

OSGS New Fasti for 2019

Primary tabs

Monday 3 December 2018

Time for you golfers to get your diaries out! Here is the 2019 fasti.

Please may I ask that at this stage members do not contact the named individuals for our fixtures - see update in the paragraph below.

The OSGS is in the process of creating an OSGS Website which will allow members to book into our meetings and pay on line in the New Year. Full details will be emailed to members in due course asking them to update their profile on our new website.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Course</i>
JANUARY		
Wed 9 6pm	Halford Hewitt Draw	East India Club
MARCH		
Sun 24	Halford Hewitt Get-Together*	Woburn
Thurs 28	Spring Meeting (South)	Denham
APRIL		
Thurs 11-Sun 14	Halford Hewitt Cup*	Sandwich/Deal
Fri 12	Spring Meeting (North)	Hoylake
Sun 28	OSGS Vs OSFC	Huntercombe
MAY		
Fri 3	Triangular Match	Tandridge
Sat 11	Grafton Morrish Qualifying*	Olton (Solihull)



Wed 15 pm	Scottish Tour	Luffness New
Thurs 16	Scottish Tour	Muirfield
Fri 17	Scottish Tour	Gullane
JUNE		
Mon 3-Thurs 6	Schools Putting Tournament	Royal Wimbledon
Fri 14	Welsh Meeting	Royal Porthcawl
Wed 26	Public Schools Midlands Meeting	Little Aston
JULY		
Tues 2	Henley Royal Regatta Invitation Meeting	Huntercombe
Fri 5	Match v. Old Cholmeleians	Hadley Wood
Thurs 11-Sat 13	Peter Burles Salver (65 and over)*	West Hill
Thurs 11-Sat 13	Bunny Millard Salver (75 and over)*	West Hill
Fri 12-Sat 13	G.L.Mellin Salver (55 and over)*	West Hill
Wed 17	Nottinghamshire Meeting	Hollinwell
AUGUST		
Sat 10	Match v. Old Reptonians	Worplesdon
Sun pm 11	West Country Tour	Westward Ho!
Mon am 12	West Country Tour	Westward Ho!
Tues am 13	West Country Tour	Westward Ho!
Thurs 22	Yorkshire Meeting	The Alwoodley



Fri 30

Tony Duerr Silver Salver

Worplesdon

SEPTEMBER

Sun 1

SSPA & OSGS meeting

Worfield

Sun 15

Autumn Meeting & AGM

Worfield

Sun 22

58th meeting since 1960

Trentham

OCTOBER

Thur 3 -Sun 6

Grafton Morrish Finals

Hunstanton/Brancaster

Sun 13

Match v. Old Malvernians (OM)

Blackwell

Thurs 17

Match v. The Schools

Hawkstone Park

Fri 25

Guests' Invitation Meeting

Ashridge

NOVEMBER

Sat 2

Robert Walker Foursomes Cup

New Zealand

KEY*By Invitation only.

Date TBC = Meetings to be confirmed



From the School Archive

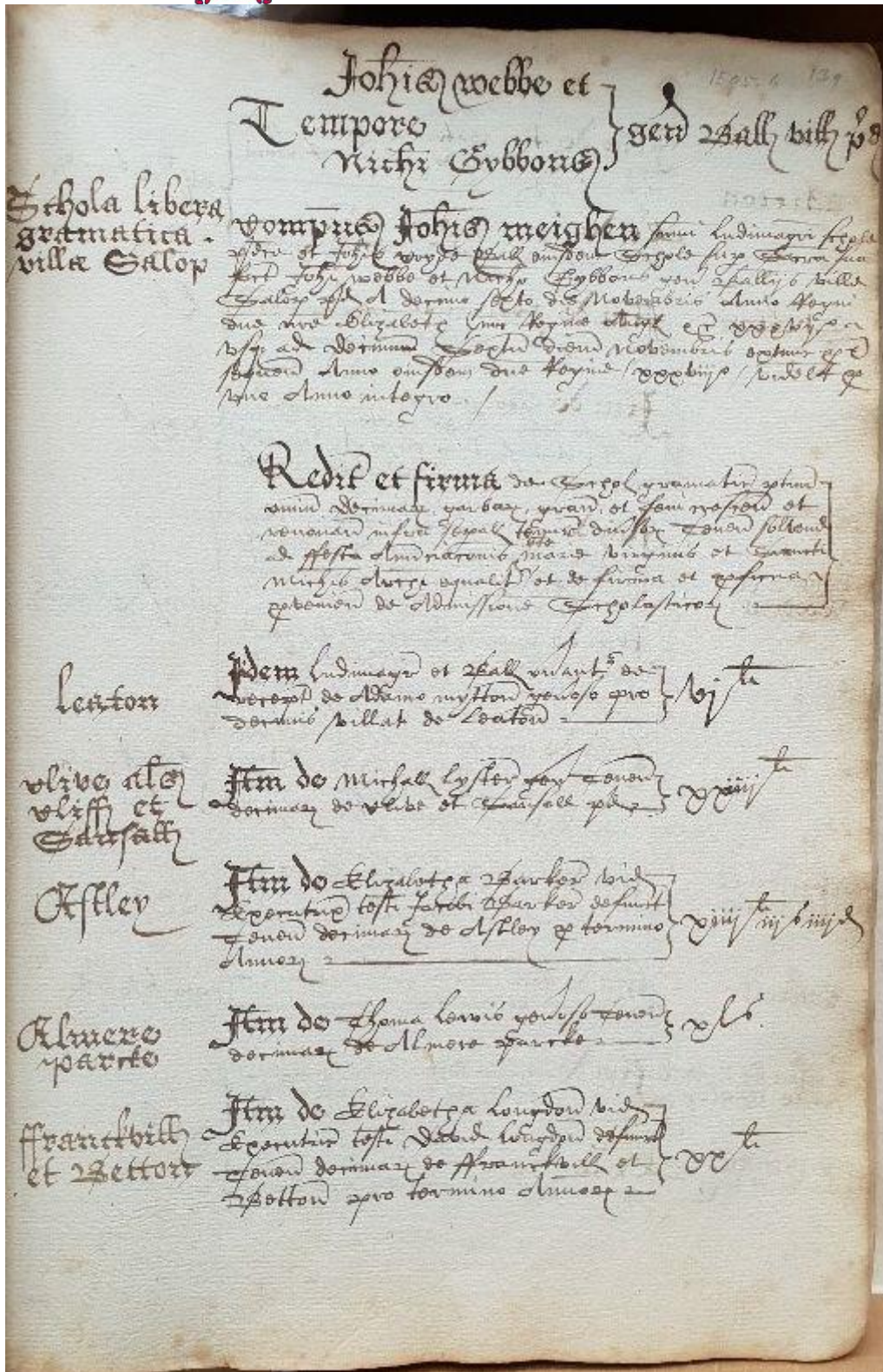
Wednesday 5 December 2018

Shrewsbury School's first Account Book, dating from 1577...



Shrewsbury School has been exceptionally careful over the centuries to preserve its records of all kinds. The earliest bailiff's account book in the School Archives covers the period from 1577 to 1660.

Among early items are the accounts for the building of the Old Schools in the town in 1596. The accounts contain itemised records of payments for work done by the stone mason, John Richmond of Grinshill, where the stone was quarried.



Next time you are in town, take a look at the very fine stonework on the Old School building.

Robin Brooke-Smith

Taylor Librarian and Archivist



Golf in Bangkok anyone?

Wednesday 5 December 2018

Annual Alumni Golf Day at Suwan Golf and Country Club

Annual Alumni Golf Day at Suwan Golf and Country Club in Bangkok on Sunday 6th January if any Old Salopians happen to be in Thailand and are interested please let me know.





