

## ESAA Cross-Country Cup National Final

Friday 1 December 2017

*Having qualified very strongly in the regional round two weeks previously, the Royal Shrewsbury School Hunt took a confident team of U15 boys down to Sevenoaks on 25th November to compete in the national final of the English Schools Athletics Association Cross-Country Cup.*



This is a very prestigious competition, with nearly 600 schools competing at the initial county rounds. To have qualified for the final (for the second year in a row) was itself a significant achievement.

Tom Jackson's illness meant that we were deprived of one of our strongest runners in this age category, and we knew that though we were regional champions, other regions would have some very strong teams indeed. Though we came second in this event back in 2012 with a truly exceptional team, our expectations were a little lower this year and we aimed to get close to replicating 2016's result of 10th place overall.

The setting was adjacent to the beautiful grounds of Knole Park, which will be familiar to many Hunt runners past and present as the setting of the famous Knole Run. This particular competition, however, would take place in the grounds of Sevenoaks School itself. Much work had been done to clear a path through the dense woodland which skirted the playing fields, and

walking the course beforehand we admired what had been achieved – a challenging but well-conceived course over mostly flat ground, with a few twists and turns to keep things interesting.



Conditions were perfect for cross country purists: bright and cold, without a breath of wind. As we watched the other age group races get underway (ours was last on the programme), we realised it would be a frantic start amid some excellent competition.

We were right: the start was indeed very quick, and our team pen position at the extreme left of the field didn't help, but our boys battled bravely in the jostling for position just before the first bend, after an opening straight of about 250m. Oscar Hamilton-Russell (R) had got away cleanly and was placed well up the field of about 160 runners. Orlando Williams (Rt) also placed well, but the others – Tim Clarkson Webb (O), Harrison Cutler (R), Seb Price (R) and Fred Jones (Rb) – all struggled to defend against the hordes of runners sweeping across them from the right.



As positions settled down over the first lap of two, it was clear that Oscar was running very well in the first half of the race and coming through positions. At the halfway point, he was in around 30th position and looking strong. Orlando had slipped back a bit and was in perhaps 40th place at this stage, and was probably feeling the effects of his very strong start. Further back, Tim was having a really good race and showed that his training is starting to pay dividends in his fitness. Harrison (who is very young for this age category) had a lot to do but seemed strong in the second half and was making good ground on the second half of the field. Fred was not much further back, while Seb sadly suffered from a twisted ankle in the melée of the first bend and struggled to keep position.



As they came out into the open again from the woodland before the final quarter-mile, Oscar had managed to hold his ground very well and his placing of 30th overall was a great achievement. Orlando placed 61st, which given he has been mostly concentrating on rowing this term, shows what a natural talent he has in this sport. Tim was our third 'counter' in 103rd, with Harrison not far behind in 115th, having run a very strong second lap. Fred and Seb both came through close to each other, finishing well around the 140 mark. Seb's determination to finish the race despite his ankle injury was truly heroic.

Our team score was a respectable 309, but it was clear that this wasn't going to trouble the leading schools. Our overall position was 21st out of the 28 finalists. In true Salopian style, Orlando had to hot-foot it back in his parents' car to return to Shrewsbury in time for the [School play](#), in which he had a significant part!

Overall, it was a great bit of race experience for these young Hunt runners and showed a good deal of potential for future years. I'm hugely indebted to them for their efforts in service of the School.

*Ian Haworth*  
*Teacher in Charge of the Hunt*



# Darwin Society Lecture: ‘Do Animals Use Quantum Biology to Navigate?’

Friday 1 December 2017

*On Friday 24th November, the Darwin Society welcomed Dr Alex Jones from the National Physical Laboratory to give the second in this year’s series of science enrichment lectures to an audience of over 100 pupils.*



Dr Jones is the lead scientist working on the development of time-resolved spectroscopy, non-linear microscopy and optogenetics. His current research focuses on developing innovative approaches for the optical and magnetic control of biomolecular systems for applications ranging from antimicrobial discovery to future cell and gene therapies.

He started by asking two questions:

- When a bird migrates at night, how does it know in which direction to fly?
- And what biological mechanism allows Monarch Butterflies to navigate nearly 2,000 miles from Southern Canada to their winter roosts in a small area of central Mexico?



Dr Jones explained that these animals and other species can perceive the Earth’s magnetic field. The exact mechanism still eludes scientists, although our understanding of animal magnetoreception and animal cryptochromes has dramatically improved. This is also linked to further understanding the mechanism epilepsy and how the wavelength of light could affect the response seen.

He also demonstrated that physical laws of physics and chemistry can help the modern research scientist uncover even the most complex secrets of biology and animal behaviour.

He described how his research has involved both liaison and co-operation across many multi-disciplinary science research groups.

This was a fascinating, inspiring and interesting talk. It gave our pupils a great insight on the excitement of researching into a cutting-edge field.

*Dr Andrew Briggs*  
*Head of Science*



## The news this week 100 years ago: 1st - 6th December 1917

Friday 1 December 2017

*This week we remember two Old Salopians, Ralph Hargreaves and Edward Ratcliff MC.*

Lieutenant **Ralph Walter Hargreaves**, 1st Bn. Welsh Guards.

