

THE COURT



SHIPLAKE
COLLEGE
1999 - 2000

COLLEGE OFFICERS 1999 / 00



Back: WPT Neale, EWF Dadak, RM Aslin, HRL Brown, HGP Lowry. *Middle:* TSA Douglas, PJ Hickey, TI Wood, TE Constable, NJ Lay, SPG Laurie. *Front:* OC Gradden, WB Radford, TP Scoffham, NV Bevan (Headmaster), EVJ Guy, BP Edwards (Deputy Headmaster), AJW Cain.

College Officers

Head of College

TP Scoffham

Deputy Heads of College

AJW Cain

EVJ Guy

Heads of House

Burr: WB Radford

Everett: OC Gradden

Orchard: RM Aslin

Skipwith: WPT Neale

Welsh: HRL Brown

Captain of Rugby

OC Gradden

Captain of Hockey

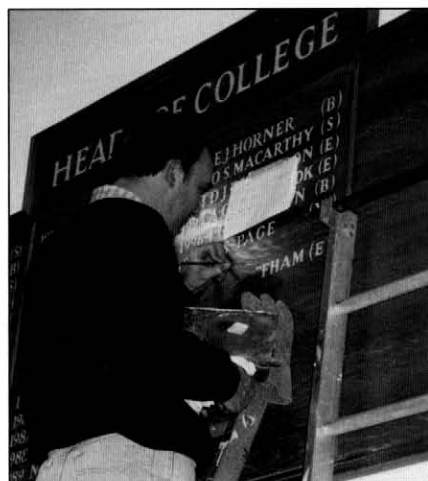
WB Radford

Captain of Cricket

MEP Hamilton

Captain of Boats

SPG Laurie



THE COLLEGE YEAR

Sir Peter Davis

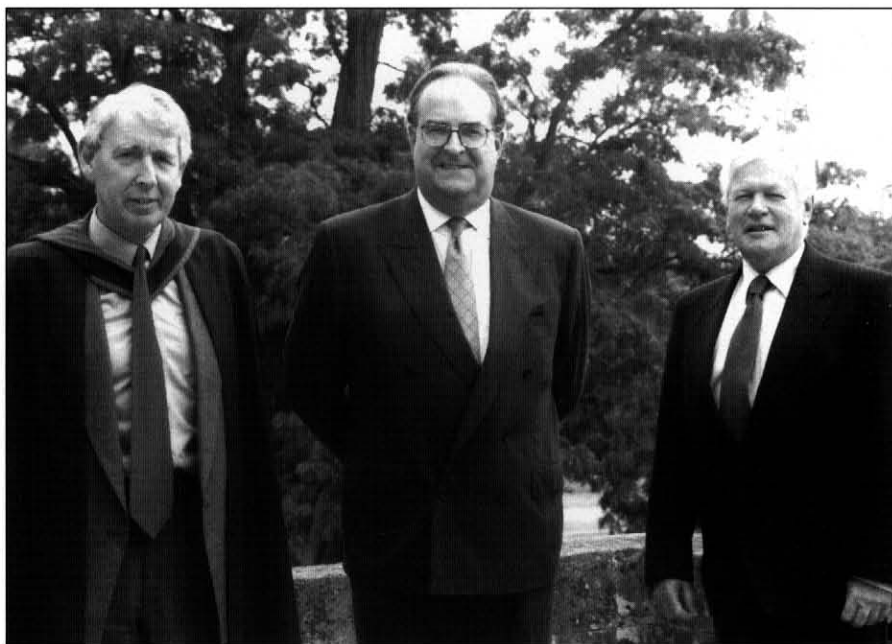
Sir Peter Davis, Group Chief Executive of Sainsbury and formerly the 'Man from the Pru' in the Prudential's renowned advertising campaign, presented the prizes at Shiplake College's Speech Day.

The Headmaster suggested that Sir Peter had not had a brilliant academic career at school, as boys they had been in the same form at Shrewsbury, but Sir Peter retorted that he had won a Geography prize. He then felt compelled to admit that he had become complacent and failed the A Level.

Nigel Gilson, Chairman of Governors, introduced Sir Peter with the advice, "If you want something done ask a busy and effective man." Not only did Sir Peter present the prizes and give a stirring speech he also promised to return to address Business Studies pupils on business and change.

The keynote of Sir Peter's speech was that "you can do anything if you try". He also said that it had taken him time to appreciate what a boarding school education had done for him in terms of "making up your mind, thinking for yourself, surprising yourself and taking control of situations."

M Edwards



Headmaster, Nick Bevan, with Sir Peter Davis and Nigel Gilson, Chairman of Governors.

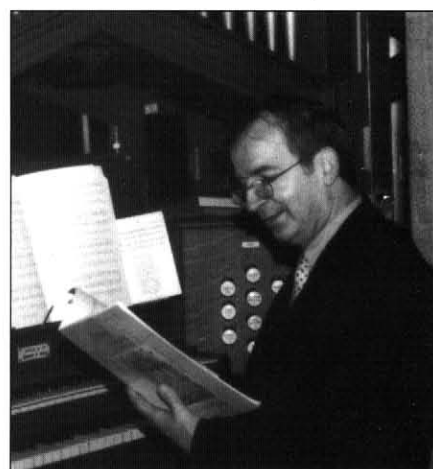
The headmaster, Nick Bevan, addressed governors, parents, staff and pupils at Speech Day in June. The guest speaker, Sir Peter Davis, group chief executive of Sainsbury, presented the prizes. The highlights of the headmaster's speech are reproduced here.

Excellent year

This academic year has been one of the best in the relatively short history of this College. We've opened splendid new facilities. We have sorted out a strong Lower Sixth programme and 12A has been a great success. Our delightful girls continue to be an excellent influence on the boys and we had a really competitive 1st VIII at Henley. Music has been strong, drama remains as popular as ever. Our new Chaplain has made a wonderful start and there is a growing sense of concern and care at the heart of our school. It is a real pleasure to see the close co-operation with sick bay and the work of Sisters Wendy and Clare, so important, so much appreciated by parents and too often unrecognised within the community.

Splendid music and drama

We have enjoyed a splendid year of music and drama which began with that imaginative and unusual production of *Twelfth Night* directed by Chris Alcock and his team. This was a first opportunity for the girls to play leading roles on stage, and not needing to import talent for once really did make a difference to the atmosphere of the occasion. The girls now hold their rightful place as full members of our community. They are certainly here to stay and we as a school are now wholly committed to developing a co-
Malcolm Woodcock, Director of Music



THE COLLEGE YEAR

educational sixth form.

This was followed by a highly original junior play, *Front Page 2001*, directed by Charly Lowndes and featuring a variety of sinister looking crooks who some said were perfectly typecast. *Juryplus* was another triumph for the wonderful, colourful setting of Shiplake Court as a dramatic backcloth to the vision and imagination of the Edwards / Woodcock team supported by a cast of hundreds.

High standards

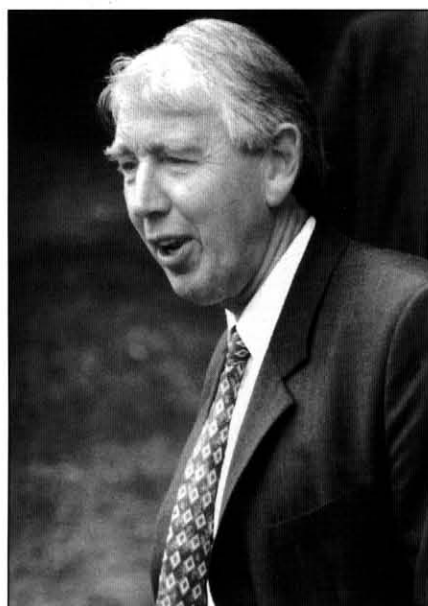
Art continues to flourish and set high standards for other subjects to match. I thank and congratulate David Stoker and Carin Gray on another outstanding display of artistic talent. I am amazed and delighted year after year at the maturity and expertise of some frankly unlikely candidates who find something in the Art School that will remain with them, I suspect, long after they have forgotten much of their other schoolwork.

Sixth form option

A success this year has also been that group of pupils we have called 12A, those who have needed a bit more time to tackle their GCSEs. They have benefited enormously from being able to repeat one or two subjects while also tackling totally new courses in DTP, Media, Business and Sports Studies. I hope that you have seen or will see the work in the wonderful DTP studio which was given to us by the Stationers' Company.

New enthusiasm

One of the new and very popular courses in 12A and Year 10 this year has been Sports Studies. It's been quite a challenge for Shane O'Brien, our new Head of PE, to start a course from scratch as a new teacher to the school



Head, Nick Bevan, after the formalities

but he characterises the enthusiasm and energy of all the new members of staff. He and his colleagues really have made a huge difference and I thank them for throwing themselves so energetically into the wider life of Shiplake. Teaching in a boarding school is but a small part of what the teacher has to offer and Shane O'Brien, Paul Johnson, Susie Ellis and others have succeeded in giving that 12A group a really worthwhile and positive year.

Academic added value

Of course the success of this group must not be judged on academic statistics, nor should any school ever be measured simply on the basis of its league table performance. Indeed no person should be assessed on grades alone without considering character and all those other qualities of personality that go with it. We know that on the basis

of value-added calculations, Shiplake emerges near the top of any league and I must be very careful how I put this but our distinguished guest of honour at Speech Day, Sir Peter Davis, was never in my recollection considered to be an outstanding scholar when we were at school together in the 1950s. I'm sure he was a jolly good schoolboy and worked very hard but I wonder how many prizes he won on Speech Day?

A broader curriculum

As we at Shiplake have said all along, we heartily endorse the principles behind the new wider pattern of four AS levels and the Key Skills. But delivering them is another matter and my concern lies in what is eventually going to be squeezed from the life of a school like this. Is work experience important? Can we really afford the time out of lessons to send our D of E chaps to France and the Brecon Beacons? Will the games



THE COLLEGE YEAR

programme have to be reduced to clash less with work? What about plays, music, debating and public speaking and our famous end of summer term show?

Key Skills

The new curriculum will have its benefits and we are trying hard to make it work. As with so many things here it's just a question of finding the time to fit everything in and I must pay tribute to the work of Barry Edwards, Graham Vick and particularly in the area of Key Skills, Susie Ellis. They have put us right up with, or even ahead of, the field and we are all looking forward with some confidence to the arrival of the new Lower Sixth. I'm most grateful to all

members of the teaching staff for welcoming the changes so openly and being so willing, again, to adjust their teaching to the demands of yet another government change.

Christian values

Our school is not about websites and laptops for all, about technology or statistics; it is about people, good relationships, Christian values and communications. We are very far from being a perfect community and this year we've had our fair share of problems and were gently reminded through one or two comments in a mostly very encouraging Social Services report of areas in which we need to improve.

Community united

A truly tragic experience for us all in the autumn brought the community together in a remarkable way. Our hearts went out to the Stafford family after Tom's death and I know that all families here today will join with me in wishing Melvin and Jackie and their family well. It was wonderful to be with them at the naming of the Tom Stafford and then to see it beat Pangbourne so decisively last weekend. We have a lasting memorial to Tom in a superb racing boat and we are all very grateful to the Staffords for raising the money for such an appropriate gift in which his friends have had so much fun.

NV Bevan

LEARNING TO LEARN

I often wonder how much of past pupils' success can be attributed to their academic education. What percentage of all those hours of chemistry, English, French and religious studies are they using as architect, hospitality manager or software engineer?

As progress in the 21st century gathers pace, cynics may well argue that curriculum content will pass its sell-by date more rapidly than ever before. Yet perhaps the most important criterion for thriving in a changing world is learning how to learn. People and organisations continually have to adapt to survive. Perhaps one of the most important skills a school can provide is the ability to learn.

Realising the importance of 'learning how to learn' we decided to upgrade the significance of our study skills course



Enjoying Book Week: Jamie Falvey

five years ago. We invited the MaST organisation to run short courses on study skills for our pupils. Having just started their GCSE course, Year 10 pupils work with the MaST tutors in small groups. The aim of the course is to help pupils stand back from the frenetic pace of GCSE, identifying strengths and weaknesses in their own study techniques. A refresher course is offered at the start of the Lower Sixth.

A key to drawing up an action plan is to be completely honest. Once the pupils open up it can be a valuable confessional session, "I don't always concentrate for the whole lesson...my reading is too slow...I spend too much time making notes..."

Teachers often sit in on the MaST groups. It can be useful for them too, helping them to sharpen up their teaching technique. Certainly both pupils and the College have

benefited from the focus on study skills. For the last three years Shiplake's academic added value, measured on Durham University's YELLIS system, has placed Shiplake in the top five per cent of schools in the country.

Increasingly education may become more about maximising the individual's ability to learn in an unknown future rather than mastering subject content.

G Vick

PRIZEWINNERS 2000

Year Nine

English
Mathematics
Science
History
Religious Education
Geography
French
Art & Ceramics
Technology
Information Technology
Physical Education

TL Wright
MA O'Shea
JH Boulton
PHW Colman
PHW Colman
TL Wright
M Gourley
M Gourley
RL Lamrock
CJ Stangroom
GP Boggis

Bleackley Modern Languages
Art & Ceramics
Information Technology
Margaret Wells-Furby Science
Senior Reading
Junior Reading
J.R. Kroth Mathematics
McAlpine

SPG Laurie
SPG Laurie
JC McKean
PG Cassells
AC Fox
M Clarke
BAG Bradshaw
A Cadoux-Hudson
E Cook

Asclepian
Junior General Knowledge
Junior Public Speaking
Salmon
Senior General Knowledge

CAV Morse
B Taylor-Raymond
TL Wright
EWF Dadak
OG Miller
TPC Lowndes

Year Ten

English
Mathematics
Physics
French
Chemistry
Biology
History
Geography
German
Technology
Sports Studies
Information Technology
Art & Ceramics
Music
Religious Education

JB Fordham
CE Dicker
DR O'Shea
DR O'Shea
SD Wilks
TR Sedgman
BJ Hogan
MR Jackson
JW Falvey
TA Chambers
JJH Halsall
CWM Broughton-Pipkin
NR Bosch
JR Larkin
IAB Duckworth

Senior Public Speaking
Senior Poetry
Junior Poetry
Spiers Music
Esau Essay
JL Johnson Art Prize
Barron Prize - Senior
Barron Prize - Junior
Army Leadership Prize
JW Whittington Cup
Rupert Mackay Prize

TI Wood
AL Jones
JMD Masters
WPT Neale
PTA Cadman
JL Gregory
JL Jonzen
SD Goldie
F Vitzhum
F Vitzhum
EWF Dadak

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

HM de Lloyd
F Vitzhum
NH Pratt
HGP Lowry
TE Smart

GCSE Prizes

A Susic
AJ Macdonald
JY Kim
BA Lindsay
CJ Sandom

Edinburgh Prize

Matthew Bevin Prize

Caston Memorial Prize

IW Hayden
TS Bellamy
HM de Lloyd

School Prizes

English
History
Mathematics
Physics
Biology
Chemistry
Geography
Technology
Business Studies
Media Studies

CAV Morse
JL Jonzen
SW Yuen
HM de Lloyd
KS Ransom
EVJ Guy
RM Aslin
RM Aslin
JO Woodman
JO Woodman

Headmaster's Prizes

EWF Dadak, NJ Lay, TSA Douglas, PJJ Hickey, TE Constable,
HGP Lowry, SP Laurie, TI Wood, WB Radford, OC Gradden,
RM Aslin, WPT Neale, HRL Brown

Deputy Heads of College

AJW Cain,
EVJ Guy

Head of College

TP Scoffham

DEVELOPMENT APPEAL SUCCESS

The Shiplake College Appeal contributed £300,000 towards the building developments which have been opened during the 1999-2000 academic year. Forty-nine parents generously made donations. Gordon Edington, having just completed five years of fee payment for his son Sam and just beginning another five years for younger son Jack, was the fortunate parent who won a term free of fees.

The attraction of a draw for a term's fees was one of the many successful actions suggested by an appeal committee dynamically chaired by a former parent who is now Chief Executive of the Guardian Media Group, Bob Phillis. He was well supported by parent representatives from each of the year groups, particularly Mike Gouldstone who has also given presentations, Development Secretary, Janet O'Leary, Old Vikings Representatives, David Dalzell and Bob Esau, Deputy Head, Barry Edwards and the Bursar.

Back in October 1999 the draw and the opening ceremony of the Stableyard Development had been preceded by a triumphant fanfare. Parent Mary-Jane



Opening the Stubbs Business Centre

Pugsley, a major donor to the 40th Anniversary Appeal, drew back the curtains to reveal the plaque on the extended English department. Parent Mike Stubbs and pupil Harry Simpson then opened the new Business and Learning Support departments. Visitors toured the new premises, admiring among other facilities, the extensive provision of IT, Media Studies and its editing suite attracted many compliments.

Humanities and Science Opening

Kate Adie, BBC Chief News Correspondent since 1989, officially

opened the Humanities and Science Centre in front of a large crowd of governors, parents, pupils and teachers on the last day of the spring term.

Ms Adie, who has reported from some of the world's most dangerous conflict zones, began her visit by addressing senior pupils in the Tithe Barn on the nature of her job.

"There are four elements to being a news reporter: Getting

there, getting the facts, verifying the facts and getting the story out as quickly as possible," said Ms Adie. "Getting there is not glamorous. I usually arrive in a C130 Hercules, then have to find some transport. Most sensible people are heading in the opposite direction, away from the conflict, as I am heading towards it. Then you have to find the truth, whatever that is. We have to see with our own eyes, hear with our own ears and ask questions, lots and lots of questions. There is always a problem with men and guns, usually drunk men and guns which is even worse.

"In the fog of war it is often hard to establish where the front line is and difficult to distinguish winners from losers. Out in the conflict zone almost everybody has interests to protect or propaganda to promote. It is often those on the side lines who are the best witnesses."

Kate Adie explained how technology, particularly the mobile satellite dishes developed since the Gulf War; satellite mobile phones, digital cameras and lap-top computers have enabled news items to be broadcast almost instantaneously. She told her audience, "to care, to be involved, to be noisy, take notice of the world around you. The future is up to you, you all have a responsibility to do something about it."



The new Humanities, Languages and Science Centre

DEVELOPMENT APPEAL SUCCESS

As she opened the new development Ms Adie explained why she believed the humanities were so important. Speaking of modern languages she said, "English is not the universal language that we believe it is. There are times when it is useful to be able to say 'Please don't shoot me' in another language!

"As I become greyer and wiser I have learnt how important history is too. A sense of where we have come from is vital to understanding our current situation. As a news correspondent, geography is valuable as you try to understand where you are."

While Ms Adie talked with pupils and staff in the first floor Humanities and Modern Languages area, the Headmaster conducted a second opening.

Pippa Waite, a parent, cut the ribbon to declare open the greenhouse dedicated to the memory of her husband. The greenhouse was part of an extensive refurbishment programme for the ground-floor biology and chemistry laboratories.



Top: Broadcaster Kate Adie opens the new Humanities Centre.

Right: Alex Magee in the DTP suite.

Below: Grant Lawson with Toby Douglas in the new greenhouse

Desk Top Publishing Suite

There was yet another opening. The educational charity of the Stationers' and Newspaper Maker's Company installed a desktop publishing suite for the College. The donation of £26,000 has purchased 10 Apple Macs, a colour and mono printer, QuarkXpress and other software. The Stationers' Company donates equipment to schools to encourage young people into the trades of the guild (including printing, publishing, paper and media) as well as supporting projects where it sees a real need. Shiplake is the ninth

school to receive printing and publishing equipment. This was an important new venture for the company as previously they have provided traditional printing equipment.

At the opening event, members of the charity talked with pupils using the suite for their work in a variety of subjects



including Design Technology, Information Technology and Media Studies. The Headmaster thanked the charity for their generous support and commented on how the skills gained in the DTP suite would enhance pupils' CVs. After the Master of the Company, Richard Harrison, had unveiled the plaque he explained how the charity was keen to give young people a taste of work in the industry. "This is not tomorrow's technology, this is the technology of today," he concluded.



M Edwards



Duncan Lamrock, Duncan Malcolm, Alex Hunt, Dominic Vickers and Tom Sedgman

Robotics

A team of six pupils is designing and building a machine to enter into the BBC's Robot Wars programme. The boys meet on Thursday at lunchtime with the main aim being just to get something up and running.

There is a rectangle base to build on and so far the team has a chassis,

wheels, motors, a battery and a grant for £500 from the Summer Ball Committee. The group has been scavenging around for old bike components, sprockets, old electric wheelchair motors and golf buggy wheels.

AF Hunt

Viking Voice

The Viking Voice, now in its third year of publication, continues to shock, amaze and delight its avid and adoring public. *The Voice* team has had a bit of a mixed season this year, with writers producing fantastic work for one issue, then never turning in anything ever again. Such is the life of an underground publication. Nevertheless *The Voice* has had some fantastic issues. Who can forget the Valentine *Voice* back in April, when the Rakhorst/Ransom photos sent shock waves through the school? Or the Hambrake story where the infamous rowing coach's car (or its remains) caused the entire school to cringe as did the Ben Nickerless story.

Thus it remains to give credit where credit is due. The *Viking Voice* team of the 99/00 series consisted of Richard Allen, Andrew Fox, Ben Nicholas, Steve Wood, Jo BurrIDGE, Harriet Ryan, Kit Murray, with editors-in-chief Miss Suzie Ellis and Gap Tutor Brendan Bolton. We invite anyone who wants to be involved to come forward. Ideally we would like to make it a fortnightly publication and this would be an easier task with eyes and ears reporting to us from all years. There's always news to tell and gossip to spread!

B Bolton

New Sixth Form Curriculum

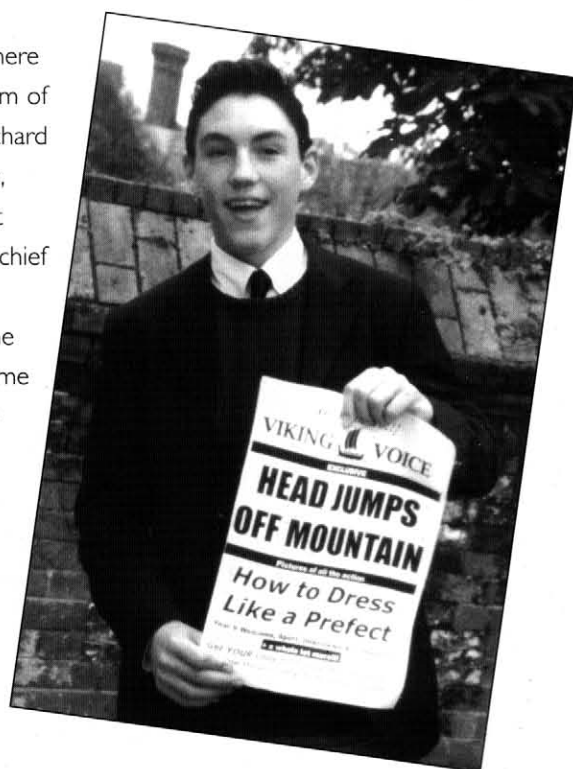
Those of us brought up on a diet of 'O' and 'A' levels will be interested to learn that the system with which we were so familiar has now gone forever.

