



South Africa Cricket Tour Report 2008

Sunday 4 January 2009

Day 1 Thursday 11th December

Our flight arrived on time and with little disruption. Having checked into the Breakwater Lodge we had a 2 hour training session with both squads on a club ground with the 2010 World Cup final stadium (taking shape slowly!) as a back drop. It was great to be in temperatures in the mid 20s having left England in the freezing conditions. This was followed by a nice meal on the Waterfront and an early night.

Match One v Bishops @ Bishops, Cape Town 12th December 50 overs

1st XI Report

Our first game on tour saw us take on Bishops, one of the top cricketing schools in South Africa. We had previously beaten the same XI at Eton in July. Having decided to bat second, we proceeded to bowl poorly throughout the Bishop's innings, resulting in a big total to chase; 325-8; **Dion Holden** (10-1-47-1) & **David Lloyd** (10-0-42-2) managed respectable figures and saved us conceding even more runs. In reply, we lost early wickets, with only **David Lloyd** (40), **Dion Holden** (36), and **Alex Sale** (28), troubling the scorers. **Rupert Salmon** contributed a useful 16 but failed to find a partner to 'tough it out' and we eventually closed the innings well over a hundred and twenty short. It was always going to be a difficult game so early in the tour, and so it proved to be.

LOST

U15 XI Report

Henry Lewis won the toss and elected to bat on a decent looking wicket. We made a decent start with openers **Mark Prescott** and **Rory Mucklow** laying a solid platform. There then followed some kamikaze running and poor shot selection which saw Shrewsbury in trouble at 70 -6. **Matthew Gregson** and **Jack Hudson Williams** steadied the ship with an excellent 67 run partnership, taking the score to 137 - 7. Both played some fine shots and took the attack to the Bishops' bowlers. Unfortunately when they fell in quick succession, we folded to 154 all out. Bishops never looked in trouble as they punished any wayward bowling to chase the runs for the loss of 2 wickets.

LOST

Match Two v New Orleans @ Boland Park, Paarl 13th December Twenty20

1st XI Report

This was the first of two 20/20 matches on the same day. First up were New Orleans School at the Boland Stadium in Paarl. At this first class venue and on a slow pitch with a magnificent outfield New Orleans batted first and scored 104 for 6, with **Alex Blofield** (2-0-3-2), **Sebastian Shukla** (4-0-17-1) and **Joe Leach** (3-0-14-1) the pick of the bowlers. The fielding and catching was of a very high standard with **George Thomason** and **George Curtis** being the pick of the fielders. **Tom Shaw** kept well behind the stumps and ensured we kept the runs under control. In



reply, Shrewsbury cruised to 108 for 4, with Joe **Leach** 41, **Alex Blofield** turning in a 'Man of the Match' performance 32 not out and **Ben Williams** (8 not out) all contributing well. Shrewsbury won comfortably, with a few overs to spare.

WON

U15 XI Report

20 20 Match 1 at Bolland Stadium v New Orleans Township School

Henry Lewis again won the toss at this most impressive stadium, with the stunning Paarl mountains as the backdrop. New Orleans scored 96 in their 20 overs with decent spells of bowling from **Charlie Farquhar**, Archie Darroch and **Harry Croft** who all took 2 wickets each.

The Shrewsbury innings was well paced and saw us home by 5 wickets, including a fine innings from **Jack Bailey** (38) and **Will Mason** (28) who scored shots all round the wicket.

WON

Match Three v Paarl Boys High @ Boland Park, Paarl Under Floodlights 13th December Twenty20

1st XI Report

This was also a 20 over game at Boland Stadium. Paarl Boys High won the toss and elected to bat first. On a slow and low surface, which was difficult to score on, they totalled 99 for 6, with **Joe Leach** taking 2 for 14 and **Tom Welti** taking 2 for 23. **Ben Price** on his debut for school kept superbly despite having spent most of the previous week ill. In reply, Shrewsbury eased their way to 103 for 3, winning in the final over, thanks mainly to the dynamic Welsh duo of **David Lloyd** (28), and **Dion Holden** (23 no). **Ben Williams** again proved to be a fearless finisher by producing a couple of quality strokes in the final over, which saw Shrewsbury safely to victory.

WON

U15 XI Report

Paarl Boys batted first and posted a competitive 103 on a surface that was becoming more difficult to bat fluently. **Will Mason** was the pick of the bowlers with 4 for 10 from his spell ably supported by **Mark Prescott** with 2 wickets. Shrewsbury's reply never really got going as we were unable to run any quick singles and rotate the strike early on and this caused the run rate to creep up steadily. We lost wickets at the wrong times and apart from a late partnership from **Rory Mucklow** and **Jack Hudson Williams**, which gave hope, it was always a tall order and we ended up 12 runs short.



LOST

Sunday 14th December

A well-earned day off and a trip to Newlands to watch the Nashua Dolphins play the Cape Cobras.

Monday 15th December

Match Four v Western Province Invitation XI @ Edgemean CC 15th December 50 overs

1st XI Report

Joe Leach (capt) lost the toss and we were inserted on a very damp pitch. Throughout our innings we struggled to score quickly. Initially we were pegged back by some good seam bowling. **Alex Blofield** (42) resisted well and tried to shepherd the middle order towards a good total. But it was not to be as we were undone by a string of poor shots against a very moderate off spinner and we eventually capitulated to 137 all out.

The intense heat of midday was not to do us any favours and as the pitch quickened and the outfield improved runs became easier to acquire. Despite an early breakthrough from **Joe Leach** and some good bowling from **Alex Blofield & Ben Williams** our opponents romped home with a number of overs to spare. On reflection greater patience and care with shot selection would have produced a much bigger total but hats off to our opponents for their excellent win.

LOST

U15 XI Report

Played at the slightly less picturesque Edgemean CC (with the view of Table Mountain obscured by a power station!) and in blistering heat it was a bad toss to lose! The bowlers performed very well to restrict Edgemean to 122 all out in 22 overs. **James Aston, Will Leigh-Bramwell, John O Hare** and **Will Mason** shared the wickets. Shrewsbury's reply was positive and **Charlie Farquhar** played well at the top of the innings for his 16 runs. **Jack Hudson Williams** and **Jack Doyle** then put on an 82 run partnership to see us home to an 8-wicket victory.

WON

Tuesday 16th December

An open top bus tour to Table Mountain and some picturesque sights of Cape Town was followed by a few hours on the beach.

Wednesday 17th December

Match Five v Western Province CC @ Vineyard Rondebosch 17th December 40 overs



1stXI Report

Again we lost the toss and the opposition decided to bat. We generally bowled with better discipline but all too often bowled the 'four ball'. The opposition totalled a very respectable 167 after we tailed off towards the end of our bowling. **George Curtis** produced a much-improved bowling performance and together with the very consistent **Alex Blofield** bowled well picking up a number of wickets. The fielding was generally crisp with **George Thomason** again outstanding but a one-handed overhead diving catch from **Sebastian Shukla** took the prizes for the most spectacular effort. **Stephen Leach** was promoted to open the innings with **David Lloyd** and took full advantage of his opportunity. Both were circumspect to start with but as the partnership developed both played with greater confidence. **David** played the dominant role and after running well in the initial part of his innings after drinks he played a number of excellent attacking strokes that deflated the opposition. **Stephen** supported him well by rotating the strike and placing his back foot shots carefully into gaps. **David** (103no) became only the **fourth** boy at Shrewsbury School to score a hundred on an overseas tour (previously **Tom Cox** (Sri Lanka 2002), **Peter Bailey & James Gale** (South Africa 2004). **Stephen** also passed 50 to finish on 52no and thereby engineer an excellent 10-wicket victory.

WON

U15 XI Report

Henry Lewis won the toss and inserted the opposition on what looked like a decent cricket wicket. They were quickly in trouble as James Aston and Jack Hudson Williams removed the openers cheaply. The WP innings never got going and they were eventually dismissed for a meagre 71. Shrewsbury made light work of the total with Sam Welti hitting some lusty blows in his 25, ably supported by Henry Lewis with 25.

WON

Match Six v New Orleans @ Dal Joshaphat Paarl 18th December 50 overs

1st XI Report

And yet another toss lost on the hottest (36°) day of the tour. The end result was another 50 overs of hard toil for the tourists against a very attack-minded batting line up. Despite another promising spell from **George Curtis** and **Alex Blofield** the rest of the attack gave away far too many easy runs. Despite this our fielding was again of a high standard but the combination of the heat and the stroke play took New Orleans to a formidable total. In reply a number of batsmen got starts but failed to turn them into significant scores (**Ben Williams 30, Dion Holden 30, George Thomason 25, Tom Shaw 15**) and we were eventually bowled out well short. Perhaps disappointing but the conditions were the most testing on tour to date. More worrying at this point was our lack of penetration and consistency with the ball.

LOST

U15 XI Report



Shrewsbury batted first in the hottest conditions experienced on tour. Our innings never got going and it was only due to a captain's knock of 36 not out from **Henry Lewis** and 26 from **Will Mason** that we were able to post 161 on a slow, low wicket that suited the spinners. Our bowling lacked discipline in the extreme conditions the opposition were severe on any loose deliveries. We were back in the game with 2 quick wickets from **Jack Hudson Williams**, but were unable to wrest the initiative from the township side. Their star batsman was a class act and scored 50 (in temperatures in the high 30s he batted in a jumper!)

Match Seven v Paarl Boys High , Paarl 19th & 20th December 2 Day Match

1st XI Report

A familiar story with the toss almost cost Joe his job. Once again the team trooped into the field and for the first five overs looked anything but a 1stXI outfit. All this changed quickly as the first wicket fell and spirits were lifted. Paarl BH who we had beaten on our previous visit to Paarl in 2004 were out for revenge but the quality of our bowling on day one ensured that they could not build a significant total on what proved to be another slow and difficult surface. **Alex Sale (6-1-19-2) & Joe Leach (6-0-11-2)** combined to build pressure on the opposition middle order and **Tom Welti** applied the finishing touches by claiming the best figures on tour 7-4-15-5. Paarl had subsided to 109 all out and Shrewsbury set out in their quest to build a first innings leads. In the end a significant lead was achieved after a number of false dawns and a telling contribution from the tail. **Ben Williams (24), Ben Price (28), Rupert Salmon (16), Dion Holden (14), Joe Leach (21)** all made good contributions but then fell to carelessness. The most important contribution came from **Tom Shaw (11)** who with solid technique, maturity and patience ensured that the innings progressed to a point at which their bowling options were reduced and then with the aid of some fine stroke play by **Alex Sale (20no)** they took the final score onto 166. In the circumstances a telling lead. There was still time left in the day and Shrewsbury used it to the advantage in taking a couple of late wickets and end the session well on top. The team had played their best cricket to date.

Day two dawned eventually and we found the team severely depleted by an overnight tummy bug and many drained by sleeplessness. The outfield look more like a field hospital than a cricket ground. **Jack Hudson Williams** was drafted in from the U15's to field when **Joe Leach** took the first over. Joe (14-3-35-4) then reeled off a ten over spell of the highest quality thus ensuring that our grip on the match remained firm. **Alex Sale** again supported with his best bowling on tour (8-0-26-2) and **Alex Blofield** bowled a mean spell (16-3-27-4). Paarl had totalled just 109 leaving us with the tricky task of scoring 58 to ensure victory, this we did and claimed our best victory on tour.

WON

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U15 XI Report

Henry Lewis lost the toss again and we had to field in blistering hot conditions. On a slow wicket and even slower outfield Paarl posted 149 – 9 in their 60 overs. **Jack Hudson Williams** bowled well after lunch and ended up with figures of 4 for 18. Shrewsbury's reply was



sadly inadequate as we were dismissed for 89. Only **Jack Bailey** provided any real resistance with a stylish 23, but was still 60 runs adrift.

Paarl batted again and we were delighted to have them 4 down at the close. In the morning we bowled and fielded superbly to dismiss Paarl for 90. **Stephen Leach** ended up with figures of 5 – 28 and **James Aston** and **Harry Croft** took fine catches.

We were left a minimum of 70 overs in the day to score the 151 needed for victory. The innings started well with the openers looking in control and settled. Another farcical run out involving **Mark Prescott** caused unnecessary panic and there ensued a collapse of woeful proportions as we were dismissed for 59. What was disappointing was the lack of application from the Shrewsbury batsman on a difficult but not impossible wicket. Of the 20 dismissals in the 2 innings, only 3 could be attributed to the pitch as batsmen got themselves in, looked comfortable and then threw their wickets away. Hopefully lessons will have been learned from this match.

LOST

Sunday 21st December

The whole tour party enjoyed another 45 over game between the Titans and the Cobras at Newlands.

Monday 22nd December

Match Eight v Primrose CC Rondebosch 22nd December 50 overs

1st XI Report

Unfortunately the weather had turned overnight and the match was eventually rained off. The Group Area club had made a magnificent effort to host the match but after lunch & presentations were made the team headed back to the hotel for the last time. A disappointing end to what was a very successful and enjoyable tour.

We now look forward to seeing the fruits of the boys labour in the summer of 2009.

MATCH ABANDONED

U15 XI Report

v Primrose Cricket Club

Unfortunately the weather got the better of this fixture and we sat and watched a 5 hour deluge before returning for last minute souvenir shopping on the Waterfront and a final meal with presentations at an Italian restaurant.

MATCH ABANDONED



Astronomy Society working on an experiment that, if successful, could be launched in a satellite

Tuesday 6 January 2009

January 2009

The POISE team are working closely with scientists and engineers at SSTL (Surrey Satellite Technology) to develop instrumentation that will measure ionospheric scintillation from a satellite that will be launched into a polar orbit in 2010. The image shows three of the POISE team at a meeting with the business development manager, Stuart Eves, at SSTL in January. This meeting provided training on the use of a software package that will help the team to predict when their instruments should be turned on during each orbit. Later in the term instruments on another satellite will be used to test some of our ideas. Members of the team will be invited to the launch party at SSTL.

Tom Burgess (Rb, U6)
Dr Stuart Eves (SSTL)
Josh Richards (Rb)
Aryuthai Angpanitcharoen (Ch)

Ground Station Shrewsbury

Professor Cathryn Mitchell at Bath University is a world expert on mapping the ionosphere and she has taken a close interest in our work on POISE. In fact the POISE experiment was mentioned as part of a grant application by Bath, Nottingham and Leeds Universities for a world-wide network of GPS based ionospheric scintillation detectors and two PhD students at Bath will spend some of their time on our project. She has also suggested that we locate two of these detectors at Shrewsbury School and at Shrewsbury School in Bangkok in order to gather data that will complement that received from the POISE mission. This will give students at both schools an opportunity to liaise with one another and with research scientists on a real geophysical project which could have significant importance for the future of navigation systems.

Steve Adams/Simon Clayton-Jones



IT: 2009 British Informatics Olympiad finalist

Friday 9 January 2009

Terrence Chiu (SH) has been invited to the final of the 2009 British Informatics Olympiad, which will be held at Trinity College, Cambridge, from 7 - 29 March.

He sat a 3 hour paper in the last week of Michaelmas Term where had to write 3 computer programs to solve the very challenging problems set in the paper. Terrence, who is 16 years of age, did remarkably well to make the top 15 considering that the competition is open to any student in the UK below the age of 19. He will now hone his C++ programming skills by following the online tutorials of the "USACO training program". We wish him luck in his preparations.

Paul Kaye

pak@shrewsbury.org.uk

The British Informatics Olympiad (BIO) is an annual competition in computer programming for secondary schools and sixth form colleges. Prizes include an expenses-paid trip to the prestigious International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI).

The first stage of the BIO is a three-hour exam, taken at school, in which students solve problems with the aid of a computer. These are marked by a teacher and submitted for moderation. Based on the results of this exam, the top 15 competitors are invited to the BIO final in Cambridge during the Easter holidays. The best four make up the team to represent Britain at the IOI in Bulgaria.



Music Report - January 2009

Saturday 10 January 2009

The Michaelmas Term of 2008 will remain a pivotal term for music making at Shrewsbury. With the introduction of girls into the Sixth Form, the music department took on a new lease of life, and their impact has been tangible and of huge benefit to everything we do, from the Chapel Choir to some of the new girl entrants bravely joining the cast of Harry! at the Royal College of Music and performing to a wonderful standard on precious little rehearsal.

The New Entrants Concert had to manage without the Director of Music, who was away with the Registrar auditioning talented musicians in Hong Kong, and guess what, it was none the worse for that. Indeed it was a splendid evening of great talent given by our new 13+ musicians, showing just how well they had been nurtured by their respective prep schools.

To coincide with the opening of Mary Sidney Hall, there was a morning concert given by some of our new Sixth Form entrants, both male and female, and this was also a delight with some outstanding performances.

The term was literally full of performances. Concerts for the wider community at Cound Parish Church, a glorious evensong in Worcester Cathedral directed by our brilliant new Director of Chapel Choir, Kathryn Burningham, and many performances in morning chapel of consistently high quality by so many young performers.

The two big occasions in the term are always the **House Singing Competition** and the St Cecilia Weekend concerts. The former was an absolute 'tour de force' this year, possibly the very best on record in terms of quality, breadth and sheer innovation and pupil-led performances of real merit, attended as ever by a hugely enthusiastic audience of parents, friends and staff. The Ashton Theatre overflow was even bigger than usual, and our technical team under the watchful eye of our Theatre Technician, James Lyons, gave everyone both in the Alington Hall and the Ashton an evening to remember. The House Singing Competition has become an event that represents all that is best about Shrewsbury: teamwork, originality and quality, with the individual right at the heart of the enterprise.

The St Cecilia Concerts were also very successful, with Maria Eglington's terrific direction of the Wind Orchestra, Nigel Gibbon's brave and polished account of fearsomely difficult music for brass ensemble, the Symphony Orchestra in the sonorous landscape of Brahms' 2nd Symphony, the Chamber Choir, Strings and, to finish, John Rutter's Magnificat with a beautiful solo contribution by Edwina Coward.

The three Carol Services took these annual events to new heights of musical perfection and were a triumph for Kathryn Burningham and her Chapel Choir. The plaudits flowed in and deservedly so.

Meanwhile in October, Sam Wilson's GCSE composition 'Chernobyl' was broadcast to Ukraine and Russia on the BBC's World Service. Written for the new Sarcophagus which is to be built over the dangerous nuclear reactors, it was inspired by the Ukrainian musicians and affected children Sam met while they were in Britain.

The final assembly of term gave a chance for one of our brightest new stars to shine. Iliana Grosse-Buening is a young pianist of exceptional quality, with an already impressive track record behind her before coming to Shrewsbury. Her performance of Ravel's Jeux d'Eau was



captivating, as were all her many appearances in concert last term. She also got through to the first round of the newly established James Mottram International Piano Competition at the Royal Northern College of Music.

The term ended in fine style with a marvellous Christmas Concert organised by two of last year's leavers, Henry Southern and Ben Edmunds, who put together a quite wonderful evening of jazz, magic, musicals and much more in aid of their respective gap year projects. Henry is, as I write, now teaching at our partner school in Bangkok, where I had the pleasure of conducting last term a Last Night of the Proms Concert. We hope very much to do so again this year, with possibly some of our students going to be part of the wonderful music-making that is also happening in Bangkok, where the performances are led by Old Salopian Jonathan Ling, who has just joined the music staff there.

So much to report, and so much left unsaid about the music making of the Michaelmas Term 2008. Congratulations to Stephen Craigen and Sam Grainger who have been offered places to read music at Cambridge. Congratulations also to Gessica Howarth for gaining a place in the National Youth Choir, and to Alex Collins in gaining a distinction aged only 15 in his Trinity Guildhall ATCL Diploma recital on clarinet.

During the holidays, we enjoyed providing a feast of music for Sophie Heber-Percy's wedding, daughter of one of our Governors. This term we have already celebrated an extremely successful performance of **Harry!** in London and we look forward to our concert in St John's Smith Square on 1st March and the realisation of the **Darwin Cantata 'Evolution'** at the end of this term. A term of challenges but also of glorious opportunity, as ever.

John Moore

Director of Music



Harry! On the West End

Saturday 17 January 2009

Under a clear moonlit sky, just yards below the glowing lights of the Albert Hall, a packed audience streamed into the Britten Theatre at the Royal College of Music in the first week of January to witness two performances of 'Harry!' the latest in a line of Shrewsbury School's original musicals.

'Harry!' is the sixth show written by Director of Music John Moore, all of which have been staged at the Edinburgh Fringe to considerable press acclaim. And since the Millennium, shows have also been regularly staged at London venues, including the Britten Theatre and Linbury Studio Theatre at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden. Modeled on a small Italian Opera house, complete with gilt boxes and stalls, the Britten Theatre provided a wonderfully intimate setting for this packed revival of a modern day 'Hamlet', set in a cardboard box factory.

Members of the cast on their Gap Years had flown back from Canada, California or delayed their flights to Bangkok specially to take part in what turned out to be an utterly memorable evening for all concerned.

Plans for the next original show, to be staged at the School in November are already underway.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Final round of British Mathematical Olympiad

Monday 19 January 2009

Philipp Legner (O, U6) is through to the second and final round of the the [British Mathematical Olympiad](#). Philipp came joint 65th out of a total of over 1,300 candidates, who are the best young mathematicians in the country.



Computing: 2009 British Informatics Olympiad finalist

Tuesday 20 January 2009

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He sat a 3 hour paper in the last week of Michaelmas Term where had to write 3 computer programs to solve the very challenging problems set in the paper. Terrence, who is 16 years of age, did remarkably well to make the top 15 considering that the competition is open to any student in the UK below the age of 19. He will now hone his C++ programming skills by following the online tutorials of the "USACO training program".

We wish him luck in his preparations.

Paul Kaye

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Weekend Activities: Point-to-Point successes

Saturday 31 January 2009

Saturday 24th January 2009

As part of the Weekend Activities programme, Louis Dunn organised an outing to the Albrighton point-to-point at Bangor-on-Dee, little realising quite how exciting the day was going to be.

The 2.30 Novice Riders' Race saw a thrilling challenge between Ridgemount and Mary Sidney Hall, with **Jake Greenall** representing Ridgemount and **Alice Walker** for Mary Sidney. In the end, Jake pulled up, and Alice Walker won the race.

Jake's account of the race follows:

Sir,

Bangor-on-dee, 2.30 Novice riders Race, Lou de Moulin Mas (horse)

No excuses - it all came down to a better rider on the day (apart from the horse having its first race after injury, not liking the ground and getting lame!!)

I was giving my horse a gentle come back and had no intention of winning, so defeat was taken in true Ridgemount fashion!

Meanwhile, not far away in South Gloucestershire, **Jack Sherwood** (Rt LVI), was racing at another point-to-point at Dunthorp. Another Novice Riders' Race, but this time, Ridgemount won.

Jack's account of the race:

PPORA (Point-to-Point Owners and Riders Association) Novice riders race. Horse called Eskimo Jack. Wet day before and ground is v.soft. Looking to get first winner. Day before birthday, would be the best birthday present ever to get first winner. Have a good feeling that it could come today with conditions in my favour. Race starts and I get to the front of the field to set the pace, which is what I want. Pull back to third as some come past me going too fast at this stage of the race. Then going down the back straight decide to make my move on two in front of me. Take it up with 3 fences to go and come down the hill to the last fence to win by 8 lengths.

Jack Sherwood.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Geographical Association Worldwide Challenge 2009

Monday 2 February 2009

As a result of Shrewsbury's excellent performance at the recent regional Geographical Association Worldwide Quiz, where their three teams finished 1st, 2nd and 4th, we have been invited to take part in the national GA Worldwide Challenge weekend.

This weekend will take place next September at Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre near Dorking in Surrey. This is a highly prestigious event with only 18 schools nationally taking part. The winners have the chance to represent the UK in a Geographical Olympiad at the International Geographic Union Symposium in Tel Aviv, Israel in August 2010.