Chance's, now Severn Hill, left in 1910 and soon sailed to Colombo to become sub-manager of a tea estate. He initially joined the Planters' Rifle Corps and served at Gallipoli, gaining a stripe. After evacuation, in Egypt, he was given a commission.

On his death, his Colonel wrote: "To me [he was] a most capable and efficient soldier who loved his work and did it well, to all of us a dear friend who will be missed and never forgotten." - *The Salopian*.

*Killed in action in France, 1st December 1917, aged 25.*

*Remembered on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, France. Panel 3.*

Captain **Edward Francis Ratliff MC**, 6th Bn. attd. 2nd Bn. Rifle Brigade.

Haydon's (now Rigg's), captain of Fives, left in 1914. Enlisting in the 13th Northumberland Fusiliers, he soon was promoted Lance-Corporal, emerged unscathed from the battle of Loos but was subsequently twice wounded and commissioned. Promoted Captain, he was awarded an MC while with the Rifle Brigade. "Calm and confident, as usual, just half an hour before an attack, he was popular and upon the affections of many of his Salopian friends" – *The Salopian*

*Killed in action in Belgium, 2nd December 1917, aged 22.*

*Remembered on Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium. Panel 145 to 147.*

# OSH Day including the OSH v the RSSH Run in the Annual Meet

Saturday 2 December 2017

*Saturday 2nd December, 2017, will be remembered as a Great Old Salopian Hunt Day!*

By 2.00pm, there were increasing numbers of people arriving on the Drum, in front of the Main School Building, which included a record crowd of spectators to cheer on our team of 18 that eventually assembled on the start line, after the now obligatory photo of 'All Huntswomen and Huntsmen Present', which totalled ten this year.



In the photo, from the left is the Huntsman, Monty Hardcastle (I, UVI), the Huntswoman, Immie Evans (G, UVI), Liv Papaioannou (EDH, 2015-16), Oscar Dickins (R 2011-16), Cal Winwood (I 2006-11), Chris Vernon-Parry (O 1982-87), Oli Mott (Rb 1998-03), Adam Booth (PH 1995-00), Olly Laws (SH 1993-98) and Peter Birch (DB 1966-71).



We also had a line-up of Tucks Run Winners photographed (right), which showed, from the left, Toby Jones (I 1999-04), Ed Bolland (I 1981-85), Chessy Harris (EDH 2012-14), Oscar Dickins (R 2011-16), Chris Vernon-Parry, Oli Mott, Olly Laws and Liv Papaioannou.



With the excitement of dogs, children, parents, friends and staff around us, at 2.30pm we were set off by the familiar call of the Huntsman, who stood, disappointed, on the side with an injury preventing him from leading the huge Pack on through the Moss Gates and right, along Ashton Road, to disappear down to the Lower Common. Despite the heavy rains in the night, the ground was not too slippery until about half-way, where, after the supporters had cheered our progress along the path below Queen's Terrace, we dropped down to Canonbury and found that the sharp right hand bend, into the field before the Radbrook crossing, was treacherous and caught out many, because of the combination of an adverse camber and fresh mud. Alex Morgan (G 1998-03) went over, causing a knee pain to hamper his progress at the front of the Pack. With the help of a huge team of young course marshalls and plenty of red and white tape on posts, erected by the Groundsmen, we continued on, taking in the path to the rear of the Boat Club and then along the river bank to Port Hill and the slog up Ridgemount Drive, avoiding the disruption to the tarmac by the badgers in their increasing sett, halfway along. Suddenly, a hand points with a shout and we find a short muddy climb, which brings us out behind the Cricket Centre, before we start to retrace our steps around the Astroturf pitches and up to Ashton Road again. By this time, many have entered the finishing funnel, in the shadow of the Alington Hall and some of the remainders are finding the last half-mile of this 3.5 mile (5.7 km) course, a tad testing! However, tiredness and aching limbs are relieved by the discovery that Cal Winwood has "killed", in a surprising time of 20:31, 25 seconds ahead of Olly Laws and Alex Morgan, who bravely completed the run, despite injury.





It must be acknowledged that the Hunt's Sam Watts (Ch, 5th Form) was hot on Alex's heels, in 4th place, showing some of the great potential that is within the vast talent of young students. The next three positions were quickly filled by the OSH, namely Peter Middleton (Staff), Ed Charlton-Weedy (O 1999-04) and Oscar Dickins (R 2011-16), so clinching a definite team win, which is the second in two years. On examining the times, even the Hunt's first six home finished quickly with good tactical bunching, followed by Adam Booth, Toby Jones, Will Hayward (R 2012-17), Huw Vaughan-Jackson (Ch 2005-10), John Greenwell (PH 1988-93) and James Adney (Rb 1991-96). Some of the younger students made a good show, with Chessy Harris being the first Hunt Girl home at 18th. Liv Papaioannou was chasing Jamie Davies (Ch 1984-89) of the Hunt and Ed Bolland (I 1981-85) was just 13 seconds behind. For the Old Salopian Hunt, it was an excellent turnout of strong and dedicated members, some of whom were on their debut outing for the Club. Then there is the 'rear-guard', who make sure everyone has returned. Our gratitude goes to the whipper-ins, namely Cliff Simpkin (Ex-staff), Richard Hudson (Staff) and Anthony Hickson (I 1949-53) for their determination in completing the course.