'O' Levels were replaced by GCSEs in 1986, and now three 'A' levels taking two years are supplanted by four 'AS' levels sat at the end of the lower sixth, followed by 'A2's, as they are currently designated.

The main aim of these reforms, prompted by the Dearing Report, has been to broaden the sixth form curriculum and, with that in mind, key skills in numeracy, literacy and information technology are also being taught to lower sixth formers from September 2000.

Very good luck to our first cohort of sixth formers facing the new specifications this year. They need have nothing to fear.

BP Edwards



COLLEGE NEWS

Charity Bike Ride

The ride took place in the summer holidays. The day started with fresh cool weather when we arrived at school. Then we cycled onto the tow-path to Henley, along the Fair Mile. After 11 miles we got up to North End and stopped at Chris Nichols' dad's house. His dad then cooked us all a wonderful brunch. Then it was the next eight miles to Ewelme. Next it was an uphill stretch and some of us had to push.

At the top there was a steep hill going down and we got up to forty miles an hour! The Ridgeway, a little dirt track, was a bad idea - it was full of potholes and deep indents. There was a slight hill where Chris Alcock shouted, "Yahoo!" and that was the last we heard of him until we found him in a bush round the corner.

Further on, everyone was ahead and I was catching up when the ground went from beneath me and I went over my handle-bars, did a somersault and landed on my back. Ouch! Then Chris Nichols decided to cycle too close to a bramble bush.

After a few more painful incidents and 36 miles we were shattered but back at Shiplake College. The ride raised £2000 for the NSPCC hospice.

Oliver Collis Year 10



Young and enterprising: Harriet Ryan and Jon Ravn

Young Enterprise Valentine Business

Entrepreneurs from the sixth form took a Valentine's theme to boost their marketing at the Oxford Young Enterprise Fair.

'His-n-hers' was the slogan, as the boys sold 'Think before you drink' glass beer mugs and the girls focused their sales charm on jewellery. Mark Jones admitted: "The girls did better with their rings and necklaces. There was a lot of interest in the products but it was difficult to get people to part with their money."

The dozen company members are part of the national Young Enterprise Scheme. Businesses are very keen to support Young Enterprise. Decades of experience have demonstrated that students learn a lot from setting up their own company. They have to raise finance by selling shares, then there are all the problems of producing the stock and marketing. Firms are prepared to finance the scheme and donate advisers.

Platinum Innovations have been fully supported by adviser Vicki Green of Midland Bank and retired personnel senior executive Peter Allen. It is the advisers' job to bring a touch of reality, tempering all the initial enthusiasm and to encourage the company when the going gets tough. The advisers are very good at pointing out the realities of team dynamics as well as the need for firm objectives and action plans.

Aspiring business tycoons receive a pack explaining what their job involves and this can range from company secretary to production director. When the time comes for the firm to liquidate and pay out to shareholders, each company member has to contribute to a report explaining how the scheme has helped them to understand what taking part in a business really means.

Company Members: S Hotchkiss, C Grabowski, M Manners, H Ryan, D Vickers, J Ward, M Jones, H Colvin, A de Borman, L Pitts, J Ravn, C Keyser, O Miller, W Schick, K Ayton, J Robinson.

Left: Mark Jones marketing beer mugs

LS McDonald

COLLEGE NEWS

First ladies

Shiplake College's historic first two years' intake of girls, in the lower and upper sixth forms.

Left to right, back row: Harriet Ryan, Anna Ransom, Charlotte Morse, Kate Ransom, Ilana Rakhorst, Jessica Jonzen; front row Jo Burridge, Eleanor Guy and Lucy Pitts.



Sir Garfield Sobers visits Shiplake

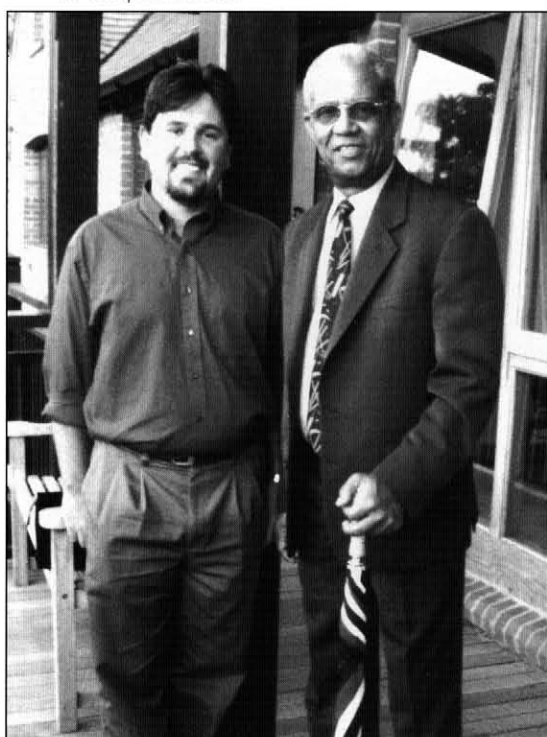
Sir Garfield Sobers spoke to cricketers, parents and teachers on a recent visit to the College. His main mission was to prepare the pupils for their planned tour to Barbados in April 2001. Then questions from a fascinated audience encouraged him to talk about cricket, his playing days and the state of cricket now.

Sir Garfield, who played in 93 tests spanning two decades, spoke of his love of the game, "Some years I only played three or five tests a year. It made it difficult, you could lose your form. Nowadays some countries play fifteen tests a year. I would have liked to have played cricket every day if I could. I was proud to give everything for my country."

Asked his opinion on match-fixing and the Hansie Cronje case, he said: "I have no sympathy for him. There was no excuse for what he did. So many people looked up to him and he was

the last person in the world you would have expected to become involved with match-fixing. Sadly there will be a lot more coming out soon, more names will be involved. Cricket has changed, people are interested in playing for what

Alex Hunt, Barbados Tour Manager, with Sir Garfield Sobers



they can get, rather than what they can put in. I can always remember Barry Richards saying of his career, 'I wish I'd scored fewer runs and made more friends.' "

Sir Garfield encouraged the Shiplake pupils to play for their team and to remember that they were ambassadors

for their country when they toured the West Indies. He told them, "to play as a member of a team, not as an individual. Whatever your team needs you try to do it. Averages signify nothing. Records mean nothing."

He expressed his disappointment with the England team, "The selectors keep running back for older players. They say they want experience but they never give the younger players a chance. You only get experience through playing. County cricket doesn't provide the experience required for Test Match cricket."

M Edwards

COLLEGE NEWS

ICT takes off

Information and Communication Technology is active on three fronts: teaching, technical facilities and training staff.

This year sees the first A level cohort waiting for their results. They are pioneers, with a second wave about to start a second year, and around twenty copies of the summer reading list went home with Year 11 students. How many will actually use time on the beach to read *Being Digital*, *Cybergypsies*, *In Code* and *Business @ the Speed of Thought* will be tested in September.

We also pioneered the European Computer Driving Licence.

Enthusiastically taught by Suzie Ellis, almost all who took the course now have an impressive log book stamped with their success at all seven modules - this is a practical skills assessment managed by the British Computer Society and recognised by universities and employers throughout Europe. Year 9 showed their potential in a test based on the new Key Skills pilot exam which is aimed at sixth formers. Forty per cent of the year are already working to the standard expected of students three years older.

The College network expanded further this year: all new teaching areas are connected, and Burr and Everett houses have sockets in every room. We have been planning wireless networking for Skipwith and Welsh as the department does not want to be responsible for running cables through the elegant wooden panelling of Skipwith!

Soon after Everett was connected we reviewed the security needs of the system: hardware firewalls, installed by Ruth and Mark Cotton of Deskscreen Solutions who keep us online, now protect various parts of the network, as



well as our link to the internet. We are shopping for extra bandwidth this summer, as prices for ADSL and other good things continue to fall. We will also be upgrading the stable yard computer room into a full multimedia suite, and providing a CD ROM section for the library, making use of the software titles bought with Tesco vouchers, thanks to wonderful support from parents.

We have started to consider videoconferencing. The first camera was installed by Dave Marshall of our other

support company Delph, as a surveillance aid following the appearance of the mouse thief. So far three mice and one ball have disappeared.

The teaching staff covers a wide range of skills - from a clutch of MAs in IT to keen beginners. The latter group spent Thursday evenings as students on a course in basic word processing and spreadsheet skills run at Shiplake by Amersham and Wycombe College, with some spouses and parents joining in as well. The pass rate was 100 per cent, and the idea of three-hour lessons after supper is now being discussed as the strategy with the best results ever seen. More specifically, classroom-oriented courses will be running over the next two years, by which time all staff will be assessed both for IT skills and for their application in specific subject teaching. Finally, many thanks to Mr Boulton for the generous donation of printers. We are always grateful for network equipment that may be surplus to requirements - and for advice and ideas from the many parents in the IT business.



CAM Lowndes

COLLEGE NEWS

U6 Yearbook

'Tis a sad fact of life that after five years together at Shiplake College, members of the departing Upper Sixth have a tendency to lose contact with each other. This is inevitable, but thanks to a joint initiative from Fred Vitzhum, Paddy Ranger and Gap Tutor, Brendan Bolton, the U6 now have a way of maintaining contact, remembering old times and catching up with each other, even after the days of Shiplake College have long gone.

The *Shiplake College Unofficial Leavers Yearbook* is the title of the publication that has just been produced by the U6. Within its covers are two pages from each pupil (a page of photos and a page of details), results of questionnaires, photos from each house and, ideally, enough memories to last a lifetime.

The pupils all thoroughly enjoyed putting together their

pages, and although it seemed that it would never get published, the final result is fantastic and hopefully will serve its purpose well.



B Bolton

"So - how do you wind it on?"



The Esau Essay

This prize was established by Bob Esau, former Head of English, for the most original essay written by a Year 9 pupil. The following extract is taken from this year's prize-winning essay by Piers Cadman, a piece of work following on from Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mocking Bird*.

Boo

I am not a criminal. My keepers are the criminals, they have made me a shadow only seen by people's memory as a beast on the wall. I have always been kept on a leash, not allowed to roam on my own. Well, only for a very short time, but that only made it worse. It was

when I met the Cunningham gang. That was the best time of my life. Whatever I did they wouldn't criticise me, unlike my family. We went everywhere and did everything we wanted. We were all kings of our own worlds. And I loved it. I was respected by my school friends. Nothing could go wrong, till the first moment of madness.

We had taken out a friend's Flivver and were backing around the square when Mr Conner waddled out of the police station. I wasn't driving so I couldn't stop the car. When we finally did, we all ran into the station. Conner came in and went after one of the boys who was in a cell, but he was too quick. The boy

went straight past Conner, locking the door behind him.

Hungover the next day we were all rounded up and brought to court. We were sentenced to go to the state industrial school. It was more like a summer camp and would get me away from home, so I was not too upset. I just had to stand the wrath of my father but what could he do?

My father knew all of this. He would not hear of it and asked the judge to release me to him and he put me under house arrest. To my horror he agreed. My faith in the justice system collapsed. I didn't know it but this was the start of my life of solitary confinement.

COLLEGE NEWS

Skipwith wins Nielsen Trophy

The artistic counterpart to the Baldry Trophy reflects each House's contribution to music, drama, speaking and writing during the whole year. Large scale events such as the House Music competition attract as many as 50 points for the winners, but every appearance in a public event - such as a play or concert - earns at least one point, with two for a major role or solo. Among the stars this year were:

Senior Reading: Andrew Fox (winner) and Stephen Wood (2nd)

Junior Reading: Matthew Clarke (winner) and James Larkin (second)

Orchard House General

Knowledge team: Alex Cain, Tim Lowndes and Marcus O'Shea

Balloon Debaters: Andrew Fox, Joseph

Actors: Will Neale, Ed Dadak, Andrew

Fox, Chris Smith, Charlotte Morse, Jessica Jonzen, Steve Wood, Kit Stangroom, Braeden Hogan, Richard Allen. Stage manager - Jon Lindsay.

Musicians: Eleanor Guy, Will Neale, Ian Hayden, Andy Jones, Ed Dadak, Jon Ravn, James Larkin, Rob Yetman, Ollie Roitt.

It is pleasing to see Everett's artistic fortunes on the rise with some great singing and some very talented actors in Year 9.

The presence of so many musical girls helped Welsh into a very close third place behind Burr House.

Skipwith's solidly talented actors and soloists, combined with a widespread involvement in every event (even if they missed points in the House Music competition this year), gave them an admirable victory.

Totals: Skipwith 98, Burr 79, Welsh 75, Orchard 64, Everett 47.

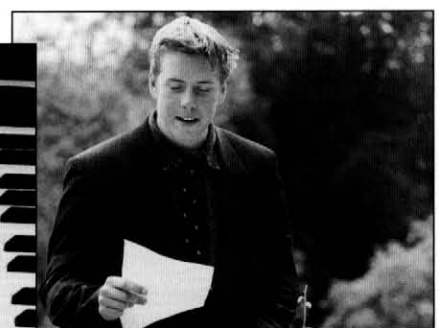


Will Neale (Skipwith) receiving the Neilson Trophy from Viv Daly.

Holt, Tom Stafford and Tom Wright

Esau Essayist: Piers Cadman

CAM Lowndes



COLLEGE CHAPEL

The chaplain's first year

"Well, of course, you had a difficult start didn't you?" said often by well meaning people on meeting the new Chaplain. And yes, I suppose in some ways I did. The tragic death of Tom Stafford hit the school for six. But after some 28 years of being a priest one accepts that the depths of despair as well as the heights of joy are all part of a clergyman's diet. It was certainly an unusual experience to conduct the funeral of somebody I had never met; yet it will always be thanks to Tom that I got to know so many people so very quickly. And my thanks to his two wonderful parents for all the support they gave me, they really are two very special people.

Beyond the tragedy however, it has been a wonderful first year and often great fun! It is important for a Chaplain to do two things. First to ensure he is readily available to all who may need him and second to ensure that the things he stands for are never allowed to become the 'also rans' of school life. In an age when we have thrown away so much of a wonderful rich heritage it is all too tempting to allow the easy, convenient and, hand in hand with those two bedfellows, the material, to become the norm. The spiritual dimension can easily be outpaced by matters concerning 'body' and 'mind'; but without it young people have no real yard stick by which to truly discover themselves. Even at Shiplake one is conscious of a few young folk with no sense of direction or vision other than that of self-interest, and that is sad. I inherited a splendid group of Chapel Wardens and they were slightly surprised to discover that I did rather expect them to take some responsibility for the worship in school! A new broom and a new regime was not entirely easy for



Top: The Shiplake College Chapel wardens

some of them but they coped extraordinarily well, concluding the term with an admirable final Sunday service. My thanks to them all and especially to Ed Dadak for being a unique Head Chapel Warden resplendent in his new gown of office.

As well as the Friday morning Communion we have now introduced a House Communion in a different House every Wednesday evening and in the parish church on the first Wednesday of the month. These have got off to a very good start. We also have informal prayers over tea or coffee before school on Tuesdays with each house being represented. A daily school cycle of prayer has also been put together.

Rev. Robert Prance and Joe Holt



Welsh and Burr House have conducted two splendid Family Services and Skipwith is all set for action for a Harvest Family Service on October 15th, with Everett and Orchard waiting in the wings for the following two terms. It is also good to be able to welcome parents and friends to these services although I do underline that families are always welcome to our services and we do urge you to give your support whenever you can. Thirty two pupils were presented for Confirmation in May following a period of three months' preparation and an excellent 'away day' to Salisbury. At best, Confirmation is the mutual working together of pupils, parents and parish priest with the School Chaplain acting as a kind of co-ordinator. In many cases this seemed to work very well this year but I hope we can improve on it.

We have been able to welcome a number of visiting preachers over the past year including our Suffragan Bishop Anthony of Dorchester who is now moving to be Diocesan Bishop of Ely. We all wish him well for the future and thank him for the support he has given the school. It was especially good to welcome the former Headmaster Peter Lapping and his

COLLEGE CHAPEL



Pupils on Confirmation retreat at Salisbury

wife in the autumn term as well as the Chaplain to Millfield, Dr Simon Bloxham-Rose. Martin Marriot, former Headmaster of Canford, Paul Carling, until recently Headmaster of Assam Valley School, India, the Rector and Assistant Curate of Henley have also been to speak to the school and have been much appreciated. Nor do we forget Martin, our vicar, for his gentle support, together with the Headmaster

and other members of staff. They have played important parts in the worship by reading, singing, playing and administering the chalice. We shall

especially miss Brian Macdonald who has faithfully administered the chalice for several years.

Each House was asked to put forward an idea for a Lent Project and a series of talks to promote each was enthusiastically given before the school was invited to vote. By a fairly strong majority the Macmillan Nurses Trust came top of the list and a series of events to raise money took place, culminating in about £2000 being raised. Harry Colvin, Max Manners and Eleanor Guy have been running a worthwhile Alpha-style group on Tuesday evenings. They are looking at ways of 'firming up' the programme and are to be congratulated on providing an excellent

Ascension Day at Stonor Park, Henley



informal forum to which anyone can come and discuss and question the fundamental questions about the Christian Gospel.

Ascension Day, the poor relation amongst Christian Festivals, was observed with some 20 pupils setting off to Stonor Park where they climbed up the hill and held a short service in the pouring rain. This was followed by breakfast and an hour of rounders. It was a memorable event and will certainly be repeated.

I must add a special 'thank you' to Malcolm Woodcock, Director of Music, for all his endeavours within the Chapel sphere. It has been a pleasure and a joy to be involved with him. I thank Malcolm for his support and for involving me in much of the musical life of the school.

There is no question that Shiplake is a good and godly place to be and whatever your son or daughter's personal belief I do believe he or she will be given every opportunity to discover and to question the spiritual dimension of their lives during their time here. This is in no small measure due to my predecessor Edward who laid some very firm foundations for me to build on. I am most grateful to him for his welcome and support to me, and not least for the wonderful altar cross he has generously donated to the school. Thank you Edward.

RP Prance



Robert Luppi

TITHE BARN EVENTS

AUTUMN TERM

Cause Celebre

"An exceptional case of notoriety". An unusual and dynamic trio whose repertoire ranges from the famous and fabled to the flavours of folk. James Shenton (violin and penny whistle), Jenny Caws (oboe, oboe d'amore, cor anglais) and Nicholas Houghton (piano) delighted us with arrangements from Bach to Kurt Weill.

Sonny Black and the Dukes

Delicious jazz with a flavour of the blues. Sonny Black (guitar), backed by Daniel Smith (keyboard), George Pearson (bass), Dino Coccia (drums) and Alan Glen (harmonica) made an evening to remember. Dan Smith will be back in September 2000 with his own band.

Andrew Jones



Ian Hayden

Banging the Drum: percussion calls the tune

A dazzling collection of percussion instruments. Andrew Whettam's performances featured stimulating and informative introductions to both pieces and instruments, opening up an intriguing and fascinating world to the listener. The visual drama of the marimba is unequalled by any other instrument, while the aural dimension is haunting, beautiful, rich and captivating. The highlight for those who lingered was the Headmaster's marimba solo!

The College Big Band

Under the direction of Gary Howarth, the Big Band has been dazzling audiences wherever they play - their River Trip concert for visiting Headmasters produced huge praise. This Tithe Barn event featured a jam session with guest musicians.

SPRING TERM

Chopin

"It is a novel idea and you have the impression of a real link with the past and with a legendary artist..." The life and times of Frederic Chopin were vividly portrayed in music and words by virtuoso pianist Robin Colvill and by narrator Kim Colvill. This was a wonderful start to our spring term season - making a thrilling story of the life of the great composer.

The Soloists

The strength of music at Shiplake was displayed by these solo performances by A level music students. They provided mellifluous, not to say multifarious, harmonies. Performers included:

Ed Dadak (guitar)
Eleanor Guy (trumpet)
Ian Hayden (clarinet)
Andrew Jones (clarinet)
Rob Yetman (saxophone)

Debating

The profile of debating is rising, and a spirited debate, chaired by Robert Prance, saw passionate speeches from Alex Smith and Jo BurrIDGE, wit from Andrew Fox and Steve Wood, and a moving contribution from Will Schick.

Nocturne

This group of all-female singers was not recommended for anyone suffering from high blood pressure. They performed a terrific range of well known songs from musicals and movies with a touch of soul - all in close harmony and clinging dresses. The performers included Miss Caroline Oxley - now Mrs Lauder.

CAM Lowndes

MUSIC

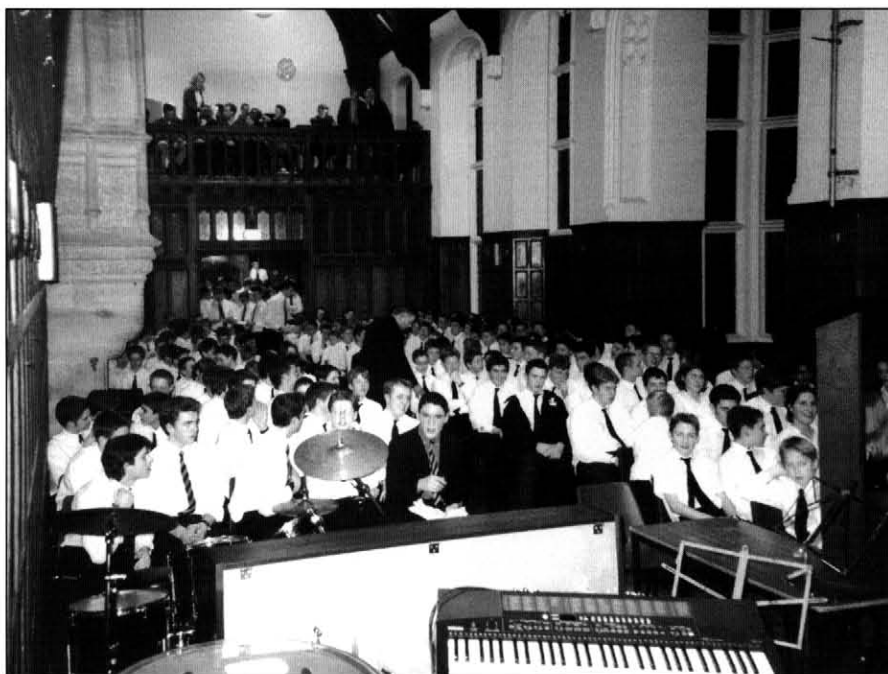
Autumn term

During the autumn term the music department was kept on its toes with a busy schedule of concerts and rehearsals. The first of these was the Autumn Recital held in October in the Great Hall. With the standard of the music department always improving, a much wider variety of ensemble groups and music appears with each concert. The brass group opened the show with three rousing numbers, enhanced by the presence of percussionist, Alex MacDonald. Teachers Andrew Leslie and David Wilson played alongside pupil James Larkin providing a good trombone section. The sound was bigger and better than ever.