Bastille Society Lecture: ‘How to pick a fight with the King (and win)’

Thursday 6 December 2018

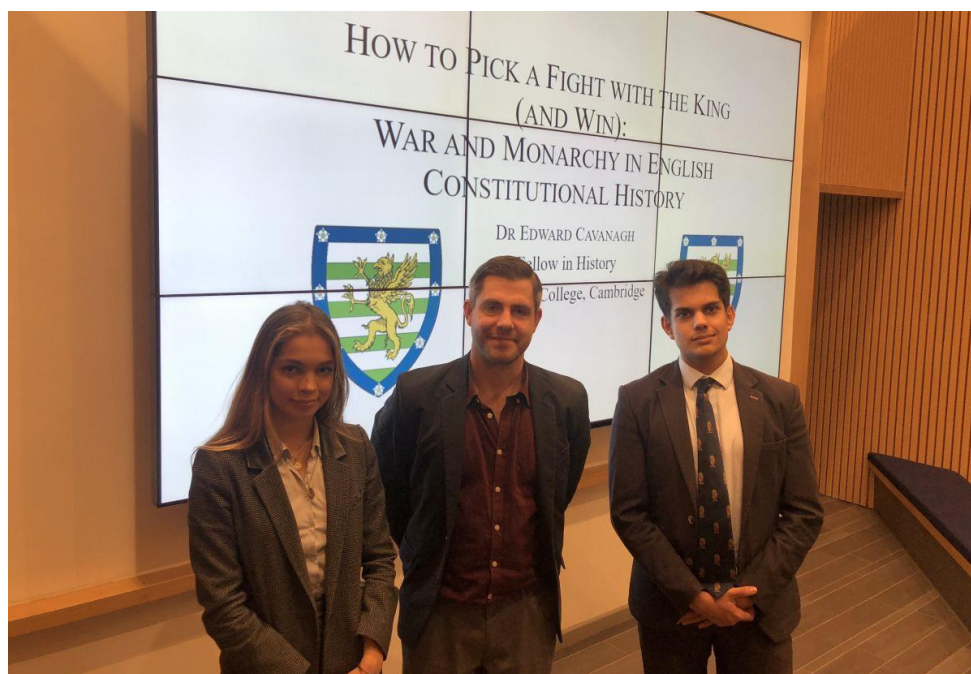
We were honoured to welcome Dr Edward Cavanagh, Fellow in History at Downing College, Cambridge, to deliver the final Bastille Society lecture of the term on Friday 30th November.

Libby Hedges (G U6), Co-President of the Bastille Society writes:

An introduction into undergraduate-level constitutional history gave an interesting insight for those planning to study History at University. The title ‘How to pick a fight with the King (and win)’ encouraged a range of audience members with intentions varying from improving knowledge of the Pre-U course covering Charles I and the Civil War to those with semi-serious objectives of overthrowing Queen Elizabeth II and toppling the monarchy.

Personally, I picked up on his explanation of the term ‘diffidationes’, which has become one of my favourite words. The renunciation of faith from the King over a long period of time underpinned the lecture, moving away from the idea of specific moments being the exact turning points in history.

We want to thank Dr Cavanagh for travelling from Cambridge and giving an extended Oxbridge-style tutorial sharing such depth and engaging such fascination with the students. The attendees were very lucky to be present and we look forward to welcoming him again soon.



Presidents of the Bastille Society Libby Hedges and Ebrahim Jamshid with Dr Cavanagh

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Careers & Higher Education Weekly Bulletin

Thursday 6 December 2018

This final bulletin of the term includes links to several taster day and work experience opportunities.

Please click [here](#) to download the bulletin as a pdf.



Shrewsbury SparkPoint - 'Mistletoe and Wine'

Thursday 6 December 2018

The final edition for this term looks at the traditions and ceremonies associated with Christmas around the world.

Please click [here](#) to open Shrewsbury SparkPoint 'Mistletoe and Wine' as a pdf.

SPARKPOINT 2018
SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

Welcome

Well we're nearly there! A very long term is coming to an end and I suspect that we will all be stepping into Christmas with enormous enthusiasm! This week's SparkPoint looks at the traditions and ceremonies associated with Christmas around the world and some of the cultural artefacts that have helped the season to become what it is.

MUSIC ON CHRISTMAS MORNING (EXTRACT)

Music I love - but never strain
Could kindle raptures so divine,
So grief assuage, so conquer pain,
And rouse the passive heart of mine -
As that we hear on Christmas morn,
Upon the wintry breeze borne,
Though Darkness still her empire keep,
And hours must pass ere morning break;
From troubled dreams, or slumbers deep,
That music kindly bids us wake:
It calls us, with an angel's voice,
To wake and worship, and rejoice;
To greet with joy the glorious morn,
Which angels welcomed long ago,
When our redeeming Lord was born,
To bring the light of Heaven below,
The Powers of Darkness to dispel,
And rescue Earth from Death and Hell.

Anne Brontë

POEM OF THE WEEK

paraselene
noun
A bright spot in the halo around the winter moon caused by the reflection of light on ice-crystals.

WORD OF THE WEEK

15 MINUTE CHALLENGE

BIRDS WHO DON'T VOTE

Most people perceive Turkey to be a fairly dry and uninteresting meat. Fish is only really used as a cheap alternative to chicken throughout the year. At Christmas, however, it's necessary to pre-order your bird - so why do we eat Turkeys at Christmas? Where did that tradition come from? Click the link to hear an informative (although admittedly very irritating) account of this Christmas 'must have'...

THE ART OF ADVERTISEMENT

Much as we may deplore the descent of Christmas into a commercial 'festival of buying', there is no doubt that the conceptions of the festival that appear on our screens during the season have played their role in shaping and transforming attitudes to what is and what is not important. Click here to learn more about the processes behind those advertisements in the cut-throat world of business...

NO SNOW AT CHRISTMAS

Click the link to watch a slightly 'dunkey', but nonetheless interesting, account of exactly how we managed to fixate on December 25th for our celebration of Christmas. It's worth noting that many of the 'festive' ideas we associate with the festival are actually more associated with Charles Dickens than the bible!

The Dean Martin classic *Baby It's Cold Outside* has sparked furor this year in light of the #metoo moment. Have a look at the original via the link - what do you think is it still appropriate to play this song?

IMAGE OF THE WEEK

Christmas Eve by Henri Matisse was originally designed for a church but never installed. The artist wanted to capture the wonder and peace of Christmas without moving into explicitly religious territory.



Delegate Awards at Paris MUN

Friday 7 December 2018

Shrewsbury's ten delegates were all in fine and persuasive form at PAMUN 18, one of the largest and most prestigious Model United Nations conferences in Europe. Thanks to Rhys Woodward (SH 5) and Tom Jackson (R L6) for their excellent report.



They represented the nations of Cameroon and Bolivia excellently and ensured that Shrewsbury were at the forefront of all debate. High spirits both in the conference, as well as on the painful and gruelling five-and-a-half-hour train journey from Shrewsbury to London, ensured a successful and enjoyable time.

Throughout all the committees, Shrewsbury delegates represented themselves very well, engaging with their topics and making some strong criticisms of other schools' clauses. At the pinnacle of the UN is the Security Council, and here **Charlotte Hancock** (M L6) did very well. Across two days of debating the Security Council discussed the issue of the Rohingya people, offering Charlie a chance to fly the flag for Bolivia's majority indigenous population and ensure that everyone's human rights were upheld. The second topic presented a problem. The question of a UN Parliamentary Assembly caused upset around the negotiating table as the P-5 nations started to use their vetoes, creating deadlock and angering the smaller nations like Bolivia.

In the Environment committee, which had over 100 people, **Rhys Woodward** (SH 5) debated well. The committee saw a very high participation rate, with over 90% of the delegates contributing at least once. Rhys' topics, sustainable use of marine resources and the issue of environmentally displaced people, were entirely based on PAMUN's overall topic of Sustainability. Needless to say, the level of debate was extremely high, and it was very difficult to



get recognised, but Rhys debated well and by all accounts was unfortunate to miss out on an award.

The Human Rights committee saw **Sam Evans** (R 5) return for his third consecutive PAMUN. Having won an award at his first, only to miss out on his second, Sam was determined to represent Bolivia to the best of his ability. The issues of “rights of indigenous people” and “strengthening coordination of humanitarian aid in response to emergencies” offered Sam to get stuck into the meat of the debate. He presented compelling arguments on the issue of the Rights of Indigenous People, an issue particularly relevant to Bolivia, and ensured that the parliamentary rules of procedure were upheld through numerous objections. Despite some excellent debating, Sam was unfortunate not to get an award, but no doubt he will return in 12 months to exact his vengeance.

