

## **ANNEX G THE DAVID RICKARDS BUILDING -THE SCIENCE BLOCK**

### OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE "DAVID RICKARDS BUILDING"

AT WELBECK COLLEGE, ON 5TH NOVEMBER, 1970

There will be a short speech by Ian Gilmour, Esq., M.P., the Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Army, who is Chairman of the Board of Governors of Welbeck College. Mr. Gilmour has been Conservative Member of Parliament for Central Norfolk since 1962. Prior to that he was, for five years, Editor of the "Spectator". He was educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford. He was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards towards the end of the War. He was called to the Bar in 1952.

A plaque will be unveiled by Rear Admiral Sherbrooke, V.C., C.B., D.S.O., the Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire. Admiral Sherbrooke was awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry when commanding the destroyer "Onslow". In December 1942 he was heavily engaged with a superior force of the German High Seas Fleet whilst escorting a convoy to Russia. Though severely wounded and despite the loss of an eye, he continued to fight his ship and personally to direct operations.

The plaque shows that the New Building is named after David A. Rickards, Esq., C.B.E., M.A., the Headmaster of Welbeck since 1953, when the College was opened.

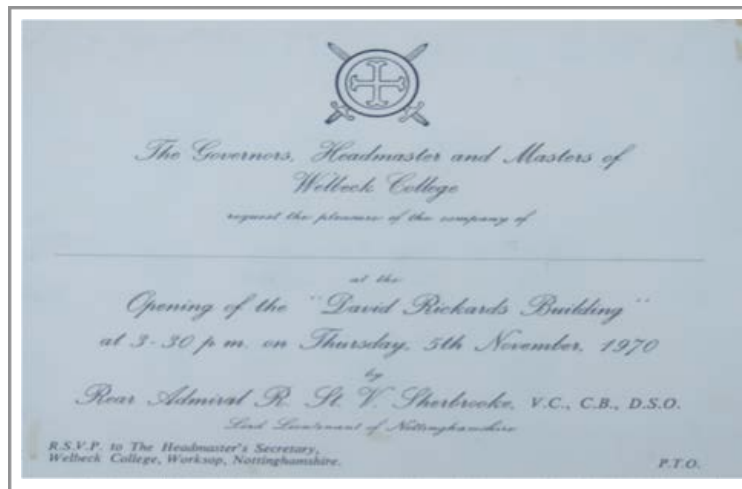
Mr. Rickards was educated at Sedbergh School and Pembroke College, Cambridge. He was an assistant master at Blundell's School, Tiverton before the Second World War. During that War he served in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment until appointed Staff Captain of the 3rd Infantry Brigade. After training at the Staff College, Camberley, he spent nearly a year on the Staff of Second Army H.Q. helping to plan the invasion of the Normandy Beaches. He ended the war as a Lieut. Colonel Instructor at the Staff College.

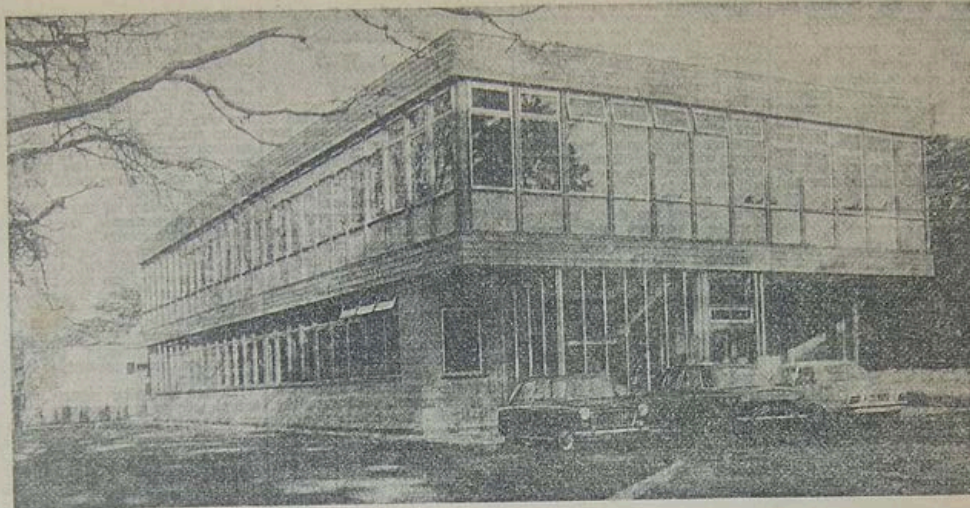
In 1946 he returned to Blundell's School as a Housemaster and remained there until he took up his present appointment. He was created a C.B.E. in 1960.

