



# Vacational Studies '84

English internationally...



## Residential English Language Courses

Vacational Studies Courses have been running for 13 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 1984.

## 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. We also accept a small number of students at 17 - normally only 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 1984 our Courses are at four Schools near Newbury - The Mary Hare School, Cheam School, Elstree School and Hawtreys. Newbury is in a pleasant part of southern England amid the hills of the Berkshire Downs in a rural area well known for race-horse training. Newbury is a small market town 70km. west of London and 45km. south of Oxford. Our four School buildings are among the finest in the area.

## The Mary Hare School

The Mary Hare School is a large mid-nineteenth century manor

## 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 planned maximum of 95 students will be accepted.

## 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 planned maximum of 85 students will be accepted.

## Hawtreys

Hawtreys is our new Course for 1984. The School is an impressive mid-nineteenth century Stately Home owned by the Marquess of Ailesbury, set in 55 acres of grounds with playing fields, gardens, woodland and open spaces. The classrooms are contained within the main building. The Course at Hawtreys is designed to be a smaller community than at the other three Schools. A planned maximum of 50 students will be accepted.

## 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, Elstree and Hawtreys 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

8 July - 5 August 1984

### Cheam

19 July - 16 August 1984

### Elstree

22 July - 19 August 1984

### Hawtreys

25 July - 22 August 1984

(Please see section on 'Travel')

re-inspections.

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### 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 planned maximum of 100 students will be accepted.

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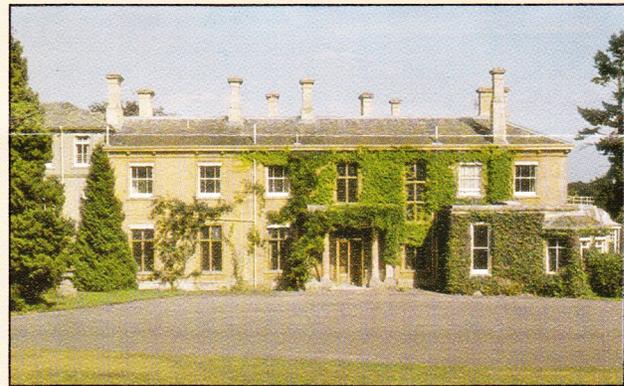
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(Please see section on 'Travel')



Hawtreys



Part of Mary Hare - The Manor House



Elstree

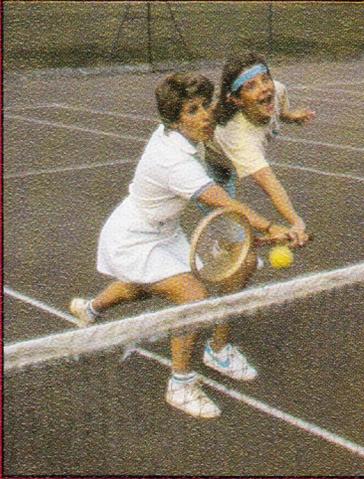


Cheam

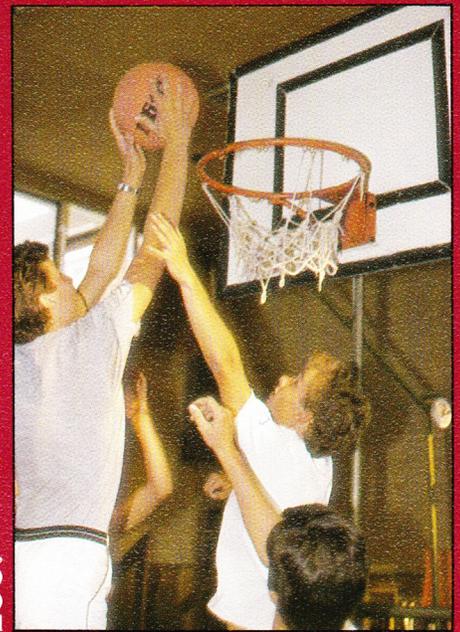
The gardens at Hawtreys



Jane trying to teach Sabine (Belgium) tennis



Peter (Germany), Philippe (Netherlands) and Maxi (Italy) playing basketball



### The Teaching

A staff of qualified, professional teachers, experienced in the teaching of English as a foreign language give 4 classes, each of 45 minutes, every day except Sunday and the weekly excursion day. In addition, there is a supervised 30 minute study period each afternoon. Classes are graded according to age and ability in English. Students are placed first in an 'assessment group', then in what we consider to be the correct teaching group. Class placements are constantly reviewed and students may be moved to more or less advanced classes, according to their performance. The teacher:student ratio is approximately 1:13. We provide all books and teaching materials. The teaching is by 'direct method'. Both oral and written English are taught and there is an emphasis on conversation practice. Some 'technical' vocabulary is covered in the more advanced classes. Textbooks used are:- 'Access to English' by Coles and Lord; 'Streamline English' by Hartley and Viney; 'Flexicourse' by Hills and Lewis.