Andrew Jones played *Sonata Number One* in C Major by Lefevre and Tom Hall, also on the clarinet, gave the audience an inspired performance of Prelude from the *Five Bagatelles* by Gerald Finzi.

An ever growing choir, now more balanced with the addition of the girls, added a flavour of Ireland to the evening with two Irish songs; *The Harp That Once Through Tara's Halls* and *The Flight of the Earls*. Moving on, Eleanor Guy sung the alto solo joined by the choir for the chorus to Henry Purcell's *Come Ye Sons of Art*. The selection of songs from Simon and Garfunkel were clearly enjoyed by the audience. Robert Yetman stepped into the limelight playing *Latin Rondo* (Grant) on the alto saxophone. Ian Hayden and Ed Dadak both demonstrated their singing skills. Then something a little different, a chamber group with violins, recorder, an oboe, clarinets and a cello. They performed *Sciliana* from the concerto for oboe and strings and *Sinfonia* from *Almira*, both by Handel.

Flautist Jon Fordham and oboist Jo



All set for the house music competition



James Larkin

Burridge playing the *Toreadors' Song* and *Habanera* from Bizet's *Carmen* joined the woodwind group on this occasion. It is not often that we have the opportunity to hear a good recorder player but Eleanor Guy played a Grade

8 piece called *Sonata Number 4* in F Major by Handel.

The Big Band closed the evening with a favourite piece from their repertoire - *Black Orpheus*.

With the arrival of Advent Sunday came the customary Christmas concert. This began with the complete rendition of Henry Purcell's *Come Ye Sons of Art*. The audience enjoyed solos from the following: Caroline Oxley, Jo Burridge (sopranos), Eleanor Guy, Suzie Ellis (altos), Robert Yetman, Tom Hall (counter tenors) and Ian Hayden and James Larkin (basses).

Traditional carols with audience participation were sung exuberantly. Once more Eleanor Guy excelled herself with the performance of the *Trumpet Concerto* by Hayden. The welcome return of the saxophone quartet playing the *Pink Panther* followed a varied selection of songs from *Les Miserables*. The evening was rounded off with the appropriately seasonal song *White Christmas*, sung by all the performers and the audience.

C Oxley



Gary Howarth with Nick Jamieson

Spring term

A whole host of entertainment was in store for the audience attending *Music for a Spring Evening* held in The Great Hall on a Sunday evening in March. The programme had a lively start with the Brass Ensemble performing two Latin dances, the rumba and the tango. These certainly had people tapping their feet. Eleanor Guy silenced the audience with an excellent rendition of *Adagio* from *Sonata* for piano and trumpet composed by Flor Peters. This piece was on the Grade 8 syllabus, the exam she took in March and passed with distinction. Eleanor also played a brilliant recorder solo, *Allegro* from *Concerto in F* by Sammartini. Other solo items included a very moving performance of *Romance* by Gerald Finzi played by Ian Hayden. The Saxophone Quartet livened up the evening with four short jazzy numbers; *Jerk*, *Short Swing*, *Walking*

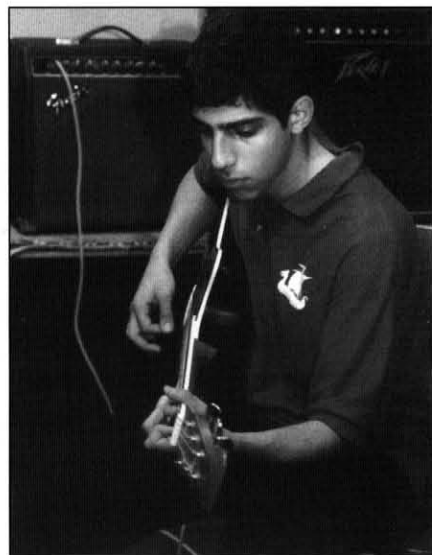
Tune and Blues. Rory Lamrock played with the saxes for the first time; he is a very keen member of the group. The ever-growing Shiplake College Orchestra excelled themselves with a rousing performance of Beethoven's *Fifth Symphony* - not all of it, that would have taken us well into the night! They also played Bach's *Fugue* in E flat, extracts from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and the theme from *Brideshead Revisited*. Ed Dadak sang beautifully *Thou All My Bliss* by Giordani. His usual cup of tea is a more popular style, a multi-talented young man. The choir gave a wonderful selection of singing. *My Heart Will Go On*, the theme from the film *Titanic* was much applauded.

The Big Band brought the evening to a close with *Besame Mucho*, a lively Latin number arranged by our own Gary Howarth, and *Don't Get Around Much Anymore*. We had the pleasure of vocalist Jane Edwards singing to us and we all enjoyed another successful evening of Shiplake music.

C Oxley

Rock Concert

To people walking past the Tithe Barn one May afternoon, the sounds of the ninth annual Shiplake Rock Concert would have come as a shock. The event gave a chance for young musicians to



Michael Koutsofta

get some experience on stage in front of an audience.

The musicians ranged from 14-year-old Ollie Roitt, who had just performed live on Kiddz FM Radio to 18-year-old Ed Dadak who has cut several CDs with his band playing his own songs. There was a great mixture of music ranging from cover songs to songs written by the bands themselves. There were four main bands, allowing 16 of Shiplake's talented pupils to perform. Playing to a packed, excited crowd, many boys said how nervous they were before going on, but to hooded Steve Wood, who delighted the crowd with rap on the struggles of Africa, it was "just awesome". The notable performers on the night were Alex Macdonald on



drums, Alan Pownall, vocals and John Ravn on guitar. Everyone had a great time and we hope many of the boys will continue to take their music further.

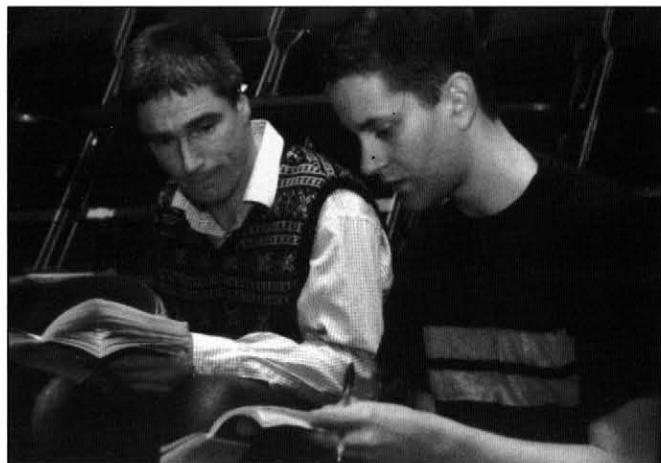
B Bolton

DRAMA

Twelfth Night

Twelfth Night was written exactly 400 years ago in 1600; one assumes from its title that its purpose was festive, though whether it was designed to be performed on January 6th is dubious. However, with a character called Feste at the heart of the revelry at Olivia's court and another called Belch displaying the most flamboyant of its excesses, it is clear that merrymaking is crucial to an understanding of this comedy. Indeed, it is what makes the sub-plot, involving Sir Toby, Sir Andrew Aguecheek, Maria, Feste and Malvolio, so much more striking and original than the rather staid and formulaic main plot of disguises and misunderstanding that culminate in the inevitable resolution of the marriage scenes. It is significant that in the early 17th century, the play was actually renamed *Malvolio* for a while. The director of Shiplake's 1999 production, Chris Alcock, felt that this mixture of the anarchic and the self-indulgent, epitomised by Sir Toby and his cronies, fitted best into the 'you've never had it so good' years of the 1960s. Joss-sticks, flared trousers and enormous lurid cushions festooned the stage, bringing back (happy) memories for a certain segment of the Tithe Barn

Chris Alcock and Lindsay McDonald



Ed Dadak as Feste

audience only too conscious of "the whirligig of time". Whether the resonances were so meaningful to the younger generation, I am not sure, though the twanging guitars, flowing robes, ban the bomb stickers and John Lennon glasses seemed to put people in the right mood.

And what is the right mood? At the start of the play we witness, in quick succession, the lovesick Orsino, the grieving Olivia and the totally confused Viola. None of these seems to be celebrating anything or 'letting it all hang out' (to quote one of my sixties friends). Then there is the puritanical, if loyal, Malvolio, pompously berating the drunken debauchery of Sir Toby, only to be gulled and punished for his pains. But, because this is a comedy, the spirit of

revelry, sheer enjoyment, even hedonism, spreads, so that by the end what Mr Alcock calls in the programme 'the age of Aquarius' does seem to have dawned, despite our concerns for Malvolio and Aguecheek, and

despite the reminder that "the rain it raineth every day" as Feste, mellifluously played by Ed Dadak, sings in his final song.

So, all in all, we have to share in this sense of fun and enjoyment. I am delighted to report that there was much to enjoy in this production. Chris Smith aided by a wig of, shall we say, generous proportions, caught much of the debauchery of Sir Toby and some of his subversive humour, clearly relishing his liaison with and control over the doltish Sir Andrew, played by Steven Wood with perhaps a little too much panache, considering the timidity of the character. Ilana Rakhorst (Maria), she of the Mary Quant dress and long white boots, masterminded with authority and vigour the comic subplot whose victim, Tom Wood as Malvolio, gave another masterful performance to add to his many Shiplake credits. The pride with which he showed off his yellow(ish) fishnet tights had to be seen to be believed.

The two courts were thoughtfully overseen by Charlotte Morse (Olivia) and Joe Holt (Orsino), the latter at one point bravely baring his torso to be massaged by a girl playing the part that would in Shakespeare's time have been

DRAMA

played by a boy, a part that is actually a girl (Viola) pretending to be a boy (Cesario). Yes, it's very complicated, and it's enormously to Jessica Jonzen's credit that, as Viola, she spoke her lines in such a way that we could actually understand her feelings. Her sense of Shakespeare's verse was mature: she did not gabble. She displayed appropriate anxiety when challenged by Sir Andrew to a duel, and more than a tinge of suffering when speaking obliquely to Orsino of her passion for him. In short, she held the action together and brought us all through to the play's denouement which, though not quite celebratory enough in this reviewer's opinion, nonetheless left the audience in no doubt that the director's bold decision to transform Illyria into Woodstock was more than vindicated.

BP Edwards



Illana Rakhorst and Pip Bonney

Cast

Orsino	Joseph Holt
Valentine	Jo Burrige
Curio	Harriet Ryan
1st Officer	Richard Allen
2nd Officer	Tom Gouldstone
Servant	Richard Allen
Viola	Jessica Jonzen

Sebastian	Jonathan Ravn
Sea Captain	Gordon Marshall
Antonio	Hugo Lowry
Olivia	Charlotte Morse
Maria	Illana Rakhorst
Sir Toby Belch	Chris Smith
Sir Andrew Aguecheek	Steven Wood
Malvolio	Tom Wood
Fabian	Pip Bonney
Feste	Ed Dadak
Priest	Gordon Marshall

Behind the scenes

Director	CE Alcock
Ass't-Director	LS McDonald
Lighting/Sound	Jonathan Lindsay, Will Neale, Jamie Falvey
Set Design	Jonathan Lindsay, Max Manners, Simon Hotchkiss, Chris Grabowski
Costumes/Make-up	C Sayer, J King
Technical Director	P Johnson



*Tom Wood
left
and below,
Chris Smith*



Cinderella

On the last two nights of the Michaelmas term, as Mr Gutteridge's final goodbye to Shiplake, Welsh House treated us to a highly original take on the well-loved tale of Cinderella. Transported in the opening scene to the all-American setting of 'Terry Springer's Arena', the audience knew they were in for something different.

Sam Gutteridge, centre, with Max Manners and Ollie Miller



The plot clung, albeit tentatively, to the original fairytale. Jo Burrige gave a heart-rending version of the eponymous heroine, while Max Manners and Ollie Miller gave splendid performances as two ghastly sisters. Many hidden talents were brought to light, not least of all Richard Jacob as the outrageous stepmother. Interspersed with extracts from 'Terry' played by the director himself, the fairy tale plot continued to unravel with much banter and amusing

repartee. This was a highly entertaining and doubtless most original Cinderella. A suitable high point for the conclusion of term and Mr Gutteridge's departure.

CM Healy

DRAMA

Front Page 2001

Front Page 2001, the play of Charly Lowndes witty script, entertained Tithe Barn Theatre audiences for three March evenings. The play is a humorous combination of future speculation and contemporary social observation. It is set in London, with an elected Mayor, senior police commissioners and the death penalty in noisy operation. Yet the newshounds, sleazily played by Tim Harris, Duncan Malcolm and Jamie Gouldstone, carry on as ever with their poker, sandwiches and cans. Except for Bensinger, the neat Dettox and duster vegetarian freak, played hilariously by Tom Wright, whose sharp suit and fastidious obsessions create comic tension.

Braeden Hogan took centre stage as the journalist Hildy Johnson experiencing a mid-career crisis. He has the Eurostar escape tickets, the chance of a flat on the Seine and a soaring opportunity in interactive website production. The script makes the most of topical allusions with lap-tops, mobiles and newsy language suggesting that the characters are at the cutting edge of breaking stories. Yet they are taken in by internet stocks and a glittering opportunity with Rail Track public relations.

Although some of the large cast was treading the boards for the first time there was plenty of potential evident. Kit Stangroom's brooding performance as the cynical editor suggested a major talent to watch for in future productions.

Flash suited Paul Atchinson gave a commanding performance as hard man Hartman, prone to shouting at journalists. A wig, lipstick and false breasts gave Ben Flanagan a convincing start as drop-in prostitute Mollie Molloy



The cast of Front Page 2001, with writer-director, Charly Lowndes



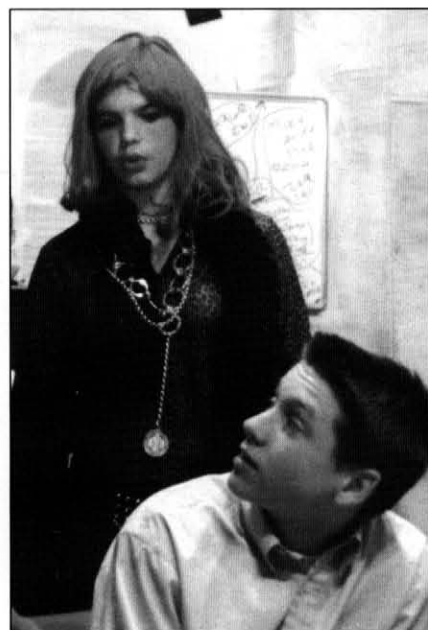
Giles Ferrier

in what was a pacy and entertaining production.

PG Hose

The cast:

Braeden Hogan, Kit Stangroom, Paul Atchinson, Oliver Roitt, Tom Saunders, Tom Sampson, Duncan Malcolm, Jamie Gouldstone, Tom Wright, Tim Harris, Richard Allen, Greg



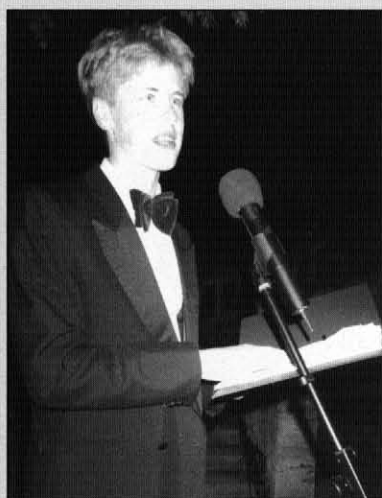
Ben Flanagan and Tom Sampson

Brenninkmeijer, Ben Flanagan, Julian Mills, James Masters, Alex Ward, Matthew Clarke, Adam Gordon, Steven O'Connor, Giles Ferrier, Peter Webb Tom Sedgman

Back stage:

Jon Lindsay, Andrew McDonnell, Jamie Falvey, Rory Lamrock, Oliver Collis, Chris Nichols, Tom Sedgman, Stuart Goldie, Ian Thornton, Sam Tsui, Sabwan Sobhan

Director: Charly Lowndes



Andrew Fox gave a potted history of the Summer Spectaculars. "The first of these extravaganzas was performed in 1984. Its success inspired Malcolm Woodcock to make it an annual event. For 12 consecutive summers Shiplake has witnessed an outdoor show. All but one, *Macbeth*, have been musicals; three have been compilations specially written for the occasion. The scale of these productions has been huge; casts of 100s, lighting galleries towering over costumes of every hue and increasingly sophisticated sound equipment. Highlights of these spectaculars have been the rain of 1995 when flash floods swept part of the set into the basement which was soon over a foot deep in water. Half the costumes were ruined and the lighting gantry was hit by lightning. Mr Woodcock also remembers other near-disasters; the moving death of Lady Macbeth accompanied by the New Orleans Jazz Band playing on the river; the smell of sewage wafting malodorously across the set of *Oliver*; the fire alarms being triggered by the smoke of flaming torches in *Happy and Glorious*. The list goes on and on."

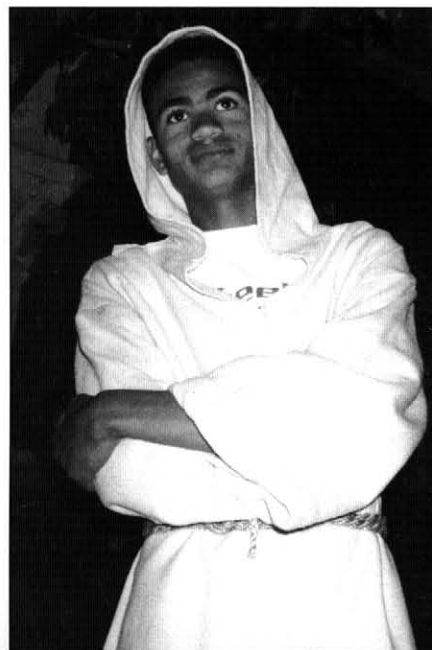
Juryplus - An Evening with the Stars

Andrew Fox, a compere of style, presided over the presentation of the 2000 Vikings for Excellence in the Field of Musical Pageantry. For those unfamiliar with a Viking, it is an award not dissimilar to an Oscar, highly prized in the vicinity of Shiplake.

The Judge, Robert Prance, presided over a jury of SCR colleagues including Charly Lowndes, George Cassells, Ivan Jacklin, Tom Caston, Brendan Bolton and Lindsay McDonald. These were the men with the responsibility of deciding the winners of each category.

The first Viking award was announced by Friedrich Vitzhum. The winner of the "Best Musical with Biblical Characters" section was *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat*. This

presented Joseph (Steven Wood) and his brothers with the opportunity to give an energetic and accomplished performance. They were joined by Ed Dadak for his first song of the evening. Hugo Lowry



announced that *Oh What a Lovely War* had triumphed in the "Best Musical Without Biblical Characters" category then settled back to watch his father and Malcolm White reprise their various

roles. They were supported by Alexis Rivet de Sabatier's natural French and a cast of cheering socialites, soldiers and nurses. The letters home from the front-line hospital were movingly read by Eleanor Guy.

After the break, Harriet Ryan became mistress of ceremonies introducing another chance to see Chris Smith, Steven Wood and Ed Dadak fooling around in a very amusing scene from *Twelfth Night*, winner of the Shakespeare Viking,



DRAMA

while Jo BurrIDGE controlled their merrymaking.

Not surprisingly the list of nominations for the "Best Musical Never Performed at Shiplake" was extensive. Presenter Tom Wright, with an assurance that belied his junior status, was as delighted as the audience by the jury's selection of *Les Miserables*. Jane Edwards' partnership with Ian Hayden for the *Master of the House* number was a triumph. Once again the sweeping stairs were used to great effect for the crowd scenes before the mob stormed the tower to a spectacular pyrotechnic accompaniment. Much credit for the show's success must go to a large band, conducted by Director of Music, Malcolm Woodcock. Pupils Jonathan Fordham, Julian Mills, Alex Macdonald, James Larkin, Eleanor Guy, Tom Hall and Andrew Jones played excellently alongside the professionals for a full and varied programme. This spectacular show was written and devised by Barry Edwards and provided an entertaining vehicle for a number of showstoppers, spectacular choreographed crowd scenes and excellent presenters.

M Edwards



Cast:

Host: Andrew Fox

Guest Presenters: Friedrich Vitzthum, Hugo Lowry, Harriet Ryan, Tom Wright

Judge: Reverend Robert Prance

Clerk: Braedan Hogan

Jury: Charly Lowndes, George Cassells, Ivan Jacklin, Tom Caston, Brendan Bolton, Lindsay McDonald

Highlights from the winning shows performed by:

Alex Alstadt, Myles Coker, Tom Saunders, Finch Field-Hall, Robert Luppi, Joe Holt, Ed Dadak, Ian Hayden, Nic Lowry, Rob Yetman, Jez McKean, Piers Cadman, Edward Cook, Jonathan Finch, Rory Lamrock, Danny Lee, Stephen O'Connor, Oliver Roitt, Oliver Scott, Leo Sum, Nick Allen, James Bailey, Marcus Broughton-Pipkin, Donald Ealand, James Halsall, John Jamieson, Duncan Lamrock, Paddy Colman, Peter Mullan, Kit Stangroom, Duncan Malcolm, Duncan Staples, Boston Taylor Raymond, Harry Simpson, Steve Wood, Alexis Rivet de Sabatier, William Neale, Nigel Baker, Jonathan Boulton, Jo BurrIDGE, Jack Edington, Eleanor Guy, Pierre Kunkler, Michael Oldridge, William Plaisted, John Robinson, Chris Smith, Jane BurrTt, Marjorie White, Candy Jacklin, Jane Edwards, Ian Lowry, Malcolm White, Barry Edwards, Richard Oliver, Charlotte Healy, John Healy, Rosemary Jones, Patsy Lacey, Rae Jones.



