

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Fencing: Two medals in the British Youth Fencing Championship Regional Qualifiers

Tuesday 1 February 2011

Shrewsbury won both gold and bronze in the U16 epee section of the British Youth Fencing Championship Regional Qualifiers. This means that Jack Viljoen (gold) and Charlie Godman (bronze) qualify for the National event in Sheffield later in the year.

Mr J A Gabbittas

Fives: Old Salopians through to Barber Cup final at Eton

Tuesday 1 February 2011

The OS Fives team won the semi final of the Barber Cup last Sunday against Lancing. The final is on February 20th at Eton. The OS are also in the semi final and potentially final of the EFA Trophy that day too at Eton, and the School girls team will be playing in the EFA Ladies Championships.

Any support will be most welcome!



A Week in the Life of Ed Elcock (Rb 5)

Thursday 3 February 2011

With the term beginning with our GCSE trial exams, it was clear from the start that this would not – and should not – be a term where we would be able to simply put our feet up. And sure enough, after a brief post-exam lull (spent by most, I would think, in recovering from the trauma of revision), I found myself once again immersed in a seemingly never-ending stream of lessons, music rehearsals, sport, and of course the dreaded topschools.

Being in 5th form, the main event of the previous week for me was the Options Fair. This is an event for both pupils of the school and potential 6th-form entrants to learn about A-level choices, but was also a good opportunity to meet those who will be joining the school in September. I attended the Maths, Physics, French and German lectures. All were very informative, and I now feel much better equipped for making my choices. The only minor issue I had was that I would have liked to see more subjects than just those four, as I was also interested in learning more about the Economics and Biology syllabuses. Nevertheless the morning was useful and, dare I say it, rather interesting.

A second focus of the previous week for me has been music. I take lessons in piano and French horn at school, and play in the orchestra and brass ensemble with the latter. As a member of the wind quintet, I played for the first time in the new lunchtime concerts on Tuesday. The audience was fairly small, but I'm sure word will spread over time and these will become more popular. On Wednesday, we took part in the 'Pro Corda'. This is a multi-school music competition with multiple rounds. Our group entered last year – but regrettably, with little success. Fortunately this year the judge's feedback was very positive and we look forward to hearing our results.

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Football: Two Salopians in ISFA National Squad

Monday 7 February 2011

On Sunday 6th February, 1st XI captain Charlie Pilkington and leading goalscorer Roy Chatterjee both played for the ISFA National Squad against Wales U18 schoolboys at Oswestry. The game ended in a 3-2 victory for the ISFA squad. Both players did extremely well.

Charlie and Roy have been selected to play for the ISFA National team on 27th February against The Royal Navy at Portsmouth, and they have been included on the tour to Finland at Easter.

SJB

Shrewsbury

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Netball: Malvern St James Tournament w/c 31st January

Monday 7 February 2011

Won 1 Lost 3

Our trip to Malvern started with everyone a little shocked that the courts were very small and on Astroturf - a first for all players. Matches were only twelve minutes in total, so it was important to get a good start and unfortunately Shrewsbury didn't. We went down 7-2 to Tudor Hall in the first game. In the second game, we picked ourselves up well and performed much better, just missing out and losing 5-3 to Edgbaston High School. In our third game we were up against a strong Cheltenham Ladies team and although Shrewsbury played well, we struggled against their height and lost 5-1. We had a 12 minute break after this, which gave us time to gather ourselves. Shrewsbury came out strong in the final game, playing their best netball of the tournament and beat Stratford Grammar 9-5.

A disappointing start progressed to a good middle and an outstanding finish. Player of the tournament was Lois Davis.



Football: w/c 31st January 2011

Monday 7 February 2011

On Wednesday our A XI football team travelled to Liverpool College and won 4-2. Roy Chatterjee played in midfield and still scored 3 goals, Max Lilley completed the scoring.

On Saturday we took two XI's to play the Liverpool Ramblers. Both teams played very well in wet slippery conditions. The A team drew 2-2, both goals coming from Jamie Board. The match was abandoned with seven minutes remaining due to the rain. The B team lost 0-3.

On Sunday, 1st XI captain Charlie Pilkington and leading goal scorer Roy Chatterjee both played for the ISFA National squad against Wales U18 schoolboys at Oswestry. The game ended in a 3-2 victory for the ISFA squad. Both players did extremely well. Charlie and Roy have been selected to play for the ISFA National team on 27th February against The Royal Navy at Portsmouth, and they have been included on their tour to Finland at Easter.



House Play review: Oldham's 'The Real Inspector Hound'

Monday 7 February 2011

Based on Stoppard's own experiences as a critic in the 1960s, the play 'The Real Inspector Hound' provides an entertaining twist on the classic whodunnit, parodying not just the twists and turns of mystery plays such of Agatha Christie's 'The Mouse Trap', but also the very critics who provide the reviews, as egotistical as the actors themselves.