The regional quiz comprised 14 teams from the local area and the winning trio of **Charles Newbould, Robert Morgan** and **Harry Croft** received prizes of books and laminated maps from the Geographical Association while the school received a day's free fieldwork at the Preston Montford Field Studies Centre, who sponsored the event. The day's fieldwork has been donated to a local state primary school.



Shrewsbury and Darwin on BBC

Monday 9 February 2009

See the news item: [Shrewsbury on BBC](#)

Last week a camera crew from BBC Midlands Today visited the School as part of the coverage of the Darwin Bicentenary celebrations. News presenter, **Nick Owen** met two students, **Nigel Fullerton** and **Dom Evans** in the Biology Buildings, where they discussed the importance of Darwin in their studies. The crew then visited the Moser Library where Nick Owen read on camera the famous letter in which Darwin laments his own lack of direction, prior to departing on the Voyage of the Beagle.

"I am as idle as idle can be: one of the causes you have hit on, viz irresolution the other is being made fully aware that my noddle is not capacious enough to retain or comprehend Mathematics. Beetle hunting & such things I grieve to say is my proper sphere ...".

Following their visit to the School, the TV crew filmed at Darwin's birthplace on the Mount and at the Old School, now the Town Library. The news item was screened on Midlands Today at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday 11th February 2009.

Nick Owen is an Old Salopian and boarded in Riggs Hall from 1961-1966 where he studied Classics under the guidance of Richard Raven, Mark Mortimer and Stacey Coleman. A familiar face to anyone living in the Midlands, he established a reputation as a sports journalist, before becoming one of the first presenters Breakfast TV on ITV, together with Anne Diamond. He is Chairman of Luton Town and an active member of the 'A.E. Houseman Society'.



Spanish Trip to La Coruña : February 14th -19th 2009

Saturday 14 February 2009

Seventeen fourth and fifth formers, accompanied by Mr. Wright and Mr. Hamm stepped out into the mild night of La Coruña and were met by Ben Smith of Atlantik English, who organised the trip along with the Head of the Spanish.

We spent six days staying individually with Spanish families, of various sizes and in various abodes across the city. The first day after we arrived was spent getting to know our families, and was also the first day spring arrived in the area - clear skies and fifteen degree temperatures greeted us all the next day, and we swapped stories of our new families when we met that evening to walk in the evening sun and watch football in a local café. Monday was our first day of lessons we had each morning throughout the week; in small classes of only five and bilingual instructors, all our oral topics were practised readily in preparation for our GCSE exams in summer. That day, a coach trip to the infamous pilgrimage site and traditional city of Santiago de Compostela was enthusiastically undertaken by the group, café con leche in the sunshine during our free time was only surpassed by a guided tour of both the cathedral and local university, the first of which took us to the cathedral roof and a panoramic view of the city.

Galicia is a region known for its rich surfing history and on Tuesday we attended lessons from a qualified instructor including safety issues and its origins in Hawaii. In the afternoon we put the theory into practice and spent several hours riding the waves, falling over and generally having a great time. We left confident and with certificates of achievements for our efforts. The next day was focused on typical Spanish food and all the relevant vocabulary and phrases. We witnessed a step-by-step demonstration from a local chef making a tortilla española in a practical and interactive class. The afternoon was followed by a walk to La Torre de Hercules - the world's oldest functioning lighthouse, and we played beach football overlooking the sea, Mr. Wright particularly keen to get involved! We then visited the aquarium and interactive science museum La casa del Hombre where we all enjoyed a 3D documentary on evolution.

The final day involved emotional farewells to our families and shopping around the town for presents to bring back home. Arriving home on Thursday evening, we felt we had been part of an enjoyable and linguistically rewarding trip.

Ollie Wray (Radbrook 5th Form)



Chemistry Olympiad 2009

Sunday 15 February 2009

Once again eight students took part in Round 1 of the International Chemistry Olympiad in February. This year, the students were all members of the Upper Sixth. The paper itself is based on the core of the chemistry A-level specifications, so that students taking any of the different exam board A-levels can compete fairly. The exam lasts two hours and is composed of a series of structured questions designed to stretch able students by making them apply the principles they have learnt to new and often more complex situations than they would meet in their A-level course. Thus, in order to score marks, it is essential to have a very sound base of knowledge and understanding, but also have the ability to think and reason - often "outside the box" - at a high level.

The students concerned had worked at this with a weekly session going back to the previous June. Initially taking the on-line LVI Chemistry Olympiad, and then beginning intensive preparation for the more demanding Olympiad itself.

The results were once again very pleasing, and the students can be very proud of their efforts and achievements. Chao Yin Lim (SH) - heading for University College, Oxford to read Biochemistry - obtained a Gold Medal (following up the full marks he obtained in the on-line Olympiad, and Bronze Medal in the 2008 Olympiad). Chris Tham (Ch), who is going to read Medicine at St. John's College, Cambridge, obtained a Silver Medal, whilst Bronze Medals were awarded to Oliver Oak (SH), Oscar Tso (M), and Mubin Yusof (S).

It is worth bearing in mind that only 197 out of 2165 candidates were awarded Gold Medals!



Rugby: 1st XV Dublin Tour February 2009

Sunday 22 February 2009

25 boys and 4 staff headed to Hollyhead on Saturday 14th Feb to catch the fast ferry to Dublin for a 4-day tour.

Match 1 was a hard fought encounter against a useful Sea Point RFC side which was closer than the final score line suggests. It was 24-19 to Shrewsbury with 20 minutes to go, but we ended up scoring 4 more tries to **win 50-19**.

Match 2 was played under lights at Kilkenny RFC and was another fierce encounter against very tough and well drilled opponents. This was an excellent **victory 34-7** and featured a fine team performance.

Both matches involved all 24 boys and it was a credit to the replacements that we managed to keep on scoring points when changes were made.

Player of the tour was **Sam Bryan** with 4 tries and most improved players were **Ben Green** (R), and **Oly Banks** (O).

Senior Team Mathematics Challenge

Monday 23 February 2009

Although postponed due to bad weather, the national final of the Senior Team Mathematics Challenge eventually took place in central London in mid February. Galane Luo (S, L6), David Kell (SH, L6), Philipp Legner (O, U6) and Poon Manomaiphobon (M, U6) represented the school in this event, finishing 19th among the 60 participating teams! Over 900 schools had previously entered the regional heats.



Jeremy Goulding to retire in August 2010

Thursday 5 March 2009

Shrewsbury School, one of the leading independent schools in the country, is seeking to appoint a new Head, following the decision by the current Headmaster, Jeremy Goulding, to retire at the age of 60 in the summer of 2010.

The appointment of a new Head comes at an important time for Shrewsbury School, which has recently undertaken a £14 million investment programme in new facilities. This unprecedented development programme could not have been achieved without the support of the alumni and the wider Salopian community.

Chairman of Governors, Richard Burbidge OBE, commented:

“Under Jeremy Goulding’s stewardship Shrewsbury has flourished and evolved. The academic life of the school has been strongly developed; examination results have been ever more impressive; the arts, drama and music continue at the highest quality; and sporting achievements abound.

Jeremy Goulding is a very hard act to follow. In his 8 years as Head, indeed throughout his 30 years’ involvement with the School, he has made a lasting and important contribution to Shrewsbury’s ability to thrive and flourish.

In my view Jeremy’s singular contribution has been to implement the Governors’ 2005 decision to welcome girls to Shrewsbury for the first time in our history. The first 36 Sixth Form girls arrived in September 2008 and the 2009 entry is over-subscribed. These new Salopians have already contributed hugely to the school.

The Governors will be seeking a successor who has the vision, leadership and credentials to take the School forward. We are looking for experienced candidates from a wide background and expect to have made an appointment later this year, so that there is a well-planned handover.

A first-class education in a thriving school is one of the best gifts parents can offer their children and the Governors are determined that Shrewsbury School will continue to provide exactly that under the direction of a new Head, building on Jeremy Goulding’s legacy.”

Founded in 1552, Shrewsbury School is one of the great scholarly Foundations in England. The School provides boarding and day pupil education for over 700 pupils aged 13-18, with 36 girls currently in the first year of the Sixth Form. The School occupies a beautiful 105 acre site, bordering the River Severn in the heart of the historic county town of Shrewsbury.

Potential applicants for the role of Head should contact the appointed recruitment consultants:

Saxton Bampfylde www.saxbam.com

email: HUVA@saxbam.com or telephone: 0207 227 0890

Jeremy Goulding, Headmaster, commented:

“Shrewsbury is a great school and it has been a great privilege to have spent the major part of my teaching career working in its rich environment.

I have been involved with Shrewsbury School for 30 years, as a young teacher, as a Housemaster, as a parent (twice over) and since 2001 as Headmaster. I love the place for its beauty, its setting, its sense of community and for the companionship of colleagues, of generations of Salopians and, very importantly, of their generous and supportive families. I know Isobel feels the same.

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Shrewsbury is blessed with teachers and many other staff of the highest calibre and dedication and I thank my colleagues for their scholarship, enthusiasm and support. Teaching does not just happen in the classroom. It is about individuals, connections and experiences. Great boarding schools rely on a community of teachers and staff who give of their all. Generations of Salopians have benefited from such committed generosity.

Education these days is blighted by endless initiatives and interference. The prevailing culture is of regulations, examinations, grades, inspections and directives. In my view education should be simple: attracting inspirational teachers and giving them the freedom to inspire. I feel very fortunate to be the Headmaster of a school which is both independent and independently-minded. With that thought, I will relish the challenge, the busy-ness and the joy of the next four terms.”



Shrewsbury through to final in chamber music competition

Tuesday 10 March 2009

Six musicians from Shrewsbury School have reached the final of a major national music competition. The competition is part of the Pro Corda Chamber Music Festival, which aims to encourage and celebrate the performance of chamber music among young instrumentalists of both primary and secondary ages. The group is coached weekly by Maria Eglinton, who is a member of staff at the School and a graduate of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

The sextet from Shrewsbury School achieved a distinction in the first round, and have just heard that they have won a place in the finals after competing in the semi-finals at Wycombe Abbey School in Buckinghamshire last week.

The finalists are drawn from fifteen schools amongst which are Charterhouse in Surrey and Millfield in Somerset. The final will take place on Sunday at Westminster School in London and the group will be performing the Sextet by the French composer, Poulenc.

The winning ensemble will give a concert performance at the prestigious Wigmore Hall in London.



St. John's, Smith Square - Sunday 1st March 2009

Tuesday 10 March 2009

Shrewsbury School musicians returned to the beautiful venue of St. John's, Smith Square in London for an evening concert on Sunday 1st March. The concert was given by Shrewsbury School Symphony and String Orchestras, Chamber Choir and Brass Ensemble.

St. John's, Smith Square - situated in the heart of Westminster - is regarded not only as one of the masterpieces of the English Baroque, but also as one of London's finest concert venues, attracting artists and performers of international renown.

The programme included Brahms – Symphony No. 2, Violin Concerto no 1 by Bruch, played by Chris Cox (Moser's Hall), and Britten – Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings, with the tenor role being sung by Dan Norman O.S.

Martin Knox wrote the following review:

"In the absence of a performance in Shrewsbury, there was only one opportunity to hear this varied and challenging programme, an added incentive to make the trip to London. In any case, there is always something special about the annual pilgrimage which brings out the best in the School's musicians.

*Old Salopians are often to be seen in the audience, but this year we welcomed **Daniel Norman** (Ingram's 1984-1988) to the platform, as a soloist in Britten's serenade for tenor, horn, and strings. Fulfilling the promise he showed in his schooldays, Daniel is flourishing in his career as a singer and it was good to see him giving his time to the School's music-making. A busy man, he had already been on stage at Covent Garden that afternoon! From the start, his clarity of diction and subtle use of gesture held our attention, and he was always comfortable with the fearsomely wide range required. Sharing the solo work was a current Ingramite, **Stephen Craigen** (Upper VI), who has already demonstrated his virtuosity at this venue. Here, he showed himself equal to the task of performing music originally written for Dennis Brain, the leading horn player of his time. In acclaiming the formidable standard set in the opening item, the polished contribution of the String Orchestra under **David Joyce** should not be overlooked.*

There followed four songs from the repertoire of Dymphna Nightingale's chamber choir, a select ensemble of talented individuals blending into a finely disciplined whole. Their tonal balance, whether singing softly or at full power, is a treat to hear.

*In a break with tradition, **Nigel Gibbon** and the Wind Band had to wait until the third slot before raising the roof of the venerable building. When their turn eventually came, the violence of the opening attack seemed to be making a point. "Dreams" might suggest tranquillity, but Moren's title for the first movement, "Nightmares", gives the game away. This is music designed to shock and by the end, I felt battered by it all. That in no way suggests that the performance was out of control; on the contrary, it is hugely to the credit of all concerned that so many musicians could handle such complex material, and with such verve.*

*From what was described in the programme as "visions of insanity", the scene shifted to one of the most serene landscapes in all music, Bruch's Violin Concerto No 1, given by **Christopher Cox**, with the orchestra which he regularly leads. Initially reticent, he grew in confidence, sensing as he must have done the rapt response of his listeners and I suspect that further public airings will add panache to sensitivity. The standing ovation should surely have convinced him how much his performance had been appreciated. It is always a telling sign when the staff of the concert hall applaud as vigorously as they did on this occasion.*



Yes, it was nine o'clock, and, yes, there was the interval and a symphony to come! John Moore believes in giving his pilgrims value for their pains, and I for one wouldn't have it any other way.

Brahms' 2nd Symphony, written in Alpine retreat and sometimes referred to as his "Pastoral", was paradoxically described by the composer as "the music of melancholy". It was the sunny side which came out on top in this version, and while there were awkward moments in bridge passages, the themes were securely and sympathetically rendered. Particularly successful were the wistful second movement and the final allegro con spirito, the latter taken at a tempo reminiscent of Klemperer, allowing every detail to emerge. The principal trumpet shone through with special brilliance in the uplifting conclusion of the work – and of a memorable evening. Parents and friends crowded round to offer congratulations and, late though it was, nobody was in a hurry to leave. Yet again, St John's had cast its spell.



J15 triumph and Top Squad buoyant

Tuesday 10 March 2009

An account of RSSBC at the Schools' Head of River Race.

Tuesday 10 March 2009 saw the annual battle on the Tideway, down four and a half miles of the Thames from Mortlake to Putney. On a day with a very full tide on a fast ebb, plenty of river water flowing and a good tail wind the conditions were fast and flat, allowing crews with good technique and fitness to maximise their potential.

The J15 squad rose magnificently to the task. Confident, determined rowing and some brave coxing gave the A boat the Championship J15 event by 1 second over Hampton in a strong field, coming in the process a creditable 52nd overall. A similar performance from the B boat gave them the J15B event by 5s, again over Hampton, beating in the process 15 crews at J15A level as well. This huge and dominant result has been a long time in the making, and bodes very well for the coming years. Many congratulations to both crews and to Dr Pattenden and Mr Manser for their input in generating this success.

After three years of complete domination in this event, Top Squad boats were (as usual) under the microscope. Both 1st VIII and 2nd VIII came second. Not third, not fifth, not top ten, not top half. Second. Let none be despondent. In any 'normal' year, and in any school in the country, Tuesday's results are extremely good.

The 1st VIII broke the course record, beating fistfuls of other ambitious school crews, some carrying very expensive marques, and holding the eventual winners, Eton, to 5 seconds after nearly 17 minutes. Strong, determined, consistent rowing that moved the boat very fast. The 2nd VIII were only a second or two away from the course record at their level, rowed like pros and attracted a very positive commentary from many observers in terms of 'dynamic rowing'. As well as beating all other 2nd VIIIs bar one (again, Eton, whom they held to 4s), they also beat more than 20 other schools' First VIIIs, and were placed 19th overall of all entrants in the entire country (and two from overseas) on the day.

Together with the outstanding J15 achievements, Shrewsbury's name is still written very big in the waters of the Thames. OK, there's the reaction of the consummate pro within the squad: 'we didn't win'. But the look on the faces of some other coaches after the race said it all - what do we have to do to beat Shrewsbury? In the context of a small squad that some outsiders (doubting Thomases, all!) wrote off in October because of the large U6 leave last year and the relative youth of those training this year (and my goodness, how hard they have trained), Tuesday's results keep the Maltese cross on a navy flag not just nailed but glued and screwed firmly to the mast of Sabrina's ambition. This relatively inexperienced squad has performed brilliantly well. And what a five year set of results this forms.

At 1st and 2nd VIII level

2005 2nd and 2nd

2006 1st and 1st

2007 1st and 1st

2008 1st and 1st

2009 2nd and 2nd



and at J14 leading to J15 level

2008 1st and 1st

2009 1st and 1st

PH Lapage

River Master

RSSBC

12/3/2009

J15A crew: Winners J15 Championship Eights

cox: W Spencer Jones (PH)

str: O Chisholm (S)

7: F Day (R)

6: S Lapage (R)

5: C Rhodes-Bell (SH)

4: O Antcliff (M)

3: H McAllister (SH)

2: A Pritchard (Rb)

bow: R Morgan (R)

J15B crew: Winners J15 2nd Eights

cox: A Montgomery (O)

str: T Marshall (SH)

7: R Chitty (M)

6: F Aitken (R)

5: J Hancocks (PH)

4: S Pinches (Rb)

3: D Wong (S)

2: C Lywood (Rt)

bow: G Haynes (O)

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Polo: SUPA Tournament Triumph

Wednesday 18 March 2009

On Sunday 15th March 2009, Shrewsbury School achieved their first major polo win which was the cause of much excitement and celebration. The words of one of the competitors to the Headmaster sum this up better than any formal review:

Dear Sir,

I have some rather surprising news to report. We are on our way back from the SUPA polo tournament at Longdole Polo Club with the first prize of Division Two in our hands. A mighty triumph after a long five years of waiting!

We played three matches: two group matches against Rugby School and Dauntseys. Winning both of these put us into the final against Milton Abbey. This was a very exciting and well fought match.

It was a great day and very exciting to win.

Yours,

William Smyth-Osbourne

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Football: Girls playing on Senior!

Thursday 19 March 2009

Shrewsbury School is proud to be the lead sponsor of primary school football in Shropshire, and on Monday 16th March 2009 we saw the first-ever girls' football match on Senior, as the semi-finals of the Girls Challenge Cup took place here with Greenfields v. Harlescott, then St. George's v. Oxon.

Shrewsbury has a long footballing history dating back to the origins of the sport. The oldest copy of the Laws of the Game in the world currently resides in the school's Moser Library, Salopians having played a prominent part in the meetings held to codify the game in the mid-nineteenth century. Many of the early Salopian footballers often reached full international status, in the days before the game became professional. The Old Salopians have won the Arthur Dunn Cup on many occasions, including the first, fiftieth and centenary finals.



Maths: Record number of certificates won in the UK Intermediate Mathematical Challenge

Monday 30 March 2009

The results of the first round of the UK Intermediate Mathematical Challenge have arrived, with a record number of certificates awarded to Lower School boys this year: 33 gold, 30 silver and 42 bronze. Of the seventeen boys who did well enough to take part in the next round, Edward Elcock (Rb, III), Joon Bang (Rt, III), Hugo Wong (Ch, IV), George Mallett (S, IV), Mark Li (SH, IV) and Tom Elcock (Rb, V) qualified for the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad. Edward received a certificate of distinction; Hugo and Tom received certificates of merit.



Charlie Styr's book to be published

Wednesday 1 April 2009

Click: The Ultimate Photography Guide for Generation Now

Eighteen-year-old Charlie (CH) is due to have his photography book published in the UK in June 2009. For the last three years he has been running a teenagers' group and discussion forum that he set up on flickr.com, which now has 10,000 members (growing by the day) and came to the notice of Watson-Guptill Publications who commissioned him to write a guide to digital photography that would specifically appeal to teenagers.

The guide is a how-to photography book that is illustrated with more than 150 photos taken by teen photographers around the world, all of whom are members of Charlie's webgroup. Discovering basic equipment, composition and lighting, it helps readers explore 27 high-interest techniques, from portraits to action, macro, shooting at night, and special effects with Charlie's clear how-to advice and sample photos by teens. The book includes tips from new and established pros, including industry veteran Art Wolfe, Pulitzer Prize winner Vincent Laforet, National Geographic photographer David McLain and celebrity photographer Chris Buck, bring great photographs totally within reach.

Further information is on [Amazon/styr](#) and also on the [publisher's site](#).

Chemistry: Schools' Analyst Competition 2009

Friday 3 April 2009

Following on the heels of last year's fine showing in the National Schools' Analyst Competition, Shrewsbury once again entered a strong team of L6 chemists for the Midlands event, held at Nottingham Trent University during the Easter holiday.

The competition involved pupils competing against twelve other schools, conducting team based research using sophisticated analytical techniques used by university research scientists. This year saw students analysing sports drinks, cheap cola and malt vinegar. Flame photometry and high performance liquid chromatography techniques were used, together with more traditional titrations. Max Emmerich (Rt), Ieuan Fenton (Rb) and Gessica Howarth (MSH) made up a confident and talented team, and we felt that this could be our year, given that we have finished 2nd and 3rd in this competition over the last couple of years. The lurking presence of Loughborough Grammar School (winners for the last 2 years) was enough to keep us on our mettle.

Once again, the Salopian entry finished in time; an impressive achievement given the sheer volume of work that was expected of the pupils. In committee awaiting the final results the pupils felt that barring a couple of slips, it had gone well. All three had worked hard and were confident that their calculations were accurate; the calculations of standard deviation had taken up quite a lot of time, and though confident that they had got them correct, they were disappointed to hear that these would not be counted, as so few of the teams could understand them! When the result was announced that Loughborough Grammar had been beaten into second place, it looked as though our chance had come, but in the end it was Camphill School for boys that took the honours; this team contained the pupils who had been placed 1st and 2nd in the recent RSC '5 decade challenge', so it was indeed poor luck to come up against a School containing pupils of this calibre (and making their debut in the competition). Though we were also edged out of 3rd place too by a very strong side from Nottingham, this should not detract from a successful day, and one from which the pupils enjoyed themselves, and learned a great deal. They should be proud of their efforts.

BJE
3/4/09



Astronomy Society's experiment wins £100,000

Monday 6 April 2009

Space Experiment wins £100,000 at the UK Space Conference 2009

A delegation from Shrewsbury attended the UK Space Conference that was held at Charterhouse from 1st-4th April 2009, where they made a presentation about the POISE experiment. After the presentation, POISE was declared the winning entry, and they were given funding of £100,000 to take their work into production. Much of this funding will go towards making the software modifications required, but the School also hope to have the full Mission Control Workstation in place before Speech Day on Friday 3rd July.

Tom Burgess (Rb), Josh Richards (Rb) and OS Charlie Jones were interviewed by www.space.co.uk after they were declared to have won the £100,000. **Space.co.uk** wrote *"In this short interview we learn about the SSTL Space Competition and the team that were the winners. This was a major achievement for this team from Shrewsbury School who are among the growing number of young people taking inspiration from space and the opportunity to work with industry leaders such as SSTL."* Please follow [this link](#) to view the video of the interview.

Physicists currently in the Lower VI will be joining the POISE team at the end of April, while some of the founder members will be leaving School at the end of the summer term. As the project is expected to continue to gather and process data from the satellite 'Deep Sea II' for a further four years, many team members will continue to be involved in the project long after they have left Shrewsbury. A group of them will be spending time at Bath University later this term to carry out more testing.

Team members have also been invited to the opening of the new European Space Agency Centre in Harwell, Oxfordshire in July, where they will meet Lord Drayson, the UK Science Minister (and racing driver).