Accompanied by the band:

Jonathan Fordham, Andrew Jones, Tom Hall, Eleanor Guy, Julian Mills, James Larkin, Alex Macdonald, Caroline Oxley, David Golby, Patrick Wallace, Gary Howarth, Christine Wells, Sheila Pilkington.

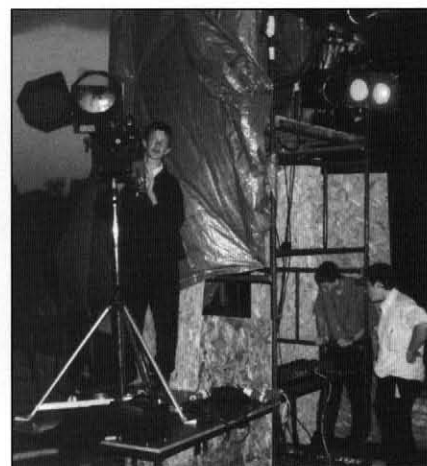
Lighting, sound, backstage and make up technicians including:

Chris Brackl (Soundtrack Productions) Jonathan Lindsay, Paul Johnson, Adrian Percival, Alex Pemberton, Karl Ayton, Chris Sayer, Jill Keene, Simon Brown and the maintenance team.

Production Team: Marjorie White, Lindsay McDonald

Show devised and written by Barry Edwards

Musical Director: Malcolm Woodcock



THE ROAD TO KIKUNDUKU

NV Bevan, Headmaster

Kenya is a land of extreme contrasts. I had not visited anywhere like it since I was in the army. I was fortunate enough to be staying at a club which is the last bastion of old colonial society. Just around the corner the roads were bumpy, dusty, potholed and narrow. The poverty was extreme. Corruption was a way of life and there was little question of going out in the evening for a stroll. Kikunduku is a place which in the last six years has been something that I have conjured with, wondered and talked about, and dreamed of visiting ever since the first Shiplake College expedition arrived there by accident. On their way to the Chyulu Hills they had suffered a puncture and the nearest village was Kikunduku. The whole group, with Mr Wagner who leads our expeditions and now helps with liaison out in Kenya, piled out of their vehicles and found their way to this little primary school where the Headmaster, Christopher Maundu, welcomed them and made them feel at home. Since then we have raised money for Kikunduku, most notably by the 27 mile sponsored walk along the Thames. I wanted to see for myself how our money was being spent. They wanted me to see the projects completed as a result of our gifts and I also hoped to



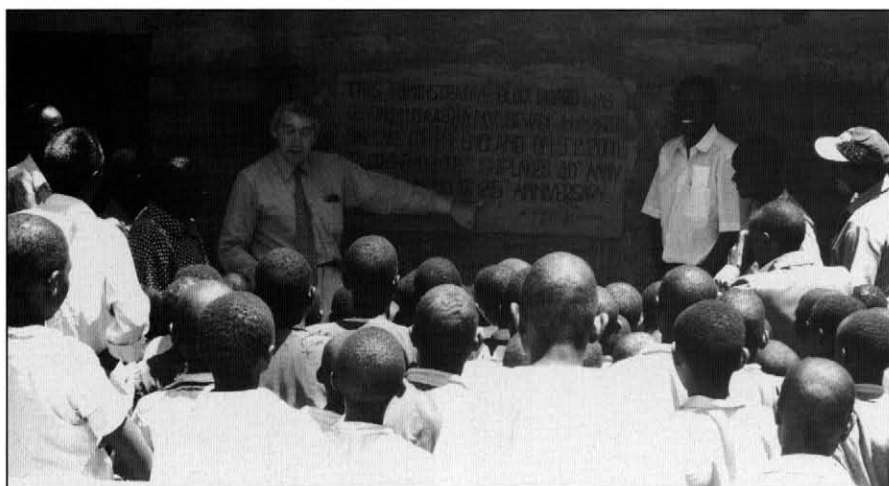
understand better the life-style in that part of the world.

On Wednesday 9th February I left the club at about five o'clock in the morning. Then I witnessed some of the most dangerous driving I have ever known. Huge juggernauts careering towards us in the dark with no lights. You can imagine how pleased I was when after three hours we reached the town called Machinery. There I found two tiny 'technical secondary schools', places that the children from the primary schools go on to. One had a big and important notice announcing it was St Philips Technical Secondary School for Girls, Academy of Dressmaking and Needlework. It looked tidy and neat but was just one tiny

room in which 12 beautifully dressed and behaved girls sat at tables making dresses not, as one might expect, out of cloth but out of brown paper because there was no material for them to use. One has to wonder what sort of future those children have. They were certainly the fortunate ones who had reached the secondary school stage and were

The Welcome Song

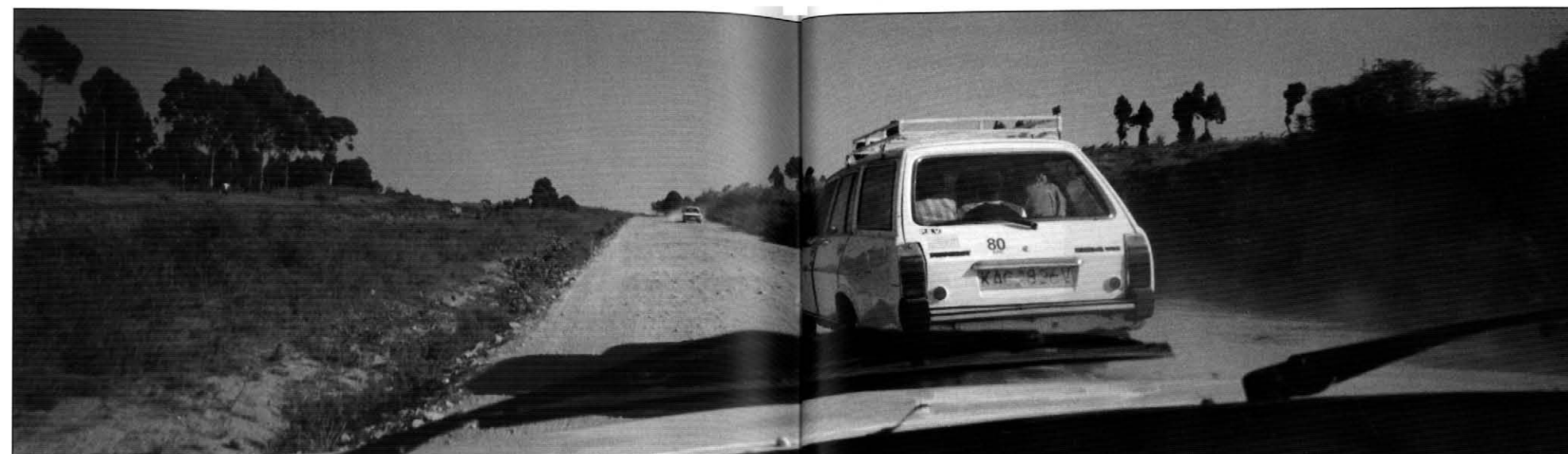
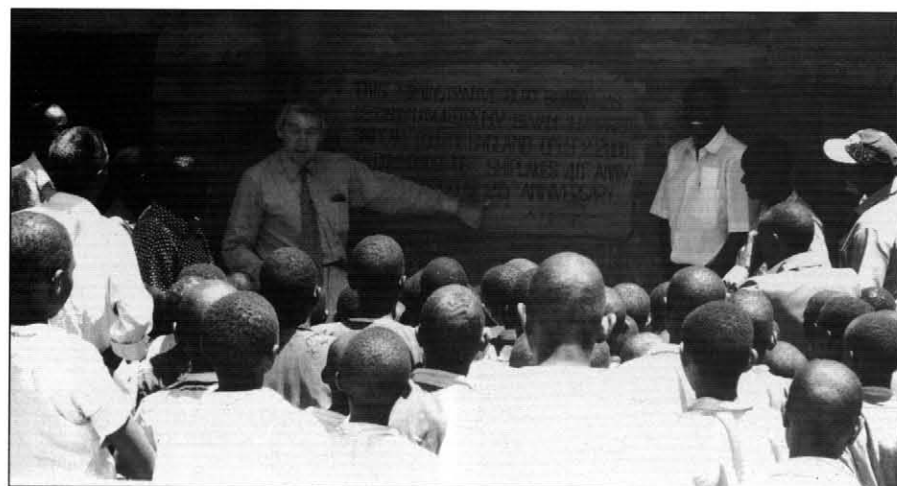
Our visions have come true.
Like dreams turning to realities
That one day we meet Mr Bevan
We feel honoured to be associated
with you.
A warm welcome we accord you.
Feeling at home is solely yours
Together we have mouthful
moments
We feel honoured to be associated
with you.
We're sorry for the tiresome
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From Shiplake to Kikunduku
Our mighty God has made it
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THE ROAD TO KIKUNDUKU

The Welcome Poem

Congratulations Shiplake

Our heartfelt felicitations,
Flow to you, Mr Bevan,
Like a river, in its torrent stage
We are grateful for your continued
support.
Many a times we lacked
This and that in our school
Came along Shiplake filled with
generosity
We are grateful for your continued
support.
Learning resources, we lacked
Educational standards declined
But Shiplake supported
We are grateful for your continued
support.
Of great importance, financial support
You've been ready to assist us
Many of our projects, stood firmly
We are grateful for your continued
support.
We've got nothing special we can award
you.
For the far you've taken us
Our Lord who sees your generosity
Will pay your efforts.
Thank you!

learning a skill but they had nowhere to use it and nowhere to go. From Machinery there was a road running about 10 to 15 miles into the bush towards the hills. Off the track there are two or three little villages each with its primary school. The last one towards the hills is Kikunduku. We then set off to the various primary schools on either side of the track and I quickly discovered that each of them was very similar. There were classroom blocks, simply constructed of wood and mud bricks, no flooring or windows and with about three classrooms in each block. There were perhaps two blocks in each school and a little headquarters for the staff and the headmaster's offices. The dirt floors are a real problem because children pick up jiggers on their



feet from which they then catch a particularly unpleasant disease. Indeed one of the main things we need to do is to raise up and concrete the floors so that they can easily be swept thus preventing this affliction. Also badly needed is a good and reliable supply of water and this will certainly figure highly in our development plans. I inquired at this stage about the financing of the schools and discovered that the government pays for teachers only. Everything has to be supplied by parents and so there are very active parents' committees at each school, responsible for all developments. The first school had 450 children and was incredibly overcrowded. In one small classroom I found about 50 children sitting five at a desk, one textbook between them. All were writing beautifully, all behaved beautifully, all stood up when I went in. I discussed their work with them and I was most impressed. In Kenya education is currency. It is the only way to get on in life and the whole aim of doing well in primary school is to qualify for a secondary education later. We then went on to Nzouni School which was very shabby indeed. It was here that I first sat down with a parents' committee to discuss projects that Shiplake might fund. We then discovered that there was a

serious shortage of food, it had been dry for a long time and the whole region had been declared an area of famine. As we drove towards Kikunduku, families were coming down with their bags to collect their relief maize.

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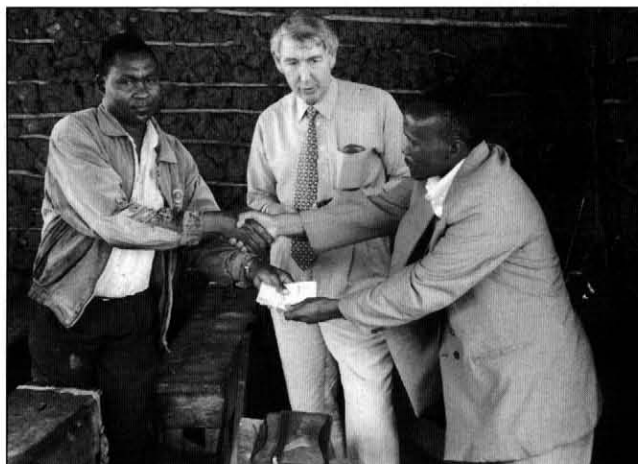
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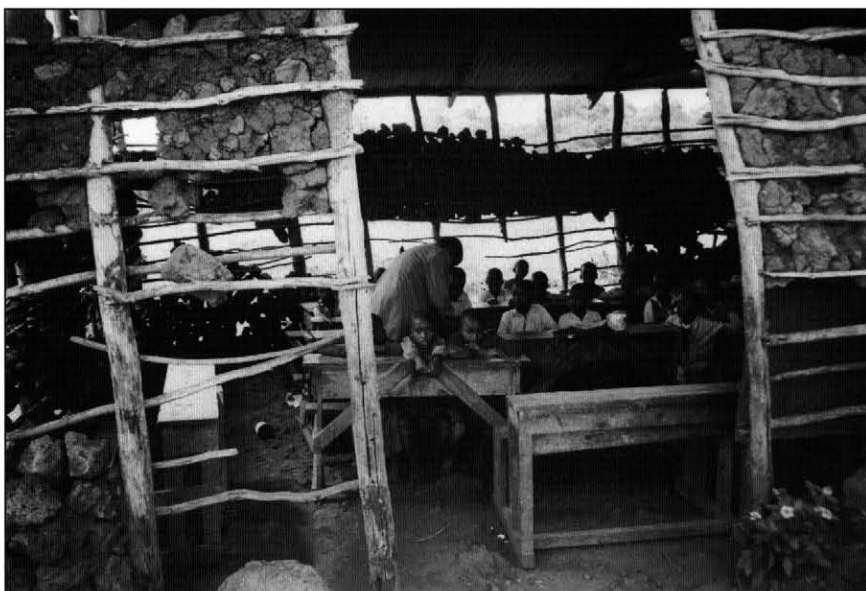
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THE ROAD TO KIKUNDUKU

Arriving at Kikunduku I immediately noticed three really quite smart classrooms. On the wall was a big notice "Sponsored by Shiplake College" and it was nice to see those classrooms in action, concrete floors, rather smarter desks and windows with wire mesh to keep out the wild animals. We also inspected the



new administrative block, only half completed but including a staff common room and offices for the deputy headmaster and headmaster. There was nothing in them, they still needed plaster, flooring and windows, but it was the main product of our contribution immediately following the sponsored walk last summer.

Teachers really earn their keep at Kikunduku. There are no teaching 'aids' and all the blackboards are very well used. The absence of materials really came home to me when I went into a music class. It was being taught very well, with drawings on the blackboard of a keyboard, the black notes, the white notes all beautifully labelled, but something rather obvious was missing. I gathered that there had once been one recorder in the school given on an earlier Shiplake visit but that it had gone missing, and so here in a well taught music lesson there were absolutely no musical instruments at all. Having made a thorough inspection of the school the

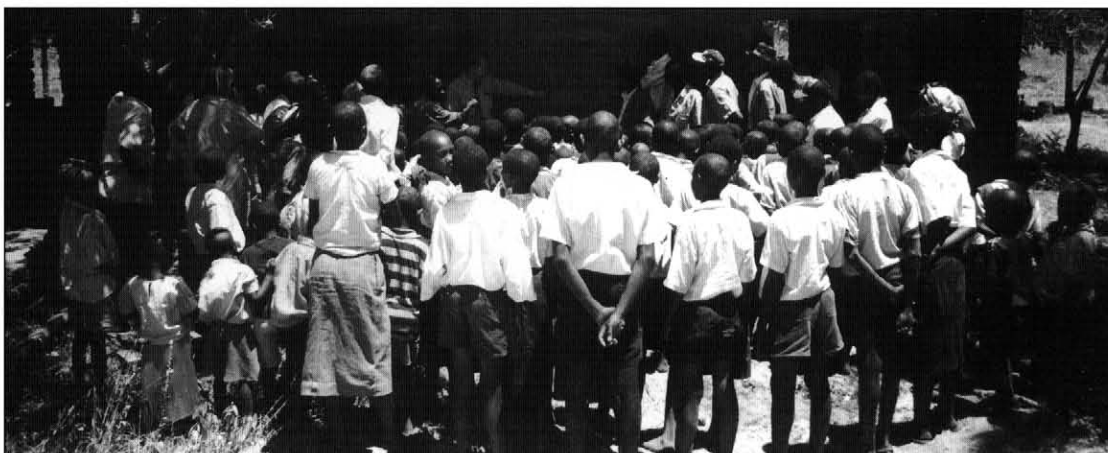
various ceremonies began. I made my first speech of the day. After breakfast I was expected to make another speech. Then we went out for the ceremonial unveiling of a plaque commemorating Shiplake College's 40th Anniversary and Kikunduku's 25th. Later a group of senior girls and boys performed a wonderful welcoming dance which included some lovely rhythmical chanting and singing.

The speeches continued and in all their words they were incredibly grateful and wanted me to convey this to Shiplake for all that we have done and continue to do for them. They are proud people and one has to be very careful not to appear at all patronising. At the same time they were quick to point out their greatest needs and in particular

requested assistance in helping children to go on to secondary education.

I had been kindly accompanied by Mark and Lynn Savage throughout the day and we bade our farewells at about 3.30 in the afternoon as we needed to get back to Nairobi before dark. I left Kikunduku

humbled by the experience of meeting all those wonderful people, hugely impressed by their dignity, behaviour and the conduct of children and staff. We may think that we are incredibly fortunate having all the luxuries of life, all the materialistic things that we believe we could never do without, but an experience such as this makes one reflect and wonder who is the better off. My dream would be that every member of Shiplake College, at some stage in their school career, could make this same journey to visit the schools and meet the people. Only in this way will we be able to make the best of all that we take so much for granted. If you ever get the opportunity to go out there and meet the people of Kikunduku seize it with both hands.



Junior Winner: The Mysterious Deer

The drizzling mist covered the dark
 highlands,
Like a shadow towering over its prey,
The woodland continually spreading over the
 ground,
The hands of time moving like the sun,
 moon and stars.

In the depths of the deep darkest shadow,
A darker and more wary shadow is moving,
A pair of thick tangled antlers emerges,
Followed by a pair of glistening sparkling
 eyes.

The long dainty dark legs tread gently on the
 snow,
A sleek and slender body winds its way
 round trees,
A glance from time to time reflects the light
 of the moon,
The prints left behind are small and delicate.

With a sudden look at me it freezes,
The world around seems still,
The silence listening to silence,
The trees bend down to look around.

With a sudden jump it leaps away,
The strong legs being put to strong use,
Over trees, round trees and through trees,
Its head low and its eyes awake.

Through a bush which scatters birds up high,
The trees talk to each other in silent motion,
The tail was the last I saw,
The silent, noble animal had disappeared.

The drizzling mist still covered the highlands,
Like a shadow towering over its prey,
The woodland still continuously spread over
the ground,

The hands of time still moved like the sun,
moon and stars
But the mysterious animal had gone.

James Masters Year 9

Senior Winner:
Melancholia

Wherever we walk the rain follows,
The skies cloud and we are not proud.
We look at ourselves through sleet and
snow,
Wishing our souls were not so cold.
Bring back the joy, forget the past,
Of course this will never happen,
We are just too sad.

We are stuck in this place, how did we get
here?
You lied to us, now we're trapped in fear.
We are as one, you and me.
Sometimes we think,
Sometimes we dream.
But in the end like all the others,
We're brought back here to rest.

Andrew Jones Year 12

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Hustings

A new event, this was enjoyed by a large crowd on the terrace. Highlights of the pupils' performances were Stuart Laws and Richard Allen's spirited defence of computer games alongside Jamie Marshall and Andrew Webber's strongly argued assertion that being a disc jockey is not easy. Then it was the staff's turn to show their skills of rhetoric, however, for the staff, heckling and barracking were allowed, if not positively encouraged. Andrew Cheadle launched a blistering attack on theme parks vehemently arguing that we should seek out real

rather than plastic experiences. Head of Modern Languages, Lindsay McDonald, a Scot by birth, put forward a case that French food was the best in the world. The event was the brain child of Charly Lowndes who said, "The hustings, standing up in public and putting your case, is the oldest form of public speaking. It is actually very good preparation for the contemporary high-tech stuff of radio and television. It teaches you to take out the ums and the ers as well as concentrating on tone. We look forward to expanding this event next year."

M Edwards

The highlight of the public speaking year was, as always, the Youth Speaks competition held at the Kenton Theatre in Henley. Two senior groups were entered. The boys' group consisted of Arthur de Borman, Kit Murray and Chris Smith. Their subject was *"To go boldly"* and Kit explained how we are confronted with many challenges in life and that we should rise to the occasion when they beset us. Harriet Ryan, Jo Burridge and Eleanor Guy formed the girls' group and Eleanor spoke about the scepticism and anxieties surrounding GM food and what it implies for the future. Unfortunately we were pipped at the post by Reading Blue Coat School, but we will return next year.

LS McDonald

THE ART SCHOOL

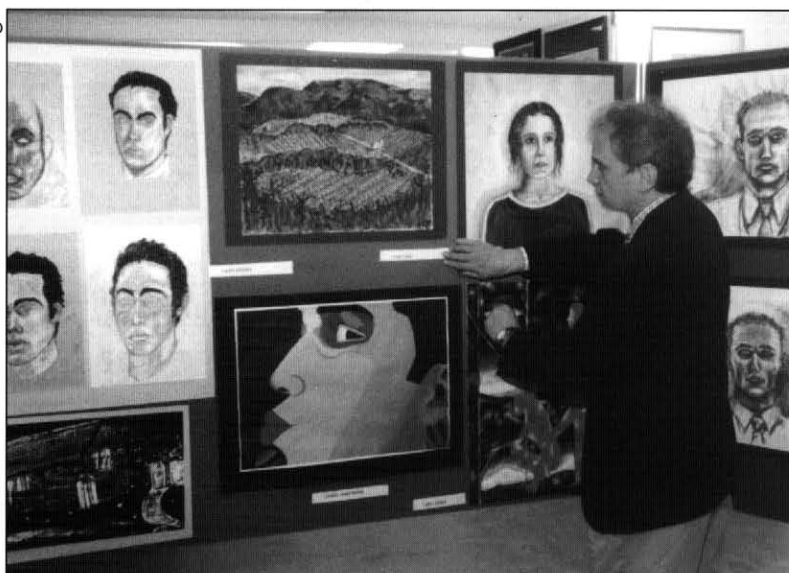
Does the European Academy for the Arts/Academia Italiana really do the best cappuccino in London? That would be telling. Their Grosvenor Place suite of rooms certainly hosts some of the most stimulating and important historic exhibitions of art, many of them from the twentieth century. Last November the Fifth's firework display for the benefit of our Year 11s was of the paintings and sculpture of Italy's major twentieth century sculptor, Marino Marini. On this day we also visited the National Gallery, benefiting from their Educational Service by having an excellent guide sit us all down in front of a Titian and the great Seurat *Bathers* and tease out meanings in a thoroughly well rehearsed question-and-answer session. The day ended with a visit to the commercial galleries in Cork Street, where we

had a private look at a mini-retrospective of Miro, an artist most of the group were familiar with from particular studio projects.