In the Special Committee **Tom Allen** (Ch 5) graced the intense debate over the issue of ICJ Reform with his calming and measured approach. Tom offered successful solutions and attempted to rebuild not to destroy, a goal which proved difficult in a committee which at one point attempted to abolish the ICJ entirely. Despite conflicting interests between nations, Tom worked well to ensure that he was able to present his views. He thoroughly deserved his Honourable Mention and no doubt he will be back again next year in an attempt to go one better.

Andrew Higgins (Ch 5) found himself in a committee at the core of this year’s PAMUN. The issue of Sustainable Development was a central focus for PAMUN 18 and as a result Andrew found himself in a competitive committee in which he was able to influence the nations around him to produce a successful outcome. Though not quite achieving an award this year, Andrew managed to stand out among the Shrewsbury delegation, keeping morale high both in debates and in free time.

A committee that often offers a major challenge for even the most experienced delegate is the Political Committee. Here **Johnny Snell** (Ch L6) found himself in the midst of tough debate. With the rise of international terrorism and radicalisation, something which Paris has unfortunately experienced, came the opportunity to discuss measures to reduce this through “good governance” and “state-building”, in particular in Iraq. Though Bolivia had little interest in this issue, Jonny still made our voices heard, presenting strong arguments and amendments to aid his committee in finding a strong solution. The other issue did, however, offer more opportunities for South American nations to participate. The issue of corruption is one which has had a huge impact on both the progress of the Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030 and on the social conditions within many nations, notably a number of South American states. Again, Johnny used his persuasive skills to lobby his way to the floor and make numerous speeches and pose a number of tough questions. It was this alliance-building and persuasive skill that allowed Johnny to win a Best Delegate award in a tough committee.

ECOSOC (ECONomic and SOCIAL committee) always offers an opportunity for in-depth debate about economics in order to address the root causes of numerous social issues and build strong foundations for other committees to build upon. Here **Mia Kheliher** (M U6) did very well and was able to utilise her knowledge from Economics lessons back in Shrewsbury to help find effective solutions. Mia offered a number of strong questions, and helped her committee find strong solutions to both the issue of how to finance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how to create a framework for the effective sharing of responsibility for their implementation.

On top of the standard committees, PAMUN 18 offered two specialised conferences. Seasoned debaters and MUN-ers **Nick Yale** (S L6) and **Alex Sparkes** (I L6) found themselves in UNODC (United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime). Here they were engaged in debates dominated by a small number of powerful nations, but, not wanting to be excluded, both Nick



and Alex posed numerous questions and threatened the integrity of the speaker's arguments. It was unfortunate that neither the issue of "Measures to stem trafficking of cultural property" or the "Question of corruption in sporting events" really offered Nick and Alex opportunity to flex their debating skills, but they represented both themselves and the School very well.

The other new addition to PAMUN 18 was UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade And Development). This offered **Thomas Jackson** (R L6) a chance to engage in the topics and present some strong arguments. The issues of "Intellectual property and biodiversity" and "Measures to promote the diversification of economies in CDDCs (Commodity Dependent Developing Countries)", meant that Bolivia was at the forefront of both issues, being both a CDDC and one of 17 megadiverse nations. Tom made multiple amendments across the two days of debate and this saw him gain an **Honourable Mention** for his efforts.

The final day of PAMUN sees the gathering together of a significant quantity of delegates in order to find a collective solution to a major issue through the **General Assembly Debate**. This year, delegates had a chance to attempt to solve the issue of migration. Following the publication of the **Global Compact on Migration** in July, a number of nations had withdrawn from it, and with just a couple of weeks before the treaty was to be ratified, it fell to PAMUN to address the concerns of nations.



Shrewsbury has had a part in presenting its resolution at almost every conference we have attended, and this year was no different. The combined efforts of the entire team, with notable contributions from Sam Evans, Alex Sparkes and Tom Jackson, meant that Bolivia narrowly missed out on being the main submitter, but careful lobbying by Tom ensured that the team got their chance to speak on the Sunday. Tom opened proceedings with a strong speech and responded well to some challenging questions. As the Assembly proceeded, issues emerged and were amended, and the Bolivian delegation worked together in attempt to fortify the resolution. Unfortunately, it was not meant to be. The combined efforts of Shrewsbury students ensured a tight vote, but just missed out on the resolution passing.

Whilst debate is hard, PAMUN offers an opportunity to go beyond the conference and enjoy the sights and sounds of Paris, as Rhys Woodward writes:

"The nights out in Paris were my personal highlight of the trip. Despite being a lover of fiery debate, I found myself entranced over Paris' great wonders accompanied by the two best guides that I could have asked for: Monsieur Portier and Mademoiselle Fournis. With the two having an in-depth knowledge of Paris, we were whisked away to various sights of interest, such as the Arc de Triomphe and the Louvre. On the first night, we sampled a traditional French meal in a small café tucked away in one of Paris' legendarily vibrant side streets. We were entertained throughout



the meal by an acoustic guitar and its owner giving his audience wonderful renditions of French classics. After a short while, a tray of ‘escargots’ arrived and many of us tried them for the first time. Afterwards, we wandered back down to the magnificent Parisian Basilica. Unfortunately, fatigue kicked in after a long day of travelling and we returned home, ready for a day of fruitful debate.

On the second night, we dined in one of Paris’ most famous restaurants ‘Le Bouillon Chartier’. Everything about the experience was magnificent and it provided a perfect end to the day. With morale running high after a delicious French meal, we all decided to go the infamous ‘Champs Elysees’ and witness one of Paris’ most awe-inspiring spectacles.

On the third and final night, we were slightly restricted in our choice of entertainment because of the sans-gilets riots that were happening in Paris that day. However, with Mr Portier there is always a plan. It was decided that we should visit the Louvre as this was a sufficient distance away from the rioters. Afterwards we enjoyed crêpes outside one of Paris’ most famous modern art museums, which was a personal favourite for Mademoiselle Fournis. Under the stars we were given time to reflect on our little jaunt to Paris which confirmed my feeling that the trip was extremely well-run and enjoyed universally. The Paris MUN trip was a fantastic success for all involved.”

The conference proved a huge success, and the three awards brought home by Shrewsbury students were testimony to the hard work and research which they put in behind the scenes. The theme for PAMUN 18 was “sharing responsibility to implement sustainability” and through co-operation both in debate and in their own time, Shrewsbury students ensured that they upheld this theme.



Lower Sixth Visit to Cambridge University

Friday 7 December 2018

While 30 Salopians are put through their paces during Oxbridge interviews this week, a group of Lower Sixth Formers travelled to Cambridge University for a series of undergraduate masterclasses to find out what studying at the world-class university might be like.

Some in the lecture hall had got up before 5am to attend, so our lot of Salopians could view their 6.30am wake-up for this fascinating array of lectures as positively leisurely. Led by Dr Paul Pattenden, 18 headed East, wrapped up against the Siberian winds of the Fens, for fascinating introductory peeks into the Cambridge take on Genetics & Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, and English Literature.



Such is the magnetic reputation of the venerable institution that these Cambridge lectures were packed with bright, academically ambitious and, judging from the questions, alertly well-read A Level students. Hovering at the back, I was able to enjoy offerings to budding literary critics – on ‘thinking in poetry’ by Dr Raphael Lyne and an enthralling exploration from Dr Corinna Russell of how writers constitute personhood in nineteenth-century fiction. Pupils lapped it up. “Was it an hour long? I didn’t notice,” was one Grovite’s dreamy verdict.

Others came back from their subjects similarly enthused and inspired (Frank Mansell and Oscar Mattinson were buzzing with the complexities of Japanese grammar and early forms of Hebraic languages), and of course with plenty of ideas for further reading. But equally useful was getting a firm idea that the subject they were interested in at 6 o’clock that morning wasn’t for them.

