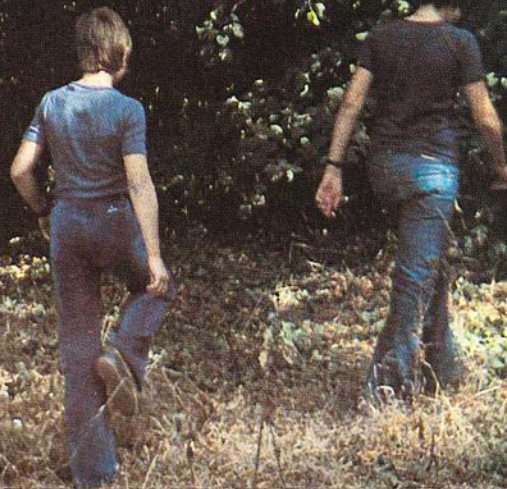


Vacational Studies '77



English the English way

INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to present the Vacation Studies residential English Language Course programme for Summer 1977. Vacation Studies Course Director — Ian Mucklejohn — has welcomed boys and girls from 25 nations in 4 continents since 1970 and over the years has developed the programme to provide an enjoyable balance between 'vacation' and 'study'.

Vacational Studies aims to create a Course that is as international as possible and avoids accepting a large number of children from any one country. Thus we try to ensure that English is the main medium of communication among the students. By using English, not just as a school subject, but as a living language we hope that our students will realise better its importance and value. We have found that when children must use English to make friends, the element of self-motivation to learn greatly increases their fluency.

CROOKHAM COURT SCHOOL

Crookham Court School is an imposing mid-nineteenth century manor house with large, bright rooms and spacious planning. The grounds extend to 20 acres and include large playing fields, lawns, gardens and woods. A maximum of 72 students are accepted in the summer.

CHEAM SCHOOL

Cheam School is an elegant late-nineteenth century mansion with impressive interior designing on a grand scale. The School's extensive grounds include several large playing fields, lawns, gardens and woods. A maximum of 80 students are accepted in the summer.

BOTH SCHOOLS HAVE:

- large, open air swimming pool
- hard and grass tennis courts
- basketball and volleyball courts
- football fields
- croquet lawns
- table tennis
- comfortable dormitory accommodation
- hot and cold baths and showers
- well-stocked libraries
- colour television
- recreation rooms

CHOICE OF COURSE

Crookham Court and Cheam are similar and near each other. Both Courses are of 4 weeks' duration. To assist parents, we offer a choice of Course dates:—

CROOKHAM COURT

THURSDAY 14 JULY — THURSDAY 11 AUGUST 1977

CHEAM

THURSDAY 22 JULY — THURSDAY 25 AUGUST 1977



Crookham Court

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Crookham Court

This emphasis on the practical use of English is combined with a full sports and social programme designed to introduce children to the English way of life.

The Course is fully residential. The children eat, sleep and receive classes in the School.

THE CHILDREN

This Course is an important stage in a young person's social development. At both Schools we accept boys and girls aged 11-16 — those just starting English and more advanced students.

THE SCHOOLS AND THEIR SURROUNDINGS

For 1977 the Course will be held at two centres — Crookham Court School and Cheam School. Both are located near Newbury which is pleasantly situated amid the rolling hills of the Berkshire Downs in an area famous for race-horse training. It is centrally positioned in southern England 70 km. west of London and 45 km. south of Oxford.

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CROOKHAM COURT

THURSDAY 14 JULY — THURSDAY 11 AUGUST 1977

CHEAM

THURSDAY 28 JULY — THURSDAY 25 AUGUST 1977

Children should arrive in the afternoon of the first day stated and leave in the morning of the last day stated.