Also in the autumn term Year 13 visited both of the vastly impressive Van Dyck exhibitions at the British Museum and the Royal Academy. Before they left the latter they visited the Sackler galleries to view a small show of the thoroughly contemporary (though by now fairly elderly) abstract painter John Hoyland. Year 12 visited Oxford in the spring term, as did Year 10, to see some of the riches of the Ashmolean, accompanied by expert guides, and to study the futurist paintings of Gino Severini. Our links with the conveniently situated Ashmolean have been strengthened of late, with teachers' meetings and

participation in the drafting of study packs in advance of the opening of their new twentieth century galleries. This is one of the last exciting new developments in a year or more of extraordinary growth of gallery and museum visiting in the wake of Tate Modern, the Lowry Centre, the refurbishment of the National Portrait Gallery, the Wallace Collection, Dulwich and so on.

Year 12 also visited the wonderful



sculpture park at Roche Court, between Stockbridge and Salisbury, a major inspiration to many of them on a full day of visits. Our customary visit to Winchester to see the Foundation and degree shows took place at the end of the year.

Lastly, Year 9: not only did they all visit London Zoo on CCF day, but we also took them in two groups to the River and Rowing Museum when the John Piper exhibition was on.

In addition to the end-of-year GCSE and A level exhibitions on Speech Day, '40 years of art at Shiplake' was mounted at the end of May. Though small in scale, this commemorative exhibition was of a very high standard; thanks are due to all who submitted or loaned work. There is to be an Everett

House exhibition in autumn 2000, other houses I hope will follow, and there may possibly be a staff exhibition later in the year.

What other news? Much 'professional development' was undertaken - Royal Academy Teacher Private Views; meetings at the Stanley Spencer Museum, Cookham; an INSET on the alarming changes for 'Curriculum 2000' and the department met opposite numbers within the HMC '86 Group' in

February when we hosted the Art meeting which was a very worthwhile day. There was no expedition abroad this year; following spring 99's Venice-Florence-Rome bonanza, but in the autumn half-term of 2000 a group of almost 30 pupils and staff will be visiting Barcelona, staying on the Costa Brava and hence able to

visit Dali's home at Port Lligat and the museum at Figueras.

Finally, the announcement of a change: 'ceramics' or 'pottery' is quite evidently too narrow a definition of what happens in the ceramics studio. Both in terms of syllabus requirements and the diversification of materials used in this area, sculpture, in its widest sense, is what happens there. It has been a gradual and inevitable development and bodes well for the future. However, the strict syllabus division into 'sculpture' on the one hand and 'drawing, painting, printmaking' on the other, is too much of a mouthful: from now on we are, respectively, 3D and 2D (no glasses needed for the former).

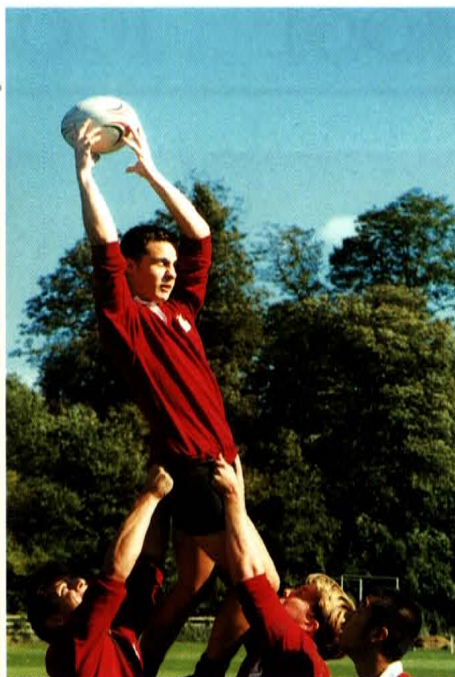
DC Stoker

THE ART SCHOOL



(left to right, top to bottom): A level art by Chris Kwon, Friedrich Vitzthum, Richard Jacob, Hamish Brown, Mark Hamilton, Jacky Cheung and Alex Lambert

SNAPSHOTS...

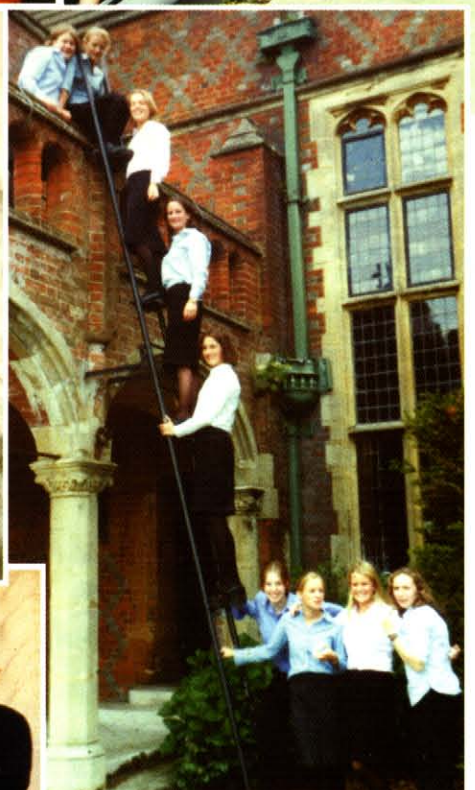


SNAPSHOTS...

OF SHIPLAKE LIFE



OF SHIPLAKE LIFE



THE ART SCHOOL



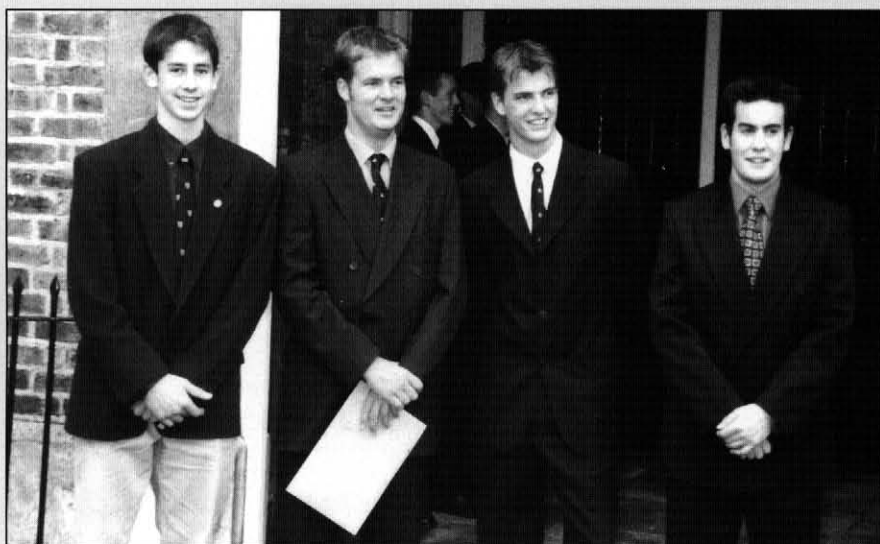
Twenty hours of silence: the A level sculpture examination.
Work by (left to right, top to bottom), Tim Ostroumoff,
Charlotte Morse, Paul Hickey, Sam Laurie, Max Gaskell and
Paddy Ranger.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

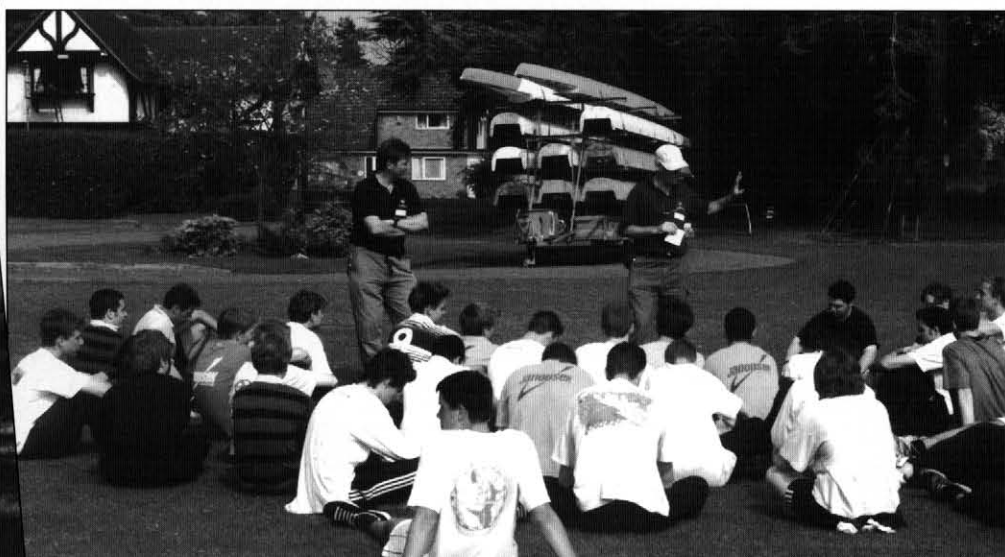
Four members of last year's Upper Sixth form received their gold awards at St James Palace, London. Pictured outside the palace are, left to right, Sam Harcourt, Rory Smith, Edwin Harrison and Nathan Watt.

This year's participants in the scheme spent part of their Easter holiday on their Gold expedition on the Brecon Beacons.



Lower Sixth Leadership Day

The second Lower Sixth Leadership Day was spent at the College on a sunny summer's day. They learned the importance of communication, teamwork and responsibility in a day full of activity run by Anthony Wood of World Challenge Expeditions. This included, among other challenges, balancing on planks and passing a blindfolded team member through a spider's web of ropes!



CCF REPORT

Adventure, discipline, excitement and leadership training are some of the outstanding opportunities that Cadet Forces provide for young people. Air Force, Army and Navy sections provide a whole host of activities beyond the outdated images of square-bashing and boot-polishing.

"People should understand that the Combined Cadet Force is a National Youth Organisation, it is certainly not a recruiting base for the forces," says Lieutenant Colonel Peter Webb, Chairman of the Ox, Bucks and Berks Combined Cadet Force.

The CCF is a supremely organised body, run with military precision. It is funded by the Ministry of Defence and as a result it provides outstanding value for the youngsters who take advantage of all that it has to offer. John Gale, who runs the Air Force section at Shiplake College, says, "The College averages over a hundred flights per year for cadets out of RAF Benson."

Pupils in the Army section at the College, badged to the Royal Green Jackets, follow an Army syllabus, both in and out of the classroom. Tuition covers drill, arms, map and compass, self-



Parading the colours: Simon Hurlstone, Gordon Marshall and John Robinson

reliance and field-craft.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the CCF is that it gives teenagers the invaluable opportunity to instruct younger pupils, providing early experience of leadership. The challenge of management increases as the pupils are promoted through the ranks.

"Camp courses are really the icing on

the cake, albeit thick icing. The cadet who goes on a camp often returns ahead of his contemporaries and maybe in line for accelerated promotion," commented Lieutenant Colonel Webb. "On our last summer camp we were up at 5.30 am every day of the course and there was a 24 hour exercise as well. But most important of all it is fun and the boys enjoy it hugely. We also had a day's sailing at Falmouth estuary on a 47 foot yacht."

Within the school environment the CCF is run by the same rules and paperwork as the services. For staff involved there is plenty of administration to manage. The CCF requires considerable commitment, with officers having to attend courses to develop their own skills in areas such as adventurous training and range qualifications.

"It is not possible to say at the beginning of Year 10 who is a CCF boy and who isn't. They have a variety of reasons for belonging and each individual benefits in different ways. We see another side to boys in the CCF," says Lt. Col. Webb.

This article, by Mike Edwards was published in the Reading Evening Post.

RAF SECTION

The year started badly, with the death of Flight Lieutenant Dick Whittington. Sadly, Daphne Bennett left us at half-term. However, the section bounced back and the remainder of the year was a great success. Gap Tutor Brendan Bolton joined us at Christmas and has been a great asset, and the enthusiasm of the boys has been overwhelming. We have had huge amounts of flying this year, with some boys flying four or five times whereas many schools are lucky if any of their pupils fly once. We have had the opportunity to go gliding

on several occasions, and some of the boys were able to land a glider. We were oversubscribed for Easter Camp. Those who went enjoyed themselves and were highly commended by staff from other schools. Many of these boys were able to fly in a VC10 as it refuelled RAF Tornados. Similarly, we were oversubscribed for the summer camp at RAF Kinloss, which proved to be an excellent opportunity for some submarine hunting in a Nimrod.

Flt Lt J M Gale



Cadet Flight Sergeant Andrew Kimbell

ARMY SECTION

During the year the section had a strength of 72 cadets, including 37 fourth form recruits but the number of officers attached to the section fell to four with the departure of Lt Sam Gutteridge. Sam had made a very significant contribution to both the military training and the adventurous training undertaken by the section and we are all grateful for the time, energy and good humour that he so generously gave during his time at Shiplake.

A successful training programme has nonetheless been completed. This has been due, in no small measure, to the assistance given by Colour Sergeant Clifton, SSI, the continued high quality assistance, advice and guidance from the Cadet Training Team and the contingent NCOs, ably led by Senior Cadet CSM Fred Vitzthum. The fifth form cadets completed CADRE courses after gaining proficiency and were able to help with the instruction of the recruits. All the recruits who attend the annual Summer Camp should attain proficiency.



On parade for inspection on CCF Field Day

The autumn Field Day combined a range day for those qualified to shoot with an introduction to Fieldcraft for the recruits. The spring saw a successful Inspection Day parade followed by House competitions and the summer gave a further opportunity for Fieldcraft and Orienteering. Members of the section have taken part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at both

silver and gold levels and the Brecon Beacons again provided the backdrop for the Easter Adventurous Training Camp.

My thanks to the Senior NCOs, the Section Officers and those who have generously given assistance during the year.

Lt PG Hose



St Martin's Plain Camp

Shiplake Platoon, under the command of Sgt Ravn and four officers arrived in the first week of the summer holiday at St Martin's Plain Camp, Folkestone. The first day saw a trip to the Belgium city of Ypres, where the horrors of First World War trench warfare were

brought home by our guide, Raoul Saesen, during an excellent tour. We visited the Flanders Field Museum, Menin Gate, Allied and German war graves and actual trenches. Next day field craft training commenced with setting up a patrol harbour, ambushes and leading section attacks.

Enthusiastic use of blank rounds and plenty of effort from the cadets led to a productive day, even if it was a steep learning curve for some.

The following day we visited a range where the cadets fired SA 80 rifles and LSWs, Daniel O'Shea proved to be the best shot in the platoon. In the afternoon we took to the water with raft building and kayaking and the cadets voted this the most enjoyable session of the camp.

On Thursday the day's training began with signals and our platoon turned in the best performance of the week, winning a commendation and a plaque for their efforts. We also tasted success

Continued on next page

ARMY SECTION

Continued from previous page

in the afternoon orienteering exercise, scoring maximum points. Friday saw the bringing together of the week's training with a full day in the field, and the training team was very pleased with our efforts. Cpl Goldie received a commendation for his leadership of the section attack. Perhaps the most enthusiastic attack was led by Cpl Manners who, on running out of ammunition, ordered his section to fix bayonets and charge at the attacking Paras! That night, under the soft illumination of flares and blank rounds, the section completed a successful, if a little damp, overnight exercise. This proved to be a very rewarding camp, owing in no small part to the

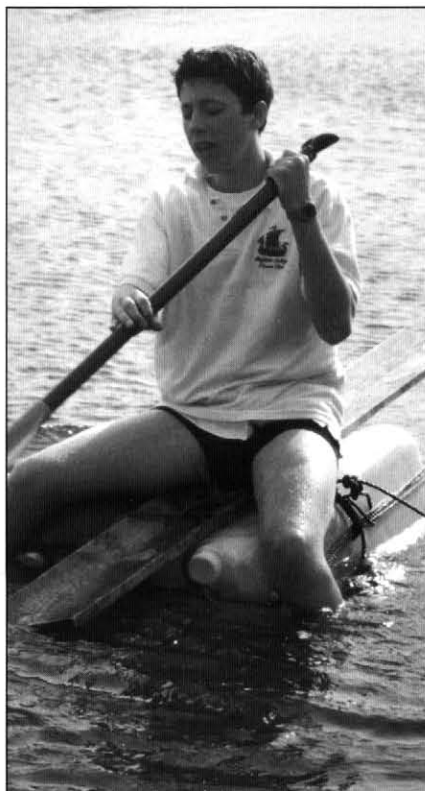
efforts of Sgt Ravn and his NCOs who demonstrated excellent leadership and organisational skills. The majority of cadets gave a good account of themselves, and learnt a lot and should also be congratulated on their effort and enthusiasm.

LT GS Lawson



NAVY SECTION

The section has completed a very successful year's training, with noticeable improvements in cadets' attitude and commitment to training. This year has seen the increased involvement of senior NCOs in training the younger cadets and I would like to thank Hugo Lowry, Tom Smart and Henry de Lloyd for their hard work throughout the year. Classroom lessons providing the basic training in navigation and rules of the road preceded the more popular activities afloat on the Thames. This year we have utilised the motor launch with its refurbished engine to full effect and the majority of cadets have been able to row, paddle and sail the section's ASCs, bosuns, Canadian canoes and kayaks. More cadets than ever have taken the opportunity to attend Naval camps and courses this year. These courses often provide internationally recognised



James Greenham in action in a naval craft on CCF field day

qualifications at minimal cost and the cadets invariably enjoy them.

This year boys have attended Leadership weekends, Royal Marine amphibious training and adventurous training and powerboat, windsurfing, sailing and submarine acquaintance courses.

We must congratulate Simon Brown on his promotion to Lieutenant, well deserved after years of hard work organising and running the Naval Section. CPO Graham Longhurst has again provided invaluable help, advice and support and we welcome a new PELO, Lt K Hutton, who has already improved communication and relationships between Shiplake and HMS Excellent which is our parent establishment.

Lt GS Lawson

THE BALDRY TROPHY



Ben Radford of Burr House recieves the Baldry Trophy for his house from Viv Daly

	BURR	EVERETT	ORCHARD	SKIPWITH	WELSH
Cross country standards	5	15		20	10
Athletics standards	15	20		10	5
Senior cross country	2		1		
Junior cross country				2	1
Senior athletics	2			1	
Junior athletics	2	0.5	0.5		
Senior rugby	4		1	3	
Junior rugby	2	4			2
Senior soccer	1		2		
Junior soccer	1			2	
Senior indoor soccer	1		2		
Junior indoor soccer	1				2
Senior hockey	5	3			
Junior hockey				3	5
Senior indoor hockey		2	1		
Junior indoor hockey		1			2
Senior squash		2	1		
Junior squash		2			1
Senior basketball	1	2			
Junior basketball	2		1		
Senior cricket	5				3
Junior cricket			5	3	
Senior HoR rowing			2		1
Junior HoR rowing		1		2	
Senior rowing four	2		1		2
Junior rowing four	2			3	
Senior rowing sculls	2	1			
Junior rowing sculls			1	2	
Senior tennis			2		4
Junior tennis	4	2			
Senior swimming	1				2
Junior swimming		2		1	
Tug of war			1		2
Totals	60	57.5	21.5	52	42



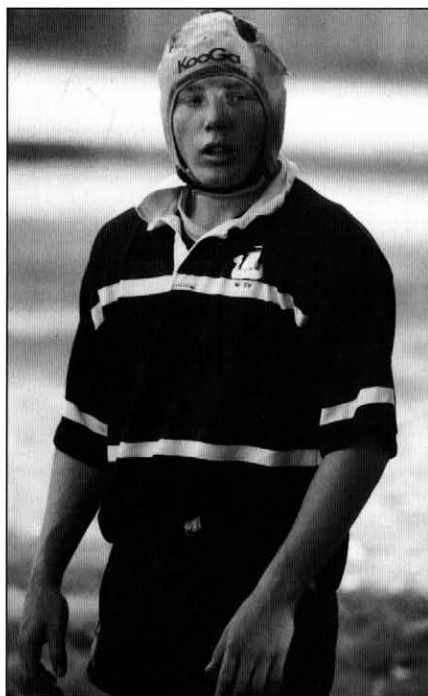
RUGBY



1st XV

Overall, the 1st XV had quite a satisfactory season, although had we been on song at crucial times it could have been much better. To lose to Reading School, Claires Court, Seaford and Abingdon was disappointing but the manner was galling. Far too often we developed the habit of giving away a series of penalties that not only halted

Player of the year: Toby Douglas



our progress but put us on the back foot defensively. Fitness, in the main, was sound, as was our attitude. However, early injuries from the Douai pre-season festival plagued us for many matches. The wins that came were hard fought ones with the most outstanding being against the Oratory Emerging Firsts, but others not far behind were Reeds School, Old Vikings, Reading Blue Coats and Milton Abbey.

Throughout the season the forward strength was evident, with consistent pressure applied to the opposition through tight binding and determined play in the rucks and mauls. Solid scrums gave us an excellent platform. Hamish Brown led the team and the forwards. Toby Douglas as hooker was omnipotent while the front row of Paul Hickey, Christallo O'Descalchi, James Vanrenen and Richard Jacobs all held their own against much heavier opposition. Tim Scoffham and Alex Lambert saw more than their fair share of line-outs. The lower sixth trio of Will Paddison, Kit Murray and Martin Leguay impressed with their skills and initiative once they had adjusted to the pace and pressure of 1st XV rugby.

The backs showed flair and attacking skills throughout the fixture list and often drove the opposition back with punishing tackles. Even the larger schools had to work hard to penetrate. At the core of the defensive line were Ollie Gradden and Tom Nilsson, while the halves of Tom Constable, Robert Aslin and later Jordan Darrah provided solid links between the forwards and backs. The wings of Chris Grabowski, Tom Michell, Chis Kwon and especially Nick Quirke were always dangerous, as was Simon Hotchkiss at full-back. In all, it was a satisfying season and thanks go to Andrew Leslie, manager of the team, and Ian Hayden and Tom Smart for their roles as linesmen. More than half the team came from the lower sixth and, on the face of the evidence presented, next year will be exciting.

J Gayton

The squad: H Brown (captain), O Gradden (vice captain), C O'Descalchi, P Hickey, T Scoffham, M Leguay, K Murray, W Paddison, T Constable, J Darrah, T Michell, T Nilsson, N Quirke, S Hotchkiss, B Radford, A Lambert, C Grabowski, R Aslin, J Vanrenen, R Jacob, C Kwon.



