



## Golf: ISGA national scratch handicap golf knockout semi-final

Monday 1 December 2014

*Shrewsbury beat Rydal Penrhos (3-0) at Chester Golf Club on Sunday 30th November and win through to the regional final.*

The opposition had beaten our B team last month but were no match for our more experienced A team. The Shrewsbury team was able to put last week's disappointment of a HMC Foursomes defeat to QEGS Blackburn behind them and play to their potential this time around.

In these scratch handicap singles matches, the Rydal Penrhos boys (with golf handicaps 5, 8, 10) gave spirited displays and, when the momentum threatened to turn in their favour, our boys were able to hold off the challenges and were never behind in any match.

This now puts Shrewsbury into the regional final versus Birkdale School, to be played before the end of March 2015. If the team can win the regional final, they would progress to the ISGA national final to be held at Princes and Royal St George's on 26 - 27th April 2015.

Well done to the team of: Ben Oswald (S V - handicap 6) who won 5 and 3; James Walker (Rt LVI - handicap 6) who won 6 and 4; and Captain of Golf, Alex Haspel (Rb UVI - handicap 8) who won 5 and 4.

*Mr Schofield*

## Moser Library Best Reads of 2014

Monday 1 December 2014

*Head Librarian Mrs Elliot has collated a list of 'Best Reads of 2014', selected by staff and students.*



"We are extremely grateful to all those who took the time to share their favourite reads of 2014. Every book in this collection comes personally recommended by someone at Shrewsbury School. There is a diverse and exciting selection of books here - both fiction and non-fiction."

The full list is available to download: [Moser Library Best Reads of 2014](#)

Print copies of the list are being circulated to Houses and the Common Room and there is a display of selected titles in the Library.

## RSSH: Shrewsbury Relays, Sunday 30th November 2014

Monday 1 December 2014

*Excellent individual performances and the first major victory of the new season for Shrewsbury's girls' A team.*



*L-R: Tory Mobley, Sally Joyce, Abi Attenborough, Olivia Papaioannou*

Beautiful autumn weather greeted us in the Quarry as the runners lined up for this year's Shrewsbury Relays. A total of four girls' teams and six boys' teams were contesting this year's event, from Shrewsbury, Sedbergh and Adams' Grammar.

In a change to previous years, this time there were three separate routes across the six-leg (for the boys) and four-leg (for the girls) relay race. The shortest leg (legs 1 and 4) comprised a simple out-and-back route from the suspension bridge to Kingsland Bridge and back, a total of 1.2km, and dead flat. The longest leg (legs 2 and 5 in the boys' race, just leg 2 in the girls') was 2.5km and took in several hills, the toughest of which went from Pengwern Boat Club up the steep bank to Oldham's Gap. The medium-distance route (legs 3 and 6 for the boys, just 3 for the girls) was just under 2km, cutting out a couple of the larger hills of the long leg.

In the **girls' race**, Abi Attenborough (MSH UVI) in the RSSH 'A' team set out strongly but struggled to keep the pace set by Libby Hedges (G 3) for RSSH's 'C' team, who finished the first leg in 4:01, just over 20 seconds ahead of her nearest rival – an astonishing effort from this promising Third Former. Sedbergh's team started slowly, finding themselves in 4th position after





the first leg, and had their work cut out to stay competitive, but they did, thanks to a very strong second leg.

In the RSSH 'A' team, Tory Mobley (EDH UVI) had a cracking run in the long leg, setting the fastest time of the day over that distance in 10:33. It's clear that Tory is coming back into considerable form at the moment. This effort placed the 'A' team back in the lead, after the 'B' dropped back as a result of an injury to Rosie Davies (EDH 3), who nevertheless struggled through bravely to finish her leg. Sophia Dixon (MSH 3) ran extremely strongly for the 'C' team over this leg, meanwhile, in a time of 10:36 – only three seconds slower than the pace set by Tory Mobley.

At this point in the race, RSSH 'A' had established a commanding lead, with a superb run from Sally Joyce (G LVI) over the medium-distance course, in 7:31 – the fastest girls' effort over that distance of the day. Sedbergh were over 90 seconds back at this point, and the only question mark of the race order was whether they would hold off the RSSH 'C' team, who were nine seconds behind with one leg to go.

That final leg was dominated by Olivia Papaioannou (EDH LVI) for RSSH 'A', who ran a fantastic leg of 3:58 (faster than several of the boys managed over the same distance) to take the gold medal for Shrewsbury School. Sedbergh had a very strong final leg and took silver. Third place went to the 'C' team, 30 seconds behind, while the RSSH 'B' team took 4th less than a minute behind that.

In the **boys' race**, an early lead was established by RSSH's 'A' team under Charlie Rogers (Rb LVI), who set a blistering pace with his short leg in 3:22, which ended up being the fastest short lap of the day. Sedbergh were in close contention though, about 12 seconds behind, and in the second leg, Charlie Tait-Harris (S V) struggled to maintain his lead. At the end of this long leg, Sedbergh had closed the gap to just two seconds (partly through Charlie getting a bit confused by the route). Adams' Grammar were dropping back and at this point found themselves trailing by around 30 seconds, and continued to fall behind over the remainder of the race, but retained their position in 3rd, ahead of RSSH's 'B' team.

Will Hayward (R V) worked very hard to retain the RSSH lead over Sedbergh in the 3rd leg, after which we found ourselves seven seconds ahead – another gritty performance from Will who showed a real none-shall-pass attitude. Alex Shaw (Ch UVI) in the second short leg found the going nice and easy, but the competition a little closer than he'd like – his time of 3:36 to Sedbergh's leg of exactly the same time meant that it was everything to play for as Theo Clarke (S UVI) set off for the final long leg.

Theo struggled to hold off Sedbergh's star runner of the day, John Campbell, who appeared to be taking chunks out of Theo's lead with every hill. He was finally caught going up the steep verge up to Oldham's Gap – perhaps the infamously hilly terrain around Sedbergh gave them an advantage here – and Theo finished his leg six seconds behind.

Everything was down to Oscar Dickins (R V) on the final, medium distance lap. He set off at a tremendous pace, and had caught his man by halfway round the course. It seemed he was destined for a great victory, but Sedbergh's runner ran a terrific race and stuck to him like glue. The effort Oscar had expunged to make up the gap started to tell in the closing stages of the leg, and Sedbergh once more took the lead. Oscar had nothing to answer, and finished just five seconds behind. There was some consolation for him in learning that he had managed the fastest leg over that distance (5:58), but not much! A fantastic race to watch, and though it was tough to



be beaten so narrowly, we had to hand it to Sedbergh, who ran a tactical but very gutsy race and who ultimately deserved the win.