Another photo opportunity arose, before leaving the Drum, where four past and present Hunt Coaches were found loitering in the same place. Ian Haworth stood next to his predecessors Bob Parker, Peter Middleton and Michael Barratt.



We then went down to the Hunt Gym, in the Stott Pavilion, for tea, sandwiches and cakes and a good chat, before the presentations, where the Master-in-Charge of The Hunt, Ian Haworth, announced that Cal had won the Will Ramsbotham Trophy for his stunning kill and also that the OSH had won the David Loake Trophy (which our Captain, Oli Mott, picked up) for a convincing team win, with 24 points against the RSSH with 54 points.

By 5pm, twelve OSH Committee Members assembled in the Wright Room of Kingsland House, including the Huntsman, had toasted the memory of one-time Hon Secretary, Mark (Mort)

Mortimer, before starting the AGM and discussing the progress of the Club. One proposal that was approved was the nomination of the previous Huntswoman, Liv Papaioannou, as the very first 'Young Members Secretary', who will use her powers to engage and encourage the younger generation of OSH Members to participate in existing and new events.



At 7.30pm, greetings were made between 15 diners for the Annual Dinner, in the Hardy Room, where we were pleased to welcome the Huntsman, Monty Hardcastle (I UVI) and the Senior Whip, Owen Mock (R UVI), along with 1st VIII Runner, Tom Hughes (Ch UVI).

In conclusion, most present on this day, young and not so young, had agreed that this had been one of the best of days, when the Old Salopian Hunt once again met with the Hunt, here at the School. Despite our win, I dare say it will be more difficult to maintain our success next year, especially when the Hunt continue to produce more of their well trained and capable runners against whom to compete.

For the complete race results, please click [here](#).

Peter Birch, OSH Chairman



## Christmas Drinks

Sunday 3 December 2017

*Softly ushered in with fizz and mulled wine, Christmas began in earnest in Shrewsbury on the first Sunday of December.*



After a magical Carol Service in the dusk of the evening, the congregation emerged to join staff, former staff, Old Salopians and friends for some delicious canapes and drinks in an appropriately festive Alington Hall. The Headmaster took the opportunity to say a few words about the activities of the Salopian Club and the Foundation throughout 2017 and, of course, to wish everybody a very Happy Christmas.



## The School House Upper Sixth are unbeatable in the Hope-Simpson ergo challenge

Monday 4 December 2017

*A combination of good tactics, fine technique, will power and physical strength saw four of our fittest Upper Sixth lads win the "rowing machine relay" on Monday evening.*

Having won the competition in the Lower Sixth, three of the members of last year's winning crew were joined by newcomer Max Craik in the competition against the other houses to be the first to complete 3000m. They won in an excellent time of 8 mins 48 secs, taking 21 seconds off their time from last year!



*The crew with their medals in the School House gym (L-R): James Joseph, Christian Cavenagh-Thornhill (Captain), Max Craik and Scott Walker*



## Victory for School House in the Junior Football League

Tuesday 5 December 2017

*The weekly B Leagues fixtures of the Michaelmas Term, which involve the Third and Fourth Form, are some of the most hotly contested of all the inter-house competitions.*

The tension could hardly have been greater in the last match of the season against Churchill's! Going into the game, the School House team had had a fantastic unbeaten run, winning six and drawing one. However, the strong Churchill's side had won all their games except one, so the trophy was to be decided in the final showdown between the two teams. In a nail-biting climax, which was delicately poised at 1-1 until the last 5 minutes, School House clinched victory with a fantastic goal from Doug Kennedy. The final score was 2-1 and we ended the season with a huge goal difference of +23 over the 8 matches!



*The winning team after the last match of the season. They were rewarded with very well-deserved pizzas 'on the house' for their efforts! L-R: Back row - Ben Adebisi (Vice Captain, IV), Andrew Chan (IV), Sam Williams (Captain, IV), Jonty Gould (IV), Doug Kennedy (IV), Albert Horne (III), Rory O'Neill (III), Huw Hackett Pain (III). Front row - Nick Argyle (III), James Hughes (III), Milton Tai (GK, IV), Gleb Petukhov (III)*



*Captain Sam Williams with the B Leagues trophy, standing in front of a photo of a victorious School House football team from 1986, which includes his father. It's great to see the footballing prowess passed down the generations!*



## Delegate Awards at Paris MUN Conference 2018

Friday 8 December 2017

*The Shrewsbury Model United Nations team had a very successful excursion to Paris on the penultimate weekend of the Michaelmas term, returning with a Resolution debated in General Assembly, two Best Delegate Awards and two Honourable Mentions.*

*Report by Chad Usher (Rb UVI):*

The team represented the USA, Sudan and Chad, with Mill Luangamornlert, Benson Zhou and Charles Shaw as their respective ambassadors. Mr Portier and Mrs Crump accompanied the team.

