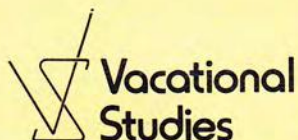


English
internationally...



Vacational Studies '83

Residential English Language Courses

Vacational Studies Courses have been running for 12 years and we have tried in this time to develop a programme to provide an enjoyable balance between 'vacation' and 'study'. Here is our programme for Summer 1983.

Recognized by The British Council

Vacational Studies is 'Recognized as Efficient by The British Council' and is a member of FELCO (The Federation of English Language Course Organisations) - a professional body membership of which is granted only after thorough inspection and 3-yearly re-inspections.

What we try to do

Vacational Studies tries to create a totally international Course with students from as many different countries as possible. We avoid accepting a large number of students from any particular country. In this way 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 our students will realise better its importance and value. When children must use English to make friends, the element of self-motivation greatly increases their fluency.

This emphasis on the practical use of English is combined with a full sports, social and excursion programme helping children to learn 'English internationally.....'

Residence

The Courses are all fully residential. The children sleep, eat and receive classes in the Schools.

The Students

We accept boys and girls aged 11 to 16 - beginners, intermediate and more advanced students. An innovation for 1983 is that we shall accept a small number of students at 17 - if they have been with us before.

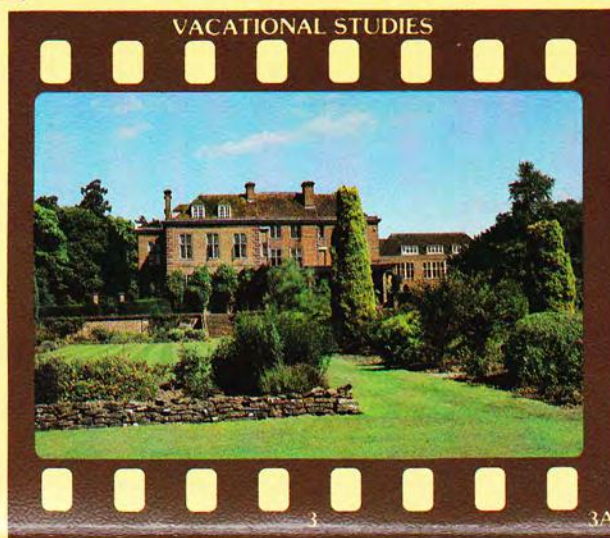
The Courses are sports-orientated and encourage good social development in a community situation.

The Schools and Surroundings

For 1983 our Courses are at three Schools near Newbury - The Mary Hare School, Cheam School and Elstree School. Newbury is in a pleasant part of southern England amid the hills of the Berkshire Downs in a rural area famous for race-horse training. Newbury is a small market town 70km. west of London and 45km. south of Oxford. Our three School buildings are among the finest in the area.

Cheam School

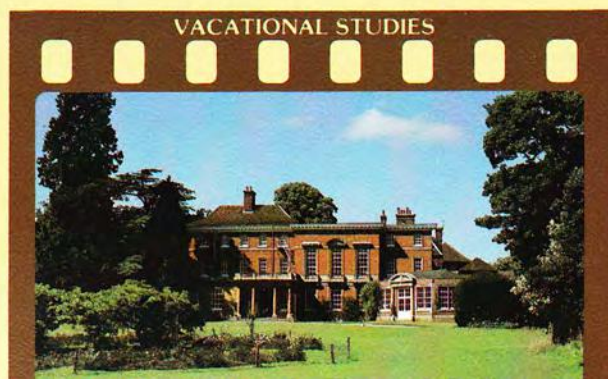
Cheam School is an elegant late-nineteenth century mansion with impressive interior designing on a grand scale. A particular feature is the sunken formal garden. There is an excellent multi-purpose sports hall/gymnasium. The School's large grounds include several playing fields, lawns and woods. A maximum of 95 students will be accepted.



Cheam

Elstree School

Elstree School is a splendid, large eighteenth century country house, attractively set in 40 acres of grounds with large playing fields, gardens and woods. It has a modern well-equipped gymnasium. A maximum of 80 students will be accepted.



re-inspections.

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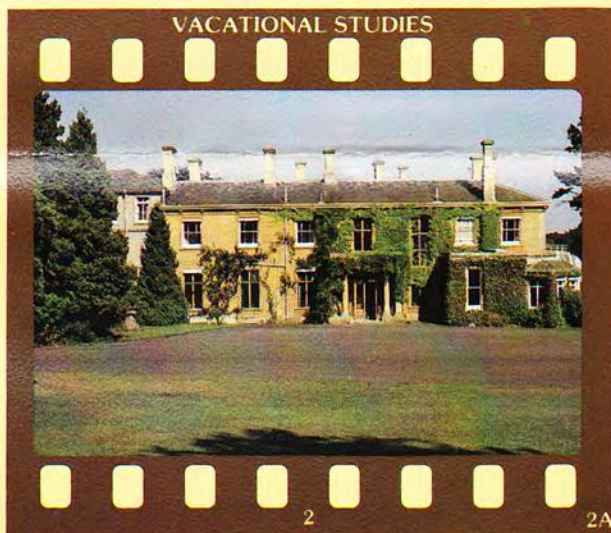
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Part of Mary Hare - The Manor House

The Mary Hare School

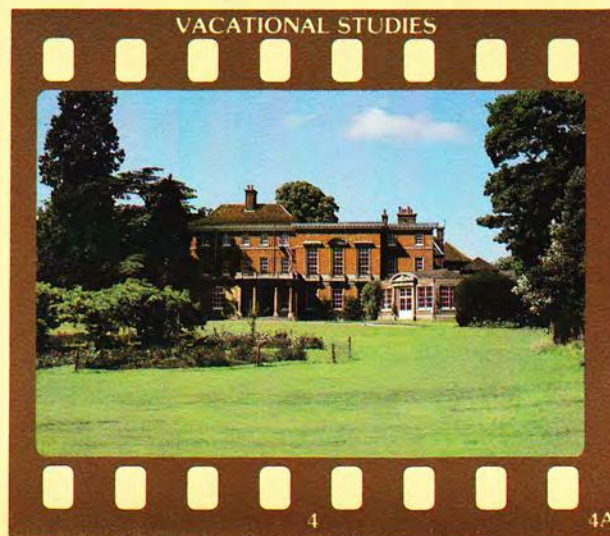
The Mary Hare School is a large mid-nineteenth century manor house, excellently equipped and maintained in superb condition. There are formal gardens and extensive grounds which include several large playing fields, a range of tennis courts, a gymnasium and a large indoor swimming pool. A maximum of 105 students will be accepted.