In the hands of a talented group of actors from Oldham's Hall, this provided a thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining evening of fast-paced farce.

Freddie Fullerton and Gus Haynes were well-cast as the two critics, reviewing a play that they unwittingly find themselves entwined within. Fullerton was on fine form as the self-consciously second-rate critic Moon, who desperately attempts to shake off the shadow of the critic he is replacing, Higgs.

Haynes, as the self-claimed "respectable married man" Birdboot, was entertainingly pompous, full of riotous energy and vigour. His thinly-veiled philandering provided much humour, particularly when he joins the action of the play itself, caught between the affections of the youthful ingenue Felicity and the seductive 'widow' Cynthia.

James Brown was suitably louche as the mysterious newcomer to the neighbourhood, Simon Gascoyne, skilled not only in his acting, but also in his excellent direction (alongside Fullerton, no doubt with some pointers from resident stage sage PAF). There were further commanding performances from Jonathan Wood, playing with dead-pan discipline the wheelchair-bound Magnus, and Ed Shawe-Taylor, an impressively assured performance playing Hound himself.

All in all a polished and enjoyable House play, something we have come to expect from this talented group of actors and directors.

PJM



Fives: The Northern Championships at Shrewsbury School

Tuesday 8 February 2011

The annual Northern Championships took place at Shrewsbury over the weekend of the 5th/6th February 2011.

MAIN COMPETITION ENTRY

- 1) G. Thomason & J. Hudson-Williams qualified out of their group in 2nd place – won their last 16 Knockout match 2-0, then lost in the quarter finals to the top ranked pair in the country 0-2.
- 2) S. Leach & S. Welti did not qualify out of the toughest group in the competition but played with great quality.
- 3) J. Tse & H. Lewis qualified out of their group and then lost to the 3rd seeds. They played with great authority.
- 4) B. Jones & R. Mucklow did not qualify out of their group.
- 5) N. Morjaria & K. Morjaria did not qualify out of their group.
- 6) C. Jones & H. Croft did not qualify out of their group.
- 7) G. Williams & W. Miller did not qualify out of their group.
- 8) A. Styles & M. Pragnall did not qualify out of their group.

FESTIVAL ENTRY

- 9) E. Christie & H. B-Davenport won their group, last 16, quarter-final and semi final and finally lost in the final of the Festival. A great effort of much merit playing against adults.
- 10) S. Bunting & A. Morris had an excellent Festival eventually bowing out to the eventual winners in the quarter-finals.
- 11) J. Dudson & E. Lloyd (late) E. Lloyd played after running in the County Champs – played exceptionally well with his partner to reach the quarter finals of the event.
- 12) A. Richards & J. Samson did not qualify out of their group.
- 13) W. Chirayus & D. Wells qualified and then lost in the last 16.
- 14) H. Blofield & C. White qualified out of their group – won their last 16 and then lost to Christie & Davenport in quarter finals.
- 15) H. Flowers & A. Peel did not qualify out of their group.
- 16) Alice Brett represented the school in the Festival.

PLATE TOURNAMENT

- 17) H.Flowers & A.Pollock (L6th novice) lost in the final.

Press coverage: Shropshire Magazine profiles Shrewsbury School

Tuesday 8 February 2011

Shropshire Magazine ran a two-page Education article in their February edition on Shrewsbury School, giving some detail in particular to the success of the introduction of girls into our Sixth Form in 2008 and the second girls' house that will be ready for September 2011.

Shrewsbury

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Fencing: Three-way match with Wrekin College and Wrexham

Wednesday 9 February 2011

Shrewsbury fencers fought in a three way match on Saturday completed by Wrekin and Wrexham. Results were as follows:

WREXHAM v SHREWSBURY

FOIL 45 - 24

EPEE 45 - 21

SABRE 45 - 42

WREXHAM WIN 3 - 0

SHREWSBURY v WREKIN B

FOIL 34 - 28

EPEE 40 - 37

SABRE 45 - 41

SHREWSBURY WIN 3 - 0



OS raises money for the Marsden Hospital

Wednesday 9 February 2011

James Lazarus (S 1972-77) has with his children signed up to the Marsden Hospital's first ever sponsored Walk of 14 miles between the 2 Hospitals in Fulham and Sutton, This is being held on Sunday 27th March. The 4 have formed the Mary Lazarus Team and have set themselves the target of raising £4,000.

The Hospital has done so much for Mary, and the family also want to play even a small part in helping others receive the same benefits, and attack the disease which has dominated their and so many others lives.

They would so much appreciate your support. Probably the easiest method of doing this is via the Just Giving website - www.justgiving.com/james-lazarus.