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Fundraising for Comic Relief

Tuesday 7 April 2009

Shrewsbury School are delighted to announce that they raised over £1,500 for Comic Relief.

Friday 13th March 2009 was a casual clothes day when staff and pupils contributed £1 each to participate, or £10 if they were in fancy dress. Pupils also had the opportunity to throw wet sponges at teachers in the evening - 20p a sponge, or £10 for a whole bucket!

The following Sunday, Giles Bell organised two hours of non-stop laughs at a Jokeathon in the Ashton Theatre.



The Charles Darwin Cantata

Friday 10 April 2009

As part of the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Shrewsbury's most famous pupil, a group of four boys in the Upper Sixth - **Chris Cox, Stephen Craigen, Sam Grainger** and **Philipp Legner** - have composed the *Darwin Cantata*. Scored for full orchestra and choir, the Cantata celebrates Darwin's life and work and his theory of evolution.

The Cantata was performed first at the End of Term Concerts on 21st and 22nd March 2009. The following is an extract from the End of Term Programme:

1. Orchestral Prelude: Dawn of Nature
2. Chorus: Organic Life
3. Orchestral Interlude: The Voyage on the Beagle
4. Chorus: Immortal Love
5. Chorus: Man's derived Supremacy

Two centuries ago, Charles Darwin went to school in Shrewsbury. Today pupils of Shrewsbury School have composed a cantata to celebrate the birthday of this most famous old-Salopian.

When we were asked to write this cantata, we had no plan or structure so that everything we wanted to compose was limited only by our imagination. After having studied Darwin's life and his theory in a lot of detail, we decided to address three different topics in our composition.

Firstly we tried to "translate" evolution into music – starting with a simple theme, which then started evolving gradually becoming more complex for us. The note E soon became the metaphor for evolution. In the cantata you will hear many different themes and motives evolving out of this note E.

We also wanted to depict Darwin's voyage on the Beagle – the sea, the sounds of the South American rainforest and the Galapagos Islands. The voyage on the Beagle was a turning point in Darwin's life and was the initiation for his later theory.

Finally we also wanted to refer to the big argument about Darwin's revolutionary theory – and Darwin's glorious Triumph. We used the 1860 Oxford Evolution Debate as a base, where Thomas Henry Huxley and Samuel Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford, argued about Darwin's Theory.

At present, Evolution is still "evolving" itself and is not yet finished; however we are going to present to you five movements which have already been composed.

*The text of **Organic Life** – as well as **Immortal Love** – is taken from *The Temple of Nature*, a poem by Erasmus Darwin, Charles Darwin's grandfather. Although he didn't know the principle of natural selection, Erasmus Darwin writes about immutable immortal laws, the great first cause and the development of species. It was certainly some of those ideas, that inspired Charles Darwin to write about natural selection.*

*The orchestral interlude **The Voyage on the Beagle** was composed to emulate some of the experiences Darwin might have had during travels. Try and imagine bird song from the rainforest, the roaring sea and howling wind.*

***Man's derived Supremacy** is a very dramatic chorus describing how the theory of evolution was regarded by the rest of the world. Many people were outraged about the theory of evolution, shouting in anger. But there were others in favour, supporting Darwin's argument. In the end it is clear that Darwin was right, and the cantata ends with grand, triumphant finale.*



Chorus: Organic Life

*Organic Life beneath the shoreless waves
Was born and nurs'd in Ocean's pearly caves,
First forms minute, unseen by spheric glass,
Move on the mud, or pierce the watery mass,
These, as successive generations bloom,
New powers acquire, and larger limbs assume,
Whence countless groups of vegetation spring,
And breathing realms of fin, and feet, and wing.*

Orchestral Interlude: The voyage on the Beagle

Chorus: Immortal Love

*Immortal Love! who ere the morn of Time,
On wings outstretch'd, o'er Chaos hung sublime;
Warm'd into live the bursting egg of Night,
And gave young Nature to admiring Light!*

Chorus: Man's derived Supremacy

*Man's derived supremacy; man's power of absolute speech;
man's gift of reason; man's free will;
man's fall and man's redemption; the incarnation of the Eternal Son;
the indwelling of the Eternal Spirit - all are equally irreconcilable
of him who was created in the image of God,
and redeemed by the Eternal Son.*

*He casts us down from this elevated place,
and herds us with four-footed beasts and creeping things;
it tears the crown from our heads, it treats us as bastards and not as sons,
and reveals the degrading fact that man in his best estate
is but a civilised, dressed up, educated monkey, who has lost his tail.*

*Is it through your grandfather or your grandmother
that you claim your descent from a monkey?*

*I asserted – and I repeat – that a man has no reason
to be ashamed of having an ape for his grandfather.
If there were an ancestor whom I should feel shame in recalling
it would rather be a man of versatile intellect
who plunges into scientific questions
to obscure them by an aimless rhetoric,*

by eloquent digressions and skilled appeals to religious prejudice.



Old Salopian provides medical support to cricket teams playing half way up Everest

Tuesday 21 April 2009

Old Salopian **Breck Lord** (1999, M) is providing medical support to 'The Everest Test' - a competitive Twenty20 cricket match played today more than half way up Mt. Everest, at an altitude of 5165m.

The two teams played the match on the plateau of Gorak Shep, after a gruelling 9-day trek. At this level, they would only have had 66% of the oxygen found at sea level, but their success sets an official world record for the highest altitude for field sport.

Breck came to Shrewsbury from The King's School, Paramatta in Australia (from which establishment, we've also had several fine Gappers) and he settled into Salopian life very quickly indeed, as a result of which he ended up as a School Praepostor, Secretary of Boats (1997/8) and Captain of Boats (1998/9). He is particularly well remembered by his old rowing coach, Steve Fox (now Housemaster at Moser's), for winning a gold medal at the National Schools' Regatta in a coxless four in 1999, setting a record which - to the best of his knowledge - still stands. With a lively sense of humour and a real interest in many facets of life, Breck even taught himself to play the bagpipes whilst at Shrewsbury and, having got straight As at GCSE (four of which were starred) and straight As at A level, he was able to gain entry to St. Catharine's College, Cambridge to read Medicine so is now a fully-qualified doctor.

The Everest Test world record attempt hopes to raise £250,000 for charity across Britain, the Himalayas and developing world. The playing kit will also be donated to the local Khumjung School.

See www.theeveresttest.com for further information.



Salopians run 84 miles along Hadrian's Wall for Help for Heroes

Sunday 26 April 2009

Jamie Tusting (Rt U) and Bertie Mayo (G 5) spent four days running the length of Hadrian's Wall for Help for Heroes. Jamie's account of the expedition follows.

Heroes' Wall

On the Wednesday 25th March, 2009, Bertie Mayo and I set out to run 84 miles across the country, along the path of Hadrian's Wall. We ran to raise money for Help for Heroes, a charity to help the injured servicemen and women from the British Army. We set off from the Newcastle end of the wall and ran over 3 and a half days to Bowness-on-Solway on the west coast and ran 24, 21, 25 and 14 miles on the four days respectively. Bertie and I stayed in Bed and Breakfasts along the way. The run took us across some of the most stunning parts of the wall, including the famous Sycamore Gap, where Robin Hood was filmed. Although we had to run into strong headwinds and hail storms, we arrived at Bowness at about 1pm Saturday 28th March.

In total, we have raised over £3,000 for the charity and are still receiving sponsorship.

Jamie Tusting



D of E: Boys climb Mt. Snowdon and raise £1,000 for Water Aid

Friday 1 May 2009

Sunday 19th April saw five 3rd Form Pupils climb Mount Snowdon in a bid to raise £1,000 for Water Aid.

Edward Lloyd, Joon Bang, Tom Bland, Luke Champion and Rahul McCourt prepared the day long venture throughout the Lent term.

Although each one was extremely well prepared for the typical April Showers and treacherous mountainous landscapes, we could not have hoped for better weather; rather I was somewhat relieved to have packed the suncream.

Glorious sunshine, clear skies, the harmonies of the seagulls and our own rendition of Nessum Dorma, courtesy of Dr Richard Case enabled the boys to march their way to the summit, taking in the sights as they waited for the slower members of the group to play catch up!

A fantastic day was had by all, a 3 hr climb with lunch at the summit and spectacular views (not forgetting lunch for the seagulls!) followed by a 2 and a half hour descent left several beaming faces and aching feet.

It should also be noted that between the boys more than 20 litres of water was carried to the summit; simulating the average an African woman would carry on her head, daily, in order to receive clean, safe water. The £1,000 they raised should help more than 60 people receive clean and safe water.

Clare Leake

For more information on their chosen charity please visit, <http://www.wateraid.org.uk>



D of E Gold: Sea Kayaking Training Expedition to Anglesey

Friday 1 May 2009

After weeks of rigorous safety training in the pool, until rolling was instinctive and our bodies were finely tuned to respond to anything mother nature could throw at us, the Shrewsbury School Duke of Edinburgh Sea Kayaking team departed belatedly from school, following some minor drama as one group member had forgotten to put their clock forward an hour, for a five day training excursion.

After an hour and a half in a minibus we arrived at Llyn Padarn (a lake near Llanberis). The day was focused around fitting our boats correctly, and practising very basic manoeuvring. That evening we found our way to the youth hostel on Holy Island off Anglesey where we met Oswestry School's Scotland Sea Kayaking team who were also training in the area.

On day two we met up with Pat our instructor and his glittery kayak. We began with some races (Pat's team being affectionately nicknamed the 'Glitter Boys') and then spent the afternoon surfing in on the waves. The dry suits were tested to their full and found wanting as everyone finished up wet following much capsizing and sand rolling. But there were certainly less of these towards the end as we all improved. Dr Case tried to spark some Eskimo rolls in the bay but few were mad enough to follow his example whilst the wind whipped up the white water and the waves rose higher.



Day three was undoubtedly the enchanting highlight of the trip as we kayaked against the tide from Penmon on the East of Anglesey around Puffin Island and back. Having passed the lighthouse we slowly circumnavigated the island in awe of the ecology. There were myriad birds



including Oystercatchers, Puffins and Guillemots. The most momentous sight was that of the Grey seals on the rocks and in the water. But on the return we were a little late and a few members of the group were almost dragged into an overfall – where the risen seabed constricted the flow of the tide causing standing waves and rough water. At first it seemed that it was coming towards us but in reality the tide was dragging us into it. Thanks to some contagious calm and instruction from the coaches and some hard paddling all round we all emerged safely. Having landed Harry and Dan opted to go for a swim in the sea; they lasted for an admirable twenty-five seconds. After this we all recovered with a café stop on the way home.

Following an unexpectedly early get-up on day four due to a fire alarm at 5:45 we cracked on with planning for the trip to a camp site. We departed in fully laden boats at 12:00 bound for Borthwen Bay. We paddled and rock-hopped our way up the coast. We arrived at camp in the late afternoon, loaded the boats and set up camp. From then we washed and ate until it became dark and then we went to bed.

Day five was a clear up before we drove back to Shrewsbury through blazing sunshine arriving back at school at 12:30. The remainder of the day followed with washing equipment and some preparation and planning for our assessment expedition in Croatia. It was an excellent few days and the team are murmuring about an extra practice in the summer holidays just to enjoy the sea.

The Team

Callum Harvey-Scholes, Charlotte Finley, Dan Hughes, Emma Darrington, Harry Putnam, Sam Robinson



OS scores his maiden century in championship cricket, in front of the current England captain

Tuesday 5 May 2009

OS James Taylor (R 2008 leaver) scored his maiden century for Leicestershire in a match against Middlesex, earning the county and English coach Tim Boon a hard-earned draw.

See The Telegraph's [full report](#).

Last summer, he scored 898 runs in schools cricket at an average of 179.60. His record while in the Shrewsbury first XI is worth recording. Between 2004-2008, he scored 4,017 runs at an average of 65.7, and, in the Lord's Taverners competition won by the School at under-15 level, he amassed 541 runs in six innings, including four centuries, without losing his wicket. He finished the final, at Lord's, with a six.

Jimmy has also been named as the Young Wisden Schools Cricketer of the Year.

The following article appeared in the [Shropshire Star](#) on 8th April 2009:

James Taylor, the batsman who blossomed in Shropshire, has enhanced his reputation as one of the golden cricketing talents of his generation by winning the top junior accolade in the sport.

The 19-year-old, who spent five years at Shrewsbury School, was today announced as the **Young Wisden Schools Cricketer of the Year**.

Taylor is due to receive his prize at a special awards dinner in London tonight, but faces a race against time to reach the capital because he was today playing a pre-season friendly for current county Leicestershire against his former club Worcestershire.

And the talented right-handed batsman has paid tribute to his coaches at Shrewsbury School, where he arrived as a 14-year-old before leaving last summer.

"I'm very honoured to win this award and I'm really hoping I can get to the dinner tonight," said Taylor.

And the talented right-handed batsman has paid tribute to his coaches at Shrewsbury School, where he arrived as a 14-year-old before leaving last summer.

"I'm very honoured to win this award and I'm really hoping I can get to the dinner tonight," said Taylor.

"It's a great start to the year for me and a lot of it is down to my coaches at Shrewsbury School.

"The likes of Andy Barnard, Paul Pridgeon, Steve Gale and Will Hughes were all amazing and they just allowed me to play as much as I could - I can't thank them enough."

Taylor's award is no surprise after he scored 898 runs in schools cricket last year, averaging an astounding 179.60.



In a little over four years at Shrewsbury School, he scored 3,164 - excluding tour and knockout games.

His record has also been noticed on the first class and international scene.

Taylor - who also spent one season playing Birmingham League cricket for Shrewsbury - was signed by Leicestershire last year, breaking into both the championship and one-day teams at the end of the season and earning a three-year contract.

And he has just returned from a tour of South Africa with England under 19, where he played nine times.

Andy Barnard, master in charge of cricket at Shrewsbury School, admitted Taylor's talents were clear for all to see after he made his first team debut at just 14.

"His record for Shrewsbury School has been fantastic and I think only Alistair Cook has scored more runs in schools cricket than him," he added.

"Coaches all over the country in schools cricket said James was as good a young player as they have seen for a very, very long time.

"We all think he will go on and have a very good career in First Class cricket and hopefully beyond.

"I was trying four years ago to put a bet on Joe Hart to play for England at football and James Taylor to play for England at cricket and I still think that will be the case."



Wallingford Regatta May 2009

Tuesday 5 May 2009

The Shrewsbury School first VIII has continued its winning traditions at the Wallingford Regatta. This event, run on May 3rd, is one of the largest one-day schoolboy regattas in the country. With stiff opposition from Eton, Radley, St. Pauls, Hampton and others, many schools regard the Wallingford Regatta as the final 'tune-up' before the National Schools Regatta and as such come prepared to race hard.

Racing in the south rarely favours Shrewsbury - travel requires a commitment of human resources: time and energy - but on Sunday, Shrewsbury made the trip worth the effort, as they finished second in their first race and emerged the victor from their second. In the IM1 race, Shrewsbury and the rest of the field were surprised by the power and speed of Eton's starting minute - after 500 meters it became clear that the race was on for second place. At this point, Shrewsbury was rowing in fifth place, behind all the other schools: but not for long. Slowly, with the power and poise that has become their hallmark, the Shrewsbury School first VIII rowed through St. Pauls, Hampton and Latymer, relying on the length of the stroke and access to the water in windy conditions to win the day. On Sunday, it was a victory for the fundamentals of technique and racing intelligence over brute power.

In the afternoon, Shrewsbury School dispatched all crews with relative ease, winning the IM2 event by the healthy margin of six seconds. In the final, they wrestled with a University of London eight for 600 meters, before breaking open water and rowing away with the win. For their efforts, they retain the Lorcha Challenge Cup for another year.

A young crew - with only three men in the Upper-Sixth - Shrewsbury's results at Wallingford augur well for the remainder of the season and years to come.

[More photos ...](#)

Nick Henderson



Italy Trip 2009 – Pasta, Popes and Pompeii

Thursday 7 May 2009

Over the Easter holiday, an intrepid group of 16 Sixth Formers and 3 staff set out on a whistle-stop tour of Rome and the Bay of Naples. Tying in both Classics and History, the trip introduced the pupils to Italian culture and history, both ancient and modern.

In fine sunshine, the group toured the classical sites: the Colosseum, Forum, Circus Maximus and Pantheon. Modern Italy was not left out, however, with trips to the Museo di Risorgimento and the Garibaldi monument on the Janiculum Hill – not an inconsiderable climb. Inspired by the view and Giuseppi's immortal words "*Roma o Morte!*" (Rome or death), the trek across all the sites was worth it. Day 3 saw a trip to the Vatican and the awesome St Peter's Basilica, as well as the Vatican Museums. After much walking and "But sir, I have to see the School of Athens! Mr Humphreys will kill me if I don't!", a trip to the equally palatial Villa Borghese proved illuminating. An anonymous L6 boy came up with the line "This room reminds me of my dining room, well, without the priceless statue in the middle. But that's just too much, don't you think?!"

As well as the obligatory stops at the Trevi Fountain and Spanish Steps, the gastronomic delights of Italy did not fail to impress. Though our restaurant served that typical Italian dish "Roast Chicken and chips", much delight was taken from the numerous *gelati* that we passed.

Not ones for being idle, it was soon off to the Bay of Naples, with a peace-inspiring stop at Montecassino, home to the Benedictine Monks. Sam Wilson (L6) was so struck by the place that he now wants to take up the cassock... maybe his housemaster may wish to impose Monastic life?! Markedly different to Rome, Pompeii and Herculaneum were a real highlight to everyone, though the lack of mafia action was disappointing to some (though not to the anxious tour leader!)

After a blustery, gale-force wind climb up Mount Vesuvius, the trip was complete (albeit without volcanic eruption). In the words of Gordon Ramsay – Italy, done.

Toby Percival

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Stephen Leach hits a rich vein of form

Thursday 14 May 2009

Stephen Leach (Mosers 4th Form) has made a tremendous start to the 2009 cricket season. His last six innings have brought him the following scores, with two of them being in Lord's Taverners matches.

U15s 48 not out v Oundle
U15s 104 not out v Shropshire Cricket Board U15s
U15s 93 not out v Alleynes (Lord's Taverners)
U15s 128 not out v Trent College
1st XI 85 out v Worcester Academy
U15s 113 not out v Bedford School (Lord's Taverners)

May 5th 2009

The 1st XI sustained their excellent start to the season on Saturday 2nd May by completing a hard fought victory over Oundle. It was their fifth consecutive win. In addition they comprehensively won their National 20-20 Festival on Sunday by beating three local independent schools Oswestry School, Ellesmere College & Wrekin College

The U15A & B together with the 14 B also remain unbeaten and the school has only lost 6 of the first 34 fixtures in 2009 to date.

1st XI Results to date

Wed 15 Apr

Marylebone Cricket Club (home)
Won by 2 wickets

Sat 18 Apr

RGS Worcester (away)
Won by 108 runs

Wed 22 Apr

Shropshire Schools' Cricket Association U17s (home) Won by 51 runs

Sat 25 Apr

King Edward's School Birmingham (home)
Won by 6 wickets

Sat 2 May

Oundle (home)
Won by 43 runs

SHREWSBURY NATIONAL 20-20 FESTIVAL RESULTS SUNDAY 3rd MAY

Shrewsbury 247 for 3 (S. Leach 27, D. Holden 89, B. Price 65, B. Williams 34 no)
Oswestry 68 for 9 (A. Sale 2 for 5, R. Griffiths 2 for 8, A. Blofield 3 for 12)

Ellesmere College 66 for 5 (T. Welti 2 for 13) Shrewsbury 67 for 1 (J. Leach 38, T. home 17 no)

Shrewsbury 183 for 3 (A. Blofield 56, D. Holden 95, D. Lloyd 24 no)
Wrekin College 91 for 7 (H. Dawson 4 for 16)

1st XI defeat MCC 14th April 2009

Shrewsbury School 1st XI got their season off to a flying start with an exciting win over a very strong MCC side. A leg bye with one ball to spare was enough to see Shrewsbury home after the MCC had declared their innings at 176 for 4.

The school were grateful to Stephen Leach (U15) for his 76 whilst Ben Price(28), Tom Home(30) and Dion Holden(18) all weighed in with some useful blows. In the penultimate over Rory Griffiths hit a magnificent six to put victory in sight.

MCC 176 for 4 declared (D.Holden 2-19), Shrewsbury School 177 for 8 (S.Leach 67).

December 2008 Cricket Tour to South Africa

A tour party of 30 boys split into a 1st XI squad and an U15 squad, and 4 staff flew out to Cape Town before Christmas 2008 to play 7 matches.

The tour was a great success both on and off the field and all members of the party have returned as better cricketers.

Both sides achieved some good wins and played positive cricket throughout.

There was also an opportunity to take in the spectacular sights of Cape Town including Table Mountain, Robben Island and the beautiful beaches of Camps Bay and Clifton

Please follow the links below for further information:

- [Full South African tour report](#)
- [Tour Awards - Senior and Junior](#)
- Match Reports - [1st XIs](#) and [U15s](#)

2008 Cricket Season

The U15s had a fantastic run in the Daily Mail 20:20 Tournament, reaching the National quarter-final stages. We eventually lost by six wickets to Loughborough in a game that went down to the very last over. A win would have taken us through to the finals at Headingley, so the boys were disappointed to miss out. We were crowned regional champions after a good win over Adam's Wem and then we were unlucky to lose to Loughborough in a very tight game.

Congratulations to Alex Blofield, who was selected for the Midlands and played in the Bunbury Festival at Hull, where he performed very well.

James Taylor has made the England U19 squad. James had a bumper summer scoring lots of runs for the England U19s and Worcester 2nd XI. He has been selected to represent England U19s in the World Cup in Malaysia in February 2008. Many congratulations.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Shrewsbury hosts MMA Conference

Tuesday 19 May 2009

In May 2009, Shrewsbury hosted the annual Music Masters' and Mistresses' Association (MMA) Conference, attended by over 80 teachers from schools across the country.

The weekend of events included a trade fair, talks from visiting speakers as well as Shrewsbury School staff on subjects as diverse as 'Creating a School Musical', 'Moving into Management' and 'Taking the Fear out of Jazz'. Additionally, there were choral workshops and other practical sessions.



First House Cricket Final

Wednesday 20 May 2009

The bad weather relented for just long enough for **Port Hill** and **Ingram's** to play a 20:20 final in this year's competition. Batting first Port Hill were restricted in the early overs by tight bowling from **Tom Welti** and **Rupert Salmon** but then accelerated nicely putting the fielders under pressure with quick running between the wickets. Many Port Hill batsmen chipped in, but boundaries remained elusive and a 114-4 total was posted.

Ingram's reply started well but then the Port Hill fielders started to exert pressure with good groundwork and a key run out. Welti started shakily but played himself in holding things together whilst wickets started to fall at the other end. The game ebbed and flowed but was tilting towards Ingram's with Welti set on 60. He then skied a ball off **Jack Hudson-Williams** and was caught at point ... and the next three Ingram's batsmen were clean bowled off the next three deliveries by the same bowler !

Ingram's needed 16 to win with two wickets in hand and two overs to go. Enter **Faiyaz Azim** and **Alex Mackay**. Mackay hit a brilliant slog sweep for six and then some frantic running between the wickets saw Ingram's home with two balls to spare. A very exciting match which could have easily gone either way – as it happens it was Ingram's first victory in the competition since 1974!

Stuart Comper

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D of E: Bronze Weekend

Tuesday 26 May 2009

Well the DofE Bronze season kicked off pretty swiftly with two training weekends in the Longmyndd, Shropshire. Each weekend catered for 90 students in total, broken down into manageable groups of 7-8. The aim of the weekends was for the boys to put into practice all the skills and theory learnt during the in-school training programme over the previous weeks.