Cheam

Elstree School

Elstree School is a splendid, large eighteenth century country house, attractively set in 40 acres of grounds with large playing fields, gardens and woods. It has a modern well-equipped gymnasium. A maximum of 80 students will be accepted.



Elstree

All Schools have

- swimming pool
- tennis courts
- basketball and volleyball courts
- football fields
- sports hall
- table-tennis
- comfortable dormitory accommodation
- hot and cold baths and/or showers
- library
- colour television
- recreation rooms

Choice of Course

The Courses at Mary Hare, Cheam and Elstree have the same format, but each develops its own atmosphere and traditions. Each Course is of 4 weeks' duration. We offer a choice of dates:-

Mary Hare:

10 July - 7 August 1983

Cheam

21 July - 18 August 1983

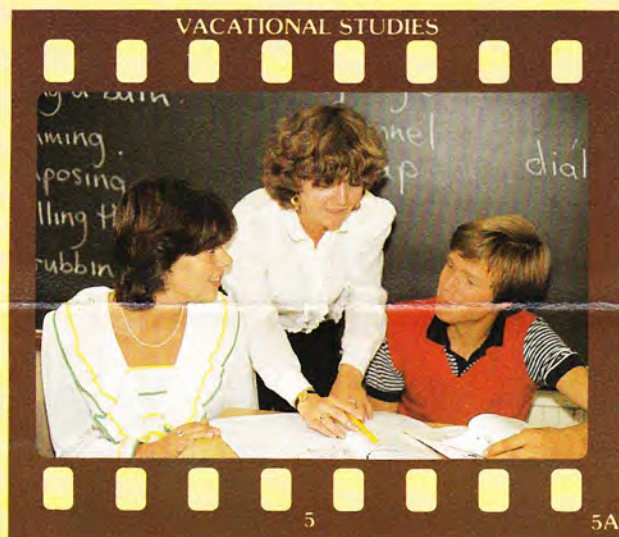
Elstree

24 July - 21 August 1983

(Please see section on 'Travel')

The Teaching

A staff of fully qualified, professional teachers, experienced in the teaching of English as a foreign language give 4 classes, each of 45 minutes, every day except Sunday, the excursion day and a shopping afternoon. Classes are graded according to age and ability in English. The teacher:student ratio is approximately 1:13. All books and teaching materials are provided. We encourage the use of 'direct method' teaching and the incorporation of conversation practice into the lessons. Some 'technical' vocabulary is covered in the more advanced classes. Textbooks used are the new 9-part 'Flexicourse' series published by Oxford University Press with cassettes for aural/oral practice and 'Access to English' by Coles and Lord.



Luisa (Portugal) and Jan-Hein (Belgium) with Jane in class

Sports

Sport is an important part of the Course. Our Sports/Social Organiser arranges a regular programme including football, basketball, volleyball, baseball, tennis, table-tennis, paddler tennis, swimming, etc. Competitions run throughout the Course. New for 1983 is a 3-School Sports Day when all three Schools will meet for friendly competitions in all the major sports. This Sports Day will be arranged so that every student will have the opportunity to participate as well as watch.

We take all practicable safety precautions - for example, children using the swimming pool are always supervised by a teacher.

Social Activities

We try to create a relaxed and friendly 'family' atmosphere in which children will feel 'at home' quickly and make good social contacts. There is a variety of activities on the programme - discotheques, films, barbecues, folk-singing, concerts, games, theatre visits, etc. The programme is a full one. There is always something to do and children are encouraged to participate.

Shopping (Optional)

As well as the shopping excursions to London and Oxford, there is a shopping afternoon each week. In 1983, there will be two shopping afternoons in Newbury, one in Basingstoke (a modern town) 30km. south of Newbury and one in Hungerford and Marlborough (old towns in Berkshire and Wiltshire) 20km. and 30km. west of Newbury. All these towns are pleasant for shopping and are quite different from each other. We think it safe for children to shop there unaccompanied by staff in groups of no less than 3 - if parents have indicated their agreement to this on the Application Form. This helps children to achieve a measure of independence. Children can be accompanied by staff if parents so wish and there will be several staff in the towns while students are shopping. Travel is by private coach from the School, payable by students, if they wish to go.

Horse-Riding Lessons (Optional Extra)

8 one-hour horse-riding lessons are available at the Newbury School of Riding for novices and more advanced riders in groups according to ability. The cost includes transport to and from the Riding School and the hire of a hat. Children must bring strong shoes or riding boots. These lessons must be requested in advance on the Application Form and include 'hacking' at the discretion of the Riding School. 'Hacking' is riding in the countryside in supervised groups. Students will only be allowed to 'hack' when they are considered sufficiently competent. Jumping can be included if parents indicate their agreement on the Application Form. The Riding School has excellent indoor riding facilities. Please note that the Riding School instructors supervise students during lessons. Our staff do not accompany students.

As tennis and horse-riding lessons are pre-arranged, it is not possible to refund the cost of lessons booked, but not taken, so parents are asked to make sure their children really want them.

Excursions

Newbury is well situated as a centre for various excursions. For 1983, there will be a sightseeing excursion to London where the students in small groups will see various interesting parts of the capital. Another visit to London will be specifically for shopping. Students will also visit Oxford and can choose either shopping or sightseeing. The fourth excursion will be the grand 'Sports Day' at Mary Hare School. Excursions are included in the Course Fee.

Meals

We realise that food is an important part of the Course. Meals are prepared and served at the Schools. Menus have been revised for 1983 to make them as appealing as possible to children. Students are able to select from a choice of up to three menus with the emphasis on quality and quantity. There is a plentiful supply of fresh fruit and vegetables. Cold orange juice is available at all times. A typical day's menu is:

Breakfast:

- Choice of cereal
- Hot rolls and butter
- Tea or coffee

Lunch:

- Fried plaice garni with chipped potatoes or
- Chicken with fresh green salad
- Yoghurt and fresh fruit

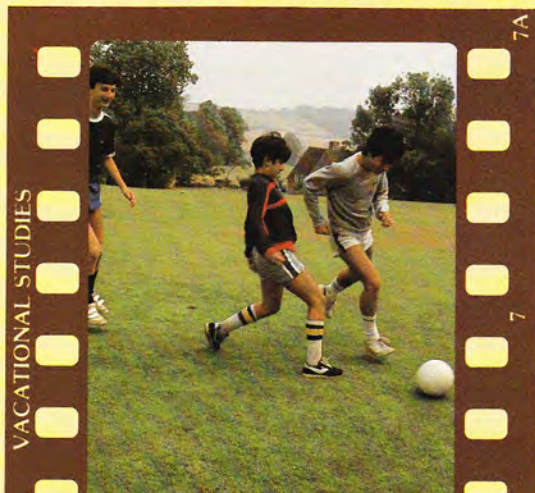
Evening meal:

- Roast lamb or steak and kidney pie
- Roast and creamed potatoes
- Carrots and peas
- or 'cold table' (e.g. pâté with various salads)
- Apple and honey pudding
- or Cheese and biscuits

Before bedtime:

- Hot chocolate and biscuits

At times through the Course the menu will be varied to include: 'English breakfast' (fried egg and bacon with grilled tomato, or similar); 'English tea' (choice of different kinds of bread, choice of spreads, cakes and buns) and barbecued meals (spare rib, sausage roll, jacket potatoes, coleslaw dip, crisps, ice-cream, etc.)