2nd XV
squad

2nd XV

It was yet another good season for the 2nd XV. The team showed plenty of potential for the future and everybody enjoyed the rugby, even Mr Emerson's gut-busting Monday fitness hour.

The season began with convincing wins over Merchant Taylors, RGS and Reading Blue Coats. Jordan Darrah and Alex Macdonald consistently scored and set up team-mates.

The second half of the season was

hampered by injuries to both first and second fifteens which had a great effect. Alex Lambert went out with a shoulder problem and Tom Wood, trying too hard, got two concussions in three weeks. Not all was lost though, as Nick Bates and Max Gaskell never gave up the fight as centres.

Against big schools the forwards made easy work of breaking through their lines with Adi Susic and Alexis Rivet de Sabatier continually going head first for the opposition line. They were well

backed up by the big men, Jacky Cheung, Richard Jacob and Jack Gregory.

It was a great season and our thanks go to coaches Grant Lawson and Paul Emerson.

Tom Wood, Year 13

The squad: M Hamilton (captain), H Lowry, E Kennedy, C Smith, J Vanrenen, A Rivet de Sabatier, J Cheung, J Gregory, A Susic, W Neale, R Jacob, J Robinson, N Lay, A Macdonald, C Kwon, J McKean, M Gaskell, H Colvin, N Bates, T Wood, J Darrah, C Grabowski.

3rd XV

*"When that I was a Shiplake rugby coach
In a hey ho the wind and rain doth blow
A foolish thing was but to train
For the thirds they playeth every day!"*

Hugo Jackson, captain and Peter Cassells

With apologies to Shakespeare and *Twelfth Night* but the rugby season, the weather and the play seem inextricably entwined.

As the wind blew on our final match, on a cold November afternoon,

somewhere in Oxfordshire the intrepid 3rd XV had amassed a grand total of three wins, with some heroic defeats along the way. Captain "Dougie" Jackson led his boys by example, dashing into no-man's land, crashing through defences, and becoming the top try scorer.

After Radley had mauled us twice, Eton's part-timers rolled up on a rare balmy mellow afternoon for what they thought might be a gentlemanly contest. Shiplake, however, had other ideas and won comfortably, if not in style. When the curtains closed on the '99 season it was a fitting memory of a motley crew who preferred to reserve their efforts for the big stage.

CE Alcock

The squad: H Jackson (captain), O Miller, M. Manners, P Cassells, J Rayner, E Greig, W Schick, R Yetman, B Hewson, T O'Neill, O Cruickshank, A Smith, A Nommensen, T Ostroumoff, W Wright, C Smith, A de Borman.



RUGBY

U16A

The U16A team was led this year by Ed Batchelor. He did an excellent job in what were sometimes very demanding circumstances. During the season we scored 28 tries in 11 matches, 16 of which were scored by the forwards! Chris Cracknell was top try scorer and also won the player of the season award. As the statistics suggest our



forwards dominated most of the time. It was a joy to watch their rolling mauls, fierce rucking and excellent handling. The back division also played to its potential. After a poor start to the season they worked hard in training and tightened up their defence, becoming tackling machines.

The great success of the season was that every player in the team was prepared to do his best for his team mates. Armitage and Percival (props) were players of strength in set pieces and devastating ball carriers at second

phase. Nicholas (hooker) hit his man in the line-out and did his best to be first to the breakdown. Wood and Gordon Marshall (locks) worked well in the line-out and were not afraid to get stuck in when needed. Cracknell, Low, Clarke and Gurney (back row) were outstanding, they arrived at breakdowns first and turned over a lot of useful ball. Batchelor and Wilkinson (half-backs) controlled the game well and their cool heads saved the day more than once. Hutton was good in the centre and was the team's top scorer thanks to his

kicking abilities. Lightwing and Field-Hall were very good on the wings, their pace and jinking runs led to six tries between them. Finally, Goldie made a huge impact at full-back, his excellent hands and tackle-

breaking runs put a lot of pressure on our opponents.

All round this was an excellent season, the players learnt a lot and deserved to win more than six out of eleven games.

JM Gale

The squad: E Batchelor (captain), C Cracknell, S Goldie, R Lightwing, J Wilkinson, J Low, R Gurney, T Clark, S Wood, G Marshall, C Armitage, A Percival, B Nicholas, F Field-Hall, A Hutton.

U16B

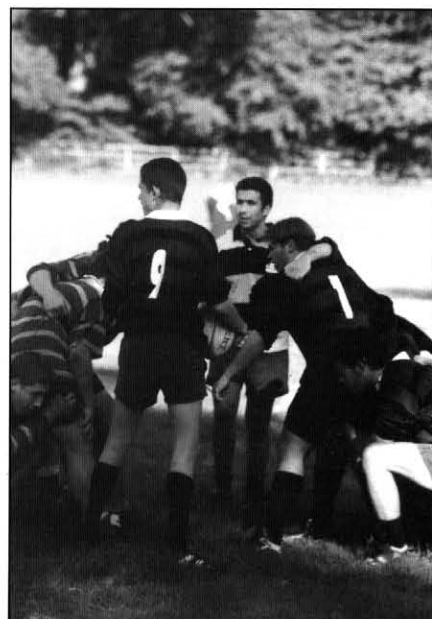
A highly successful season, with eight victories over Radley, Eton, Merchant Taylors, Gillotts, Pangbourne, Bloxham, Lord Wandsworth and St. Edwards, was very much overshadowed by the tragic death of Tom Stafford who had been developing very well as a flank-forward for this side. The players of the U16B team dedicated all their matches in the second half of the season to his memory.

The side was well led by Chris Ellaby and inspired by Jassim Jaffer and Andrew Webber as half-backs. Top scorers were Ben Deaton (54) and Andrew Webber (35). The only losses were closely fought

affairs against very good teams from much larger schools - Radley (who had earlier been defeated) and Abingdon. The highlight of the season was a tight victory against a strong Lord Wandsworth XV.

G Cassells

The squad: C Ellaby (captain), M Ellis, L Manning, T Gouldstone, J Ellingham, N Lowry, R Luppi, T Bellamy, H Simpson, T Clark, A Bosch, A Berry, S Hurlstone, A Fox, R Hill, A Webber, J Jaffer, J Reynolds, B Deaton, A Fuller, D Leung, T Stafford.



John Gale and an U16 scrum

RUGBY

U16C

Much of the team's enthusiasm was due to the commitment and leadership shown by the captain, Reynolds, who played in virtually every position in the backs, usually during the course of one match. Wakeling blocked up the midfield at centre while Hill at scrum half frequently terrified his opposite number with his massive shoulder pads.

The props Lowry and Lowndes did not play the classic tight game normally associated with players in that dark position, but instead opted to talk their opponents into submission. Mellor was to the fore in the loose. Hall, Bayford and Ritson were all used as 'impact' players. Emerson was a revelation on most match days by proving that he was capable of running very quickly indeed, having claimed all week that a brisk walk was the best that he could do. Ashcroft, Anderson and South were equally dangerous in attack and defence. South could have been even more effective had he managed to get some laces for his plimsolls, while Ashcroft's helicoidal running and the mayhem that ensued will remain etched in the memories of all those who played!

Inevitably, the composition of the team was rather fluid, but morale remained high throughout the season and some good wins were achieved along the way.

GP Wells

The squad: J Reynolds (captain), T Lowndes, T Gouldstone, N Lowry, A Mellor, T Hall, M Ashcroft, R Hill, M Bornman, A Bayford, A Berry, T Ritson, S Miles, B Emerson, B Anderson, B Wakeling, H South, A Fox, H Simpson.



U15A squad

U15A

We were looking forward to a good and successful season with a fresh start with both a new coach, Mr Johnson, and two new members of the group, James Nicol and James Bailey.

The opening match was against Reeds and the team went out with confidence. Spirits were high after tries from James Nicol and Chris Mills but sadly Reeds scored last to make a winning score of 19 - 12.

The next phase of the season continued the theme of the Reeds match, close defeats.

Against Bloxham at home we played as a team, pulled out all the stops and gained our first win, key tries coming from Captain Johnny Halsall and Johnny Fordham. Three days later we won in

style with a stunning 62-5 victory against Milton Abbey. We went on to win two more matches. We look forward to next season, confident that we can play

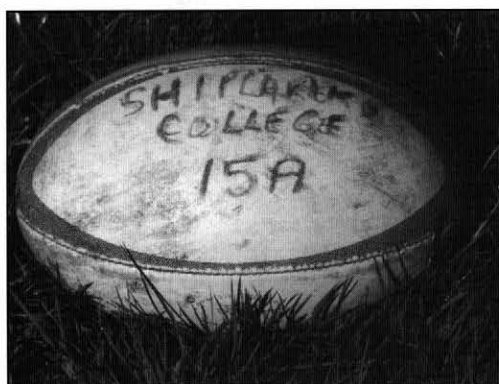
on equal terms with all the other schools.

I would like to commend Mike Koutsofta and Alex Entin for being so speedy on the wings, Johnny Fordham for being so nippy and Sean Walpole for being so decisive. James Nicol, Duncan Staples, James Blanchard and Will Goddard all powered the pack with Alex Steel-Wakefield commanding the scrums.

Most important of all it would not have been possible without our coach, Mr Johnson.

Johnny Halsall, Year 10

The squad: J Halsall (captain), J Fordham, J Nicol, J Bailey, A Entin, M Koutsofta, D Staples, J Blanchard,



W Goddard, A Steel-Wakefield, J Chan, J Larkin, C Mills, M McCluggage, C Price, S Walpole, D Ealand, P Talbot, I Duckworth.

RUGBY

U15B

After an inspiring season I look back and see it was all due to the improvement of the team's attitude and its effort.

We started off the season with two wins against Reading Blue Coats and Abingdon Cs. With Daniel Griffith's outstanding tackling and the speed of Pradeep Gurtata on the wing, there was no wonder we won 40-7.

Pangbourne College were also defeated by a confident U15B team, 34-22.

Excellent kicking by Nick Allan and Alan Pownall helped greatly throughout the season, ensuring many conversions and line-outs in the opposition's 22.

This was an enjoyable and successful season and I would like to thank the players and the coach, Mr Gutteridge.

Tom Slater, Year 10



The squad: T Slater (captain), M Broughton-Pipkin, M Jackson, A Alstadt, A James, D Squire, A Ward, N Bosch, N Allan, E Bramwell, D Griffiths, E Crane, P Gurtata, B Taylor-Raymond, A Pownall, N Pusey, T Chambers, C Cort, G Osborne.

U15B squad

U15C

The '99 season was successful for the team, the backs progressed with skill and fitness, while the forwards became much more aggressive and motivated. However, the most improved aspect of the team was the commitment to tackling which had been weak the previous season. We were continually fielding changed teams due to a lot of injuries to the As and Bs.

The best match of the season was

against Merchant Taylors. Everyone tried hard and we won a tough match that could have gone either way with a score of 25-17. Two tries came from Tom Slater and another two from Daniel Griffiths, Marcus Broughton-Pipkin also scored. The matches we lost can be improved on for next season if the team spirit can be maintained.

The whole squad would like to thank Mr Caston for an enjoyable, fun and successful season.

Tom Chambers, Year 10



U14s in line-out practice - see report on next page.

The squad: T Chambers (captain), C Dicker, J Bradley, D Malcolm, T Saunders, J Falvey, M Clarke, G Orpen, G Osborne, B Bradshaw, T Chilton, T Sedgman, D O'Shea, A Ward, D Griffiths, M Broughton-Pipkin, T Slater.



RUGBY



U14 A squad

U14

The 1999 season can be summarised by two names, David and Goliath! It seemed that wherever we turned up the opposition was, almost to a man, bigger than we were. However, the spirit and commitment with which all three U14 teams played could never be faulted. Anyone, and there were many, who braved a showery afternoon on 'Riverside' or made the cross-country trek to Bloxham or the Oratory can vouch for the dedication and determination of all the squad members.

All members of Year 9 represented Shiplake College in at least four matches. It is quite an achievement to field three teams with only fifty-one in the year group. All members of the year can feel proud to have done this. The 'A' team got better as the season went on. Some memorable matches were played, particularly against Abingdon School, The Oratory and St Edward's. The spirit of the team and their attitude to training made a huge leap as the season progressed. Gary Potts (hooker) was voted Player of the Season by his teammates, followed closely by Leo Sum. The coaches felt that George Boggis (wing and centre) had made a huge impact in

many games and that Adam Green was the most improved player. It would be hard to ignore the huge contributions made by Paddy Colman (no 8), Tom Sampson (fly-half), Ben Porbeni and Oscar Thorne on the wings. Nick Brockbanks at scrum-half and Danny Lee (full-back) also had many impressive performances.

The 'B' team provided many thrilling moments. Victories over Bloxham and Merchant Taylor's and a near miss at Oratory were particularly satisfying. A 'B' team is always in the unfortunate position of having to cover for injuries to the 'A' team players and the Shiplake U14Bs did this admirably. Many regulars fitted with ease into the 'A' team, Jamie Gouldstone, Nick Alstadt and Sam Tsui did credit to themselves in this respect. Other fine performances were given by Pierre Kunkler, Julian Mills, Jon Finch, Nick De Roumanie and Alex Cadoux-Hudson.

For their part, the 'C' team showed great spirit and persistence. Nigel Baker and Mark Gourley played particularly well, enthusiastically supported by a number of other players.

It was a fine season and one to which the statistics do not do justice. The boys played stronger sides and, without fail,

kept their discipline. We all enjoyed enthusiastic support from a loyal group of parents to whom distance and weather were no object. If the spirit and enthusiasm of the end of term award ceremony and party are anything to go by, it was a successful season.

NJ Brown

A squad: T Sampson (captain), D Lee, O Thorne, B Porbeni, M Hensby, N Brockbanks, P Colman, L Sum, P Oldridge, O Roitt, P Mullan, A Green, S Sobhan, G Potts, P Aitchison.

B squad: J Gouldstone (captain), J Pond, A Gordon, P Kunkler, S Tsui, T Harris, J Burton-Stewart, N Alstadt, J Finch, A Cadoux-Hudson, P Cadman, J Boulton, N de Roumanie, J Mills, P Walker-Munro, P Webb, T Coupland.

C squad: N Baker (captain), G Brenninkmeijer, G Ferrier, J Masters, J MacKay, C Stangroom, B Flanagan, M Gourley, J Gray, M O'Shea, T Wright, E Cook, R Edgington, R Lamrock, S Connor, J Edgington, W Plaisted.

Peter Webb and Alex Cadoux-Hudson



HOCKEY



1st XI

As ever, the season started with fresh optimism and enthusiasm, which drew a thin veil over the team's lack of experience. A well deserved 1-0 victory over Pangbourne was a great achievement, with Kit Murray's match-winning strike being a fitting reward for his determined training.

Our standards of play improved in the next two matches and this made the narrow defeats difficult to bear. Two young defenders, Rob Gurney and Andrew Fox, noticeably grew in

confidence as did Tim Scoffham playing at right back in his first season for the team.

Our forward players had few chances to use their skills, so Nick Bates and Mark Hamilton experienced frustrating times. In midfield, captain Ben Radford led by example and displayed true commitment, with Ashley Hutton showing what a fine prospect he is. Morale took a dip after some defeats but the new players introduced for the Hockey Association Game injected much wanted brightness and drive.

Reading School was beaten in a closely fought contest, and a strong Old Vikings team was soundly thrashed. Clearly this year's 1st XI was capable of playing good hockey, but all too often the opposition was allowed to dictate the pace of the game.

PCJ Gould

The squad: B Radford (captain), T Wood, T Scoffham, A Fox, R Gurney, A Hutton, O Gradden, M Hamilton, N Bates, K Murray, E Batchelor, T Constable, F Field-Hall, J Jaffer.

Ben Radford playing for the 1st XI hockey team. Right, Hockey awards go to Tom Wood, Tim Scoffham and Kit Murray



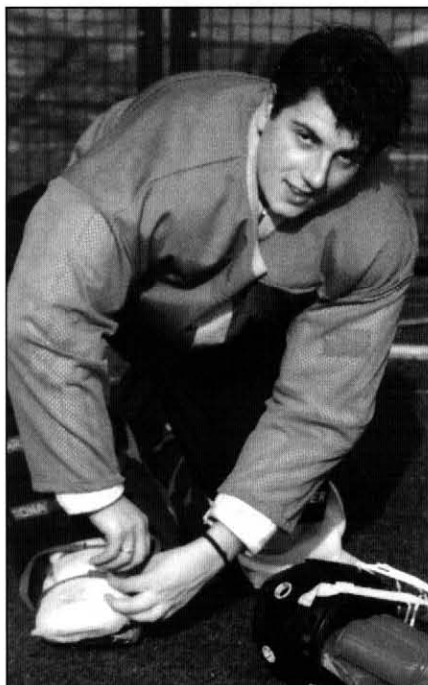
HOCKEY



2nd XI

This has been the most successful season for many years. After two early defeats the 2nd XI squad stiffened their resolve and the turning point for us came when we beat Lord Wandsworth. In an extremely hard fought match Finch Field-Hall put away a penalty flick and Nick Lay scored the winning goal. From then on there was a great sense of self-belief in the camp and the only other game we lost was to Magdalen College School.

The combination of Paddy Ranger, Ed Kennedy, Toby Douglas and Paul Hickey proved to be such a resilient defence that we only conceded fifteen goals all season. At the other end of the field we always managed to get numbers into the opposing D and the new signings this year of James Gurney, Nick Lay, Jas Jaffer, Martin Leguay and Peter Cassells all made their mark. Our stalwart wingers, Tom Constable and Simon Hotchkiss, both ended up with a handful of goals. We crushed Reading 8-0, Leighton Park 8-1 and Sir John Hampden 6-0. Overall, we scored a total of thirty-nine goals which made this our most prolific year to date. Our final victory over Stowe (1-2), a



Padding up: Paddy Ranger

tough match played at pace, typified the squad's attitude throughout the season; determined, hard-working, co-operative and, above all, good-spirited.

RC Snellgrove

The squad: E Dadak (captain), P Hickey, T Douglas, E Kennedy, H Jackson, F Field-Hall, E Batchelor, S Hurlstone, T Constable, N Lay, J Jaffer, S Hotchkiss, P Cassells, J Gurney, P Ranger, M Leguay, M Hamilton, N Bates.

3rd XI

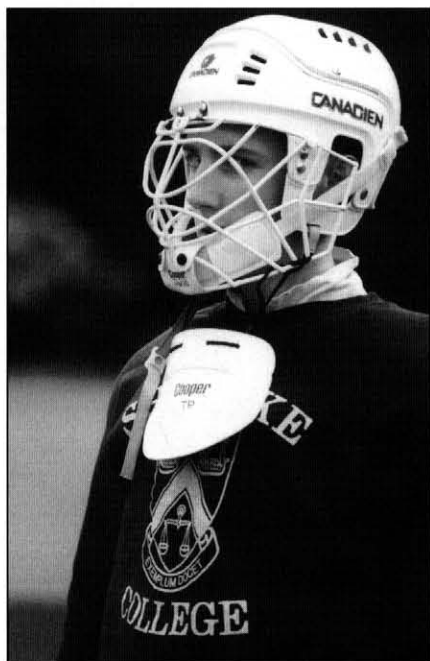
The season's hockey went reasonably well but there were some disappointing results owing to illness among some key players. With the aid of top hockey coach, Tom Caston, spirits were lifted and our skills developed. The team would not have been as successful without his guidance.

As Captain I sometimes had to lift spirits while the defence was co-ordinated by Oliver 'Homer' Miller and Alex Macdonald's aggressive tackling saved many a goal. Goalkeeper Max Manners deservedly won the Players' Player Award. Our midfielders kept our forwards occupied with a constant supply of possession and credit must go to our wingers, Martin Leguay and Max Gaskell.

C Keyser, Year 12

The squad: C Keyser (captain), M Manners, O Miller, M Gaskell, M Leguay, A Macdonald, H de Lloyd, J Gurney, J Ravn, R Oliver, P Cassells, B Wakeling, S Hurlstone.

Max Manners



HOCKEY

4th XI

It is the nature of a fourth team to be ever changing and this was true this year. Whenever someone really stands out he or she is moved rapidly up. There were a large number of good hockey players in the pool so we did not suffer as badly as previously. However it did mean that there was a lack of cohesion amongst the players and this accounted for the rather unsuccessful season. It was, nevertheless, a very enjoyable season in which each game was played with great enthusiasm and a sense of humour.

Nico Pratt led the team with analytical aplomb, Jez McKean was a stalwart goalkeeper who was poached by the second team for one match. Robert Yetman suddenly found a new talent for playing in the forwards against Bloxham and both James Summers and Matthew Ellis were extremely reliable backs.

IS Jacklin

The squad: N Pratt (captain), J McKean, M Allan, J Ravn, R Yetman, V Apte, T Gouldstone, A Perry, M Ellis, A Bartlett, J Ellingham, N Jamieson, A Pemberton, J Summers.



U15A

This season the team performed with much more confidence and improved a lot on last year. Last season we lost all our matches but this season, against the same teams, we won two, drew five and lost five. The team responded very well and the attitude and team spirit were really good.

Our top scorer, Pradeep Gurtata, was always a threat in attacking situations. In defence Paddy Talbot, James Nicol and John Jamieson were all very strong and Alex Steel-Wakefield proved very dependable as goalkeeper. The two wins

that we achieved were against Windsor Boys and Leighton Park beating them both 4-2. The team built some good attacks down both the wings, but particularly down the right, with some fast runs from Jon Fordham. There was also some good back-up play from Iain Duckworth in right midfield.

N Allan, Year 10

The squad: N Allan, P Talbot, P Gurtata, J Nicol, J Fordham, A Steel-Wakefield, M Coker, A Alstadt, J Jamieson, S Walpole, J Larkin.



U15B

The U15B team started successfully and grew in confidence. They won their first four matches and enthusiasm was high. The first two wins were against Pangbourne and Lord Wandsworth School. Then came a real nail-biter. The boys were 2-0 down at half-time but came back to achieve a 3-2 victory! After another win at Milton Abbey we had to adapt to astroturf against Magdalen College School which proved to be a 6-0 disaster. Despite this, the attitude and spirit of the boys was

impressive, especially when Captain Michael Koutsofta congratulated the Magdalen coach on their skilful game. By this stage we had lost James Larkin and John Jamieson to the As and found that they were to be sadly missed. This seemed to be a turning point for the boys as out of the next five matches we managed only one more victory against Windsor Boys, finishing with five wins and five defeats. Overall it was a whole team effort although special mentions must go to Michael Koutsofta who, despite being

HOCKEY

U14

The season started with games against strong sides from large schools who, we are convinced, had we played later in the season would have had a much tougher time. The team never lost heart, remained confident and competed right up to the final whistle.

