

## 15. CCF

Nick Thompson recalls “ *that CCF was each week and those with Cert A did some interesting things, however I never did like drill and did not benefit or improve from this dimension. Little did I know what the first term at Sandhurst would involve*”.

Certainly as an “Army School” the public might think that we were pounding the drill square every day. True to the aim of a “normal school” the staff ensured that the CCF was based on the accepted school model. and took place for a couple of hours on a Wednesday afternoon.

The CCF Contingent was Commanded by Major G C W Harland MBE, MC. TD of the Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who served during the Second World War in Iceland and Europe. He reported in the first College Magazine commenting on the headline “Wot? No Sgt Major?” by saying “*This the headline of an inferior (sic - it was the News Chronicle, the Sun didn't exist back then) National Daily which published a characteristically misleading article on the opening of Welbeck College.*”

“Here it is here” as QMSI Cross would say (minus the “Wot”).



The CO went on to say “*The Press, expecting new arrivals to be shouted at on a square, were taken by surprise because they didn't see our versatile QMSI Cross of the Irish Guards meeting trains acting as RTO MTO and CMP all rolled into one. If they had turned up on the following Wednesday afternoon they would have been satisfied, as uniform and equipment was issued and QMSI Cross Irish Guards was busy instilling the concomitant parts of smartness at drill, good turn out, pride in unit, self confidence and mental alertness*”.

On 7 December 1953 the contingent moved into Drill Shed, Welbeck Estates allowed a share their miniature range and a band, in embryo, was formed with training from the nearby Infantry Boys Brigade and an Adult Drum Major visiting.

The Contingent was divided into three platoons:

No 1 an NCO and 12 Cadets all with Cert A parts 1 and 2 working as an NCOs cadre,  
 2 Pl (2 NCOs and 7) Cadets with Cert A Pt 1 and working for Part 2,  
 3 Pl (5 NCOs and 22) all working for Cert A Pt 1

A Field Day was held in Clumber Park on 2 December 1953 the aim being to practice Cert A Part 2 candidates in command and control, and to practice elementary tactics. The inexperience of their commanders led to some loss of control once battle was joined. The opening article went on to quote Monty *"There are no bad troops only bad officers"* and gave the aim of the contingent as simple *"To train the cadets to be good officers"*. All training was to be subordinate to that end with virtually no technical training other than signal training. In the Welbeck Contingent the emphasis *"will ever be on the development of those qualities which make a man a leader"*.

The second magazine gave an "end of term" report as " Visit to a REME Workshop, a whole Field Day, Cert A Examinations, Ceremonial Parade rehearsal, holiday courses, band practices , shooting and weekly Wednesday parades. "A reasonable terms work".

The Field Day involved a 6 mile route march; to revive the troops Bill Forrington, acting as RQMS, provided a chefs haversack ration (and incidentally "an excellent Officers Mess complete with table cloths, tea pot and crockery - wot no silver?). A platoon in attack followed. It was my platoon and I followed the example set in the first Field Day; I made a complete hash of it with a very complicated plan which I don't think anyone understood, and completely lost control. This would come home to roost when the CIGS asked me, on arriving for the first Speech Day, if I had control of my platoon. "Yes" I lied, too terrified to say any other!



Cadets attended courses at The School of Signals (see picture below), the School of Military Engineering Chatham and the Army Schools of PT Aldershot and Scarborough.



The Band practiced regularly as can be seen below. This picture is from Derek Baughan's archive



*L to R: Holt, Jeff Jukes, Manson?, John Skinner, Mark Smith with the big drum, Robin Volkens, ?, Dave Axson and Derek himself.*

Shooting was severely handicapped by the lack of No 8 Rifles but in spite of this the team practiced keenly with the Mossberg until the No 8's arrived. Captain John Thomson took over all the shooting (see also the sports section) with LSgts Kavanagh and Bidwell Captain and Hon Secretary of Shooting.

Appointments made were: CSM A W A Iveson, CQMS A Morton; N0 1 Pl Comd Sgt B H Cornish with Pl Sgt D Bidwell, No 2 Pl Sgt J Dennis. The uniform and equipment of the other two Officers arrived, for Captain Steel who served in the Royal Engineers at Arnhem with the 1st Airborne Brigade and Captain Thomson who served in the Intelligence Corps in the Far East, and thus they were able to appear on Parade in their full regalia!

Thus the contingent was reasonably well equipped and had progressed in a number of important areas and were all "Raring to Go".

The College Magazine of September 1955 emphasized that the Summer Term was always a busy thirteen weeks. The Contingent spent a day on Annual Range Classification. The Annual Inspection was carried out by Lt Gen Sir Geoffrey Evans GOC in C Northern Command who saw everything, including cadets going across an assault course built by themselves - the picture on the next page achieved fame for Arthur Soar for it was used as a recruiting picture soon afterwards. The Inspection report was good! The next page has a newspaper report and photograph of the inspection.

On 30 June the School went to see the Northern Command Tattoo in Leeds came back and immediately went to Ollerton Training area where a dawn attack took place!

The first ever CCF Inspection.



The parade ground scene as Lieut.-General Sir Geoffrey Evans, G.O.C., Northern Command, inspects pupils at Welbeck College, the Army's school near Worksop, yesterday.

**QUALITIES  
THAT ADD  
UP TO  
LEADERSHIP**



The Mark 1, Arthur Soar (1 Entry) being urged on by the C.C.F.'s young ex-1st Airborne Div. Sapper, Captain J. Steel.

2. Initiative—"being one or two jumps ahead of the other chaps."
3. Enthusiasm—"if there is none at the top there is none underneath."
4. Determination—"seeing a task through."
5. Knowledge—"knowledge of your job and ability to impart that knowledge to others."
6. Health—"that is, caring for the physical and mental health of the chaps under you."
7. Loyalty—"to your seniors and juniors."
8. Personality. "You have got to develop a personality so that you get the confidence and respect and—if possible—the affection of the chaps you lead."

**Assault Courses**

The general had earlier inspected the cadets at their first annual inspection. Accompanied by Mr. D. A. Rickards, headmaster, and Major G. C. W. Harland, the school's commanding officer, he saw the boys carrying out training and tackling assault courses.

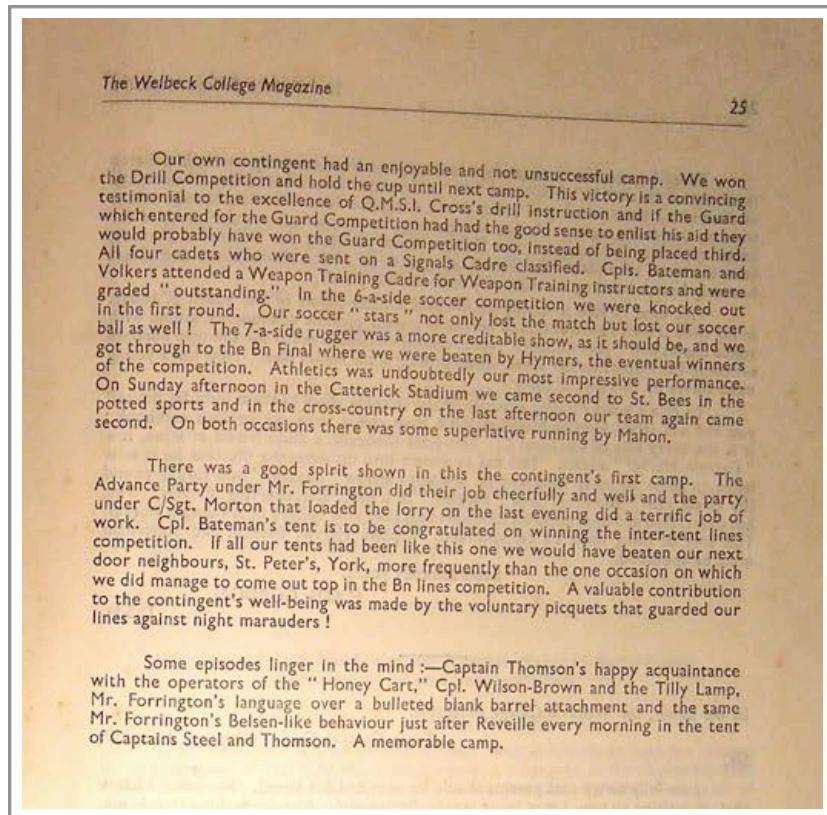
One of the boys who showed him round was 17-year-old Sergt. Jim Dennis, who left Chesterfield Grammar School and went to Welbeck College when it first opened last September. He is in charge of a platoon of 38 boys.

When he has finished his two years at Welbeck College he will go into the Army for primary training and then to Sandhurst. After that he will be a fully-fledged regular Army officer.

The headmaster said the school would eventually build its strength up to 150.

Sorry about No 1 - Integrity?

The same magazine records the first ever CCF Camp held at Gandale and superbly administered by the 1st Bn Gloucester Regiment described as "Never can a CCF Camp have been better run. There can be no doubt that the Glosters were largely responsible for the excellence of all the arrangements and this Contingent records its gratitude". An extract from the magazine below describes the experience of this first camp.



I wasn't privy to the secrets of the last paragraph. However I do remember vividly Bill Forrington handing out loo paper, just three sheets: "One to wash. one to wipe and one to polish!"

An Inter House Guard Mounting Competition was instituted judged by the The Adjutant and RSM of 4th Bn KOYLI , York won by "a narrow margin"



Victory for York: Rear Rank: Jeff Juckes, Nig Allan, Jim Dennis, Ron Taylor Deek Baughan  
Front; Mark Smtih, Neil Walters, Tom Munson, Mick Clifford

There was but a short piece in the January 1955 Magazine which recorded: Training now in four streams: Recruits - for Cert A Part 1; For Cert A Part 2; Signal Training and Post Certificate (NCO Cadres, Advanced map reading, weapon training and Battle Drill)

We all had a great regard and affection for the RSM Fred Cross( I know he was QMSI but he deserved the RSM Tile) so the most significant pieces are shown below

After only four terms with us, Q.M.S.I. Cross is returning to his regiment, The Irish Guards. He has seen the contingent grow from nothing into a unit which is improving and developing all the time and he has played a large part in this evolution. In years to come, when Welbeck has become a byword, we hope that our first Sgt-Major may have occasion to boast that he took the first parade, attended the first camp and gave the first three intakes their grounding in drill. We wish him and his family success and happiness in the new appointment.

A tribute from the front of the magazine.

**Q.M.S.I. F. Cross, Irish Guards**

After a short stay of only four terms, the Sergeant-Major is leaving Welbeck and rejoining his Regiment.

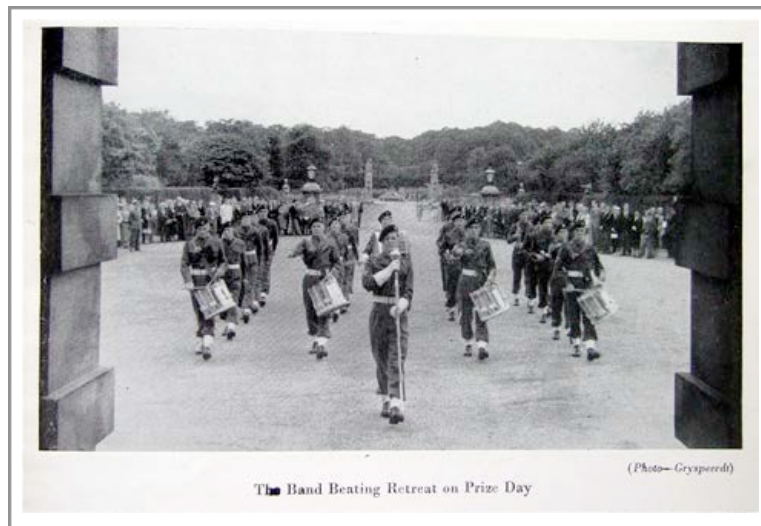
His duties here have been various : meeting new boys off the trains at the beginning of term, playing the organ for prayers in the Chapel, taking P.T. classes and helping with the fencing and boxing, organising stone-picking on Abbey Bottom, umpiring hockey, helping with the open-range shooting and Q.M.S.I. of the Corps. It is in the last of these many roles that he will perhaps be most remembered because the contingent, when only three terms old, won the Drill Cup at camp last summer, an eloquent testimonial to the Serjeant-Major's drill instruction. It is, moreover no easy task to build up a contingent from scratch, and although the C.C.F. contingent at Welbeck is still only in its infancy, much of its healthy early growth is directly attributable to the energies of Q.M.S.I. Cross.

The whole School joins in wishing him and his family good fortune in the future and as a token of appreciation of the work he has done here, he was presented with a clock by C.S.M. Iveson at the end of the last parade afternoon of the term.

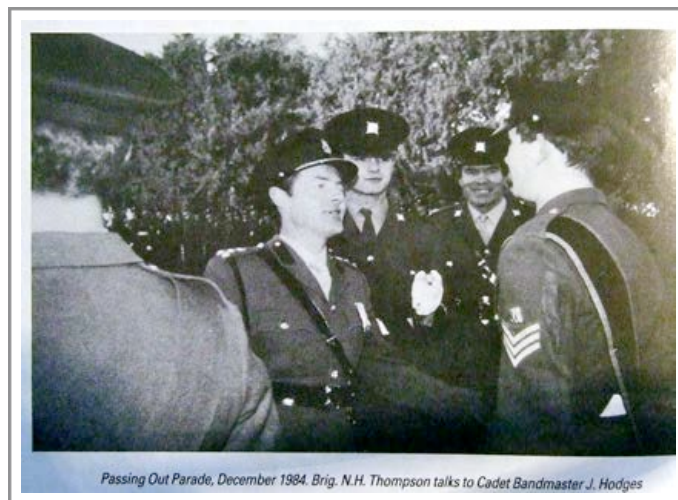


*Setting up a field telephone exchange (Photo = The Sphere)*

Range work (photo From The Sphere):



*The Band above: Arthur Soar, Ray Lettin, Robin Volkens and Derek Baughan on the Drums front row.*



*NickThompson takes an Annual CCF Inspection.*

The CCF report from the September 1955 Edition gives the following statistics:

**DIGEST OF CONTINGENT ACTIVITIES DURING FIRST 2 YEARS**

**1. Strength Increases**

(a)	September 1953	...	...	48
	January 1954	...	...	73
	September 1954	...	...	119
	January 1955	...	...	150

(b) The present strength is ... 6 Officers  
1 Q.M.S.I.  
148 Cadets

**2. Cadet Courses and Attachments**

(a) Courses :—		1953/54	1954/55
(i) R.E.	Field Engineering. S.M.E. Chatham and Ripon ... ..	—	25
(ii) R.E.	Mechanical Engineering. S.M.E. Chatham ... ..	—	3
(iii) R.E.	Electrical Engineering. S.M.E. Chatham ... ..	1	6
(iv) R.E.	Railway Operating. Longmoor ... ..	—	3
(v) R.Sigs.	Als Course Catterick ... ..	—	9
(vi) R.E.M.E.	Mech. and Auto. Engineering. Bordon and 2 Comd. Workshp ... ..	9	19
(vii) R.E.M.E.	Electrical Engineering. Malvern ... ..	—	1
(viii) R.E.M.E.	Armourers' Course 2 Comd Workshp ... ..	—	2
(ix) P.T.	Northern Command School of P.T. ... ..	3	2
(x) P.T.	Advanced Course. Aldershot ... ..	4	2
(xi) R.M.	Commando. Southsea ... ..	—	1

(b) Attachments :—

(i)	S.M.E. Chatham ... ..	29	28
(ii)	O.T.W. School of Signals, Catterick ... ..	32	38
(iii)	6 Trg. Bn. R.E.M.E. Bordon ... ..	—	42

**3. Visits**

(a) One half day visit to 2 Comd. Workshp  
(b) One whole day visit to C.O.D., Chilwell  
(c) One whole day visit to C.O.D., Donnington

**4. Field Days, Camps, Annual Range Classifications**

Field Days	...	6
Annual Camps	...	2
Annual Range Classifications	...	2

**5. Signal Training**  
The following tests have been passed :—

(a)	Cadet Assistant Signal Instructors	...	11
(b)	Cadet Classified Signallers	...	73

**6. Certificate "A" and "T" Results**

	1953/54	1954/55
(a) Certificate "A" Part 1	30 passes	28 passes 1 fail
(b) Certificate "A" Part 2	11 passes	37 passes 3 fails
(c) Certificates "T"	8	20
(d) Totals throughout the contingent, including cadets who arrived with Certificates :—		
Certificate "A" Part 1	31	
Certificate "A" Part 2	116	
Certificate "T"	37	

**7. Band**  
Having started from scratch the Band has now played for the following :—

(a) Annual Inspection March Past 1955  
(b) Beat Retreat on Speech Day 1955  
(c) Passing Out Parade. No. 1 Entry  
(d) March Past after Church Parade at Camp 1955

**8. Shooting**

(a)	Country Life Class "B" Cup (Listed amongst best grouping scores)	12th
(b)	North Midland District .22 Senior Competition "A" Team	8th
(c)	North Midland District .22 Junior Competition "B" Team	1st
(d)	Bisley Ashburton Shield Competition	85th
(e)	Empire Test. 47 Marksmen	

**9. Cadres**

(a)	Advanced Map Reading	44
(b)	Methods of Instruction and Weapon Training	36
(c)	N.C.O.'s	35



Finally a rehearsal for the First Entry Passing Out Parade.