There were plenty of positives for RSSH though; the boys had shown real heart and there were some excellent individual performances among this team reconstituted after a sickness bug had decimated our squad overnight; and of course our girls showed their huge promise for the year ahead with their first major victory of the season – the first of many, I am sure.

It should also be noted that there were also some great efforts by the boys' 'B' team, especially by Charlie Davis (PH UVI) and Naveen Garikapati (Rb LVI) who ran times not far off those of our top 'A' team runners. Well done to all who raced.

*IPH*



## Senior School Play 'Cyrano de Bergerac' - a review

Monday 1 December 2014

*This year's Senior School play, Edmond Rostand's tragi-comedy Cyrano de Bergerac – the first School production by our new Director of Drama Helen Brown – has been generally acclaimed as a 'tour de force'.*



Staging *Cyrano de Bergerac* as a first production in the Ashton Theatre is like diving from the top board when arriving at the swimming pool. Edmond Rostand's turn of the century tragi-comedy is not for the faint hearted. An epic tale, written in French and translated by Anthony Burgess, it is Shakespearian pastiche, with echoes of *Hamlet*, *Henry V* and *Romeo and Juliet* – complete with Balcony scene.

Our hero (Harry Al-Adwani) is a romantic soldier-poet, who despite being nasally challenged, can write a sonnet and fight a duel simultaneously. His soaring soul is tortured by a ridiculously large proboscis – which prevents him from declaring his love for his beautiful cousin Roxanne. Instead of which, his verses and billets doux are delivered by proxy – apparently by his handsome but utterly stupid protégé Christian. Above all, this is a play which calls for lofty, lyrical verse speaking and, in Cyrano's final words, more than a dose of 'panache'.





*L-R: Will Harvey, Guy Cabral, Jessica Walker*

Helen Brown, Shrewsbury's brilliant new Director of Drama, presented a wonderfully costumed show with a set full of cobbles and balustrades, oozing Seventeenth Century charm. Her able cast were fully up to the challenge and but at their strongest in the more intimate scenes, where players such as Will Harvey (Le Bret) and Jessica Walker (Pauline) went for the lines with verve and 'élan'.



*Tom Knight and Emily Skelton*



Tom Knight, played the handsome hunk with endearing bravura – and Emily Skelton’s dizzy Roxanne made Burgess’s lines sound naturalistic and credible. Guy Cabral brought a louche sleaziness – completely out of his own character – to the part of the odious Comte de Guiche.



*Harry Al-Adwani*

As for *Cyrano*, Harry Al-Adwani was given the task of climbing the Alps – in a vastly demanding part, with pages of poetry to memorise and sudden shifts of mood from the heroic to profound self doubt. There were some excellent moments of comedy – not least when *Cyrano* takes the place of *Christian* under the balcony. Here was a fluid actor, who was fully engaged with the role, whilst understandably challenged by the vocal demands of lyric verse. For *Rostand* is no *Shakespeare* – and, if possible, more wordy; words and images pour from the page and there is always a danger that the weight of the verbiage will clog and drag on the momentum. Even professional actors sometimes struggle to communicate the urgency of drama when the medium is verse. Nevertheless, this ‘Frog Prince’ with a heart of gold, captivated the audience from the moment of his first appearance on stage to his desperate (and doomed) last duel with *Death*.

This magnificent production of *Cyrano de Bergerac* suggests that Shrewsbury has found a director of distinction who promises an exciting future for Shrewsbury School drama.



## Rigg's Thanksgiving Dinner

Monday 1 December 2014



On the last Thursday of November, Rigg's Hall hosted its first ever Thanksgiving Dinner with resident Bostonian Nick Cabot in charge of proceedings and guests of honour including Mr Sheppe, Miss Paine and Miss Buckley.

Matron prepared an enormous turkey feast and the Hall was elaborately decorated in Thanksgiving fare much of which was kindly sent over from the US by Nick's mother!



# 1st House Football

Tuesday 2 December 2014

*The School House spirit was on display for all to see, both on and off the pitch, in our crunch quarter final vs Oldham's.*



*School House 1st House Squad (L-R). Back Row: Kwaku Antwi (V), Will Hargreaves (Capt., UVI), Yutaro Sato (UVI), Michael Cheung (GK, V), Nifemi Okusanya (V), Will Street (LVI), Broo*

Led by Captain Will Hargreaves, the boys fought extremely well in a very close game and there was nothing to separate the teams. In fact, it was only an unlucky deflection from a corner two minutes before the end of the match that decided the game 1-0 in the opposition's favour. The lads were spurred on from the touchline with an energetic crowd from School House, which was complete with a megaphone, vuvuzela and a touch of style from Brendan Parsons on the bagpipes and trumpet! A strong performance all-round.





*The fans*



*Freddie on the ball; Brendan looking on, trumpet at the ready!*

With the U15 House and 2nd House teams suffering exactly the same fate as the 1st House team (1-0 in favour of the opposition at the Quarter Final stage), it simply wasn't going to be our year... However, it was great to see almost half the House turning out to play, across the age and ability range, along with plenty of support on the touchline.





*U15 House (L-R), Back Row: Reuben Denison (3), Christian Cavenagh-Thornhill (IV), Ian Lau (3), Arron Lewis (GK, 3), Marco Lo (IV), August von Kameke (IV), Jacob Jefferis (3); Front Row: Will Holdcroft (3), Harry Zhang (3), Sergey Vartanov (IV), Gus Lloyd (Capt., IV), Ramzi Masri (3), Simon Lange (3)*

The U15 House team, led by Gus Lloyd (IV), dominated possession and territory and looked like a very strong outfit; given that most of the team were in the Third Form and physically a lot smaller than the opposition, it looks as if we have a very bright footballing future ahead of us.



*2nd House (L-R), Back Row: Freddy Chin (LVI), Vardan Hambardzumyan (V), Hugo Richardson (LVI), Brook Plumptre (Capt., UVI), Christian Ferrigno (UVI), James Wong (V); Front Row: Eric Ma (LVI), Merrick Wong (LVI), Eric Tang (LVI), Arthur Cheng (UVI), Bertie Calvert (V), Leo Sartain (LVI), Eccles Cheong (V)*

The 2nd House game, led by Brook Plumptre (UVI), was one of the most entertaining matches that I have watched for some time – end-to-end, edge-of-the-seat stuff! The fact that all the games were so close is testament to the boys' talent and determination. Every player could leave the field with their head held high.