### 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, padder tennis, swimming, etc. Competitions run throughout the Course. There is also a 4-School 'Sports Day' when all four Schools meet for friendly competitions in 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, optional 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/sightseeing excursions to London and Bath, there is an optional shopping afternoon each week. In 1984, there will be shopping afternoons in Newbury, Basingstoke (a modern town 30km. south of Newbury), Oxford (the famous University city where students may also like to see the colleges) and Winchester (the well-known Cathedral city where students may also wish to sightsee). All these towns are very pleasant and 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

teacher, to see various interesting parts of the capital. The other will be for shopping or sightseeing or a combination of both. As far as possible, students will be able to choose for themselves what they see and do in London. Students will also visit Bath (the famous Roman city in the West of England) for 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 1984 and students will be able to select from a choice of two hot meals or a mixed salad bar. Fresh fruit and vegetables are always included. Cold orange juice is available at all times. A typical day's menu is:

#### Breakfast:

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

#### Lunch:

- Fried plaice garni with chipped potatoes and tomatoes or
- Chicken with mashed potatoes and sweetcorn or
- Salad bar
- Yoghurt and fresh fruit

#### Evening meal:

- Roast lamb or steak and kidney pie with
- Roast potatoes, carrots and peas or
- Salad bar
- Apple and honey pudding or
- Cheese and biscuits

#### Before bedtime:

- Hot chocolate and biscuits

At times throughout 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.)

An innovation for 1984 will be 'national meals'. The students from each nationality will be invited to help the kitchen staff prepare and serve a meal consisting of dishes from their own country.

### A Typical Day

08.30	Breakfast
09.00	First class
09.45	Break
09.55	Second class
10.40	Break
11.10	Third class
11.55	Break

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

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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, optional 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/sightseeing excursions to London and Bath, there is an optional shopping afternoon each week. In 1984, there will be shopping afternoons in Newbury, Basingstoke (a modern town 30km. south of Newbury), Oxford (the famous University city where students may also like to see the colleges) and Winchester (the well-known Cathedral city where students may also wish to sightsee). All these towns are very pleasant and 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.

### 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.

### 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 1984, there will be two excursions to London. One will be for sightseeing where the students will be in small groups, each with a

meals or a mixed salad bar. Fresh fruit and vegetables are always included. Cold orange juice is available at all times. A typical day's menu is:

#### Breakfast:

Choice of cereal  
Hot rolls and butter  
Marmalade and jam  
Tea or coffee

#### Lunch:

Fried plaice garni with chipped potatoes and tomatoes or  
Chicken with mashed potatoes and sweetcorn or  
Salad bar  
Yoghurt and fresh fruit

#### Evening meal:

Roast lamb or steak and kidney pie with  
Roast potatoes, carrots and peas or  
Salad bar  
Apple and honey pudding or  
Cheese and biscuits

#### Before bedtime:

Hot chocolate and biscuits

At times throughout 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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11.10	Third class
11.55	Break
12.05	Fourth class
12.50	Break
13.00	Lunch
13.45	Supervised Study
14.15	Break
14.45	Organised sports and games
18.00	Evening meal
19.00	Games, films, etc.
21.00	Hot chocolate and biscuits
21.30	Bedtime 'Juniors' ( 'Seniors' have their own 'Club' )
22.45	Bedtime 'Seniors'

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

Pocket Money and stamps are obtainable from the Office every day from 13.20 - 13.45 and 14.15 - 14.45.

### Residential accommodation

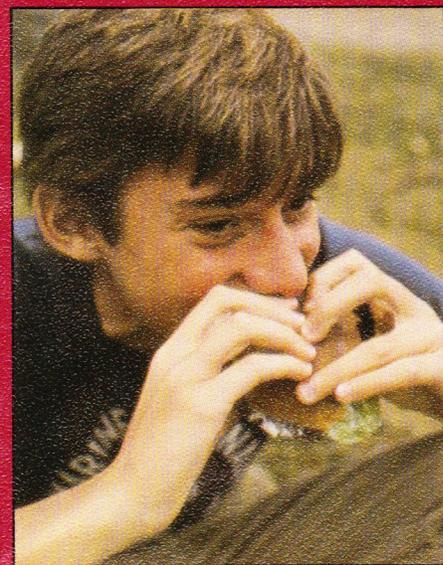
At all Schools the children sleep in dormitories. The girls are in one part of the house, the boys in another. The accommodation is comfortable and roomy. Bed linen is provided by us.