The boys departed school Saturday late afternoon where they were bused to Ratlinghope Campsite. Here they met with instructors, cooked supper and pitched tents. The remainder of the evening was spent route planning for the following day's walk.

The Sunday started with the larks, bright and early with breakfast cooking, and kit packing. The boys took all their equipment with them on the walk that followed. Most students covered about nine miles, laden with heavy rucksacks. At return it was time for debriefs, kit cleaning and tent drying.

Sadly the second weekend was particularly wet!

A great weekend was had by all. The next step is planning day and assessment during Outdoor Week starting 14th June.

Major J. Billington
May 2009



Rowing: Gold, silver and bronze medals at NSR

Wednesday 27 May 2009

During a weekend in which the suncream was more appropriate than an umbrella, the wind still blew. Not, true, as strong as last year, nor from the same direction, but still enough to cause the lags to mutter about lane differentials and gearing ratios. A south westerly cross-head wind which lasted all weekend greeted and bade farewell to all comers at the National Schools Regatta 2009. Friday saw the J14 squad in vigorous action; Sunday saw the senior small boats, and the most successful action was on the Saturday.

Undaunted by the prevailing conditions, there were scenes of absolute triumph for Shrewsbury.

The J15A crew, unbeaten this season in their age group, victors on the Tideway in the Championship event, victors at Wallingford Head, at Reading Head, and at Wallingford Regatta, romped home to a glorious 4 second victory over Hampton in the Championship U15 event.

In any way one cares to measure it this crew is the fastest in its age group in the country this year. In the regattas they have rarely been led at any stage of any race, though that conceals the fact that they race responsively; as the season has progressed they have learned more properly how to race maturely, absorbing the impetus of another crew and responding with their own well-timed burst of sustainable speed, sometimes several times in one race. Their arsenal of race winning factors has grown large; its combination has worked well, and it bodes very well for the future.

Bow: F Day, A Pritchard, H McAllister, O Antcliff, C Rhodes-Bell, S Lapage, R Chitty, stroke: O Chisholm, cox: W Spencer-Jones.

A bronze medal for the J15 B illustrates the depth of talent in that particular squad. In a heat they demonstrated the potential to gain a medal, and in the final they did not disappoint, except possibly themselves.

Mastering the conditions well they raced a fast second half after a slow start (that left them last by 2 lengths from the leaders at the 500m point in a 2000m race); it was enough to overhaul three other crews with a magnificent burst towards the end of the race and claim their medal.

Both of the coaches, Paul Pattenden and Paul Manser, have worked hard and with skill to produce these results from the J15 squad, and our congratulations go to them. Others have contributed a ha'p'worth here and there too, not least from a historical perspective: it is a fitting post-script to note that the previous occasion on which Shrewsbury won the Championship J15A event (The Founder's Cup) was in 1981. Shrewsbury's name is on the cup, but absent is the name of the coach, a certain J Goulding, Esq.

The 2nd VIII raced in their customary fashion: aggressively, and in doing so gained a highly creditable silver medal. There are some very gritty light racers, some also quite young, in that crew. Having come second on the Tideway in March it is immensely satisfying for this unit to have repeated the success on the same national scale a second time, and indeed to have come so close to being first. After a blistering start, the eventual winners, Eton, were lying in second place to Shrewsbury until the final 400m, having been kept there through the gruelling middle 1000m, but their size (and presumably their hours of training, like ours) eventually paid off.



Both crews were well clear of the following pack, Abingdon trailing third over the line by more than two lengths.

The silver medal came in part from the right mental approach in difficult circumstances; the difficulty arose while watching the first VIII in its repechage. Every fibre in the 2nd VIII's corporate body screamed "that's wrong" when the immediate opponents knocked the first VIII out, and the resulting anger at the perceived injustice in the face of this aberration gave them additional fuel in the final. Without attempting to sugar-coat a uniquely disappointing result for the first VIII, for nothing can replace an absent medal, success from within the same squad can at least mitigate the result, and the first VIII successes earlier this season against all other schools but one speak for themselves. With dignity, determination and a slow-burning anger the first VIII continue to prepare for Henley. Nick Henderson has great coaching skill and we wish him and the crew all possible success.

Philip Lapage
River Master
27 May 2009



OS Fergus Macleod in Shropshire Life - June 2009

Wednesday 10 June 2009

Young conductor Fergus Macleod paid a number of tributes to Shrewsbury and the Music Department in his profile that was published in the June issue of Shropshire Life. *"John Moore, the Music Department and Shrewsbury School as a whole had a big influence on me; not only as a conductor, but also as a person." "The Music Department there becomes your friend, there was time to discuss and I was allowed by John Moore to conduct the school orchestra which was an amazing experience."*

Shropshire Life article: [Page 1](#) [Page 2](#)



National Schools Quarter Final 20-20

Thursday 18 June 2009

Shrewsbury performed strongly to defeat Huddersfield New College in the last eight of the National 20-20.

Batting first Shrewsbury accumulated 191 for 5 in their 20 overs **Alex Blofield** (16) and **David Lloyd** (75) got the team off to a strong start scoring 41 in the first 4 overs. **Joe Leach** (34) continued to apply pressure on the fielding side and when he departed with the total on 108 **Dion Holden** took (38) up the challenge. A final flurry of runs from **Ben Williams** (6) and **Ben Price** (8 no) posted a good score.

In response Huddersfield never came to terms with the quality of Shrewsbury's bowling and fielding eventually being bowled out for 76 in the 13th over. The pick of the bowlers were **Joe Leach** (2 for 13), **Alex Blofield** (4 for 17), **David Lloyd** (2 for 27) and **Tom Welti** (2 for 16). A polished fielding and bowling display never allowed the opposition to gain any momentum

Shrewsbury have now secured semi-final against either Millfield or Hampton.



Shrewsbury's new Headmaster is appointed

Thursday 18 June 2009

Mark Turner, Headmaster of Abingdon School, will be the next Headmaster of Shrewsbury School

On 18th June it was announced that Mark Turner, currently Headmaster of Abingdon School, will succeed Jeremy Goulding as Headmaster of Shrewsbury in September 2010.

While the news has doubtless been received at Abingdon with very mixed feelings – for Mr Turner has led, and continues to lead, the school with great distinction – the Salopian community takes much pleasure in such a fine appointment.

Interestingly, the path between Abingdon and Shrewsbury has been travelled before. In 1975, Sir Eric Anderson KT moved from the Headmastership of Abingdon to that of Shrewsbury, from which he proceeded, after five years, to be Headmaster, and later Provost, of Eton. Jeremy Goulding also began his teaching career at Abingdon before moving to teach at Shrewsbury, and returning later as Headmaster.

It is a cause of real delight at Shrewsbury that the historic link between these two great schools now continues with the appointment of Mark Turner, who is widely recognised as one of the outstanding Headmasters of his generation.

Richard Burbidge, Shrewsbury's Chairman of Governors, wrote to all Salopian parents to convey the news. A copy of his letter can be seen [here](#).



Cricket update

Wednesday 24 June 2009

1st XI: Shrewsbury School 1st XI were knocked out of the **National 20-20** on Tuesday 23rd June by a very strong Millfield XI.

Millfield 194 for 8

Shrewsbury 154 all out.

U15 XI: The U15's continued to progress in the **National ECB/ESCA 20-20** by defeating the Worcestershire Champions Old Swinford Hospital in the 1st Regional Final. They now progress to meet the East Midlands Champions Repton in the next round.

Shrewsbury 202

Old Swinford 124.

U14 XI: Shrewsbury won the Lord Taverners County U14 Semi Final yesterday to progress to the county final by defeating Adams Grammar School Newport.

Adams GS 112 for 4

Shrewsbury 113 for 4.

The International Young Physicists Tournament (IYPT) 2008/2009

Monday 6 July 2009

Official website: <http://www.iypt.org/>

The Young Physicists Tournament came into being in 1979 as a competition for secondary schools in Moscow, and was originally organised by Moscow State University Physics Faculty. Since 1988, the competition has become international, and has more recently attracted teams from all five continents.

The competition itself consists of teams of five students from each country challenging each other to present their solutions to a selection from seventeen very challenging physics problems. The problems are set prior to the competition by an international panel of professional physicists and teachers. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of IYPT is that a student from another team then attempts to tear holes in the presenter's solution in an ensuing 'Physics Fight'. The latter can become very heated indeed, with reputations at stake! Winning teams in recent years have come from Slovakia, Germany and Poland where, in common with many other countries, the competition is taken very seriously indeed.

Shrewsbury School's first involvement with IYPT was also the UK's. Sue Fryer, Business and Industry Manager of the Institute of Physics, had been a juror at IYPT for a couple of years before taking the plunge, and seeking out a team of students to represent the UK. In 2003, Shrewsbury School won through to become the first UK school to compete at the IYPT competition, in that year in Uppsala, Sweden. After a tentative start to the competition, and having had to climb a steep 'learning curve', the team went from strength to strength, eventually coming joint third. A truly remarkable achievement.

In 2004 the competition moved to Brisbane, Australia, but unfortunately the dates clashed with public examinations, preventing any UK school from entering. By this time however, Mr John Balcombe of Shrewsbury School Physics Department had become the UK representative on the International Organising Committee and Independent Juror. He also took on the task of finding UK teams for 2005 and thereafter.

On Wednesday, 3rd December 2008, a team of five students from Shrewsbury School competed in the UK final to determine who would represent the UK at the International Young Physicists Tournament at Nankai University, Tianjin, China in July 2009. Phillip Legner (Captain), Charlie Jones, Ben Powell Davies, Gessica Howarth, and David Kell took on teams from Brentwood School and John Leggott College, and proved to be the best young physicists on the day. Presenting reports on 'The Oscillations of Magnetically Coupled Compass Needles', and 'The Motion of a Spinning Cup on a Wet Surface', they combined excellence in physics, mathematics and presentational skills. They also proved very capable of defending their solutions to the problems against fierce opposition from the other teams.

They will now go on to solve a total of seventeen similarly obscure problems in readiness for the international competition.

Shrewsbury through to the International Final in China

Just before Christmas a team of 5 sixth formers won the UK Final and are now preparing to represent the UK at the 22nd IYPT to be held at Nankai University in Tianjin, a couple of hours

Shrewsbury

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from Beijing in China, from 21st-28th July. The team is a mixture of upper and lower sixth formers:

Philipp Legner (O, U6) (captain)

Ben Powell-Davies (PH, U6)

Charlie Jones (PH, U6)

Gessica Howarth (MSH, L6)

David Kell (SH, L6)

This year we have the bonus of a Harvard Fellow, Max Chalfin, who is also a physicist and who is happy to spend long hours in the laboratory with the team as they tackle difficult problems involving research, theory and creative experimentation. Steve Adams and John Balcombe are also working closely with the team and can share the experience gained from previous tournaments in Sweden, Switzerland, Slovakia, Australia, Korea and Croatia. The UK has never reached the grand final (top three teams) but with a strong team and able support that is our goal this time.

Steve Adams



Henley Royal Regatta 2009

Friday 3 July 2009

The 1st VIII raced, and lost, against Pangbourne College at 2.40pm today, partly due to an electrical error in the cox box that led to a communications breakdown. Philip Lapage's summary follows:

I wish I could remember what Nick Henderson said to the crew in the boat tent after the race. Though deeply bitten by the emotion of the moment himself he maintained that iron grip over himself and - yes - us all as he let the crew down gently, with honor (I'll go with that spelling out of respect for the interpretation he has imbued it with) and with a sense of pride in their season. What follows is a pastiche of impressions which blur in the emotion of the moment, but let them represent it.

"You are a Friday crew. Not a Thursday crew or a Wednesday crew. OK it might have been a Saturday crew but hey - stuff happens, and that's racing. You should be proud of your achievements this week. Compare yourselves to where you were a month ago, and see how far you have come. Even to a fortnight ago. To the seniors in the squad, this may be your last race for Shrewsbury but it sure is not the last race you will do. Move on with determination. To the younger members, look forward with anticipation to great things at school. See what a season you have had and relate that to what some were saying about the squad in the early days. Cox/Blake - pairs head winners. Schools Head - 2nd. Wallingford winners. Fiennes - awesome. Lambie - powerhouse. To our youngest guest member - look forward with eagerness and aggression. I am proud of you all." He omitted Wallingford Head and Reading Head - winners. Those whom he did not mention by name or by implication were included with a sense of achievement as a unit - none were left out.

For the record, on today's race - Pangbourne opened out a third of a length by the barrier and 2/3 length at Fawley. By Upper Thames the lead was down to half a length and entering the enclosures it was about 3 feet. Electrical problems with the cox box led to a communications breakdown at a fairly crucial part of the race, but hey, stuff happens. That's racing.

PHL

Thursday 2nd July

5.05pm Shrewsbury 1st VIII vs. Westminster:

At 5.01 Thursday the crew were firmly in place on the stake boat - and just as well, as the same umpire (a certain Richard Stanhope) who had given me the helpful advice yesterday about getting there in time was in charge of today's race. Calm - and I mean that - pervaded the Shrewsbury crew as they squared up against a Westminster crew dressed in their characteristic shocking pink all-in-ones.

"When I see that you are both straight and ready I will start you like this....attention - Go!"

For perhaps 10 strokes the crews were level as every sinew in both boats strained to accelerate up to race pace. As the start routine came to an end and the serious business of high speed sustainable racing came in to play it became very apparent that the Shrewsbury boat was, simply, a lot faster, and nothing Westminster could do would be able to change that. One length at the barrier, two at Fawley, three at the enclosures and three and a half by the end, with Shrewsbury coming in at a relaxed rating of 30 to some very encouraging applause. There is a wonderful level



of support from many many friends all along the regatta course, and our thanks go out to all of them.

So to Friday at 2.40pm: Shrewsbury versus Pangbourne College

PHL

Wednesday 1st July

A late-night summary of the exciting day's races from Philip Lapage:

Hot! So much so that for the second (third?) recorded time EVER the members in the Stewards Enclosure were allowed to Take Off Their Jackets. In an atmosphere where the dress length for ladies has to be just so below the knee, and 'bulldogs' patrol seeking to evict any without an entry badge, this relaxation on the part of the organisers was a salute to the really extraordinary and difficult weather conditions facing the oarsmen.

The first Eight drew Bedford Modern School at 2.40 pm, in the thick of the atmospheric treacle; BMS being winners of the Childe Beale Cup at the National Schools Regatta (one level below the Championship Eights). Basing their expectations, not unreasonably, on Shrewsbury's performance in the last month, BMS reckoned that they were in with a chance. Feisty? Yes. Tenacious? Certainly. Perhaps they really were in with a chance, but they had reckoned without that grip, that absence of 'quit' injected by Nick Henderson, that technical advantage fostered over the long weeks by Todd Jesdale, and above all that desire to win, that slow burning anger within the crew to lay the ghosts of the past and show their colours. Nervous they certainly were, even allowing for James Lambie's laid back approach to the start timing: "You'd better advise them to get to the start a bit earlier next time" said the helpful ex-Olympian umpire to me as I watched, in silence (compulsory, even with a Jacket Off) from the launch (an extension of the Stewards Enclosure), "as they were within a whisker of being awarded a Penalty for Being Late". Reminds me of the occasion that James took the second eight off at high speed on a practise start into the sunset while Sir M. Pinsent and five other crews were waiting, fuming, for them. But in the end it was a one horse race, apart from a slight tussle between the start and the barrier (the first one-sixth or so of the race), and though the margin was not huge the result was not in much doubt after the first two minutes or so. So: electrolyte and recuperation and ready for a race at 5.05 Thursday against Westminster.

The second Eight faced giants at 7.05 pm in the form of University College, Dublin, B. The suffix 'B' was deceptive: in our race these hefty college crewmen beat their 'A' crew's race time (a short time earlier) by several seconds, recording a fast time of 6min 41. The second eight flew off the blocks in a valiant attempt to neutralise the weight differential, and led for the first quarter, even third, of the race. However with the relentlessness of a drum-driven slave ship the onslaught from the Emerald Isle proved to be too great; rating 2 pips or so below Shrewsbury they ground their way through the half length lead won early and strongly defended, never breaking free but ending up a length ahead as they crossed the line. This small and relatively insignificant-looking Shrewsbury crew delivers fireworks, though the sparkle was extinguished somewhat earlier than they would wish by a torrent of Irish musclepower. They have held their heads high in the company of rowing giants; what a fitting end to a season crowned with 2 silver medals at National level from a unit little expected by some to signify on the scale of accomplishment last September. Big hearts pulsing in small frames. But more, despite the disappointment of going out early there is immediate satisfaction of knowing that the only other second eight in the country to qualify (Eton) lost to Univ. Coll. Dublin 'A' by a bigger margin in a slower time. Great stuff, Shrewsbury!



It will be a fascinating race to watch tomorrow between these two Dublin crews proceeding through day 1: such are the vagaries of the draw that they face each other this early in the regatta. Hey ho - that's Henley.

5.05 pm Shrewsbury vs Westminster.

PS which crew was featured large and in glorious technicolour on the Daily Telegraph billboards all round Henley? Answers on a postcard bearing a picture of the 2007 PE cup winning crew (clue: begins with Shr-, and ends in -bury. Middle bit rhymes with -owes- while supporting at Henley.

PHL

The **1st VIII won** by over a length against Bedford Modern School in the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup, and go on to race against Westminster tomorrow - see live results [here](#).

Paul Pattenden's update from Henley: 1st VIII racing now... 1/4 mile Bedford Modern canvas ahead... Barrier: RSSBC now canvas ahead... Fawley: crews level... Remenham: RSSBC 0.25 lengths ahead... Milepost: RSSBC 1 length ahead... Finish: RSSBC win by 1.5 lengths. Tomorrow vs Westminster Sch.

Our **2nd VIII** lost by one length to University College Dublin 'B' in The Temple Challenge Cup - see live results [here](#).

Paul Pattenden's update from Henley: RSSBC 2nd VIII vs University College Dublin. Big scrap to the line but RSSBC lose by 1 Length.... great race but wrong result.

Tuesday 30th Jun 2009 07:38 - an update on the 2nd VIII:

Last Friday the 2nd VIII rowed very fast at Henley. Unofficial timing has them as one of the faster (top three or four, subject to timing errors) qualifying crews. They are on very good form at present. Curiously, one of their assets is that they look puny! Sort of lulls the opposition, but they don't half go. They also won the schools event at Reading Regatta on Saturday - beating, among others, Shiplake College First VIII - twice.

Qualifying races are necessary because the Henley is an International Regatta which attracts huge numbers of hopefuls, and events like the Temple Cup are heavily oversubscribed. 8 college crews known to be fast this season are preselected into the draw (mere school crews are never pre-selected) and the rest have to race a Head Race competition to eliminate the slowest and provide the Stewards with the names of crews for the remainder of the draw - this, then, is the Qualifying Race. 14 crews qualified. 23 did not, among them all other school 2nd VIIIs bar one (Eton, which was marginally slower). Try www.hrr.co.uk/ then select 'qualifying races' for more info.

The Temple Cup also contains Ivy League crews from the USA (5 USA crews), 2 from the Netherlands, 2 from Ireland and this year a crew from Australia. Shrewsbury School 2nd VIII can hold its head very high just to be in such company.

The crew has drawn University College Dublin 'B' tomorrow - who also had to qualify and are not slow. The race time is scheduled (to be confirmed officially) for soon after 7pm. It should have some fireworks about it, either way.

The first VIII have drawn Bedford Modern School, winners of the Childe Beale Cup at National Schools (an event one level below the Championship event). No pushovers, therefore - BMS are a feisty crew. It will be a good race, though seeing the crews in preparation my money is firmly on Shrewsbury. 2.40 pm (tbc) is the race time. More anon.

PHL

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Junior School Play 2009: Room Service

Thursday 9 July 2009

This year's Junior Play is the riotous farce 'Room Service' by John Murray and Allen Boretz. Set in New York's 'White Way Hotel', the play is a backstage comedy about a dauntless theatre producer Gordon Miller, who is trying desperately to get his musical 'Godspeed' onto the Broadway stage. The only problem is that he has no money, hence why he and his entire cast and crew are staying in the hotel of his brother-in-law. Over the course of this fast-paced comedy, Miller and his team will duck and dive out of all sorts of financial wranglings as they desperately try to get the curtain up on their show.

A cast of 40 boys hope to create an unforgettable evening of laughter, music, and even the odd dance-move!



Silk Trophy winners 2009

Friday 17 July 2009

SHREWSBURY WIN THE SILK TROPHY FOR THE SECOND TIME

Shrewsbury School 1st XI won the Silk Trophy (1990-2009) for the second time in the past four seasons and became only the second team, with Eton, to win the trophy more than once.

After successes over Elizabeth College, Guernsey and Melbourne Grammar School on Monday and Tuesday, Shrewsbury played Eton College for the Trophy on Wednesday 1st July. Shrewsbury School batted first and were in early trouble at 35 for 3. Joe Leach (captain) started to recover the situation with Ben Williams before he fell to a boundary catch. Stephen Leach (37) then joined his brother to establish a good platform that enabled the school to finish on strongly on 217 for 8. Joe Leach finished on 116 not out.

Eton started strongly but an aggressive new ball spell by Joe Leach and David Lloyd checked their desire for runs and slowly all the bowlers and fielders turned the screw and Eton were dismissed for 116.

FESTIVAL AWARDS:

Batsman of the Festival : J Leach SHREWSBURY 116 runs

Bowler of the Festival : A.Blofield SHREWSBURY 8 wkts

Fielder of the Festival : R.Griffiths SHREWSBURY Outstanding Catches

All Rounder of the Festival : J.Leach SHREWSBURY 116 runs 7 wkts

NB Joe Leach and Rory Griffiths have played in TWO winning SILK TROPHIES:
2006 & 2009.

The season draws to a close soon as Shrewsbury entertain the Saracens on Friday 3rd July and Christ Church Grammar School, Perth WA on Sunday 5th July.

To date the 1st XI:

50 OVER MATCHES

WON 13 DRAWN 1 LOST 2 ABANDONED 3

20 OVER MATCHES

WON 6 LOST 1

ASB

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Astronomy Society's winning experiment is launched in a satellite from Kazakhstan

Thursday 6 August 2009

On 30th July 2009, Shrewsbury's winning experiment POISE was launched in a satellite from a converted intercontinental ballistic missile in Kazakhstan. POISE should start to deliver results and data to 'mission control' at Shrewsbury School towards the end of September, and will be measuring variations in the ionosphere. An improved understanding should lead to more accurate satellite navigation, which will be of particular help to disaster recovery teams.

For more information on the launch, please see the BBC's report: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/8171327.stm>



World Challenge - Venezuela 7th July - 6th August 2009

Monday 10 August 2009

World Challenge is a well-established company that 'provides educational expeditions in the developing world which teach life skills and expand minds outside the classroom' - please see www.world-challenge.co.uk for more information.

Rob Wilson, the expedition leader, sent periodic updates back on the group's progress and activities, which follow below.

Many of the team are now back at school after their adventures (with the rest now enjoying their new found status as Old Salopians). It appears that the bonds forged in Venezuela are still strong, and there is a certain added maturity that the members of the expedition now carry well on their shoulders. I am currently looking into the possibility of running another trip of this nature in the Summer of 2011 for members of the current 5th and Lower Sixth form. A decision should be made around Christmas, but if parents or pupils are interested in receiving more information when available, they should feel free to contact me by email rmw@shrewsbury.org.uk.

Rob Wilson

7th September 2009

On 7th July 18 Shrewsbury pupils departed on a World Challenge expedition to Venezuela. After a short stop in Madrid, the group finally arrived in Caracas to find that the vast majority of their bags had not. So began a waiting game that ended two days later when a man in a truck turned up at our hotel with 19 shrinkwrapped parcels.