*Third Form supporters (L-R): Lucas Jones Polanco and Piers Merison*



# 1964 Football XI 50th Anniversary Reunion - Saturday 29 November

Tuesday 2 December 2014



This proved to be the very best of Salopian occasions, much enjoyed and to be savoured for many years no doubt. The day packed with activity began at 10.30 with coffee, then lunch in the Hardy Room and included watching Repton take a 50-year old 3-0 revenge against the current 1st XI. The team visited the Taylor Library to view original 1856 Rules of Football signed by two Salopians. A tour of houses followed and the day was rounded off by dinner in the Riverside Inn.

The spirit of the occasion is captured well by our esteemed Captain, Peter Thwaites, who commented after the day: 'As we walked across Senior before the game against Repton, there was not one of us that did not want to shed 40 years, get changed and go out and play! We might have grumbled about multi-coloured boots and the odd bit of shirt pulling, but we were less subtle and tended to take our opponents' legs from under them. There is no doubt, however, that the pace at which the game was played would have found us severely wanting.



However what has endured beyond, the dodgy knees and hips, is the team spirit that Robin Trimby engendered in us. A spirit that was sufficient for 11 individuals to want to get together after 50 years, from as far away as Australia and the US. It would be good to think that in 2065, the current 1st XI will consider meeting and enjoying a similar venture!

Back row: Coach: R.W. Trimby, P.R. Platt, R. Brooke-Smith, J.M. Pritchard, M.D. Kemball-Cook, W.B. Walker, C.J. Rowlinson front row: J.R. Painter, R.H. East, P.E. J. Thwaites (Capt), J.T.G Butler, D.W. Gale

**The full version of the report by team-member, Robin Brooke-Smith (S 1961-66) will appear in the next edition of the Salopian magazine, due to be published in December, 2014.**





## Dayboy Dads rowing across the Atlantic

Wednesday 3 December 2014

*The fathers of Third Formers Charlie Harpin (PH) and Antoine Legeais (Rb) are rowing against each other in a gruelling head-to-head 3,000-mile race across the Atlantic.*

Stephen Harpin is in the seven-man crew of 'Toby Wallace'. Originally in the Royal Navy, he runs the Shropshire Adventure Rowing Club, which he set up several years ago, and has had lots of adventures with Irish Sea crossings, rowing the Caledonian Canal, coastal rowing and racing. He also rows with his Rowing Club in their fixed seat longboats. He is raising money for the specialist bowel cancer Bickerstaff Endoscopy Unit at the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford; his fundraising page is <https://www.justgiving.com/Stephen-Harpin/>

Christophe Legeais is part of the five-man crew of 'Oystershack'. His previous endurance challenges include climbing the North Face of the Eiger and rowing the Irish Sea twice in a Celtic longboat. He is an active member of Shrewsbury Adventure Rowing Club with Stephen and most recently was part of a longboat crew who won their category in the Great River Race in September 2014. He is raising money for Marie Curie Cancer Care; his fundraising page is <http://www.justgiving.com/christophe-legeais>

They set out from Puerto de Mogan, Gran Canaria on 24th November at 2159hrs. In order to beat the 32-day speed record, they must arrive in Barbados before 2159hrs (GMT) on Boxing Day.

Their respective positions can be found at: [http://www.oceanrowing.com/Toby\\_Wallace/comparative\\_charts.htm](http://www.oceanrowing.com/Toby_Wallace/comparative_charts.htm) and there's more information on <http://www.oceanrowing.co.uk/atlantic-row-nov-2014/>





## Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Thursday 4 December 2014

*In his final article of 2014, Mr Bell focuses on the House Football Competitions.*



For anyone who loves Christmas, teaching at a school such as ours has the added benefit that Christmas runs throughout the whole of December. I have worked out that we have at least 18 Christmas trees up around the school and I am looking forward to my first Christmas dinner of the season on Tuesday. I have already been sporting my Christmas jumper and researching the best of the season's cracker jokes. Some of my favourites include:

What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?

*Claustrophobia!*

Why did Santa's helper see the doctor?

*Because he had a low "elf" esteem!*

How did Mary and Joseph know that Jesus was 7lb 6oz when he was born?

*They had a weigh in a manger.*

I could go on but I am sensing I have already lost a high percentage of my readership!

The other element that brings me great joy at this time of year is the advent of the second oldest football competition in the world: The First House competition. Soon after First House was established, Second House was added, as was under-15 House. Today that means that in the last week of term, some 400 boys will be participating in a football competition of one sort or another.



*Enthusiastic support for School House*

I asked 2nd XI coach, Matthew Clark whether he enjoyed the House tournaments. His response was typically enthusiastic; “What’s not to like? I love them!” Although he was deciding which Quality Street to have next, I think he was talking about the football. “I love the passion, the colour, the crowds the atmosphere, the moments of sheer magic, the moments of unimaginable joy and of utter despair and most of all I love being involved as a referee, especially if I can engineer some controversy!” (Actually he didn’t say that last bit!)

I am with Matthew. So is Housemaster of Ridgemount and Old Salopian Will Hughes, who told me: “I still remember my House match days and I have never got over the fact that in my time here we never made it to a House match final. It still haunts me, and the reason I came back to Shrewsbury to be a Housemaster was so that I could taste success in this competition, albeit as a manager.”

Ridgemount were winners of the Trophy last year but were brought back down to earth this year, being knocked out of proceedings by Radbrook on penalties. Rookie manager and Housemaster Richard Case could barely conceal his delight. “I am delighted,” he said. When Ridgemount were knocked out of Second House as well, some thought that there would be pressure on the manager, but Mr Hughes has currently bought himself some time by guiding his under-15 House team to a 5-0 win over Ingram’s. Mr Hughes admitted to be relieved and ecstatic about his team’s performance. He went on to say how important it was to give the lads some focus at this stage of term and that he was able to urge his young squad to get to bed early, get some sleep and eat a hearty breakfast before the big game. That advice can be given at least three times in the last week of term if a team progresses in the cup; which is always good news for a Housemaster!