A Week in the Life of Freddie Fullerton (O LVI)

Thursday 10 February 2011

I am Freddie Fullerton. A small lower sixth former from the triumphant house of Oldham's Hall and this was my week:

Monday was the beginning of a hectic and exhilarating week for the thespians and technicians of Oldham's Hall. It was the week in which we were to perform Tom Stoppard's classic, 'The Real Inspector Hound.' After weeks of rehearsals in the Moser Library and days wondering if the play was going to come together, James Brown and I slowly strolled into the Ashton Theatre to see an empty stage. The thought ran through our heads that we were going to have to transform this bare stage into a Manor fit for a murder mystery. With a rub of the hands we got to work on the stage hoping that all was going to run smoothly, though we both knew that wasn't going to be the case. We started by putting up the French windows which seemed to provide no problems. We then proceeded to put up the first of the flats which were a little trickier. After the final flat we took a long deep breath and stepped backwards to look at what was the basis of the set. It looked good, though something didn't seem right, but we couldn't work it out. We went to lessons but returned to the Ashton straight after to prepare everything for the rehearsal. We brought the props and placed them in the correct positions and then Mr Fanning came through the doors and told us what was wrong with it, "You need to bring everything forward a few inches, the set is too far upstage." At which point James and I looked at each other with a short sigh, having spent all afternoon drilling down the flats and French windows we were going to have to unscrew and shift forward. Then came the first rehearsal, which was not as good as expected, but it was the first night in the Ashton and that never goes according to plan. Monday had been a long and exhausting day and the first of many. There was nothing more that could be done; all that was needed was a good night's sleep.

Tuesday consisted of moving the set forward which meant that more than two pair of hands was needed. With the help of a few lower sixth and members of the cast, we just about manage to drag the set upstage, with minor splinters on the side but all for a good cause. Afterwards, many scattered back to the house or to the grot shop and there were only a handful of us left to sort out the sound and the lighting. Again that night we rehearsed and it went much better than the previous night, thank God.

On Wednesday, we decided to get together all the other props for the play. We needed a wheelchair, plants and some carpets. I, along with Edward Shawe- Taylor, went off to Mr Haworth's classroom to get the plants. He didn't seem too bothered about getting them back, "Please, keep them." We clasped onto the best looking ones and made our way back to the theatre, receiving some mysterious looks on the way. I then ran over to the San to get hold of the wheelchair, which was waiting for me when I entered. I wheeled it to the theatre, again receiving some unusual looks. We put everything together, brought the tables and sofa in and moved part of the Ashton seating out for the two critics in the play. All that was left to do was paint. Mr Fanning had kindly gone into town and got some lovely deep, red paint for the walls.

Once morning lessons had finished on Thursday and we had had some lunch, James and I raced over to the Ashton to begin the painting. There we found what seemed to be a bunch of third



formers trying to kill each other. However, we soon found out that it was Mr Hann's drama group who were acting out fighting on stage, much to our relief. We proceeded to paint, trying not to get in the way or get kicked in the head. We put on our white coats and slapped the red paint onto the bare, white flats. Occasionally, a third former would slam into a flat or try and do a kung-fu kick and fail badly, but we managed to finish in the end. We then laid out the red and white carpets to add the finishing touches to the set. It had turned out great in the end. All the long work that we had spent on it paid off. Though, as we enjoyed the colourful set, we then realised something quite important; "the first performance is tomorrow night!" We suddenly felt a gush of mixed emotions, excitement but then nerves. We hurried back to the house to fetch our costumes, ready for the dress rehearsal. I had managed to get hold of mustard chords, a purple shirt, and a tweed jacket and suede boots. I was slightly frightened by my appearance. Dr Samworth kindly came in to do our make-up and did a great job. We were ready for our dress rehearsal. Everything was in the right place and the show began. The dress went very smoothly and hardly any lines were forgotten, we had got through it. It was our first taste of what it would be like on the actual night. Afterwards, Mr Fanning gave us his wise words on how to improve things and then we sunk into the chairs and sofa which were on set and rested for a short while before returning back to the house for a well needed sleep. Friday was going to be a busy day.

Friday had come and all I could think about was the play. I seemed to be watching the clock waiting for time to slowly tick by so that I could rush to the theatre to make sure everything was well. Lessons eventually finished, and then James and I hurried over to the theatre. We made sure that all the flats were level and that all the props were in the right place. James checked to make sure all the lighting and sound was prepared whilst I put up the photos in the foyer which Dr Wade had taken in the dress rehearsal. Soon came the time when we all had to be in the theatre. We ran through a few chunks of the play to polish it up. Once Dr Samworth, we started to get make-up and costumes on. It was half an hour before the performance and there were various actors wandering backstage muttering their lines to be certain they were ready. The butterflies soon came and everyone was saying "break a leg" over and over. The audience had taken their seats and it was time to start the show. The music started and I walked on stage and then over to my seating. The play had begun. It was going very well and there was laughter which we were praying for. All the actors started to get into the play once the adrenaline began to pump. It was a fun performance and the audience seemed to enjoy it, even though there was a hic-up from the sound. The audience went for drinks, but we stayed behind to make sure all was in place for tomorrow's performance.