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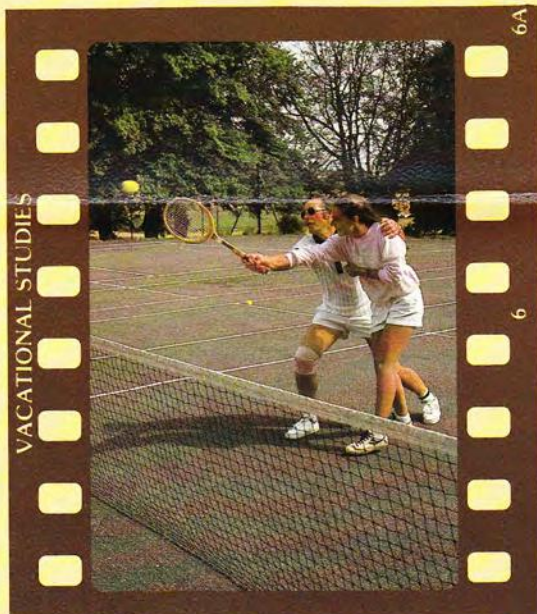
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Ivor trying to teach tennis to Dolores (Italy)

Tennis Lessons (Optional Extra)

Children may play tennis at any time, but we can arrange professional lessons, if required. These are available for beginners or near-beginners only. 8 one-hour lessons are given in groups of no more than 4 and must be requested in advance on the Application Form. If tennis lessons are taken, a tennis racquet must be brought.

Hot rolls and butter
Tea or coffee

Lunch:

Fried plaice garni with chipped potatoes or
Chicken with fresh green salad
Yoghurt and fresh fruit

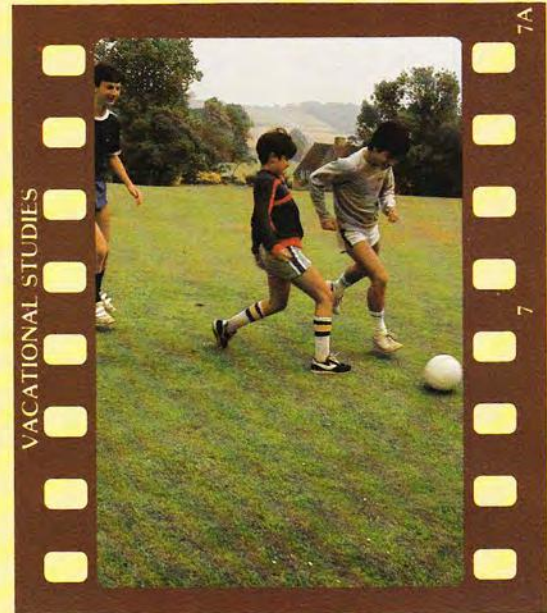
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Toon (Netherlands), Luis (Mexico) and Xavier (Spain) playing football

A Typical Day

08.30	Breakfast
09.15	First class
10.00	Break
10.15	Second class
11.00	Break
11.30	Third class
12.15	Break. Collect pocket money for the day
13.00	Lunch
13.45	Fourth class
14.30	Organised sports and games
18.00	Evening Meal
18.30	'Homework' followed by games, films, etc.
21.00	Hot chocolate and biscuits
21.30	Bedtime Juniors (Seniors and Veterans have their own 'Club')
22.30	Bedtime Seniors
23.15	Bedtime Veterans

'Senior' bedtimes apply to students aged 13½ and over.

'Veteran' bedtimes apply to students aged 16½ and over.

'Veteran' status may be awarded to other students as a privilege and may be withdrawn as a sanction.

Residential accommodation

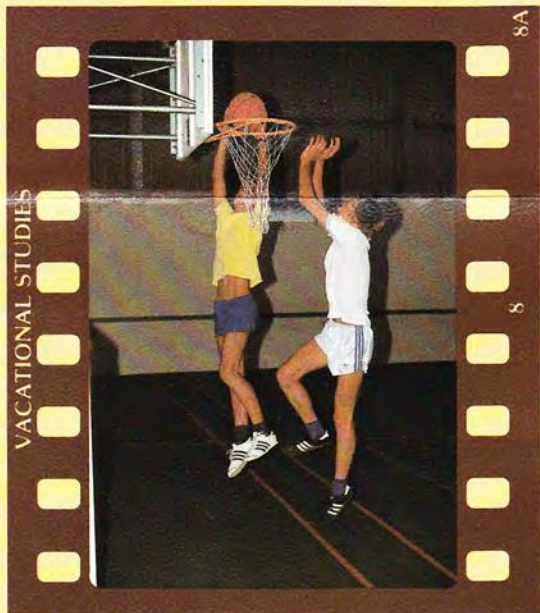
At all Schools the children sleep in dormitories. The girls are in one part of the house, the boys in another. The accommodation is comfortable and roomy. Bed linen is provided by us.

Health

Minor illnesses are treated by our own staff. There is a Matron with a special surgery/sick room in each School. We also use the services of doctors in the locality. We ask parents to give us full health information on the Application Form.

Insurance

Every student is now covered by a special Insurance Policy underwritten by Lloyds. Full details are on the enclosed information sheet. Briefly, the Insurance includes refund of full Course Fees if certified serious illness or accident during the month before the Course prevents attendance on the Course; private medical treatment to the value of £2,500; personal possessions and luggage cover to the value of £400; personal money cover to the value of £100; return air fare to the value of £200 if an APEX reservation is lost because of delayed or advanced departure through illness or accident.



Hans (Netherlands) and Wolfgang (Germany) in the Sports Hall at Cheam

There is **no extra charge** for this Insurance. Every student is automatically covered (subject to the enclosed conditions) when the application is accepted.

How we look after children

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

In addition to the staff, on each Course there is an older ex-student to assist with sports and social activities.