*A rather irritating worm distracts the players during the School House - Oldham's Second House match*

Some Houses are cruising along on all fronts; there will be plenty of well rested young men in Severn Hill and Oldham's who have managed to make it to the semi-final stage in all competitions. Oldham's housemaster and manager Marcus Johnson is pleased that some of his signings have worked out to be good buys. He did not have time for an interview, however, as he was busy composing lyrics for his supporters to chant. "I love the banter and wit of a good football crowd," he told me!

Dan Nicholas, Old Salopian, Housemaster and manager of Severn Hill, was in buoyant mood. "I am so buoyant I could fly to the highly visible planet Jupiter" he told me.



*A pause in the School House - Ingram's game as Jupiter is spotted low in the sky*



*A slightly anxious Dan Nicholas on the touchline*

Colonel Nicholas is regarded as having something of the Alex Ferguson about him. When he was manager of The Grove they won First House at least twice, and now he has a very good chance of success in all three competitions with his highly thought of Severn Hill teams. As modest as always, Mr Nicholas told me, “When I was in the Army Air Corps I flew over a lot of top flight games and I guess I picked up quite a few insights into how the game should be played. I am particularly keen on wingers.”





I had the honour of referring a typically robust Second House match between Rigg's and Severn Hill. Both teams were desperate to win and played with a passion and commitment, only matched by some FA Cup giant-killing teams. Players were affected by the physical intensity of the game, suffering from cramp, fatigue and mental exhaustion; at least that is the excuse one player told me he was going to use for his essay being late!

In a cruel change of the rules this year, Head of Football Mr Biggins has introduced sudden death penalties. Can you tell me if this young man pictured below (in gold):

1. ...has scored the winning goal with his last vestige of energy?
2. ...has missed the goal completely, causing his irrate Housemaster to shoot him?
3. ...has decided to have a quick rest before he takes the final spot kick?
4. ...is having a chat with a mole?



The competitions will be completed this week, before the cricket tour to Dubai and South Africa. Already there has been heartache and pain as well as glory and elation.





*Goal!*

The Moser's v Oldham's Second House quarter final match was played on Senior, which was a great treat for all the players who were genuinely elated that they were playing on such hallowed turf.

I have already enjoyed the intensity and competitiveness of this year's fixtures. Good luck to all the teams still involved. Remember to get a good night's sleep and hearty breakfast before each game!

A very happy Christmas to you all.

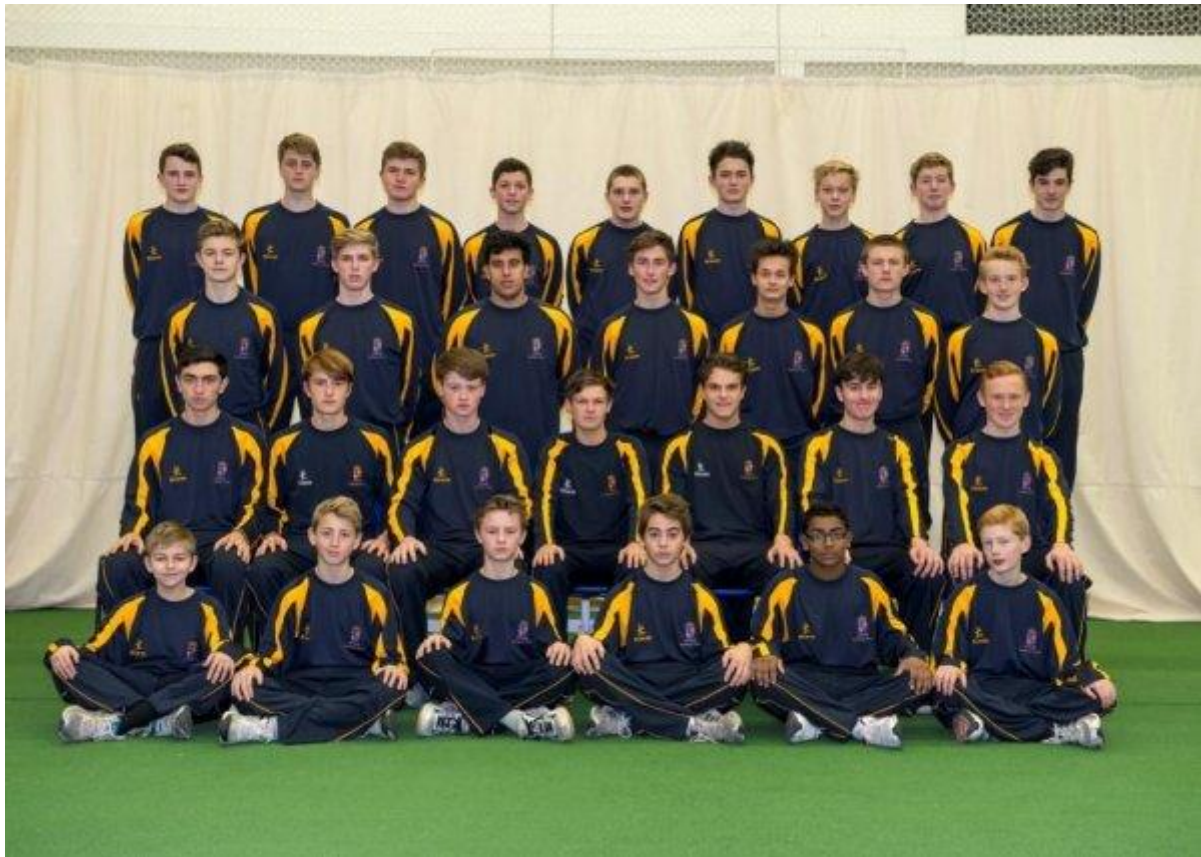
PS I wanted to ask Peter Middleton Housemaster of Rigg's for a quote on his team, but he was away by a manger. Congratulations to him and Jenna on the production of Rosanna.



## Cricket Tour 2014

Thursday 4 December 2014

*Good luck to our 1st XI and U15A XI cricket squads who set off on tour to the UAE and South Africa on Saturday 6th December.*



They will be stopping off in Dubai and Abu Dhabi and playing matches against local school and academy sides, before flying on to Cape Town, South Africa on 11th December. They will play eight matches over the next 11 days, returning home on 23rd December.



