Charles River Basin, "winning" the first two at rates of 26 and 28, but losing the last one at 30. A final 30 stroke burst flat out was inconclusive, so the boys could hold their heads up high when they were taken out for a local speciality of chicken wings that were understatedly described as HOT. Rodney Pratt and his wife Liz, meanwhile, tempted the coaches to dine in a Cajune (New Orleans) restaurant where they declined alligator but opted for delicious blackened tuna steaks au poivre instead: this, in some small way, made amends for the lack of home-baked cookies and other delights the night before!

We didn't have enough time for an outing on Thursday morning, so raced for a controlled 20 minutes on B.U.s ergometers:

Caspar was the highest-scoring boy, with 5660m, but SAAF managed to lead by example and beat all comers. A one-hour drive to the smallest state, Rhode Island, was made more comfortable by the BHS roof-rack for our blades and we were warmly welcomed by the Brown University coaches in time for as much as we could eat of a lunch at their refectory: which included a well-stocked salad bar and endless glasses of milk and juices. Was this all part of a plan to slow us down? If so, it was only moderately successful because our 80 held a bigger, stronger Brown crew to under a length on all but a couple of the fifteen 30 or 40 stroke pieces.

Unfortunately, Mawgan began showing signs of chicken pox at this stage, so we changed our plans somewhat on 5th April to enable him to catch the next flight home. It must be said that the remainder of the party had mixed feelings about his departure because we missed his coxing prowess but were very glad of the increased space available inside the minibus once he, his spots and his enormous suitcase were safely back in Britain!

At Groton School, Todd Jesdale allowed us to paddle in two 4's (watched by Mr and Mrs Pratt) before another excellent cafeteria-style meal in the refectory of this fine school in older buildings set around extensive lawns and pitches. The Groton 1st and 2nd IVs probably turned out to be our toughest competitors. Admittedly, they rowed in new, light Empachers, which gave a one or two length advantage over our elderly Schoenbrods and there was plenty of "gamesmanship" on Todd's behalf, but they still beat us by up to three or four lengths in each of the 6 minute rows. Perhaps the greatest shame was that Lawrence Garwood's "big boys" four had actually mastered the art of balancing their boat very well in the previous days paddle and were quite confident before the pieces of work. However, fortunes reversed when Groton nobly raced our eight in matched boats, despite their large stroke-man being decidedly off-colour, as we beat them in each of the 2 minute rows. It was such a good day's rowing that the planned lunchtime BBQ actually ended up being a 4.30 appetizer for boys who walked straight into supper at 6.00 before going to see the "Doors" movie.

En route to South Kent School, we stopped in Hartford to see Mark Twain's house and break the 4 hour journey. It was so hot that, on arrival in the Wrestling Room where we were sleeping, I feel for Bill Elliot's convincing loan of moisturizerr for my red face only to discover that it was Caspar's white paint! You can imagine the fun that I had waking said boys up the next morning for breakfast at 6.30 a.m.!

As a welcome change, rowing at SKS proved to be somewhat less competitive (on the turtle-infested pond) than our previous encounters, and we won four

1000m rows comfortably, at much lower ratings, in successively faster times (3.20, 3.20, 3.15, 3.05): did the fact that Gary rowed in their First IV and Henry Felix in their Second IV contribute to our success?

Choate Rosemary Hall, too, ran short of their own oarsmen and had to "borrow" our spares, resulting in embarrassingly convincing wins for us - despite the enormous size of their school on a campus bigger and better-equipped than most Universities in Britain! Their dining hall alone seated 550 people, so we were hardly even noticed when we turned up in blazers for supper. An enjoyable evening was spent watching rowing videos, playing table football and other games and devouring the entire contents of Ben Sylvester's well-stocked fridge in seconds, when we all stayed in his house right on Lake Quannipaug.