Cheam

THE TEACHING

4 classes, each of 45 minutes, are given every day except Sunday by a staff of fully-qualified, professional teachers, experienced in the teaching of English as a foreign language. Classes are graded according to age and ability in English. Numbers are kept small so that each child will receive a high degree of individual attention. The teacher:student ratio is approximately 1:12. All books and teaching materials are provided and audio-visual aids are used. We encourage the use of 'direct-method' teaching and the incorporation of conversation practice into the lessons.

SPORTS

Sport forms an important part of the Course. All sports activities are under the overall control of a qualified physical education specialist teacher who arranges a regular programme including football, basketball, volleyball, baseball, tennis, table-tennis, croquet, swimming, etc. Competitions for prizes are held.

The full sports programme is included in the Course Fee, but there has been such a great demand for professional coaching in various sports that we offer the services of expert instructors — at extra cost — in the following: — horse riding (instructors Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Hounsell of the Newbury School of Riding) and tennis (instructor Mr. Ivor Meacher.) As each instructor can take only a limited number of pupils, these lessons must be requested in advance on the Application Form. We suggest that this is a good opportunity for your child to become proficient in either or both of these sports. If horse riding is selected, your child must bring a riding hat and strong shoes and choose in advance the type of lesson required — 'Elementary' (for beginners), 'Advanced' (for jumping and dressage) or 'Hacking' (for more experienced riders in the countryside.) Tennis lessons are available for beginners or near-beginners only and the child must bring his own tennis racquet.

We emphasise that the regular sports programme is available at no extra charge and that the Sports Organizer is available at all times to offer advice and assistance. For reasons of safety, a teacher supervises children in the swimming pool at all times.

SOCIAL LIFE

We regard the children at each School as a family who live, work and play together. For many of them this is their first time away from home with other children, so we aim to provide a relaxed atmosphere in which they may make friends and form social contracts. We arrange country walks, discotheques, barbecues, film shows, folk-singing, games, theatre and cinema visits, etc.

As Newbury is an easy bus ride away and is a quiet town, we allow children to go there twice a week, if they wish, on unaccompanied shopping expeditions in groups of no less than three. This, we feel, helps them to achieve a measure of independence. Parents are asked to indicate their agreement to this on the Application Form.

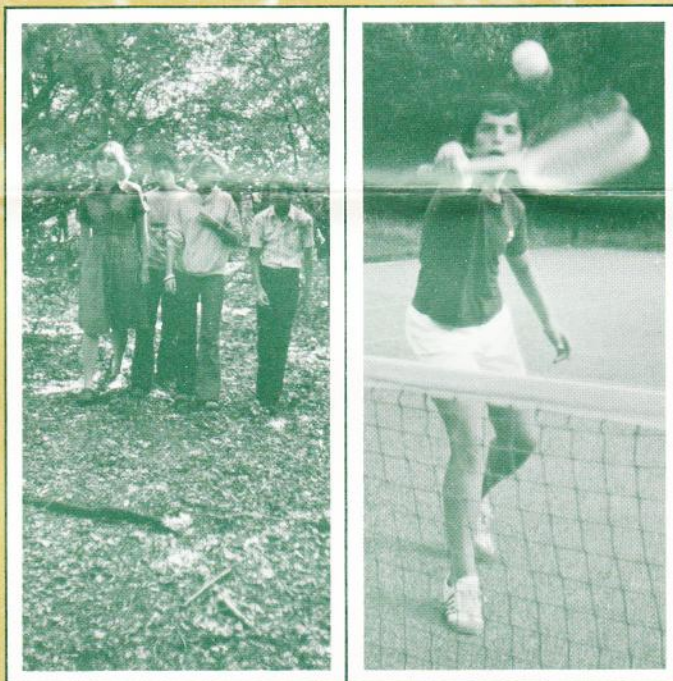
EXCURSIONS

Newbury is well situated as a centre for excursions to various places of interest. As so many children come to us more than once, we have largely revised the excursion programme for 1977.