Setting out early on Thursday morning by train to Paris, the team was apprehensive but nervous. The train was abuzz with last-minute clause-writing and discussion of team tactics. Eventually it was decided that the US team would approach debate in a Nikki Haley-type manner, defending the President on his views but in a slightly less bulldoggish style.

On Friday morning we set out for Maison de la Mutualité and the Opening Ceremony. We listened as Secretary General Nicolas Julien, from the American School of Paris, set out the theme of the Conference: the New World Order. He hoped that in our debate we would work towards a shared goal of a more equal world where all countries and groups in society are represented. After the Ceremony we moved into debate in committees.

Sam Evans represented the USA in the International Labour Organisation, with George Ludlam representing Sudan in the same Committee and contributing impressively to the debate. Debating the issues of Labour Migration and Automation of Jobs, Sam spoke eloquently on both issues, creating a very positive impression on the rest of his committee - though perhaps straying from the 'less bulldoggish' tone followed by the rest of the delegation at times. Nevertheless the Chairs of his Committee felt that Sam represented the USA in an effective manner and gave him an Honourable Mention at the Closing Ceremony on Sunday.



*Nick Yale and Sam Evans*

Nick Yale picked up the same accolade for the UNESCO Committee, also representing the USA. Despite being one of the younger delegates in the room, he spoke with a clear passion and conviction. Even with the burden that being part of such a well-known country as the USA can bring, he fended off vicious attacks from both Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa. He defended the line of Trump's America on the issues of Intellectual Property and Educational Infrastructure.

This year's Deputy Secretary-Generals Mill Luangamornlert and Chad Usher further added to Shrewsbury's haul by both winning the Best Delegate Award in the ECOSOC and Political Committees respectively. Chad defended the US line on State-Sponsored Cyber Terrorism and the South China Sea - the latter proving to be a very controversial issue, with the Chinese delegate trading jibes with Chad throughout. Will Stocker represented Sudan in the same committee and submitted some very well thought-through clauses.





*Mill and Chad with their Best Delegate certificates*

Mill later went on to debate his resolution on 'Moving on from the Paris Climate Agreement'. This was an award in itself, but not uncommon for Shrewsbury now. In General Assembly only one country's resolution is debated and to gain this right requires months of lobbying through emails and telephone calls with the conference organisers. Mill carried on a Shrewsbury tradition of gaining the GA resolution and successfully made it four years on the trot for us. Representing the US, who announced their withdrawal from the Agreement back in June, was always going to be a hard time. Every country in the world has now signed the Agreement, including Syria and Nicaragua who originally did not sign. Mill presented the resolution superbly, with Chad closing up the speeches in favour. Sadly to pass this was too much of a challenge, but to gain 38 votes in favour was counted as an achievement given the nature of America's stance on the issue.

The rest of the team also held a firm line in their committees. Grace O'Mara held the honour of sitting in the Security Council and spoke in a strong, steady and convincing style. It was a challenging yet rewarding experience as debate was serious and considered throughout, with issues debated such as South Sudan and Peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Alexander Sparkes represented the US in the Human Rights Committee, discussing the redefining of the UN Declaration on Human Rights to have gender-neutral pronouns. After many impressive speeches, the Chairs unfortunately gagged the US for "reactionary" statements and accusations of dodgy chairing and vote-counting were flying. Sparkes was certainly foremost in the fight against the 'New World Order'.

Tom Allen and Niamh Nugent were impressive to watch in the Environment Committee and both were regularly at the podium. Representing the USA, Niamh jumped into the debate and

managed to defend the US's dubious position on the environment with vigour and skill. Furthermore, she passed several amendments. Tom strongly argued against any clauses that would damage the rights of developing countries to mine for fossil fuels in order to sustain their economies.

On Friday night the team had the honour to eat at La Régalade, a restaurant owned by Old Salopian Ollie Clarke (PH 2002-07). The food was incredible - this is a 'must-visit' place in Paris. Coincidentally, two other OSs were there the same evening: old MUN-er Jack Critchley (G 2002-07) and Al Hinton (PH 2002-07) had come to see their old friend Ollie.



I would like to thank Mr Huw Peach (Master in Charge of MUN) for organising such a brilliant trip, where every timing and arrangement was planned impeccably. Thanks also to the American School of Paris for putting on yet another brilliant conference. Finally, a huge thank you to Monsieur Portier and Mrs Crump for giving up their weekend to take the team to Paris. They were truly incredible throughout.



# Happy Christmas from us all in School House!

Saturday 9 December 2017



*This is the picturesque scene that greeted many School House parents as they arrived to collect their sons on the last day of term. One visitor commented that "it feels as though we've just stepped into a Charles Dickens novel!"*



*The girls did not miss a chance to build an igloo in the garden!*

## New York Dinner

Monday 11 December 2017



A party of 37 Salopians, whose School leaving dates spanned 7 decades, took part in a memorable evening on Monday 11th December in the prestigious surroundings of the New York Racquet and Tennis Club on Park Avenue, a venue kindly arranged by Mark Yale (S 76-81). Those present were welcomed by Michael Kerr (M 66-70), Chairman of the Salopian (USA) Foundation, and then addressed by the Headmaster who particularly thanked donors in the USA for their substantial contributions over the years. Numbers in this biennial dinner continue to increase, made all the more enjoyable by such an eclectic mix of Salopians.