On Wednesday, we drove back to Kent to row against what we knew would be a very good crew. Unfortunately, after an excellent practice of two 8 minute rows, Guy's sharp eyes didn't spot a submerged tree that had already claimed two victims and we gouged a long scrape down the shell of our borrowed Vespoli. Luckily, the Kent School boatman was up to effecting a repair in under an hour the following morning in order that we might have a second practice before meeting K.S.B.C. First VIII ... the outing being notable only for the antics of the launch driver, who attempted a triple toe-loop at full-throttle - a manoeuvre that prompted MHGH to tie his tool bag to a life belt! The pieces of work themselves saw three victories out of three for our eight: rating about 1 pip higher than them, we won the first 2 minute row by half a length; the second 3 minute row by a full length and the third 1 minute 54 second row (!) by "a man", despite starting well down!

Pete Washburn of Phillips Academy, Andover, leant us quite a nice wooden eight to get used to before THE race but we had a disappointing row due to fatigue, another new boat, nother new river, etc etc! A pre-race pizza party helped revive dampened spirits, as did Ali Smee's purchase of a pair of roller blades and SAAF's record score of 97 lines on the "Game Boy" (although this had taken almost as many hours of practice!), before a final night abroad.

While John Ostroumoff went to Harvard for an interview, an early morning sharp paddle down the course and two 250m rows gave the selected eight renewed confidence. Crucial pitch changes were given to the precision oarsmen who felt they were digging slightly. Everybody ate huge brunches. The crew psyched themselves up for what they knew would be a testing finale to the tour.

Could they win?

Go! Rating 44 off the start ...
 Half a length down to Kent ...
 Phillips dropped way back ...
 Striding out to about 35 ...
 The pain of lactic acid ...
 Nearly a length adrift ...
 750m of the race gone ...
 Try the "false" push ...
 Past the boathouses ...
 They fell for it!! ...
 Now the real push ...
 Rating up 2 pips ...
 Over 1000m gone ...
 Level, at last ...
 Only 250m now ...

Everything ...

YES!

It looked a convincing victory, but the official verdict was 4 minutes 20.8 seconds for us, just 0.7 seconds ahead of Kent! A marvellous bit of stroking that earned Chris Marett his "oarsman's oarsman" award and a tremendous way to end a great tour. The crew thanked MHGH for all of his efforts by having a special T-shirt printed: however, if he ever discovers which member of the First VIII can't spell "knows", he will arrange extra English lessons for them!

M. Hayter.



BURR

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COMBEN Scott E., | Poetry Society, 2nd XV Rugby; 2nd VIII; Cross country; Junior squash V. |
| CUMMING, Charles S., | PAL Secretary & Director; PAL prize; Owl tie; 1st XV Touch Judge. |
| GUIHARD, Mathieu, | Tennis. |
| JARVIS, Mark R., | Junior Rugby |
| JESSEY, Daniel D., | U14 XV Rugby Colours; J15 A VIII Rowing. |
| KHOURY, Ziad G., | Drama; Rowing 3rd VIII. |
| LAWSON, Mark J., | Football, squash, cross country. |
| MILLER, Peter J., | 4th Form Art prize; 2nd XI Cricket, 1st XI Hockey (Colours), cross country (half colours). |
| MORPHY, Daniel C.C., | Drama ;3rd XV Rugby, J16 B VIII Rowing. |
| RANSBY, Alexander W.G., | Sailing, choir. |
| ROUSE, Andrew E., | PAL Director, 3rd Form Maths prize; PAL prize, Owl tie.; 1st XI Cricket, Colours; 1st XI Hockey Captain; 1st Rugby, Colours; Captain, shooting. |
| | Dec. 90; Choir. |
| SHERWOOD, Julian G., | Guitar; House colours; Cross Country; 2nd XV Rugby; Athletics; Steeplechase county champion. |
| SIMPSON, Peter L. | PAL Director; Music secretary; Brass group; choir; Kenya expedition, '90; Owl tie; |
| SPALDING, William J., | Photography, art, drama, ceramics; 2nd XV Player of Year; House colours; 2nd XV Rugby; |
| TATCHELL, William J.S., | 1st XV colours, 2nd VIII Rowing. |
| | Chairman Remote Control Car Club; 2nd XI Cricket; 3rd XV Rugby. |
| WALLIS, John S., | |