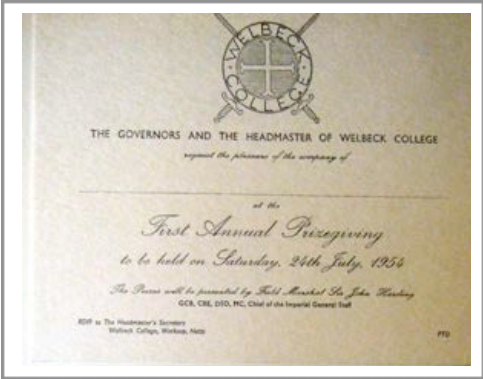
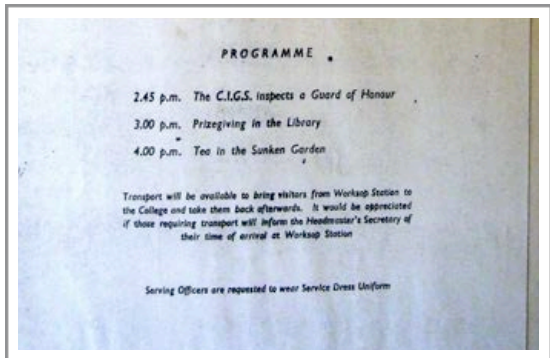
Close inspection and zooming in reveal :

*Bernie Cornish in the lead.*

*Front Rank: David Bidwell, Ted Bateman, Andy Morton, Tony Iveson, Dave Massey, Jim Dennis, John Skinner, Bren Kavanagh, Derek Baughan, John Willy Oakley (?) and Jeff Jukes.*

**16 SPEECH DAYS**

Speech Day is always a significant day in a school calendar. The Headmaster gives a report on the past years activity and the Guest of Honour a rallying call and or look forward. The College Magazine reported each one in detail In the early days there were three significant Speech Days shown below along with the mention of two others.



The Magazine of September 1954 reported the first Speech Day when the Guest of Honour was the CIGS, Field Marshall Sr John Harding. David Rickards said "If I may say so, Field

Marshall, the War Office has not the slightest idea how to run a public school" to which the Field Marshall immediately replied "If I may say so, Headmaster, don't pull your punches with the War Office!" The Worksop Guardian reported (left) and below the CIGS and DAR marching in step - quite appropriate!



Field Marshall Harding arrives for the first speech day, 1954.

The CIGS presenting prizes to the first ever list of winners. Robin Volkers and Mark Fillingham .

**PRESENTATION OF THE PRIZES**

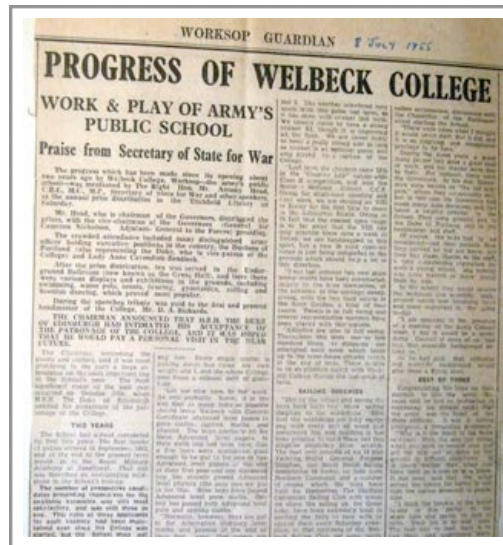
The CIGS then presented the prizes to the prizewinners as listed below :-

<b>Form Prizes</b>		
Lower 6 Y . . . . .	F. J. P. Boyd and J. J. Towler	
Lower 6 X . . . . .	N. A. J. Hastings	
Lower 6 C . . . . .	T. L. Elkins	
Lower 6 B . . . . .	R. E. Taylor	
Lower 6 A . . . . .	R. C. R. Volkers	
<b>Subject Prizes</b>		
<b>2nd Intake—Workshops</b>		D. R. Axson
Divinity . . . . .	N. A. Vandyck	
English . . . . .	E. C. Gardner	
French . . . . .	J. S. D. Wharton	
History/Geography . . . . .	P. F. Gorham	
Mathematics . . . . .	N. A. J. Hastings	
Chemistry . . . . .	J. C. Milford	
Physics . . . . .	N. A. J. Hastings	
<b>1st Intake—Workshops</b>		J. B. D. Bateman
Divinity . . . . .	D. R. Haskayne	
English . . . . .	C. W. Arnold	
French . . . . .	B. F. C. Kavanagh	
History/Geography . . . . .	J. B. D. Bateman	
Chemistry . . . . .	D. Massey	
Mathematics . . . . .	R. C. R. Volkers	
Physics . . . . .	D. Massey	
Prize for Chapel Reading . . . . .	C. R. M. Fillingham	

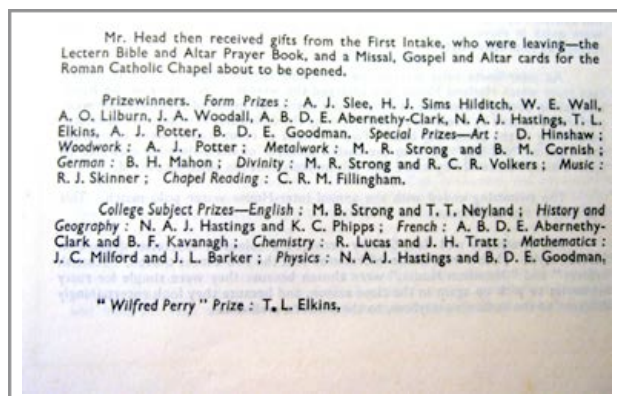
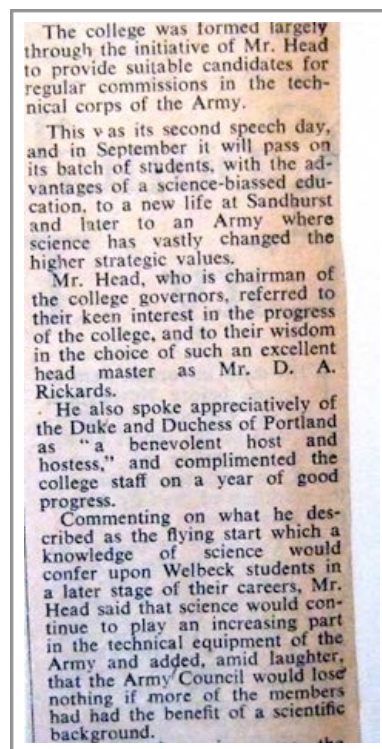
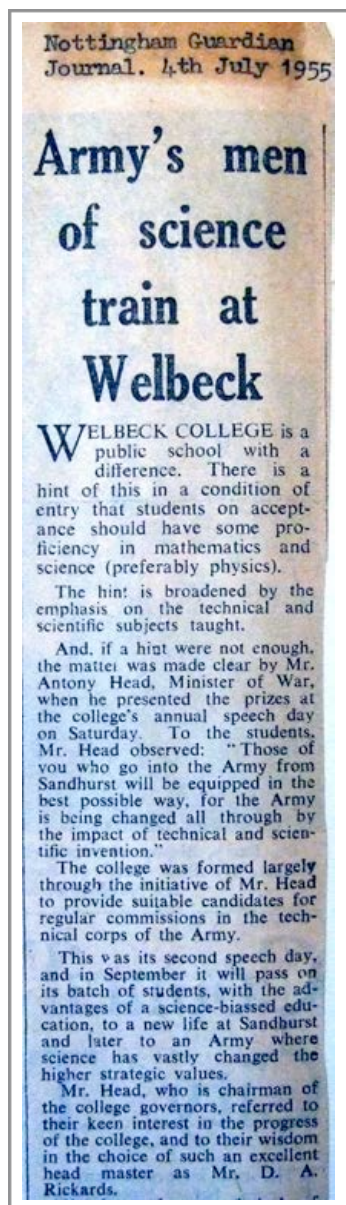
The prizes had been chosen by each individual winner, a fact of which the CIGS was aware. The variety of literature must have struck him forcibly, for the books ranged from *Qualitative Analysis Chemical Constants* to *Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*.



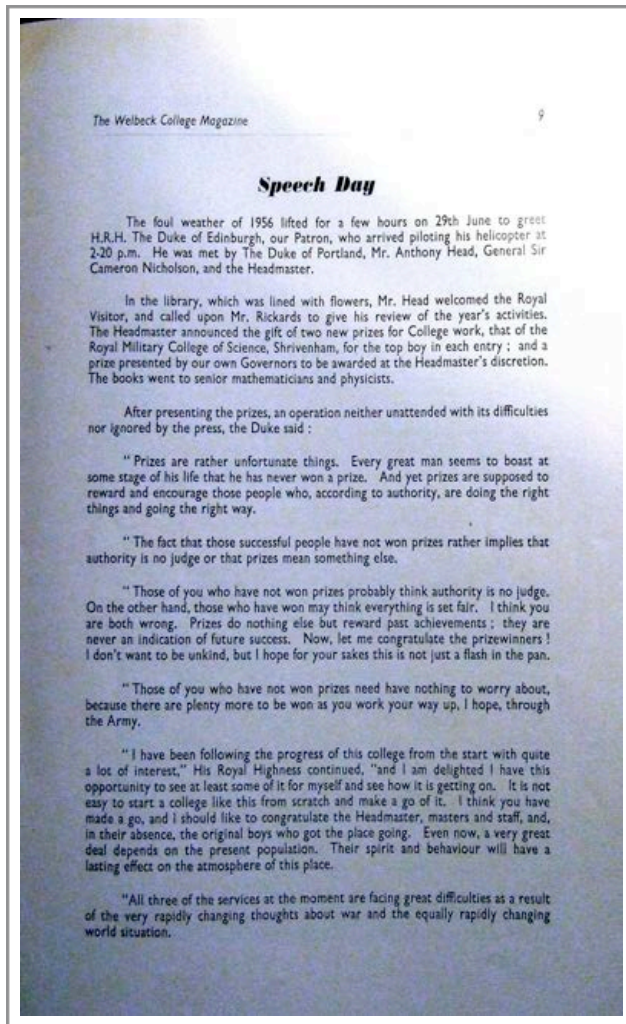
The Workshop Guardian, reported the second Speech Day in 1955, Mr Antony Head , Secretary of State for War, and Chairman of The College Governors, remarked upon “The wisdom of the Governors in the choice of such an excellent head master as Mr DA Rickards”.



The Nottingham Guardian reported this day also. The prize list of the second year of the College is shown along with The Wilfred Perry Prize won by Trevor Elkins.



The Magazine of September 1956 gave a full account, below left, when H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the College, was the Guest of Honour. The picture shows the meet and greet along with The Duke of Portland.



Prize giving on this occasion allowed Prince Phillip to display his usual sense of occasion and humour during a mix up of the prizes!



Prince Phillip's rousing words are below, followed by pictures with DAR on the sailing Hard and taking his leave.

The Welbeck College Magazine

10

" You will all be going, or most of you, into the technical services of the Army. Some of them have sometimes been called the 'tail of the Army.' If that is so, the tail is wagging the dog with a vengeance. The Army of the present and future is predominantly a technical service and will become more and more technical. I think you are lucky because you are getting in on the ground floor and have a great future ahead of you. There are bound to be more cuts and crises, more panics and alarms, but I am prepared to take a small bet that they will not materially affect the technical services of the Army.

" You will be responsible for a whole new generation of weapons and techniques ; you will be involved in their development and in all the arguments as to how they shall be used. When that happens, you will find it is very easy to be carried away by catch phrases like ' The seven days' war,' or ' The great deterrent,' and I strongly advise you to treat all of them with the gravest suspicion, and only use them when you know what they mean, and then only if they are relevant to the situation. If you start thinking for yourselves now you won't have any trouble later on.

" You will be joining a service with a great history and a splendid tradition of courage, as well as of technical achievement. It is a service of men and not only machines, and whatever branch of the services you join, you cannot escape the fact that its success depends on the human element. As officers you will be expected to lead, control and inspire, not nuts and bolts, but the men under your command. You may get great satisfaction from your mastery of your technical branch, but you will be no use in the higher ranks of the Army unless you can develop your power of leadership.

" May I wish all of you who are leaving this term the very best of luck when you go to Sandhurst, and, to those who are staying, a very pleasant time until it is your turn to go on."

Tea was taken in the Great Hall, and Governors and Masters together with their wives were presented to the Duke.



The Speech Day of 5 June 1957.

SPEECH DAY  
1957  
29 JUNE

'WORKSHOP GUARDIAN' 5 JULY 1957

## Ample Opportunities For Promotion

### Says Sir Nevil Brownjohn At Welbeck Speech Day

### Welbexians Making Their Impact At Sandhurst

Much interest attached to this year's speech day at Welbeck College—held on Friday—because the headmaster, Mr. David A. Rickards, was able to announce the progress made at Sandhurst by the first batch of boys who went there after completing their course at Welbeck.

He was also able to announce that on Aug. 1st at the Sovereign's parade, the original entry into Welbeck would pass out from Sandhurst with their commissions.

**ONE FORMER WELBEXIAN, R. F. KAVANAGH, HAD BEEN APPOINTED A SENIOR UNDER-OFFICER, THE HIGHEST RANK A CADET COULD OBTAIN**

Five had qualified for Cambridge.

The prizes were presented by General Sir Nevil Brownjohn, Quartermaster General.

The Deputy Chairman of the Governors, Sir Charles Key, KBE, CB, presided, and apologised for the absence of the Secretary of State for War, the Rt. Hon. J. Hare, OBE, MP, who, he said, was accompanying the Queen Mother to Dunkirk for the unveiling of the British memorial. He also apologised for the Adjutant General, Gen. Sir Charles F. Lowen, KCB, KBE, DSO, who, he said, was in camp.

#### "HEADS" REPORT

In his report, the Headmaster said, "Welbeck is now approaching the end of her fourth year. Altogether eight entries have been received—the first four are at Sandhurst and the second four entries are here. Using a figure of speech the pipe line is now full; a moment we have all been waiting for, the moment when the results of our endeavours begin to become manifest. On August 1st, at the Sovereign's Parade, the original No. 1 Entry will pass out from Sandhurst with their Commissions. I am sure that every single person in this gathering will join with me in wishing them the very best of luck.

"From now on, twice a year, a steady stream of Old Welbexians will receive their commissions and join the technical corps.

"We do congratulate B. E. Kavanagh on his appointment as a Senior Under Officer—the highest rank a Sandhurst Cadet can reach. We also congratulate J. C. Barker, R. D. E. Goddard, B. Yelkers, D. Wages and N. A. J. Hastings on qualifying for Cambridge.

"News which flows back to us from Sandhurst tells of the very full part that O.W.'s are playing in almost every game, sport, society and club there.

"The Old Welbexian Society is taking shape with C. R. Wright as its first secretary.

"There have been no changes on the teaching staff since those that I told you about at last Peace Week. Welbeck has, however, lost General Gausson who, as I have said, did perhaps more than anyone else in the actual physical training of the College. No one

who also put in countless hours for the common benefit. Fiercely, the Librarian still badly needs sets of such classics as Dickens, Scott and Thackeray. If anyone has any of these to spare.

"Neither must we forget the band which is faithfully supported by some very keen boys who put in much practice time.

"With so many people actively pursuing so many different interests, so much happens in a year that it is quite impossible to give an adequate account of these doings in the time I have at my disposal, but I hope I have told you enough for you to realise that Welbeck is very much alive and full of the right spirit. I hope that you will realise this more fully when you have seen some of the displays and demonstrations after tea.

"Finally I must, once more, thank the whole staff, both teaching and administrative, for all that they are doing. I mention no-one by name, it would be quite invidious to do so. I thank them one and all as a team—a team that really does pull together."

#### STARTS WITH ADVANTAGE

It was quite true that a boy with the best brains started with an advantage, but to win a prize required not only brains but character, perseverance, concentration, and the ability to keep one's head and not "snap" under the stress of examinations. Incidentally, those were all qualities that were very necessary in an officer.

It was in this way that Gen. Sir Nevil Brownjohn began his speech after presenting the prizes.

He was particularly happy to have been asked to present the prizes for two reasons, he continued. The first was that as Quartermaster-General he was, in a sense, the spiritual father in the War Office of the College to which the majority of those at Welbeck would go. Secondly, in 1932, he was a junior member of the Army Council when the decision was taken to set up a college. Although it seemed absurd to say so that day, it was a great venture to attempt to establish from scratch an army public school. He remembered one or two members of the Council expressing doubts whether they would get any boys of the requisite calibre and whether they would get any staff. The wheels had turned full circle and now was a good time to take stock.