Amazingly this only put us about 4 hours off schedule and we set off for the Henri Pittier National Park for our acclimatisation trek. The first "day" was a 2 hour walk in darkness uphill to our first campsite (which turned out to be no more than a slightly wider section of the path). Day 2 was almost all uphill for another 5 hours, but brought us out to a fantastic campsite with views of the city of Maracay. Day 3 was by far the hardest, 25 hours through the jungle on rough terrain. The guidance notes said that it would take at least 10 hours, we did it in 10.5, a credit to the resilience of the team that everyone made it to the end. Day 4 was mostly downhill through Cocoa plantations bringing us to the end of the trail at a town called Chauo where the team gorged themselves on coca cola and chocolate cake (made from the local beans).

A day on Chauo beach was a welcome reward after such a challenging trek, and the prevalence of insects that feast on your legs did nothing to dampen everyone's spirits.

We are now in the city of Ciudad Bolivar ready to head to a remote Indian village where we will be painting a medical outpost and entertaining the children.

RMW

14th July 2009

We have just returned from the village of Boca de Nichare on the Rio Caura where we carried out the project phase of our expedition.



It was a bit of a mission to reach the village. We left our accommodation in Ciudad Bolivar at 5am for a 4 hour bus ride, but this was just the start. What followed was a 7 hour boat ride along the Rio Caura to reach the village - a total journey time that matched our flight from London to Caracas! I must mention the boat, it was nothing more than a hollowed out tree in which the team sat on planks. Luckily there was an engine, I don't think we would have been able to paddle the whole way. After so long speeding through jungle that all looked the same we felt the remoteness of the village that we would call home for the next 5 days.

Our task whilst in the village was to repaint their medical centre, and to teach and entertain the local children. The latter of these tasks was certainly a problem as we found out that we had arrived during the village's 'summer vacation' and there were only 2 or 3 children around. No matter, we set about painting the medical centre, but were instantly worried when we opened the paint that our Venezuelan helper had selected was an interesting shade of off-white resembling sand rather than the brilliant white that we had expected. Luckily it dried as a much more pleasant shade by the time we left, and with the edges picked out in blue the medical centre looked much better than when we arrived.

Tonight is an overnight bus to Santa Elena for our trek to the top of Mount Roraima, the inspiration for Arthur Conan-Doyle's 'The Lost World'.

RMW

20th July 2009

I am pleased to report that our ascent of Mount Roraima went without major incident and that the team are all in high spirits as I write this at the prospect of a celebratory pizza this evening - although I'm not too sure about the "ant and termite" flavour that some of the team will be dining on!

Our 6 day adventure up (and down) Mount Roraima began with 2 days walking across the Gran Sabana (a large area of open grassland) towards the highest of the tepuis (Table Top mountains). On our second night we camped at base camp with the vertical edge of the mountain looming above us. No-one seemed particularly nervous about the prospect of what was to come the following day, but I'm sure there were a few butterflies. Our ascent of "the Ramp" the next day was difficult, 4 hours of constant ascent, including passing directly under two waterfalls. When we reached the top the atmosphere of elation could be felt in the air, a real achievement for a team of mixed ability. The top of Roraima really is like nowhere else on Earth. There are frogs which crawl rather than hop, and when they get scared, blow themselves up into a ball and roll away! There are a number of caves on the summit to camp in, known on the mountain as "Hotels"! The next day was spent exploring the summit including ice cold plunge pools and looking through "The Window", a hole in the rock which allows you to see 600m straight down to the forest below - not something for the faint-hearted! The descent of the Ramp the following day filled me with fear as the rocks were slippery and hard to negotiate, but all credit to the team as they helped each other through.

Next up for us is the once-in-a-lifetime chance to see Angel Falls, I for one cannot wait.

RMW

28th July 2009

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



We have just returned from spending 3 days visiting Angel Falls, the highest single drop waterfall in the world (I think that's the right definition!). We are now in the town of Puerto Columbia on the Caribbean coast enjoying a couple of days of rest and relaxation. On Wednesday we will leave for Caracas for our return flight, and by Thursday evening we should be back in Shrewsbury.

RMW

3rd August 2009



School Musical: The Bubble

Saturday 29 August 2009

Shrewsbury School & Severn Opera present 'The Bubble' at Edinburgh - a musical, with book and lyrics by Peter Hankin and Julian Roach, music by John Moore

The Credit Crunch – 1720 style. The South Sea Bubble. It's bonus time! Miraculous Money and Make Believe. 'Buy! Buy! Buy!'

Into this high octane world have strayed two innocents, Martin and Polly, determined to cash in their options. Amongst the dreamers and schemers in town are playwrights John Gay and John Rich, men with gigantic plans for their own commercial success. Like the Jobbers in Scabb's Coffee House, they inhabit a world of creative intrigue. Stocks are soaring – but not for long.

Edgy, rumbustious and vibrant; set 'in a world of vanity, where greed rules all' 'The Bubble' is a musical for our time. First staged in 2002, it was described as '...highly professional, polished and compelling...' with '...fast living, money, lust and love – perfect ingredients for a musical....Sets new standards for any other musical daring to brave the Fringe...' (Scotsman)

Consistently one of the freshest amateur companies at the Edinburgh Fringe – and with a Fringe First reputation – since 1993 Shrewsbury School/Severn Opera, with composer and musical director, John Moore and director Peter Fanning, have brought student productions to the Fringe and to London theatres, including the Linbury Studio Theatre, ROH, Covent Garden and the Royal College of Music. The company aims to present new writing of quality, carefully framed for the voices and talents of a youthful cast.

For one night only, on 13th August 2009, the cast performed 'The Bubble' in The Ashton Theatre. They then went on to the Edinburgh Fringe where they put on six performances, and received a hat trick of 5-star reviews.

Thanks to an anonymous donor who saw the show in Edinburgh, the show is also now going to London on 9th January 2010.

[More information about the production...](#)



2009 Football Tour

Saturday 5 September 2009

Friday 28th August to Friday 4th September 2009

The 3am Friday departure was soon forgotten as the Shrewsbury School touring party arrived in warm and sunny Spain. We quickly settled into our La Manga base and took advantage of the excellent facilities. The lush surface of the grass training pitches, the indoor 25m pool and the gymnasium were immediately put to use and the wind and rain in Shropshire became a thing of the past! In contrast to previous tours; we are working and playing on grass, we are coaching the players ourselves and the matches are being played in the La Manga complex. The resort is very self-sufficient and we do have everything on the doorstep. Indeed, the Spanish opposition are delighted to come and play on the grass in La Manga - a real luxury for them.

Our first two matches against Cartagena and EF San Gines were both competitive and enjoyable - the improvement from game 1 to game 2 was very encouraging. The third matches against Nueva Cartagena brought a decisive win for the 1st XI (9-1), but another disappointing draw for the U15's. Although the U15's also lost their fourth and final match (the toughest of the lot), their technique had improved considerably during the week. There is absolutely no doubt that the tour will stand both teams in good stead for the forthcoming season.

1st XI Match Reports

Game One vs Cartagena FC U18 (1-0 Won)

by Christian Barrow and Jack Walton

In the subsiding yet sweltering heat of Spain the first eleven began their first match of this new campaign. Solidity was the order of the day as Cartagena our opponents were quintessentially Spanish in their obdurate refusal to concede the ball. Salopian stalwarts Lloyd, Blofield and Taylor provided the defensive strength that such competence from Cartagena warranted. However, it was at the other end after half an hour that recent acquisition Roy Chaterjee timed his run to perfection and finished with the all the aplomb of past greats such as Messrs. Griffiths and Bryan. 1-0. The next half called for strength and composure and amidst the suffocating Spanish humidity a cool head was required: one yellow card for Will Taylor and a stern word for Alex Blofield demonstrated that calmness in the heat of battle is something to work harder on. On reflection, pre-season is, and always will be a litmus test, fitness, match sharpness and composure all need to be regained, but ultimately this was a test that fifteen proud Salopians, on this occasion, passed.

Game Two vs EF San Gines U18 (0-0 Draw)

by Christian Barrow and Jack Walton

On a beautiful playing field Shrewsbury started their second encounter against Spanish outfit EF San Gines. We started our defense of a 100% record in Spain under diminishing light and a darkening sky. Chances were few and far between in the first half, the Spanish opponents nearly took a first half lead if it weren't for a well timed challenge by Christian Barrow to atone for a defensive lapse. As the Spanish opposition started to tire and Shrewsbury's pre-season lethargy evolved into a tenacious performance under the watchful eye of new coach Steve Biggins,

chances became more frequent as the Shrewsbury side bombarded the San Gines back line. Chances fell to Pat White in the final ten minutes and Charlie Pilkington but neither were able to convert their chances into a goal. Although the game ended in a goalless 0-0 draw, Shrewsbury should take many positives from making the best chances in the game and taking the game to the opposition; making them hang on for a draw.

Game Three vs Nueva Cartagena FC U18 (9-1 Won)

by Tom Elliott

Following on from two strong and structurally sound performances, the Shrewsbury 1st XI seemed confident as they stepped out on to the pitch to face their Spanish rivals. From the opening whistle, passes flowed from boot to boot and one had to admire the unity that a team in such an early stage of its season seemed to show. Shrewsbury took an early lead through Roy Chatterjee, but Nueva Cartagena equalised due to a defensive lapse occurring at a corner. As the game progressed, however, Shrewsbury's dominance became more and more apparent and after Tom Elcock's left foot put them 2-1 in front, there was no turning back. Goals came from all parts of the pitch; with Chatterjee picking up a hat-trick and Elcock and Ed White scoring two each, Shrewsbury were 7-1 up as they headed into the final ten minutes of the match. As the game drew to a close David Lloyd made up for a horrendous earlier miss with the goal that many thought would elude him all night and Jack Walton capped off the rout with a 25 yard screamer which was hit with such venom and power that, even though the opposing keeper managed to place his whole body between the ball and the goal, he was still unable to stop it. Though Shrewsbury faced the weakest opponents on tour to date, this was still a performance full of promise for new coach Biggens.

Under 15 XI Match Reports

Game One vs Cartagena FC U15 (3-2 Lost)

by Ben Gould and Edward Lloyd

Under the 30 degree sun the Shrewsbury Under 15s started their Spanish Campaign. The pitch was top quality and we needed to take full advantage of that by playing a passing game.

We got off to a surprisingly good start considering the lack of exercise done by most of the team over the holidays! We got into our rhythm quickly and fought hard against the strong Cartagena side. We were on top for most of the first third. We went 1-0 down towards the end of the first session when an in-swinging corner was not dealt with and drifted into the net. After a few changes at the break Shrewsbury did not get back into the game in the second third. The Spanish side dominated and got their second goal after a through ball left their striker with an easy finish. We managed not to concede for the rest of the period and went into the final third with a lot of work to do.

We quickly took control of the final third and we were rewarded with a shot from Max Pragnell beating the keeper and putting us back in with a shout. Our domination continued and Pragnell tapped in an equaliser from a good cross. We pushed for a winner but it wouldn't come. In the dying moments a great strike from their forward flew into the top corner. We continued to press but the goal didn't come. We should take many positives from the game but there was also plenty to work on.



Game Two vs EF San Gines U15 (2-2 Draw)

by Ben Gould and Edward Lloyd

After a good training session with Mr Biggins in the morning Shrewsbury's under 15 team started their second game of the tour. We were looking to improve on our previous encounter with Cartagena. There was a slight tension between the two teams at the start when Shrewsbury were preparing for the game and the opposing team, EF San Gines, turned up without any footballs. Shrewsbury lent them a ball and kept the others for the warm up. However, San Gines insisted on trying to take another ball, and Mr Clark had to go over and claim our ball back insisting we had already lent them one, and that we needed the rest! The game was set for a physical tussle between the sides. The match kicked off at 18:30 and although the weather was very hot Shrewsbury got off to a brilliant start thanks to Mr Greetham's new pre-match routine which over the last two games helped the team to start well which had been a previous weakness. Shrewsbury took the lead to a great piece of dribbling from Max Pragnell, and although he had been taken down on his run he got back up to score. Shrewsbury continued to dominate during the first two quarters, controlling the midfield, constantly looking dangerous and likely to score. By half time the score was 2-0. At half time a few changes were made and some players tried out new positions.

After the break the opposition came back at us hard and at a throw in we were caught out of position and San Gines scored. We went into the final quarter 2-1 ahead after some fine saves from Ben Gould and a clearance off the line by Will Miller. Again Shrewsbury started to dominate but a great strike from the opposition striker levelled the game. Shrewsbury had a few more half chances but the match resulted in a draw. Max Pragnell has scored all four goals so far on tour.

Game Three vs Nueva Cartagena FC U15 (1-1 Draw)

by Will Miller

It was an early morning start for both squads on tour. In training we were worked hard as Mr Biggins took us through some new drills. The effort we had to put in to maximise the success of the drills was more than any other drills we have done before. Thinking on your feet and keeping possession was the main focus of the drills. Everyone in the side put as much effort in as possible considering the early morning start.

Now that the squad has a pre-match routine the start to the game was considerably better than it ever has been. When the game kicked off, the boys were raring to go. The opportunities throughout the game were all well manufactured but the finishing was not well executed. Max Pragnell took the ball just a metre or two around the keeper and shot wide. Matthew Gregson missed a little dink over the goal keeper which went right into his arms. Will Miller suffered from a quad injury and went off after the second quarter. Alex Styles who was playing right back took Will's role and played superbly. He took a few knocks from the opposing side but got up and played on, as well as being impressive in the tackle. The opposition struck first in the third quarter with a chip over Ben Gould which he could do nothing about but Charlie Farquhar did his best to get it away. Nueva Cartagena should have been 2 - 0 up with the striker having to poke in from two yards away but some how missed the chance and Shrewsbury broke from that attack to Matthew Gregson on the edge of box, pulling it back to Elliott Christie for the finish in the top corner. The last quarter was really tight, with more chances for both sides, but Shrewsbury could not convert theirs.



Game Four vs Cartagena La Union FC U15 (5-1 Lost)

by Harry Bromley-Davenport

After a long week of football, the Under 15 side came to the last day of their tour. After an amazing week the team was now starting to really gel together on the pitch. After a later breakfast we had a relaxing day ahead of us leading up to the game. After breakfast the defence and goalkeeper had a meeting. Mr Clark and Mr Greetham wanted to try swapping the defence players around, as they had already done for a while in the previous game due to injuries. The two central defenders would swap with the fullbacks, meaning Alex Styles and Alistair Fisher would go in the middle of defence and Charlie Farquhar and William Miller would go at right and left back. At 12:30 pm, all of the 15's went to the indoor swimming pool to warm up for the game and hopefully prevent any small injuries affecting us that we had picked up during the week. After our swim Mr Greetham had a team talk with us and said that usually on tours the best opponents are left to later in the tour. However, our team was still very much up for the challenge and we all were going to try our very best especially in this match.

Then the time came to start walking over to the pitches for a 5pm kick off. Every single one of us needed to concentrate if we were going to do well in this match. We all agreed that we start slow from our warm ups. However, our warm up on this day was the best one we had done so far. We did some ball skills to get our eye in and then we were called into the dug outs where we would have a quick team talk before the game. It became very apparent early in the game that our opponents were slightly older and stronger, and a tight, disciplined defensive performance was necessary to avoid goal scoring opportunities. We managed to hold the opposition to 0-0 after the first period of play; we conceded the majority of possession and territory to our opponents and we were rarely in their half. Completely against the run of play and half way through the second period, the ball fell kindly to Matthew Gregson in the box and after his first left footed shot was parried by the goalkeeper, he slotted the rebound into the right hand corner with his right. A well taken goal shortly before half time was unfortunate but well deserved, and the scoreline read 1-1.

Throughout the second half of the game, and with a few untimely injuries along the way for Shrewsbury, the Cartagena Union side became more and more dominant and slotted four more goals past a tiring School. However, considering the size and skill of the opponents, the U15's could hold their heads high following a monumental test for them, which will stand them in excellent stead for the coming season.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



The U15s are through to the National 20-20 Finals Day at Headingley on Friday 11th September

Monday 7 September 2009

After a close fought victory over Oakham in the Midlands final at Loughborough on Friday 4th September, the U15s have reached the National Finals. The match was won by just 6 runs: Shrewsbury were 117 for 8 from 20 overs (Mark Prescott 45), Oakham were 111 for 8.

The team will play Manchester Grammar school in the second semi final for the right to play the winners of Whitgift and Millfield.

ALSO:

Head of School, **Ben Williams** (Rt U) has won a prestigious coaching award from Warwickshire CCC Academy. England and Warwickshire Star, **Darren Maddy** will visit Shrewsbury School on Thursday 10th Sept to present Ben with his award.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Tatler's Schools Guide 2010: 'Magnificent school'

Tuesday 8 September 2009

The following is extracted from the [Tatler's School Guide 2010](#):

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

The Schools, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY3 7BA

Watch out boys, here come the girls. Time will tell whether Shrewsbury's co-ed move has been a smart one - 35 girls started in the Lower Sixth last year, the second intake has just arrived. Traditionalists are aghast, and the grapevine murmurings aren't wholly positive, but the school's official line is that the integration has been 'utterly natural and thoroughly welcome'. Shrewsbury does all the important stuff very well: fabulous teaching, so that everyone from the cleverest clog to the academic underdog prospers; scintillatingly good music (even better since the girls' arrival); and seriously successful sports teams (the first and second VIIIs regularly outrow all opposition at the National Schools Regatta). Head Jeremy Goulding puts huge emphasis on developing each pupil's individual strengths and quirks - yes, we hear this from every school, but it's particularly true here. One boy has had a photography book published; one is competing in professional motor racing; and another has had a GCSE music composition, inspired by Chernobyl, broadcast to Ukraine and Russia on the BBC's World Service. We suggest that doom-mongers take a chill pill: it'll need more than a few girls to rock this magnificent school.

Tel 01743 280552

Email registrar@shrewsbury.org.uk

Website shrewsbury.org.uk

Head Jeremy Goulding, MA, since 2001; previously head of Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School

Pupils 747. Day: 116 boys, 9 girls; boarding: 565 boys, 57 girls.

Faith C of E Ages 13-18

Term fees Day: £6,232; boarding: £8,880

Class size 17 (8 in sixth form)

Oxbridge 13%

Higher education 98%

Registration Two years before entry; £30 fee

Admission Common Entrance or school's own exam, school's own exam, interview and at least three Bs at GCSE for sixth form

Founded 1552

Alumni Charles Darwin, Sir Philip Sidney, John Peel, Lord Heseltine, Michael Palin



Oxbridge Success 2009

Wednesday 9 September 2009

We were delighted that every boy with a conditional offer from either Oxford or Cambridge, had their place confirmed after A Level results came out this summer.

We congratulate the following on their achievement:

Stephen Craigen - Music, Trinity, Cambridge

Samuel Grainger - Music, St. Catharine's, Cambridge

Rory Griffiths - French & Spanish, Trinity Hall, Cambridge

Benjamin Lee - Land Economy, Trinity Hall, Cambridge

Philipp Legner - Mathematics, St. John's, Cambridge

Christopher Tham - Medicine, St. John's, Cambridge

Nicolas Bruce - Land Economy, Magdalene, Cambridge

Christopher Cox - History & Politics, St. Anne's, Oxford

Daniel Hunter - Law, Mansfield, Oxford

Chiao Yin Lim - Biochemistry, University, Oxford

Bertie Radcliffe - Classics, Christ Church, Oxford.



The Bubble at Edinburgh - report

Wednesday 9 September 2009

17-22 August at 1720

C VENUES – Chambers Street

The Bubble 2009 was an unusual venture in that the company included a number of old boys – and girls – from former companies; and the show was rehearsed virtually from a standing start in July and August.

Having performed the show in 2001-2, we felt that the echoes of the South Sea Bubble disaster to the current Credit Crunch were too strong to ignore.

Peter Hankin, who co-authored the libretto had written new songs for John Moore's music and cut the piece down to ninety minutes, making it tighter and more coherent. As previously Sara Hankin recreated – and improved on - much of the original choreography.

Rehearsals took place in Shrewsbury and lasted for eleven days of intense activity before a one-off performance in the Ashton Theatre to a crowded house.

The technical crew travelled to Edinburgh on Friday 14th and the 'get-in' took place at 0230 in the morning. John Harvey had generously offered to transport our equipment and staging in a 'sprinter' van and Rendez-vous-ed at the venue in the dark small hours. The remainder of the company travelled up in minibuses on the Saturday.

Accommodation was in the customary flats on the Meadows at Warrender Park Crescent, where the company could live, cook and sleep a comfortable distance from the main hub of events – from where they could easily walk into town.

The Venue

Sunday 15th August was devoted to a technical get-in for the company, balancing sound and running a full dress rehearsal. As usual, the 'get-in' for such a complex show was a tightly timetabled operation. Ten minutes were allocated for getting the stage set and the band and mikes in; five minutes to allow the audience in – and ten minutes for the 'get-out'.

'C venues' is one of the largest operators on the Fringe – hosting roughly a hundred shows. They are fastidious with more than a hint of 'control' in their approach to their customers, particularly in their approach towards uniformity of publicity and the press. However, they are professional, friendly and, during our time Edinburgh, proved helpful and encouraging on all occasions.

'C-1' is a small theatre – one of the few on the Edinburgh Fringe – with a real sense of intimacy. We performed there in 1993 and 1995 before our shows became too large for comfort. It was an ideal space for 'The Bubble' – seating up to 150. After the continuous technical difficulties which we encountered over the last three visits, the absence of such hiatuses was a great relief and performing in this space was real pleasure to all concerned.

Unlike the previous five visits to Edinburgh, restrictions in finance meant that our run lasted a week and not two, with the inevitable loss of some critical attention. However, the week's run,

with its traditional flyering on the Royal Mile (often in driving rain), its warm-ups, its get-ins and outs – and the warm camaraderie of the company – was as intense as ever.

The Company and the Show

After some inevitable hiccoughs in the Dress Rehearsal, the first night went surprisingly well – as indeed did the shows for the rest of the week. The quality of singing, acting and dancing was very high indeed. We received two reviews, both five-star, from the Edinburgh Guide (Edinburgh equivalent of Time Out) and from Broadway Baby (a popular online website). Nothing at all from The Scotsman this year, which increasingly limits itself to new work.

A small and experienced company (17 Cast 3 technicians 7 Band) made the whole tour so much more manageable than many previous years. The maturity of those taking part made for a highly self-disciplined team – and reduced any worries about discipline and the risks of living in Edinburgh to a minimum. The age range of 25 down to 17, the fact that several boys and girls were now on their third or fourth Edinburgh trip; the sheer high quality of performance and the commitment of the troupe both on and off stage made this one of the happiest tours – and the best in terms of artistic achievement.

PAF

Winners of the U14s County Cup Cricket

Thursday 10 September 2009

The U14s won the county cup, scoring 255 in their 30 overs, and bowling the opposition out for 139. Matt Gregson scored a big hitting 115, ably supported by Alex Styles who scored 41.

Winning the county cup means that the boys will proceed to the national stages of the Lords Taverners U15 Cup next year.



Winners of the Daily Telegraph Under 15's 20/20 Schools Competition at Headingley

Friday 11 September 2009

After defeating Manchester Grammar by 26 runs in the semi-final, the U15's went on to win the final against Whitgift. This is the first time that Shrewsbury has won this competition that has an entry of over 900 schools.

Please see [Daily Telegraph article](#) of 25th September.

Official photos can be viewed and bought from Photos Unlimited:

www.photosunlimited.org.uk tel. 01733 558686 .