Over lunch, pupils accompanied me in a hop down memory lane, from the University Library down The Backs to Trinity College's famous Wren Library and Great Court with its burbling fountain (pictured below). Highlight for many was the meander round around the cloisters of Nevile's Court where Newton first measured the speed of sound.



The other Isaac - Isaac Dai [pictured below in front of the tree that was reputedly grown from the apple that dropped on Newton's whirring head] - admitted, since coming up in October, he was working "25 hours a day" (they do Physics differently at Trinity) in order to keep up with some of the brightest minds of his generation.



He was one of a quartet of recent Old Salopian and proud Tabs who shared coffee and muffins with PP and me in the Union bar. Ed Plaut, Steph Christenson and Max Yale arrived en route to library / choir / rowing / choir / pub: they had not only survived their first term, but were

plainly thriving and having the time of their lives as they negotiated Cambridge's unique blend of academic pressure-cooker and dizzying social swirl. They have been well prepared!



As well as enjoying the opportunity to experience the lecture style and depth of analysis expected, our current Salopians returned to Shropshire appreciative of the clear outline given of the application process and what the university looks for in its applicants. Supra-curricular exploration of the subject is paramount, so anyone interested in applying should check the extension pages on the School Intranet for their chosen subject.

For next year's masterclasses (pupils only can book themselves), visit <https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events/masterclasses>

James Fraser-Andrews





An epic ISFA Boodles Cup encounter

Friday 7 December 2018

On Wednesday afternoon on Senior, the School witnessed another epic ISFA Boodles Cup encounter with Millfield School.



Steve Wilderspin, Head of Football and 1st XI Coach:

This Quarter-Final followed on from the 2016-17 Semi-Final game; more anon. The odds were against us, having already lost to Millfield in the Hudl League, 6-0 at home in early September. Despite this defeat, the team had made significant progress as the season progressed and they were keen to prove people wrong and extract revenge for this defeat. The boys knew that they had to be at their very best against arguably the best and most consistent independent football school in the country over the past ten years. The game-plan had been set in the build-up to the game, with the lads focussing on a number of scenarios they were likely to face when the whistle blew for the start of the match.

Part of the game-plan nearly came to fruition in the first 30 seconds: Charlie Harpin did tremendously well to close down the Millfield centre-back, who under hit his back-pass. Charlie opened his body and tried to place the finish, which was terrifically saved by the Millfield keeper. What a start that could have been.

The next 39 minutes saw the boys defend magnificently. We kept the pitch nice and narrow and we repelled everything that the Millfield team could throw at us; in possession we needed to look after the ball more effectively if we were to cause Millfield problems offensively.



As the second half wore on, we grew in confidence and created a number of opportunities. George Faulkner worked a chance for himself that hit the side-netting, and team created several positive situations. As the final whistle was looming, Nathan Day was sent through, only for the Millfield centre-back to make a terrific last-ditch tackle as Nathan was pulling the trigger to shoot.

As in 2016-17, the game was heading into extra-time. In the 20 minutes both sides created opportunities to get the elusive and probably game-winning first goal. Millfield nearly won it with the last kick of the game, as their wide man hit the outside of the post. Whether Lewis Evans, our keeper, had it covered we won't ever know, but we all breathed a sigh of relief as the final whistle was blown.

Despite both teams' efforts, the extra time finished 0-0 and the spectre of penalties was upon us once again. The boys had prepared for this scenario all year, taking a penalty each after every session. However, no one can recreate the pressure of a shoot-out, so we all crossed our fingers that lady luck was going to shine down on us.

Toby Pegge, the team captain, took the first penalty. The keeper guessed correctly and made the first decisive save of the shoot-out. Millfield then scored their first as Dan Humes stepped up to despatch his penalty into the bottom right corner. The Millfield number 10 then stepped up and hit a fanciful chipped penalty that floated over the bar; we were back on level terms.



George Faulkner stepped up and placed his penalty into the bottom right corner. Finn Samson then scored his penalty with a confident strike, before Xavie Clarke went fifth and despatched his. At this point Millfield had to score to stay in the match.

Alas, they did 4-4, so on to sudden death.

Both teams scored their respective penalties to get to 7-6. At this point, Lewis nearly won the game for us as he got a hand diving to his left. The crowd started to cheer as the ball flew up and looked as if it was going to hit the cross bar, only for it to be an inch too low resulting in the ball finding the back of the net.

Lewis then stepped up to take the next penalty. Despite striking it really well, the Millfield keeper, the ISFA International keeper, made a great stop to his right-hand side. Lewis made a valiant effort to stop the winning penalty, but it was too powerful and well-placed. A heart-breaking 8-7 defeat on penalties after a heroic performance, reminiscent of the infamous 2016-17 semi-final that we lost 8-9. Amazingly Millfield have had to take ten penalties in sudden death (from that semi-final at 4-4 to 7-6 in this quarter-final) and not missed one!

You have to give credit to the Millfield lads, who held their nerve. They have taken some unbelievable penalties in our two shoot-outs, but we can still wonder and dream about what the feeling would have been like if we had managed to pull off the surprise of the tournament. Our boys can be justifiably proud of their efforts. Will Hughes and I are proud of the boys' performance and how they dealt with the huge disappointment of defeat. They couldn't have given any more for the team, their teammates and the School.

A special mention must also be made of the amazing support that we had from the School community – the self-named 'Salopian Army'. The team were truly inspired by the support they received. It is at times like these that the very best of Salopian spirit is showcased.



A heart-breaking way to get knocked out of the competition, but it was a day where we can reflect on so many special moments and emotions. It's been a great cup run that I am sure will ensure the up-and-coming generations of Salopian 1st XI footballers will be inspired to replicate – or go further.

Floreat Salopia.





They shall have music wherever they go.....

Friday 7 December 2018

The Shrewsbury School Concert Party have been out and about spreading festive cheer and performing Christmas music in residential homes in and around Shrewsbury.

The Concert Party's reputation for combining fun and engaging musical performances with warmth and an encouragement to their audiences to join in and sing along – plus a friendly chat over a cup of tea at the end – has endeared them to residents and staff alike in the care homes they visit.

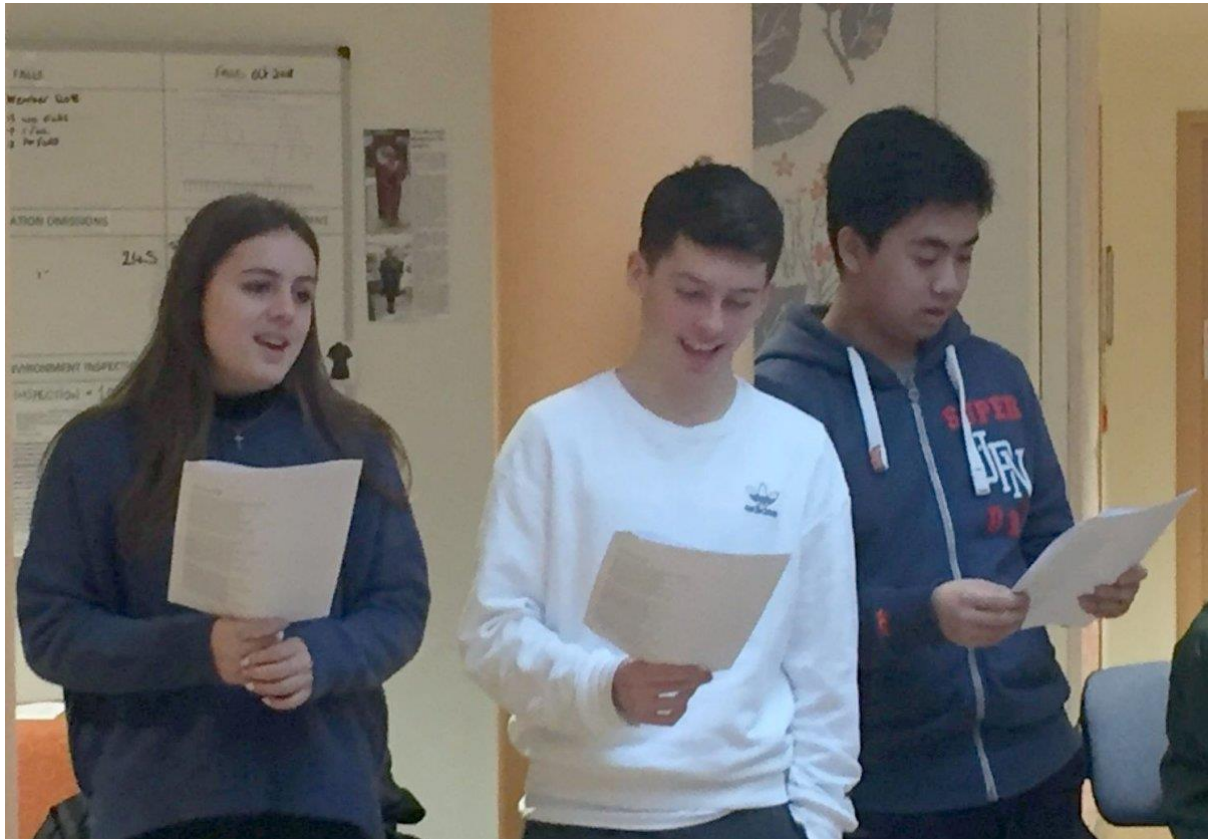
They are in popular demand: as well as almost all the local care homes for the elderly, the group have taken their music to the Redwoods Medical Health Centre and into a primary school, and they have plans to visit a local school for autistic teenagers. In October they also joined forces with the School's Global Social Leaders and Cookery groups to host an afternoon tea party in Kingsland Hall for local elderly people – a highly successful event and hugely enjoyed by guests and hosts alike.