There will be an excursion each week and visits will include sightseeing in London and a tour of the Ford Motor Company's factory at Dagenham, Essex; Windsor Castle and the Animal Safari Park; Winchester Cathedral and Admiral Nelson's ship 'Victory' at Portsmouth; the Welsh Folk Museum at Cardiff.

Members of the staff accompany the children on all excursions.

John (Greece) playing tennis



*Marianne (Belgium), Johanna (Holland),
Jorge (Spain) and Basil (Greece) on a country walk*

MEALS

We realise that food is an important part of the Course. Meals are prepared and served at the Schools. Students will be able to select from a choice of up to three international menus with the emphasis on quality and quantity. There will be plentiful supply of fresh fruit and vegetables. Cold fruit juice will be available at all times. A typical day's menu will be: —

Breakfast:	Choice of cereal Hot rolls and butter Jam and marmalade Coffee
Lunch:	Chicken a la King or Roast Lamb or Fried Plaice French fried or creamed potatoes Grilled tomatoes Peas Neapolitan ice-cream or fresh fruit
Evening meal:	Pizza or Egg Mayonnaise with fresh green salad
Before bedtime:	Hot chocolate and biscuits

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LIVING ACCOMMODATION

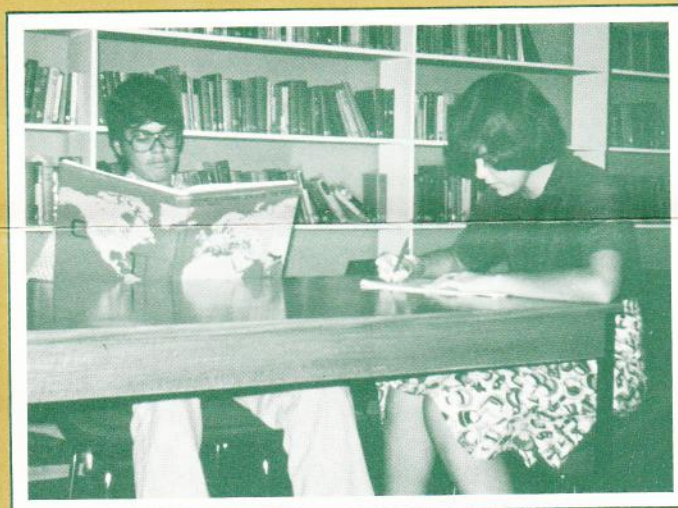
At both Crookham Court and Cheam School, the children sleep in dormitories. The girls are in one part of the house, the boys in another. The accommodation is comfortable and roomy. Bed linen is provided by us.

HEALTH

Minor illnesses are treated by our own staff and there is a Matron with a special surgery/sickroom in each School. We also use the services of doctors in the locality. All our students are entitled to free medical treatment under the British National Health Service.

A TYPICAL DAY

08.30	Breakfast
09.15	First class
10.00	Break
10.15	Second class
11.00	Break
11.30	Third class



Mario and Maria (Portugal) studying in the library

- 12.15 Break. Collect pocket money for the day
- 13.00 Lunch
- 13.45 Fourth class
- 14.30 Organized sports and games
- 18.00 Evening meal
- 18.30 Written 'homework' followed by games, film, etc.
- 21.00 Hot chocolate and biscuits
- 21.30 Bedtime juniors. (Seniors have their own 'Club')
- 22.30 Bedtime seniors

There is no afternoon class on Saturdays and no classes at all on Sundays.

CARE AND SUPERVISION

We understand the concern felt by parents when their children are away from home. They are under constant supervision, as far as is practicable, both in the School and on excursions. Our total staff:student ratio of about 1:6 ensures that the children are well looked-after.

