



## Fives: Girls win the U17 Beginners Ladies Championship!

Friday 1 April 2011

*A full report on the National Eton Fives Championships will be available on the website in due course.*

Shrewsbury's First and Second Girls Pairs both made it through to the Final of the inaugural Under 17s Beginners Ladies Championships at Eton: Issy Barber and Alice Long won the title, defeating our 2nd Pair Sophie Walker and Sarah Lim.

The Senior semi-finals matches are taking place today; the finals will be played on Saturday 2nd April, and we have been informed that they will be web-streamed at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/eton-fives> from 2:30pm. Please note: this is nothing to do with Shrewsbury or our website!



# Fives: National Fives Championship Winners!

Saturday 2 April 2011

*National Schools' Eton Fives Association Championships: Sunday 27th March - Saturday 2nd April 2011, Eton College*

A full report on the week's events at Eton will be on the website in due course, but the news in brief is:

Over 1000 young people from schools all over the country competed for the Schools National Eton Fives Championships at Eton last week and Shrewsbury had outstanding success, including winning the coveted Open Championship.

This year, we entered over 50 pairs in the Championships, including 5 pairs of girls. Minibuses plied up and down the motorways with groups of players, who were whisked back to school as soon as their matches were over!

The Cup was presented by Peter Worth (OS), Chairman of the Eton Fives Association and a former Open winner himself.

Henry Blofield (PH 4) has written about his experiences of the Fives Championships in his '[A Week in the Life](#)' article.



## Rugby: U14A Tour report - Easter 2011

Thursday 7 April 2011

*U14A tour to Osmington, Dorset - Friday 1st to Tuesday 5th April 2011*

### **Saturday April 2nd**

A 'double header': two 30 minute games against Dorchester Rugby Club and hosts Bridport Rugby Club.

After a slow start, Shrewsbury eventually won the first game against Dorchester. The school went 5 - 0 down to an early try scored against a back drop of poor tackling and marking.

However gradually the school fought back, quickly scoring through Alex Shaw, and began to play some controlled rugby and create a number of try scoring opportunities. The scores remained level at halftime. Into the second half Shrewsbury were increasingly in control of the game and further tries by Sam Hill and Rufus Litchfield secured the 15 - 5 victory.

After a short turn round period and a shuffle to the team the second game against Bridport, who had also beaten Dorchester, began. Again the start was slow and another early try was conceded. However the pattern of the first game was repeated and Shrewsbury came back much more into the game and began to move the ball wide and create scoring chances on both sides of the pitch. Just before halftime Sam Ecroyd crossed the line close to the posts after a period of sustained pressure. Unfortunately the try was not converted.

The second half saw the game to and fro with both sides creating try scoring opportunities. Rufus Litchfield coming closest for Shrewsbury. As the second half progressed Shrewsbury were increasingly penalised for minor technical offences resulting in the inevitable score for Bridport deep into added time. After a very well contested game Shrewsbury went down 12 - 5.

### **Sunday April 3rd.**

Another 'double header' hosted by Swanage and Wareham with Nailsea Rugby Club being the other visitors. Shrewsbury played the home side in the first game which was very well contested between two sides of contrasting styles. The Swans with a powerful back row and hard running outside half played with a very direct style with Shrewsbury, as ever, looking to move the ball quickly through the backs and looking to score out wide.

Shrewsbury had the better of the early exchanges and scored first through Alex Shaw and then pulled further away with a try from Jake Samuel. Swanage then came back to equalise and make the score 12 - 12 at halftime.

The pattern of play continued in to the second half where the two teams exchanged further tries. Shrewsbury ran out 31 - 19 winners with the other tries coming from Evan Rolfe (2) and Rufus Litchfield. Jamie Humes landed three conversions.

Shrewsbury then had a game off and watched the host club beat Nailsea in a very closely contested game. In the last game of the morning Shrewsbury got off to the best possible start with an early tries from Rufus Litchfield and Roan Kirkby. This set the pattern of the game with Shrewsbury being able to quickly move the ball wide against a narrow defence. Some of the best rugby of the season then followed against a tiring Nailsea team. Off loading and support play



practiced in training finally began to come to fruition in the game situation. The score steadily built during the game but the opposition never gave in and scored a try in the final few minutes.