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

If there is a problem

We shall contact you. We send students a list of rules and standards of behaviour expected before the Course begins. These are straightforward. Basically, we expect children to respect the buildings, equipment and the feelings of other people and show good manners.

If a child is correctly motivated (see section on 'Children who will benefit') there should be no discipline problems, but if any should arise, we reserve the right to contact parents and, if we consider it necessary, require that the child be taken home at the parents' expense without refund of Fees. Parents must, therefore, ensure

How we encourage the use of English

On each Course there are students from many different countries. We try to ensure a mixture of nationalities in classes and dormitories. We aim to stimulate the speaking of English socially in various ways. Members of staff constantly encourage English-speaking around the School; they also sit on children's tables at every evening meal. Some meals have internationally mixed seating plans with a 'Veteran' on each table, although for most meals students may sit wherever they wish.

Another 'encouragement' to speak English is the 'English Only Raffle' with a valuable prize for the winner - a Sony 'Walkman' cassette player, or similar. Every student is entitled to one raffle ticket each week if he has spoken English much more than his own language during the week. Throughout the Course there will also be 'English Only Bonus' days. If a student is noticeably trying to use English and is not caught more than once using any language other than English on that day, he will gain an extra ticket - a 'bonus'. At the end of four weeks there will be a draw for the lucky ticket. The more tickets, the greater the chance of winning the prize. We hope that the prize will be a positive inducement for students to use English.

Religion

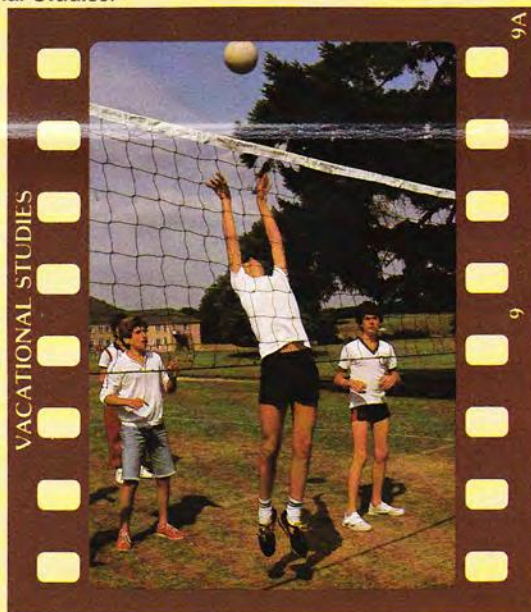
The Course is interdenominational. If parents so wish, we shall arrange for children to attend an appropriate service. Please indicate this on the Application Form. Transportation to and from the church is payable by students.

The Jörg Weise Memorial Trophy

This is awarded annually at each School to the student who makes the best all-round contribution to the Course. The Trophy was presented to Vacational Studies in 1980 by Professor Dr. Eberhard Weise, the Director of Bayer A.G. in Leverkusen, Germany, in memory of his son Jörg (1958-1979) who was a student of ours in 1971. For us Jörg Weise embodies the finest qualities of endeavour and achievement with a completely international outlook. The names of the recipients each year are engraved onto the Trophy.

The Jörg Weise Memorial Scholarship

We are also proud to be associated with the Jörg Weise Memorial Scholarship awarded by Professor Dr. Weise. The Scholarship is a place on any of our Courses, return air ticket from anywhere in the world, pocket money and optional sports fees. The recipient of the Scholarship will be the sort of student outlined above who will benefit from attending the Course, but who is unable to apply for a place in the normal way for financial reasons. We welcome nominations for the Scholarships in 1983 and 1984 which should be sent in confidence, and without informing the potential recipient to Vacational Studies.



The Course Fee includes:-
residence at the School
all meals*

Marco (Italy), Franck and
Stephane (Monaco) and Paul
(Netherlands) playing
volleyball

There is **no extra charge** for this Insurance. Every student is automatically covered (subject to the enclosed conditions) when the application is accepted.

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If a child is correctly motivated (see section on 'Children who will benefit') there should be no discipline problems, but if any should arise, we reserve the right to contact parents and, if we consider it necessary, require that the child be taken home at the parents' expense without refund of Fees. Parents must, therefore, ensure that we have a telephone number through which they can always be contacted.

Children who will benefit

Please make sure that our Course is suitable for your child and that he/she wants to come. The children who will benefit and we enjoy having with us will be internationally-minded, interested in English, outgoing and gregarious. They will also be willing to accept the constraints of community living. We consider it so important that our standards and expectations are understood and accepted that we ask parents to confirm that they and their child have read and agree with our rules. A slip sent with the rules is provided for this purpose.

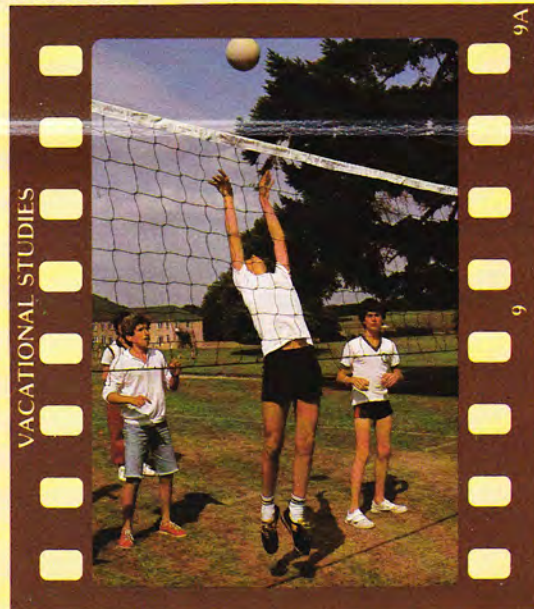
How they will benefit

We hope that our students will learn a great deal of English, make good friendships and develop a positive international feeling. As well as formal study, we concentrate on the holiday aspect of the Course. While we try to involve students in all the activities, we naturally respect the wishes of those who like to read quietly or be with friends. Over the years, we have built up an excellent reputation with parents and children all over the world. Many boys and girls spend several summers with us renewing old friendships and making new ones. Most children come to us on personal recommendation. 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.

Teacher's Report

To ensure that all our students are well-motivated and keen to participate, we ask for a brief teacher's report with all applications from new students. This should mention attitude to study and social behaviour. No report is needed for students we already know.

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Marco (Italy), Franck and
Stephane (Monaco) and Paul
(Netherlands) playing
volleyball

The Course Fee includes:-

- residence at the School
- all meals*
- tuition
- the sports programme
- the use of facilities
- excursions and basic entrance fees
- comprehensive insurance
- the laundering of clothes
- (*except lunch on the visits to London and Oxford).