### Health

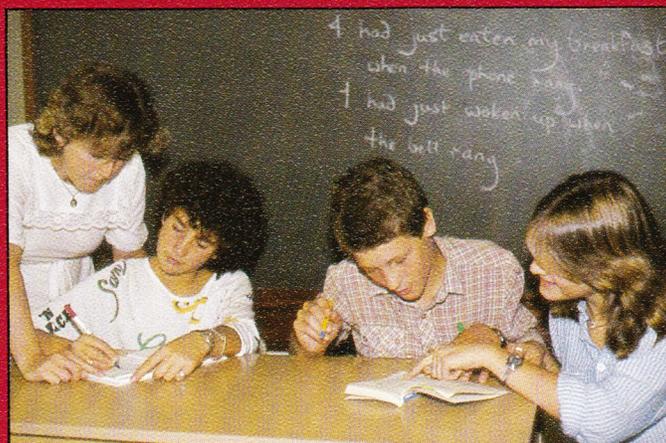
Minor illnesses are treated by our own staff. There is a Matron with a special surgery/sick room in each School. We also use the services of doctors in the locality. We ask parents to give us full health information on the Application Form.

### Insurance

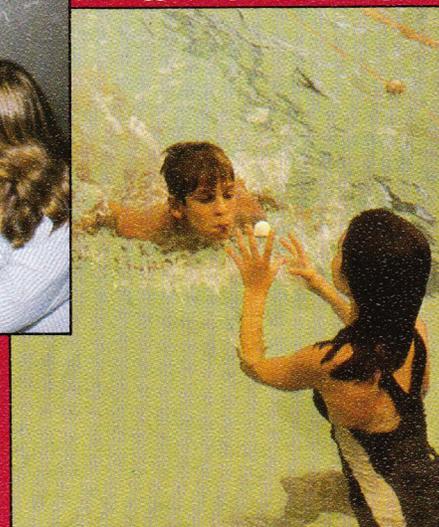
Every student is now covered by a special Insurance Policy underwritten by Lloyds. Full details are on the enclosed information sheet. Briefly, the Insurance includes refund of full Course Fees if certified serious illness or accident during the month before the Course prevents attendance on the Course; private medical



Alejandro (Spain)  
at the Barbecue



Magali (Monaco), Sander (Netherlands) and Christina  
(Switzerland) with Vanessa in class



Ekrem (Turkey) and  
Angela (Greece) in the  
'egg-and-spoon' swimming race

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.

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 is practicable, both in the School and on excursions. Our total staff: student ratio of about 1:8 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 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.

during the week. Throughout the Course there will also be 'English Only Bonus' days. If a student is noticeably using 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 Scholarship in 1985 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\*
- tuition
- the sports programme
- the use of facilities
- excursions and one basic entrance fee
- comprehensive insurance
- the laundering of clothes
- (\*except lunch on the visits to London and Bath).

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### **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.

### **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, 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 '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

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### **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.

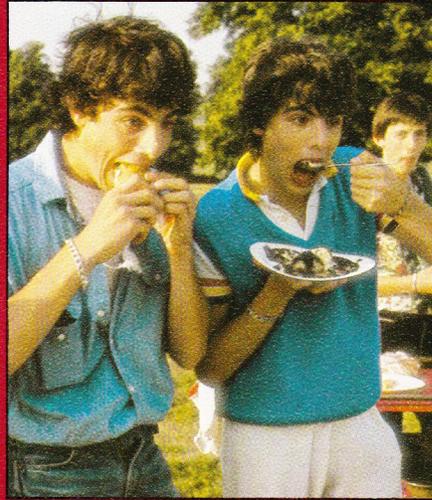
### **Travel**

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



**Tilman (Germany), Jan Fredrik (Norway), Ingeborg (Norway) and Robert (Sweden) playing volleyball**

**Cecilia (Italy) 'wellie-wanging' while Gaelle (Monaco) and Mafalda (Portugal) look on**



**Franck, Stephane and Jean-Marie (Monaco) at the 'd jeuner sur l'herbe'**

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 Travel 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

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) (Mornings, please).