The Concert Party was set up as a Thursday Afternoon Activity three years ago in conjunction with Creative Inspiration Shropshire and its Founding Director, Dr Jane Povey and is run by Head of Vocal Studies Kathryn Turpin. As a doctor, Jane is convinced of the positive health benefits of the arts, particularly for people with dementia, long term conditions or disabilities and



mental health problems. Creative Inspiration's mission is "to grow individual and collective wellbeing and resilience in Shropshire through creative arts". It does so by providing creative arts programmes in care homes, hospitals, mental health services, community centres and schools – linking artists and musicians with some of the most vulnerable and isolated people in the local community.



Now that the School's partnership with Creative Inspiration Shropshire is well-established and strong links have been formed within the local community, the Concert Party is self-managing and increasing the list of residential homes they visit and the scope of their activities. The Concert Party currently has five members, who between them sing and play the piano, trumpet, harp, flute and violin, with two more members joining next term. During the first few weeks of each term, they work with Kathryn Turpin on choosing their repertoire and rehearsing – which last year also included a workshop from Live Music Now. The rest of the term is spent going out each Thursday afternoon with Ms Turpin and John Moore, Director of Music, taking their music into parts of the local community that would otherwise have little or no access to live music.

Review of the Junior School Play 'Under Milk Wood'

Friday 7 December 2018

"This hugely ambitious and astonishingly well executed production will surely live on in the collective memory of Shrewsbury School as one of its dramatic high points..." Review by Richard Hudson.



Such is the pace of Shrewsbury School, so busy its staff and pupils, that the most ambitiously-conceived productions, the fruit of months of collaborative hard work bringing together a huge array of talent, end up as ephemeral creations; three nights, and all is over. Normal life resumes - not of course that it ever stopped: these actors and actresses, this director and stage crew, unlike their professional counterparts, have 'day jobs', busy enough without the rich cultural icing that makes schools such as Shrewsbury the extraordinary educational institutions they are.

But the best are ephemeral in a physical sense only. This hugely ambitious and astonishingly well executed production will surely live on in the collective memory of Shrewsbury School as one of its dramatic high points, much indeed as the memories of lost, wronged or never-actualised loves live on in the minds of the villagers of Llareggub (the reversal of whose letters perhaps represents Thomas's ironic judgement on his own work, or maybe the lives of the villagers), long after the loves themselves have disappeared.



Originally written in 1954 as a radio play, the original *Under Milk Wood* is, in the words of the Director Heather May's programme note, "a lavishly lyrical poem, taking us into the minds of snoozing sleepers tucked up asleep one Spring morning in the fictional Welsh seaside village of Llareggub. Two narrators weave their way in and out of the inhabitants' hopes, dreams and desires as they set about their daily affairs. The day drifts by, filled with gossip and squabbling, learning and longing, until the townsfolk return home to roost and rest back under the covers once more."





The cast of 17, drawn from the Third, Fourth and Fifth Forms, playing up to eight parts each, corporeal and incorporeal (eg, Georgina Cooper: *Polly Garter*, *Mrs Evans*, *Mrs Ogmores-Pritchard*, *Lily's reflection*, *Gwennie*, *Mother 2*, *Mrs Cherry Owen*, *Dulcie Prothero*) demonstrated in the clearest possible way what an array of talent Shrewsbury School enjoys, and what co-education has made possible. From the moment the actors silently and slowly walked on to populate the enchanting model village, upstairs windows cosily lit to indicate the time of day, Llareggub became the 'world entire', pathos and comedy blended into one organic whole - come to think of it, just like life outside Llareggub.



In a performance as collaborative as this one, where there were no minor parts and vignette followed vignette in tightly-controlled profusion, it seems invidious to single out particular performances, so I won't. This was in fact one of the numerous highlights of the production, that all had their moments in the sun, all mattered, as should indeed be the case in any community - even No Good Boyo.



The set was a visual feast, a Lilliputian mix of the miniature and life-size, attention paid to the smallest details; a warehouse full of props, the theatre ingeniously reorganised so as to place the village in the middle of the audience, a great iron bedstead, on which various characters willingly or unwillingly dreamt their dreams, forming its centrepiece.



Rarely have I seen such organic integrity in an amateur production, scene flowing into scene seamlessly, songs and ballet woven into the texture, the performers so evidently (but not too evidently) enjoying themselves, understanding that after weeks of hard graft, they were part of something very special, a community that had become as tight knit as that of Llareggub itself.



So, a wonderful production, which I hope can be revived, whether with these or other performers, and not simply left to live on in our memories, which it surely will. Congratulations to all the performers, the Director, Heather May, and to Adam Wall's stage crew.

"To begin at the beginning ..."

RTH



Wins for RSSBC crews at the Wycliffe Small Boats Head

Friday 7 December 2018

Sixty J16 boys and Senior Girls competed at the Wycliffe Small Boats Head held on the Gloucester Berkeley Canal on Saturday and recorded a strong set of results over the 2500m course.

The J16 boys picked up wins in the Open Coxless Four, Open Coxless Pairs and J16 Coxed Fours. Orlando Williams came second in the J16 singles event.





The Senior Girls recorded their strongest ever set of results at the event, with wins in the Women's Open Coxless Quad, Women's Open Doubles, Women's Open Singles and Women's Rookie Coxed Fours.



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Full results can be found at <http://www.rowresults.co.uk/wsbh>

Athol Hundermark

Director of Rowing



RSSBC: Chester Match

Tuesday 11 December 2018

The J15 boys and girls travelled to King's School Chester on 1st December for a private match on the River Dee.

The day consisted of two time-trials, some side-by-side battle paddling and a variety of other small competitions.

Whilst King's proved to be slightly stronger on the day, Shrewsbury showed great skill and power and a fantastic afternoon was had by all rowers from both schools.



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Inter-House Hope Simpson Ergo Challenge

Wednesday 12 December 2018

13 houses; 260 pupils rowing; 5 school records and plenty of decibels... The excitement and competitiveness of this high-octane event was captured on film by Film Fellow David Clifford.



On Monday the volume was turned up to 11 in the Alington Hall for the annual Inter-House Hope Simpson Ergo Challenge.

The Third Form got their first taste of rowing competition and five new records were set – including both Upper Sixth records.

The overall prizes were won by Moser's Hall and Oldham's Hall.