## Paperchases

Monday 11 December 2017

*On the last Wednesday of term, Shrewsbury School hosted the annual Paperchases, a historic race around the Site that has been run every year since the 1830s.*

With nearly 400 pupils competing for their House, it has become one of the great mass-participation events in the School, and the competitive House spirit was very much in evidence – not least from the staff!

Conditions were cold but dry, with a stiff breeze – what some might call ‘perfect cross-country weather’. The race is split into two age categories. First up were the U15 House, comprising members of the Third and Fourth Form, over a course of about 2.5km. Rigg’s Hall were aiming to defend their House victory last year, and things were looking good for them at the halfway point, with two runners in the top three. Oscar Hamilton-Russell, who had recently run so well in the ESAA national final, led with a good gap ahead of Orlando Williams (Rt), who also ran well in that race. Just behind him was Harrison Cutler, also of Rigg’s, who was showing what excellent form he’s found over the course of the term. In the girls’ race, Chessy Harris (EDH) looked to have a commanding lead (in fact she was placing fifth among the boys), with Livy Elliott (EDH) a bit further back, ahead of another EDH runner, Flora Kanan, in third.



*L-R: Oscar Hamilton-Russell, Harrison Cutler, Orlando Williams*

As they came across the finish line, Oscar had managed to extend his lead a little, but Orlando had dropped back and Harrison timed his finish well to take the silver-medal position. Chessy retained her first place, despite picking up a hamstring injury. Livy and Flora, both Third Formers, came through very strongly and showed that they have developed their fitness very well over the course of this term. They will be very useful runners next term in some of our big races.



*L-R: Cheszy Harris, Livy Elliott, Flora Kanan*

In the U15 House competition, Rigg's managed to retain their winners' trophy by a convincing margin of 75 points ahead of Churchill's. Their other counters – Seb Price, George Ludlam, Arthur Bramwell and Luke Russell – all managed to place in the top 30, which was an impressive House achievement. Churchill's managed to place the highest B team, suggesting good strength in depth. In the girls' U15 House competition, Emma Darwin expected victory having taken all of the top three places, but The Grove proved to have more strength in depth and won by a very narrow three points. Mary Sidney claimed third, with Moser's in fourth.

In the Senior race, the girls would set off at the same time as the boys, but would divert away from the senior boys' course to complete the same distance as the juniors, while the boys would carry on down towards the river to cover the full race distance of 5.6km. The Grove were looking to replicate their convincing win of last year, while Rigg's were seeking to retain their 1st House trophy in the face of a strong Churchill's team.



*Lillian Wilcox*

A strong leading pack set the pace in the early stages, made up of this year's Tucks winner, Harry Remnant (Ch), Sam Western (PH) and Sam Watts (Ch), who had run very well on the Saturday to place first among the RSSH runners in the Old Salopian Race. Rigg's were without four of their best runners – the two whips, Owen Mock and Niklas Amthor, as well as Fifth formers Tom Jackson and Paddy Barlow – so Churchill's had a good opportunity to take full advantage. Indeed, Harry and Sam were supported ably by fellow Churchillian Tom Hughes, who was not far behind this leading group.

In the girls' race, Lillian Wilcox (EDH) came through well to take a convincing win in a time of 10:12, with Huntswoman Immie Evans (G) a little further back in 10:26. Alessandra Ardissino (M) took third place ahead of Sophia Dixon (MSH) in 4th, which meant that all four girls' Houses had one runner each in the top four. Interestingly, the next four places were taken by one runner from each House as well, suggesting the team race would be closely fought. In the end though, The Grove managed to retain their win with a team total of 60 points, ahead of Mary Sidney Hall (83 points), Emma Darwin (92) and Moser's (120). The Grove managed to show good pack running by placing all six counters inside the top 20, which was an impressive achievement.

In the second half of the boys' race, the pack had stretched considerably, and over two minutes separated the top ten runners. Sam Western had managed to pull away from Harry Remnant to take a remarkable win (Sam is still in the Fifth Form) in a time of 20:18 seconds – very quick indeed over this challenging course of 5.6km. Indeed, his time was nearly 15 seconds quicker than the winning time in Saturday's Old Salopian Race, which had attracted a very high-quality field. Harry came in second in a time of 20:40, while Sam Watts showed very good consistency by running a time of 20:58, just two seconds quicker than his effort in Saturday's race. Cameron Anwyl (S) placed fourth, ahead of Charlie Ockleston (O), Tom Hughes (Ch) and Ali Harris (R).

The 1st House competition was won convincingly by Churchill's this year, with a team total of just 66 points, well ahead of their nearest rivals Port Hill with 119. Churchill's also managed to win the 2nd House competition, showing real depth. Rigg's struggled without their leading quartet, understandably, and placed ninth. They will expect to be resurgent next year though, and are likely to be able to mount a good challenge on Churchill's to reclaim the trophy.