Saturday was the final day and a sad one. We had so much fun putting together the play that we were sad to see it about to end. Though there was some relief in there as well. We got to the Ashton Theatre for 6:00 pm to get make-up and run over a few bits of the play. I wasn't as nervous as last night, but I still felt them slightly. The audience weren't as many as the previous night, but that was expected on a Saturday. However, the Saturday night audience did laugh more and seemed to get more of the jokes. Saturday night seemed more electric and we just gave it all we had as we knew it was the last night. As the lights came down at the end of the play, we knew it was the end. We had had so much fun in the process and were surrounded by great people. We were hugely grateful for Mr Fanning's superb support. Straight after the performance, we tore down the stage and gathered everything together. Returning to Mr Johnson's for drinks, we thought about what an amazingly enjoyable time we had had and that we were sad to see it end. It was the end of my week and the end of the 'The Real Inspector Hound'.



Chapel Choir sing Evensong at University College, Oxford

Thursday 10 February 2011

Last Sunday, the chapel choir thoroughly enjoyed a day out in Oxford. The choir were invited by Kathryn Burningham (Director of Music at University College Oxford, as well as being Shrewsbury School's Director of Chapel Choir) to sing a Joint Choral Evensong with the choir of University College Oxford. The opportunity to bring the two choirs together was extremely special and the combined sound of the two choirs was magnificent. The congregation were treated to "If Ye Love Me" by Tallis, Stanford's "Evening Canticles in C" and "Zadok the Priest" by Handel, to commemorate the anniversary of the Queen's accession (6 February).

The school pupils had plenty of time to explore the city, meet with friends and family, and mix with the current students and staff at Univ to discover more about life as a student at an Oxford college. The school choir also made the very best of the chance to perform with older students who helped them to make the most of the music and the acoustic of the beautiful seventeenth century chapel.

After the service, our pupils were treated to a traditional "formal hall" dinner with the students. This was a real experience to hear the long college grace in Latin, dine on three rich courses (including guinea fowl) and experience the usual excellent waiter service. The splendid historic hall, which reminded many of our pupils of "Harry Potter" with its long heavy wood dining tables and enormous fireplaces, is watched over by imposing portraits of those such as benefactor Bill Clinton and the former master Lord Robin Butler.

The choir had an absolutely fantastic day out and are extremely grateful to John and Heather Godwin for all they did to help with the day's arrangements, and in particular, as always, to Dr Godwin for his wonderful organ voluntaries and accompaniments. The choir are also especially grateful to all the parents, families, friends and old Salopians who attended the service and helped to make it such a special and memorable occasion.

KCB



Fencing: Three Salopians qualify for the British Youth Championships

Thursday 10 February 2011

Chris Williams (I LVI), Vice Captain of Fencing, was asked to give some background to his recent win at the U18 Regional Championships

I have been fencing for 8 years. Firstly at Wrexham Fencing Club, then for a year at Packwood Haugh, where with another teacher's support we got the club up and running again after it had closed for 3 years, and now at Shrewsbury School.

The school and in particular the coach, Ken Holding, have always been very supportive. Training takes place twice a week on a Wednesday and Saturday and I go to Wrekin on a Tuesday to help coach and for further practice.

This year, as we did last year, three fencers have qualified for the British Youth Championships: Jack Viljoen, Charlie Godman and myself. The number of fencers is steadily increasing and standards have improved for all ages in recent years, due to the efforts of the senior boys and the coach.

The school regularly fences other schools including Rugby, Wrekin and local clubs such as Wrexham. It is expected that a number of pupils will attend the Public Schools Championships during March.

I am fully involved in the arrangement of all fixtures, team selection and maintaining the armoury. I feel that there is a lot of new potential in lower years and aim to make fencing more widely recognized as I can predict increasing success.

Chris Williams



RSSH: Shrewsbury Relays - Wednesday 9th February

Thursday 10 February 2011

The Hunt were aiming to pick up their fifth trophy of the year at the annual Shrewsbury Relays, a trophy they were looking to retain from last year.