In the end Shrewsbury ran out 40 - 7 winners with further tries coming from Ben Smith, Rufus Litchfield, Alex Shaw and Roan Kirkby, and Jamie Humes adding five conversions. A very successful morning with pleasing individual and team performances against committed and sporting opposition.

## **Monday April 4th**

The morning, as with the previous afternoons, was spent on activities such as climbing, abseiling and on the zip wires; ideal for loosening off aching bodies.

The afternoon saw a visit to the beach at Swanage, with a quick, very quick!, dip for a few brave souls. The final game of the tour was a visit to Lytchett Minster, a club we hadn't visited before. We had been told they were a well organised side who played in a forthright style, and that proved to be the case.

Typically Shrewsbury were on the back foot for the first ten minutes but the defence held firm and as the half progressed, territory and possession both favoured Shrewsbury. A few half chances were created but resolute home defence prevented a score. More than once the Shrewsbury attackers were either held up just short or were tackled into touch at the corner. Eventually the pressure told and a set back play from a scrum saw Jamie Humes cross in the corner. The kick, from a difficult angle, went just past the post. The home side sent on the cavalry in the second half and a much more robust half followed. Under significant pressure at times, Shrewsbury kept up their individual and defensive discipline, thwarting consistent Lytchett pressure. Finally the pressure told and a home try saw the scores level. A relatively easy conversion went begging and Shrewsbury held on to secure a very hard earned, but well-deserved, draw.

In summary the tour was an undoubted success on and off the field and the boys were a credit to themselves and to the school. The quality of play was a huge improvement on that we saw during the first few weeks of term, and this with a number of first team regulars missing. The future prospects of the team look to be very positive.

*DK*

Shrewsbury

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## Freddie Flintoff visits Cricket Academy course at Shrewsbury

Wednesday 13 April 2011

For some years now, Shrewsbury has hosted the Andrew Flintoff Cricket Academy courses that take place here during the Easter and Summer holidays. These cricket coaching courses are both residential and non-residential for boys and girls aged 5-16 years. The fun, innovative and age appropriate coaching is based on the fundamentals that made Freddie Flintoff the great player he is.

On Tuesday 12th April, Freddie joined the children for the afternoon, when he was available to answer all their questions, pass on some handy tips on bowling, and sign their bats or any other piece of paper or equipment they had!

For more information on the courses, please visit [www.andrewflintoffcricketacademy.co.uk](http://www.andrewflintoffcricketacademy.co.uk). The next one to be run here will be a non-residential course from 8th - 14th August 2011.

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## London Marathon: Two masters in Elite Category

Monday 18 April 2011

Two of our masters, Peter Middleton (English & Theatre Studies, Rigg's Housemaster elect, Master i/c The Hunt) and Ian Haworth (History) took part in the Elite Category of the London Marathon. They both ran brilliantly, and achieved their target of completing the Marathon in less than 2¾ hours quite easily.

Qualification for the Elite Category is achieved by those who have run a half marathon in under 75 minutes. Both Peter and Ian run for Shropshire Athletics Club, and they represented Shropshire in the McCain UK Championships in March.

Our local papers - the Shropshire Star and Shrewsbury Chronicle - both published articles on the two runners, and the 'unstoppable' success of The Hunt under Peter's command.

- Shropshire Star 13th April 2011: *Teachers are going for marathon glory*
- Shrewsbury Chronicle 14th April 2011: *London call as teachers take step up*



# Duke of Edinburgh Gold Expeditions during the Easter holidays

Wednesday 20 April 2011



A busy Easter all in all with four groups out training and completing practice expeditions.

We had two walking groups based out of Betws-y-Coed in Snowdonia during five very challenging days on the surrounding hills. The weather became so hostile at one point the group had to take refuge in a local youth hostel.

The groups members were...

1. Miles Patterson-Appleton, Will Spencer-Jones, Tom Fitzpatrick, Alex Montgomery and Edward Wynne
2. James Armstrong, Morris and Thornhill and Howard Stringer

Despite the weather the trip was successful, and all have now completed their planning for their assessment in the Brecon Beacons and Peaks respectively.

The canoeists, comprising James Lane, Oswald Knight, Kiran Marjoria, William Phillips and Alistair Wager, had an equally exciting time in North Wales on Lake Bala for a spot of Canoe Sailing, and on the River Dee where they travelled from Bala to Erbistock over four days. They had a few interesting times at the rapids in Llangollen, with a couple of capsized boats! All team members mastered the art of tandem and solo paddling and are well on their way to achieving the British canoe Union Intermediate 3 Star Award.