ORCHARD

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ELTZE, Richard | 2ND XV Rugby; J15 Rowing |
| ALLRICK, Richard | CSM; 1st VIII Rowing; Head of House; County and 1st XV Rugby; |
| BAYNES, Matthew | 1 V Squash; 1 VI Tennis; Army Corporal; |
| CHURCHILL, George | 2 VIII Cox; |
| DARKE, Nick | 3 XV Rugby; 3 XI Cricket; Drama. |
| EMMETT, Mark | Corporal RAF; School Sailing Team. |
| GRACE, Morgan | Cox 2 VIII; |
| HEALD, Chris | 2 VI Tennis; Football |
| IVES, Nick | 2 V Squash; Army Corporal |
| JEMMERSON, Matthew | Sgt.; House Prefect; Cricket Captain 2 XI; Hockey and Rugby 2 XI |
| KOHOUT, James | Photography; Hebridean Expeditions. |
| LACEY, Tim | Rugby 2 XV; Corporal |
| LYTTLE, Boyd; | Corporal ; J16 rowing; House Prefect |
| MORRIS, Neil; | House Prefect; Sgt. RAF; Capt. 2 XV; X-Country Captain; J16 'A' Rowing |
| PHILP, Nick; | House Prefect; Sgt. RAF; 1 XI Cricket; 1 XI Hockey; 3 XV Rugby |
| PRICE, David; | Hockey 3 XI; X-Country team; |
| RILEY, John; | 3 VIII Cox. |
| TILNEY, Max; | Head of College; House Colours; 1 XV Rugby; 2 VIII Rowing; Drama; Media Studies. |
| WILSON, Richard; | 1 XI Cricket; 1 XI Hockey; House Prefect |

EVERETT

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ADAMS, James M., | Squash; Tennis . |
| BARWELL, Christopher G., | Rugby 3rd XV; Hockey 1st XI; Cricket 1st XI. |
| COUSINS, Neil A.J., | Squash. |
| CROLL, Paul A.J., | House Prefect; Computing; 4th Form Maths prize; Chemistry, Physics, |
| | 3rd Form Geography prize, L/SRN. |
| DAVIES, Gareth R., | House Prefect; 1st V squash, 1st VI Tennis. |
| DIAMANTINO, Christoffel; | House Prefect; athletics, cross country |
| DUNNETT, Geoffrey; | House Prefect, 3rd VIII; Rugby 2nd XV |
| HALL, Antony; | Head of House, School Prefect; Captain XV Rugby, 1XI Hockey, Capt. XI Cricket. |
| LE FORT, Pierre; | Cricket 1XI; Hockey 1XI; Rugby, Capt.3XV |
| LENANDER, David; | Tennis |
| PARTRIDGE, Chris; | 3rd XI Hockey |
| RHODES, Micheal; | X-C, Athleactics, 3rd VIII |
| SIMPSON, Micheal; | Sgt.Army; 1XV Rugby; 1XI Hockey; 1st VI Tennis |
| TUCKER, Alastair; | House Prefect P.O. RN Sect.; Assistant Head of House, School Prefect. 1st VIII., Captain of Boats. |
| W.METTERNICH, Boris, | House Prefect, Art, Drama and Poetry Society, Hebridean Expeditions |
| W.METTERNICH, Edwin, | Head Librarian; Art, Poetry and Drama; Andes and Hebridean Expeditions |
| THOMAS, Jocelyn, | J16 Rowing |