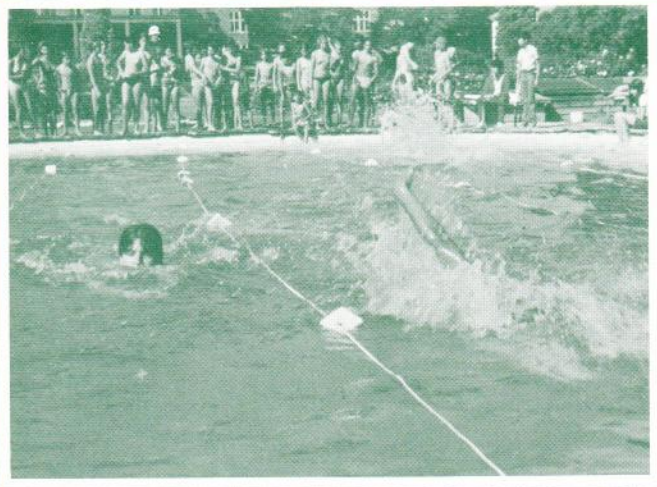
During the Course, progress reports are sent to all parents detailing the child's performance in oral and written work and also his social behaviour. At the end of the Course, all parents are sent a final report and leaving certificate together with a detailed report from the Director on the student's general progress and behaviour.

DISCIPLINE

We regard the Course as an international community and have, therefore, some straightforward rules designed to ensure that every member of the community is happy. We expect children to respect the buildings, equipment and the feelings of other people, and to show good manners on all occasions.

It is important that, before a child is enrolled for the Course, he has the proper motivation for it – the desire to learn English, to be a member of a happy, well-integrated, multi-national society and the willingness to participate in the extra-curricular activities.

If a child is correctly motivated, there should be no disciplinary problems, but if they should arise, we reserve the right to contact parents and, if we consider it necessary, require that the child be taken home.



Cheam Swimming Sports

To ensure the success of the Course for everybody, we are unable to accept applications without a teacher's report including attitude to study and general social behaviour. (This does not apply to students already known to us.) We also ask parents to provide the fullest information about their child.

IN GENERAL

Vacational Studies has, over the years, built up an excellent reputation with parents and children all over the world. Many boys and girls spend more than one summer with us and return from year to year renewing old friendships and making new ones. Most children come to us on personal recommendation.

As well as formal study, we concentrate on the holiday aspect of the Course. We believe that the children should feel free to enjoy themselves out of class. There is always something to do, but if a child prefers to read or be with friends, we naturally respect his wishes. The numbers on the Courses are deliberately kept small so that the staff can get to know everybody and treat each child as an individual. The students will meet and form close friendships with children from many lands. We aim to promote a truly international spirit.

The Course is interdenominational. If parents so wish, we shall arrange for the children to attend an appropriate service. Please indicate this on the Application Form.

WHAT THE COURSE FEE INCLUDES

For details of the Course Fees, please see the enclosed slip. The Course Fee includes:

- residence at the School
- all meals
- tuition
- the sports programme
- the use of facilities
- excursions to places of interest and entrance fees
- the laundering of clothes

There are NO EXTRA CHARGES except for optional shopping/theatre/cinema visits and professional coaching in horse riding, and tennis (if required). Optional coaching must be requested, in advance, on the Application Form. The Course Fee does NOT include:

- pocket money
- travel to and from England
- collection from Heathrow Airport, London at the beginning of the Course and return there at the end. (This is available at a small extra charge to cover our expenses. Please see the enclosed slip. The collection/return service fee ONLY applies to collections at Heathrow Airport on the afternoon of the first day of the Course and returns there on the morning of the last day of the Course. We cannot be responsible for students outside the stated dates.)

HOW TO APPLY

Answer all the questions on the Application Form and return it with a teacher's report. Keep your copy for reference. We shall tell you immediately if the application is acceptable.

completely safe for young people to fly alone as all airlines make special arrangements for 'Unaccompanied Minors'. Please consult your travel agent. They are carefully looked-after and will be met by a Vocational Studies representative at Heathrow Airport. Before the Course we shall send a special badge for your child to wear and this will ensure quick recognition. Our representative will also wear a badge and will meet your child as soon as he/she has been cleared through Customs formalities.