## 50th Anniversary Reunion of Shrewsbury's 1964 Football 1st XI

Thursday 4 December 2014

*Fifty years after achieving the distinction of being the only football team to beat all other public schools in a single season, every member of the 1964 Shrewsbury 1st XI returned to the School last Saturday for a memorable and hugely enjoyable reunion with their coach, Robin Trimby.*

Two of the team even made the journey from overseas - Peter Platt flew over from Perth, Western Australia and goalkeeper David Gale (and former RSSH Huntsman) came from Florida.

Their season culminated in a gripping 2 -1 victory over Repton on the last Saturday of November 1964 and it was fitting, therefore that the reunion was timed to coincide with the School's annual fixture against Repton. 1964 1st XI player and one of the main organisers of the day, Robin Brooke-Smith, who is now the School's Archivist, spoke for his fellow team mates in describing the occasion as, "the very best of Salopian occasions, much enjoyed and to be savoured for many years, no doubt".

The spirit of the occasion was captured well by Captain Peter Thwaites, who commented after the day:

"As we walked across Senior before the game against Repton, there was not one of us who did not want to shed 40 years, get changed and go out and play! We might have grumbled about multi-coloured boots and the odd bit of shirt-pulling, but we were less subtle and tended to take our opponents' legs from under them. There is no doubt, however, that the pace at which the game was played would have found us severely wanting.

"However what has endured beyond the dodgy knees and hips, is the team spirit that Robin Trimby engendered in us; a spirit that was sufficient for 11 individuals to want to get together after 50 years, from as far away as Australia and the US. It would be good to think that in 2065, the current 1st XI will consider meeting and enjoying a similar venture!"





*Back row: Coach: R.W. Trimby, P.R. Platt, R. Brooke-Smith, J.M. Pritchard, M.D. Kemball-Cook, W.B. Walker, C.J. Rowlinson; Front row: J.R. Painter, R.H. East, P.E. J. Thwaites (Capt), J.T.G Butler, D.W. Gale*



## George Panayi selected for England U17 Cricket Tour

Friday 5 December 2014

*Congratulations to George Panayi (Cb LVI) who has been selected for the England U17 tour to Dubai in February 2015 to play against the Pakistan U17s.*

George is a fast bowler who is currently a member of the Warwickshire Academy. He has been playing in the Shrewsbury 1st XI team since he was in the Fourth Form.

"George Panayi has worked hard and long for this exciting selection," said Andy Barnard, Master in Charge of Cricket. "He becomes Shrewsbury School's fifth national age group selection in the last ten years (Rhuadri Smith - Scotland U19 in 2012/13; Edward Barnard - England U19 in 2013/14; James Taylor - England U17 in 2007, U19 in 2009 and currently playing for England ODI team in Sri Lanka; Scott Ellis - England U19 in 1994). Having narrowly missed out on Bunbury selection two years ago, his outstanding performances at Shrewsbury School (leading all-rounder last season), Warwickshire CCC and Shrewsbury CC have promoted him into national selection. The hard work carried out with Paul Pidgeon, the School's Cricket Professional, has helped develop George's game and effectiveness on the pitch.



"Tomorrow he departs on tour with the School squad to the UAE and South Africa - a trip that will now prove to be excellent preparation for his upcoming matches against Pakistan U17s, one of the strongest age group teams in the world."

## Chemistry Roentgenium medal-winner Ross Viljoen attends awards ceremony at the Royal Society

Friday 5 December 2014

*Ross Viljoen (PH UVI) attended an awards ceremony at the Royal Society in London for students who won the highest awards in this year's Cambridge Chemistry Challenge.*



Each Roentgenium Medal winner gave a short presentation on the element of their choice. Ross gave a talk on the noble gas element, Xenon, to the other award winners and a group of academics, including Dr Peter Wothers from St Catharine's College, University of Cambridge. Dr Wothers gave the televised Royal Society Christmas Lectures in 2013.

Ross hopes to read Natural Sciences at Cambridge and has an interview later this month.

Only the top 0.8% of students achieved the Roentgenium medal in 2014. Ross and the other medal-winners attended a residential chemistry camp at the University of Cambridge in September.

The Cambridge Chemistry Challenge aims to stretch and challenge students interested in chemistry and provides an excellent experience for anyone considering taking their studies further.

*ADB*



## U15, 2nd and 1st House semi-finalists... again!

Saturday 6 December 2014



Pictured are U15, 2nd and 1st House footballers from all five year groups. The players made it to all three House semi-finals for the second consecutive year... but sadly no further this time.

## School House team up with Emma Darwin Hall for mixed football match

Sunday 7 December 2014

*What better way to mark the end of a successful first term of full coeducation at Shrewsbury School, than with a mixed football match?*



*The teams before the game*

It was a bright, crisp Sunday afternoon when the Third Form boys from School House and girls from EDH joined forces for arguably the most symbolic match of the season.

The game was played in excellent spirit, great goals were scored by both teams and by boys and girls alike. After the final whistle went, the majority decided to stay out to play on, which clearly shows they had a great time!



*Ramzi Masri (L) optimistically hoping to dispossess Lucy Cowper (R), with Harry Zhang (Centre) ready receive her pass*

## Paris MUN success

Monday 8 December 2014

*Shrewsbury's 14-strong MUN team were on stunning form at the Paris Conference last weekend, held in the prestigious setting of UNESCO Headquarters and involving more than 900 delegates from 25 countries.*



*Photo by Huda Hasan (MSH UVI)*

The 14 Shrewsbury delegates representing China and North Korea spent most of the conference in their respective committees, debating all sorts of different topics. These included debates on how best to combat ISIS, what to do to stop the spread of Ebola, the rights of women in the armed forces, the human rights of prisoners, the arms trade, protectionism, how best to fight poverty in sub-Saharan Africa and whether it is right to use genetically modified foods to combat world hunger.

As always, Salopians were right in the thick of the debates and made a big impact.

At the end of the committee stage, on Sunday morning, all 900 delegates reconvened in the main hall in UNESCO to debate a resolution, which was put together by delegates from a number of schools, including Shrewsbury, and then turned into a workable document by Sasha Arridge and Ed Plaut, alongside two girls from a school in Monaco.

Sasha and Ed's preparatory work on this resolution was the greatest achievement by our team at the 2014 conference. As in the real UN conferences, the two boys burned the midnight oil with their counterparts, making sure that everything was ready for Sunday's concluding debate. Their work is a good example of everything that MUN is about: research, preparation, intensive debate and disagreement, dialogue, consensus-building, compromise, and finally a document to be proud of.



The result of the General Assembly vote on Sunday morning was a massive majority for Sasha and Ed's resolution without a single amendment; this is one of the finest achievements by any Shrewsbury team at PAMUN.