*L-R: Harry Remnant, Sam Western, Sam Watts*

This was a very enjoyable afternoon of House competition and sporting achievement, and the efforts put in by the runners – so close to the end of term – was a credit to their character and their House spirit. Well done all!

*Ian Haworth, Teacher in Charge of the Hunt*



## Message from the President of Sabrina, Miles Preston

Friday 15 December 2017

When I saw this recently taken photograph I thought it was so beautiful that it merited posting on the website and I am sure will be particularly appreciated by Sabrina Club Members.



I do hope you will come to one or more of the events we are planning for next year and also come to watch the Sabrina VIII and the School's crews racing at heads of the river races and regattas. Quite apart from the fun you will have if you come, your support is invaluable to the crews. Our Sabrina eight is looking very promising, having won its class at the Wallingford Head at the beginning of December and the School's crews are also shaping up well.

For details of the 2018 fixtures, please look at the Salopian Club website.

May I take this opportunity, on behalf of myself and the other members of the Sabrina Club Committee, to send you best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Miles  
President of Sabrina Club



## Stomping Victory for OSFC against Old Berkampstedians as part of the Arthur Dunn Cup

Saturday 16 December 2017

*On Saturday 16 December, the Old Salopian 1st XI defeated Old Berkhamstedians 6-0 in the second round of the Arthur Dunn Cup in a tie that was originally due to take place on Senior, but had to be rescheduled because of adverse weather. The game took place at Merchant Taylors' School in Northwood.*

Given their recent success in the competition (although no ADC win to speak of for some years now), OSFC were favourites going into the game, but held a slender 1-0 lead at half time after some neat work from Tom Kelly to force an own goal from the opposition.

The second half was a different matter. The team's patience in the first half paid off in the second as the team picked off their opponents with precision. A second half hat-trick from Rory Griffiths and two goals for Tom Kelly gave the score line a more fair reflection.

The quarter final will be played in January/February, with the draw to take place around the turn of the year. Possible opponents include: Old Cathursians, Old Foresters, Old Tonbridgians, Old Reptonians or Old Sennockians, Lancing Old Boys, Old Alleynians or Old Westminster.

The final of the Arthur Dunn Cup will take place on 21 April 2018, likely at Merchant Taylors' School. The Club will do all they can to make it this far.

## The 65th Annual Alumni Race at Roehampton

Saturday 16 December 2017

*The recent thick covering of snow was left behind in Shropshire and Wimbledon Common was just very wet underfoot, as we discovered on our return to the Thames Hare & Hounds Running Club's 65th Annual Alumni Race.*



The OSH Team of seven had been formed out of nine, depleted by illness, but potency was not diminished because experience and youth were present. Last year's Senior Whip, Will Hayward (R 2012-17) made the journey from Powys to experience the event and James Humpish (SH 2008-13) came along to join us for the first time as well. Previous Huntswoman, Liv Papaioannou (EDH 2014-16) and Kris Blake (S 2009-11) presented themselves for their second visit, to join more frequent participants, including Rupert Lougee (SH 1988-93), Ben Hebblethwaite (R 1986-91) and me.



We did a bit of a warm-up in the chilly air of this South London district, before recording a photograph of our team, kindly taken by Greg, who came with Liv to show support and subsequently, thankfully, managed to snap a few more pics of the event. It was at this point that we found out that the Start-Line & Finish had been moved into a neighbouring field to avoid 'disturbing' a rugby tournament being held on this vast area of 10 pitches at the Richardson



Evans Memorial Playing Fields. The sight of nearly 300 bodies in vest & shorts charging across a grassy plain must be disturbing, so we crowded together at the bottom end of the adjacent pasture, trying to listen to an inaudible voice giving instructions before the shout of 'GO!' at 2.30pm, at which point the mass of runners set off, skirting the edge of two fields, before entering the wooded ground of this south-west part of Wimbledon Common and picking up the route of the original course for this old event.

The benefits of spikes or studded shoes were realised as soon as we forced our way along the muddy paths and slippery uphill climbs, trying to overtake each faltering runner up in front, demoralising them and taking the advantage. It was reported that Liv, Kris, Will and Ben had gained good forward positions by half-way and we were all progressing well, with the help of good course marshals and many path flags to point the way. After the long straight bridle track across the top part of the course, we returned to a variety of wooded rise and fall tracks, eventually taking us to the notorious last section, which includes 'The Butts' (!) This is probably the most testing part of the route, where it goes unforgivingly uphill through deep mud and across roots of surrounding trees and bushes, before then dropping down to the opening into the corner of the Playing Fields and a fairly level finish, next to the start.



I was surprised to see that my GPS watch showed me that this course was a quarter of a mile longer than previous years, at 5.07 miles (= 8.16 k). Last year it measured 4.82 miles (=7.76 k), so I wasn't so concerned by my time! As soon as I cleared the finish funnel, I found the Team surrounding Greg with Liv, who had made some excellent chocolate brownies for us and they tasted so good amongst the mud and sweat.