Everything seemed to be conspiring against us against Milton Abbey; a long coach journey, a large lunch and a match to be played on grass. When at half time we were 2-0 down the journey home seemed daunting. However, a superb second half performance with two great goals, including a fine goal by George Boggis, suddenly made things better.

The second part of the season fulfilled the potential of the first. Two victories against Reading School, with George Boggis again scoring a crucial goal, set up a fine end to the season. By far the most exciting game was against Leighton Park. The score was 1-1 in the last minute when Michael Oldridge just managed to squeeze a goal. It was a well-deserved victory and confirmation not only of the team's fighting spirit but also of massive advances in skill. The team was captained throughout the season by Oliver Thorne. He showed

new to hockey this season, played a magnificent game on the right-wing; to Edward Crowe and Charles Price, who kept the passing tight up front and also to Chris Mills who proved himself to be essential in every position he attempted from sweeper to forward!

LE Eccleston

The squad: M. Koutsofta (captain), C Price, E Crowe, E Bramwell, J Larkin, J Jamieson, N Bosch, C Mills, J Chan, J Blanchard, P Baxter, A Ward, A James, B Taylor-Raymond, J Bradley, C Dicker, A Magee.



U14A squad

immense calm and authority on the pitch and considerable skill at centre-half. He was able to supply excellent ball to the two attackers, Michael Oldridge (four goals) and Tom Sampson (six goals). The wingers George Boggis (five goals) and Julian Mills were reliable and supported by the half-backs, particularly

Leo Sum. Nick Brockbanks, as goal keeper, had an excellent season.

NJ Brown

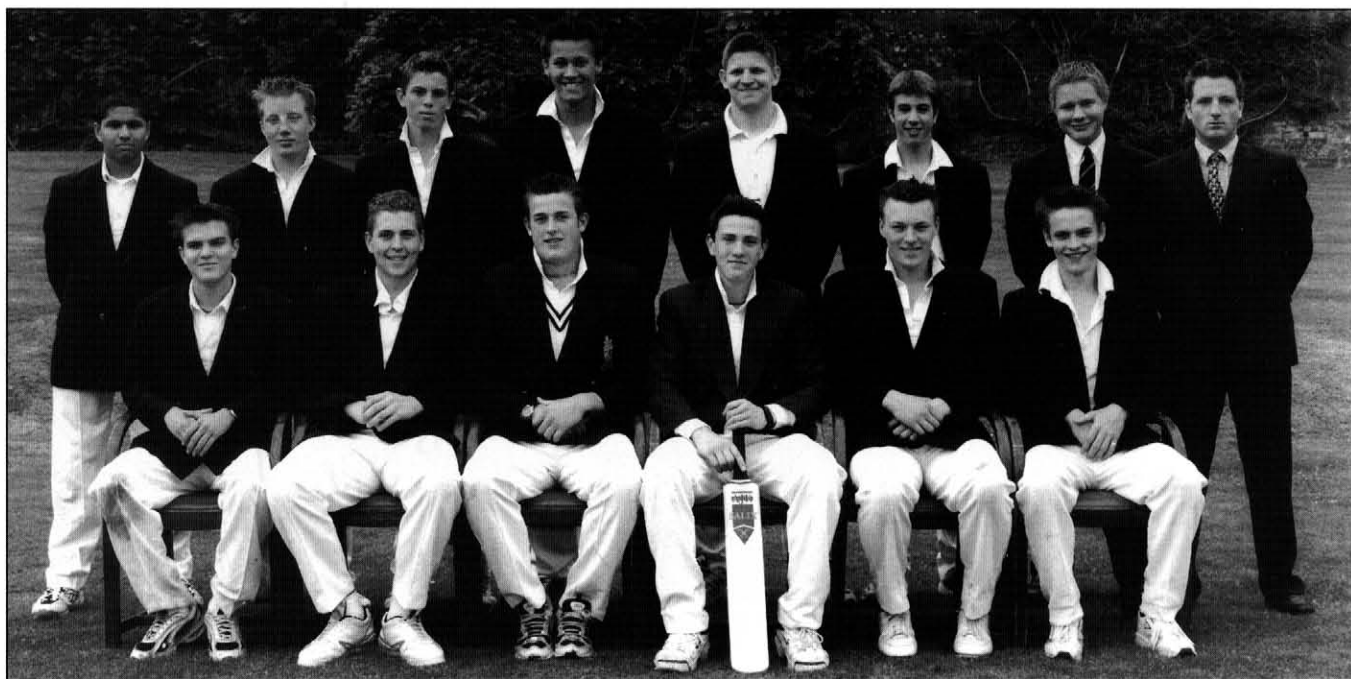
The squad: O Thorne (captain), N Brockbanks, M Gourley, J Finch, J Gouldstone, P Cadman, L Sum, J Mills, M Oldridge, T Sampson, G Boggis.



U14Bs, above, waiting to play... and, right, in action



CRICKET



1st XI

The season started well, with a draw against Henley College, followed by a thumping eight wicket victory over Reading Blue Coats. Lambert and Hamilton guided Shiplake home with time to spare. Scoffham had run through the middle order with a superb spell of bowling. Two defeats followed, poor fielding cost Shiplake victory at Claires Court, while Reading School proved too strong for our batsmen. The annual fixture versus the OVS was a huge success. Shiplake stuck manfully to the task, dismissing the OVS for 140, with Hamilton capturing the prized wicket of his 1st XI coach! Shiplake wickets fell steadily until 27 runs were required with nine wickets down. Gurney and Cracknell, with a little luck and a lot of skill, scored the winning runs amid great tension for a superb win.

The Windsor Boys fixture proved to be another thrilling game, with Toby Douglas batting for over two and a half hours in an attempt to save the game until he fell with just three balls to go. Hamilton, too, surpassed himself

recording figures of 6 for 35 with his cunning leg-spin.

A solid victory against a young Bloxham side gave the team confidence for the festival on the final Sunday of term. With a semi-final draw against Pangbourne, Shiplake started well, but the all-too-familiar collapse followed and we were all out for 87. Inspired bowling from Jacob, Douglas, Hutton and Gurney kept

Tim Scoffham



Shiplake in the game. With Pangbourne at 60 for 8 things were looking good but Pangbourne crept through.

Against Bearwood, a flat-looking Shiplake bowled poorly, still reeling from the morning game. Bearwood reached 150 in their allotted 25 overs. At 80 for one, with Radford and Douglas going well, the omens were good. Wickets fell but Radford kept Shiplake in touch with the highest score of the season, 85 not out. A four was needed off the last ball but it proved to be too big a task.

Altogether, an excellent season. Some great bowling and catching with some terrible dropped catches and ground fielding mixed in. I would like to thank Jamie Ellingham for scoring as well as Mr Davey for umpiring all season and for his valuable support throughout. I would also like to thank Mark, and the entire squad, for a superb first year coaching.

TPJ Caston

The squad: M Hamilton (captain), B Radford, T Douglas, T Constable, T Scoffham, A Hutton, K Murray, A Lambert, J Gurney, R Jacob, V Apte, M Gaskell, C Cracknell.

CRICKET

2nd XI

This season has been severely interrupted by exams and rain. Consequently the 2nd XI has only managed to play four matches in total. The first match was at home against Reading Blue Coat. Having put them in, they went on to score 154 for 9 (Armitage 5 for 43) and in reply Chris Smith ran out of partners and we finished with 86 all out.

In the 30 overs match versus Windsor Boys some keen fielding and an inspired bowling performance by Kennedy (3 for 16) bowled Windsor out for 103.

However, our weak underbelly was exposed when we came to pick up the bat and we could only manage 84 before our last wicket fell.

Our next match found us up against a much improved Reading School side who knocked up 172 for 4 and once again our frailty with the bat meant that we could only muster 76 all out despite some spirited resistance by Miller (42)



and Kennedy (20).

Surprisingly, our last game against Magdalen College, traditionally our toughest opposition, was the most closely fought. Chasing a total of 136 for 7 we managed to break through the elusive 100 barrier and ended up just 15 runs short, thanks largely to Apte who scored his first half-century with

support from Gouldstone (21) at the other end.

RC Snellgrove

The squad: C Smith (captain), A Nommensen, O Miller, E Kennedy, V Apte, M Ellis, T Gouldstone, R Yetman, M Chambers, C Armitage, S Hurlstone, A Pemberton, A Howard, F Field-Hall.



U15

It was a frustrating start to the season with rain preventing the squad from getting as much practice in the middle or on grass nets as they would have liked and sadly some games were lost due to the frequent presence of clouds.

Jamieson and Mills formed a useful partnership to open the bowling with good support from Alstadt, Bramwell, Duckworth and Steel-Wakefield. However the batting frequently looked fragile and there were some collapses that would not have looked out of place

in an England Test Match.

One of the highlights of the season was the inaugural Shiplake Shield competition played on the final Sunday of the term. While the 1st XI played at Shiplake and the U14s competed at Bearwood, U15 squads battled it out on Pangbourne College's playing fields.

It was an encouraging end to the season with a win over Bearwood to secure third place in the U15 competition. My thanks go not only to the players but also to Paul Johnson for his many hours of coaching and umpiring.

JM Gale

The squad: C Mills (captain), A Steel-Wakefield, J Jamieson, J Blanchard, J Larkin, I Duckworth, E Bramwell, A Alstadt, E Crowe, J Fordham, J Price, A Ward, M Koutsofta, B Taylor-Raymond.

CRICKET

U14s

With the incentive of a cricket tour to Barbados to spur them on, this year's U14 cricketers have worked hard in both training and matches to produce some fine performances.

Fielding has improved immeasurably and we can now be certain of saving a significant number of runs in the field. Bowling has had its ups and downs but with the combination of Matthew Hensby's pace and the accuracy and reliability of Julian Mills and Jon Finch's medium pace we have had an effective opening attack. Tom Sampson (the leading wicket taker), Oscar Thorne and Nigel Baker have provided excellent back-up.

Batting has at times been delicate but there have been some fine individual performances and, indeed, a few notable partnerships. Oscar Thorne scored well over two hundred runs during the season, with 81 against Bearwood and 74 against Leighton Park. Tom Sampson developed a fine opening partnership with Oscar, the pair twice reaching over 80 before the first wicket fell; a great start for any team. One other player worthy of mention is Michael Oldridge who took on the unenviable task of wicketkeeper. He developed throughout the season and by the end looked an assured and able keeper.

In all, it has been a successful and positive season in which members of the squad have improved and contributed much. If things continue to improve in this manner, watch out Barbados!

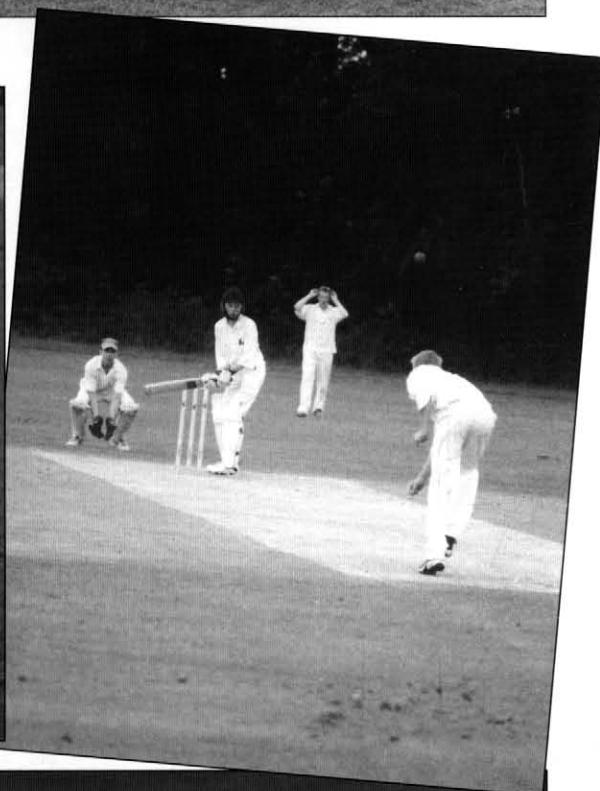
NJ Brown

The squad: O Thorne, (captain) T Sampson, M Hensby, J Finch, J Mills, M Oldridge, G Potts, G Boggis, N Baker, A Gordon, S Sobhan, O Roitt, J Symons, B Flanagan.

Right, Nigel Baker



Above: U14A. Below: Julian Mills



THE BOAT CLUB

Swiss Training Camp

Mid Easter saw the 1st VIII and J16 VIII embark on a week-long training camp in Sarnen, Switzerland, base of the Swiss National Rowing Centre. There are few more spectacular and ideal rowing sites in the world. To be able to row for miles in a straight line, on perfect water, with the sun blazing down and the snow capped Alps as a backdrop was a unique and special experience. It was a fantastic week, many miles were rowed, blisters appeared, callouses grew and an excellent foundation was laid for

the summer racing term. Huge leaps forward in both technique and fitness were taken by both crews but not all activities were water-based. Besides nightly pilgrimages to hang out at the local internet cafe, and challenges to the local break-dancing posse, bad conditions on the lake one afternoon allowed the Shiplake squad to go alpine! Snow was found in abundance and the Shiplake rowing tour quickly turned into the Shiplake ski trip minus the skis. All local downhill records were broken as boys plummeted down the slopes on

scavenged satellite dishes, ironing boards and available parts of their anatomy. Remarkably, no bones were broken and normal training resumed that evening. We are sure that an afternoon at altitude played an important part in the squad's highly tuned psychological development! The venue was excellent and the attitude of the rowers was superb. It was an extremely profitable and memorable week which we hope will set the precedent for the future.

SJ O'Brien



1st VIII

2000 was a year of learning, progress and achievement for the 1st VIII. The improvements seen from the first casual Friday afternoon to the Thursday afternoon at Henley Royal Regatta when Shiplake led the Hampton 1st VIII out of the island and challenged them the entire length of the course were immense.

The commitment of all boys involved was total and of course, absolutely necessary. New precedents were set with ergos being ground out before

Christmas, as well as gym work and weight training. An exceptional training camp was held in Switzerland over Easter. Hopefully these activities will all step up a level for next year. The Head season began well with a superb win at Henley Head. This was extremely encouraging but difficult to repeat in races to follow. Henley Schools Head and Kingston were both encouraging if not spectacular but the

Continued on next page



Nick Quirke, stroke of the College four, was selected for the GB U19s squad, to take part in the European Coupe de Jeunesse in Lucerne, Switzerland, in July.

The three day international sporting event included several days' tough training and finished with two regattas - and the greatest challenge for Nick's coxed four was the squally wet weather. His crew saw off close challenges from the Italians and French to finish with two gold medals, recording their fastest time ever. To their delight, they were faster than the U19 crew competing in the world event in Croatia!

THE BOAT CLUB

Schools Head of the River Race saw a respectable but, for the crew, disappointing, result. Hard work and application was to be required for the crew to realise its obvious potential. The Easter training camp saw the group get the wheels rolling for what was to be an eventful and exciting summer racing season. The crew raced hard at Notts City Regatta making the final both days in the eight. A coxed four of Nick Quirke, Jan Muggenburg, Ed Greig, Jack Gregory and Oliver Cruickshank won Senior 3 on Saturday and came second in Senior 2 on Sunday. The weekend was part of a huge learning process for the group.

Glimpses of speed were shown in training and there was always an underlying confidence that this crew really had something good to give. The first signs came through at Thames Ditton. The coxed four easily won their event and the eight progressed well to the final where they met reigning Schools Head Champions, Canford. Shiplake blasted off the line to lead Canford by a length after 500 metres but Canford rowed back through while Shiplake was suffering from the shock of realising they could actually row so fast. A loss of only three-quarters of a length to such class opposition was encouraging and a mood of anticipation took over for National Schools. As a result, National Schools was a resounding success. Inclement conditions demanded that the Child Beale 1st VIII's event be rowed as a time trial. The goal of a medal was achieved in style with the crew rowing an incredibly demanding race to win silver with a seven second gap to third place. Sunday brought real heroics though. The coxed four had shown plenty of promise with two regatta wins so were hopeful for a place in the final of the



Championship fours. The day's racing exceeded all expectations when they not only won their heat but also produced a magnificent row to win their semi-final and be put in pole position for the final.

Despite the crew again being astounded by their own speed, another impressive race in the final saw them win silver, pipped by an excellent St. Paul's crew. This result was nothing short of outstanding and has shown that Shiplake rowers are not only capable of competing in the big league but of actually winning.

More racing followed after half term at Reading, Marlow and at Reading Town with Shiplake chasing hard and challenging the likes of Hampton and Henley finalists Groton School without quite beating them.

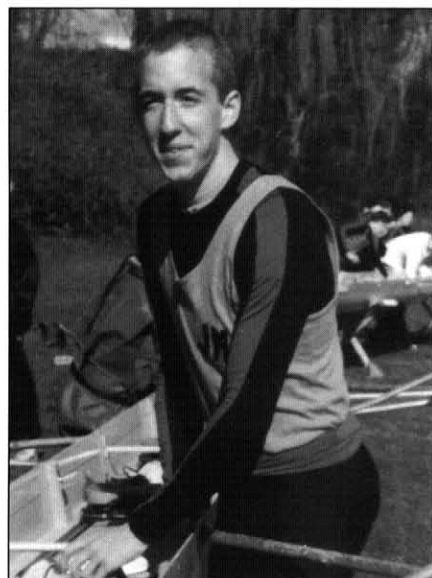
Dividends were payed out though at Henley Royal Regatta with Shiplake winning their first round against a spirited Methodist College crew to win by two and three-quarter lengths. To win in such style in front of masses of Shiplake supporters was just reward for a crew deserving some accolades. To the crew's credit the following day Hampton had to hit the best rhythm they had felt all year to be able to pull

away from a determined Shiplake eight. The fact that Hampton pushed the eventual winners to half a length shows that the Shiplake crew had some real pace and although not quite breaking into the big league this year, they are certainly knocking on the door. Roll on next season!

SJ O'Brien

The squad: W Paddison, J Muggenburg, E Greig, J Gregory, B Hewson, O Cruickshank, N Quirke, S Laurie, R Aslin, N Lay.

Jan Muggenburg

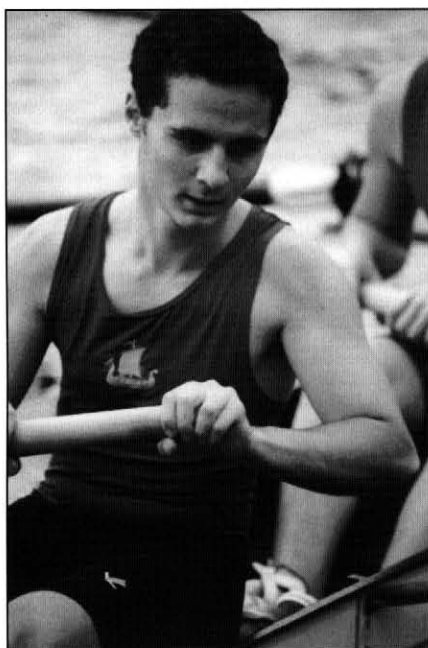


THE BOAT CLUB

2nd VIII

On paper it seemed as though the crew should be fairly competitive at 2nd VIII level and at the early Heads this was borne out. Sadly, the illness and injuries suffered by members of our 1st VIII meant that a constant stream of replacements were required and the full crew only raced twice - the first and last races of the season! Finding replacements became increasingly difficult as the season progressed and on one occasion Will Neale gallantly stepped into the boat with only twenty minutes notice.

The Head season came and went with the crew dreaming of what might have been. Sadly very few were available for the training camp in Switzerland this year and therefore preparation for the regatta season was not as good as in previous years. Wallingford was cancelled due to flood water and the



Adi Susic, 2nd VIII stroke

decision was taken at this stage to concentrate on a four for National Schools' and come back to the eight at the end of the season. Nottingham was at its very worst and National Schools'

was reduced to a few time trials, which was a great disappointment for all involved. The four did not perform well although the event itself was of a very high standard.

The eight reformed after half term with the intention of racing at Thames Valley Park and it was good to see the crew finish the season on a high note by beating the St Edward's 2nd VIII in the final. I should like to thank the members of the crew who kept going with good humour throughout this extremely difficult season. I cannot remember ever having one like it. I do know that many were disappointed with the massive disruption but to their credit the crew remained focused and determined. I look forward to next year.

GP Wells

Bow: C Ellaby, 2: A Cain, 3: H Colvin, 4: J Robinson, 5: C Grabowski, 6: H Brown, 7: H Lowry, stroke: A Susic, cox: J Rayner.

J16

The squad has had a mixed year with some fantastic highs and some difficult lows. The whole school was shocked and saddened by the untimely death of Tom Stafford. Three of the J16 'A' crew are members of Welsh house, so it was exceptionally moving to see them take out the new VIII named after Tom for its first outing. The care that they have shown the boat (they even wash it after every outing) is great to see and a sincere mark of respect for their friend Tom. We are all incredibly grateful to the Stafford family for the gift of the VIII and for their support on the bank at most of the regattas this season.

On a more cheerful note, one of the highlights of the year for the J16 VIII was the training camp in Switzerland. I think that this training camp showed the crew



Naming the 'Tom Stafford'

how rowing can be both hard work and fun as well. The location and quality of water was fantastic and the scenery was beautiful. Richard Lightwing and Ben

Nicholas tested the water and commented that it was also quite chilly! The training camp put the eight in a very strong position for the summer

THE BOAT CLUB



J16 crew

continued from previous page

term regattas. The crew had finished the winter season on a par with St Paul's School and Eton. The first half of the summer term was difficult. At one stage it was hard to put a crew on the water owing to injuries. As a result the crew did not find its top form which would have made it pretty formidable but still managed to give the fastest crew in the country, Abingdon, a run for its money on several occasions. They consistently recorded times faster than Eton and the victory over Pangbourne at Thames Valley Park regatta was decisive. This

J15A

The J15A VIII had an excellent season's rowing. Apart from Marlow and Reading Town regattas they qualified for every final. At the rearranged Wallingford Regatta, late in June rather than early in May, they recorded a deserved victory. In my opinion they are one of the top five J15 crews in the country. I really believe that they had an excellent chance of doing well at the National Schools Regatta but sadly their event

was their first victory in 'Tom Stafford' and was great to watch.

Unfortunately, the National Schools Regatta was cancelled at J16 level and below so the crew was also unable to find out its ranking among other crews. The crew trained hard through the season and should be commended on winning several races at the highly competitive J16 level.