Individual winners were as follows:

Third Form

Boys: Oldham's Hall

Girls: The Grove

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Fourth Form

Boys: Churchill's Hall

Girls: Moser's Hall

Fifth Form

Boys: Oldham's Hall

Girls: The Grove

Lower Sixth Form

Boys: Churchill's Hall

Girls: Mary Sidney Hall

Upper Sixth Form

Boys: Oldham's Hall

Girls: Mary Sidney Hall

Rob Wilson

Click on the arrow below or the Vimeo logo to enjoy a sense of the atmosphere and excitement of the occasion:



School Firsts

Thursday 13 December 2018

School Firsts are one of the highest honours at Shrewsbury, rewarding pupils who have demonstrated exceptional contributions to School life. They are awarded each term by a committee of Upper Sixth Formers.



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 during the final School Assembly of the Michaelmas Term for their exceptional contributions to School life in non-sporting activities:

For the remarkable range and the unstinting nature of his contributions to school life:

Henri Cramsie

For his exceptional contributions to School Drama:

Koby Ferdinand-Okpala

For her outstanding contributions to and leadership of the RAF section of the CCF:

Grace O’Mara

For his exceptional contributions to the RAF Section and commitment to Gliding :

Jack Li

For his unstinting and wide-ranging service to the pastoral life of the School:

Petr Rostokin

For their outstanding contributions to the musical life of the School:

Maddy Baly, Henri Cramsie, Fingal Dickins, Will Hope, Ben Lloyd, Jack Lockett, Dalton Foster, Greta Roberts and Abi Watkinson

For their outstanding commitment to and leadership of the Beekeeping Society:

Jasmine Lo and Chad Usher

For their unstinting and wide-ranging contributions to and leadership of school life:

Emma Graham and Harry Remnant

Birmingham Drinks

Thursday 13 December 2018

Another memorable gathering for OS in Birmingham

Salopians of all vintages crowded into All Bar One in Newhall Street on Thursday 6th December for the annual Birmingham Drinks reception, once again organised immaculately by Richard Woodgate (Rt 54-59), Chairman of the Birmingham Branch, and Tim Cave (Rt 75-80). Buoyed up by the generous portions of canapes, those present were also given notice of the forthcoming Birmingham Dinner on 21st March. It was another evening in the great traditions of Birmingham events.

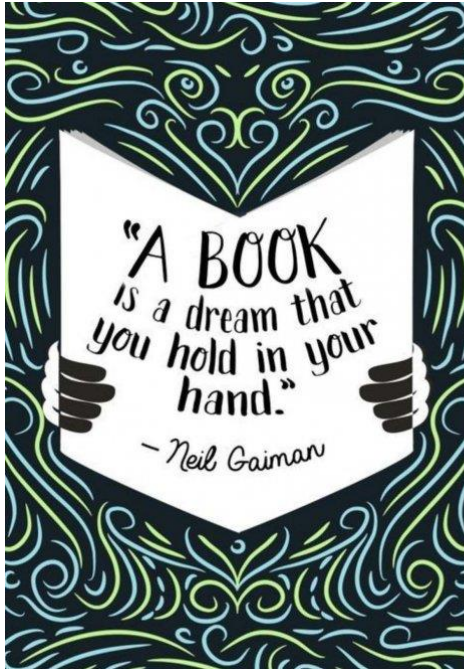




Our Best Reads of 2018...

Friday 14 December 2018

Recommendations from Shrewsbury School pupils and staff.



Every year we appeal to staff and students for details of the books which they have most enjoyed reading over the past 12 months. We have cast the net even wider this year to also garner reader recommendations from friends and colleagues with whom we interact via Twitter (@MoserLibrary).

The result is our Best Reads 2018 publication - a wonderfully eclectic celebration of genuinely loved books. The centre pages promote the YA novels which have been shortlisted for the Shrewsbury School Book Award 2019. Chosen by library staff with the help of our most bibliophilic students, we believe these are the best novels published for teenagers in the last 18 months. (Our winner will be selected on World Book Day next year.)

Our intention with this annual publication is to identify a varied selection of books to appeal to a range of tastes, and to tempt even the most reluctant readers. I hope you find your next read within these pages: [Our Best Reads of 2018](#)

Happy reading and Merry Christmas!

Jo Elliot, Head Librarian



Christmas Drinks

Friday 14 December 2018

Refreshments and reindeer in Alington Hall!

Once again The Salopian Club combined with the Foundation to serve champagne, mulled wine and canapes to about 100 Old Salopians, former staff, and friends of Shrewsbury School at their annual Christmas Drinks on Sunday 9th December in the Alington Hall. The hall had been transformed with the addition of a Christmas tree, sparkling lights and model reindeers, while those present were serenaded by a harpist and addressed by the Headmaster, Leo Winkley, at the end of his first term. This event marked the end of an exceptionally busy round of Club activities in the month before Christmas.





Great performance from 1st XI hockey team in National Cup 4th Round

Friday 14 December 2018

The 1st XI travelled to AKS Lytham Independent School for the 4th round of the National Cup. This was a tough draw away, but the girls were feeling positive after three recent strong games.



We arrived in Lytham to find that the school was right on the beach front. The novelty of being by the seaside soon wore off, however, once the girls realised how low the temperatures were and that the shore breeze did not assist during the warm-up nor the game!

We had never played AKS before so had little knowledge of their form. From speaking to colleagues, we expected them to be strong; their team included a number of club players, including several girls involved in the England Hockey Pathway.

Our girls started strong and had an early break away in attack, which helped them to settle. AKS has a strong centre mid-field, and we had altered our formation in preparation for this. For the first 20 minutes, it was end-to-end hockey – both sides had chances and were awarded short corners.

From the research we had done prior to the game, we were aware that AKS has a player who is able to drag-flick during a short corner. We altered our defence strategy for short corners in anticipation of this and had discussed the defence of a drag-flick in training. In the first short



corner awarded to AKS they went for the straight strike; it was saved by Ella Niblett (GK). For their second short corner, AKS prepared for a drag flick. Again Ella deflected the goal with her stick.

The defence for Shrewsbury was outstanding. Led by vice-captain Jetty Russell, it consisted of Katie Oswald, Lizzie Ware and Adelaide Sillar, who had been moved to right-half from mid-field for this match.

In the 25th minute AKS scored, but Shrewsbury did not let this deter them. The girls knew from previous games that they were capable of coming back. After being 2-0 down to Christ College a few weeks ago, they had pulled back to equalise.

At half-time (35 minutes) the score was 1-0 to AKS. Shrewsbury were single-minded in their approach to the second half; they knew they were capable of winning this game and needed to continue to battle.

Shrewsbury came out strong in the second half, and for around ten minutes the girls had the majority of possession and numerous chances at goal. The 1st XI have always been strong in their counter-attacking and stepping to the ball. We had a number of 1 v 1 with their goal keeper; all credit to the AKS defence who made it very difficult for our attack.

At 15 minutes into the second half, our captain Emma Graham led by example and scored. It was an outstanding goal, injected into the D by Amelie Davies while Emma had positioned herself right in front of the GK. Fantastic hockey!

AKS upped the pressure – and they had a number of supporters who created a great atmosphere. Even some of our subs channelled the Shrewsbury spirit and started chanting ‘Salop’. (Clearly they have been taking tips from the 1st XI footballers.) Shrewsbury continued to battle, with Georgie Nicholas, Phoebe Wasdell and Kitty Taylor showing true grit, not being pushed off the ball and fighting through the AKS defence.

With two minutes to go, AKS scored, a deflection off our defence. Frustratingly, they then scored again with about 30 seconds to go; all credit to the AKS attack for some outstanding hockey.

The final score was 3-1 to AKS, but with Shrewsbury having played some of their best hockey of the season. Their work rate and determination were terrific.

Well done to this talented group of girls. My heart rate is only just returning to normal! To quote one of the opposition’s coaches, the girls were ‘epic’, and it was a joy to watch such a high standard of hockey from both teams.



We have invited AKS for a block fixture next year, and hopefully this will become a fantastic annual game in the future. Many thanks to AKS for their hospitality and a outstanding game.

Player of the Match was Ella Niblett, who arguably had the game of her season.