#### GREAT ADVANTAGE

"We started with one immense advantage in that the Duke of Portland made available to us this great historic Abbey and wonder most perfect setting for a public school I have ever seen." The General went on. "We really started on a ready-made building. Of course, he measured by the quality of the officers it turns out, and it is good to hear from the Headmaster how well the first entry from the College into Sandhurst has done. I did talk on this

in Norfolk last August, and despite much rain and the curtailment of camp by a day to the Suez crisis, a profitable time was spent there. In the camp sports our enormously powerful team easily won the tug-of-war, beating Winchester in the semi-final and Epsom in the final. This summer we go to camp at Stobbs in Scotland and show the flag across the border.

"The C.C.F. has its usual busy record of parades, field days, certificate 'A' exams, Signals classification exams and so on in term time. Cadets went on the usual attachments to RE, Sigs and REME in April and, each holiday, a large number of boys have been on courses.

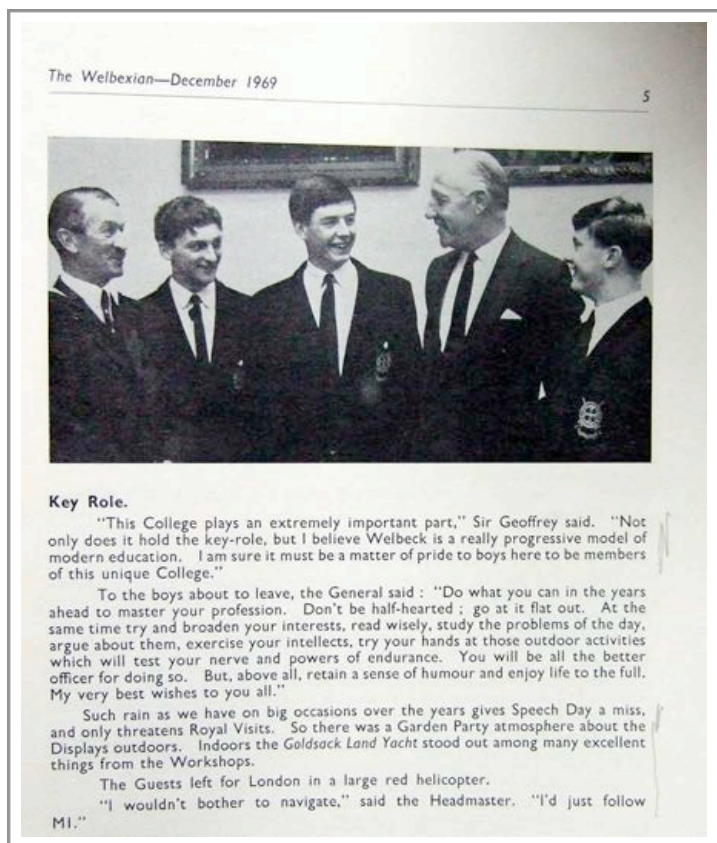
#### GAMES, SPORT

"In games and sports we have had another very good year. The rugby side won eight of its 11 matches and it is a measure of their achievement that the opposing teams only crossed our line eight times in the whole season whereas we crossed theirs 44 times. There was an outstanding improvement in the hockey and the eleven only lost one game. In boxing we were very fortunate to get a fixture with Royal Grammar School, Newcastle. Most of you will know that this is one of the best boxing schools in the country. They defeated us fairly heavily, but the experience gained was most valuable. The fencers had the honour of being taken on by the R.A.F. Cranwell first team just before the latter faced against Sandhurst. Again we lost pretty heavily but the experience was most valuable. We drew the fencing match with Ripon. The shooting is improving steadily. At Bisley last July we came 28th in the Ashburton, 5th in the Snap and Rapid, and 5th in the Opticase Vase. In the autumn term we came 6th out of 100 schools in the Stamford small bore competition.

This term has seen a further huge improvement in the cricket and we now have a very formidable eleven. The tennis AI too, is far and away the best we have had so far and is giving a good

This work with

Later Speech Days: The first picture shows Andrew Figgures, the first boy from Welbeck to reach the rank of Lieutenant General here hobnobbing with General Napier Crookenden then Commandant RMCS. The second -enables DAR to turn gazetteer!

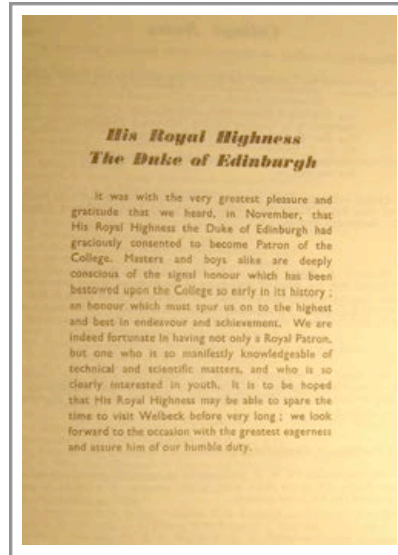




## 17 ROYAL VISITS

### His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh

Prince Phillip became the Patron of the College in November 1954 as can be seen from the extract from WCM4/1/1 below.



He presented the prizes at Speech Day on June 29th 1956. The newspaper clipping below shows The Duke in a mix up with the prizes and with his typical relaxed and humorous manner laughed off (along with the rest of a much relieved audience) what could have been a



very tense moment! More pictures and a news paper report are shown in another section. On the next page is the frontispiece of The Silver Jubilee edition of the Welbeck Magazine - a thought provoking message from our Patron.



## BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

When I had the pleasure of visiting Welbeck College in 1956 I made a short speech. I looked it up when I accepted the invitation to visit the college again in its Jubilee year and it seemed to me that much of what I said then is still relevant today. Amongst other things I said:-

"You will all be going, or most of you, into the technical services of the Army. Some of them have sometimes been called the 'tail of the Army'. If that is so, the tail is wagging the dog with a vengeance. The Army of the present and future is predominantly a technical service and will become more and more technical. I think you are lucky because you are getting in on the ground floor and have a great future ahead of you. There are bound to be more cuts and crises, more panics and alarms, but I am prepared to take a small bet that they will not materially affect the technical services of the Army.

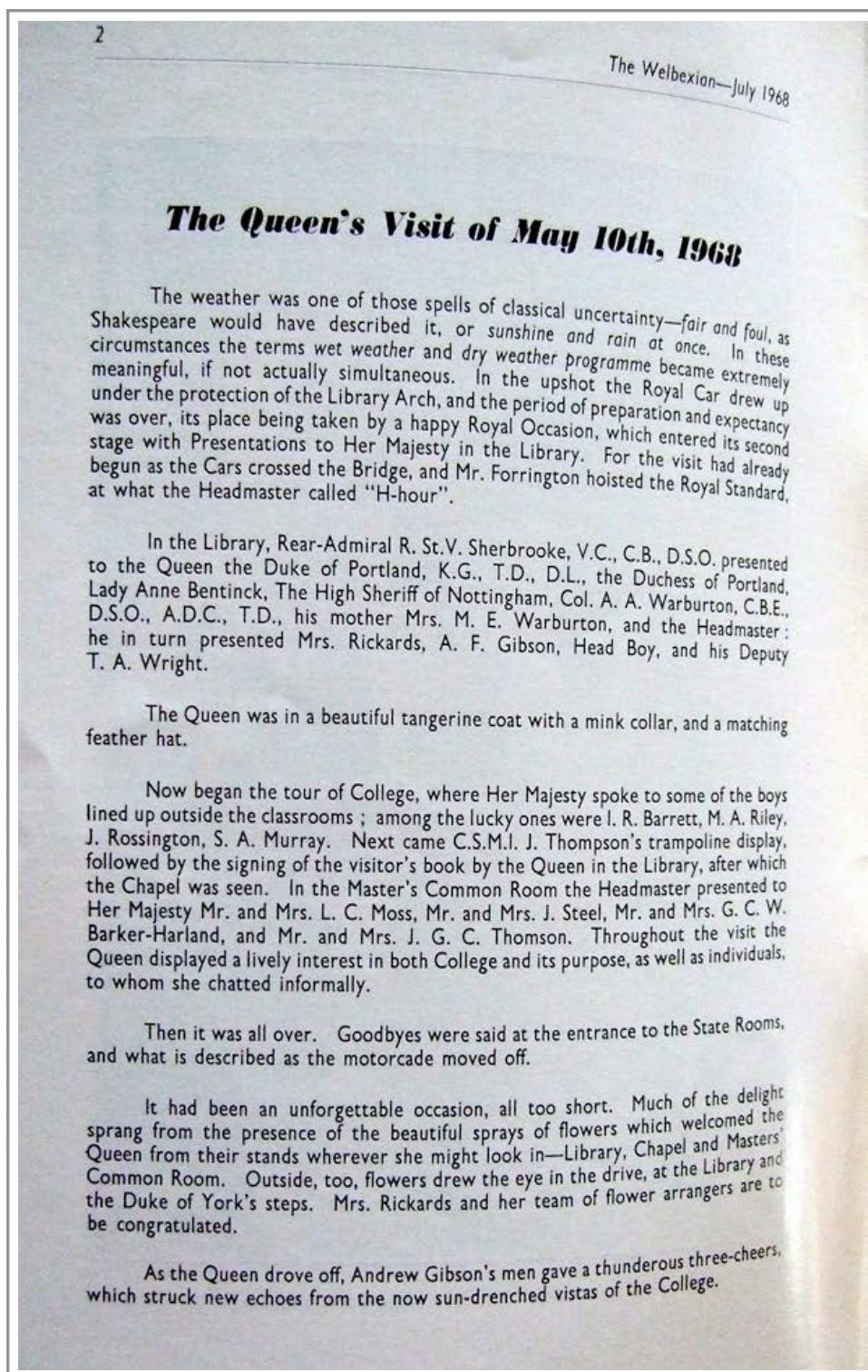
You will be responsible for a whole new generation of weapons and techniques; you will be involved in their development and in all the arguments as to how they shall be used. When that happens you will find it is very easy to be carried away by catch phrases like 'The seven days war', or 'The great deterrent', and I strongly advise you to treat all of them with the gravest suspicion, and only use them when you know what they mean, and then only if they are relevant to the situation. If you start thinking for yourselves now you won't have any trouble later on.

You will be joining a Service with a great history and a splendid tradition of courage, as well as of technical achievement. It is a Service of men and not only machines, and whatever branch of the Services you join, you cannot escape the fact that its success depends on the human element. As officers you will be expected to lead, control and inspire, not nuts and bolts, but the men under your command. You may get great satisfaction from your mastery of your technical branch, but you will be no use in the higher ranks of the Army unless you can develop your power of leadership."

There have certainly been plenty of "cuts and crises, panics and alarms" but I am quite satisfied that the technical services are, if anything, better able to handle their responsibilities than ever before.

1978.

**Her Majesty The Queen** visited the College on May 10th 1968 as reported in the Welbeck Magazine shown below. The next page shows her walking along the Horse Corridor chatting to the Head of School and The Headmaster. More pictures and newspaper reports are shown in a later section.



The Welbexian—July 1968

1



Photo:—Courtesy of Nottingham Guardian Journal

**18 DISCIPLINE**

*Stop smoking! A course in six rapid stages.  
From The College Magazine*

Now here's a funny thing .....

Something mysteriously appeared in the editor's pigeon-hole: a tattered quarto exercise book, its spine bound with tapes and stitched with linen thread. After almost forty years it is beginning to look its age. Faintly discernable is the title - Welbeck College Extra Duties.

Inside is a stern notice much amended by hand. "Extra Duties. These will take place from 1.45 - 2.15 on Tuesdays and Fridays under the Porter's supervision . . . Signed; D.A. Rickards, Headmaster. 30 September 1953."

Less than a month after the College opened - a Punishment Book! Were those golden days of yesteryear, then, not after all the frame surrounding perfection? Were the boys of those early Entries fallen Adams? Colonels they were to become - yes. Even (say it with reverence and stand to attention when you do so) even Generals or - wait for it - Bursars of Welbeck. But as boys they were unregenerate, despite the adoption and grace of the staff of those days.

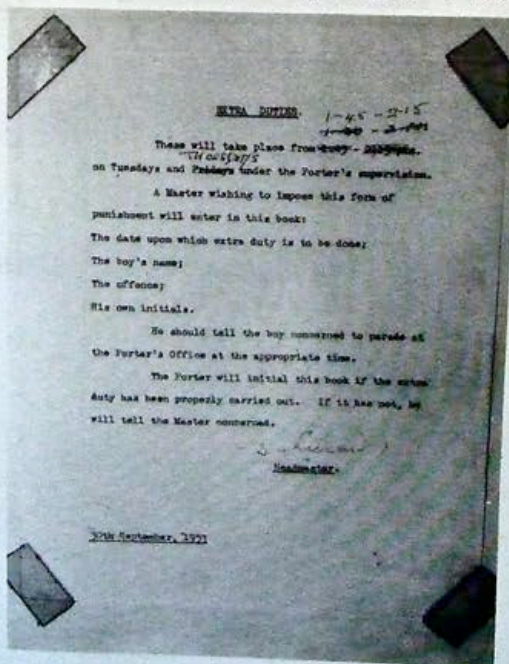
Some dated prose for a dated book, therefore.

Come with me, gentle reader and let us reverently turn those pages which Time has consigned to us. What a garden shall we enter as we pass through its pages? What weeds shall we find shamefacedly hanging their noisome heads in the Eden of those distant days? Whose name will be recorded for a tremulous posterity to peruse? Who was the very first to have his sins visited upon him - unto the 74th and 75th generation? Oh shame! Yet aught not such sins to be decently interred after so much time? Alas, it shall not be so. This is too good an opportunity to miss.

Well, the first chap to get booked was Allan, on the first of October. JS, the master who consigned him to history in this way, struck hard and fast. Perhaps the whole system was brought in in response to Allan's wickedness and to JS's righteous indignation. His crime was one which no subordinate - military or civilian - can commit with impunity. With Davies, whose name appears bracketed with his on the line below, he was guilty of "Rowdiness near to private quarters" Ah! Rowdiness may be all right then. Boys

will be boys. But not next to private quarters, for masters will also be masters and boys must get their come-uppance. "Man is born to grief and woe And when this we rightly know Through the world we safely go". I can hear JS saying so, sternly, to Allan and Davies. And proving it with the Extra Duties Book gleaming and crisp in his hand.

On the 9th of October the name of Kavanagh appears for the first time. The first page bears his name three times. I recall a former pupil - not of this school - whose work was so consistently bad that he was never able to satisfy all the numerous masters who, every week, wanted him for Detention. The frustration of those who struck too late became awesome and intense. When it was found that one master had booked him weekly in advance until the end of term the general rage of his colleagues knew no bounds. Yet the solution became clear. Over sherry the masters decided which of them would detain him and on which Saturday. His record being what it was he was bound to give each master good reason to claim his pound



**“‘ONEST GUV I WAS NO WHERE NEAR AT THE TIME”  
OR  
CRIME AND PUNISHMENT SANS FAME**

From: Jim Dennis Intake 1

To: The Editor The Welbexian 1990 Edition

I noticed an entry in your recent edition regarding the “Extra Duties Book” recently found.

*“The first chap to get booked was Allan...with Davies...guilty of rowdiness”*

Here is the true story.



We had only been in the place for about 10 days and were still exploring the rabbit warren of underground corridors (see left). It was after prep (supervised!). Nig (Mike’s nickname) and I had just passed Dave Massey swinging from the overhead grill protecting the skylight spluttering with hysterics as he shouted “Pass right down the bus please” - and he was the 1st XV Pack leader! Down along by the seamstress room - collars studs back and front one of each, socks suspenders right and left - pausing briefly by the huge bell board in case the Duchess was ringing, and then to the bottom of the spiral staircase, our very own tradesmen’s entrance to the dormitories.

Just along the corridor were the servants quarters; what mysteries could be there, the giggling of the under maids, interesting. But of immediate interest was the fire point at the bottom of the stairs. An orderly coil of fireman’s hose, neat instructions of “What to do in case of..” with a really splendid shiny brass and copper end spout about 2 feet long. “How about sounding the end of day call” said Nig as he pursed his lips and tried a few tentative toots. We gradually got better at it until we were producing a lovely mellow and very loud blast suitable for the William Tell Overture when a distinctly Scottish voice behind us said “ You’ll be making a racket for to wake the dead” - it was Jim Steel the Duty Master “You’ll be takin’ an extra duty the pair o’ye”. An Extra Duty” - what’s an extra duty?



We found out shortly when a note appeared on the Notice Board signed by Bull York himself; we were to report to the Porter, Bill Forrington (pictured on the left) “In’t sunk garden ta pick up leaves tha’ knows”. After rugby practice at 3.30 next day.