### **Hawtreys**

From London, follow M4 to Exit 14 (Hungerford/Wantage). Take A338 to Hungerford, then turn right onto A4, through Hungerford and through Froxfield. 5km. past Froxfield, turn left at signpost 'Burbage 5'. Follow this road for 5km. and turn right at signpost 'Savernake/Burbage'. Continue for 2km. and turn left over cattle grid at sign 'Tottenham House'. Hawtreys is at the end of the drive.

Address for students' letters:

Hawtreys  
 Vacational Studies Course  
 Savernake Forest  
 Marlborough Wiltshire SN8 3BA  
 Telephone (to contact Course Manager only):  
 Marlborough 870331 (STD code 0672) (Mornings, please).

By train from London, leave from Paddington Station. For Mary Hare and Cheam, arrive at Newbury Station. For Elstree, arrive at Reading Station. For Hawtreys, arrive at Pewsey Station. There are normally taxis at Newbury Station, if not you will find telephone numbers in the telephone box just outside the Station. There are always taxis at Reading Station. At Pewsey Station, you must telephone for a taxi.

The telephone numbers and addresses given above are **only for use during the Course** and only the Course Manager can be obtained on them. During the rest of the year, please use our Newbury Office address and telephone number below.

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

Finally:

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.

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### **Pocket money**

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### **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.

### **On the first day**

Each new student will be allocated to a returning student who will act as a 'guide', explaining the layout of the building, the way the Course runs and answering any questions.

### **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).

#### **Cheam School**

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

Row' signpost. Elstree School is 1km. along this road on the right.  
Addresses for students' letters:  
Elstree School  
Vacational Studies Course  
Woolhampton Reading RG7 5TD.  
Telephone (to contact Course Manager only):  
Woolhampton 2725 (STD code 073521) (Mornings, please).

#### **Hawtreys**

From London, follow M4 to Exit 14 (Hungerford/Wantage). Take A338 to Hungerford, then turn right onto A4, through Hungerford and through Froxfield. 5km. past Froxfield, turn left at signpost 'Burbage 5'. Follow this road for 5km. and turn right at signpost 'Savernake/Burbage'. Continue for 2km. and turn left over cattle grid at sign 'Tottenham House'. Hawtreys is at the end of the drive.

Addresses for students' letters:  
Hawtreys  
Vacational Studies Course  
Savernake Forest  
Marlborough Wiltshire SN8 3BA  
Telephone (to contact Course Manager only):  
Marlborough 870331 (STD code 0672) (Mornings, please).

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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.



## **Vacational Studies**

Peyps' Oak Tydehams Newbury Berkshire RG14 6JT  
Telephone: Newbury 41867 (STD code 0635)  
Telegrams: Vacstuds, Newbury, Berkshire.  
Telex: 848507 (Attn: VACS)



...shopping the students want to do and the 3 we think they ought to do, was well-received, some parents tell me they would prefer their children to ore and shop less. I really do not think it is incumbent y, in a few weeks, to divert children away from n towards a more aesthetic appreciation of the world m, although we shall encourage this as far as we can. the main excursions will be one for sightseeing in id two for shopping or sightseeing or both in London . As far as possible, we shall let the students choose want to see. Once again, the fourth excursion will be four-School Sports Day at Mary Hare.

**afternoons for 1984**

the students liked the idea of optional shopping in different towns. Basingstoke, with its large stores rian-only areas, proved especially popular. For 1984, l shopping afternoon idea has been developed further mprise visits to Newbury, Basingstoke, Oxford and r. Students may, of course, prefer to sightsee in d Winchester. It's up to them.

**Course for 1984 - Hawtreys**

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**Weise Trophy**

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...and finally, me!  
(Mary Hare '82,  
courtesy of Franck  
Lobono)

motor-cycle accident in 1979. The 1983 winners are Petra Thomas (at Mary Hare), Nina Wahistrøm (at Cheam) and Peter Kiennast and Carlos Mancelos (at Elstree). Their names are now inscribed on a plaque on the Trophy.

**The Jörg Weise Trophy Winners' Reunion - Leverkusen, Easter 1983**

It was wonderful to see so many of the Trophy Winners again in Leverkusen at Prof. Dr. Weise's kind invitation. We had a very full weekend programme, including a visit to Wuppertal where we rode in the Kaiser's own monorail carriage and a journey down the Rhine from Koblenz to Rudesheim. The conversation never stopped! In the picture, from left to right are - Maren Weise, Rita Gundersen, Prof. Dr. Weise, me, Jan Kees Mol, Manolis Houppis, Jesus Silva, Marjoleine Jonkman, Renato Carrain, Jacopo Gasparetto, George Houppis, Frau Weise, Victor Alberola, Matteo Marini and Lutz Weise.