He got a Blue at Cambridge for running and his hobbies are Sailing and Shooting.

Amongst those expected to be present are Their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Portland, from whom the War Department rent the College; General Sir John Mogg the Adjutant General, who is also Vice Chairman of the Welbeck Board of Governors; most of the members of the Governing Body; Lieut. General Sir Cecil Blacker, G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command; Major General D. A. H. Toler, G.O.C. East Midland District; S. Page, Esq., of the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works, who was responsible for the design of the new buildings, together with his team of architects and other members of the Ministry who were concerned with the building; representatives of Messrs. Pinnigans of Sheffield, who were the main contractors, together with the Staff and boys of the College.

The new buildings comprise a science block with four demonstration class rooms, three laboratories for practical work together with all the usual ancillary rooms. There is also a new dining hall and kitchens.





GUARDIAN PHOTO—299/12

A view of the new science laboratory which was officially opened at Welbeck College yesterday week.

Y. Post

## Minister's tribute to Army college

Yorkshire Post Correspondent

A NEW £145,000 science block at Welbeck College, Notts, the Army's public school, was officially opened yesterday by Rear-Adml. Sherbrooke, VC, the Lord Lieutenant of the county.

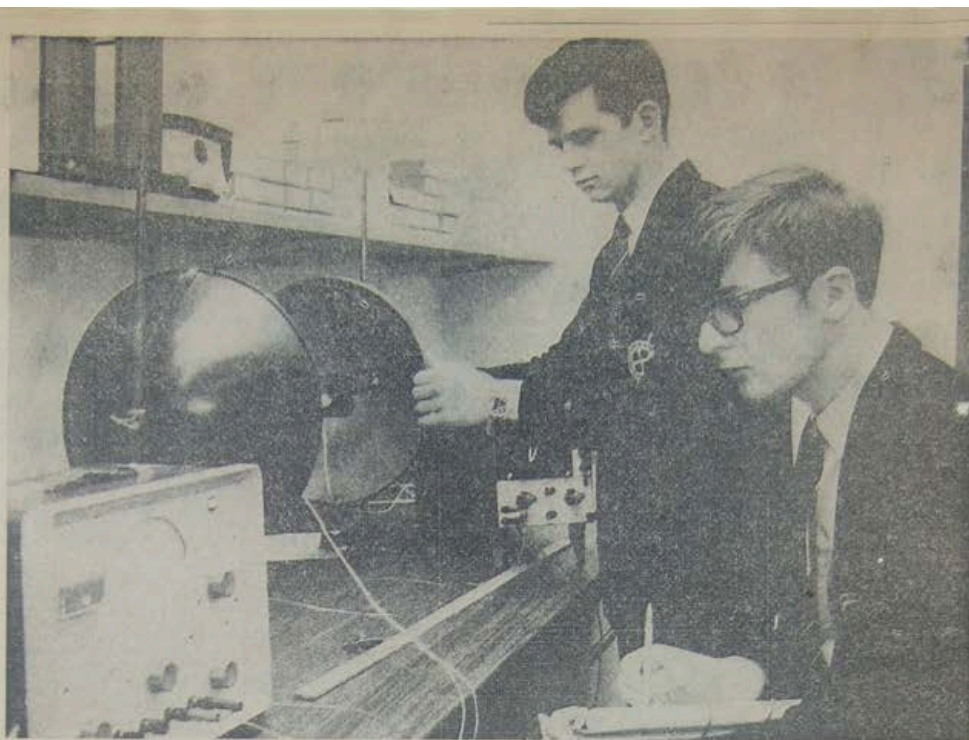
Since it opened 17 years ago the college has sent more than 1,000 boys to Sandhurst. Of these about 850 have been commissioned. Two-thirds have obtained, or are reading, for university engineering degrees.