Results from Headingley

Semi Final: Shrewsbury v Manchester Grammar School

Shrewsbury 165 or 6 J.Bailey 50, M.Gregson 40 J.Hudson-Williams 28

Manchester Grammar School 139 for 6 M.Prescott 4-0-17-0

Shrewsbury School Won by 26 runs

Final: Shrewsbury v Whitgift

Whitgift 132 for 5

J.Hudson-Williams 4-1-9-0 J.Aston 4-0-23-0 W.Mason 4-0-37-1

M.Prescott 4-0-15-2 A.Darroch 2-0-10-1 H.Lewis 2-0-21-0

Shrewsbury School 133 for 1

H.Lewis run out 8, S.Leach 56 not out , J. Hudson-Williams 52 not out

Shrewsbury School won by 9 wickets

Shrewsbury

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Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor's visit to Shrewsbury September 2009

Sunday 13 September 2009

On September 12th 2009 the former Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, celebrated Mass in the School Chapel. The service was attended by a number of parents, staff and pupils, who then had a chance to chat to the Cardinal over a cup of coffee in the Library.

The Cardinal then went on to address the whole school (pupils and staff) at the annual service in the medieval church of St. Mary's in Shrewsbury. It was a glorious service on a beautiful autumnal morning, and the Cardinal spoke in an engaging and very wise way.

Although Shrewsbury is a Church of England school that was founded by Edward VI following the dissolution of the monasteries, links with the Catholic Church have always remained strong both within the staff and the pupils.



Prep Schools' Six-a-Side Tournament

Sunday 13 September 2009

2009 was the twentieth Shrewsbury School Prep. Schools' Six-a-Side Tournament - an annual event that takes place one Sunday afternoon towards the beginning of the Michaelmas term. It is a wonderfully colourful, lively and good-natured event that ends with the presentations, tea and refreshments in Quod, our Sixth Form common room.

The 2009 competing schools were:

- Arnold Lodge, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire
- Beech Hall, Tytherington, Cheshire
- Birchfield, Albrighton, Wolverhampton
- Elstree, Woolhampton, Berkshire
- Foremarke Hall, Milton, Derbyshire
- Hallfield School, Edgbaston, Birmingham
- Horris Hill, Newbury, Berkshire
- Lockers Park, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire
- The Old Hall School, Wellington, Shropshire
- Packwood Haugh, Ruyton-XI-Towns, Shropshire
- Prestfelde, Shrewsbury, Shropshire
- Priory School, Edgbaston, Birmingham
- Shrewsbury High Prep School, Shrewsbury, Shropshire
- St. John's-on-the-Hill, Tutshill, Monmouthshire
- Terra Nova, Jodrell Bank, Cheshire
- The Ryleys, Alderley Edge, Cheshire
- Yarlet Hall, Stafford
-

Further photographs are available from www.kidzinsport.co.uk

Sunday 13th September 2009

The weather was extremely kind for the annual Shrewsbury School Prep Schools 6-a-side Tournament. Sunshine and excellent playing surfaces allowed the players to serve up a feast of football. Football was certainly the winner as thirty two teams competed over two age groups (under 11 and under 13) for nearly four hours of competitive and very entertaining football. All finals were fiercely contested.

The Under 11 Shield was won by **Foremarke**, having beaten Yarlet 1-0.

The Under 11 Cup was won by **Birchfield** – they beat Elstree 8-7 on penalties after the game ended 1-1.

The Ryleys overcame Birchfield by two goals to nil in the Senior Shield, and **Foremarke** won the Senior Cup after beating St John's- on-the-Hill, 1-0.

Girls' Hockey

Monday 14 September 2009

1st VII v Shrewsbury High School: Shrewsbury 4 - 1 High School

To start the hockey season, we played a 7-a-side game against the High School. We started the game positively with a lot of possession and we were rewarded when Lois Davies scored a goal from a great position on the left post. We continued to be strong throughout the half with two more goals before half time from Elle Gurden and Ellie Hill.



RSSH

Monday 14 September 2009

Manchester Relays 19th September

The Hunt got the cross-country season off to a solid start on Saturday at the 3rd RGS Manchester relays. Demonstrating the strength in depth that is beginning to emerge, we fielded 'A' and 'B' teams in both the Seniors and the Intermediates race. The course was flat and fast, and saw some very quick times over the 1.5 mile course.

Both the Senior 'A' and the Intermediate 'A' teams came in 5th position, with strong performances at the top level from Huntsman **Alex Mackay** (7.00) and new entrant **Kris Blake** (7.01). Top performer of the day, however, was 5th Former **Simon Jones**, whose time of 6.54 in the Intermediate race was one of the top of the day. Also notable was 4th former **Seb Pope**, whose time of 7.24 was evidence of the excellent progress he has made, and the strong prospect that he represents for the future.

Our 'B' teams also performed commendably, and saw some new faces don the RSSH vest. Indeed, both the Senior 'B' and Inter 'B' teams were awarded medals for fastest 'B' teams.

Alex Mackay and Kris Blake also took part the following day at the **Shrewsbury 'Seven Bridges'** 10km, with Alex finishing in the top 15 (out of a field of 200).

[PJM]

	SENIOR A		SENIOR B	
Leg 1	James Tilley	7.26	James Thornhill	7.31
Leg 2	Cal Winwood	7.26	Kit Schutzer-Weissman	7.29
Leg 3	Kris Blake	7.01	Will Whittaker	7.48
Leg 4	Alex Mackay	7.00	Guy Vernon	7.24
		28.53		30.12
	INTERMEDIATE A		INTERMEDIATE B	
Leg 1	Seb Pope	7.24	James Halliday	7.55
Leg 2	Jake Holford	7.55	Will Spencer-Jones	8.15
Leg 3	Ally Hibbert	7.40	Lloyd Evans	8.40
Leg 4	Simon Jones	6.54	Hugh Nugent	8.30
		29.53		33.20

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Football

Monday 14 September 2009

On Saturday the 1st XI continued their excellent start to the season with a 3-0 victory over King's Chester. The goals came from Roy Chatterjee, George Curtis and captain Robbie Williams. We played eight matches last Saturday, winning six and losing two. The 1st XI now travel to KES Witley for their Boodles Cup Match on Wednesday.

Badminton

Monday 14 September 2009

Eight pupils performed superbly on Saturday, in our traditionally strongest fixture against Bedstone College - but we won 11-1 in doubles, and also won confidently in some informal singles matches. Tremendous result.

Shrewsbury

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RSSH

Monday 14 September 2009

The Hunt got the cross-country season off to a solid start on Saturday at the 3rd RGS Manchester relays. Demonstrating the strength in depth that is beginning to emerge, we fielded 'A' and 'B' teams in both the Seniors and the Intermediates race. The course was flat and fast, and saw some very quick times over the 1.5 mile course.



Golf

Monday 21 September 2009

Vs St. Edward's, Cheltenham

On Wednesday a team of three Salopians, James Mainwaring (Captain), Eoin Bentick, and Stefan Hindmarsh, competed in the first round of the Independent Schools Golf Association (ISGA) Match Play competition. The match was played over 18 holes at Lilley Brook Golf Club. In perfect conditions the match was played to an excellent standard. Stefan Hindmarsh was the only victor having never been behind in the whole match, however Eoin Bentick cruelly lost on the final hole and James Mainwaring narrowly lost to St Edward's unbeaten Captain. The match resulted in a narrow defeat to the Shrewsbury Team 2-1. However the team will now go on to compete in the plate of the competition which the trio might have a much stronger chance of winning.

Old Salopian Stableford, Trentham GC

Stefan Hindmarsh scored a very respectable 32 points, just falling short of James Mainwaring's 36 points, with a disappointed Eoin Bentick with 26 points. In the end none of the team could bring home the under 30 stableford trophy James Mainwaring had won the year before, as it ended up in the hands of a well deserving Old Salopian who hit a round of four over par, and 40 stableford points.

Cricket

Monday 21 September 2009

Leaver in 2009 Joe Leach discovered last week that he has been awarded a summer contract for the 2010 season from Worcestershire County Cricket Club. Fantastic news!



Girls' Hockey

Monday 21 September 2009

Shrewsbury 1st XI 2 - 2 Kings Chester

This was our first ever hockey fixture against Kings and during the warm up it became apparent they were a very strong side. This was demonstrated when they went 1-0 up after just one minute. Soon after this though, we found our rhythm and battled hard to get back into the game. After fifteen minutes Ellie Hill found wide open space in the D and made it 1-1. Unfortunately, despite Shrewsbury having most of the possession and a number of chances, Kings managed a break away goal just before half time to lead 2-1.

In the second half Shrewsbury worked hard and again had most of the play but were unable to capitalise. Finally we were rewarded with another goal from Ellie Hill with five minutes left. Just on the final whistle Shrewsbury were awarded a penalty corner and came very close to a third goal, but narrowly missed out with some very good saves from the Kings' keeper. For some very creative and skilful play down the left, man of the match went to Annabel Brentnal.



Football

Monday 21 September 2009

The 1st XI had a mixed week. On Wednesday they travelled to KES Witley in Surrey to play in the 1st round of the Boodles ISFA Cup. They had a comfortable 4-0 win, two goals each from Roy Chatterjee and Pat White made for a pleasant return journey of nearly 4 hours. They did come down to earth with a bump on Saturday however, losing 3-1 to a fit, strong and well organised Old Salopians.

The 2nd XI had 2 good games, losing by 3 goals to 2 against Shrewsbury 6th Form College, but beating the Old Salopians 6-1 on Saturday.

The Under 16's played Mary Webb Schhol from Pontesbury on Tuesday and won by 5 goals to 1.

James Taylor (OS 2008) voted as Young Cricketer of the Year

Tuesday 22 September 2009

James Taylor won the vote for The Cricket Writers' Club 'Young Cricketer of the Year'. He beat England allrounder Stuart Broad into second place polling almost twice the number of votes as him.

The award is in its 60th Year, and the player must be under 23 and England qualified - former winners include Fred Trueman , Ian Botham, David Gower and 8 of the current England side!

This story made local and national news:

See [Daily Telegraph article](#), [BBC news](#) and the [Shropshire Star article](#)

Shrewsbury

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CCF: Military Skills Competition

Monday 28 September 2009

Weekend of 2nd October 2009, Swynnerton Trg Area

The competition started early on Saturday morning with a number of different stands. The stands included first aid scenarios and tests, military knowledge tests, weapon handling, leadership problem solving tasks, Section attacks, map and compass etc. The evening didn't quieten down for the team, with further scored activities in harbour drills, ambushes and patrol lanes.

The weekend climaxed with the March and Shoot element of the competition where the team had to complete a three mile forced march carrying all their equipment, then shoot accurately on the 25 metre range. It was a great weekend and despite not being the winning team, they had fun and could take away many exciting and fun experiences.



Golf

Monday 28 September 2009

Vs Ellesmere

This week the school team played Ellesmere at Henlle Golf Course near Gobowen. Ostensibly a B team match in the ISGA competition series we had to field a mixed team because of illness and injury. Our opponents were sporting low handicaps and this was matchplay so we had our work cut out. The course at Henlle is relatively new and open and soon it was apparent that Stefan Hindmarsh was proving competitive. James Mainwaring too was having a decent round. Debutantes Charlie Lacey and David Williams, whilst playing well, were outclassed by much more experienced players. Ellesmere have their own 9-hole course on site and clearly use it frequently. In the end we lost all four pairings but everyone, including the opposition, had a most enjoyable afternoon.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Joint Darwin Society/Cambridge Society Lecture 2009

Monday 28 September 2009

This was the fifth annual lecture and previous speakers have included such eminent scientists as Lord Rees (OS) and Sir John Polkinghorne. This year's speaker was Professor Robert Foley, Director of the Leverhulme Centre for Human Evolutionary Studies at Cambridge University and a Fellow of Kings College. He was accompanied by his wife, Dr Marta Mirazon who is a Reader in Evolutionary Biology at Clare.

Their passionate interest in the mysteries surrounding human origins was apparent from first meeting them, and it was a real pleasure to see how they both responded with delight to see and handle some of the original Darwin letters and books in our own ancient library before the lecture. It was also particularly appropriate that a Darwinian anthropologist should address us at Darwin's old School in Darwin Year.

Professor Foley's lecture began with Darwin's Origin of Species and ended with the work of the Institute he and his wife co-founded, tracing the history of research into human origins and evolution from early wild (and biased) speculations, through the fossil record to genetic mapping. He emphasised the multidisciplinary nature of the work, the essential role of fieldwork and the amazing potential of modern genetics, and managed to take us all with him. He and Marta also found time to chat to a small number of upper sixth formers about preparation for Cambridge entrance.

It was a memorable event.

Steve Adams

sfa@shrewsbury.org.uk



National GA Worldwide Challenge Weekend

Monday 28 September 2009

Through winning the regional round of the Worldwide Quiz, six fifth form Geographers were invited to the final of the Worldwide Challenge recently at the Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre at Mickleham near Dorking in Surrey. Oliver Hughes (Rb), Chris Williams (I), Charles Newbould (Ch), Harry Croft (G), Rob Morgan (R) and George Mallett (S) were divided into two teams of three.

They were tasked with having to do an "Apprentice" style challenge of marketing the Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre and the local area of Box Hill. Three other schools also had two teams in the competition - Bishop Wordsworth Grammar School (Salisbury), Reading School and St. Cuthbert Mayne RC School from Torquay. The teams had to navigate using a GPS system to various stations in the area where they were given tasks to perform by members of the GA staff. Most of the fieldwork was fairly innovative and unlike the the investigations they would have carried out for GCSE.

They then had to put together a 5 minute presentation that was presented to the judges on Sunday lunchtime. In the event, our teams were highly commended but failed to win. The competition was won by a team from Bishop Wordsworths. The GA President for 2009/10, Dr. John Halocha presented the prizes and told the participants that the standard was very high and it was difficult for the judges to choose an overall winner.

The boys had a good time, made new friends, enjoyed the almost sub-tropical weather and were excellent ambassadors for the school.

The accompanying staff, on the other hand, got sunburnt, had a good day walking around Box Hill, ate ice creams and were given an outstanding CPD session on Geographic Information Systems by David Holmes, the principal examiner of the Edexcel Geography AS level.

Rob Morris

rhm@shrewsbury.org.uk



Girls' Hockey

Monday 28 September 2009

The annual Wrekin 7's tournament took place last Wednesday. Shrewsbury were in group A with five other teams - Ludlow College, Shrewsbury High School, Ellesmere College, Wrekin 'B' and last year's winners, Denstone College.

Shrewsbury got off to a great start, beating Ludlow College 2-0; Ellie Hill and Becky Corkill scoring. We continued our run with another 2-0 victory, this time against Wrekin 'B'. Our next game was against the High School, whom we beat 4-1 two weeks previously, however, it was not to be on this occasion as we narrowly lost 2-1. It was going to be tough to qualify as our remaining games were against the two strongest teams, Ellesmere and Denstone. Despite playing well and battling hard, Shrewsbury conceded a late goal to Ellesmere and lost 1-0. Our last match was against last year's winners, but a place in the semi finals was possible if we were to win. Unfortunately, Denstone were just too strong and went on to win 2-0. Shrewsbury played well throughout the tournament and came 3rd in the group. Impressive performances all round.



Football

Monday 28 September 2009

1st XI Captain Robbie Williams, David Lloyd, Edward White and Pat White have been selected to represent the ISFA North team against the South towards the end of the October. Roy Chatterjee has been named as the first reserve.

Jack Hudson Williams has been selected for ISFA North U16s on the 18th October. The U16A XI have progressed to the quarter-finals of the ESFA RAF CUP. They have been drawn away to William Brookes.

The 1st XI had a difficult ESFA Cup Match with Thomas Telford School last Thursday. The score after full-time was 3-3 with goals from Roy Chatterjee (2) and Edward White. At the end of extra-time the score was still 3-3 but Shrewsbury overcame their local rivals 8-7 in a penalty shoot out; George Barker saving the Thomas Telford 8th penalty.

Last Wednesday we entertained the Shropshire County squads at under 14, 15 and 16 age groups. The highlight of the afternoon was the 3-1 win by our under 15's with goals from Matthew Gregson, Aries Yiu and Max Pragnell.

Shrewsbury

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Classics: Student is runner-up in national essay competition

Tuesday 29 September 2009

Oliver Lyman was the runner up and the happy recipient of a £100 prize for his essay on 'Cleon and the Radical Demagogues of 5th century Athens' in the Gladstone Prize - the UK's premier essay prize in Classics - following in the steps of Bertie Radcliffe who was runner up in 2008 with his essay on 'Bread and Circuses', and of Rob Hughes who had also been runner up with an essay on Virgil the year before.

Fencing

Monday 5 October 2009

The fencers drew their fixture at the Wrekin Sword on Saturday. This was a match against adults so a draw was very creditable indeed.



Badminton

Monday 5 October 2009

Vs Wrekin College

The school played a mixed team of eight away at Wrekin College, and without our strongest boys, came out with a very creditable all-square result after games of doubles and singles. The boys' doubles played very well against their opponents and came out comfortable winners, with the Tantipiriyakij brothers looking unconquerable, and in the other pairing Chanon was a tremendous bundle of energy and accuracy to guide and support his younger partner A-Win, who did well to compete at this level. The four girls all gave a good account of themselves, with Lela and Sarah leading the way for the two newcomers, Fon and Ann-Christin. Their levels of enthusiasm and determination were exemplary. Overall, the match was played in a hugely positive and sporting spirit, prompting Wrekin's players and coach to urge an exact repeat of the occasion after Exeat. A highly enjoyable afternoon.



Girls' Hockey

Monday 5 October 2009

This week Shrewsbury travelled to Telford for the county tournament. There were two groups and in Shrewsbury's group were Moreton Hall, Sixth Form College and Ellesmere.

Shrewsbury got off to a poor start against Moreton Hall and were lucky not to concede. In the second half we came alive and played much better, but couldn't break the stalemate as the game finished 0-0. Our second match was against Ellesmere. They had beaten us the week before and had already beaten the Sixth Form College. Shrewsbury were always on the back foot, but played well as a team and conceded just one goal.

We knew we had to win the final game and so came out attacking. Shrewsbury had most of the play, but the Sixth Form were strong in defence. It was still 0-0 at half time. Finally, we managed to break through and won the game 1-0, despite having a number of chances. We had won 1, drawn 1, lost 1. Ellesmere had already won two and were definitely through. It was down to the final match and goal difference - Ellesmere had to beat Moreton by three goals or more. Fortunately, Ellesmere got stronger and stronger and did manage to win 3-0. This meant we qualified for the next round next week, although if we are to go further, a few more goals will be needed!

Shrewsbury

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Swimming

Monday 5 October 2009

Swimming Gala Vs Rydal Penrhos

Shrewsbury hosted the first home fixture of the term against Rydal Penrhos . Shrewsbury won 63 points to 59 after some close finishes and exciting swims. Although the opposing team had some younger swimmers, Shrewsbury had to work hard to earn their place and walked away triumphant. The team included some newcomers from the compulsory sports and all competitors gave their best performance.

RSSH - Tucks

Monday 5 October 2009

The race this year was won by the school's Huntsman Alex Mackay (U6 I), second was Sixth form entrant Kris Blake (S), 3rd Alex Blofield (U6 PH) and 4th was Huw Vaughan-Jackson (U6 Ch). (First home was our very own Master-in-charge Mr Peter Middleton; leading from the front!). [More information](#) and an in-depth report.



Football

Monday 5 October 2009

The 1st XI had two very good wins last week. They beat Lancing College 2-0 in the 2nd round of the ISFA Boodles Cup with both goals coming from Roy Chatterjee. On Saturday they beat a formidable Bradfield College also 2-0. Goals from Alex Blofield and Roy Chatterjee halfway through the second half sealed a well deserved victory.

The 2nd XI had a mixed week losing 3-1 to Ludlow College and drawing 0-0 at Bradfield. The Under 16A's enjoyed two excellent wins. The first against a touring team from Australia - St Paul's College from near Sydney, and the second against Bradfield.



Rowing

Monday 5 October 2009

The Annual Victoria Williams Sabrina sculling competition took place on Saturday. All age groups raced in a time trial run in two divisions. At the back of each division the J14 squads also raced as quads. The Ridgemount Quad came out victorious with a split time of 3m 24s - this was the third form oarsmen's first official race - well done boys! Ben Spencer-Jones (PH) emerged the victor in the VWS with a twelve second margin from second place Rupert Chitty (M), and Edward Thomason (R) in third.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



CCF: Army Air Corps helicopter visit

Monday 5 October 2009

On October 7th, the CCF were privileged to receive another visit from Capt Lizzie Dunn, the Recruiting and Liaison Officer for the Army Air Corps. During her visit in her gazelle helicopter she managed to fly 30 cadets around Shrewsbury on short 10 minute sorties. Everyone had a great trip, and the experience was life changing for some who now wish to pursue a career in aviation.



Astronomy Society: Visit to Jodrell Bank

Tuesday 6 October 2009

Visit to Jodrell Bank and to meet Sir Bernard Lovell September 2009

On 21st September I took some Sixth Form physicists and 5th Form GCSE astronomers to Jodrell Bank radio telescope in Cheshire. We had been invited to meet Sir Bernard Lovell who had heard of the POISE (polar orbiting ionospheric scintillation experiment). This began when we won a UK competition to design an experiment to go into space. The experiment was launched in late July and is now on board the DMC2 satellite. We expect to start receiving data at our ground station in Shrewsbury School in the months ahead and the experiment will continue for several years. The image below shows Simon Clayton-Jones presenting a copy of our original proposal to Sir Bernard Lovell. Simon has been the project leader for POISE, coordinating links with various research groups and managing an evolving team of students here at School.

Sir Bernard Lovell (96) was the founder and first director of the Jodrell Bank Observatory 1945-80. He led the team that developed H2S radar during WWII and was knighted in 1961 for his pioneering work in radio astronomy at Manchester University.

Sir Bernard reminisced about the early days at Jodrell Bank, the design and construction for the telescope and its continuing importance to radio astronomy after over half a century.

Steve Adams sfa@shrewsbury.org.uk

Head of Physics



'The Bubble' gets a hat-trick of 5-star reviews at Edinburgh

Friday 9 October 2009

Three Weeks gives 'The Bubble' a 5-star rating:

"Shrewsbury School & Severn Opera

If Baz Luhrmann directed a musical about the credit crunch at the Fringe, 'The Bubble' would be it. A newcomer to London ends up working for the South Sea Company where the stakes are high, bonuses generous and the biggest sin is to use the 's-word'. Full of fickle illusions of success, happiness, love and art, this musical celebrates the brevity of any lesson ever learnt, making it a beautiful poetic work full of drama and comedy. With marvellous live music, costumes and set, the magnificent chorus as a sinister voice of reality, superb performances by the cast and an excellent balance between the historic plot and the subtle remarks of contemporary relevance, this production is a true peak of musicals.

5/5 ***** "

Three Weeks is the main Festival Magazine for Reviews, published in September

BroadwayBaby.com gives 'The Bubble' a 5-star rating:

Shrewsbury School has a reputation for successfully staging ambitious, new musicals at the Fringe. This year's production of The Bubble, although wholly appropriate for the current economic climate, is not entirely new, having been previously brought to Edinburgh in 2002.

The musical is based upon the true story of the South Sea Bubble of 1720. The South Sea Company had been given a monopoly of all trade to the south seas. Shares in the company immediately began to rise, and false stories were put about by the company's directors to encourage more and more people to buy, believing that they would make huge fortunes with no risk attached. In five months the shares went from £175 to over £1,000. Then the bubble burst.

The hero of this story is Martin, a lad from Shropshire who is in prison facing execution for undermining the country's financial system by causing the collapse of the South Sea Company. He tells us his story, beginning with his arrival in London to seek his fortune. During his time in London, Martin meets Polly, a country girl from Runcorn, whom he tries to help. He also gets to know the playwrights John Gay and John Rich, who are trying, unsuccessfully, to write a play and are hoping to raise the money for it by buying South Sea shares.