Before Ben and Rupert had to depart to beat the oncoming dusk, we got another photo of the Team with MUD:



TH&H had also provided tea and cakes back at their gazebo, besides the Pavilion and gave us an opportunity to discuss our experiences, before showering and dispersing into the night.

As usual, we all enjoyed this traditional cross-country race and hope that the OSH can increase its team size so that we might be able to challenge the likes of Sherborne (a team of 32), who won and Winchester (15), who were second, in the future.



Until confirmation of all results by TH&H, I have extracted the following from <https://opentrack.info>: the individual who won the race was William Ryle-Hodges of Eton, in a time of 26:51, which is 37 seconds slower than last year's winner. There were 318 entries, but only 273 started and one did not finish. Our Team was 12th out of 35 teams in the Open Category. In the V40 category, we were 13th out of 31. In the V50 category, 22nd out of 27 and in the V60, 8th out of 17. There was an "Age-Graded Category" (?) where we came 13th out of 35 teams. Kris Blake was first in for us at 44th in a time of 31:54, quickly followed by Ben Hebblethwaite at 45th (31:56). Will Hayward ran the course in 33:15 to finish in 62nd place. Rupert Lougee was 133rd (36:48), Liv Papaioannou was 156th (38:09), James Humpish entered the funnel at 215th (42:06) and I was given 224th place at a time of 42:53, delayed by the extra ¼ mile added to the course !

Have a look at more photos on the OSH Facebook page - please join the Facebook Group if you haven't already.

Peter Birch (DB 1966-71)



# Saracens - 2017 Year End Report

Wednesday 20 December 2017

*2017 has been another great year for the Saracens in many ways. Both on the field and off it, the Saracens have performed with varying degrees of success but always with passion and commitment.*

At the top end of the spectrum, Saracens continue to impress in the professional ranks of the game. Joe Leach (M 2004-09) captained Worcestershire to the County Championship Division Two title with an impressive haul of 69 wickets (the highest in the country) and 347 runs as well as leading the side to the semi-finals of the Royal London One-Day Cup. Joe was ably supported by Ed Barnard (PH 2012-14) who really cemented his place in the side with a string of fine performances, ending the season with 47 wickets, 580 runs and a host of impressive one-day performances.

Elsewhere in the County game, Ed Pollock (I 2011-13) made a big impression when given the chance in the Birmingham Bears T20 side including an impressive 50 off 24 balls in the semi-final victory over Glamorgan leading to former England captain Michael Vaughan backing him for a future cap:



**Michael Vaughan** ✓

@MichaelVaughan

Following



Ed Pollock will play White Ball Cricket for England ..... #JustSaying

12:23 pm - 2 Sep 2017

Both David Lloyd and Ruaidhri Smith (Rt 2010-12) made appearances for Glamorgan and George Panayi (Ch 2011-15) debuted for Warwickshire, taking 3-41 in his first appearance against Lancashire as well as playing for England U-19s. Ollie Westbury (S 2013-15) also signed professional terms with Worcestershire capping a fine year for Saracens in the professional game.

Ben Williams' reign as Cricketer Cup captain got off to a disappointing start with defeat at home to Stowe Templars in the 2nd Round. Having dispatched Repton Pilgrims by an impressive 209 runs in the opening fixture (Saracens 276-7, Pilgrims 67 all out), the Saracens couldn't cope with the batting of former Northants opener Rob White who scored 149 out of a total of 278-4, losing by 126 runs after being bowled out for 152. The silver lining was that four Saracens made competition debuts and the pool of talent at our disposal increases. The 2018 draw pits the Saracens away to Old Cliftonians whose recent results have been impressive and will be a tough fixture. The 2017 competition was won by Old Wellingtonians beating Old Eastbournians in a one-sided final having beaten hot favourites Malvern in the semi-final. The standard of the competition continues to improve year on year and there are increasingly few easy fixtures.

In other cricket, the Saracens fulfilled a new T20 fixture in London against Shepherd's Bush CC who count a number of Saracens in their league side. Impressive batting from Ben Chapman (Rt



1995-00) and Tom Cox (M 2000-05) led the Saracens to 182-3 which was easily defended with Shepherd's Bush managing 163-5 in reply.

The fixture against the School 1st XI resulted in a cracking finish and plenty of Saracens debuts for recent leavers. Looking for a long time like being out of sight, the School ended on 231-6 from 40 overs after some fine death bowling from George Panayi dragged us back but at 87-6 in reply, the Saracens looked dead and buried. A spirited partnership of 130 between Joe Carrasco (Rt 2012-14) who finished on 78\* and Rob Hillman (M 1994-99) with 68 took the game to the last over but ultimately the target proved just out of reach with the boys hanging on for a 5 run victory.

The fixture against the School 2nd XI was sadly washed out without a ball bowled leaving the Saracens annual pilgrimage to Devon as the last on field action of the year. Touring numbers have remained healthy over the last few years but with Henry Lewis (I 2007-12) now at the helm and a strong recruitment drive instigated, 33 Saracens toured to picturesque Instow. As ever, our generous hosts at North Devon CC looked after us splendidly and we were all delighted when their favourite son Craig Overton made his England debut in the Ashes. Craig has been a long time supporter of the tour and has frequently manned the bar in the evenings and played against us (and occasionally for us). We wish him well after a very successful season with Somerset.