Mr. Ian Gilmour, MP, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Army, said at the opening: "As a result the Technical Corps of the Army, in particular the

Royal Corps of Signals and the Royal Engineers, depend very much on Welbeck for young officers."

He added: "The Army would be in a sorry state if Welbeck had never existed. It is all the more remarkable that this excellent record has been maintained although the science facilities, particularly the demonstration rooms have been very poor indeed."

The new block includes four demonstration classrooms, and three laboratories for practical work. There is also a new dining hall and kitchens. The college has 150 boys whose fees are paid by the Army.



GUARDIAN PHOTO—289/5

Students Bill Bailey and John Cardwell using an oscilloscope in the new science block

## £145,000 science block opened at Welbeck

The Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, Rear Admiral Sherbrooke, officially opened the new science building at Welbeck College, the Army's public school, yesterday week.

The £145,000 building comprises a science block with four demonstration class rooms, three laboratories for practical work, together with the usual ancillary rooms. On the ground floor there is a new dining hall and kitchen, which is able to cater for about 180.

Among those attending the opening ceremony were the Duke and Duchess of Portland, from whom the Ministry of Defence rent the college, General Sir John Mogg, the adjutant general, who is also vice-chairman of Welbeck Board of Governors, Lieut. General Sir Cecil Blaxland, G.O.C. in C. Northern Command, Major General D. H. Toller, G.O.C. East Midlands District, and people concerned with the design and construction of the building.

The chairman of the Board of Governors, Ian Gilmour, M.P., Under Secretary of State for Defence for the Army,

on his first visit to the college, told the gathering: "The technical corps of the Army depends very largely upon Welbeck for its younger officers."

Remarking that it held the distinction of being the first sixth-form college in the country, he added: "The Army would be in a very sorry state if Welbeck never existed."

Mr. Gilmour concluded with words of praise for the builders and sub-contractors, "who managed to finish on time, despite a delay of two months at the beginning."

Unveiling a plaque in the new dining hall Rear Admiral Sherbrooke said: "I am particularly glad that the building has been named after my friend, Mr. David A. Richards, the founder headmaster."

Mr. Richards, who has been headmaster of Welbeck since 1938, when the college was opened, is to retire next year.

The 150-student college has suffered from a lack of accommodation since its inception, and the new building has made possible the construction of individual studies for each student in the vacated sections of the old building.

### NEW SCIENCE BLOCK OPENS AT WELBECK

A new £145,000 science block at Welbeck College, the Army's public school in Nottinghamshire, was officially opened yesterday by Rear Adm. Sherbrooke, V.C., Lord Lieutenant of the county.

Mr. Ian Gilmour, Under Secretary of State for Defence for the Army, said at the opening: "The Army would be in a sorry state if Welbeck had never existed. It is all the more remarkable that this excellent record has been maintained although the science facilities, particularly the demonstration rooms, have been very poor indeed."

The science department at Welbeck, the first sixth-form college in the country, formerly occupied underground chambers. The new block includes four demonstration classrooms and three laboratories for practical work. There is also a new dining hall and kitchen.

W.A.J.

William Arfon ("Bill") Jones will be known to every Welbexian and O.W. He can truly be called a founder-member of the College academic staff.

Bill was born and bred in North Wales. After service in the R.A.F. and a spell as laboratory technician at Stafford Grammar School he came to Welbeck in May 1953 - several months before the first intake of students arrived here.

Together with the first Head of Science (Vivian Davey) he coped with the frequent deliveries of new furniture and science equipment - organising from scratch the physics and chemistry departments in the cramped quarters of the old underground laboratories (which now form the music practice room, art room, language lab and photographic dark room). For science store-rooms, a dank tunnel was pressed into use.

In August 1970 the transfer to the new, purpose-built Science Block was smoothly achieved after ten days of hard labour - manhandling equipment up a narrow spiral staircase (now vanished) - thanks to Bill's organising genius.

His common-sense and specialist knowledge have always been valued by the present writer, and by all the science staff at Welbeck. He has played a key role in the recent expansion of the science curriculum to include electronics and A level chemistry.

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

After 32 years Bill is about to take well-earned retirement. He will be greatly missed. We wish him, and his wife Eddie, a happy future in their new Worksop home.

E.E.B.

The buiding has now been renamed the Cavendish Buiding and advertiesed as office space