**And finally...**

This 'News-Sheet' was written just after a visit to Venice where, quite by chance, I met one of our students from Elstree '79 on an inter-rail journey from his home in Lisbon through Europe, visiting his friends from our Course four years ago. I returned to read letters from students telling me that there had already been two reunions in the Netherlands, another is planned in Southern Germany and yet another in Venice.

The Courses really do bring people together, crossing national frontiers and cultural differences. Students who enter fully into the spirit of the Course gain more, far more, from the experience than an increased knowledge of English. They make contacts which can open up all sorts of possibilities. I am privileged to be instrumental in this. If any parents or students need a contact in Britain, I hope they will let me know.

My thanks to everyone connected with the Courses for continuing to make them so worthwhile. I greatly appreciate the confidence parents place in us by entrusting their children to our care. We rely completely on our reputation and value most highly the recommendations from those of you who know our Courses. Our clients are the only advertisement we have and the only one we wish to have.

Ian G. Mucklejohn - Autumn 1983

**Vacational Studies**

Pepys' Oak Tydehams Newbury Berkshire RG14 6JT England

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Printed in England

# Vacational Studies '83/'84

## News-Sheet



Cheam '83



Mary Hare '83



Elstree '83



The Trophy Winners' Reunion, Easter 1983, on the Rhine at Rüdesheim

on the whole, uninspired. Yet again, I shall be working on this before the 1984 Courses and shall be discussing an 'on-the-job' training programme for the catering staff. I have already mentioned the idea of 'national meals' and I hope parents will give their children some ideas.

#### Veterans

The experiment of accepting a number of 17 year-olds - mainly those who have been with us before - was generally successful and will be continued. These older students are welcome to help where they can see they would be useful. It is clear, though, that some 17 year-olds return to us having grown-up in the intervening year more than they imagined. The later bed-time for Veterans, however, gave the duty staff too much extra work and will be dropped. Instead, I have made the senior bedtime 15 minutes later.

#### Rules

We appreciate the support parents give us in enforcing the 'Rules'. Our students are, in general, exceptionally well-behaved and few sanctions are needed. Next year, though, the 'first warning' will involve more than just notification to parents. Details will be in the revised 'Notes for Parents' and 'Notes for Students'.

#### New for 1984 - First Day Helpers

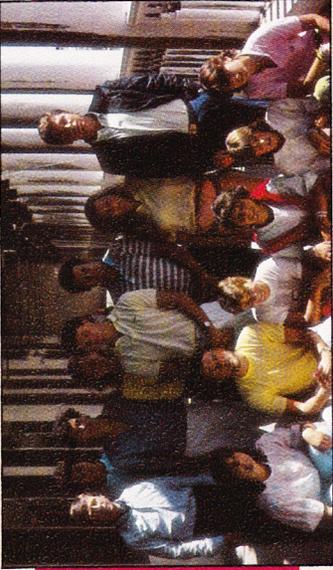
I realise that the 'Notes' which I send out before the Course cannot cover everything and that some new students may be overwhelmed by the newness of the situation when they arrive. I shall, therefore, allocate each newcomer a returning student for the first day to show him or her around and answer any questions that may arise. This should also encourage integration.

#### Changed timetable for 1984

All four lessons will be in the morning and there will be a 09.00 start instead of 09.15. Students - and staff! - are more receptive in the morning, so the afternoon lesson has been brought forward to before lunch. Immediately after lunch, there will be a new 'Supervised Study' period of 30 minutes in the classroom with the teacher present to answer questions. Afternoon activities will be timetable to start at 14.45, so this allows for two pocket money sessions every day which should mean less queuing.

#### Excursions for 1984

The excursion programme revised for 1983 as a compromise



Reunion in Venice, September 1983, at the Palazzo Ducale

between the shopping the students want to do and the sightseeing we think they ought to do, was well-received, although some parents tell me they would prefer their children to sightsee more and shop less. I really do not think it is incumbent on us to try, in a few weeks, to divert children away from materialism towards a more aesthetic appreciation of the world around them, although we shall encourage this as far as we can. For 1984, the main excursions will be one for sightseeing in London and two for shopping or sightseeing or both in London and in Bath. As far as possible, we shall let the students choose what they want to see. Once again, the fourth excursion will be the grand four-School Sports Day at Mary Hare.

#### Shopping afternoons for 1984

This year, the students liked the idea of optional shopping afternoons in different towns. Basingstoke, with its large stores and pedestrian-only areas, proved especially popular. For 1984, the optional shopping afternoon idea has been developed further and will comprise visits to Newbury, Basingstoke, Oxford and Winchester. Students may, of course, prefer to sightsee in Oxford and Winchester. It's up to them.