## Chemistry Olympiad 2011: Three Silver and Two Bronze Medals

Tuesday 26 April 2011

Eleven students took part in Round 1 of the International Chemistry Olympiad in February. This year, there were four students from the Upper Sixth and seven students from the Lower 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 very pleasing, three Silver and two Bronze Medals were awarded and the students can be very proud of their efforts and achievements, especially the Lower Sixth students.

Silver Medals were awarded to:

- Upper Sixth: Abigail Miller (MSH), Jonathan Tau (Rt)
- Lower Sixth: Stephen Li (Rt)

Bronze Medals were awarded to:

- Upper Sixth: Faiz Kipli (O)
- Lower Sixth: Cindy Wang (MSH)

Andrew Briggs 25/4/11

## Cricket: 1st XI Pre-Season Festival 2011

Wednesday 27 April 2011

Shrewsbury School hosted our first ever Pre-Season Cricket Festival played on excellent pitches and in glorious April sunshine. The school hosted Worksop College, Worcestershire CCC Academy & Millfield in a 50 over per side festival. The event produced a feast of high quality cricket and proved to be excellent preparation for the season ahead.

Shrewsbury School played well for most of the festival, building on their promising winter tour performances, but were completely outplayed in the last session of the festival when Millfield batted well to clinch the final match with plenty to spare.

### **Shrewsbury School v Worksop College Tuesday 19th April Match 1**

Shrewsbury School 276 for 4 (J.Bailey 102 no, S.Leach 40, S.Barnard 40 no)

Worksop College 132 all out. (J.Aston 2 for 22, A.Pollock 3 for 19, R.Smith 2 for 22, A.Styles 2 for 13)

Shrewsbury won by 144 runs

**Match 2** Millfield 305 for 6 beat Worcs Academy 162 all out.

### **Shrewsbury School v Worcestershire Academy**

#### **Wednesday 20th April Match 3**

Shrewsbury School 282 for 7 (S.Leach 115, M.Cull 76)

Worcestershire Academy 182 all out (S.Barnard 3 for 26, H.Lewis 3 for 5, M.Prescott 3 for 32)

Shrewsbury won by 100 runs

#### **Match 4**

Millfield 249 all out beat Worksop 189 all out

Shrewsbury School v Millfield Thursday 21st April

#### **Match 5**

Shrewsbury School 240 for 7 (S.Leach 76, H.Lewis 36, S.Barnard 35)

Millfield 241 for 1

Millfield won by 9 wickets

#### **Match 6**

Worksop 244 beat Worcester Academy 222



## A 'Week' in the Life of Oliver Darrington (Ch LVI)

Thursday 28 April 2011

For me, the Easter holidays approached quickly until the last week during which time inched by at a snail's pace. Lesson after lesson was the same old drab of 'How to Revise...' As useful as it was, I found it a bit repetitive! Everyone starts to wear out and can't really wait till that last bell which signals the end of term. The usual assembly marks the end of lessons which contains prize giving and heart-lifting news. Afterwards, the school congregates down to Kingsland Hall to taste their last lunch before they get home to their Mothers cooking.

The journey home after a term is always the same. Down to the train station followed by a heavy suitcase lifting period throughout the day until you walk through that lovely door that is home! Many are lucky and have parents come and pick them up, and so they haul everything in the back of the car and off they go. Once home, many may choose to unpack, or they could just go and heave themselves onto the sofa and magically the television comes on! It's a miracle.

As revision loomed, I lay my books out and created a timetable to decide when and how I would go about revision. Many people have different methods of approaching this, and while some are extremely successful, others may seem not so. For me, I found re-writing notes the best method of revising. For the 3 weeks that was the Easter holidays, I was at home and found myself alone for those 3. This came as a massive challenge as I had to cook, clean and look after myself. After a couple of hours, I had had enough, but, unfortunately I had no choice but to persevere to that weekend when I would have company. The rest of the holidays remained the same until I clambered onto the train to come back to Shrewsbury to join some school mates for the Gold DofE Practice expedition in Anglesey.

Gold DoE started for us with a long journey with a few stops to pick up crucial kit. The sun was shining and the weather couldn't have been better as we saw the sea and arrived at the Hostel. We all had our duties which ranged from fixing the kayaks to preparing dinner for six hungry men! Once dinner was obliterated, the task of going over safety, radios, tides and weather completely tired us all out and we headed off to bed after completing a few rounds of 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire'!