As ever with Shrewsbury School, this is a slick and professional production with a very large cast. The music is complex and inventive and the standard of singing is high, particularly in the ensemble works. The costumes are colourful and authentic, and even include several changes for the leading characters. This is another excellent, well-chosen musical.

See www.BroadwayBaby.com for more information

19th August 2009: The Bubble gets 'Spectacular' review from Edinburgh Fringe:

'The Bubble' - a rip-roaring musical based on the South Sea Bubble - was first staged by Shrewsbury in 2001. It has been revived this year and, in conjunction with The Severn Theatre, it is showing again at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival with many of the original cast.



The edinburghguide.com review said 'As John Barrowman might say "STUPENDOUS, STUPENDOUS, STUPENDOUS!" A show that surpasses some of this year's offerings from professional casts; set in 1720, this is an older tale about a very topical issue; the City of London and dealers in stocks and shares; fortunes are made on paper until the Bubble bursts... a GREAT SHOW by an EXCELLENT young cast.'

The City Spy column in The Evening Standard, 27th July 2009, noted:

The Bubble gives Scotch bankers a wry smile

The Bubble - a musical based on the South Sea Company and the collapse of its shares in 1720 - makes a comeback at the Edinburgh Fringe. Written at the height of the dotcom boom and bust in 2001, the final chorus notes:

*We followed the Bubble
We fell for its lies
It shone for an instant
Then burst in our eyes
We have to admit it was quite a surprise
But we'll never do it again.*

Less than a decade later, the irony of those lines will not be lost on any former Royal Bank of Scotland executives should they happen upon next month's performance.



Michael Palin (OS) lecture - "From Shrewsbury to the World: A Debt to Darwin"

Saturday 10 October 2009

"From Shrewsbury to the World: A Debt to Darwin"

On October 1st 2009, Shrewsbury School welcomed Michael Palin (Old Salopian) back to the school, at the joint invitation of the Old Salopian Club and the Shropshire Branch of the Geographical Association.

In his talk '**From Shrewsbury to the World – a Debt to Darwin**', Michael entertained an Alington Hall packed to the rafters (and, by video link, an overflow audience in the Ashton Theatre) with magnificent and comical accounts of experiences and encounters on his extensive travels as well reminiscing about his days at Shrewsbury in the late 1950's and early 1960's. He spoke about his trepidation of once again stepping on to the stage in the Alington Hall, where possibly his finest moment at Shrewsbury School took place in winning the Bentley Elocution prize in 1961. He amused the audience by also describing his various walk-on parts in school plays that were invariably Shakespeare in those days.

He spoke about the seven BBC TV series he has made with largely the same production crew, describing how it was more of a team effort rather than down to him as an individual. From his first journey started in 1988 that followed the fictional journey around the world by Phileas Fogg, the archetypal English gentleman created by a Frenchman, Michael told the audience he was, in fact, fourth choice for the programme after Alan Whicker, Miles Kington and Noel Edmonds had all turned the BBC's offer down.

He described his perilous journey by dhow from Dubai to Mumbai and how, in his last journey, he had recently tracked down the crew of that boat to Gujarat in North West India. Michael regaled the audience with anecdotes about landing on the ice at the North Pole, travelling through the USSR in the last throes of communism and visiting such diverse places as Mogadan in the Kamchatka Peninsula of Russia, Peshawar on the North West frontier of Pakistan and the South Pole. Along the way he spoke of the people he met; Inuits in Alaska who recognised him from the 'Monty Python and the Holy Grail' film, Kalashnikov-toting Pathans from the tribal areas of Pakistan offering him recently taken videos of Osama bin Laden for \$20 and former Burmese head-hunters singing 'Onward Christian Soldiers' in their own language.

One of the most amusing stories was how having been greeted by Maori chiefs with a Haka in the South Island of New Zealand, Michael replied with the first verse of the Shrewsbury School song sung in Latin! This excerpt can be seen by clicking on the You Tube link below (the song itself starts about 4 minutes after the beginning):

www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5cJeCMTgtQ

Behind the humour lay a deep, personal feeling for, and appreciation of, the astonishing beauty and variety in places and people in the world which hold a fascination for him, as for that other great Old Salopian, Darwin, before him. The talk was well received by the audience who were

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charmed by Michael's style that was part eccentric, part raconteur with some Pythonesque overtones thrown in for good measure.

The proceeds for the evening went to the Field Studies Council Darwin Scholarship (www.field-studies-council.org), an award to teachers of biology, ecology and geography from overseas to come to Preston Montford to learn how to teach aspects of Field Studies and take this knowledge back to their own countries. The other joint beneficiary was [Shrewsbury House](#).

Photos taken during the evening by John Snowdon for Shropshire Life Magazine

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Rob Morris (rhm@shrewsbury.org.uk)

Geography Faculty
Shrewsbury School

Shrewsbury

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CCF: Field Day 15th October 2009

Monday 12 October 2009

Imperial War Museum, Duxford

The RAF section of the CCF spent Field Day at the the Imperial War Museum, Duxford in Cambridgeshire.

This was the first time the section had been here for a number of years and the cadets were impressed by the sheer number of aircraft on show at the museum.

Highlight of the day was watching one of the last remaining B-17 Flying Fortress flying. This particular aircraft was the 'star' of the feature film "Memphis Belle".

The photo shows the senior cadets in the section taken in front of a US Navy F-15 (as made famous by the film "Top-Gun".)



RSSH

Monday 12 October 2009

BENJY UPDATE

Many boys opt to run each week in one or both 'Benjy' runs, for their House. The Benjy course takes the pupils around and just outside the site, running alongside the river for some of the lap. Below are the current House standings up to Half Term. The outstanding athlete thus far has been Alun Vaughan-Jackson (Ch 4th Form), who has placed either 1st or 2nd fastest times each week since beginning of the competition.

Stand out performances have also come from Alex Mackay and Hugh Vaughan-Jackson (both U6th, Alex in Ingram's, Hugh in Churchill's), who are both under 8 minutes per Benjy at this stage. Churchills are looking good!

TOTAL

Ch 267

SH 135

PH 123

S 97

I 93

G 53

O 50

M 38

Rt 21

Rb 15

R 7



Girls' Hockey

Monday 12 October 2009

County Tournament Round 2

The 2nd round of the county tournament involved the top two teams from Group A (Wrekin and Ludlow) against the top two teams from Group B (Shrewsbury and Ellesmere) from the previous round.

Shrewsbury's first match was against Ellesmere - the only team to beat us the previous week and one of only two teams to beat us in the Wrekin 7's the week before that. It was going to be a tough game, but if we managed to hold them, we would stand a good chance against Wrekin and Ludlow.

After a couple of minutes, it was clear Shrewsbury had stepped up a gear and suddenly everything fell into place. A 5-0 victory was unexpected but deserved; Shrewsbury were outstanding. Unfortunately, we came up against a very strong Wrekin side and lost our shape a little, with Wrekin coming through to win 2-0. Ellesmere won their 2nd game against Ludlow, but also lost to Wrekin. This put Wrekin through in first place, but we were on the same points as Ellesmere. We had to beat Ludlow to go through automatically. After five minutes against Ludlow, it was clear we were the stronger side, but a goal eluded us. Eventually we broke the deadlock and the final score was 1-0 to Shrewsbury.

This means that Shrewsbury will go on to **represent Shropshire in the West Midlands** - a wonderful achievement in the first two years of Girls' Games!



Football

Monday 12 October 2009

Chike Kandi (M, 3rd Form), discovered last week that following a trial period with Birmingham City Football Club, he has been offered a one year academy contract. Chike now has the opportunity to train twice a week and play with and against the best U14 talent in the country. We wish him well.

Chike's individual training programme which combines his School and BCFC footballing commitments together with Top Schools (homework) and other School commitments, has been devised with the individual in mind but falls in line with the schedules of Shrewsbury's other talented sportsmen and women involved with Academies and Professional Clubs.



RSSBC

Monday 12 October 2009

Agecroft Head

Despite 'flu hanging over the School, RSSBC had its first test of the new season on Saturday.

Due to the demise of around 8 oarsmen overnight there had to be a total re-organisation of the crews involved, the main aim to make sure that everyone had a race!

In the first division our 1M2 4+ had an exceptional row ending up top of the coxed four table, taking in its wake an Agecroft four containing two members of their Henley winning crew from July! Our IM3 8 had a decent paddle being pipped out of second place by a whisker, this boat contained a vast difference in oarsmen's abilities, from experienced to first race novice.

Later in the day another four fours raced the 3,200 metre course on the Salford Quays, in Manchester. Firstly, the final two top squad crews fared well again, with the J16 Four romping home to victory by a substantial 20 second margin. Next came the IM3 four, again a crew of mixed abilities and one that the coaching team were concerned may not gel. A very creditable 3rd place was the result. Thus proving the strength in depth of this year's top squad.

The final two crews to race were the two J15 4+, this being their first race in a 'sweep' boat. Again the results were promising with a win and a third place, very creditable in that all the opposition were from Kings School Chester who were very strong as J14's.

All in all an excellent start, especially considering the huge disruption to the crews!



Shrewsbury pupil selected for elite equestrian squad

Monday 12 October 2009

Alice Walker (MSH) has become one of the youngest members of the regional foundation squad supported by the British Equestrian Foundation.

A talented event rider, Alice, of High Ercall, will now train with the six-strong West Midlands squad on a monthly basis for the next two years.

The regional squads include the four Olympic disciplines and one Paralympic discipline of dressage, eventing, show jumping and para-equestrian dressage, with riders aged between 16 and 24 having access to top equestrian specialists including coaches, physiotherapists, psychologists, vets and nutritionists via a series of clinics.

"I was quite shocked to be chosen as I was one of the youngest riders at a selection day at Leicestershire recently but it is a brilliant opportunity," commented Alice, who currently competes on Talking Bishop and Thin Ice and already represents Wales and the Borders.

She has also ridden for Britain twice in international pony trials and is a successful point-to-point racer, having two victories under her belt so far this season.

"My mentor in the new squad will be Janette Brakewell, a double Olympic medalist, whose horse Over to You is an eventing legend, having won more medals than any horse other in history so that will be amazing.

"It is my aim to get in the British youth team and selection for this squad is certainly a step in the right direction," Alice added.

She recently represented the region in the Weston Park International CCIJ one star competition and came seventh in her event at Necarne's international horse trials in Northern Ireland.



Community Service: Shrewsbury School in Partnership with Woodfield Infants

Tuesday 13 October 2009

Shrewsbury School and Woodfield Infants' School have recently formed an alliance that offers the students from both establishments a fantastic opportunity.

Sixth formers from Shrewsbury, under the supervision of their teachers, have devised a scheme to offer Music and Science clubs to all Year Two pupils from Woodfield School. Fifteen seven year olds come to Shrewsbury after school every Thursday afternoon and spend an hour in either the Maidment Building (Shrewsbury School's Music Facility) or in the Biology Laboratories. The children are absolutely loving the opportunity to experiment and learn in a new environment, whilst the sixth formers gain invaluable experience planning and delivering a course of "lessons". A minibus, jointly funded by the two schools, brings the children to Shrewsbury School and they are collected after their clubs by their parents.

As part of the same scheme, Woodfield School welcome four sixth form students from Shrewsbury School into their classrooms every Thursday afternoon. These students act as classroom assistants in the school, helping with reading, art, PE and even filmmaking! Whilst this gives extra pairs of hands at Woodfield, it also offers invaluable experience for the sixth formers, some of whom have ambitions to become teachers themselves.

Mrs. Dunkerley, Headmistress of Woodfield, has been extremely positive about the scheme, which she and her staff have worked hard to introduce. This truly is a partnership that benefits all involved.

Kristina Leslie

kl@shrewsbury.org.uk

October 2009

Quod fashion show raises almost **£1,000**

Saturday 17 October 2009

The 2009 Fashion Show in Quod was a huge success, with 16 models from School taking part showing clothes from local stores to around 200 spectators. Nearly £1,000 was raised for Teenage Cancer Trust and Shrewsbury House.

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Shrewsbury School pupil to become a Steinway Young Artist

Monday 26 October 2009

Lilly Grosse-Buening, MSH, a music scholar in the Upper Sixth at Shrewsbury has been admitted to the Steinway Young Artists scheme. Lilly is a very talented young pianist who gave sparkling performances of the Schumann piano competition earlier this year at the School, and who will be playing Tchaikovsky's first piano concerto in Birmingham Town Hall next term with the school's Symphony Orchestra. She also appears frequently as a soloist in many concerts at the school, has made recordings and was a competitor in the James Mottram piano competition at the Royal Northern College of Music last year. The Steinway Young Artists Scheme is a selective process designed to encourage the careers of talented and gifted young pianists around the world. It is a huge accolade for Lilly.

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Three Shrewsbury School pupils through to the second round of the BBC Young Musician of the Year Competition 2009

Monday 26 October 2009

Three talented pupils of Shrewsbury School, Rob Collins, Alex Collins and Will Shaw all competed in the first round of the prestigious BBC Young Musician of the Year Competition at the the Millenium Centre Cardiff before half term. All three have been successful in getting through to the next round which is held at the Royal College of Music in London in early January 2010. Rob Collins plays oboe, Alex his twin brother, the clarinet. Both boys are music scholars in their Lower Sixth and are in Severn Hill. Will Shaw is a saxophonist and also a music scholar and is in the Lower Sixth as a well. Will is a boarder at the school in Churchill's Hall.



DofE Gold Training Camp

Monday 26 October 2009

Pen-y-pass Youth Hostel

Well it was a wet and windy experience this October half term for the current Sixth Formers undergoing Gold DofE Training. Eight boaters and nine walkers assembled at Pen-y-pass Youth Hostel immediately on the close of half term to undergo a day's theory training and four days' practical training. The theory covered the generic topics of first aid, emergencies, packing and planning, menus and nutrition etc. with the practical element being specific to type. The walkers based in the Glyder range in North Wales got to grips with poor weather navigation, whilst the boaters practiced rescues and general boating handling on Llyn Gwynant and Bala. The weather became pretty crazy towards the end, with force 6 winds and heavy rain. The boaters had to beat a hasty retreat to a nearby cafe for hot chocolates whilst the walkers relocated to a less exposed campsite. It was a triumphant week, with everyone achieving what they set out to do. Thank you to Mr Wade (Maths) for his last minute commitment to the trip. Without him, it wouldn't have been possible.



House Singing 2009

Monday 2 November 2009

The annual House Singing was due to take place immediately before half term, but due to a large number of pupils being struck down with Swine 'Flu or other illnesses, this had to be postponed to Tuesday 3rd November. Tickets for House Singing are always heavily over-subscribed, but due to the re-scheduling and the fact that it didn't coincide with half term, there was a unique opportunity for non ticket-holders to get in to the main event in the Alington Hall. The usual overflow in the Ashton Theatre was taken up by pupils who were able to follow the whole event by videolink before/after their own performance.

Despite the inevitable disruption to rehearsals before half term and the last-minute rescheduling of the event, the performances were absolutely outstanding.

Each House performs a Part Song - generally, the most talented singers performing - and a Unison Song in which every House member takes part.

This year, the overall winners were the girls from Mary Sidney Hall , with their Unison of 'One Short Day', and their Part Song 'Cold Water'.

School House won the best Unison Song with a brilliant rendition of 'Down Town' - with lyrics by Giles Bell, and the best Part Song went to Moser's for 'The Superstitious River in the Jungle of Dreams'.

The Selby Martin Cup was awarded to Churchill's who might easily have been mistaken for The Spice Girls with their Unison 'Stop!'

The 2009 Judges consisted of:

- Dawn Bradley, Director of Music - Shrewsbury High Prep
- Mervin Cousins, Artistic Director - Llangollen Eisteddfod
- Gareth Jenkins, Dentist, Magician & Choral Adjudicator
- Selby Martin, Retired Member of Staff.

David Kell's article in a recent edition of 'The Public Nose' (produced by the pupils, for the pupils) ['What's the Trick to Winning?'](#) is reproduced here (only slightly edited).

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Fencing

Monday 2 November 2009

Last week saw a victory over Rugby school. The first team won 10 -2 and the second Team 5-4. A comprehensive performance.



Netball

Monday 2 November 2009

With netball being a Lent Term sport for Shrewsbury, the county tournament is always the first fixture of the year, which puts us at a disadvantage, but a good starting point to build on.

Our league consisted of Shrewsbury Sixth Form College, Adams Grammar School and Thomas Telford (who were the seeds). We played exceptionally well in our first game against the Sixth Form College, and came out winning 9-7. A great result considering they were one of only two teams to beat us last season. Our second game was against Adams, who were a strong team and took a good half time lead of 7-2. We came back much stronger in the second half, but the initial lead was too much to get back and lost 11-8. Our final game against the seeds was by far the hardest and we were not really any match for them, losing 16-4. Thomas Telford were clear group winners, but the remaining three teams all won 1 and lost 2, with the Sixth Form College going through on goal difference in second.

All in all, not a bad start and something to build on next term

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Badminton

Monday 2 November 2009

Two 5th form boys, Kiran Morjaria (I) and Jirapas Tantipiriyakij (SH), played for the county U-17 badminton team against Leicestershire on Sunday. Although the overall match was lost, the two boys played well and got a great deal out of the day. They are the first two Shrewsbury boys for many years to play for Shropshire, and this reflects well not only on them but also on the strong state of the school squad at the moment.



Football

Monday 2 November 2009

The 1st XI played Idsall School on Friday in the 3rd Round of the ESFA Cup. It was a typical performance considering Shrewsbury had not played for three weeks. Shrewsbury huffed and puffed their way to a 2-0 victory with Roy Chatterjee scoring both goals.

On Saturday the XI were more impressive - particularly in the second half and beat Bolton School by five goals to one. Goals from Roy Chatterjee (2), Robbie Williams, and one each for Ed and Pat White.

The 2nd XI drew 1-1 with Ludlow College on Wednesday and won 4-2 against Bolton School on Saturday.

On Wednesday 4th November the Under 16's were knocked out of the ESFA Cup by William Brookes School, losing by three goals to nil.

The under 15A's maintained their impressive 100% record with a 3-1 win against St Margaret's on Wednesday and a 6-2 win at Bolton on Saturday.

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Rugby

Monday 9 November 2009

Last week a senior A XV played an Old Swinford Hospital XV, and were victorious 41-5. Matches to follow against Oundle School, Bromsgrove School and Solihull 6th Form College before the end of term.



RSSBC

Monday 9 November 2009

Boys

Unfortunately, the Fours Head at the Thames Tideway involving some members of Shrewsbury's Top Squad was cancelled at the last minute on Saturday much to the disappointment of staff and boys.

However, Shrewsbury took four J14 coxed quads to Northwich Autumn Head as a warm-up to our big home match against Kings Chester in two weeks time. Two crews were entered in Division 2, and two in Division 3. Division 2 was hit by heavy rain, but Shrewsbury's crews raced on valiantly to record impressive times of 10:04.5 and 10:09.1. Unfortunately the organisers decided to cancel J14 and J15 events from Division 3, so Shrewsbury's other two boats didn't get to race.

Girls

Northwich Head was targeted as a benchmark event to give the girls a taste of what racing was all about and to put into practice the last seven weeks of their new found sport.

The girls did a fantastic job, when, during persistent rain and the announcement of the younger age group events being cancelled, they volunteered to race despite prevailing conditions. Shrewsbury School were clearly the least experienced crew in their category but were able enough to overturn a crew on their home water, finishing 4/5 in Novice 4+. However of all the Women's 4+ on the water, Shrewsbury came 10th / 14, beating some considerably more experienced crews.

Abby Miller also raced in her single and finished 3rd, an encouraging result given how little time had been spent in her boat.



Football

Monday 9 November 2009

The 1st XI struggled through to the next round of the Boodles ISFA Cup last Thursday with a 2-1 win against St Bede's, Hailsham. St. Bede's really did play well and Shrewsbury had to defend stoutly at times to stay in the game. George Barker was both hero and villain having made several terrific saves only to gift them an equaliser. A difficult game but any win in the cup is worth having! On Saturday the 1st XI defied the wind and rain to win 4-2 at Grange Grammar School.

The 2nd XI lost 0-2 at King's Chester last Wednesday but won 8-3 against Grange Grammar School on Saturday.

The Under 15's continued their 100% record with a 10-0 victory against BRJ School Telford, and an 8-1 win at Grange Grammar.

Shrewsbury

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Girls' Hockey

Monday 9 November 2009

Midlands Championships at Rugby School

Shrewsbury represented Shropshire last Thursday at the Midlands Championships. They had played exceptionally well in order to progress this far, so were excited but apprehensive. We didn't play well in our first game against Dame Alice Harper and lost 5-0 unfortunately. However, our next game was against Edgbaston High School and was much closer. After 35 minutes of end-to-end hockey, we were awarded a penalty stroke, and Annabel Brentnal scored to win the game 1-0. Our next two matches were against the best two teams in the competition - Oundle and Rugby. Both these teams have represented the Midlands before and were of a very high standard. Shrewsbury played much better than their first game though, and despite losing 6-0 and 5-0, gave performances to be proud of.

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GCSE Music pupil is interviewed by the BBC's World Service

Tuesday 10 November 2009

Sam Wilson's GCSE composition 'Chernobyl' was broadcast to Ukraine and Russia on the BBC's World Service in October 2008. The piece, recorded in Bristol, was written for the new Sarcophagus which is to be built over the dangerous reactors. It was inspired by the Ukrainian musicians and affected children he met while they were in Britain.

Having toured Bush House, sitting in on a Brunei chatroom and live Ukrainian news broadcast, he was interviewed by Natalia Skofenko, head of Ukraine section. The music and translated dialogue were finally combined and went on air on the 30th October



Spanish Faculty: Argentinan Exchange 2009

Tuesday 10 November 2009

Although Spanish students at Shrewsbury have had the opportunity to go on Spanish trips with the School in the past, in 2009 we undertook our first-ever exchange, and our first-ever School trip to South America.

Seventeen pupils from San Bartolomé in Argentina came to visit us in June (see report below), and seven pupils from our Sixth Form returned over Michaelmas half term. San Bartolomé is an independent, bi-lingual school, and our pupils spent 8 days staying with families in Rosario, attending lessons and playing sport, and 3 days in Buenos Aires.

Spanish Faculty trip to Argentina: 22 October - 5 November 2009

As most Salopians went home to hibernate over half term to avoid catching 'flu, seven adventurous sixth form pupils of Spanish switched from northern to southern hemisphere for a fortnight in Buenos Aires and Rosario during spring time. What an experience!

The weekend in Buenos Aires offered the pupils a flavour of Latin panache and style as we went to one of the finest restaurants and tango shows in the capital. Our whistle-stop city tour with expert historical guide took us to the cemetery of Eva Perón in the sophisticated Recoleta district, via the Boca Juniors stadium and the government buildings in the Plaza de Mayo. The smart, modern apartment blocks in the city sat side by side with shanty towns and desperate poverty which reminded the group they had travelled to a different continent a long way from Europe. Within 48 hours the group agreed that they had experienced the best steak, pizza and dancing in their lives in a city that feels so alive.

In Rosario we were reunited with our exchange partner school, Colegio San Bartolomé, whose pupils and teachers stayed with us in Shrewsbury last June. The famously hospitable Argentinians were perfect hosts as they catered for our every need. Indeed, our pupils have formed friendships that will be maintained for years and shared experiences with their exchange partners that they will never forget.

Our Salopian group attended chemistry, maths and art lessons in Spanish. They made presentations in Spanish about life in an English boarding school. During practical cooking sessions they made and ate Argentinian empanadas and learnt to dance the tango. School activities were complemented with sport, Anglo-Argentine social interaction, a classical music concert and an excursion to an Argentinian ranch where we rode horses, cooled off in the river and drank mate tea with alfajores chocolate in the afternoon.