Life was very full and exciting at that time. Nig and I had come from the same Grammar School in Chesterfield where we played in the second row of the rugby scrum together. We were determined to get into the Welbeck 1st XV which meant impressing Bull York in every way - tackling, falling on the ball, beat a man draw a man pass, bunch and take it, the pushover try which became the hallmark of an unbeaten 1st XV in the second year. Rugby practice was hard but enjoyable and followed by a lengthy bath. **We had missed the extra duty!!**

We'd had a good system at Chesterfield when confession of a crime was good for the soul and only attracted a mild wiggling. We formed up outside Bull's study after House prayers that evening. He greeted us cheerily and invited us both in, rugby had gone well that afternoon. *"What do you two want then?".* I volunteered. *"We've missed the extra duty Sir and wondered what we should do?"*

He paused, pondered; eventually he looked at us long and hard over the top of his half rimmed specs; *"It's not what you're going to do"* he said *"It's what I'm going to do!"* Without more ado he took out a long thin cane from his desk drawer, pulled a chair over and said *"Bend over Dennis"*.

He whacked me hard with six of the best. Looking back later it didn't seem too bad but at the time! I thought it would never end and I understood why he had had a trial for England. But if I thought it bad for me how about poor old Nig who had remained in the study - a practice never to be repeated. Afterwards he told me he could hear the swish as the cane whipped through the air until after contacting my backside the end bent around the contours of my posterior. He added that he was within a moment of running away from the College. We retired - hurt - but that did not stop us proudly displaying our stripes, red and blue, for all to see. The dormitories buzzed with complaining chatter but we were heroes. A little while later Bull caned 7 boys for not watching the 1st XV play Worksop College. Brutal yes, particularly viewed from today, but in a curious way it really did bind the First Entry together; 48 of us new to one another, in a brand new school, set in a magnificent environment and coping with a new initiative. To be honest I think we all had great admiration for the way that Bull dealt with and understood boys.

But I digress. It was not long before we discovered that a caning book, extra duty book and famous saying book had been established in the Masters Common Room. Alas two of them are now lost so who is to believe me when I tell you that it was I, bracketed together with Nig Allan, as first equals in all three books!

If any one were to ask all I could say is:

*"Onest Guv, I was nowhere near at the time!"*

Jim Dennis

1 Entry

Postscript; Bill Forrington caught up with us later: *"Ya daft buggers"* he said *"Ya didn'a think I would'a reported ya did ya?"* bless him.

PS I never sent the letter to the Editor!

DAR set out the College policy on discipline in his 8th September 1953 meeting: *"...the best discipline was obtained by weight of character rather than by actual punishment. To begin with discipline should be ultra strict.."* The meeting went on to discuss the various punishments ranging from expulsion through caning to *"a good talking to"*. A P H White's beautifully crafted Editorial in the 1990 Welbexian brings alive the ethos of discipline during the formative years. Derek Baughan remembers: *" Bren Kavanagh, whilst still in considerable pain after a caning by Bull York, showing us the results - six evenly spaced,very red, cane marks"* I didn't realise Bren had set some sort of record or that Danny Stannard ran him a close second., or that Jim Vine was a "bit of a card"! Dear old Gordon - "Jolly bad manners" and "slackness on the rigger field" (a crime indeed). My piece above reflects the fact that I was somewhat peeved not to be named along with all these illustrious names.

However A P White shows how the system settled down very quickly.

DAR giving some of his highlights in the 1972 Welbexian records:

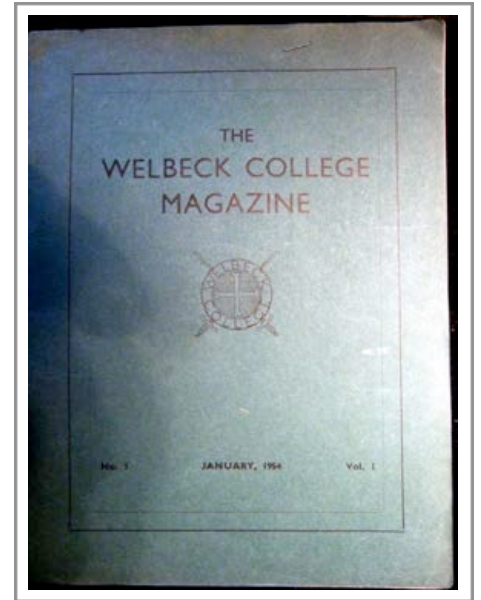
*"I am sure that all 8 of us (The Bursar and 7 masters) would have been glad to know that in 1972, the standards we were then trying to set in discipline, in personal appearance, in physical fitness, in manners, in morals and in human relationships would be more than lived up to"*.

Enough said.



## 19 THE COLLEGE MAGAZINE

Here is the first copy and the first paragraph of the Welbeck College Magazine produced in January 1954 reporting the events of the first term at the College.

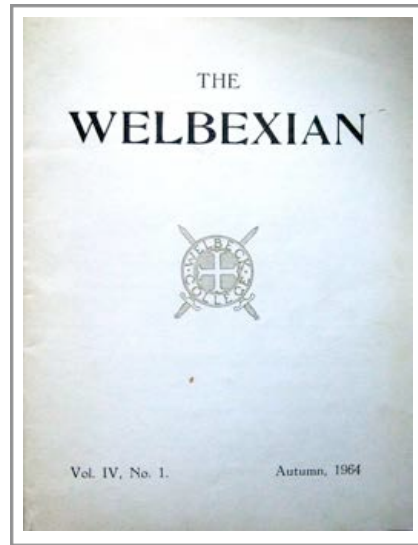


Leicester Moss was the Editor and his editorial team were; Ray Peace, Robin Volkens, Martin Wilson Brown, Rob Matthews, Peter Hodgkinson and Steve Gilmore. DAR, as ever prescient, was bang on in his congratulations for such a quick birth of the magazine. A clear format was developed from the beginning: The Foreword, College Notes, Salvete/Valete, College Dates, Sport, CCF, The Library, Societies and boys contributions. Later House Notes, News of OWs, letters from RMAS, RMCS, and Cambridge were added followed later by "Births marriages and deaths". So the College Magazine did indeed meet DAR's wish that it would: "*cover the life of the College from its inception*" Whilst a school magazine is somewhat standard, to get it up and running so quickly given that every single facet of the College was new and had to be implemented by only 8 masters and 48 boys it is a real tribute to the team who started it all.

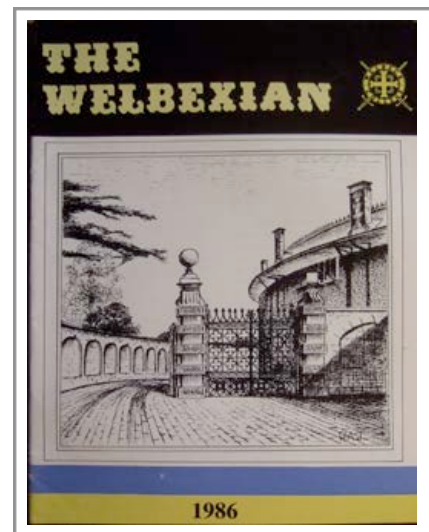
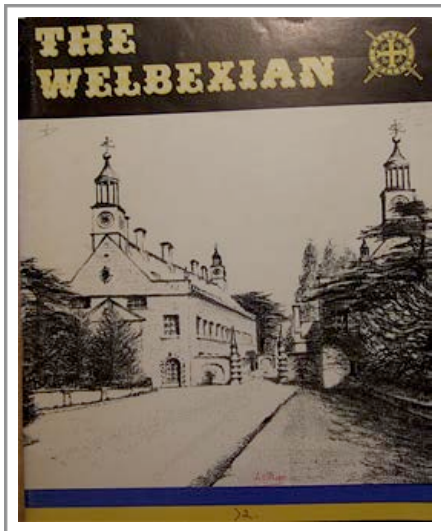
Leicester writing a farewell piece in the magazine on DARs retirement in 1972 said; "*I am happy to write him up in this publications which he encouraged me to launch some 42 numbers ago incidentally standing firm at the Editors side when we, were believe it or not, were **banned** in Northern Command for outspokenness!*"

The magazine continued to record and report College activities in more and more detail and underwent more than a few changes. Initially in a green cover its title was "The Welbeck College Magazine" and was initially published in five volumes, at first three times a year until by 1970 it was reduced to two with some thirty pages. Photographs began to appear from the third issue onwards

In the autumn of 1964 the title was changed to "The Welbexian" with a new front cover, glossier paper and slightly larger pages with a page count nearing 50.



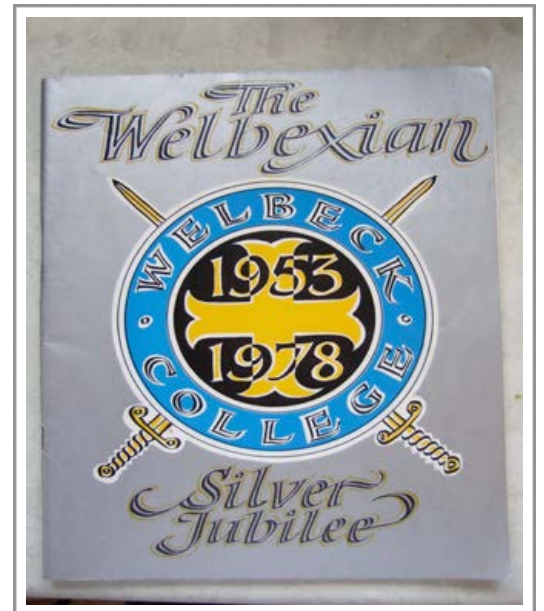
A new front cover appeared in 1972 and continued in this format until 1986. All of the front covers for these issues had a series of pen and ink drawings by Bill Jones, Vivian Davey's Lab Assistant. All of the designs are shown in Annex J on the DVD.



Earlier entries may not know that Bill is a self-taught artist of considerable ability in various media. His pen drawings of Welbeck scenes have frequently adorned the front cover of "The Welbexian". In recent years Bill has generously given his time and talent to running the College art society.

In 1987 the Welbexian was published in A4 format, with over 50 pages in each issue all had a very extensive OW section at the end of each issue.

The 1978 Edition, The Silver Jubilee of the College was a bumper edition of nearly 100 pages and contained significant events in the life of the College from the previous editions.



The current archive contains magazines as follows:

**Vol 1:**

1 - Jan 54, 2 - May 54, 3 - Sep 54, 4 - Jan 55, 5 - May 55, 6 - Sep 55, 7 - Jan 56,  
9 - Sep 56, 10 - Jan 57

**Vol 2:**

1 - May 57, 2 - Sep 57, 3 - Feb 58, 4 - May 58, 5 - Oct 58, 6 - May 59, 7 - Nov 59,  
8 - Missing, 9 - Sep 60, 10 Not Published\*?

**Vol 3:**

1 - May 61, 2 - Oct 61, 3 - May 62, 4 - Oct 62, 5 - May 63, 6 - Nov 63, 7 - Jun 64

**Vol 4:**

1 - Autumn 64, 2 - Summer 65, 3 - Missing, 4 - Summer 66, 5 - Missing, 6 - Summer 67,  
7 - Missing, 8 - Summer 68

**Vol 5:**

1 - Missing, 2 - Autumn 69, 3 - Summer 70

**Annual Publications:**

1971 - Missing,

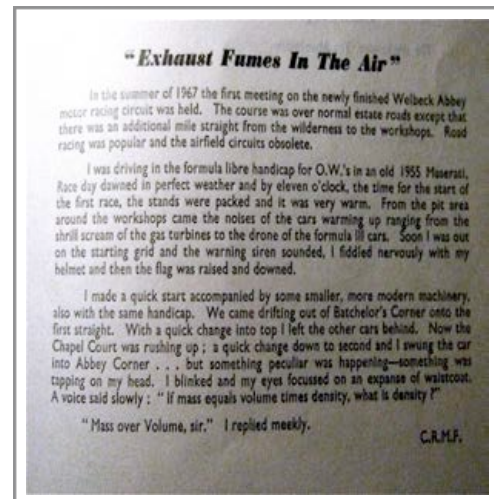
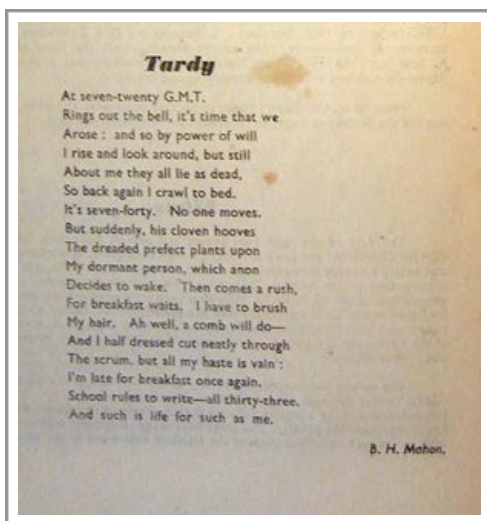
1972-77 1978 and 1979 missing1980 to 2005 Complete less 2004

I assume publication ceased in 2005.

Thus out of a total of 73 assumed published **ten or eleven are missing.**

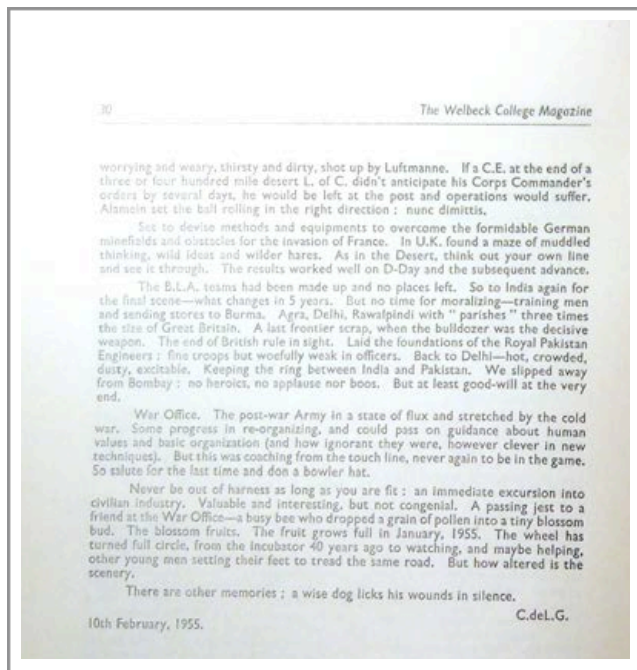
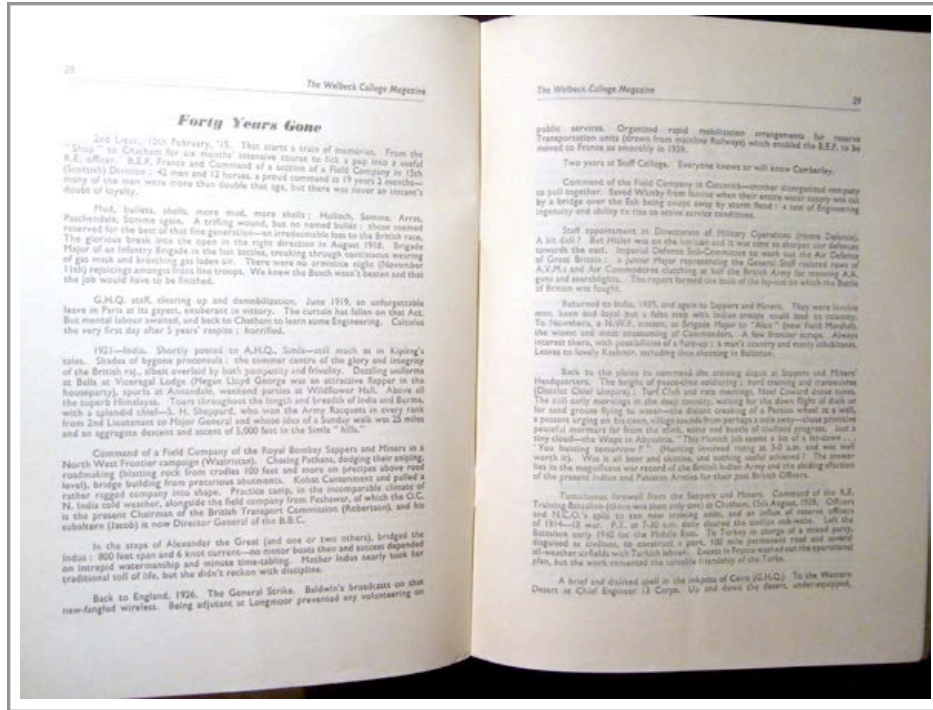
The first seven magazines and that of the Silver Jubilee have been scanned in page by page and are in the folder "Welbeck Magazines" on the DVD.

The first Issue in January 1954 contained details of College Prefects (Tony Iveson and Bernie Cornish), new staff (Derek Hawker), the Chapel, Visitors, details of four sports including Rugby match reports, The CCF, The Library, six new societies, Film News from Steve Gilmore and four contributions from boys - with apologies to John Skinner and Dave Massey that their pieces could not be printed because of lack of space in the 20 page publication.