No fewer than four of the Shrewsbury team were given Honourable Mentions in the closing ceremony of the conference: Sasha Arridge (Rb LVI), Krem Todorova (G UVI), Rhys Elliott-Williams (PH LVI) and Tiger Vechamamontien (M LVI).

And two were named as Best Delegates in their committees: George Young (O LVI) in the World Health Organisation Executive Committee; and Ed Plaut (S V) in the Human Rights Panel.

*HRWP*



## **China**

Guy Cabral (Ambassador) – Security Council  
George Young – WHO Executive Board  
Sasha Arridge – Special Conference  
Ed Plaut – Human Rights Panel  
Joseph Lafferty – Disarmament  
Krem Todorova – Political  
James Ollerhead – Environment  
Max Yale – ECOSOC



## **Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)**

Rhys Elliott-Williams (Ambassador) – Human Rights Panel  
Tiger Vechamamontien – Special Conference  
Huda Hasan – Political  
Vicky Quzhang – WHO Executive Board  
Fintan Simmons – Disarmament  
Batool Aljufairi – Environment

## Paperchases

Tuesday 9 December 2014

*On the final afternoon of term, almost half the House turned out to run in the Paperchases "fun run", which follows a course around the School Site.*

Organised by our Captain of Running, Will Street (LVI), School House put together four teams of eight boys. Freddie Rowley (UVI), who missed out on 'The Tucks' earlier in the term due to injury, was back on top form and came in first for the House.

The boys enjoyed the opportunity to work up an appetite before the Christmas Dinner in the evening and a good time was had by all who took part!



*Above left - The boys setting off on the Paperchases course, with Simon Lange (3) in the foreground; Above right - Sergey Vartanov (IV), still smiling at the end of the race, despite the 'war wound' on his knee, which he sustained on his way around the course!*

## School Firsts

Tuesday 9 December 2014

*Awarded to pupils during the final School Assembly of the Michaelmas Term.*

Each term a committee of Sixth Form pupils meets to award the School's highest form of 'colours' – a 'School First'. The committee members take their work seriously, for two main reasons: firstly, this is a good example of pupil power – while teachers may make nominations, it is only those ten or so Upper Sixth pupils sitting on the committee who have the power to vote; secondly, to retain the value of the 'School First', precious few are handed out.

Nowadays School Firsts have been split into two types: sporting and non-sporting. Below is a list of those pupils who were given the coveted award for their exceptional contributions to School life across a wide spectrum of non-sporting activities.

**For their outstanding commitment to the Royal Marines Section of the CCF:**

John Dempsey (CH UVI), James Plaut (S UVI), Alex Shaw (Ch UVI) and Chris Thomas (M UVI)

**For their outstanding commitment and contributions to Drama:**

Harry Al-Adwani (SH UVI) and Jess Walker (G UVI)

**For their exceptional contributions to the musical life of the School:**

Henrike Legner (MSH UVI), Charis Virgo (G UVI), Henry Newbould (Ch LVI), Rob Shone (Ch LVI) and Henry Thomas (Ch LVI)

**For his lengthy and outstanding contributions to Quizzing:**

Oliver Hope (Ch UVI)

**For his exceptional contributions in preparing for and hosting the International Young Physicists Tournament and in supporting the Darwin Society:**

Dominic Dootson (M UVI)

**For his exceptional achievements in Chemistry and for winning the top prize in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge:**

Ross Viljoen (PH UVI)

**For his exceptional contributions to school computing and in particular for his outstanding service to the Bumping Races:**

Ed Carroll (Ch UVI)

A special award was also presented to **Will Allott (Ch UVI)** for his exceptional contribution to the School's theatre over five years. The citation from Head of Drama, Helen Brown reads as follows:

*Will has demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the theatre over the past five years. He has provided technical support for every single school and house play throughout his time at school – we worked out that the current senior play is his fiftieth in the theatre. If we also include the lectures, concerts and charity events that he has supported,*



# Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



*he has worked on 117 school events. He is a hugely competent and experienced technician, able to provide sound, lighting and stage management to a professional standard. In effect, he functions as a second full-time theatre technician, alongside all his other school commitments. He is endlessly generous with his time and expertise, and the theatre simply could not have run without him.*



## The news 100 years ago: 9th December 1914

Tuesday 9 December 2014

No OS lost their lives this week 100 years ago.

Between 11th and 21st November, British and Ottoman forces had fought in Iraq for control of the city of Basra. The Ottomans ultimately abandoned the city which was occupied by British forces. By early December, the Ottoman forces who had retreated from Basra were dug into fortifications around the city of Qurna, a vital strategic location where the rivers Tigris and Euphrates meet. Two Indian regiments, one British company and several gunboats attacked the Ottomans at Qurna, again driving them back. Qurna became an important base for British operations in central Iraq.

At sea, the Battle of the Falkland Islands was fought between British and German battlecruisers. After their heavy defeat at the Battle of Coronel on 1 November, the British had sent a large force to track down and destroy the victorious German squadron. On 8 December, German Admiral Graf Maximilian von Spee, ordered an attack on Port Stanley on the Falkland Islands, with the intention of raiding the British radio station and coaling depot. Spee was, however, unaware that a British squadron, including two fast, modern battle cruisers, *Invincible* and *Inflexible*, had already got there and were waiting for him. In the battle that followed, four German cruisers were sunk, including Spee's flagship *Scharnhorst*. 2,200 German sailors were killed in the encounter. Spee's squadron, which up until this point had successfully disrupted commercial shipping in the South Atlantic, had been wiped out.