#### The new Course for 1984 - Hawtreys

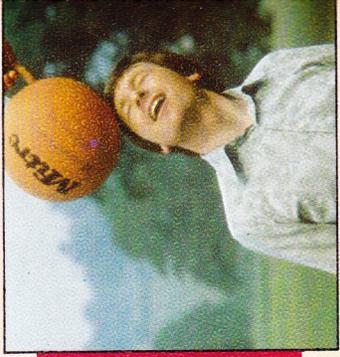
As promised in last year's 'News-Sheet', the Course at Hawtreys is included on our 1984 programme as a fourth School. This will be an experimental Course - much smaller than the other three - with a planned maximum of 50 students. The format of the Course will be identical to the others in all respects. Hawtreys is an absolutely beautiful building - a real 'Stately Home' - and is very self-contained. It appears large as all the classrooms are in the main building, whereas at the other Schools all the teaching rooms are separate. The setting is delightful, too - in the middle of Savernake Forest - about 25 minutes away from Newbury.

#### For 1985...

To keep our Fees reasonable, we may decide not to re-negotiate with one of our existing Schools, but change to another. The one I have in mind, needless to say, is an excellent building and, like all the Schools, not far from Newbury. If we decide to change, I shall give full details in our 1985 brochure.

#### 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 1983 Thomas (at Mary Hare), Nina Wahlström Kienast and Carlos Mancelos (at Eilstrup) inscribed on a plaque on the Trophy.

#### The Jörg Weise Trophy Winners' Easter 1983

It was wonderful to see so many of the Leverkusen at Prof. Dr. Weise's kind full weekend programme, including a we rode in the Kaiser's own motorcar down the Rhine from Koblenz to Rüdiger never stopped! In the picture, from left to right: Rita Gundersen, Prof. Dr. Weise, Manolis Houpis, Jesus Silva, Marjolein Carrain, Jacopo Gasparetto, George Victor Alberola, Matteo Marini and I.

#### And finally...

This 'News-Sheet' was written just after quite by chance, I met one of our students on an inter-rail journey from his home in Lincolnshire to visit his friends from our Course for the first time. I received letters from students telling me that they had had two reunions in the Netherlands, another in Germany and yet another in Venice.

The Courses really do bring people together from different frontiers and cultural differences. Students from all over the world, in the spirit of the Course gain more, far more than an increased knowledge of English, which can open up all sorts of possibilities for the future. It is so instrumental in this. If any parents or students in Britain, I hope they will let me know.

My thanks to everyone connected with the Courses for continuing to make them so worthwhile. I hope that confidence parents place in us by entrusting their children to our care. We rely completely on our parents and highly the recommendations from the Courses. Our clients are the only advantage we have. Only one we wish to have.

Ian G. Mucklejohn - Autumn 1983

#### Vacational Studies

Pepys' Oak, Tydehams, Newbury, Berkshire, RG11 1AA

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ism whenever the heat brought lethargy on. Our Social Organisers deserve full marks for their efforts. They all kept up a cracking pace.

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Rita (Norway), Ed (Netherlands) and Jacopo (Italy) - Trophy Winners in 1982 - with Nina (Norway) - Winner of the Jörg Weise Trophy at Cheam '83

Petra (Spain) - Winner of the Jörg Weise Trophy at Mary Hare '83

Courses. The cover photo on the brochure was taken on Sports Day and gives an idea of the tremendous enthusiasm the children showed. I must say that I had thought I would find the sight of all 300 of my students gathered together somewhat daunting, but this proved not to be the case. It was great fun and will be repeated in 1984. I hope I shall pick a fine day. This time, I managed to choose one of the few wet ones, although fortunately the sun broke through.

The Mary Hare students were an amazing group. Some were real 'old timers' on their sixth or seventh visits to us and so they knew well how to get the most out of the Course. The new students were swept along with the enthusiasm and adjusted quickly and well. The momentum the Course developed was largely self-generated, helped by the very well-organised sports and social programme Stuart Hinson devised. Staff teamwork was unimpressive, but the basic structure has become so well-established that it was, in fact, a very successful Course. An innovation, which will be included on the 1984 programme, was the idea of 'national meals'. The various dishes from different countries that appeared in the International Barbecue were so popular that this was soon followed by a complete evening meal prepared and served by the Italians - who discovered the pitfalls involved in catering for 100+ people. Undaunted, the French and Monegasques prepared a 'déjeuner sur l'herbe' towards the end of the Course. What helped make these meals so successful was the determination of the other students that something their friends had prepared should succeed. In 1984, all the national groups at all the Schools will be invited to prepare a meal each - with the help of the kitchen staff, of course. Some may like to bring ideas and ingredients over with them when they come. My thanks to the Course Manager, David Hatfull, for all his hard work and to the Student Helpers, Victor Alberola and Fernando Silva. The domestic side was again in the capable hands of Debbie Charlesworth.