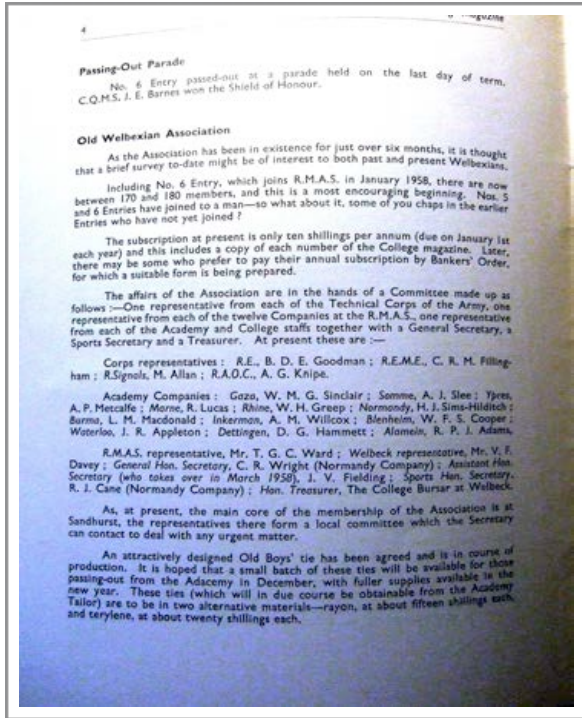


Contributions from the boys included "Gum Arabic" by M (?) (an early forecast of glue sniffing?!), "Doodling" by Don Haskayne, "Prelude to e a Rugby Match" by Rob Matthews and above, a heartfelt piece by Bas Mahon, who seemed to be constantly in minor trouble for "forgetting". Matrons, monitors or prefects who found clothes, kit or books lying around found they invariably bore the number 37 - Bas ! However he was starting on a fine literary career for he has since published two books : the first a best seller about the life of Maxwell of the equations fame and another about Heavyside of Layer fame. Mark Fillingham was a regular contributor of well composed elegant little stories such as the above. David Bidwell penned a piece about the terror of Reading The Lesson in Chapel reproduced in the Chapel section.

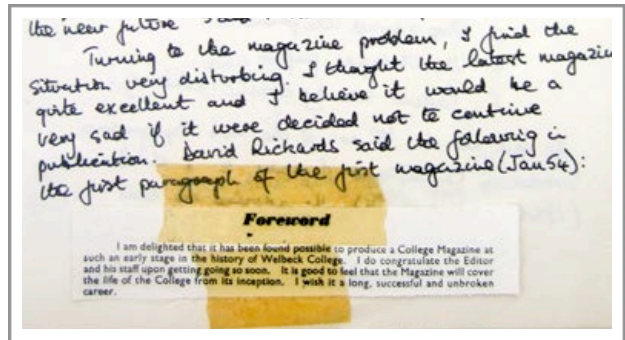
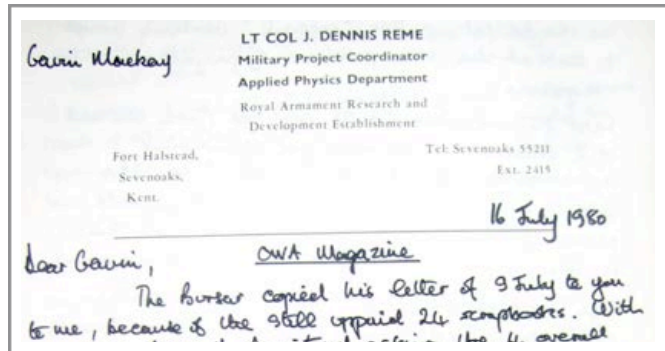
There is a very fine article by General Gaussen in the May 1955 edition entitled "Forty Years Gone". He tells of his experiences from being a 2nd Lt on 10 February 1915 through the mud and blood of the First World War, to India in 1921, Staff College, Command of the RE Training Battalion in 1939 and then the Western Desert and Alamein. Post War at the War Office. His memories ending : "A wise dog licks its wounds in silence". Do read it by zooming in on the text below or on the DVD..



An example of news of OWS was in the September 1956 magazine, shown below left too be compared with that alongside 14 pages of OW News in the 1971 copy!



Publication was not without problems since it was funded by the OWA subscription a payment of 10/- shillings a year including a copy of the magazine. In 1980 finances were really creaking and as I was involved in funding the Scrapbook Scheme I wrote to Gavin McKay (2 Entry) as shown below.



May I offer the suggestions which concern the present financial problems. I believe it is we should set up two "special" working groups to look at the twin problems of finance and the magazine.

First finance. Jim Elliott produced (with the aid of 2 other OWS) an excellent financial appreciation for the OWA when I was the President. I don't know if he is prepared to resurrect and update this, but perhaps this is what is required before we become insolvent.

Then the magazine. Again perhaps a small committee (led by an RWC OWS?) could come to grips with this problem. I went along to the print dept at RWC to ask their professional advice and they reckoned a 25% reduction in cost was possible by investigating:

- No "flashy" covers
- No half tones - or possibly no photographs
- Advertise - tailors, banks, etc
- Shop around the printers
- Use cheaper paper
- Reduce size by drastic editing.

He gave me the tel no: of the Mod Reprographic Services in London and I spoke to a Mr Baswick (1st grade I think). He advised me a. that printing on a repayment basis was possible

Request would have to be cleared through the Senior Principal

Any such work would be second priority to official work.

I enclose a sample of their work - Louis runs. 2000 copies of a 70 page magazine at this price would be approximately £500 or present day prices. They do have printing facilities but masters for photographs etc would have to be provided. A ten year agreement would be possible. Obviously such an approach would need to be fully cleared through Welbeck, however it does point up one possibility. Perhaps RWC do that same sort of thing.

I am lending a copy of this letter to the Bursar, together with 2 examples of the repro work, and to Jim Elliott whose name I have taken in vain.

I hope you are enjoying Scotland!

Yours affly  
Jim

Copies:  
Bursar - Mags "Drive Alive" and "Supply" also. Also show to OWA May Editor.  
Jim Elliott

You can note that if London MOD(A) did print it would have cost £4.00 a copy not including postage. It is to eternal credit of the Bursar and others that the the magazine survived. The 1995 edition contained the first advertisements

## HMSO Print

St Crispins, Duke Street, Norwich NR3 1PD



**Norwich Print Services** provides a full range of  
Print & Related products to the MOD.

For more information please contact:

Peter Fairall,  
Customer Service Manager

Telephone: (01603) 695001  
Fax: (01603) 695857 or 695837

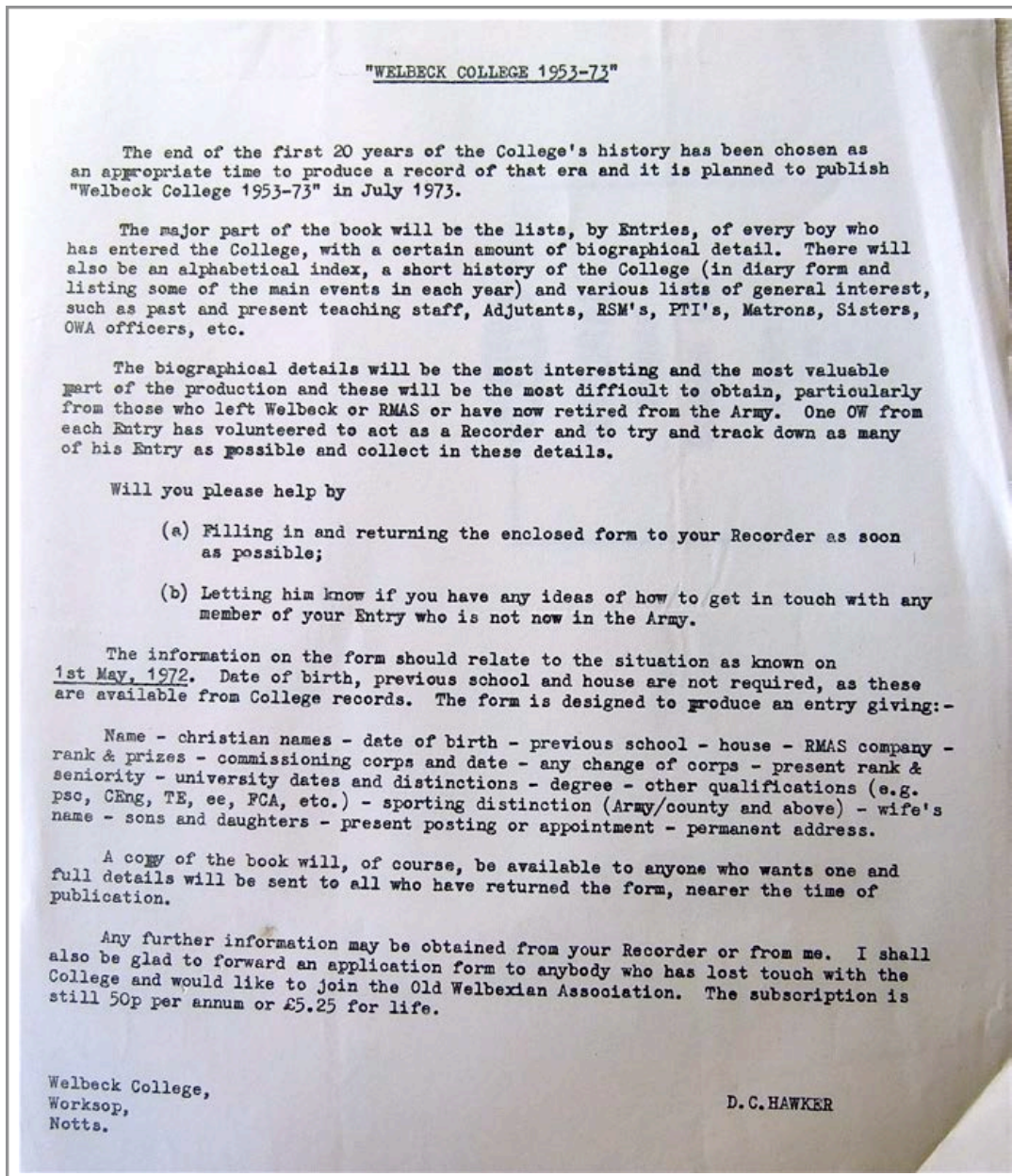
Reading through the magazines what amazes me is the amount of latent talent, in every facet of life, shown by the boys.

## 20. THE WELBECK REGISTERS

*Schoolmasters are absolute suckers for lists and orders and records. A new school like Welbeck gives us magnificent scope and in the Welbeck College Register (affectionately known as the Derektory) we have the perfect weapon.*

*College magazine 1975*

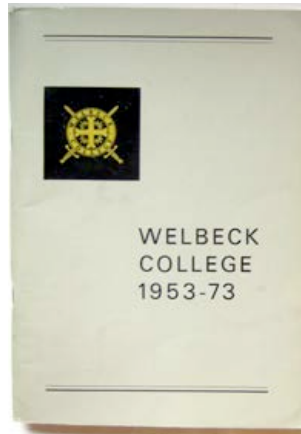
Derek Hawker was the inspiration and chronicler for the introduction of the Welbeck Register. He maintained a remarkable set of facts and statistics over his time at the College and put everything together in two publications to rival Wisden! His intentions are clear in his letter below.



He followed this up with an update for 1953-1983. A third register was put together in 2000 this latter simply a list of names and know at the time addresses of Intakes 1-86. The first two registers have been scanned in page by page and are in the Folder "Registers" on the DVD.



Extracts from the 1953-1973 edition are below.



Derek covered a very wide field as can be seen from the contents list

**WELBECK COLLEGE 1953-73**  
EDITED BY D. C. HAWKER

The final preparations for the publication of this book were overshadowed by the death of David Rickards in April 1973; as Headmaster he formed and developed the College for nineteen of the twenty years here recorded.

It was originally intended that the information in the biographical sections should refer to the situation on 1 May 1972 and in general this is still so. Information was, however, still coming in as late as July 1973 and so some of it may refer to a later date and this may make it possible to find two O.W.'s apparently holding the same post.

Every effort has been made to make this as accurate a record as possible but it is inevitable that there will be some errors and misprints in a first attempt at a project of this magnitude. The Editor apologises for these and would be glad to receive notification of any found. He would also be glad to receive suggestions for improvements in lay-out or contents, in case a further edition should ever be undertaken.

Finally, the Editor is most grateful to all those who have helped by sending in information and in various other ways and especially to the Recorders, without whom the whole concept would have been impossible.

### Contents

Lists	Page	11	Entry	Page
Staff	3	12	..	43
O.W.A.	4	13	..	48
Obituary	5	14	..	50
Honours, Decorations & Awards	5	15	..	52
Corps Prizes	6	16	..	55
Staff Course	7	17	..	57
Statistics	8	18	..	60
Head of House	8	19	..	62
Shield of Honour	9	20	..	64
Brothers	9	21	..	66
Rugby Results	9	22	..	68
Athletics Records	10	23	..	70
House Matches	10	24	..	73
		25	..	74
<b>History</b>		26	..	76
Welbeck Abbey 1143—1951	12	27	..	78
Welbeck College 1951—1973	13	28	..	81
		29	..	82
<b>Biography</b>		30	..	84
Staff	16	31	..	86
1 Entry	19	32	..	87
2 "	22	33	..	89
3 "	24	34	..	91
4 "	26	35	..	92
5 "	28	36	..	94
6 "	31	37	..	95
7 "	33	38	..	96
8 "	36	39	..	97
9 "	38	40	..	98
10 "	41	Index	..	100

2

He lists the Staff which includes all of those there in September 1953.

STAFF	
<b>Headmaster</b> D. A. Rickards, CBE, MA Sept 53—July 72 M. J. Maloney, MA, Sept 72—	<b>Bursar</b> Major-General C. de L. Gausson, CB, MC, Sept 53—Apr 57 Brigadier J. M. F. Cartwright, CBE May 57—July 67 Colonel W. R. Potter, MBE, TD July 67—
<b>Second Master</b> V. F. Davey, B.Sc. Jan 54—July 62 L. C. Moss, MA, Sept 62—	<b>YORK HOUSE</b>
<b>Arts Department</b> L. C. Moss, MA, Head of Department, Sept 53— G. C. W. Barker-Harland, MBE, MC, TD, MA, Sept 53— J. G. C. Thomson, MA, Sept 53— J. P. Broadbent, MA, July 54— G. Partington, TD, MA, Sept 54—	<b>Housemaster</b> N. A. York, MA, Sept 53—Dec 55 D. C. Hawker, MA, Jan 56—
<b>Mathematics Department</b> T. G. C. Ward, ERD, MA, Head of Department, Sept 53—July 56 D. C. Hawker, MA, Jan 54— Lt-Col. R. E. Black, DSO, BA, Sept 54—Dec 60 G. R. Langdale, B.Sc. Head of Department, Sept 56— P. G. Hopkins, B.Sc. Sept 59—July 64 Col. J. S. S. Sanders, CBE, MA, Jan 61—July 73 D. F. Pring, MA, Jan 65—	<b>House Tutor</b> J. G. C. Thomson, MA, Jan 54—
<b>Science Department</b> V. F. Davey, B.Sc. Head of Department, Sept 53—July 63 N. A. York, MA, Sept 53—Dec 55 W. A. Jones, Sept 53— J. Hindshaw, B.Sc. Sept 54—July 60 B. E. Lord, MA, Sept 54—Dec 59 G. V. Holroyde, B.Sc. Sept 54—July 56 H. L. Way, B.Sc. Jan 56— E. E. Bailey, MA, Sept 56— Head of Department, Sept 63— R. L. Wood, B.Sc. Sept 60—July 64 A. W. Morecroft, B.Sc. Sept 60— D. L. Thompson, B.Sc. Sept 63— D. A. Hawkswell, B.Sc. Sept 64—July 73	<b>HARLAND HOUSE</b>
<b>Workshops Department</b> J. Steel, Dip Ed, Sept 53— Head of Department, Sept 64— A. Hind, Sept 53—	<b>Housemaster</b> G. C. W. Barker-Harland, 1905, MC, TD, MA, Jan 54—
<b>Chaplain</b> Rev. W. E. A. Lound, MA, Sept 53—Mar 65 Rev. R. H. Hack, MA, Sept 65—July 70 Rev. G. S. Marshall, BA, Sept 70—	<b>House Tutor</b> D. C. Hawker, MA, Jan 54—July 54 G. V. Holroyde, B.Sc. Sept 54—July 56 G. Partington, TD, MA, Sept 57—
	<b>Matron</b> Miss D. M. Hax, Sept 53—Dec 53 Miss K. Rouse Jan 54—Dec 63 Miss N. Gilbertson Jan 64—
	<b>MEDICAL OFFICER</b> Dr. R. Karshaw, MRCS, LRCP, Sept 53—July 69 Dr. G. Herbert, MB, BS, Sept 69—Mar 72 Dr. A. C. Wright, MB, ChB, Apr 72—
	<b>HOSPITAL STAFF</b> Miss A. M. Duff, SRN, Sept 53—Dec 55 Miss I. Lunn, SRAN, Sept 54—Oct 57 Miss A. M. Potts, SRN, Jan 56—May 66 Miss C. T. Leydon, RGN, May 66—Feb 67 Mrs. G. Knappton, SRN, Feb 67—