There are **no extra charges** except for optional church, theatre or shopping visits and professional tennis and horse-riding lessons. A small (75p) deduction is made from pocket money to provide indoor board games.

The Course Fee does not include:-

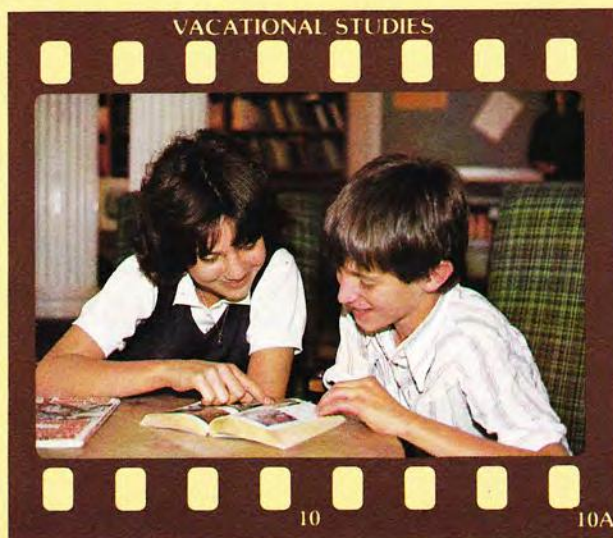
- pocket money
- travel to and from England
- travel from Airport to School and School to Airport.
- (This is available at a small extra charge. Please see section on 'Travel').

How to apply

Answer all the questions on the Application Form and (if we do not know your child) return it with a teacher's report on attitude to study and behaviour. Retain your copy for reference. We shall tell you immediately if the application is acceptable.

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. (Please note - in some countries we understand tax relief is allowed on all or some of the Fees). The place is confirmed when the full Course Fees have been received by us. We shall also request travel details.



Theodora (Greece) and Isidor (Yugoslavia) in the Library at Elstree

Travel

It is quite safe for children to fly alone. For young children, Airlines operate an 'Unaccompanied Young Persons' service and look after them. There are many cut-price air-ticket offers - for early booking, for young people, or for travel on particular flights. We operate a standard collection and return transport service between Heathrow Airport and the Schools on arrival and departure for a small charge (see Fee Slip). Our staff can meet students on flights arriving at Heathrow and check-in students on outgoing flights from Heathrow on the stated dates. Our staff are at Heathrow from 12.00-18.00 on arrival days and from 09.00-13.00 on departure days. If flights arrive earlier than 12.00, students can wait for our representative near the 'Information' desk. If flights leave after 13.00, we shall take students to wait in the correct area and explain the procedure. For arrivals or departures outside our requested times, parents are asked to indicate on the Flight Details form their agreement to children being at Heathrow without our staff. This is absolutely straightforward and safe.

We can make special taxi or minibus arrangements on your behalf if your child must arrive later or leave earlier than our dates or times, or if arrival or departure is at Gatwick Airport. There is no extra charge for our making arrangements for you, but instead of our stated collection/return service charge, the taxi or minibus charges are payable direct by students. (As a guide, a one-way taxi to Heathrow is about £27 and to Gatwick about £38.) Please indicate any special requirements on the Application Form and send details separately.

In Greece

Because of language and currency difficulties, some parents in Greece may prefer to contact Airuniversal Travel Bureau, 3 Stadiou Street, Athens 125 (Tel: 3223 557; Telex 214200) to whom we allocate a few places each year. We have known Airuniversal for ten years and have found them very reliable. They offer their advice in completing the form, the place on the Course and the flights at an inclusive price. Parents in Greece may apply direct through us and arrange their own flights, of course, if they prefer.

At the Airport

Before travelling, we send an identity badge and luggage tags to ensure quick recognition. Our representative will also be wearing a badge, carrying a large 'Vacational Studies' sign and will meet your child at the entrance to the Arrivals Hall after leaving the Customs Hall.

If you do not take our standard collection/return service, but we make other arrangements for you, the same procedure applies.

If you come by car

Road directions are given by the Schools' addresses. Parents bringing their children to the School are asked to come between 12.30 and 14.30. Parents collecting children from the Schools on the

Cheam School

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

Address for students' letters:

Cheam School
Vacational Studies Course
Headley Newbury Berkshire RG15 8LD.
Telephone (to contact Course Manager only):
Headley 242 (STD code 063523) (Mornings, please).

Elstree School

From London, follow M4 to Exit 12 (Theale). Leave M4 and follow signs 'A4 Newbury' for 9km. to Woolhampton. In Woolhampton, turn right after Falmouth Arms at the 'Upper Woolhampton/Chapel Row' signpost. Elstree School is 1km. along this road on the right.

Address for students' letters:

Elstree School
Vacational Studies Course
Woolhampton Reading RG7 5TD.
Telephone (to contact Course Manager only):
Woolhampton 2725 (STD code 073521) (Note: new number)
(Mornings, please).

These telephone numbers are special. They are only for use during the Course and only the Course Manager can be obtained on them.

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

During the rest of the year, please use our Office address and telephone number below.

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

Finally....

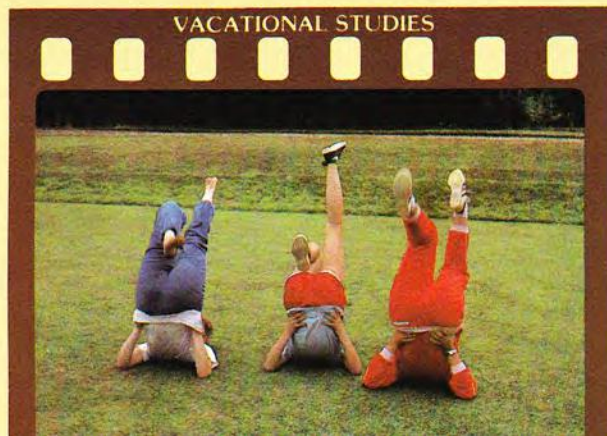
We have tried to describe the Courses fully and frankly. We hope this brochure contains all the information you need to make your choice. Any further details you may require can be obtained from the parents of our past students (the addresses of some of these are on the enclosed list) and the Director. We suggest that you contact our parental references as they may offer some useful advice.

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.

As we take only a limited number of students from any particular country, we suggest you apply early. A 'waiting list' operates when the Courses are full.

Biographical Note

Ian Mucklejohn - who, as the Director, co-ordinates the Schools - was born in London, 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 organising Language Courses and in teaching as Head of an English Department.



to wait in the correct area and explain the procedure. For arrivals or departures outside our requested times, parents are asked to indicate on the Flight Details form their agreement to children being at Heathrow without our staff. This is absolutely straightforward and safe.