It will assist our transport arrangements if children arrive during the AFTERNOON (13.00 – 18.00) of the first day of the Course (14 or 28 July) and leave during the MORNING (09.00 – 13.00) of the last day of the Course (11 or 25 August.) This applies also if the child is travelling by car.

WHAT TO BRING

Pocket money can either be brought by your child or sent in advance to:— 'Vacational Studies Pocket Money Account', Number 65400100 at The National Westminster Bank, 30 Market Place, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5AJ. We suggest that no more than £10 pocket money per week should be brought.

All money is handed in at the Office for safe-keeping and the student can then withdraw money from his/her account daily. We also keep passports and tickets safely. We cannot accept responsibility for pocket money or valuables not handed to us.

Parents are asked not to pack too many clothes. Casual clothes are normally worn. We specially ask for the following to be included:

- warm pullovers
- an anorak or raincoat
- bedroom slippers
- sports shoes
- air-mail paper and envelopes
- a dictionary
- at least three towels (one large)
- clothes hangers
- a tennis racquet (if needed)
- a table-tennis bat (if needed)

ALL PROPERTY MUST BE MARKED WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME!

Further notes and advice will be sent to parents before the Courses begin.

THE SCHOOLS' ADDRESSES AND HOW TO FIND THEM

Crookham Court School

From London, follow M4 to Exit 12 (Theale.) Leave M4 and follow A4 to Thatcham. In Thatcham turn left after Little Chef restaurant, then left again, straight on past Thatcham Station, up the hill and Crookham Court is at the top of the hill on the left.

Telephone (mornings only, if possible): Thatcham 64800
(STD code 0635)

Cheam School

Take the A339 road from Newbury (signposted Basingstoke) for 10 km. Cheam School is signposted on the right.

Address for childrens' letters:

Cheam School
Vacational Studies English Language Course
Headley
Newbury
Berkshire RG15 8LD
England

Telephone (mornings only, if possible): Headley 242
(STD code 063523)

(THESE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE SPECIAL AND CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED DURING THE COURSE)

There is also a frequent train service from Paddington Station, London, to Newbury Station. It is then an easy taxi journey to either School.

During the rest of the year, please use our **Office** address and telephone number:

Vacational Studies
Pepys' Oak
Tydehams
Newbury
Berkshire RG14 6JT
England

Telephone: Newbury 41867 (STD code 0635)

Telegrams: Vacstuds, Newbury, Berkshire.

Visits to the Schools outside the Course dates may be made only by appointment through our Office.

FINALLY

We have tried to describe the Courses fully and hope that this brochure contains all the information you need to make your choice. Any further details you may require can be obtained from the parents of our past students (the addresses of some of these are on the enclosed slip) and the Director.

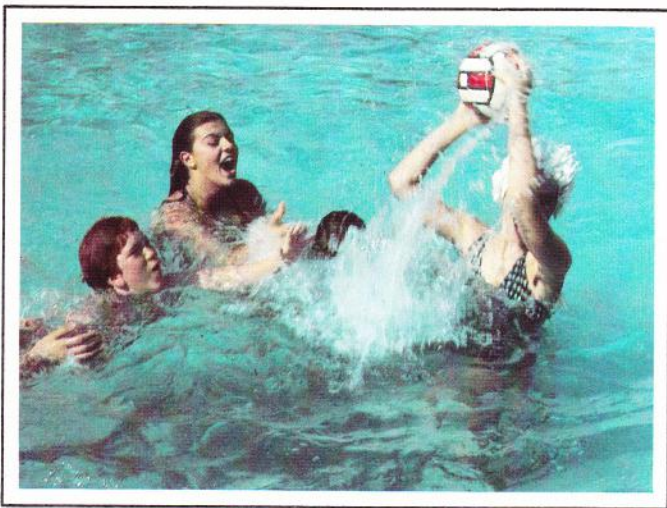
Our Courses are designed with the benefit of years of experience and we are confident that we can combine the learning of good written and spoken English with an unforgettable and enjoyable holiday for your child.