<b>PHYSICAL TRAINING</b> S/Sgt F. Good, APTC, Oct 65—Aug 61 WO 2 D. J. Gayton, APTC, Sept 61—July 63 QMSI J. Thompson, APTC, Sept 63—July 73	Captain M. A. St. C. K. Sims, RE (10) Sept 68—July 70 Captain W. H. Guest, REME (13) Sept 70—July 72 Captain I. N. Carruthers, R. Signals (17) Sept 72—	<b>OBITUARY</b> Marcus J. Smith, 20th October 1957 William R. McDowell, 13th May 1967 Alexander G. Burrell, 2nd October 1968 Michael J. Hammerton, 26th Feb. 1969 David M. Roberts, 22nd July 1969 Leslie Germain, 12th December 1969 William J. Green, 25th August 1970 Anthony C. French, 19th Sept. 1970 Charles de L. Gausson, 18th July 1971 Neil S. Bell, 3rd September 1971 Leonard R. M. Oliver, 9th Sept. 1971 David F. Moir, 22nd July 1972 Roderick S. Cape, 11th September 1972 David A. Rickards, 10th April 1973 Barry S. Gritten, 21st June 1973
<b>STEWARD</b> F. Revington Sept 53—	<b>Officers</b> Captain J. Steel Sept 53—July 55 Captain J. G. C. Thomson Sept 53—July 64 Captain J. Hindshaw Sept 54—July 59 Captain G. Partington Sept 54—Dec 56 Lieutenant G. V. Holroyde Sept 54—July 56 Lieutenant A. W. Morecroft Sept 60—July 64 Captain Sept 64—July 72 Captain D. F. Pring Sept 72—	<b>HONOURS, DECORATIONS &amp; AWARDS</b>
<b>PORTER</b> F. W. Forrington Sept 53—Apr 73 R. Colley Apr 73—	<b>Regimental Sergeant Majors</b> WO 2 F. Cross, Irish G. Sept 53—Jan 55 WO 2 W. J. Shelton, Somerset Lt. Feb 55—July 57 WO 1 A. W. Isherwood, RA, Sept 57—July 60 WO 1 A. G. Beauchamp, RA, Sept 60—Dec 65 WO 1 D. Fairbanks, Queens Own Buffs, Jan 66—July 66 WO 1 G. E. Rowe, SASC, Sept 66—Dec 68 WO 1 L. P. Y. Masters, Glosters, Jan 69—	<b>M.B.E.</b> June 1964 C. G. B. Brodley June 1971 T. T. Hallchurch November 1971 M. F. Stewart May 1973 I. N. Osborne June 1973 D. T. Burton
<b>COMBINED CADET FORCE</b> Commanding Officer Major G. C. W. Barker-Harland Sept 53—Dec 64 Lt-Colonel Jan 65—	<b>Adjutants</b> Captain C. R. Parrish, REME, Sept 58—July 60 Captain T. H. Whaite, R. Signals, Sept 60—July 62 Captain F. M. K. Tuck, RE Sept 62—July 64 Captain B. D. Gots, REME, Sept 64—July 66 Captain C. E. R. Story, R. Signals (4) Sept 66—July 68	<b>MILITARY CROSS</b> February 1973 J. A. Ball
<b>OLD WELBEXIAN ASSOCIATION</b> The Old Welbexian Association was founded at the Leavers' Dinner on 24th July, 1955, with V. F. Davey acting as the link between Old Welbexians and the College. The first General Meeting was held on 5th June, 1960, when the Constitution and Rules were formally adopted and the first Officers elected.	<b>Hon. General Secretary</b> 1960-65 V. F. Davey 1965- D. C. Hawker	<b>GEORGE MEDAL</b> February 1972 A. I. Clouter February 1972 D. Markham May 1973 M. F. Stacey
<b>President</b> 1960-66 Major General C. de L. Gausson, CB, MC 1966-68 J. L. Barker (1) 1968-70 C. E. R. Story (4) 1970- J. Dennis (1)	<b>Hon. Assistant General Secretary</b> 1963-65 D. C. Hawker 1965- G. Partington	<b>MENTION IN DESPACHES</b> February 1973 D. J. Jolly May 1973 P. R. Brewis July 1973 R. H. Aylmore
<b>Vice-President</b> 1965-66 J. L. Barker (1) 1966-68 C. E. R. Story (4)	<b>Hon. Treasurer</b> 1960-67 Brigadier J. M. F. Cartwright, CBE 1967- Colonel W. R. Potter, MBE, TD	<b>QUEEN'S MEDAL</b> December 1960 M. J. Hammerton July 1962 C. P. Hook July 1963 P. M. R. Hill December 1964 B. W. Norris July 1965 P. P. White July 1966 L. D. Curran December 1967 P. A. Gange April 1972 G. M. S. Talbot July 1972 J. C. Brannam
		<b>SWORD OF HONOUR</b> July 1967 J. H. Ellicock July 1972 J. C. Brannam
		<b>SCHOLARS</b> P. M. R. Hill St. John's College, Cambridge A. R. M. Roulstone King's College, Cambridge
		<b>EXHIBITIONERS</b> J. C. M. Taylor Pembroke College, Cambridge I. M. Moore St. John's College, Cambridge L. D. Curran Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge E. A. B. Hounsell Pembroke College, Cambridge N. Munro Peterhouse, Cambridge W. D. Fawcner-Corbett King's College, Cambridge
		<b>FIRST CLASS HONOURS</b> K. J. A'C. Osman London P. J. Sheppard London P. M. R. Hill Cambridge L. D. Curran Cambridge P. J. Roulstone London N. O. Williams RMCS Shrivenham A. R. M. Roulstone Cambridge
		<b>CAMBRIDGE BLUES &amp; HALF-BLUES</b> M. W. Slott Hockey M. W. Slott Boxing B. W. Norris Pentathlon N. D. Ross Sailing J. H. Ellicock Athletics A. R. M. Roulstone Athletics A. M. Bell Fencing R. J. Shields Athletics R. G. Heaney Golf
		<b>HIGHER DEGREES</b> Ph.D. N. A. J. Hastings E. W. Reed M.Phil. A. J. Hervey M.Sc. B. H. Mahon V. D. Fairry C. E. R. Story P. A. Bloxham R. F. Cook R. Wood A. R. J. Pitcher S. C. L. Gadd

Details of the Old Welbexian Association, Obituaries and Honours:

The Register continues with detailed information on: Winners of Corps Prizes, Staff Course attendees, Welbeck Statistics, Heads of House, Shield of Honour, Brothers, All the rugby results and athletic records and the House Match results over 10 sports.

A potted history of the Abbey from 1143-1951 is followed by a year by year list of important events in the life of the College.

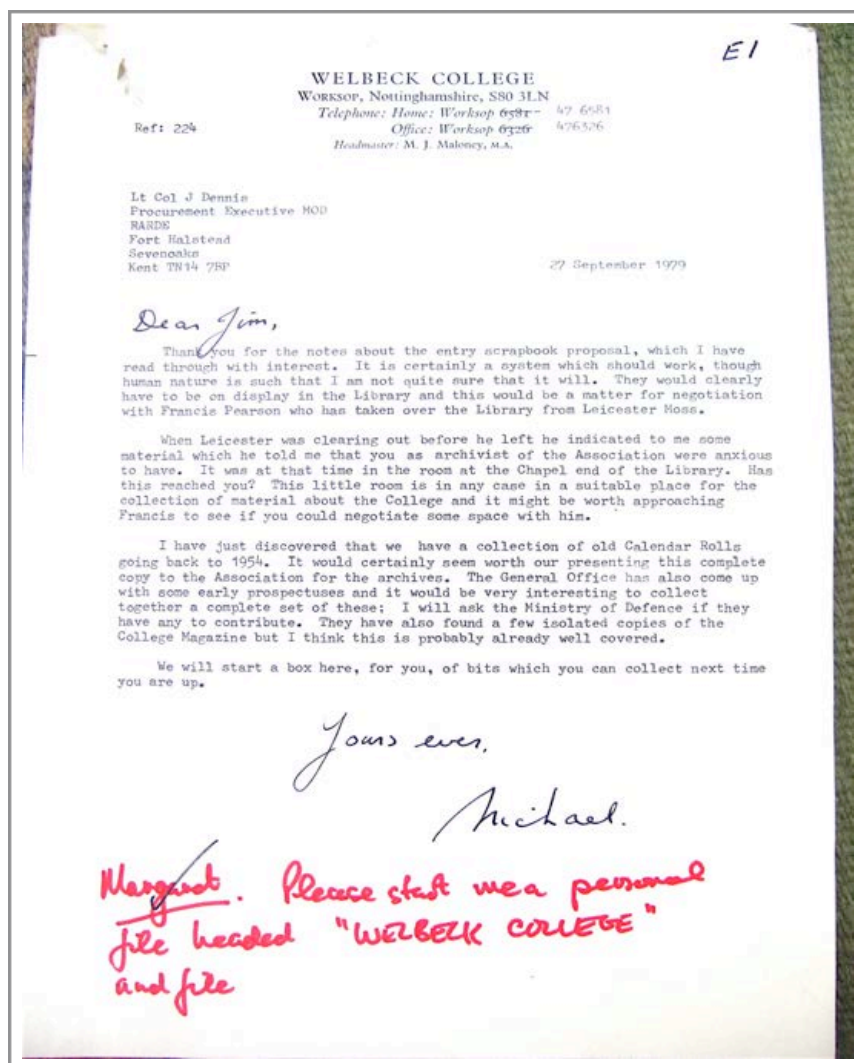
WELBECK COLLEGE 1951—1973	
1951	The Army Council appoints a committee under General Stopford to examine the problem of recruitment to commissions in Technical Arms. The Committee recommends that the Army should open a school of its own. A second committee under General Eveleigh chooses Welbeck and works out details.
1952	May: Major-General C. de L. Gausson appointed Bursar. July: D. A. Rickards appointed Headmaster. Autumn: Ministry of Works begins conversion. October: First meeting of the Board of Governors at the War Office.
1953	25th April: The Queen signs the Royal Warrant inaugurating the College. Headmaster and Bursar move to Welbeck. 25th September: College opens. 1 Entry joins. Staff: V. F. Davey, Second Master, Head of Science; T. G. C. Ward, Head of Mathematics; N. A. York, Housemaster; L. C. Moss, Head of Arts; W. E. A. Lound, Chaplain; J. Steel; G. C. W. Harland; J. G. C. Thomson.
1954	January: 2 Entry joins. Staff: D. C. Hawker. Second House formed under G. C. W. Harland. First copy of the College Magazine produced. June: Four G.P.14's launched. July: Her Grace Winifred Duchess dies. Staff: J. P. Broadbent. Speech Day — Field Marshal Sir John Harding, Chief of Imperial General Staff. First camp at Gandale. September: 3 Entry joins. Staff: B. E. Lord, J. Hindshaw, G. V. Holroyde, R. E. Black, G. Partington. H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh consents to become Patron. 1st XV unbeaten.

1955	January: 4 Entry Joins, College at full strength. July: Parents of 1 Entry present College with lectern Bible and altar prayer book for the Chapel and Missal, Epistles and Gospels, and altar cards for the Roman Catholic Chapel. Oak Lectern, designed by J. Steel, made in Workshops. Speech Day — Rt. Hon. Mr. Antony Head, Secretary of State for War, Camp at Gandale. September: 1 Entry joins Sandhurst with 19 intake. O.W.A. founded. December: N. A. York leaves. D. C. Hawker, Housemaster of York House.	Hewitson, Adjutant General. Camp at Cullybraggan. September: Staff: Rev. R. H. Hack, Chaplain. November: O.W. Prize instituted. December: New Squash Court opened. J. G. C. Thomson and Miss A. M. Potts married.	
1956	January: Staff: H. L. Way. April: CCF afternoon changed from Wednesday to Monday. June: Speech Day — H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh. July: T. G. C. Ward, G. V. Holroyde leave. Camp at Buckenham Totts. September: Staff: G. R. Langdale, Head of Mathematics; E. E. Bailey.	1966	June: 1st Class Honours at Cambridge awarded to P. M. R. Hill. July: Speech Day — Rt. Hon. Gerald W. Reynolds, Minister of Defence for the Army. Language Laboratory installed. Camp at Catterick. September: First O.W. Adjutant, Captain C. E. R. Story, Royal Signals.
1957	January: House Rooms in full use. March: General Gausson retires. Brigadier J. M. F. Cartwright Bursar. May: 4-hole Golf Course opened by Duke of Portland. June: Housemasters move into Oxford Wing flats. Speech Day — General Sir Nevil Brownjohn, Quarter Master General. July: Camp at Stobs. First O.W.'s commissioned from Sandhurst. B. D. E. Goodman 2nd in Order of Merit. September: Asian Flu epidemic. October: First O.W. goes to Cambridge. November: First O.W. Rugby Match v. Coliège.	1967	July: Speech Day — James Boyden, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Army. Brigadier Cartwright retires. Colonel W. R. Potter, Bursar. J. H. Ellcock awarded Sword of Honour. Camp at Otterburn. September: Blue raincoats issued and Sports Jackets instead of suits. December: First Open Scholarship at Cambridge, awarded to A. R. M. Roulstone.
1958	January: Room 12 converted from Locker Room to Junior Common Room. March: First O.W. Hockey Match v. Coliège. June: Speech Day — General Sir Charles Loewen, Adjutant General. July: Magazine reduced from termly to bi-annual. Camp at Otterburn. Bisley — Shooting VIII win Cottesloe Vase, 7th in Ashburton. September: First Adjutant joins, Captain C. R. Parrish, REME.	1968	10th May: Visit by H.M. The Queen. July: Speech Day — Major General N. Crookenden, Commandant of RMCS Shriventham. Camp at Manorbar. November: First O.W. Supper-Dance in Library. December: First O.W. substantive Majors.
1959	April: First Arduous Training Camp in Wales. June: Speech Day — General Sir Francis Festing, Chief of Imperial General Staff. July: Camp at Bourley. September: Staff: P. G. Hopkins. December: B. E. Lord leaves. School caps withdrawn.	1969	July: Speech Day — General Sir Geoffrey Baker, Chief of General Staff. Camp at Shorncliffe. December: Rev. R. H. Hack leaves.
1960	January: D. A. Rickards awarded C.B.E. May: First Cambridge O.W. Dinner. June: Formal constitution of O.W.A. Speech Day — Rt. Hon. Mr. Christopher Soames, Secretary of State for War. July: Staff: B. L. Wood. Camp at Selley Hill. December: First Queen's Medal won by M. J. Hammerton. 1st XV unbeaten. R. E. Black leaves.	1970	January: 30 Entry go on first pre-Sandhurst course. May: Staff: Rev. G. S. Marshall, Chaplain. Seniors' Club opened. July: Speech Day — General Sir John Mogg, Adjutant General. Camp at Warcop. September: New Science Block and Dining Hall in use. 5th November: David Rickards Building opened by Rear-Admiral R. St. V. Sherbrooke.
1961	January: Staff: J. E. S. Sanders. June: First Patron's Holiday. July: Speech Day — Sir John Cockroft. Bisley — Shooting XIII win Marling. Camp at Plasterdown. First O.W.'s commissioned into R.A. and R.A.S.C.	1971	Old Science labs converted into rooms for piano practice and for Photo, Arts and Printing Societies. CCF Orderly Room and Tuck Shop moved into Kitchen Block. Cabins and extra studies in occupation. J. H. Ellcock, Captain of CUAC. May: First O.W.A. President's Dinner. June: T. T. Halkchurch awarded M.B.E. July: Speech Day — Lord Balniel, Minister of Defence for the Army. Camp at Knock. 6 Lark dinghies acquired from Nuffield Trust. 18th July: Major-General Gausson died. November: M. F. Stewart awarded M.B.E.
1962	February: First O.W. Dinner at Connaught Rooms. March: First Schools Seven-a-Side Tournament at Welbeck. May: York House Billiards Table installed. June: Speech Day — Major General Sir Robert Laycock. July: Last issue of pocket money. Bisley — Shooting VIII win Snap Trophy. Camp at Fylingdales. September: L. C. Moss Second Master.	1972	February: George Medals awarded to A. I. Clouter and D. Markham. July: Speech Day — Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Under-Secretary of State for the Army. CCF parade in No. 2 dress. Camp at Bellerby. D. A. Rickards retires. Staff: M. J. Maloney. Headmaster. 35 Entry join first SMC at Sandhurst. November: First AEB examinations held. New Changing Rooms in use.
1963	June: Speech Day — Sir John Baker. July: V. F. Davey retires. Bisley — Shooting VIII win Snap and Marling. Camp at Stanford. September: Staff: D. L. Thompson. E. E. Bailey, Head of Science. Filter plant installed for Swimming Pool and depth increased.	1973	February: Military Cross awarded to J. A. Ball. Electronics Room opened. 9th March: 96 O.W.'s pass out from Sandhurst. 1000th commission awarded. 10th April: D. A. Rickards died. May: George Medal awarded to M. F. Stacey and M.B.E. to I. N. Osborne. June: D. T. Burton awarded M.B.E. Speech Day — General Sir Michael Carver, Chief of General Staff. July: First Open Day. Camp at Cullybraggan. Col. J. E. S. Sanders retires. D. A. Hawkswell leaves.
1964	June: C. G. B. Brodley awarded M.B.E. July: Speech Day — Sir William Penny. P. G. Hopkins, B. L. Wood leave. Camp at Bellerby. September: Staff: D. A. Hawkswell. December: First Open Exhibition at Cambridge, awarded to J. C. M. Taylor.		
1965	January: Staff: D. F. Pring. RASC becomes RCT. April: Rev. W. E. A. Lound retires. July: J. H. Ellcock jumps 6ft. 3in. O.W.'s gain first three places in Order of Merit at Sandhurst. 1st Class Honours at R.M.C.S. awarded to K. J. A.C. Osman and P. J. Sheppard. Speech Day — General Sir Reginald		