The 'togetherness' of the Cheam atmosphere was remarkable this year. There was an active and participatory staff who worked very hard under the capable leadership of Tony Chew, now in his fourth year as Course Manager at Cheam. The sports



Matteo (Italy) and Renato (Italy) - Trophy Winners in 1981 and 1982 - with Ed and Jacopo and the two Jörg Weise Trophy Winners at Elstree '83 - Peter (Germany) and Carlos (Portugal)

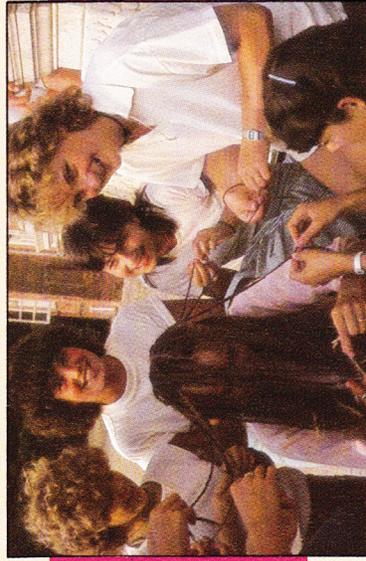
and social programme was very varied - one of the great successes being the 'Garden Fete' which included wet sponge-throwing, teacher dousing, wellie-wanging (seeing how far you can throw a wellington boot), as well as more conventional activities. The 'Pub Games' evening was again included, as was a very popular international folk-singing concert. Here, too, there was a national meal with the Italians showing what they could do. It was excellent! With such positive attitudes all round, not even the dramas in the kitchen could cloud the Course. Student Helpers this year were Ed Bergsma and Jacopo Gasparetto who were a great help to the Sports and Social Organiser, Mike Kidd. Lynda Elvin looked after the domestic side again with her customary efficiency.

Elstree this year had its best-ever international mixture, so that northern Europe was represented in greater strength than before. It also proved to be quite a magnet for returning students, several of whom dropped in. With such an active group of students and two energetic student helpers - Matteo Marini and Renato Carrain - the Course 'took off' from the start, developing a strong personality and inspiring keen loyalty among the students. One of my lasting memories of Elstree, and indeed one of the most enjoyable evenings I have experienced, was an impromptu aerobics 'workout' on the front lawn which, by the time night fell, had become a spontaneous mass disco-dance-cum-gymnastic display with music from my car stereo and lighting from the hazard flashers. The new Course Manager this year was Brian Holden, formerly the Sports and Social Organiser at Cheam, who gave a positive lead to a staff who needed direction. His very British sense of humour will, I am sure, be remembered by the students. Sports and Social Organisers were Nick Swann and Russell Gardner. Once again, Shirley Guest did great work as Matron.

The 'Walkman' Raffle retains its popularity and is, I think, a useful incentive. Clear guidelines are needed on how the system is to be operated. These will be provided. 1983 'Walkman' winners were Marie-Christine Schoordijk (at Mary Hare), Richard Bannmüller (at Cheam) and Christian Escher (at Elstree).

### Catering

The catering had its dramatic moments, although the food was,



Eve (Greece), Marina (Greece), Sanja (Yugoslavia) and Catrin (Germany) preparing Maurien (Netherlands) for the fancy-dress disco

What Hiram (Italy) was doing on 'Telephone Sunday' and he wasn't the only one...

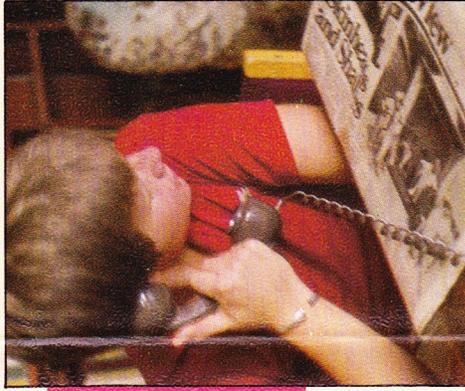
I thought this year that I would try to include everyone - students and staff - so, if you were on the 1983 Courses, take a close look... 'But, Mr. Mucklejohn, how do you manage to take a perfectly normal child away from his home, family, friends and everything he knows and loves, put him in a School in a strange country during his holidays and return him, in tears, four weeks later, counting the days until he can again leave his family? This was the question put to me by a parent who came to visit. The honest answer is that I just do not know. There is magic there somewhere, but I have yet to work out where the magic is.