Mrs Kelly

The squad were:

Georgiana Nicholas

Adelaide Sillar

Amelie Davies

Laura Elliott

Eleanor Niblett

Lara Ockleston

Emma Graham (Captain)

Daisy McMullen

Katie Oswald

Jetty Russell (Vice-Captain)

Kitty Taylor

Lizzie Ware

Phoebe Wasdell



Paperchases 2018

Friday 14 December 2018

On the last Wednesday of term, the annual Paperchases were held. This is an historic race around the Site that has been run every year since the 1830s.



There were some terrific performances over the challenging course. Congratulations to all runners.

Winning Houses:

U15 Boys – Radbrook

U15 Girls – The Grove

1st House Boys – Rigg's (by a single point!)

1st House Girls – The Grove

Individual winners:

Senior Boys

1 Sam Western S

2 Charlie Ockleston O

3 Sam Watts Ch

Senior Girls

1 Alessandra Ardissino M

2 Sophia Dixon MSH

3 Anna Cowan MSH

U15 Boys

1 Harrison Cutler R

2 Will Singleton R

3 Archie Collings Rb

U15 Girls

1 Olivia Elliot EDH

2 Izzy Morris MSH

3 Izzy Shannon G



Sweet singing in the Choir

Friday 14 December 2018

There may have been no snow on snow this year, but the traditional Carol Service from the first notes of 'Once in royal...' sparkled with all the magic of our early Salopian Christmas.

After a mammoth Michaelmas Term, plaudits should first go to the Chapel Choir for Stakhanovite levels of stamina that enabled beautiful singing to round off events. To bring the term to close in such spectacular fashion is quite some production: three carol services, 17 soloists, 21 readings, 83 choristers, 1800 orders of service... And this year they also included one uninvited cipher (the trumpet stop, no less), as the ageing organ misbehaves in its grouchy decrepitude. (Those who wish to avoid *a capella* carols next year ought to contact the Foundation...)

Musical highlights included the steel-nerved 17 soloists, with Brandon Zhao, our first boy treble for many years, kicking off the service, followed beautifully by Tabitha Winkley and Georgina Cooper.

Ohin Cheng and Saffron Milner were particularly fine duetists in 'In the Bleak Midwinter', with Phoebe Morris, Ben Lloyd, Olivia Moir and Henri Cramsie stepping up with aplomb in later services. Three Kings became nine kings who delivered right royal performances: Arthur Sutherland, Dominic Inglis-Jones, Judah Wainwright, Orlando Williams, Edward Bayliss, Arthur Myrrdin-Evans (a Ridgemount trio, another first), Fingal Dickins, Dan Davies and fearless last-minute replacement Koby Ferdinand-Okpala.



Koby and Henri (photo from 2016...)

Congratulations and lashings of figgy pudding indeed to Director of Chapel Choir Alex Mason and organist/organ whisperer Dr John Godwin for their unstinting devotion to producing such top-class quality: a fittingly tuneful and reflective finale to a term notable for its stunning music. Bravi!

James Fraser-Andrews

Charity fundraising total reaches £12,000 - and still counting...

Friday 14 December 2018

A huge thank you to pupils, staff, parents and the wider Salopian community who have given so generously this term.

A mountain of donations and a magnificent £12,000 in cash has been raised for 12 different charities. And the Carol Service collections in aid of Crisis at Christmas (who provide Christmas meals and advice for homeless people in 12 locations in the UK) and the Shrewsbury Food Hub (re-distributing unwanted food to those who need it) are still to come.

In a thank you message sent to all pupils and staff at the end of term, Charities Co-Ordinator Lesley Drew listed some of the recent fundraising initiatives that have taken place across the School community:

Pupils, staff and staff children

At the Staff Children's Carol Service, donations of food were made to Food Bank Plus, which helps people who are struggling to make ends meet in Shrewsbury.

In response to an appeal from Clair Evans, a member of the Shrewsbury School catering staff, asking for donations for elderly people in hospital and care homes who will be on their own at Christmas, a mountain of gifts was collected.



Rigg's Hall

Inter-house Charity Table Tennis Competition in aid of Young Minds, a charity that supports teenagers with mental health problems. Heats are underway and the final is next term.



Mary Sidney Hall

Christmas cards sold out, in aid of Action Aid, which works with the world's poorest women and children, providing health and education.

Oldham's Hall

£200 raised through a beard shave by Housemaster Mr Johnson to buy gifts for the KH collection for the elderly who are alone at Christmas.

The Grove

Spent all their 'Secret Santa' cash at local charity shops. At least £400 will be shared out.

Emma Darwin Hall

Decided not to have Christmas crackers this year so that they could use the money and profits from their own-design Christmas cards to buy slipper socks and fleece blankets for the KH collection for the elderly.

Third Form

Commendation prizes this term awarded to the Third Form resulted in £370 raised for charity. They will vote next term to choose which charities will benefit from this year's money.

Musicians

The St Cecilia Concerts broke all records this term, inspiring the audience to donate £1000 to share between Medic Malawi and the Shewsy.

£360 was donated after the Christmas Charity Concert to Make a Wish, which provides treats for poorly children.

Actors and Stage Crew

£150 was collected for the Shewsy after performances of *Under Milk Wood*.

Shrewsbury School Parents' Association and Global Social Leaders

The Christmas Fair organised by the SSPA with Barnabas Community Projects Foodbank Plus and the Global Social Leaders group of Lower Sixth Formers raised a magnificent £2,500 for Foodbank Plus - see report and photos.



Throughout the term, the **Charity House Reps** have been busy behind the scenes, collecting, counting, taking and distributing Hoodie orders, and planning future events. Thank you!

OLD SALOPIAN HUNT DAY – Saturday 8th December 2018.

Friday 21 December 2018

Despite the weather, a good turn out for the Hunt.

Report on OSH DAY, Saturday 8th December, 2018
including The Annual OSH v. RSSH Run, Tea & Presentations, The AGM & The Annual
Dinner.

Certain members of The Hunt had been asking questions about who might turn up to run against them, in this eagerly awaited meeting of past and present, that has taken place each year since 1953. The answer was that you can never be sure who will be on The Drum at 2 pm, until the time comes. This year there were no disappointments, because we had a superb turn-out of Huntsmen, Whips and Hounds from 1953 to the present day.



As could be seen from the photograph, there were 15 Huntsmen and one Huntswoman, making it the most Captains in one place, ever, with, from left to right, OSH Captain, Oli Mott (Rb. Huntsman 2002-03), Adam Booth (PH. Huntsman 1999-2000), Oliver O'Callaghan-Brown (R. H- 1985-86), Ben Remnant (Ch. H- 2015-16), Charles Pickles (S. H- 92-93), James Neil (H- 93-94), Tim Minns (S. H-78-79), Jonathan Mitchell (Rt. H-81-82), Olly Laws (SH. H-97-98), Tim Bedell (S. H-77-78), Ed Mallett (S. H-12-13), Cal Winwood (I. H-10-11), Charlie Ockleston (O. The Huntsman), Andrew Christophers (Rt. H-78-79), Felicity Hayward (EDH. The Huntswoman), OSH Chairman, Peter Birch (DB. H-66-71). Chris Beaumont (Rt. H-76-77)

arrived just afterwards and Charlie Finnigan (S. H-95-96) came in the evening, making a total of 18 Huntsmen and Huntswoman present on one day at The School. Many of our attendees had come to celebrate the occasion of Bob Parker's 80th Birthday.



Bob has coached hundreds of young people who ran for The Hunt and in School Athletics for over twenty years.