Following this is are resume's of all the Academic Staff and each of the boys from 1 Entry to 40 Entry. **A tour De Force indeed.** Interestingly Charles Brodley (5 Entry), in 2010/11 updated statistics of these intakes in another very detailed exercise, included in Section 28 "Success" (full papers shown separately in the Folder "Charles Brodley Papers" on the DVD)

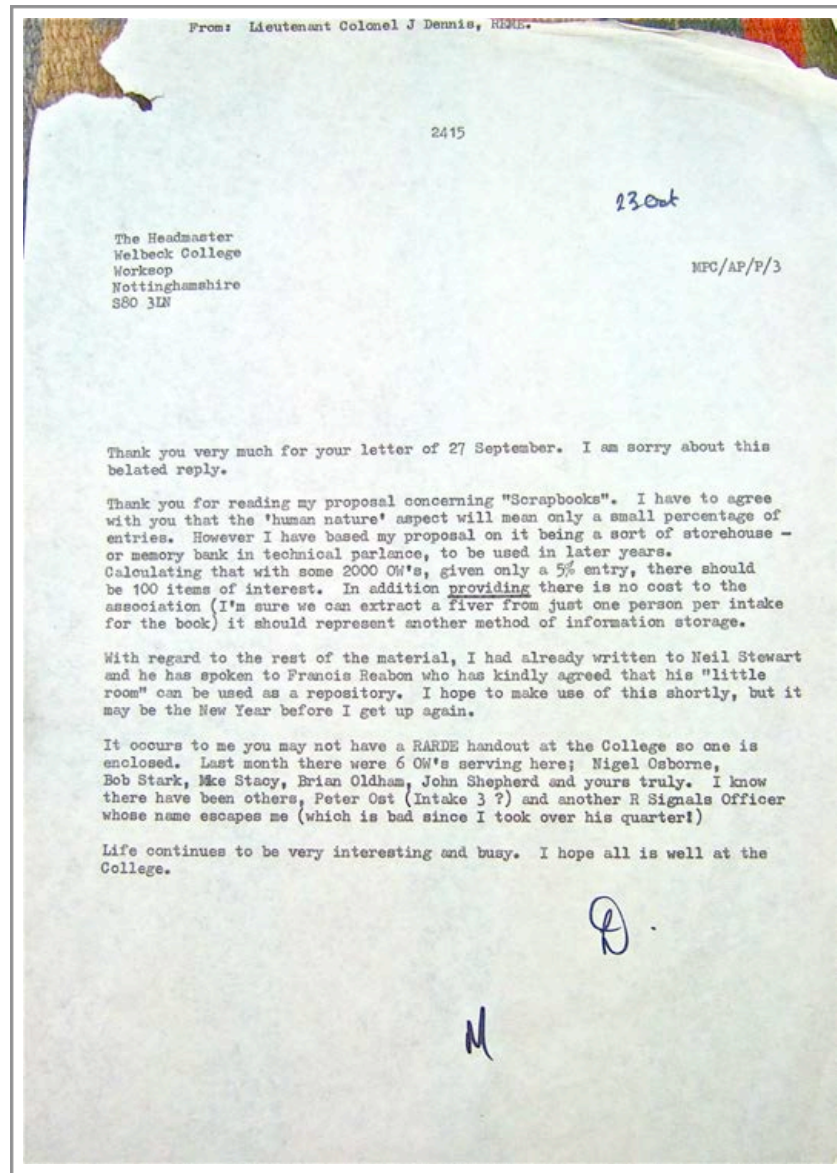
## 21 THE SCRAPBOOK SYSTEM

At an Executive Committee meeting near the end of the 1970's as the elected Archivist, I floated the need to preserve our history "as it happened", citing as a good example the dreaded "Welbeck Cap" which after having only existed for a few years no one could find an example! We explored the idea of a large standard scrapbook, a big box or a room at The College to store material. Although there was general acceptance of the need, how to meet this the aim was a matter of some discussion. Eventually it was proposed that we follow Sam Robert's Recorder idea and have a scrapbook for each Entry, along with a suitable room or space to store more bulky items eg The Cap, rigger shirts and things of that ilk. The exchange of letters twixt myself and the then Headmaster Michael Maloney, reproduced below, show how we moved the idea forward.



As can be seen, although he had some doubts about whether such a system would work in practice, he was enthusiastic about "preserving our history" and had already begun to store material. He rightly pointed out that a prominent library display of scrapbooks would be important.

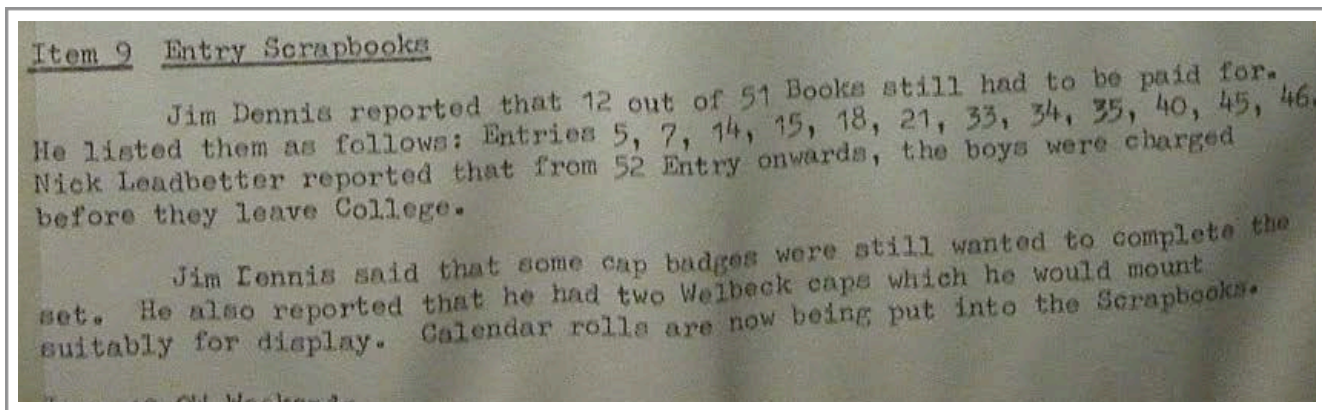
As can be seen from my reply the proposal was accepted in principle.



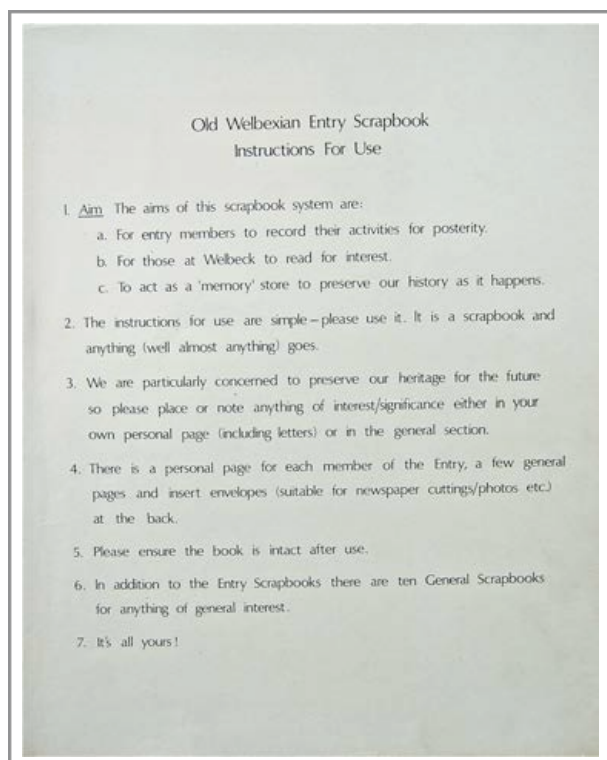
Jim Elliott (3 Entry) and I discussed the nature of the scrapbooks and eventually agreed that the Stanley Gibbons "Snap Binder" Stamp Book - which enabled separate, single or multicopy papers, to be swiftly inserted, without using glue would be suitable. We priced then up through SG at £5.50 each for 50 off. Jim, Commanding a REME Workshop at the time, had an industrial printing machine to prepare papers for insertion and also to add the College Crest and a Title. An example is shown on the left.

We took this to the OWA main Committee in 1979. There were a few reservations based mainly on funding the purchase of 50 books from the outset and how we were to recover the money, and also whether or not anyone would fill the books in! In the end a proposal by Peter Davies (3 Entry) that the OWA should set aside up to £400 to pay for the initial buy and any required support thereafter, and this was agreed. It was also agreed that each intake pay the £5.50 cost of each Entry Scrapbook.

In 1981 I gave this report to the oWA Executive Committee:



Thus, seemingly just 12 of the Books were not funded and only some £60.00 of the set aside funds used. How many more scrapbooks were produced and funded (see Nick Leadbetter's remarks) I do not know.



To kick start the project 51 Scrapbooks were produced for the first 51 Entries and pre-printed pages for each boy were inserted along with a Magazine and Calendar Roll for each Entry. The Instructions for use sheet is shown on the left.

Examples of the personal pages are below and Chris Arnold and Barry Learner bless 'em, filled in their pages; but as predicted not many other entries appeared.

**Personal Particulars**

Name C. W. ARNOLD Entry T Photograph

Rank As At

Present Address 16, Bamberg Road, Brackley, Northants, NN13 6AU, Brackley (088) 704755

Telephone-Home Brackley (088) 704755

Office As At Children Four

Married/Single YES Present Appointment Pedagogue

Retired YES

Webb House WILKIN Sport Athletics, Rugby Football

York As At Academics As At

Appointments WARLORDS, SADD CLUB, House

Societies WARLORDS, SADD CLUB, House

Prefect House Prefect

CCF etc. Common

RMA Sandhurst Intake As At COY Maone Rank As At

Commissioned As At Date As At

Prizes As At

University Bristol Result B. Ed (Hons) Distinctions As At

Date	Entry
7/10/83	1950-1974 varied career in industry - from drug Salesman (ethical) to M.D. of Industrial and Building Company - wanted a holiday so read

**Personal Particulars**

Name B. W. LEARNER Entry As At Photograph

Rank Major (Retired) As At As At

Present Address 2A, Sycamore Road, Driffield, Yorkshire

Telephone-Home 01382 811111

Office As At Children Three (two boys, one girl)

Married/Single MARRIED Present Appointment Teacher, St. Martin's

Retired YES

Webb House WILKIN Sport 1st XI Tennis, 2nd XI Soccer, 1st XI Hockey, 1st XI Rugby, 1st XI Cricket

York As At Academics As At

Appointments House Prefect

Societies Chess

Prefect As At

CCF etc. Common, 1st XI Soccer

RMA Sandhurst Intake 19 COY Wentworth Rank S. Sgt

Commissioned None Date 2.8.57

Prizes As At

University R.M.C.S., Sandhurst Result B. Sc. (Hons) Distinctions As At

Date	Entry
6. Oct 1983	I am not responsible for the entry under Sport. We may have needed eleven players at times but my recollection is we only played six! I am very honoured to accept the rank of C. Sgt in Wicketless Coy - even 26 years later.

Date	Entry
	English and Philosophy for four years 1974-78; now teach English at Magdalen College School, Brackley. loved metropolitan history; presently married & securely with young son of 18 months. Relaxations: guitar, folk singing etc, Morris dancing to name but a few. Watch this space!

Sadly in the event the entire set of scrapbooks were "hidden" away in a closed cupboard at the Chapel end of the Library so I suspect no one knew about them. I later found that all the magazines and calendar rolls had been removed, so I retrieved the 1 Entry Scrapbook and two of the General Books and I still have them. So, what was the fate of the scrapbook system - see what the 1999 students had to say in an editorial shown on the next page below.

What remains to be answered of course is how an Institution should record its heritage? Indeed should they? My old Grammar School in Chesterfield, established in 1588, was sadly turned into a comprehensive and now no longer exists at all. The Old Boys Association however are still active and have realised that there is no written history of the School at all! To rectify this they have now set up a web site which allows anyone to submit material for entry into "A scrapbook in the Clouds"! It is very successful. In contrast Lancaster Grammar School, where my sons were educated now have three authorised Histories, the last one published in 2012!

It seems to me that there is almost always universal regret when little trace of an Institution can be found.

## From The Welbexian 1999

## STUDENT EDITORIAL

After "breaking and entering" the Archive Cabinets in a forgotten corner of the Titchfield Library, we discovered what should have been a thriving cabinet of memories, to be half completed and severely lacking care and attention. Therefore we have decided to devote this article to the relationship between past and present Welbexians in an attempt to inspire some OW's to fill in their "Entry Scrapbook" and to encourage present Welbexians to take a more active interest in their heritage.

We discovered that the cabinet was a log of past Old Welbexian Scrapbooks.

The aims of the scrapbook system are:

For entry members to record their activities;  
For posterity;

For those at Welbeck to read for interest;

To act as a "memory" store to preserve our history as it happens.

After ploughing through several (over 30) volumes of such scrapbooks, we learnt that Welbeck hasn't changed all that much in its 45 years of existence. Its aim is still the same, its recruiting slogans aren't much different and even some of its staff are almost originals!

"It's funny how you misread things. I looked at the M.C.R. door and could swear it read Monster's Common Room" (definitely something which hasn't changed). After reading such quotes as this and ones such as "You waste the best years of your life at school in order to prepare you for the worst" (1973), we decided to add some quotes from the past year, some favourites from CCF have been "Don't look at me I'm married" and "It's all about growing up and being British". To some Welbexians fortunate enough to have PT on a Saturday morning the words "forget physics, forget maths, today is match day!" can often be heard (especially when Chelsea are playing!).

One thing for sure which hasn't changed is the first day, the feeling of turning up to somewhere new and different surrounded by people who seem to know exactly what's going on, most of us go through these feelings at one stage with only the minority who actually leap on the train!, this was illustrated in a poem we came across from 1955:



*The Editors (Laura Craig, Charlotte Joyce, Kate Read)*

Yes, I remember Welbeck  
The name, because one afternoon  
The lorry, full of newboys, drew up there  
Unwontedly, it was late September

The engine died, someone jumped out  
And we followed, straggling sheep like  
On the bare cobbles. What I say  
Was Welbeck - only the name

And work, goalposts and prefects  
And dormitories, and why be profane?  
And why didn't I like Thomas  
Stay in the Express train?

*Anon  
May 1955*

There are however some subtle differences, and after seeing traditions changing within just over one year at Welbeck it was interesting to see how things have changed over the decades.

We did think that we were the only entry to make it in the Headlines, but we couldn't have been more wrong. The archives revealed hundreds of newspaper cuttings such as:

"A man's life for boys at Welbeck"  
(Birmingham Post, April 29 1974)  
"Where technology meets tradition"  
(Yorkshire Post, May 23 1973)  
In opposition to "Marching on to success"  
(The Times, November 25th).  
After reading The Welbeck Magazine now known as The Welbexian, we were given

plenty of scope for thoughts on what we are doing "right or wrong". Articles read were amazing and features on "The birds of Welbeck" and the house reports were very interesting. We would also like to add in response to the Wanted Advertisement in the Vol 1 No 4. January 1955 magazine that we do have "A recipe for home-made alcoholic drinks".

Another source of amusement during our "raid" was the Calendar Rolls, and I almost got confused by my own copy and those of the past due to the outstanding similarities. The distinguishing factor however was that the Housemaster of Harland "Mr Harland" was the Hockey Coach and that the "Rugger House Match" was late September as opposed to our "white out" in December. The scrapbooks are full of College history like details of the Big Freeze of January 1959 when "the Great Lake froze sufficiently for the Headmaster to approve, supervise and lead skating on the ice". Something unthought of today with all of the health and safety risks involved! Welbeck history is also abundant in the books, did you know that "those who built the ballroom - entirely underground - were each rewarded with a donkey and umbrella?" and that the Queen and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh have both visited Welbeck. It was interesting also to read that the seniors club opened in 1969. We found our "rummage" great entertainment and as a plea from the 87E Welbexian Editors to all past, present and future Welbexians please don't neglect this tradition. It is one of the many traditions we would like to remain!



**22 FORTY YEARS ON**

Whilst of course not part of the "Early Years" the Fortieth Anniversary of the founding of the College was suitably marked by early entries as recorded below.

Mark Fillingham (1 Entry), as General Secretary of The Officers Christian Union gave the Speech Day Sermon which is recorded in full in the Welbexian 1993 p25-26. This was on a weekend when I Entry returned for their 40th Reunion was recorded in the Welbexian of 1993 by Sam Roberts and shown in full below.