On the field, Monday's fixture against North Devon was dominated by an innings as surprising as it was good from Ricard Mackay (S 1995-2000) who brought up his century in some style as the Saracens posted 283 before bowling North Devon out for 195 to register a well deserved win and take us into the Monday night dinner in fine spirits. A host of senior Saracens joined us from the golf course to celebrate as over 50 Saracens (including wives) enjoyed excellent hospitality under the famous thatched pavilion.

Tuesday's fixture, again against North Devon brought an almost entirely fresh XI to the field but they were met with a strong batting display from North Devon who declared on 289-9. Struggling at 135-5 in reply, the tour manager strode to the crease to form a fine partnership with Ali Pollock (I 2010-12 ) to bring the Saracens home by 5 wickets.

Wednesday's fixture fell foul of the elements as a bleak day meant a total wash out. The finale to Tour is now a round-robin T20 competition with the Brasenose Strollers and North Devon which has often been the achilles heel of previous tours. Not so this year as the Strollers were dispatched by 30 runs in a low scoring thriller to ensure the Saracens remained undefeated on what was a memorable tour.

Off the field, the Saracens have increased numbers and improved admin (including the website which is now fully up to date with match reports and photos

- <https://www.shrewsbury.org.uk/page/latest-saracens-news>) considerably and look forward to a strong showing in 2018 and beyond.

Rob Hillman, Secretary.

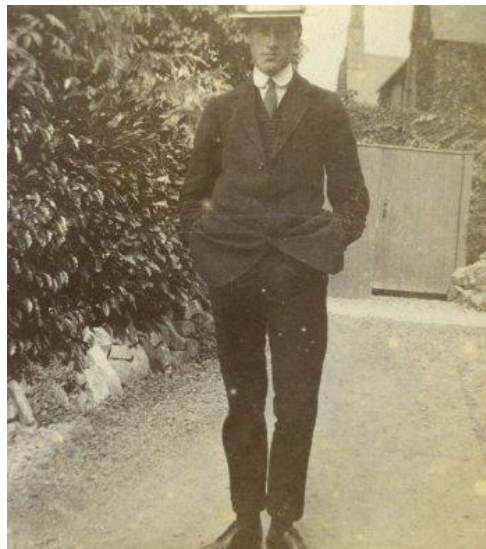


## The news this week 100 years ago: 29th December 1917 - 4th January 1918

Friday 29 December 2017

*This week we remember William Samuelson, who died of his wounds in Belgium on 31st December 1917 and Albert Westlake, who was killed in action in France on 4th January 1918.*

**Captain William Denys Samuelson**, 113th Siege Bty. Royal Garrison Artillery.



*William Samuelson*

Ingram's, left in 1913. School O.T.C. shooting records show his talent: 2nd place in Major Ingram's Cup (for recruits only) 12th March 1912. Won Sir Arthur Stokes Cup 26th February 1913.

He went to France in a Heavy Howitzer Siege Battery in June 1916 and was at the Front through the Somme and Arras battles. He distinguished himself while in command of his battery and was mentioned in despatches a few days before he was wounded.

“A quiet, conscientious character, he had won the esteem and confidence of his Commanding Officer, his brother officers and his men, as numerous letters testify.” – *The Salopian*.

*Died of his wounds in Belgium, 31st December 1917, aged 21.*

*Buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium. Grave XXVII. CC. 21.*

**Lieutenant Albert Neave Westlake MC**, 27th Sqdn. Royal Flying Corps.

School House, Head of School, 1st XI football, 1st XI cricket, 1st VIII stroke. He left in 1912 as a Scholar to New College, Oxford, rowed in the College VIII and gained a 1st Class in Mods.

*Killed in action in France, 4th January 1918, aged 24.*

*Buried at Niergnies Communal Cemetery, France.*



## Old Salopians Gathering in Bangkok

Friday 29 December 2017

To celebrate the festive New Year period the Old Salopian Club based in Bangkok, Thailand, gathered together the Shrewsbury Class of 2016 at a bar in the Thonglor area of the city. The group ate and drank - and talked about school memories, jokes and slang that only Salopians can understand!



The turnout was great and has increased every time we get together for a reunion - although the Old Salopians seemed thirsty as they all drank late into the night with everybody laughing about stories from the past.

If anyone is ever in Bangkok please let us know!

The photo shows the following: Peera (Riggs) Palm (Ingrams) Stu (S), Eve, Gift, Rainbow (MSH) Fon (ED), Gappy (Ridgemount), Poom (Oldhams) Tod, Nic, Ken, Boat, Tiger (Mosers) Nondh (Grove) Peak (Rt) Jack, Win, Pete all (I) Nat (SH) Max Morris (Rb), Aut & Aue both (Ch) Sun Rt A-Win & Pitoon S, Job (I) Gee (SH) Champ & Yanmar.

It was also a pleasure to have Jack Fox, Checky, Lucy, Ben and Max in Thailand during the 2017 year.

Stuart Markes (S 1992-97)