We can make special taxi or minibus arrangements on your behalf if your child must arrive later or leave earlier than our dates or times, or if arrival or departure is at Gatwick Airport. There is no extra charge for our making arrangements for you, but instead of our stated collection/return service charge, the taxi or minibus charges are payable direct by students. (As a guide, a one-way taxi to Heathrow is about £27 and to Gatwick about £38.) Please indicate any special requirements on the Application Form and send details separately.

In Greece

Because of language and currency difficulties, some parents in Greece may prefer to contact Airuniversal Travel Bureau, 3 Stadiou Street, Athens 125 (Tel: 3223 557; Telex 214200) to whom we allocate a few places each year. We have known Airuniversal for ten years and have found them very reliable. They offer their advice in completing the form, the place on the Course and the flights at an inclusive price. Parents in Greece may apply direct through us and arrange their own flights, of course, if they prefer.

At the Airport

Before travelling, we send an identity badge and luggage tags to ensure quick recognition. Our representative will also be wearing a badge, carrying a large 'Vacational Studies' sign and will meet your child at the entrance to the Arrivals Hall after leaving the Customs Hall.

If you do not take our standard collection/return service, but we make other arrangements for you, the same procedure applies.

If you come by car

Road directions are given by the Schools' addresses. Parents bringing their children to the School are asked to come between 12.30 and 14.30. Parents collecting children from the Schools on the last day are asked to come before 11.00.

Pocket money

Pocket money can either be brought by your child, or sent in advance to The National Westminster Bank, 30 Market Place, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5AJ, ('Vacational Studies Pocket Money A/C 65400100'). We recommend between £70 - £100 for the month and add optional sports coaching fees, if applicable. Pocket money should be brought in £ Sterling cash high value (£20) notes.

Clothes and possessions

Notes and advice on what to bring and other information will be sent to parents and students in advance.

On arrival at the School

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

Schools' addresses and directions

The Mary Hare School

From London follow M4 to Exit 13 (Newbury). Leave M4 and follow signs 'A34 Newbury'. After 1km. take slip road on left signposted 'Curridge/Winterbourne/Hermitage', then immediately right signposted 'Winterbourne/Donnington', then left signposted 'Donnington'. The Mary Hare School is first on the right.

Addresses for students' letters:

The Mary Hare School

Vacational Studies Course

Newbury Berkshire RG16 9BQ.

Telephone (to contact Course Manager only):

Chieveley 464 (STD code 063521) (Mornings, please).

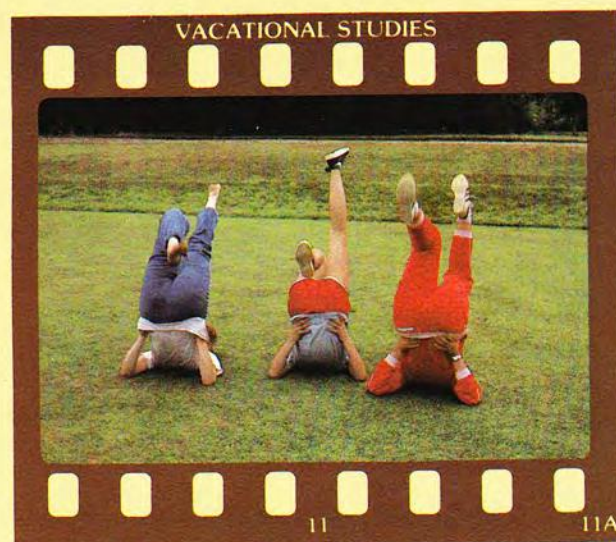
choice. Any further details you may require can be obtained from the parents of our past students (the addresses of some of these are on the enclosed list) and the Director. We suggest that you contact our parental references as they may offer some useful advice.

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.

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Petra (Germany), Lovisa (Sweden) and Stefania (Italy) keeping fit....



Vacational Studies

Pepys' Oak Tydehams Newbury Berkshire RG14 6JT

Telephone: Newbury 41867 (STD code 0635)

Telegrams: Vacstuds, Newbury, Berkshire.

Telex: 848507 (Attn: VACS)

1984 (yes!) — A New School

will be included in our 1984 programme — either as a school, or as a replacement for one of our existing courses, or as an absolutely spectacular setting in the middle of the forest — quite near Newbury — and is a building of great architectural interest and superb facilities. We are to Newbury from the shopping visit to Marlborough



for 1984

symptomatic of these uncertain times that I feel I need to change from one School to another if I cannot find forms which are satisfactory and enable me to offer courses to parents and students. This time, I can give two of my intentions, but I may not always be able to do completely that what is important is the quality of the course provided a school has good facilities — and all the we have these — it does not really matter which

of the times in a different sense is that I feel I must find in all my literature the warning that my work is. Perhaps I should be flattered by imitation, though!

Weise Trophy

is awarded at each School to the student who has made the greatest all-round contribution to the Course and is in the hands of Jörg Weise, a past student, tragically killed in a



6

Winner of the trophy at Cheam in 1982, by the Jacopo (Italy), Cheam 1981

The Jörg Weise Scholarship

The Scholarship is generously donated by Jörg's father each year. It comprises a place on any of our Courses; travel from anywhere in the world; pocket money and optional sports fees. Prof. Dr. Weise and I would appreciate your help and the help of your children's teachers in selecting a recipient for 1983 or 1984. He or she should be outgoing, keen to know more about Britain and the world, enjoy learning and using English, be adaptable, gregarious and sporting and, importantly, be able to benefit from the experience and to re-adjust without difficulty afterwards. It is a condition of the Scholarship that the recipient would not, for financial reasons, be able to apply for a place in the usual way.

The choice of recipient lies with Prof. Dr. Weise, but for convenience all recommendations should be sent to me — without informing the potential recipient or his/her family, of course. You may know of a young person who would be eligible. It is also likely that your son or daughter's school will wish to make a recommendation.

Prof. Dr. Weise and I would like to extend the opportunities afforded by the Scholarship, so if any individuals or companies would like to discuss the possibility of sponsoring or part-sponsoring a less-privileged student, please let me know.

The Jörg Weise Trophy Winners' Reunion — Leverkusen, Easter 1982

Most of the Winners of the Trophy since its inception accepted Dr. Weise's kind invitation to Leverkusen at Easter. It was wonderful to see them again. Seated around the Trophy from left to right are: — Frau Weise; Marjolaine Jonkman; Jacopo Gasparetto; Jesus Silva; Prof. Dr. Weise; Lutz Weise; Jan Kees Moli; Dagmar Schittenhelm; Victor Alberola; Matteo Marini; Maren Weise and me.