### **The First Entry's 40th Anniversary Reunion**

It was a memorable day. Forty years after the arrival of the first entry of Welbexians, a reunion was held at the College, at which attended 23 of the original 48 boys and 5 of the original masters.

Ten of the OWs took up the offer of a conducted tour over the Abbey and round the grounds during the afternoon. We were surprised to be conducted by the first entry of girls into the College - a coincidental and enjoyable experience. I must say the girls are a great credit to the system; mature, articulate, confident and ambitious. We left Andy Morton, the Bursar, laying the dinner tables in the Masters' Common Room and toured the Oxford Wing and the dormitories. We all recalled memories of incidents and identified bed spaces. Dorm 5, for example, overlooking the Dowager Duchess' state room windows, in front of which used to prance, teasingly, her maids. Past Bull York's office, along the print corridor and into the library, now stripped of its rows of book cases. The

chapel has not changed, apart from the addition of plaques in memory of OWs, who have died on active service and, particularly poignant, the "Fillingham" bible, which was presented to the College by those of the first entry who survived to go on to Sandhurst. Our names are inscribed on the front page. It was pleasing to have Mark Fillingham with us at the reunion.

Through the underground corridors, common room, classroom corridor and into the ballroom we went, noting, "en passant", that our college prefect studies are now girls locker rooms! We then climbed some stairs which I do not remember, bringing us onto the entrance road, crossing which took us into "t'sunk garden". Alphonse, the golden carp, has long since passed on. I will mention at this stage the courage and determination of Dave Watson, who, having suffered motor neuron disease for many years, pushed a walking frame up and down the many stairs, helped by the girls, and stayed with us throughout the tour. After a good deal of reminiscing round the now beautifully clean swimming pool (no more green water with squiggly red worms in it) we walked round the sports field. Mick Adams remembered with amazing clarity his first (and only) try. Jeff Barker, who captained that first unbeaten rugby XV, thought he remembered many courageous acts. Dave Watson and Bernard Goodman recalled athletic achievements; Barry Learner, the hockey and cricket and so it went on. The statues on the balustrades have gone. Each wore a school cap the day after that ludicrous piece of uniform was introduced. We eventually arrived back in front of the main entrance to be met by Andy Morton, having completed his chores. We bade farewell and good wishes to the girls and headed off to the Worksop Travel Lodge to change for dinner.

We gathered later in the refurbished cellars of the Main Building, now transformed into the Harland House common room, where we met up with the later arrivals, the Principal and a number of wives. We enjoyed a glass of sherry or two before the ladies retired to their own dinner at the Greendale Oak and the gentlemen gathered in the library for the accompanying photograph. Here, we met up with John Skinner and Arthur Soar. John, in the final stages of cancer, had been determined to attend the reunion dinner. Arthur drove him carefully from Wells, dressed him for dinner and helped him realise his final ambition. Mentally alert but physically wasted, he thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Dear John, who broke bounds by riding off to Worksop on a bicycle, only to find Bull York waiting for his return - and that of his bike!

The relaxed, cheerful atmosphere throughout the day and the dinner could not have been pre-arranged. The

Masters' Common Room glowed with a spontaneous, natural friendship and echoed to continuous chatter. Andy and the caterers had done a superb job. After the coffee, commemorative whiskey tumblers, engraved with the College crest and "1953-1993", were given to all present. Letters and faxes were read from far and wide. Tony Iveson, Bernie Cornish and Peter Hodgkinson faxed to say they were having a reunion "barbie" the following weekend at Tony's house in Brisbane. They were sent a tumbler each. Mich Clifford sent £20 for a round of drinks.

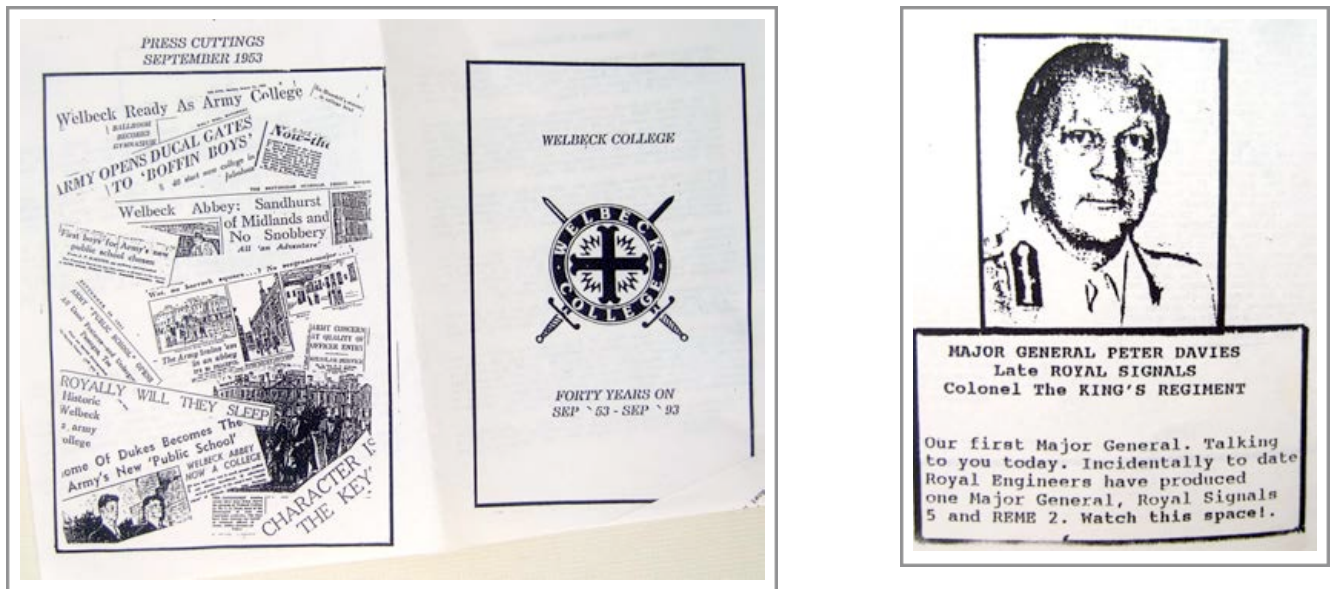
After the Loyal Toast, a toast to absent friends and the "Hawker Toast" - to Welbeck College, the banter continued until the Cinderella hour, when the minibus drove us back to the Travel Lodge, finishing off what had been a super day. Our thanks to the Principal and Dr Charles McLaughlin for permitting us to use the MCR. September, 2003 is already in our diaries for the 50th!

*Sam Roberts*

The Re- Union photograph is below.



To mark the 40th The Principal invited Peter Davies (3 Entry), Andy Morton (1 Entry) and myself to give a talk to the College. The magazine reported this shown below. It marks our first Major General Peter Davies..



I am not sure about the headline below "Wise" - unless of course they were referring to "Morecambe and Wise" for they found the chat entertaining. Gordon Partington was again a prime mover assisted by Andy Morton who was then the Bursar.



## 23 WELBECK ABBEY

Were we impressed were we to be living in the seat of a Premier Duke of England, the then 7th Duke of Portland? Strange as it may seem I believe we all found it oddly comfortable - it was all ours to live in to explore and to enjoy. In any case there was so much more to think about - a new life, new friends, the challenge of starting a new career probably unfamiliar to most of us and of course the excitement of it all. We were to find out later, and through many written and spoken words, that The Duke was very supportive of this new College and he and his family were all very interested in what we were up to. Of course the Portland family were no strangers to the Armed Services and the Army in particular.

This is no place to recount the history of Welbeck even if I were capable; in any case it is amply covered in a variety of forms, not least on the internet. Derek Hawker has an excellent précis covering the years 1143-1951 in just one and a half pages in the Welbeck College Register 1953-73 But a few words of background might serve to illustrate how welcome we were in this grand home, for home it surely was.

A number of references are from *"Men, Women and Things, Memories of the Duke of Portland (London: Faber & Faber, 1937)"* (MWT). Two genealogical tables are shown in Annex B separate file on the DVD. The Dukes of Portland are direct descendants of the powerful Bess of Hardwick who married the Earl of Shrewsbury. Sir Charles Cavendish was her third son and purchased Welbeck in 1606. The tables show how the name of Cavendish-Bentinck became one of the famous families in England; the link with the equally powerful Devonshire's can also be seen. Sir William, son of Sir Richard, became The Master of The Queen's Horse - a title and responsibility passed down through all the Portland's, and he produced the definitive book on horsemanship which is part of a little College story told in *"Soldiers All"* in section 14.

In MWT pp 247 The 6th Duke pens this gem:



"It has been my privilege to entertain the Archduke Ferdinand of Austria. When the latter was my guest in December 1913, he had a narrow escape from being killed. Whilst out shooting (see left) there was rather deep snow on the ground; after a rise of pheasants one of the loaders fell down. This caused both barrels of the gun he was carrying to be discharged the shot passing within a few feet of the Archduke and myself. I have often wondered if the Great War might not have been averted, or at least postponed, had the Archduke met his death then, and not in Sarajevo in the following year!"

He follows this up on page 48 with:

"At the beginning of the (Great) War a hospital was organised at Welbeck for wounded NCOs and men of our son's Titchfield's Regiment the Blues. Later on it was enlarged to sixty beds for convalescing patients."

Another entry reads:



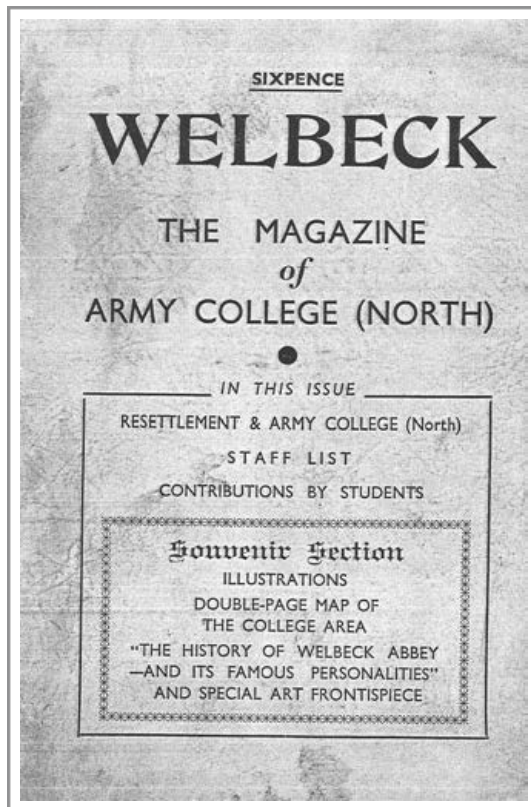
“During the last year of the war (917) several thousand young eighteen year old recruits were encamped in Welbeck Park when General Sir John Maxwell came to inspect them....”  
MWT pp 215

In the sport Section 12 the Wilfred Perry Prize, shown on the left, was mentioned. He was a soldier under training at

Welbeck in the First World War and the prize was funded by a donation from him “In memory of his Welbeck colleagues who died on active service”. The picture on the right, also from MWT shows Lady Winifred a Nurse at that time. Her obituary is at Annex B and tells of her being the inspiration for the Disabled Training College near Mansfield. Also mentioned “In 1935 the Nottingham miners referred to her as “their Angel” and petitioned King George 5th to recognise her work on their behalf - she was created “Dame of The British Empire”



Finally The Abbey was leased to the War Office from 1945-1951 as Army College North (below). The full version of this Magazine, which includes some history of the Abbey, is on the DVD Annex K.



Thus Welbeck Abbey and The Portlands were anything but strangers to The British Army and the College continued this long association with the Portland Family.

Although the stories below are called up in three other sections, if you missed them ( and only dip into this section) here are our encounters with the 7th Duke of Portland during our first term at Welbeck.

### Meeting the 7th Duke of Portland in the first term 1953

We had normal lessons in the Lecture Rooms just off the underground ballroom, but had to walk up Lady Bolsover's Drive to get to the Workshops about a mile away. On one occasion early in the first term whilst on our way we came across this very tall, well dressed gentleman peeing into the bushes. When he caught sight of us staring at him, in a rich mellow voice bellowed out "**Well, I own the bloody place don't I?**" Our introduction to the 7th Duke of Portland!

During a bleak snowy spell in the first winter rugby was off and HM, an Oxbridge Cross Country blue I believe, had the whole school trudging through the snow around the estate. The guys lagging behind were making heavy weather of it when The good Duke came along in his Land Rover and proceeded to give them a lift back to the Abbey - then he returned to pick up another lot! I think he was chortling all the time and he was a hero to the boys.

A final anecdote concerns the Titchfield Chapel and the College first end of term Christmas Carol Service. The Duke was there, in his own pew, looking very distinguished and totally at home. Come collection time the Head of School stood by his pew with the collection plate. The Duke felt in his jacket pocket and looked somewhat non plussed. After a few seconds he raised himself up out of his seat and began systematically feeling in every pocket of his huge thick and heavy tweed suit which looked as though it had been constructed not tailored. He tried every pocket turning out the linings whilst the Head of School looked undecided as to what to do. Finally the Duke beamed down upon him and again in his mellow deep voice proclaimed "Sorry old boy, I haven't got a bean!"

It is of interest that when the 9th Duke died the Title went with him. That of the Earl of Bentinck (a common name throughout the lineage of the Portlands, the Cavendish Bentinck's) lived on. The 13th Earl of Bentinck is the actor who plays David Archer in the Archer's! Not many people know that!

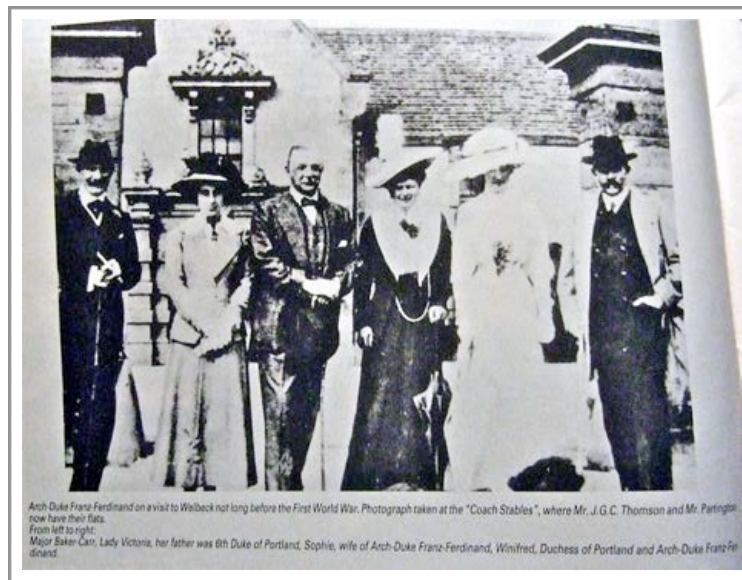
Lady Victoria, the daughter of the 6th Duke and a God Daughter of Queen Victoria died aged 104. Her obituary at Annex B contains some interesting tit bits: about the 5th Duke, traveling to Worksop station thorough the tunnel (not using a motor which would frighten the horses) and poking a hole in Queen Victoria' sofa. Some column inches refer to the College:

*"She took an enthusiastic interest in the military college which took over her family seat: "I am always delighted to read the name Welbeck in the passing out lists from Sandhurst" she would say to the boys."Good luck to you all - your master will be keeping me in touch and giving me all the low down (Gordon Partington no doubt)". Well into her tenth decade she would entertain the boys on their*

*visits to the Edinburgh Festival.*" On one of these occasions, described in "Soldiers All" - she was very much a gracious and fun loving lady.

Lady Anne, daughter of the 7th Duke, lived on the estate until her death in 2008 and was, as those in the know, a great friend of the College throughout this time. Her obituary also in Annex B has some interesting topics and is well worth a read. She remained unmarried having been refused permission to marry her first love. Her sister Lady Peggy married an Italian Count during our time at Welbeck and her son William Parente is now the owner of the estate, and apparently was the beneficiary of her "family riches"

An interview with Lady Victoria, conducted by Gordon Partington in October 1982 is reported in full in the Welbexian of 1983 and is shown in Annex B. She talks about the Oxford Wing fire, transporting hot food on trolleys along the railway lines, the visit of The Arch Duke Ferdinand, a blissfully happy childhood, travelling through the tunnels UNDER the lake (without using motors which would "frighten the horses"). Her marriage at Welbeck to Captain Wemyss in November 1918 attended by soldiers from the hospital at Welbeck and her "munition Gals - I was working in an aeroplane factory in Chiswick factory then". A fascinating tale.



Other interesting items about Welbeck are included in full in the Welbeck Folder on the DVD.

#### **Annex B: Includes:**

Obituaries of Lady Winifred, Lady Victoria and Lady Anne. The interview with Lady Victoria in 1982, an article: "The Odd Lord (5th Duke), A potted history of Welbeck issued to us in the first two years, and the Portland genealogical tables. Also included are a number of web sites along with their addresses - click for a host of information, Two Drop Box archives provided by Mike Selby (17 Entry and one time President OWA). You will have to join Drop Box to see them. and early pictures of the splendour of Welbeck