Towards the end of the trip we saw Rosario Central beat Boca Juniors 2-1. As the heavens opened and a tropical storm began in the open-top stadium, even the raindrops were heavy, warm and refreshing. It's difficult to describe the addictive X factor that Argentina offers the English visitor. Suffice to say our pupils' eyes have been opened and their sense of adventure and cultural awareness has been stretched. They are already talking about GAP year plans to return and for some this will no doubt be the start of a serious interest in Latin American exploration.

Mike Wright, Head of Spanish



Cultural exchange in Argentina

In Argentina, everything seems more relaxed and friendly. This could be directly linked to the good weather, even in spring the temperatures reached 35 degrees. The people do not ever appear to be in a rush and were always willing to help us linguistically. The food was great, the national dish being asado - barbequed steak with salad and bread. Argentinian Spanish seems to be spoken more slowly compared the Spanish variety, which was very helpful when attempting to understand. Our host families were so welcoming and made us feel at home. Although painful to admit, our exchange partners were technically better at football and as a result, beat us 10-3, in a 5-a-side tournament. My favourite event of the trip was visiting the football match in Rosario against Boca Juniors, the atmosphere was so good and the fans were unbelievably passionate. In future, perhaps on a GAP year, I would love to return to this great country.

William Sansom, PH Lower Sixth

Argentinian visit to Shrewsbury - June 2009

Both the pupils from San Bartolomé in Argentina and our own Sixth Form hispanists have experienced an unforgettable and enriching week of linguistic and cultural interaction. Valuable links and new friendships have been formed with the well known bilingual school in Rosario as we hosted seventeen Latin American learners of English.

The week was packed with excursions, cultural activities, lessons, sports activities and social interaction between pupils from both continents. The group visited Chester and Manchester, attended performances of Romeo & Juliet at Ludlow Castle and classical music at Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Hall. Our guests took advantage of Shrewsbury's facilities as their busy itinerary included sports they had never tried before such as rowing, Eton fives and waterpolo.

The Salopian hispanists also felt the unique benefit of this exchange venture as they communicated in a mixture of Spanish and English during evening barbeques and social excursions. Besides the immersion in boarding school life and week of activities, undoubtedly the most linguistically beneficial and culturally eye-opening moments during the week were the conversations and new friendships between young people from opposite ends of the globe.

We are immensely looking forward to our return visit for two weeks to Buenos Aires and Rosario in October when Salopians will will enjoy an equally memorable Latin American experience which will not only develop language skills but also broaden horizons and cultural awareness.

I know the pupils would agree, this is when learning languages really come to life and all the effort in the classroom comes to fruition.

*Mr. MPJ Wright
Head of Spanish*

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BBC Songs of Praise at Shrewsbury

Monday 16 November 2009

Last Sunday's Songs of Praise was filmed at Shrewsbury, with Darwin as the theme. The timing of the programme was chosen to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the publication of his 'On the Origin of Species'. The BBC recording includes interviews with the Headmaster, Jeremy Goulding, and the Registrar, Robin Case, as well as a group interview with some Shrewsbury pupils. The School Choir is recorded singing in Chapel, led by Kathryn Burningham, and also in St. Chad's. The programme can be viewed [here](#).

Music: Julian Lloyd Webber masterclass

Monday 16 November 2009

Before going on to give a performance at Theatre Severn in the evening, Julian Lloyd Webber will give a masterclass here at the Maidment Building for two of our talented Third Form cellists, and a pupil from Shrewsbury High School.

DofE Gold Training

Monday 16 November 2009

Congratulations to Charlotte Finley, Harry Putnam, Callum Harvey-Scholes and Dr Case for passing their Foundation Safety and Rescue Course last month. The students had to conduct rescues in both canoes and kayaks, including rescuing injured casualties from the water and recovering sunken boats. It was a great day, conducted in the pool and on the Severn. The course was the final remaining part of their DofE Gold Award Expedition Section.

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Netball

Monday 23 November 2009

Hockey takes priority in the Michaelmas Term, so this was our first school netball fixture of the year. Both teams started well in difficult conditions. After the first quarter, Shrewsbury were 9-6 up thanks to some excellent shooting from Hannah Blofield and Lindsay Albutt against a strong wind. The 2nd quarter was evenly matched; with Shrewsbury a couple up making the half time score 16-11. QEGS came back strong in the third quarter, but Shrewsbury held them to 8-8, making it 24-19. In the final quarter Shrewsbury really found their form and pushed forward to a convincing 34-23 victory.

A very encouraging performance and result for the first game.



Girls' Hockey

Monday 23 November 2009

Home v Oswestry - Won 8-0

Due to a netball match taking place at the same time, the hockey team had its usual core of committed players, but also a number of girls who played hockey for the first time this year, which was encouraging. A good performance by Arabella Midwood was promising for the future. It was clear from the beginning that Shrewsbury were going to dominate, but more importantly, they were playing very good hockey. It wasn't long before Shrewsbury were on the score sheet and by half time were 4-0 up. Goals from Elle Gurden, Portia Hibbert and Arabella Midwood. Shrewsbury continued with their good play and the result finished 8-0, with Hebe Dickins also getting on the score sheet and Ellie Hill getting a hat trick. Elle Gurden's third goal was officially after the final whistle, so she is still looking for her first hat trick of the season.

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Football: U18 Boodles ISFA Cup 1/4 Final

Monday 23 November 2009

RGS Newcastle 1, Shrewsbury 4

Shrewsbury produced a very professional performance away to RGS Newcastle. We dominated the majority of the game, scored four very good goals - all tap-ins at the far post - and our goal was rarely threatened.

Roy Chatterjee (2) and Ed White (2) provided the cool finishes.

Shrewsbury now progress to the Semi-Finals and are also still in the ESFA equivalent (5th Round), where they will be playing Manchester Grammar (away) on Monday 7th December at 1pm.

Football: U16A XI

Monday 23 November 2009

The U16A XI scored four goals twice last week beating Grange School, Hartford 4-2 (away) and beating North Independent School Association XI 4-1 (home). Jack Hudson Williams scored seven of the eight goals including a hat-trick in the second match, all scored with his left foot.

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Rugby: A XV

Monday 23 November 2009

Last week a senior A XV played two matches against opponents very different in class. On Wednesday, the XV enjoyed a 22-17 victory over a competitive Solihull 6th Form College 1st XV.

The squad then took on a very strong Oundle School 1st XV in a match that was always going to ask very significant questions of Shrewsbury's defence. With many talented rugby players starring in the School's football teams this term, the backs were put under particular pressure, with the Oundle back line superior in lines of running and out and out pace. The pack however scrummaged well and kept possession in the loose effectively, when the game was played a little tighter. Oundle scored nine very well crafted tries, but there was no disgrace in a plucky performance against one of the country's premier rugby playing schools.

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Football: U15 R.S. ISFA Cup 1/4 Final

Monday 23 November 2009

Shrewsbury 5, QEGS Blackburn 3

In a tough and competitive encounter played in difficult weather and pitch conditions, Shrewsbury eventually progressed to the Semi-Finals of this prestigious competition, beating a workmanlike QEGS side. Matthew Gregson and George Ellery scored two apiece with some high quality finishing - the other goal courtesy of a QEGS defender.

Shrewsbury go on to play either Repton or Eton in the Semi-Final.



BBC Young Musician of the Year

Monday 23 November 2009

Three woodwind students from the Lower Sixth have all got through to the category round of the BBC Young Musician.

- Robert Collins – Oboe
- Alexander Collins – Clarinet
- William Shaw – Saxophone

The boys all performed to an excellent standard and have done exceptionally well to have been selected to go forward. This is the first time we have had pupils from Shrewsbury School get through to the category round. Good Luck to all of them! The boys all went to Cardiff in October to perform in the regional rounds and from that performance have now been selected to perform in the category round on 15th December at the Royal College of Music, London.



'The Bubble' goes to London - thanks to an anonymous donor

Thursday 26 November 2009

After receiving three five-star reviews at the Edinburgh Festival, the revival of 'The Bubble' has now received backing to be performed in London - an anonymous sponsor who saw the performance has come forward to enable it to be shown in London.

"A benevolent but anonymous sponsor who saw The Bubble in Edinburgh has made the whole thing possible," said Shrewsbury School's Peter Fanning, who directed the show. "We are extremely grateful to him. It will give us a chance to take the production back to the city in which the plot is based."

The Bubble was written by Peter Hankin and Julian Roach, with music by our Director of Music John Moore.

The satirical operetta is based around a huge financial scam in 1720 and won praise from the Edinburgh critics for its contemporary relevance, particularly its references to the bonus culture.

There will be 2 performances on Saturday 9th January at the Britten Theatre in the Royal College of Music, SW1 - at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. There really will not be another chance to see this outstanding production!



RSSBC

Monday 30 November 2009

Girls

The Girls had not been on the water for almost three weeks due to the flooding, but had chosen to race at Wycliffe in order to gain themselves another race. Due to logistics and entries the girls had to race out of their category amongst crews who had all previously won a race, and therefore much more experienced. It only remains to be said that the girls did all that was asked of them, concentrating on one aspect of the stroke, and have now, with two races under their belts, gained some invaluable race experience which we will take into the 8+ next term.

Looking forward to next term the girls have the following races to concentrate on:

Wycliffe Big Head - Sat 6th February

Reading University Head - Sat 6th March

North of England Head - Sat 20th March

Parents are always welcome and encouraged to come and watch the girls race.

Details will be given to the girls ahead of time, or please get in touch.

Archery

Monday 30 November 2009

Last weekend, Huw Vaughan-Jackson (Ch) won the National Barebow Archery Under 18 Junior Division title in Wincanton, Somerset. He was also third overall in the Junior Section for the second year running. Barebow Archery is the Olympic style of archery but without sights and long-rod stabilisers. Congratulations Huw!

Shrewsbury

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Music: 3rd Former gets into The National Children's Wind Orchestra

Monday 30 November 2009

Henry Kennedy has made it into The National Children's Wind Orchestra. Henry plays the baritone saxophone, so had to compete with children across the country for the one place in the orchestra. He will be spending a week with the orchestra in the Easter holidays at Queenswood School in Hatfield; the orchestra will then be performing in Cambridge's prestigious West Road Concert Hall on 10th April.



Football

Monday 30 November 2009

There were outstanding results on Saturday in the annual block fixture against Repton School. Twelve matches were played, with ten Shrewsbury victories and two draws, one of which being the 1st XI 2-2. A real highlight was the U16a 12-2 win, including a staggering seven goal haul for Jack Hudson-Williams.

Unfortunately, the 1st XI were knocked out of the ESFA Cup in the fifth round by Manchester Grammar School, going down 3-2, with a side depleted somewhat by injury. Shrewsbury play Millfield School in the Semi-Final of the Boodles ISFA U18 Cup next term, whilst the U15A XI have drawn Repton in the Semi-Final of the U15 ISFA equivalent. Therefore, the U15A XI's 4-1 victory over Repton on Saturday bodes well.

Superb news for 1st XI Captain Robbie Williams, Pat White and Ed White last week, when they heard of their selection for the National ISFA U18 Squad. Many congratulations to the three of them.



Fives

Monday 30 November 2009

Match vs KES Birmingham (1st & U14) & Wolverhampton GS (U15)

U14 v KES

Pair 1

Blofield & Flowers Lost 0-2 (2-12, 4-12)

Pair 2

Harvey-Scholes & Warburg Lost 0-2 (2-12 , 3-12)

U15 v Wolverhampton GS

Pair 1

Miller & Williams Won 3-0 (6-12, 6-12, 5-12)

Pair 2

Pragnall & Christie Won 3-1 (2-12, 5-12, 12-6, 8-12)

Seniors v KES

Salmon & Wang Won 3-0 (12-5, 12-3 , 12-0)

Match vs Harrow (1st & 2nd Pairs)

Pair 1

Thomason & Jack Hudson-Williams Won 3-0 12-10,12-5,12-3

Pair 2

Salmon & Tse Won 3-0 12-8,12-5,14-12

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Girls' Hockey

Monday 30 November 2009

Home v 6th Form College – Drew 1-1

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the 6th Form College did not have a goalkeeper for this match. Shrewsbury offered College the boys 1st XI Keeper Ben Bradshaw. During the warm up, Shrewsbury's keeper Paige Walford injured her foot. The situation was now difficult, but dedicated coach Mr Cook stepped up to play! Shrewsbury really piled on the pressure and Ben Bradshaw was kept very busy, saving shot after shot. Suddenly the College got a break and wrong-footed Mr Cook as Shrewsbury, despite having all the play went into half time 1-0 down. Shrewsbury dominated the second half and were awarded a number of short corners, hit some amazing shots but Ben was having the game of his life. Mr Cook made a couple of saves (well done Sir), but really all the play was in the 6th Form College half. After many, many shots on target, Shrewsbury were finally rewarded with a goal. The game was very one sided, but thanks to some great goal keeping finished 1-1.

Player of the Match: Ellie Hill.

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Rugby

Monday 30 November 2009

Rugby A XV

A senior A XV took on Bromsgrove School 3rd XV on Saturday on an afternoon of matches at Bromsgrove which included Colstons and Llandovery College playing other XV's. For the most part, Shrewsbury dominated territory but struggled to finish or offer any continuity, due to messy and slow ball from the ruck. Tom Aarvold and Ben Bradshaw, who both made a terrific impact throughout the game, scored the two unconverted tries in a 10-10 draw. 26 different boys have represented the School this term in four fixtures, providing a good grounding for the season proper next term.



RSSH

Monday 30 November 2009

RSSH vs Old Salopian Hunt

Continuing the annual traditional race between the RSSH and the Old Salopian Hunt, Saturday saw the two do battle once again in the mud. A slightly sparser than normal turnout from the Old Salopians (underestimating the opposition perhaps?!) was in contrast to the Hunt, who despite various football fixtures and injuries were able to field 17 runners. Two members of staff also gallantly took part (JMS and RTH).

Last year saw the Hunt narrowly defeat the Old Salopians, however this year saw a dominant performance from the schoolboy runners, winning the team trophy with a score of 28 to 98, the largest margin for many years. The times were impressive too, with Alex Mackay coming home to take the trophy in 21.10 for the 3.5 mile course (Tony Powers was the overall winner in 21.02, but ran as a guest). The five other counters were Kris Blake (21.29); Cal Winwood (21.40); Simon Jones (21.52); Kit Schutzer-Weissman (21.53) and Guy Vernon (22.02).

Notable performers for the Old Salopians were James Franklin (7th in 21.55); Adam Booth (12th in 22.55) and Piers Jones (13th in 23.16). An encouraging result for the Hunt as we go into the competitive season next term.



RSSBC

Monday 30 November 2009

The RSSBC Top squad had a very busy final weekend. The two top fours competed at Wycliffe Small Boats Head and placed 1st and 2nd over the course of 2500m. To replace the postponed race at Wallingford all three Top Squad VIII's then travelled to King's School Chester on Sunday. Helped by a more efficient technique and brilliant coxing, the conclusion of all three pieces saw the Shrewsbury 1st VIII and 2nd VIII catch or overtake their competition while Shrewsbury's 3rd VIII, set off at the front of the chase, held off the King's 2nd VIII till the dying moments of each race. A tiring but satisfactory weekend, a great finish to the term and some very promising signs for performances next term.

The two J14 quads that were denied a race at Northwich a few weeks ago travelled to the Gloucester-Sharpness Canal. They were due to race two quads from Kings School Worcester, but unfortunately there was a mix-up, so the Shrewsbury quads were left to race each other. Both acquitted themselves very well in what was their first race, deservedly coming away with gold and silver medals. The times they set bode well for further success next term. Four different crews from this year's third form have now experienced external competition, and next term we hope to expand the 'racing squad' further.



Maths: Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates in the UK Senior Mathematical Challenge

Monday 30 November 2009

119 pupils across the school were entered for the UK Senior Mathematical Challenge this year, obtaining a total of 26 gold, 25 silver and 28 bronze certificates. For the first time, the highest score from the school came from a boy in the Fourth Form – Martin Chow (M). He subsequently participated in the British Mathematical Olympiad in December along with Jack Zhang (SH, LVI), Tom Elcock (Rb, LVI), Stephen Lilico (SH, LVI), Frank Chang (SH, LVI), Nicholas Tong (UVI, Ch), Alex Chamolly (Rt, LVI), Galane Luo (S, UVI), Ieuan Fenton (Rb, UVI) and Boris Tang (SH, LVI).

David, Galane, Tom and Jack were also chosen to represent the school in the regional heat of the UK Senior Maths Team Challenge. They finished in second place by only one point to Manchester High School for Girls, but scored well enough to qualify for the national final in London which will take place in February 2010.

Debating: Senior House Debating Competition 2009

Tuesday 1 December 2009

The winners of the Senior House Debating Competition, 2009, were the School House, who beat Moser's. The School House team comprised Alex Beaumont, David Kell, and Arif Ahmad



Ken Shearwood's (Rt 1935-1940) autobiography is published

Monday 7 December 2009

'Hardly a Scholar' gets a 5-star review from The Times Literary Supplement on Amazon

Ken was perhaps one of Shrewsbury's finest footballers. He played for Oxford and then was part of the Pegasus side (Oxford and Cambridge combined) that won the Amateur cup in front of over 100,000 at Wembley. He is now 88 years old and looks after Biddie his 90 year old wife who has Alzheimers in their House in Shoreham-by-Sea, near to Lancing College where Ken was a housemaster, coached football and taught English for many years.

His autobiographical book 'Hardly a Scholar' (with a forward by Ted Maidment) is available from Amazon. It is well worth a read if just for the chapter on life in Ridgemount in the 1930s! If you like football and sea fishing it is even more up your street!

Submitted by Giles Bell, Housemaster of School House



OS becomes Assistant Equerry to the Queen

Monday 7 December 2009

Old Moserite Captain Robert Sugden (known as 'Percy' when he was at Shrewsbury) of the Coldstream Guards has just been made Assistant Equerry to the Queen, having completed a seven-month tour of Afghanistan.

Moser's housemaster, Steve Fox, remembers 28-year-old 'Percy' well as he was in the Royal Marines section of the CCF when Steve ran that, as well as rowing in the First VIII. After leaving Shrewsbury, Robert went on to study Geography at Oxford.

Please see [The Telegraph's article](#) for more information.

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OS gets his Oxford Rugby Blue

Monday 7 December 2009

Varsity Rugby Match 10th December 2009

John-Henry Carter (Rt 1994-1999) played in his first Varsity Rugby Match. John was only able to play in the match because he has now retired after playing professionally for Sale for a number of years (and winning the Guinness Premiership).

Proud though we are of our reputation as a football-playing school, it does not prevent us from turning out some highly talented Rugby players too!

Old Salopians row across the Atlantic

Monday 7 December 2009

At noon on 9th December 2009, two Riggites - Charlie Marlow (1995-2000) and Matthew Mackaness (1994-1999) - left the Canaries to row across the Atlantic, raising money for Brain Tumour UK and Shrewsbury House.

See ['Riggs to Rule the Waves'](#) for more information.



Hope-Simpson Ergo Championships

Wednesday 9 December 2009

Rigg's the overall winners

This year in a big departure from previous years, the RSSBC Hope-Simpson Ergo Championships took place in the Alington Hall with the ergos connected together to provide live racing on a big screen. There were individual events for the school rowing squads, and house relay events where a team of 4 uses one ergo to cover a set distance by making quick changeover between the team.

Overall Rigg's Hall took the Hope-Simpson cup, with superb performances in all of the events. Ridgemount just edged out School House to take second place.

The top 8 finishers in each event score points for their house towards the Leadbitter Cup - the overall house rowing trophy.

Selected results:

Top Squad (2000m)

- 1 James Scott (M)
- 2 Sam Lapage (R)
- 3 Ben Spencer-Jones (PH)
- 4 Freddie Day (R)
- 5 Richard Hawley-Jones (G)
- 6 Ollie Antcliff (M)
- 7 Ed Thomason (R)
- 8 Kris Blake (S)

J15 (2000m)

- 1 Judah Rand (R)
- 2 Rahul McCourt (Rt)
- 3 Peter Gadsden (Ch)
- 4 James Jones (PH)
- 5 Max Kimpton-Smith (O)
- 6 Ali Webb (S)
- 7 Ed Chapman (M)
- 8 Doug Lo (M)

J14 (4 minutes)

- 1 Baramee Dobbs (Rt)
- 2 Ollie Pattison-Appleton (Ch)
- 3 Henry Young (SH)
- 4 Will Angell-James (R)
- 5 Arman Shirinyan (SH)
- 6 Nick Memminger (R)
- 7 Pete Evans (I)
- 8 Jonathan Shaw (Ch)

Girls (500m+500m)

- 1 Eila Purvis
- 2 Aislinn Currie-Jordan
- 3 Lucy Birt



4 Sarah Birt
5 Helena Smye
6 Marianne Shawe-Taylor
7 Camilla Aylwin
Senior House relay (3000m)
Staff 09:06.5
1 Rigg's 09:26.1
2 School House 09:30.7
3 Radbrook 09:34.3
4 Ingram's 09:59.5
5 Ridgemount 10:01.5
6 Severn Hill 10:03.0
7 Porthill 10:05.8
8 Moser's 10:30.9
9 Oldham's 10:33.8
10 The Grove 10:45.5
Junior House relay (2000m)
1 Rigg's 06:47.1
2 School House 06:50.5
3 Ridgemount 06:57.2
4 Churchill's 07:03.0
5 Ingram's 07:05.6
6 Grove 07:13.3
7 Moser's 07:21.8
8 Mary Sidney 1 07:25.4
Mary Sidney 2 07:29.6
9 Severn Hill 07:30.3
10 Porthill 07:37.6
11 Oldham's 07:39.1
12 Radbrook 07:49.0

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DVD of House Singing available in January

Monday 21 December 2009

Price £10 inc UK p&p, £12 inc overseas p&p. All proceeds to Shrewsbury House

A DVD of the complete 2009 House Singing competition will be available in January.

If you have a son or daughter at the school, the charge will be added to next bill. If not, invoice will be sent to you on despatch of DVD. Please email your order to your son or daughter's housemaster, or to Richard Hudson at rth@shrewsbury.org.uk

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Cricket Tour Announcement: Dubai & Western Australia - December 2010

Monday 21 December 2009

Following our run of seven successful, enjoyable and beneficial tours to Barbados, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Australia, dating back to 1997, it is our intention to take a party of approximately 30 boys on tour to Dubai and Western Australia next December (9th - 24th) for fourteen days of cricket training and fixtures. The party will be made up of a 1st XI and U15 squad plus coaching /management staff.

The tour is an important and integral part of our cricket programme, but I would like to make it very clear that our sports tour policy dictates that boys unable to go on a tour will not be disadvantaged in selection for school teams in the future.

ASB

December 2009

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Sir Martin Rees (OS), is guest editor of Radio 4's Today Programme

Monday 28 December 2009

Martin Rees is one of the world's leading astronomers. A professor of cosmology and astrophysics at Trinity College, Cambridge, he holds the honorary title of Astronomer Royal and is president of the Royal Society.

On Monday 28th December, he was the guest editor of the Today Programme; see the [Today Programmes' story](#) for further information.



OSH news Archive

Thursday 31 December 2009

OSH news Archive (before 2010)

The 2006 OSH v RSSH race

Please find below photographs from the OSH vs RSSH race marking the 175th anniversary of the RSSH in 2006. More images from this race are available

at <http://sports.webshots.com/album/556186683gvAXNN>

If you have any photos from earlier years you would like displayed please e-mail them to [David Thomas](mailto:David.Thomas@shrewsbury-school.co.uk).