After a strong performance at the National Relays, we were confident of a strong defence, and indeed, a time of 8.34 by Otto Clarke in the opening leg placed us amongst the lead runners from Wrekin and Loughborough. It didn't take long until Cal Winwood provided our A team with a clear lead following a strong second lap (7.50, the fastest Senior lap of the day). After further strong laps from Ed Mallett, his brother George (a blistering 7.52) and Ed Lloyd, the race had turned into more of a time-trial event with the race clearly wrapped up. Aubrey Higgin did the necessary and ran a solid 8.25 to ensure victory for the A team, but meanwhile the B team had managed to break through into second place overall, with some strong running from Guy Vernon (8.31) and Rory Fraser (8.44). To beat Wrekin, Loughborough and Lucton A teams was a fine achievement, and further evidence of the depth currently being nurtured at the club. It was great to see, for example, that the Hunt were able to field a record four relay teams, each of six runners.

In the girls race, an outstanding first lap from Imola Atkins (9.29) ensured that the RSSH girls team had a commanding lead going into the second lap. It was a lead that we were unfortunately not able to hold onto, though there were strong laps from Hebe Dickins (11.11) and captain Lucy Birt (11.20). The team were, however, winners of the silver medals, beating Lucton into third by some distance.

TEAM POSITIONS (BOYS)

1st RSSH 'A' 49.38

2nd RSSH 'B' 52.37

3rd Wrekin 54.01

4th Loughborough 54.22

5th RSSH 'C' 54.56

6th RSSH 'D' 56.59

7th Lucton 59.35

TEAM POSITIONS (GIRLS)

1st Wrekin 66.10

2nd RSSH 72.55

3rd Lucton 79.08



Fives: Shrewsbury School v Westminster Wednesday 9th February

Friday 11 February 2011

Shrewsbury School Development Squad played Westminster School at Eton on Wednesday 9th February and enjoyed a number of very close matches. Shrewsbury won the match 7-4 overall and gained much valuable experience. Additionally the whole squad played warm up matches and additional sets against a variety of Westminster pairs. Each pair played a total of 3hrs 30 mins and worked very hard.

Next Wednesday 16th a different selection will take on St Olaves , Emmanuel & Charterhouse at Eton College

Seniors

E.Christie & G.Williams WON 3-1
R.Mucklow & H. Croft WON 3-0
A.Richards & S.Bunting LOST 0-3

U16's

A.Styles & J.Dudson LOST 1-3
C.Pearce & J.Sansom LOST 2-3
W.Chirayus & D.Wells WON 3-2

U15's

H.Gittins & S.Green WON 3-2
B.Quirke & L.Owens WON 3-0

U14's

Nolan (I) & Yick (G) LOST 0-3
Rashid(Rb) & Trivedi (Rb) WON 3-1
Richardson (SH) & Dootson D (M) WON 3-2



Fives: EFA National U21 Competition at Eton - Sunday 13th February

Monday 14 February 2011

Shrewsbury continued their strong showing this season when competing in adult competitions. Four pairs (5th, L6 & U6) entered this relatively new event (2010) and all played to a very high standard against school, club, university and old boy pairings.

Shrewsbury so nearly came away with another national title but were just pipped at the post by the top seeded 2010 winners from Berkhamsted Old Boys.

Jack Hudson-Williams & Tom Welti (OS), paired at PAIR 1, for this competition won through to the semi finals and were narrowly beaten by the top seeds in a very close encounter. Jason Tse & Henry Lewis, paired at PAIR 2, played strongly throughout to reach the final in fine style where they eventually lost a thrilling final.

Guy Williams & Jack Flowers made rapid improvement throughout the day to clinch the Plate Final with an emphatic win over a strong St. Olaves Old Boys pairing.

Edward Lloyd & Alex Styles (U16's) played some excellent fives against much older opponents and learnt a great deal.

We look forward to a busy two weeks with fixtures against St Olaves & Chaterhouse plus the Ladies Championship and the Kinnaird (National Open).

ASB

Football: w/c 7th February 2011

Monday 14 February 2011

The 1st XI had a comfortable win on Wednesday against Codsall Community College. A hat-trick from Roy Chatterjee and two from Max Pragnell sealed the win where some excellent one-touch football was played particularly in the first half.

The 2nd XI beat Walford College 6-1 in a Shropshire Schools League match. The goals were shared around with Lucas Munz scoring twice, Alex Bould, Stephen Leach, Jack Stacey and Max Lilley scored the other goals.



Hockey: w/c 7th February 2011

Monday 14 February 2011

1st XI vs Adams Grammar School

LOST 2-5

Adams Grammar School has traditionally been our nemesis, and it was without exception this time too. After five minutes we were already two goals down, and putting ourselves under immense pressure from slack passing that was either too weak or even simply straight to the opposition! The remainder of the first half was spent stemming the flow of goals, which were kept to only four, thanks to some inspirational keeping from Ollie Patterson-Appleton, the reserve goalkeeper, as well as some committed tackling from Will Phillips and Jamie Bird (skipper).