WELSH

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ASHTON-WICKETT, James | 2nd XI Cricket, 3rd XV Rugby. |
| BETTS, George E., | School Prefect, 3rd XV Rugby. |
| COOMBES, Matthew A., | Music (Guitar), Reading, Sport, Cycling, U15B Hockey, U14C Rugby, U15B Cricket, Cross-country. |
| CORNWALL, Dominic R. L., | House Prefect, 3rd Form English prize. |
| DAINTON, Simon M., | 4th Form French, History prizes. |
| DERWENT, Oliver E., | |
| ENGLAND, Nicholas | 2nd XV Rugby, Hockey, Junior Cricket. |
| FLEMING, Andrew J. M., | School Prefect, House Colours. |
| GILBERT, Miles, | 2nd XV Rugby, 2nd XI Hockey, Junior Cricket. |
| HAYES, Christopher J., | Computer graphics, Computing, Cinemas, Weight Training. |
| HEPPNER, Daniel L., | 3rd XV Rugby, Drama, Media Studies, 4th Form Biology Prize. |
| HOLEHOUSE, James R., | Tennis, Junior Cricket. |
| KING, Jonathan P., | Head of House, School Prefect, Captain of Tennis. |
| MASON, Julian N., | House Prefect and Librarian, PAL scheme. |
| MIDWINTER, Myles C. D., | Junior Games. |
| MURRAY, Michael D., | 4th XV Rugby, House Soccer Captain, J16 VIII. |
| ROOT-REED, Alexander M. K., | Drama, Choir, Debating. |
| WARDALE, Edward J., | 2nd XV Rugby, 1st VI Tennis, 1st XI Hockey. |
| WATSHAM, Russell J., | Junior Games. |
| WOOD, John S., | House Prefect, Captain of Squash, 1st XI Cricket, 3rd Form PE Prize. |

Our Thanks . . .

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John Ostroumoff (Sport)

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For . . .

Shiplake College Media Studies Department

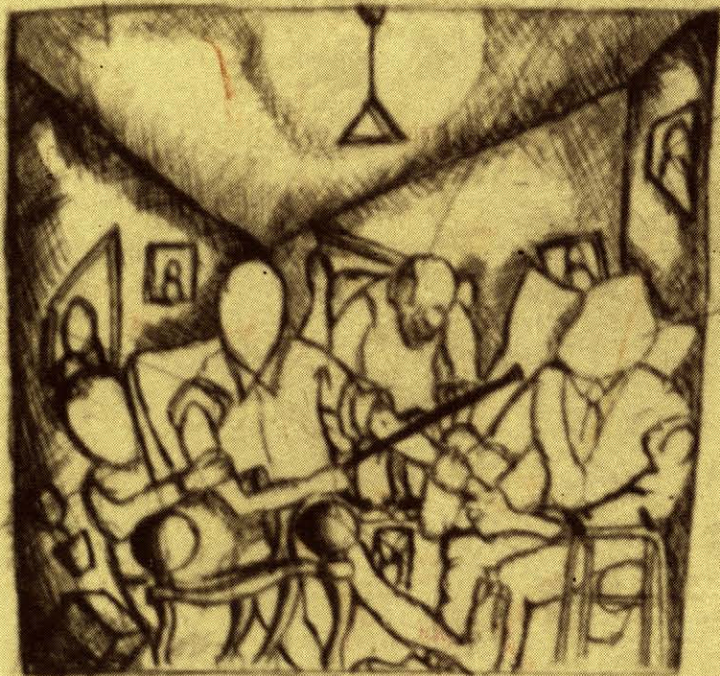


Venezuela '91

In the classroom . . .



Cover: 'A' level work by Mark Wilson



My idea was developed to the same scene
 in the dining room a man in a hat is sitting
 and looking at the end of the table looking at the
 table and the table

man looking at
 the end of the
 table

man

man looking at the end of the table

man looking at the end of the table

man looking at the end of the table