THE 1976 COURSES WERE FULLY BOOKED MONTHS IN ADVANCE. WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU APPLY AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE FOR THIS YEAR'S COURSE.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Ian Mucklejohn — who, as the Director, co-ordinates both Schools — is a Londoner by birth, but has lived mostly in Newbury. He is a Graduate of the University of London with an Honours Degree in English Language and Literature and is an Associate of the College of Preceptors. He has had many years experience in organizing Language Courses and in teaching as the Head of the English Department at a private school.

Vacational Studies is a member of FELCO — The Federation of English Language Course Organisations.



*Ines (Germany), Delia (Spain) and Nandia (Greece)
in the swimming pool.*

WHEN THE APPLICATION IS ACCEPTED

We shall write to inform you of this and include our Invoice for the Course Fees. The Invoice can be settled in full immediately, or 50% can be paid immediately and the balance by the date shown on the Invoice. The place will be confirmed when the full Course Fees have been received by us. We shall also request travel details. It is completely safe for young people to fly alone as all airlines make special arrangements for 'Unaccompanied Minors'. Please consult your travel agent. They are carefully looked-after and will be met by a Vacational Studies representative at Heathrow Airport. Before the Course we shall send a special badge for your child to wear and this will ensure quick recognition. Our representative will also wear a badge and will meet your child as soon as he/she has been cleared through Customs formalities.

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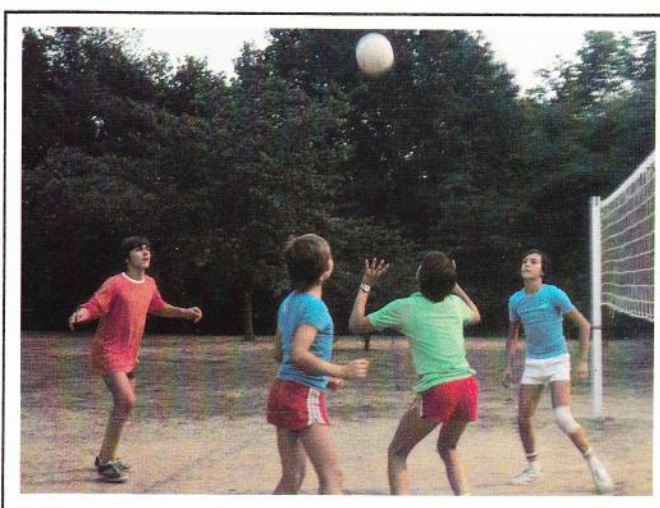
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*Robert (Austria), Basil (Greece) and the two Ignacios (Spain)
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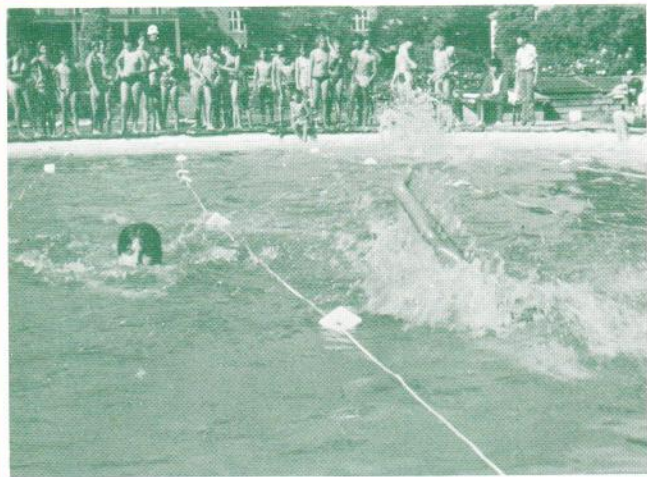
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