The second half was a completely different story. The interval was spent reorganising, and reassessing the key elements of our game, and the restart saw an inspirational goal from Will Moorcroft, deflecting a solid hit from the far right, well outside the 'D', after 15 minutes of growing attacking pressure from the midfield players Phillips, Bird J and Archie Smith-Osbourne.

The second was not long in following, and re-emphasised our increasing dominance in the second half. Sadly, Adams Grammar slipped in another goal minutes from the end of a very long game.

Despite the loss, a number of key lessons were learned from adversity, which no doubt the team will take into the next match.

1st XI vs Ellesmere College

WON 15-0

After the torrid match on Wednesday against Adams Grammar, it was with a determination for success that the 1st XI stepped onto the pitch to face Ellesmere for our second County Cup match. With two starting players away, the substitutes were a 'retired' UVI, a self-confessed rugby player and an U16 player. Still, Ollie Darrington was back in goal after illness, which was a huge boost of confidence.

The first half began with a 'training ground' drill down the right hand side, into the 'D' and a quick shot at goal, stopped on the line by a defender's foot. The awarded penalty stroke was despatched into the top right corner, and Shrewsbury were one goal to the good – it had taken 75 seconds!

The second goal was not long in coming, as was the third. This was going to be a walk-over. Sadly Shrewsbury failed to make their total domination tell in full, despite a further two more goals in the first half, including a delightful reverse stick shot high into the corner of the net from Will Leigh-Bramwell. Much of the reason was a lack of team discipline, as various players attempted to take on the opposition on their own. The several narrow misses from Will Phillips and Will Moorcroft were unfortunate, but would have flattered if they had gone in.

The second half was much more aggressive, and more importantly, clinical in its execution. Every attack threatened at least the 'D', if not the goal itself, and the confidence exuded by every member of the team was sky high. All three attacking forwards had to be substituted for a short time in the second half, such was the exertion required to keep ahead of an extremely rapidly moving ball.



By the end, it was a little difficult to keep an accurate record of the goals, but the account seems to be Moorcroft (7), Bird T (3), Phillips (2), Leigh-Bramwell (2), Bird A (1). Apologies if anyone has been missed off.

Overall, it was a very satisfying match, in which everyone played their part to the full. Thanks therefore go to Ollie Darrington who had only two things to do all afternoon (one of which was to collect the ball from the back boards of the astro pitch), to Nick Thompson and Charlie Boutflower (despite the latter's five minute sin bin) and the other defenders for giving the keeper nothing to do, and to Archie Smith-Osbourne and Jamie Bird (Skipper) for their consistent supply of quick and accurate ball all afternoon. Congratulations on a job well done.

U16A XI vs Madeley Academy U16

LOST 0-1

This was fairly even game played under lights at Roman Road sports centre. We didn't really use the width of the pitch very well, preferring to attack up the middle, but still had more chances on goal than they did, and their keeper made a couple of good (lucky?) saves. Unfortunately they managed to squeeze the ball home in the last 30 seconds and that was that.

U16A XI vs Ellesmere College U15/U16

WON 9-0

Timmy Bird in particular was able to dribble past players almost at will and scored a hat-trick within the first 20 minutes. After that he used his skills to distribute the ball and we played some very attractive hockey with three others (Ollie Horsnall (2), Harry Yeoward (2) and Joe Mason (1)) joining him on the score sheet. Timmy ended up with 4 goals. Everyone played well, but there will be much tougher tests to come.



CCF Night Expedition

Monday 14 February 2011

It was a great weekend for the Cadets and Officers of the CCF. We deployed to Nesscliffe on Saturday night despite the threatening rain and strong wind, where the cadets could practice the most recent field craft training module.

The exercise began with a full set of orders, and then the normal pre-deployment activity of kit checks, ration pack issues, rifle issues and radio checks. After mounting the deployment vehicles (school minibuses), the cadets engaged in some anti ambush drill rehearsals in Nesscliffe camp itself. For many of the cadets this was the first fully tactical exercise, and it challenged their personal admin skills, ability to operate at night in the dark with no torchlight, and finally to keep silent for long periods.

The cadets did extremely well, and set up bashes and harbour areas efficiently and quietly.

Following a night of recce patrols, the cadets engaged in an ambush. The trip flares and heavy simulated gun fire lit up the night sky light fireworks.

The exercise was a great success and the cadets both Senior and Junior demonstrated a high degree of personal discipline and skill. Well done to all.



RSSBC: Wycliffe Head cancellation - friendly match against King's Chester quickly arranged!

Monday 14 February 2011

After a disappointing cancellation of Wycliffe Head the previous weekend, an impromptu private match was arranged against our local foe King's Chester on Saturday.

Three eights made the short trek up to Cheshire.

As expected the 1st VIII had the better of King's 1st VIII in all of the five pieces. The 2nd VIII, weakened by illness had a good afternoon, beating a decent Kings J16's.