We were also pleased to welcome the new Headmaster, Leo Winkley, who met many of the crowd. The runners and spectators gathered around for introductions and photographs, which also included one of 9 Tucks Winners, showing Adam Booth, Oli Mott, Alasdair Darroch (M. 70-75), Olly Laws, Nigel Miller (S. 47-52), Ed Mallett, Michael Johnson (S. 55-60), Sam Western (S.) and Tim Bedell (S. 73-78). Then there were photos of The OSH Team and another one of all runners before The Throw-Off at just after 2.30 pm when I shouted out The Huntsman's Cry to set everyone off, on their way beside The School Wall and in front of Riggs, before going through The Moss Gates. The Course was similar to last year, but an adjustment had to be made, to avoid the landslip on Ridgemount Drive. So instead of going over the cattle grid, before the



bottom of Port Hill Road, there was a diversion that took everyone left, up into the field and around a marked tree, before returning back up to Oldhams Gap and rejoining the original course which goes back around The Astroturf and retracing steps back to Ashton Road, The Moss Gates and to finish in the funnel on the grass to the left of Central. Even though rain fell at the start and finish, the course was reasonably good going, with only one blooded hound, being Rider Hartley (Ch.), who finished strongly for The Hunt at 10th, with a bloody knee. Even the Rad Brook crossing was at a diminished level and all 52 runners completed The Run, including our “Whipper-In” Cliff Simpkin. As usual, there had been good course marking tapes put up by the Groundsmen and course Marshalls, who braved the wet conditions, for whom we are very grateful. Our Captain, Oli Mott, once again Killed, for the eleventh time, in a time of 21:25, over this adjusted course, which to be fair is a bit longer at 3.7 miles or 5.9 kilometres. He was followed by Ed Mallett in 21:43 and then last year’s winner, Cal Winwood in 21:46. The Huntsman, Charlie Ockleston (O.) was only three seconds behind Cal, and then The Junior Whip, Tom Jackson (R.) produced a powerful finish at 22:17.



At sixth place, Ollie Parry showed off his running power in his first visit to this Run, just ahead of Peter Middleton. Our sixth counter, to clinch our Team’s win, was Simon Adney, who last appeared here in 2012. The RSSH fielded a Team of 30 well trained Boys & Girls, against 21 of the Great & Good of OSH Members, including Tom Hughes (Ch. 13-18), Damian Scott (PH. 87-92 & Sen.Whip), Michael Barratt (ex-Staff & Coach), Owen Mock (R. 13-18 & Sen.Whip), David Thomas (Rt. 71-75), and Richard Hudson (M.67-72).

We eventually moved away from the soggy finish funnel and went to The Hunt Gym, inside The Stott Pavilion, for Tea & Presentations, where many were able to inspect The Huntsman Boards and old photographs, before Ian Haworth, the Master-in-Charge of The Hunt, announced the results of the day’s efforts. Peter Middleton was able to award the new Trophy, bearing his name, to the first female runner to finish The Run, which was Lilian Wilcox (EDH.), one of eight in the Girls Hunt Team.



Then it was time for Oli Mott to once again take The Will Ramsbotham Cup for his win and also to lift The David Loake Trophy for The Winning Team, where we caught 31 points against the 47 points of The RSSH. One of our founders of The OSH Club, Nigel Miller, then said a few words and presented an old Severn Hill Hunt Journal, to be passed on for safe-keeping in The Moser Library.



The OSH Committee - from left

Standing - Peter Birch, Felicity Hayward, Oli Mott, David Thomas, Charlie Ockleston, Tim Bedell, Adam Booth, Peter Middleton and Ian Haworth

Seated - Nigel Miller, Cliff Simpkin and Bob Parker

At 4.20pm, twelve OSH Committee Members went over to Kingsland House to start The Annual General Meeting, in The Hardy Room. It was a privilege to have the company of The Huntsman, Charlie Ockleston and The Huntswoman, Felicity Hayward, who witnessed how The OSH operates as a Club. By 6.15 pm, we had completed our Agenda and dispersed, giving time to prepare for The Annual Dinner at 7.30 pm in The Peterson Room.

This year's Dinner was attended by 33 diners, of whom 13 were Huntsmen, 5 were Whips and 4 were Hunt Coaches, including Bob Parker. Bob was 80 in October and the majority of attendees had come to celebrate Bob's birthday and two glorious decades of his coaching of The Hunt & School Athletics. Bob recalled some of the highlights of his career, here at The School, which rekindled great memories in some of those seated around him.



We were also pleased to have the company of this season's Huntsman and Huntswoman and the two Whips, Sam Western (S.) and Tom Jackson (R.), as well as two of the best Girls Hunt runners, Chessie Harris (EDH.) and Anna Cowan (MSH.).

This had been a very special day for The Old Salopian Hunt, with a huge crowd coming to The School Site for The Annual event, where The RSSH demonstrate how well they are now trained, providing great competition. Everyone, young and old, enjoy gathering together here once again and we all look forward to next year.

For the complete Results of The Run, please click [here](#).

Do go to The Old Salopian Hunt Facebook page to see all of the photographs, as well as some here below.

Peter Birch. OSH Chairman.





Sabrina latest news

Friday 21 December 2018

Never get drawn into a challenge over a beer or two at Henley!

Having taken up rowing after a 20 year gap late in 2017 and qualifying and racing at Henley this year it seemed a good idea at the time! Not being someone to go back on my word (or what was recorded on WhatsApp group) I thought it a good idea to see what I'd committed to. I knew through the exploits of Wiggo the previous year that the British indoor rowing championships were held at the velodrome in London over 2K and I probably needed a time similar or better than my PB, set as young lad, to be competitive. The obvious person to discuss training plans with was our GB cox Charlie Clarke (O 2009-14) who knows a thing or two about ergs and what you need to do to get a decent time. So, a large spreadsheet later and a bit of a break after Henley I was good to go. Plan was to get in as much long distance and fitness work as I could do through to end of October, then raise the rate and shorten the efforts through November into December. It also dawned on me that I stood a much better chance in the lightweight category, where I didn't have to take on the likes of Graham Benton aka "TheErgDaddy" who general wins in something under 6 minutes, but this meant getting my weight down to 75kg or less...

4 months later, a fair few more km's on the erg's odometer, and I was good to go. Changing from long slow efforts that you would typically do over the winter, to doing short intense efforts more familiar with the regatta season. This proved a shock to the system! although I only had to lose 3kg this also had a surprising impact on my score, so I went in not quite as confident as I had been back in July. The day arrived and first up was the weigh in at 8.00am. Everything had been considered to make the magic 75Kg weight. I had borrowed a 150g AIO from Mr Clarke, and like any boxer, I'd drunk virtually nothing in the previous 24hrs and ensured any ablutions had been completed earlier that morning. I nervously stepped onto the scales, and weighed in at a meagre 74.6Kg. Then for an hour or so wait before we got called up for the 40-49 LWT men's event at 9:45. Time to rehydrate, listen to some motivational music and try not think too much about the pain of a 2K erg. The call came and we descended into the bowels of the velodrome ready for a warm up. Ahead of me I could see the hulking figure of TheErgDaddy getting ready for his event just before ours. In the main arena there were 100 or so ergs to warm up on, then in the centre 2 large screens, on which everyone could see how well you were doing in relation to your competitors, with 50 or so ergs in front of each, I was on lucky erg no 21 in the blue section. Warm up finished and we got called through. It was at that point that I realised on the computer screen of the erg you could also see how your direct competitors were doing. so, this was a proper race rather than a time trial that I had mentally prepared for. However, before I had time to worry too much about it we were under starters orders.

Attention! Go! A proper racing starts and I was up to 2nd place. all good, and only 1800 meters to go. Time to settle into a 1:38 that I knew I could maintain.

500 in and I'd been bumped down to 3rd but only a couple of meters behind 2nd. After that it became a bit of a blur. At one point a camera was shoved in my face, and I also heard the commentator saying that James Stuart (O 1988-93) was fading.. right we'll see about that! 500m to go I was 6m off 2nd place, and gave it all I had for the last 90 seconds. Unfortunately, the gap was never closed and I ended it in 3rd having done a 6:31 just a shade off my PB and a couple of seconds behind 2nd. With barely time to catch our breath we were ushered off to the podium to collect our medals. Tim Male (ex GB lightweight) had won overall in an excellent time of 6:26 and Keith Darby 2nd in 6:29. Could I have gone a bit earlier or kept less in reserve for the end?

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Easy to say after the event, and despite swearing to myself in the warm up that this is a one off not to be repeated, I've already made plans for how I can find those extra few seconds at next year's event.

Anyone interested in joining me, have a look at the GB rowing website where there is plenty of info on the event. Whether you'd like to compete or just go along to watch and enjoy the racing, I can thoroughly recommend it.

Go Sabrina!

James Stuart