# Headmaster's Commendations

Wednesday 10 December 2014

*The aim of the Headmaster's Commendations is to recognise and reward outstanding academic achievement and intellectual curiosity.*

The following pupils have been awarded Headmaster's Commendations this term:

## **Upper Sixth**

Sonny Koh (Ch)

Ross Viljoen (PH)

Esmé O'Keeffe (MSH)

Benjamin Tsang (R)

## **Lower Sixth**

Alfie Mitchell (SH)

Olivia Papaioannou (EDH)

Sherry Xu (EDH)

## **Fifth Form**

Ed Plaut (S)

Adam Aslam-Baskeyfield (Rb)

## **Fourth Form**

Nik Amthor (R)

Lucien Whitworth (R)

## **Third Form**

Abi Watkinson (G)

Jetty Russell (G)

Tommy Tong (SH)

Lizzy Ware (MSH)





# Hockey Firsts and Commendations

Wednesday 10 December 2014

*The following Firsts and Commendations were awarded at the final School Assembly of the Michaelmas Term.*

## **Hockey Firsts**

Mary Parrott  
Millie Dean  
Eddie Whittingham  
Cecy Price  
Esmé O'Keeffe

## **Hockey Commendations**

Nicola Spruyt  
Jess Moran  
Maddie Phillips

## **Junior Commendations**

Lizzie Ware  
Daisy McMullen  
Emma Graham  
Jetty Russell



# Oldham's win House Singing Unison Cup and First Leagues Football Trophy

Wednesday 10 December 2014



*Oldham's First Leagues House Football team holding his team's winning trophy and Ollie Pumphrey (right) with the R. M. Connell Music Cup awarded for House Singing (Unison)*

Oldham's First Leagues House Football team holding his team's winning trophy and Ollie Pumphrey (right) with the R. M. Connell Music Cup awarded for House Singing (Unison)

# School Firsts - Football

Wednesday 10 December 2014

*The following Firsts were awarded at the final School Assembly of the Michaelmas Term.*

## **School Firsts**

Max McClure  
Jamie Humes  
George Lewis

## **Junior School Firsts**

Patrick Jacob  
Alex Walton  
Kwaku Antwi  
Josh Malyon  
Dan Orchard  
Adam Aslam-Baskeyfield  
George Pearce  
Thomas Tulloch  
Charlie Tait-Harris



## Severn Hill dominate House Football

Wednesday 10 December 2014

*In a spectacular end to the House Football season, Severn Hill won the 2nd House trophy, beating Port Hill in the final, and also claimed the 15 House title, beating Ridgemount on penalties. A clean sweep was not quite within our grasp, sadly, as we were defeated in the final of 1st House by Radbrook.*



*2nd House winners*



*1st House finalists*



*15 House winners*



## The OSH v. The RSSH Annual Run on Saturday 6th December 2014

Wednesday 10 December 2014



OSH Chairman, Peter Birch (DB 1966-71) reports:

'There was a good gathering of spectators for this year's Annual Run with The RSSH on Saturday 6th December 2014. The chilly draught down Central made for an eagerness to start the run. However, there was the obligatory photo of Huntsmen present to be taken, under the watchful gaze of Mr. C.Darwin on The Drum. Six of us smiled for clicking shutters, namely, from the left, Richard Baker (1957-58), Stuart Morgan (60-61), Oli Mott (2002-03), Peter Birch (70-71), Tim Bedell (77-78), Adam Booth (1999-2000), before lining up across the start. In the absence of The Huntsman, Theo Clarke, I was enlisted to recall my days as leader of The Pack and utter the shortened cry of "All Hounds ...", before sprinting off for The Moss Gates. We totalled 12 runners against an impressive squad of 21 RSSH Hounds, which included 4 Hunt Girls.' [Click here for the full report.](#) Full [results and times can be found here.](#) Pictured, below, photo of the Start by Robin Brooke-Smith.





# Severn Hill Christmas Party

Thursday 11 December 2014



*Sixth Form and Third Form sketches*





## David Shipley, bass singer, awarded a place on Prestigious Young Artists' Scheme at Covent Garden

Friday 12 December 2014



David Shipley (M 2001-06) has just been awarded a place on the Jette Parker Young Artists Scheme at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden (More details available at <http://www.roh.org.uk/about/jette-parker-young-artists-programme>). David was chosen by audition from literally hundreds of applicants worldwide for a coveted place on this scheme, which gives up and coming young singers a two year contract at Covent Garden, during which time they receive world-class coaching and training in opera as well as taking part in productions, often taking small principal roles in productions and much more.

David was Head Chorister at Lichfield Cathedral, and a Music Scholar at Shrewsbury, where in addition to being a member of the Chapel and Chamber Choirs, he was Principal Horn in the School's Symphony Orchestra, and created the role of Professor Waldeman in the Fanning/Moore musical 'Frankenstein'.

David is just finishing his studies this year as a post-graduate at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama on the opera course, having previously studied at the Royal Academy of Music as a pupil of Mark Wildman, Head of Vocal Studies. Later this year, David will also be singing solos in Bach's B Minor Mass with John Eliot Gardiner and the Monteverdi Choir on tour, with whom there are also plans to make a new recording of the work, as well as in Claudio Monteverdi's Opera, 'Orfeo', with performances in America including Carnegie Hall and at the Aldeburgh Festival.



## James Taylor continues to maximise his chances with the World Cup Squad in Sri Lanka

Friday 12 December 2014



Shrewsbury Saracen, James Taylor (R 2003-08) has so far acquitted himself brilliantly during the England v Sri Lanka World Cup ODI Series.

Taylor scored 90 in Colombo on 7 December. Cricket pundits consider that he may well have secured a place in the World Cup Starting XI. He was re-selected for the next match in Kandy (10 -11 December) where in a winning partnership with Joe Root, he scored 68. Root went on to score 104 not-out.

**According to the Daily Telegraph**, Sri Lankan captain, Angelo Mathews, was impressed by James Taylor. “He looks a very good player,” he said. “In these conditions it is going to be a challenge for the English – it’s turning, it’s slow – but he seems to be batting on a different pitch for the last two games. I’ve not seen him that much but he looks a really good player.”

Alastair Cook, the England captain said: “The way we played over two days, we deserved to win. The way we bowled first was fantastic – Chris Woakes, I think, has got two of the three best figures [for England], that’s great credit to him – and the way James Taylor and Joe Root batted was just phenomenal.

Earlier in the week, the Telegraph's correspondent, Scyld Berry, had commented:

*'One swallow does not make a summer, but a swallow that can go into bat in the second over of his first proper one-day international, and score 90 off 109 balls in 40-degree heat and 90-degree humidity, can fly anywhere in the one-day world.'*

The whole article can be read here:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/cricket/international/england/11280373/James-Taylor-sees-full-England-picture-and-his-place-in-it.html>

And there are several others, e.g. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/0/cricket/30369973>



# THE 62<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL ALUMNI RACE. Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

Saturday 13 December 2014



### *The Start*

The Annual Alumni Race requires competitors to take on a course that tests not only the legs, but more importantly the footwear that adorns the feet. This year, the weather was bright and crisp, with a sharp wind that chilled the face at the start. The line-up was on a waterlogged playing field, but no matter, as , at the wave of a walking stick, we set off into the undergrowth of Wimbledon Common, where the path became a series of boggy foot grabbers. But with tight laces on our spiked shoes, we started to climb and spread out.