The J15's, again a weakened crew, had a great tussle with the two King's crews, with honours fairly even.

The 1st VIII have a short half term planned, with return to School on Thursday and then a trip to Nottingham Trent Head on Sunday 27th; an exciting School Head beckons!!



Focus on the Third Form

Tuesday 15 February 2011

Three members of the 3rd Form reflect on their first term at the School.

This article was published in the spring issue of [Shrewsbury News](#), a new publication written primarily for prospective parents.

Freddie Earlam (Rt):

I have enjoyed my first term thoroughly. It is so easy to settle into the School. Although the Third Form were a little nervous at first, from what I have seen everyone has settled and is making the most of their time here.

I have just finished the football term and it has been brilliant. The coaches are excellent and have helped me and my team mates a lot. I have noticed the players around me have improved, as have I.

I have been lucky enough to have gone on cricket tour to Australia with the under 15s squad, along with two other Third Form players. It was a brilliant experience for all of us. We had an excellent time and we all improved as the tour went on.

Even though I could go on about the sport at Shrewsbury for pages and pages, I should also mention boarding life at the school. My time so far has been brilliant. My housemaster is very supportive and helpful, and everyone in the house enjoys it and gets on very well with each other.

Overall my first term has been a great success and I look forward to the years to come.

Sonny Koh (Ch):

When I first arrived at the School, I felt like a small fish in a large ocean. Everything seemed twice as large compared with prep school. At first I thought that I wouldn't fit in and would never get used to the sheer size of the place. Though having been at the School for the scholarship exams was a big advantage, as I had already met a number of my fellow pupils.

Although I had studied in England before and had got used to the differences between my country (Myanmar) and here, all those worries and fears came back to haunt me again. But my House was full of welcomes and the senior boys helped by giving me their wisdom and sharing their past experiences.

Fortunately, Shrewsbury School organised a lifesaver for me and for everyone in the 3rd Form: 'Foundation Fortnight'. That was when I discovered that it didn't matter where I came from and that in fact it is a great advantage for me, being able to talk about my background – people were interested.

Lessons were great, everyone I met was kind, and the fact that we were all new made it easy to make friends with everyone. I could also empathise with all the people from overseas. Overall, the friendly atmosphere made settling in much easier. I soon felt that I was part of Shrewsbury School – I had found my niche here and felt I belonged.

George Birt (PH):

On my first day at Shrewsbury I was full of anticipation and excitement. Everybody seemed to

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know where they were going except me and the thought of asking a 6th Former directions was very daunting. However everyone was very understanding and happy to help.

One of the aspects I am most impressed with at Shrewsbury is the number of extra-curricular activities. There are lectures every week and an extremely wide range of societies on Mondays. There is something for everyone.

There's a fantastic opportunity to do a great deal of music. Not only are there a remarkable number of music groups, there is an impressive collection of teachers.

I also really enjoy playing sport every day. There are many sports fixtures and the coaching is high-quality. I have enjoyed learning to play fives and having indoor tennis sessions on Sunday evenings. I have also experienced cricket, running, rowing, rugby and lots of football, which is not bad for only ten weeks!

As a day boy I cycle to school, sometimes having breakfast in KH on the way. The day community isn't very different to the boarding, and everything that is open to the boarders is open to the day boys. Although there are two different day houses, there is lots of mixing between the two.

Shrewsbury is a great school with great opportunities and I am looking forward to spending the next four and a half years here.

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Art exhibition opening: Arabella Midwood

Tuesday 15 February 2011

At 6.30pm on Monday evening Arabella Midwood's 'One-person' Exhibition opened in the Art School – the first of our series of UVI Exhibitions that give a boy or girl in the final year an opportunity to show their best work from the highly creative A2 course.

The gallery quickly filled up with an excited crowd of staff, parents, friends of the school and many boys and girls. I am delighted to report that the opening was a great success both artistically and socially – and for many it was also a great opportunity to have a good look round the art school and to see all the work from different year groups on display.

PNW



League Tables: Fit for Purpose or Had Their Day?' A view from The Registrar

Tuesday 15 February 2011

*This article was published in the spring issue of **Shrewsbury News**, a new publication written primarily for prospective parents.*

You will not have seen Shrewsbury's exam results in the league tables published in the press this year because, along with sixty or so other leading schools in the UK, Shrewsbury feels that far from providing a clear and useful snapshot of a school's quality and qualities, the information provided by the league tables is oversimplified and confuses more than it clarifies.

Mark Turner, our new Headmaster, made his thoughts quite clear to me when he said that education at Shrewsbury was an experience and not an average score. In other words, the information provided by the league tables says little about the quality of teaching and learning and cannot possibly address the engagement of pupils in life and activities inside and outside the classroom, through which knowledge and understanding develops alongside the confidence and good judgement required for life beyond school.