The next day started an early breakfast call of 8am, which for many just seemed far too early! After a heavy breakfast, we all got into the bus and drove a mere 20 minutes to a nearby bay to unpack the Kayaks and prepare for a cold day out on the sea. Even though the sun was beating down on us, we had quite a cold wind chill to compete with. The point of this day was to refresh everything we learnt so far. After a few hours of strokes, it came the time for rescues. This meant one thing, getting very wet! The cold seemed to hit us all like a brick wall and we all were very glad to get out of the water. After drying up, we headed to the hostel to have some much deserved supper and plan the next day's journey.

After 3 days kayaking, we headed back to Shrewsbury which to some of us was a relief after some rather uncomfortable nights under canvas. After a few hours of admin, we all headed back to our houses to get back to normal life that is Shrewsbury School. To sum up, the trip was enjoyable, good company and very well organized. Next stop, Croatia!

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The first two days have certainly been extremely hectic. As you could imagine, everyone comes back with the same worried face, wondering if they have done as much revision as their colleagues. Lessons seemed refreshing as it felt good to realize that maybe the revision has paid off. It seemed nice to be surrounded by so many familiar faces as it had been a pretty dull Easter holiday. With exams only a few weeks away, it seems pretty sensible to buckle down and prepare for the worst! The main incentive is the feeling of walking out the exam hall after completing that final exam! Not long to go until the Summer holidays will be staring us right in our faces. Bring it on!



## RSSBC Training Camp Easter 2011

Thursday 28 April 2011

As is normal during the Easter holidays, the Boat Club had their annual training camp, this year a relatively short journey down the M40 to a split venue camp at Reading and Streatley.

We could not have had any notion that we were to have an almost unbroken period of sunshine. Indeed the 7am outings were spectacular, with the mist rising from a still Thames; there can be few places as beautiful as this when the weather is so spectacular!

19 boys and one girl came on the 12 day camp, so important for the transition from the long distance head races of the Michaelmas and Lent terms to the sprinting of the impending Regatta season. Indeed, the first important Regatta is only one week in to term, so the prospect of turning up to School with five days to prepare for a full-on two Kilometre race would be fairly unthinkable!

Both the crews spent plenty of time on the water, the 2nd 8 making huge advances in boat speed, which it needed to do to have a competitive season. The 1st 8 was already in good shape, so improvement harder to quantify. Wallingford Regatta this coming Sunday will be a good marker for the term.

*Paul Manser*

## RSSH: Wrekin Streak Fell Race

Friday 29 April 2011

The 2011 Shropshire Summer Fell Series got underway this Wednesday evening with a 2 mile/850m ascent up the Wrekin.

Two Hunt runners blew off the holiday cobwebs to compete in their first ever fell race, with Huntsman Cal Winwood placing 7th overall in 19.51 out of 115 runners (the majority of whom were Senior club athletes). Will Spencer Jones (next year's Junior Whip) was 49th overall in 23.49 and first U18 runner. Mr Ian Haworth - running just ten days after his impressive 2.39 in the London Marathon - placed 3rd overall in a time of 18.37, less than a minute behind seasoned Fell specialist Steve Cale.



## German Study Visit to Bavaria 2011

Friday 29 April 2011

With no great disasters suffered, the German study visit to Bavaria was an all round success, with memorable experiences of German culture, from McCafes to trains which are never late. The visits to Nuremberg and Munich and were not only interesting and educational, but also filled with opportunities to try the famous Bratwurst sausages and other delicacies. These were, though fun, not quite as memorable as the tour of the Allianz Arena, home of FC Bayern Munich and TSV 1860 München teams, feat of architecture and FIFA World Cup stadium for 2006.

The highlight of the trip was, of course, the tour of the famous castles built by the arguably mad King Ludwig II: Neuschwanstein and Linderhof. Each lavishly decorated both inside and out, Ludwig built these homes for himself to give the illusion of power similar to the power held by Louis XIV of France. Though beautiful, none of the jewels in Neuschwanstein were anything more than coloured glass. The long walk up the mountainside was definitely worth the view from the bridge of this fairytale castle, designed not by an architect but an artist, with miles of flat land stretching out beyond.

*Alice Matthews*