This year I am pleased to say that our six man team included not only Simon Pickles (M. 1971-76) and David Thomas (Rt. 1971-75), but also the “new blood” of Rupert Lougee (SH. 1988-93), Justin Jeffrey (SH. 1985-90) and brother Nick (SH. 1988-93). This year, Simon’s son, Sam, who had previously run as a guest, was taking photographs of our efforts, along with Rupert Chance (O. 1971-76), who also came to support us, as did the Pickles & Jeffrey wives too. All these extra faces attending, make a difference to us, especially at the finish, and thanks go out to them all. The Thames Hare & Hounds Running Club had marked the course well, with many encouraging marshals along the route, making this an excellent cross country event, with varying degrees of testing difficulty, for all age groups. [Click here for full report.](#)

Unfortunately, TH&H had some difficulty with their stopwatches, so at the time of writing this report there were no timings available, but check their website for more results later, by going to [www.thameshareandhounds.org.uk](http://www.thameshareandhounds.org.uk) and look for Alumni 2014.



## Theo Clarke and Charlie Tait-Harris are joint winners of the Senior Boys' Paperchases

Monday 15 December 2014

*The historic Paperchases took place on the final day of the Michaelmas term. In a great spirit of camaraderie and sportsmanship, the Severn Hill duo of Theo Clarke and Charlie Tait-Harris - who had looked extremely comfortable at the front of the pack throughout the Senior Boys' race - opted to cross the finish line together.*



*Theo Clarke and Charlie Tait-Harris with Oscar Dickins (R)*



## Oldham's Christmas Tea Party

Tuesday 16 December 2014

*Oldham's once again hosted its Christmas Tea Party for some of the elderly of Shrewsbury on the last weekend of term.*



Mrs Oak and Mrs Johnson, ably assisted by the Third Form, (less so by Lizzie and Ted) set up the long tables in the Hall and the boys welcomed our guests to tea, sandwiches, cakes, mince pies and a glass of sherry.

Ollie Pumphrey (UVI) and Tom Hua (IV) led the Carols once again with Guy Hunter (UVI), Anthony Koch de Gooreynd (LVI), Jamie Chambers (V) and many others involved in escorting guests to and from their transport, waiting on and providing entertainment.

Thanks again to our Tutors who acted as taxi drivers and hosts, and to Dr Wade for taking some snaps. This year's event seemed to be the best so far, with our guests' effusive gratitude to the boys and staff very clear as they left with box of chocolates each.



# The news 100 years ago: 16th December 1914

Tuesday 16 December 2014



This week, the war came to Britain. On 15th December, a German airship was sighted off the East coast of England, the first appearance of hostile aircraft over the British Isles. German air raids would later cause significant damage to civilian targets in the south and east of England.

The more immediate threat, however, came from the sea. On 16th December, a squadron of German battlecruisers bombarded the towns of Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool. In Scarborough, the Grand Hotel, three churches and various other properties were hit; in Whitby, a coastguard station and the historic Abbey were badly damaged. Hartlepool, a more significant target due to its docks and factories, was hit by over 1000 shells, causing damage to the steelworks, gasworks, railway lines, seven churches and 300 houses. The Hartlepool attack killed 86 civilians and injured 424. The raids were quickly seized upon by the British propaganda machine and used in posters to encourage men to enlist into the army.



## Staff charity Beatles tribute concert gets message of support from Sir Paul McCartney

Wednesday 17 December 2014

*A packed Ashton Theatre rocked to the Sounds of the Sixties on the last Monday of term, as members of staff donned psychedelic garb and beehive wigs and took to the stage as Beatles tribute band 'One in Five' to raise money for the School's youth centre in Everton, 'the Shewsy'. The news that Sir Paul McCartney himself had emailed his good wishes gave performers and audience alike an extra glow of excitement.*



*Mrs Weston, Mrs Hankin and Mrs Drew with Mr Moore on keyboard and Mr Bell on vocals*

The evening was the brainchild of Dr Tim Foulger, whose vision, enthusiasm and determination rallied several fellow members of staff to dust off their guitars, drum sticks and vocal chords for the sake of [the Shewsy](#). The success of the evening was a tribute to their commitment and capacity for busy-ness in managing to find time to cram rehearsals and the learning of huge reams of lyrics and music in amongst the demands of all their other responsibilities - which in several cases included running departments and boarding houses - and to the equally impressive commitment and skill of students Doug Major (S LVI) on drums and Will Allott (Ch UVI) on sound desk.



*Dr Foulger (in two different incarnations) with Mr Shelley (guitar) Mr Besterman (drums) and Mr Lucas (bass)*

They were all delighted that Jane Robbins, a wonderful local sculptor and singer, accepted an invitation from Director of Music John Moore to join them for the evening and perform a

Beatles number of her own - particularly as she also just happens to be Sir Paul McCartney's cousin. Unbeknownst to any of them, she emailed Sir Paul to let him know that she would be singing 'Here, There and Everywhere' at Shrewsbury School - and he emailed in reply to send his best wishes for the evening.



*Jane Robbins*



*L-R: Mrs Weston, Mr Moore, Mrs Hankin, Mrs Dren, Mrs Peak, Dr Daubney, Miss Arthur and Mrs Bevan*

The other highlight of the evening was a fantastic performance by the 'Stars of 99' - an all-girl band from the Shewsy, who brought the true sound of Liverpool to the Ashton Theatre stage and reminded their hugely appreciative audience of just why that city is so famous for its wonderful musical heritage.

The evening raised a tremendous £900 - many thanks to all who supported it.



*The Stars of '99*



# Myles Harding - Invitation to Old Salopian squash on Saturday 28th February 2015

Friday 19 December 2014



You are cordially invited to play in the Old Salopian versus staff and boys squash game at Shrewsbury School. The participating staff members are scheduled to be Mr Harding, Master in charge of squash, Mr Rutter, Mr Tonks and Mr Turner (HM).

Anyone interested in joining is welcome - especially if you've taken up squash after leaving Shrewsbury.

The game is scheduled for Saturday 28th February 2015, 2 PM at Shrewsbury School. It should finish at 5pm. Please confirm your attendance either via Facebook or at [mjh@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:mjh@shrewsbury.org.uk).