'When we picked him up at the Airport, the first thing he told us was that he was sad to be back at home and not at...', a parent wrote after the Course and, indeed, it seems that yet again our students did not want to leave us. At the Schools, the tears flowed on the last day. At Cheam, we were treated to an unparalleled display of emotion with the tears starting a full 12 hours before anyone left. At Elstree, a student had to be carried, protesting, to the bus. The Mary Hare farewells continued through to the Departure Lounge at Heathrow Airport. So, we clearly had three good Courses this summer!

This 'News-Sheet' has become the end-of-Course speech that, for reasons of language, I feel unable to give. Although most of the students at the end of the four weeks would be able to understand most of what was said, I prefer this more permanent summing-up of the year's work and send a copy to everyone connected with the Courses. As each year is a fresh start, I can be more frank in my comments, more analytical in my observations and effect changes based on lessons learned in a way that few other Directors can. I propose to take full advantage of this privilege.

### Summer '83 remembered

It was a hot and sticky summer - the hottest since 1976. Even the Mediterraneans protested at our peculiar British brand of humidity that strikes like a warm, wet wave. The heat continued day after day; the grass cooked to a golden brown; the leaves shrivelled on the trees. It was, of course, too much of a good thing and placed particular strains on the staff who had to whip



up enthusiasm whenever the heat brought lethargy on. Our Sports and Social Organisers deserve full marks for their efforts in this direction. They all kept up a cracking pace.

This summer was notable for the really first-class students we had at all the Schools. They were generally spirited, good-humoured and had a good idea of what the Course was all about. There were very few exceptions. From the letters I have received since sending out the final reports, it is clear that even some of the students who we thought had gained little, had benefited more than we realised - it was just that with so many extrovert students around, their progress was not so evident. It was nonetheless real.

The three Courses this year with similar numbers of students, a similar range of nationalities and the same weather, gave me the opportunity that I have not had before to do a comparative analysis, the results of which will be incorporated into future Courses. What emerged clearly was the very important rôle of the staff. What turns a 'good' Course into a 'great' one is the active participation of the staff in the extra-curricular activities - and just chatting to students around the School. This was especially noticeable on the Cheam Course and, indeed, one of the comments in a student's letter to me was, 'It was a great year. We were all together'. When the staff integrate with the students, there is far less likelihood of the students grouping together into nationalities, or at least something can be done if they try. It is all a matter of staff teamwork. Together with the students, they create the all-important 'atmosphere' that we are so famous for. When I see what a 'great' Course is, I am not content with a 'good' Course, however excellent that 'good' may be. Where the teamwork has not worked, I shall change the team. All the 1984 teams will have very clear directives.

One of the notable successes of the summer was the three-School Sports Day held at Mary Hare. The competitions were keen and, on the whole, good sportsmanship was shown. It does not matter which School won; the object of the Day was to bring the students together to have fun, to cheer on their teams and to give them the opportunity to meet students from the other



Petra (Spain) - Winner of the Jörg Weise Trophy at Mary Hare '83



Rita (Norway), Ed (Netherlands) in 1982 - with Nina (Netherlands)

Courses. The cover photo on the *Day* and gives an idea of the tremendous show. I must say that I had thought 300 of my students gathered together this proved not to be the case. It was repeated in 1984. I hope I shall pick managed to choose one of the few, unfortunately the sun broke through. The Mary Hare students were an real 'old timers' on their sixth or seventh knew well how to get the most out of students were swept along with the quickly and well. The momentum largely self-generated, helped by the and social programme Stuart Hime was unimpressive, but the basic established that it was, in fact, a innovation, which will be included the idea of 'national meals'. The countries that appeared in the *International* popular that this was soon followed prepared and served by the Italian involved in catering for 100+ people. Monegasques prepared a 'dèjeune' of the Course. What helped make the determination of the other students friends had prepared should succeed groups at all the Schools will be invited with the help of the kitchen staff, bring ideas and ingredients over with thanks to the Course Manager, D work and to the Student Helpers, Silvia. The domestic side was again Debbie Charlesworth. The 'togetherness' of the Cheam this year. There was an active an worked very hard under the capable now in his fourth year as Course M