SK Ellis

The squad: A Bayford, B Deaton, B Nicholas, R Lightwing, J Wilkinson, G Marshall, T Bellamy, S Miles, R Pugsley, S Goldie.

was cancelled owing to the weather. They proved their capability and showed rapid improvement as the season progressed. Their positive attitude and desire to win made it great fun to coach this talented squad.

AC Hambrook

The squad: J Falvey, J Halsall, M McCluggage, D Ealand, W Goddard, M Jackson, T Slater, C Cort, T Chambers.

J15B The 'Nostrovya' Squaddes Tale

When that Aprille with his showeres soote
The droghte of Merche hath perced to the
roote

Than do roweres to regatteres gooth,
Upon the River Thames to say sooth.
And moost of all the FYFTEEN BEE,
CREWES

Competeth ful wel with oother schooles.
At Thames Dytton they slew the myghty
Eton,
But in the finale could nat subdue Hampton.
Upon the lyne ther blades dide clashi;
And lo the umpyre also dide splashel,
By a mere few feete they failed to winne,
I wol nat lie, I fear the cox did sinne.

Traynyng procedeth hard for National
Schools,

But wyld reyne and winde gan make alle
fooles,

Bravely they rowed in ragyng waves and sea,
All was fer noghte, for home they were by
tea (time).

Now of the TVP regattere I wol yow telle,
In soothe it was nerly merry helle.

The stroke a chipped bone had brooke
And the gentil Saunders his myghte place
had tooke.

The coach's rallying crie was to no avayle,
In thirde they cam anon, ther effort did fail.
For the lowly four stroked by a lowly Clerke
Foond al the course to much lyk harde
werke!

And now Lordinges of much moore could I
seye,

Of deedes heroic and some less fey,
The NOSTROVYA squaddes were good
menne and strong

The tales of ther japes and rowinge wille be
fulle and longe-

Thanne conclude I thus, my tale is at an
ende,

Whilom the Thames stille does wynde and
wende.

CA Alcock (with apologies to Chaucer!)

THE BOAT CLUB



Victorious J14 octuple with gold medals won at the Schools' Head

J14

The squad was smaller than usual - only 20 sculling at the end of the summer regatta season.

Still, we were able to establish an A crew very early in the spring term and, as always, consistency at this age invariably leads to a good boat. And for once we had some size, as well as more than a little skill, to work with. The octuple went well from the outset,

winning over a small fleet at the Henley Schools' Head quite convincingly. A fortnight later, after some anguish over incorrect timing/crew placing, the crew was also awarded first position and gold medals at the Schools' Head (beating Westminster by one second). At the Henley event the quad sculled well but in their case they were simply too small - the crew suffered from that description for the rest of the season.

Following the cancellation of Wallingford Regatta, the first event of the summer term saw the octuple beat a good Canford crew in the final at Thames Ditton. Later there was a very enjoyable private match at Upper Thames, kindly organised by Paul Aitchinson's father, Nick.

Then there were the two reverses against Radley at Walton and Thames Valley Park. Pierre Kunkler was taken out of the quad to scull in the octuple for the latter event, and also for Reading Town owing to various accidents and misdemeanours.

The regatta calendar ended with a very satisfying win for the octuple at Reading Town - Pangbourne and St. Paul's were removed in the semi, and Winchester College were well beaten in the final. It made all the work of my fellow coaches, Chris Alcock and Brendan Bolton, as well as the craftsmanship of boatman Austin Dorey, very worthwhile. But most of all, my thanks go to the members of the squad.

B Macdonald

A Octuple: James Pond, Paul Aitchinson, Pierre Kunkler, Danny Lee, Paddy Colman, Peter Mullan, Basil Holiasmenos, Alex Cadoux-Hudson, Adam Green, Giles Ferrier.
B Quad: James Masters, Ben Porbeni, James Mackay, Tim Harris. Stephen O'Connor.

Keen Reserves: Sam Tsui, Greg Brenninkmeijer, Oliver Scott, Kit Stangroom, William Plaisted.



Above: the Nostrovya squad, the notorious Fifteen Bees! Right, the J14 quad



TENNIS

1st VI

Many permutations were necessary to see the 1st VI through a busy season of nine fixtures and many absences due to examinations. The agile Phillip Buhl and experienced Ed Dadak were the number one pair but they were ably supported by Martin Leguay, Simon Hotchkiss, Jamies Somers and James Greenham. On occasions Mark Hamilton, captain of cricket, joined the team and Charlie Keyser stepped up from the 2nd VI. In fact Mark Hamilton won the singles tournament beating Phillip Buhl in an excellent game that entertained a large crowd.



The season began with a close 5-4 defeat to Magdalen College and it took a while for the team to settle until they recorded an emphatic 9-0 victory over local rivals Pangbourne. Other highlights of the season were 8-1 wins over Reading School and The Oratory although it was disappointing that Radley avenged last year's defeat. However, the 7-2 win over Bradfield provided an excellent note to finish.

AR Cheadle

The squad: E Dadak, P Buhl, M Leguay, S Hotchkiss, J Somers, J Greenham.

2nd VI

A memorable season for the 2nd VI saw Charlie Keyser play some outstanding tennis. He has a competitive edge that often saw some great comebacks. Paul Hickey and Ollie Gradden had an up and down season which often saw their powerful service game come out on top. Henry de Lloyd had a good season with his excellent volleying at the net winning many points.

It also saw Jo BurrIDGE, the College's first female to play in competitive inter-school matches, hold her own. Magdalen College School, Oxford was the first

match of the season and although the side lost overall, some of the opposition just did not quite know what to do against her reliable return of serve. We also saw Max Manners, Andrew Fox, Andrew McDonnell and Nick Jamieson come onto the 2nd VI as squad members and suggest that there may be a bright future for Shiplake College tennis in years to come.

D Wilson

The squad: P Hickey (captain), O Gradden, H de Lloyd, J BurrIDGE, M Manners, A Fox, A McDonnell, N Jamieson.



U15

The junior team enjoyed a season of good, competitive tennis, playing over ten matches and the team spirit was always good.

The team pairings did vary throughout the season, allowing us to explore all the possible combinations. Nick Allan (captain) and Nick Alstadt as first pair provided a competitive edge, giving rise to some close run matches.

Allan Pownall, with a variety of partners as second pair, played well and gave some much needed stability to the team.

It was also good to see that half of the eight-man squad came from Year 9 so they were often playing against opposition a year older. A particular 'well done' to Nick Alstadt (Y9) for his victory in the Open Junior singles tournament.

RT Mannix

The squad: N Allan (captain), N Alstadt, A Pownall, P Gurtata, C Dicker, P Cadman, J Gouldstone, N Brockbanks, J Symons.



ATHLETICS

Although the athletics season was often threatened by inclement weather, both the standards and the championship days were contested vigorously by competitors from all houses, and there were impressive performances recorded by a great number of boys and girls. The standards competition resulted in a win for Everett House who trailed Burr right up to the final day, but then surged forward with a great influx of track and field competitors in the eleventh hour to clinch a hard fought victory.

Burr had their revenge, however, with the Championship day, and ran out very easy winners in both the junior and senior competitions, showing great house spirit and determination. Impressive performances came from all their relay teams as well as a number of individuals including Ben Porbeni who came first in both the junior 100 and 200 metres, Alex Entin who won the junior shot and Alan Pownall, the junior long jump winner. For Burr seniors, Nick Quirke won both the 100 metres and

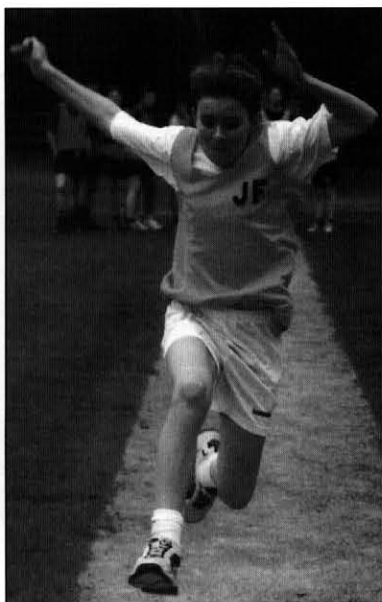
shot. Undoubtedly the other outstanding athlete came from Skipwith where William Paddison recorded victories in the senior long jump and 400 metres.

The tug of war proved to be a highly contested and popular event with the prize going to the bulky and co-ordinated Welsh crew who defeated a gallant Orchard house team in the final.

J Gayton



Pierre Kunkler



John Finch



Danny Lee and Tom Sampson



Anna Ransom

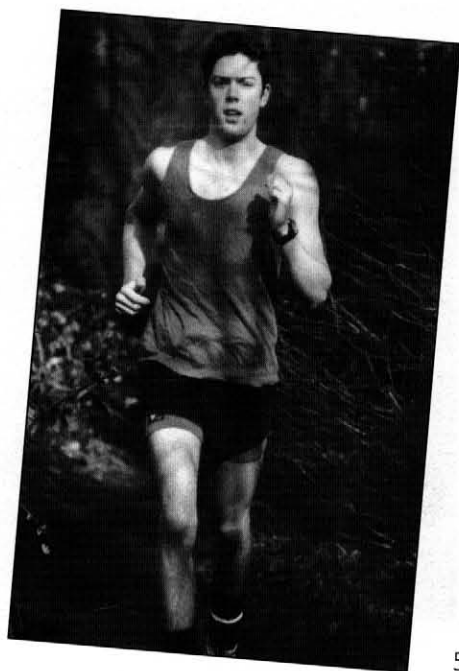
Cross country

The cross country events this year reached new levels of participation. These were achieved thanks to a rejuvenated passion for running among pupils, a spectacular riverside course and ever increasing inter-house rivalries. Perhaps the fact that they were compulsory helped as well. Nevertheless, the spirit of each event was extremely satisfying. The runners gave their all for their houses. House results see-sawed through the first two races although Burr dominated the senior event and Skipwith the junior.

They both went on to win overall with Orchard and Welsh runners up. With Skipwith also putting on a strong showing in the senior category, their combined results put them at the top of the points for the Baldry Trophy. Unspectacular but solid results over all three rounds allowed Everett to sneak into second position. The entire college watched the championship runners sweat it out on the final day. Congratulations go to the individual year group winners.

SJ O'Brien

Rob Aslin, senior cross country winner



SPORTS ROUND UP



1st XI football squad

Football continues to be a popular sport at Shiplake as was shown in the highly competitive inter-house fixtures. The senior competition was won by Orchard House whose team contained a number of 1st XI players. Will Wright was inspirational in leading his team to a 2-0 victory over Burr, ably lead by Nick Quirke. The junior competition was also

equally hard fought with Skipwith beating Burr 3-2. The school 1st XI played some exceptional football this year and in a hard-fought match lost to a more experienced Huntercombe side. The overall winner though was football and the impeccable manner in which the game was played.

Later in the term, almost the same side played a St. Edward's XI. Good play from James Gurney and Tom Michell contributed to a 1-0 half-time lead and early in the second half Alex Macdonald made it 2-0. A frantic end to the game saw St. Edward's score but Shiplake hung on for a well deserved win.

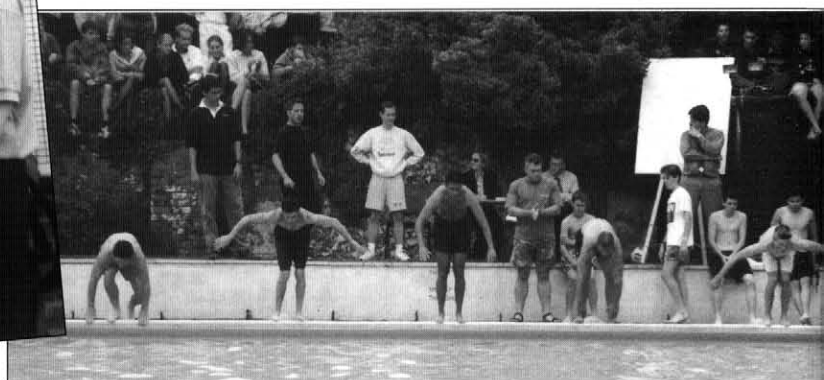
D Wilson



Right: a junior game



Top left: badminton in the sports hall; above: the first (ever) netball team; left, golfers; below: the popular house swimming gala.



NEW STAFF

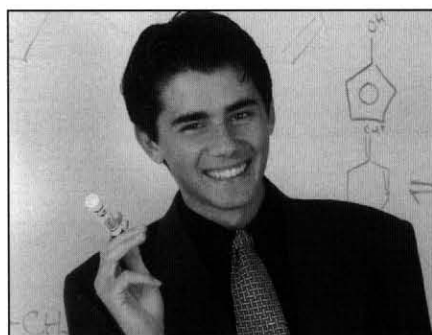
Lorraine Eccleston



Lorraine joined the History Department in January to replace Sam Gutteridge. After leaving Perth High School, Lorraine read History at Edinburgh University, graduating with an MA and a PGCE from Herriot-Watt University. Lorraine is reading for an Open University MEd.

Lorraine has come to Shiplake from Ardvreck School in Perthshire, where she was heavily involved in duties and school activities. Her main interests were in drama, especially stage management and debating, still finding time for aerobics and circuit training.

Brendan Bolton



After leaving North Sydney Boys' High, Brendan is spending a year at Shiplake, taking a year out from university in Australia. He organised the girls' first netball match, helps out with the *Viking Voice* and in the science laboratories. As an IT whizzkid he has produced some highly professional event programmes. Outside Brendan helps with the CCF Air Force section, rowing, basketball and

the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. He was the driving force behind the first upper sixth leavers' book.

John Blunsdon

Our new Head of Geography previously taught at Windsor Boys' School. He gained a Human Geography degree from Reading University before moving on to Cambridge University for his PGCE.

At Windsor Boys' he ran a geography club, a mountain bike club, a kart club and coached rugby. His own interests include cycling, squash, walking, theatre and fly-fishing.

Sarah-Jane McKenna

Sarah-Jane comes to Shiplake from The King's School, Worcester, where she taught Physics, to take over from Viv Daly after his retirement.

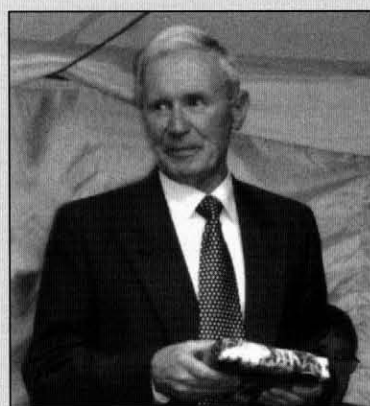
Hockey is her main sport but she has also been involved with rowing and the RAF CCF. She has already achieved IGT and BGT certificates for gliding.

We should all be aware that Sarah-Jane is a red belt kick boxer! She also developed more peaceful hobbies during her time at Bradford University, helping to set up an Automotive Engineering Degree course within the Mechanical Engineering Department.

Adrian Lewis

Adrian takes on the new position of director of cricket and rugby. He will also be teaching in the Learning Support Department. After school on the Isle of Wight and study at South London College, Adrian began his teaching career in London. He has played rugby for England Schools and cricket for Hampshire 2nd XI. He coaches cricket at the Middlesex Cricket Academy and is a Rugby Football Union referee trainer.

RETIRING...



Viv Daly

Viv Daly arrived some 19 years ago to develop a Science Department from a pile of boxes in a shared laboratory. He saw the department grow in to the separate, modern facilities it now enjoys.

On the retirement of Richard Lee, Viv became Head of Science and carried out much of the preliminary research into the Dual Award Science course, which has now been adopted by the College for September 2000.

As a member of the Senior Common Room he was always willing to offer advice and help. He served as President of the SCR and often brought much needed relief to colleagues through his wonderful sense of humour.

Viv also contributed much on the pastoral side of College life, proving a wise tutor and, at times, a stand-in housemaster in Orchard House. For many years he ran a successful squash club, served his time as a coach of 2nd XI cricket teams and has been a meticulous recorder at Athletics Standards and Sports Day.

Viv's enthusiasm has never diminished and he was delighted by his farewell flight to Sellafield when he accompanied the boys on the McAlpine Prize trip. We wish Viv well in his retirement; may he spend many a happy hour on the golf course, and we look forward to welcoming him back as our guest.

G Cassells

STAFF LEAVING

Brian Macdonald

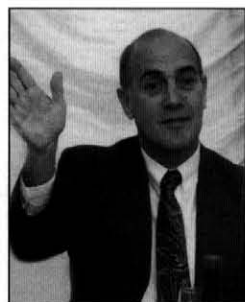
Brian arrived at Shiplake in September 1994. As Head of Geography he has



overseen the growth and development of the department from its base in the Stableyard, via some temporary garden sheds, to the new Humanities Centre. Brian was a member of the Curriculum Committee, the IT Committee, a regular at Chapel, a house tutor in Everett and then Burr.

The staff five-a-side goalie, he also coached the J14s for five of his six years, his crews winning silver at the National Schools regatta in 1996 and 1997. Most recently his J14s won gold in the Schools Head of the River Race. He was also Boat Club Secretary and logistics expert. The coaches will sorely miss his knack of coordinating and organising the rest of us. He is looking forward to starting a challenging and interesting new job at Magdalen College and we wish him the very best of luck.

GS Lawson



John Gayton

Four years ago John Gayton was appointed as Shiplake

College's first

director of rugby and during that time the game has progressed considerably. His comprehensive coaching manual emphasised respect for the opposition and for the game. He worked hard to raise the status of rugby within the College and spent hours on the field introducing innovations.

Perhaps his greatest achievement was

the superb organisation behind the 1st XV squad's tour of Australia. John raised thousands of pounds through imaginative sponsorship to ensure that the players not only had a memorable time in Australia but also returned better players.

He was a popular teacher in English, History and Learning Support. Pupils respected his vast experience of education and life. He was a reliable tutor to the pupils of Orchard House and a highly efficient MiC of athletics. Having married during his time at Shiplake, John is returning to Australia to join his wife, rather than experiencing married life through e-mails!

M Edwards

John Gale

John Gale arrived from a grammar school in Spalding, Lincolnshire, to take on the specialist role of



Remedial Mathematics teacher. He has been remarkably successful, producing some unexpected passes that delighted his pupils. With the rapid growth of the IT department and the popularity of the subject, John has also been called upon to use his skills teaching IT for GCSE.

He has been involved with a major sport for every term of his time at Shiplake. In the autumn term he coached U16 rugby. Spring saw him on the hockey pitch and he coached U15 cricket on summer days.

John had rapid promotion through the RAF CCF. He gave generously of his time, taking the cadets on camps and organising numerous gliding and flying sessions. John is moving to Downe House, not only a promotion, but also much nearer to his home in Newbury.

CAM Lowndes



Sam Gutteridge

Sam arrived in September 1997 and made an immediate impact as resident tutor of

the Welsh House third form. Soon to be published is an undoubted best seller, *Sam Gutteridge, aged twenty seven and a half: The Lodge Years*. Sam provided great support for his tutees and housemaster.

Sam's literary skills brought laughter to pupils and staff with the satirical *Viking Voice*. He expertly coached U15 rugby, and prepared U14 cricket and hockey teams. He was MiC of cross country, and made a great contribution to the CCF as Lieutenant Gutteridge. Sam helped with the silver Duke of Edinburgh Award, ran the Sixth Form Society, sang in the choir and starred as a swashbuckling Cavalier in last summer's *40 Tudor*. In Welsh House he produced two spirited end-of-term shows *Up and Under* and *Cinderella*. As Sam departs for his new post at Oakham School I can only hope that the final diary entry of his time at Shiplake was a happy one!

PCJ Gould

Alex Hambrook

Alex first arrived in the third form at Shiplake back in 1991. He ended up as Head of College and rowing for the 1st VIII. He returned to the College in 1999 to coach the J15 crews and to help out with weekend activities. He trained his crew hard and well.

Alex leaves to coach rowing and teach IT at Kent School, Connecticut. We look forward to seeing him when he brings crews to Henley Regatta.

SK Ellis

OBITUARY

Tom Stafford

Tom enjoyed nothing more than messing about by the river in the reeds and rushes, fooling around in the woods, fishing and climbing trees which hung over the water.

The outdoors was where he thrived and he had thought of becoming a game-keeper. Just before the October half-term he said how much he enjoyed being up in the moorlands of Lancashire.

It was at the end of a happy day of shooting that Tom died in a tragic accident.

We all know Tom brought a huge amount of humour into our lives. He had a gift, that rare knack of being able to say something funny, generally at the right time. His jokey, light-hearted manner concealed a growing desire to succeed in all that he attempted. Within four weeks of



Tom, right, loved the outdoor life

arriving at Shiplake, he was awarded a trophy for "The most promising junior oarsman." That took some determination. He was overcoming problems in the classroom and he was

on course to do well in his GCSEs. He played rugby for his school team and had a competitive drive to win. His staunch and spirited defence of Lawrence Dallaglio in the school balloon debate needed not only thoughtful preparation but also terrific grit on the night.

This was the Tom I knew. A kind, thoughtful boy, a friend to so many; humorous and serious, cheeky and respectful, bubbly and quiet, determined and laid back, competitive and fun-seeking, such a vibrant mixture of essential qualities.

I am sure we will always remember his light and cheerful personality. I ask you all, in time, to adopt Tom's approach to life and turn our tears of sadness into tears of joy and laughter.

PCJ Gould

Housemaster

John 'Dick' Whittington

We were all saddened when JWW died suddenly at his home at Ewelme on November 1st 1999. Dick had retired from school mastering in 1992 but retained a weekly contact with the RAF section of the CCF, which he had started. Dick came to Shiplake in 1965 and, courageously, he chose to be the man who spoke with caution about academic prospects in Modern Languages and in career ambitions. Thus he provided a balance and sense of realism.

There were many other aspects to Dick: the staff hockey goalkeeper; the droll story teller; the agreeable travel



'Dick' Whittington: setting an example companion, the tithe barn restorer; the woodwork expert will not be forgotten. Our vision of Dick is slightly blurred behind a holiday cloud of sawdust from the Barn restorations and another cloud - a mixture of chalk dust and standard careers jargon. Old boys must ask themselves how much they owe to his painstaking efforts - all those letters,

reports, applications - and overtime. In retirement too, he set us an example, clearly making an impact on the life of Ewelme village. He found time to be a lay worker in an Anglican Benedictine Community, to do voluntary work in Poland and Albania and to immerse himself in the local community.

Life had not always been easy for Dick but his steadfastness reminds me of John Bunyan's Mr Valiant for Truth. *"Though with great difficulty am I got hither, I do not repent me of the trouble I have been at to arrive where I am."* I am certain that for John William Whittington, *"all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side."*

HE Wells-Furby



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