This year I shall issue a list of names and addresses to all Winners as a way of encouraging like-minded young people in different countries to make contact with each other. If any past student would like to re-establish contact, but has lost an address, I shall be happy to supply it.

And finally...

My very grateful thanks to so many people — to parents for entrusting us with their children; to students for adjusting so remarkably well to a completely new experience; to the staff for putting into effect everything that takes so long in preparation, is over so quickly, but remains with all of us for such a long time. May I also say at this point how very much I appreciate all the recommendations from those of you who know us. We rely on these completely. I shall continue to do all I can to make our Courses the best of their kind and one of the most worthwhile experiences it is possible to give to a developing personality.

Ian G. Mucklejohn — Autumn 1982

Vacational Studies

Pepys' Oak Tydehams Newbury Berkshire RG14 6JT England

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Printed in England.

Vacational Studies '82/'83 News-Sheet



Although I am removing the 20p returnable fine for 'English Only', I have decided to introduce a new non-returnable fine of £1 for breaking the chewing gum rule. The money will go to the Red Cross. I decided on this after having walked through my house with a reminder of the reason for the chewing gum rule squashed on the sole of my shoe...

New for 1983 — 17 year-olds

It is now clear to me that there is no problem about accepting a 17 year-old who has been to one of our Courses before if he or she wishes to return in the knowledge that ours is basically a Course for 11 to 16 year-olds. I shall, therefore, accept a limited number at 17 and give 'Veteran' status and a 23.15 bed-time to those who are 16½ and over. 'Veteran' status is a privilege which may be accorded to other students, too, and may also be withdrawn.

New for 1983 — Class 7

My decision to accept some 17 year-olds has given me the opportunity at Mary Hare and Cheam to increase the Course numbers slightly and create a new 'top class' — Class 7 — for the very advanced.

New for 1983 — Inter-School Sports Day

When I was thinking about the coming year's trips, it struck me that I go to great lengths to choose interesting places to visit when I already have them here in Newbury — the other schools. The students often tell me that they are very curious to meet students from the other schools, too. The early idea of inter-school football matches started in 1978 has now developed to include the occasional volleyball and girls' matches. In 1983, therefore, instead of one excursion, there will be a grand 'Sports Day' held at Mary Hare for students from all three schools with a full programme of competitive sports events — football, volleyball, swimming, etc. — so that every student can participate as well as watch. This should be a day to remember! It will also take some organising!

Trips for 1983

Our students' view of England will not be confined to three Schools in Newbury! The other three excursions will be one to London for sightseeing, another to London for shopping and one to Oxford for shopping or sightseeing.

New for 1983 — Shopping Afternoons

This idea comes directly from the students, some of whom felt that they knew Newbury rather too well after four shopping afternoons there. I agree. In 1983, only two of the optional shopping visits will be to Newbury. The others will be to Basingstoke, Hungerford and Marlborough. Basingstoke has an ultra-modern pedestrian-only shopping area with some large department stores. Hungerford and Marlborough are smaller towns with plenty of 'character' — also good for shopping. We shall visit both on the same afternoon and spend an hour at each. On the way back, we shall visit Hawtreys...

New for 1984 (yes!) — A New School

Hawtreys will be included in our 1984 programme — either as a fourth school, or as a replacement for one of our existing schools. It has an absolutely spectacular setting in the middle of Savernake Forest — quite near Newbury — and is a building of considerable architectural interest and superb facilities. We shall return to Newbury from the shopping visit to Marlborough via Hawtreys to show students an example of an English 'stately home' as well as to give them a taste of things to come. The 1984 Course at Hawtreys will be for a maximum of 100 students.

Hawtreys - for 1984

Maybe it is symptomatic of these uncertain times that I feel I must be able to change from one School to another if I cannot negotiate terms which are satisfactory and enable me to offer good value to parents and students. This time, I can give two years' notice of my intentions, but I may not always be able to do so. I realise completely that what is important is the quality of the Courses. Provided a school has good facilities — and all the schools I use have these — it does not really matter which school it is.

Another sign of the times in a different sense is that I feel I must now state on all my literature the warning that my work is 'copyright'. Perhaps I should be flattered by imitation, though!

The Jörg Weise Trophy

The Trophy is awarded at each School to the student who has made the greatest all-round contribution to the Course and is in memory of Jörg Weise, a past student, tragically killed in a

motor-cycle accident in 1979. The 1982 winners are Ed Bergsma (at Mary Hare), Rita Gundersen (at Cheam) and Renato Carrain and Lorenzo Frateschi (at Elstree). Their names are now inscribed on a plaque on the trophy.

Rita (Norway) Winner of the Jörg Weise Trophy at Cheam 1982 just after the announcement, by the Trophy with Jacopo (Italy), the Winner at Cheam 1981



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Ian G. Mucklejohn — Autumn 1981

Vacational Studies

Pepys' Oak Tydehams Newbury Berkshire
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I expect similarly high standards from all the staff, too. This year at Mary Hare, Cheam and Elstree we had David Robertson, Tony Chew and Russell Gardner as Course Managers with Wendy Grumbar, Chris Gallen and Val Ford as Acting Course Managers. I greatly rely on and appreciate their loyalty. I could not have wished for more during the summer. The domestic side of the Courses was ably looked after by Debbie Collins, Lynda Elvin and Shirley Guest. Sports and Social activities were energetically



Mary Hare and Cheam Football Teams 1982

organised by Stuart Hinson, Brian Holden and Nick Swann. I shall not name all the staff, but I am certain they know my feelings.

Catering

After the '81/'82 'News-Sheet' had gone to press, I decided to change caterers. I chose Gardner Merchant, a division of Trusthouse Forte, the hotel group, to supply the service. Each School had a resident Caterer and the whole organisation was tighter than before. The results were better than in past years, although the gastronomic experience I had envisaged did not really happen. I shall work at revised menus for 1983.

One minor change for the coming year is that for the two trips to London and the visit to Oxford, we shall not provide a packed lunch. The Course Fee will reflect the saving we make. The reason for this is that most children take the opportunity on excursions to buy a hamburger and a can of coke. Few of them touch the packed meals.

One small point that has been on my mind for some time is the visible wastage of plastic cups. We throw away over 300 a day at each school! In an age of conservation, this is unacceptable and so the Student Helpers will find that the 'recycling' of these cups is one of their new jobs!

The Telephone

What an improvement! The new 'Telephone Sunday' system worked well, although a few parents miscounted and telephoned on the third Sunday instead of the second. For next year, I shall give two numbers for each school and also suggest that a call at 16.00 is less likely to meet with an engaged signal than is a call at 14.00.

British Council Recognition

As we were last inspected in 1979, we underwent a successful re-inspection this summer for our continuing membership of FELCO. As from 1 April 1982, responsibility for inspections has been taken over by The British Council. We are now 'Recognised as Efficient by The British Council'. I discussed some changes with the Inspectors. The new 'Flexicourse' series of books and cassettes published by Oxford University Press in June 1982, was introduced as an experiment this summer and will be wholly adopted for class use in 1983. We shall continue to use the 'Access to English' series. Also, although the vast majority of staff were well aware of how to encourage their students to gain the greatest benefit from the Courses, I shall issue 'Notes for Teachers' in 1983. To those staff who return year after year, such 'Notes' will not say much that is new, but this summer I felt that one or two of the staff did not understand fully enough what the Course involved, or how to benefit from the opportunities available. As part of the advance preparation for the Courses, it seems sensible to put thoughts, directions and suggestions on paper for permanent reference.



Reunion of the Jorg Weise Trophy Winners - Leverkusen, Easter 1982

New for 1983 — 'English Only Bonus'

The idea of having a raffle for a Sony 'Walkman' was successful. Certainly 'English Only' days were quieter and more English was spoken as the certain loss of the weekly raffle ticket if you were caught acted as an incentive either to speak English, or to say nothing at all. I have decided to concentrate on the positive aspects of 'English Only' in 1983. There will be a 'Walkman' to be won again at each school. Every student will be entitled to a ticket a week if he has used English conscientiously during that week much more than his own language. At the end of the week students will be asked to say if they feel they should be considered for a ticket. The staff will decide collectively on ticket allocations. The 'English Only' days will become 'English Only Bonus' days. Instead of a fine for not speaking English, there will be a bonus of an extra ticket on that day for those who are not caught more than once speaking any language other than English, as long as they have been noticeably using English that day. Again, the staff will decide. I hope this concentration on 'positive thinking' will encourage students to want to build up a good stock of tickets for the Draw at the end.

'Walkman' winners in 1982 were Andrea Holz at Mary Hare, Maurien Cosijn at Cheam and Etienne Petit at Elstree.

Summer '82 remembered

As I put pen to paper for this 'News-Sheet', I am well aware that these few words will say more about my Organisation and will be more closely read by students and parents than my brochure ever will.

Someone said to me once that I should not print a brochure — just publish facsimiles of the nice letters I receive. This year, I should like to reproduce a few comments from some of the many letters which make me realise that what I started twelve years ago as something nice to do in the summer has turned into a real event in children's lives. 'You can't realise how many of us spend all year living for these four weeks in the summer', I was told this year. I think I do realise....:—'Every year after a month there, I feel so empty the first days at home. I don't think there are any places with such a good atmosphere among people. I can't imagine a summer without spending a month there. This School is now a piece of my heart'. 'Here I am after being home for two days, two days of sadness. I dropped more tears than ever'. One boy 'was homesick the other-way-round for a week after he got back'.

Wonderful letters; marvellous sentiments! For the staff, too, the memories linger:— 'Vivid pictures come flashing back of those never-to-be forgotten moments — G.... with tears in his eyes at the concert; H.... and D.... hugging each other when the Blues won the football competition; C....'s delight at finally mastering the Third Conditional; E.... and H.... making polite conversation about the weather at English Tea and holding hands under the table; a transformed A.... freaking-out at the Fancy Dress Disco; the spontaneous applause when 'Mr. Mucklejohn' triumphed over Socrates. Neil Armstrong and Joan of Arc (in the 'balloon' debate); the ecstatic expression on R....'s face when he won the Jörg Weise Trophy; Class 5 choking back sobs singing 'Leaving on a Jet Plane'; O.... bursting into tears on my shoulder when the first coach was leaving...

For those who are not part of it, it may be difficult to understand the intensity of the experience, but it is there and it is real. Another member of staff wrote:— 'The atmosphere.... was absolutely unforgettable and was something I have never experienced before'. I am very fortunate to be able to experience it three times a year — and very sad when it is all over.

I hope the authors of the above pieces will not mind my quoting them. They convey more accurately than my words ever could the essence of the Courses.

Outside the Bayer
Factory in
Leverkusen - taking
no chances....



1

1982 was an excellent year and while there were plenty of clouds in the sky, there were few in our hearts. The great change to Mary Hare was more successful than I had dared hope. The students responded very well to a large, spread-out campus and kept the Course together in spite of the separated buildings. The size of Mary Hare will prove an advantage on one day in 1983 — as I shall mention later. The children rapidly transferred their loyalty to this new school and I can still remember the strains of the 'Mary Hare Calypso' which broke out at odd moments during the last few days. Mary Hare is a school for deaf children and our students left a card with their names and addresses and invitations to write. With so much good-will on our side, I am surprised that the Governors' reaction to our stay was not more positive — as it is at Cheam and Elstree. Nevertheless, I decided to re-negotiate for 1983.

We have become very firmly established at Cheam and Elstree after so many years. Tony Chew, the Course Manager at Cheam, has a complete understanding of what the Course is all about and once again the superb atmosphere that has become so much a part of the Cheam Course was recreated —

encapsulated for me in the way the entire Course erupted into spontaneous chanting on Benedicte's birthday, taking the lead from Jan Kees in an almost empathetic unison. The traditional Inter-School boys' football match between Cheam and Mary Hare, played this time at Cheam, resulted in a satisfactory 1-1 draw. Informal sports contacts between the two schools were continued with girls' football and volleyball matches.

The Elstree Course, too, is developing its own personality. Particularly noticeable this year was a very structured sports/social programme which involved everybody in almost every activity. Our new Student Helper, Matteo Marini, gave a very positive lead in all he did. The Elstree spirit really showed through at the Swimming Gala when competitors put on a 'stiff upper lip' and coped with everything that the worst of British weather could throw down on them in a determined performance of 'Swimming in the Rain'.

The quality of the students we have must be unsurpassed by any other organisation. Indeed, as I watched another group of students waiting for hours at Heathrow for a delayed flight, I could not help noticing the contrast with our own students. Ours have a certain 'style' and it is clear that they are from backgrounds which are enlightened in the broadest sense. I like to think that the communal, international experience in the summer helps to give direction to their developing awareness. I am sure it does — and it shows.

This is why I react so strongly when I come across attitudes which run counter to tolerance and the community spirit. It was only one person's ignorance that caused me to impose the sanctions at Elstree that, among other things, prevented the Inter-School matches there. I made my point though and helped set a standard for the future. Young people need and expect clear guidelines and can have enormous freedom within them. The limits must be there, though, and must be restated if necessary. I know I have the support of parents in demanding high standards from our students.

2

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Mary Hare and

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3