We believe that the richness of experience at Shrewsbury – maybe in the lab analysing the data from our experiment currently orbiting Earth on board a satellite, performing Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto in London, taking the school play on tour to Edinburgh, walking in the Welsh hills with the Rovers, or simply doing one's best with one's friends in the House Football and Fives leagues – is exceptional. We won the Independent Schools FA Trophy in 2010, the Silk Trophy for cricket in 2009, and we were the second fastest British schoolboy boat on the water last summer at Henley. So the sky's the limit. Of course the majority of pupils aren't in the Ist XI and don't play concertos. But it is through participation at one's own level that pupils will learn to take responsibility for themselves and others which will stand them in good stead for the rest of their lives. Things not measured by the league tables.

The Headmaster's case, of course, is strengthened by the fact that the national Sixth Form curriculum is in such a state of flux. Boys and girls can now enter for A Levels, the International Baccalaureate, and the new Cambridge Pre-U. To balance the grades achieved under each style of assessment and produce a figure that reflects standard achievement is so complex as to make it virtually worthless.

And then there is the culinary model. As one parent put it so delightfully to me the other day, "One cannot produce the finest meal without the finest ingredients." He was, of course, referring to the academic quality of the intake, mainly in Year 9. Although I mentioned that one couldn't have the finest meal without the very finest chefs, he was really saying that the end exam result lacks value as a measure of the quality of the learning experience if it does not also identify the quality of the intake.

At Shrewsbury our Common Entrance pass mark is 55%, so our average of 82% As and Bs (and now A*s) at A Level represents terrific teaching and learning across the board, for both the academically crisp lettuce leaves in Set 1 as well as those slightly crinkly ones in the lower sets, for whom a good and stimulating education is equally important.

Last year 65 of our pupils gained 3 As or more at A Level – and that accounts for the top three crisp sets; 17 of them gained places at Oxford and Cambridge, an excellent number for a school

of our size, which shows even more clearly that genuine scholarship is alive and well at Shrewsbury. From the slightly crinklier sets, two boys who had barely scored the pass mark at Common Entrance, left with 3 As – and there was as much if not more joy for them and boys like them who exceed beyond expectation than for those who fly to the heights more easily. We're that sort of School – and the league tables don't tell you that.



Mary Sidney's House Play Review: 'Shakers' by John Godber and Jane Thornton

Wednesday 16 February 2011

SHAKERS

This was a thoughtful and thought-provoking piece - an inspired choice, expertly directed, produced and interpreted. From it we gather that life is not always as simple as we like to think it might be and that our most cherished plans can be thwarted by circumstances both in and out of our control.

Those who went to see it will have been reminded that the people who serve them in places like Shaker's Cocktail Bar are often there through no choice of their own, but because of the way the cards in their lives have been dealt. The interpretation by all the cast, both male and female roles, was spot on and maintained the dignity of the four main characters perfectly.

Ruth Hudson

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Biology Olympiad: Gold, Silver and Bronze medals for Salopians

Thursday 17 February 2011

In the 2011 British Biology Olympiad - a two hour examination - three Salopians took part, and were up against 2850 entrants from 337 schools.

Gold medals were awarded to 5% of these.

Silver medals were awarded to 10%.

Bronze medals were awarded to 15%.

We were delighted to hear today that all three of our entrants had won a medal:

Jonathan Tau (Rt) was awarded a gold medal.

Faiz Kipli (O) was awarded a silver medal.

Edward Barker (Rb) was awarded a bronze medal.

Congratulations to all three pupils.

Andrew Allott

(Head of Biology)

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Music Scholars' Morning Recital at The Wigmore Hall, London

Thursday 17 February 2011

The following report was kindly submitted by one of the parents in the audience.

On Tuesday morning a group of the school's music scholars performed at London's Wigmore Hall, the second time that Shrewsbury has put on a concert at this prestigious chamber music venue which regularly hosts the world's top musicians.

Members of the audience not connected to the school were heard to comment on the 'staggeringly high standard of playing', and this wonderful opportunity to showcase the school's talent to a wider audience will surely become an annual highlight of the music calendar.



Bentley Elocution Prizes, adjudicated by Robin Mouldsdale

Thursday 17 February 2011

The Bentley Elocution Prizes are awarded in memory of Thomas Bentley, who served the School for over fifty years and is commemorated by a window on the south side of the School Chapel. He may be described as the bridge between the Old and the New at Shrewsbury since he held the post of Punishment Master and introduced Modern Languages to the School.

Noted for his enthusiasm for reading and his fine voice (“When he read prayers at night, the whole School used to howl like a rising and a falling wind following the cadence of his voice”), Bentley introduced ‘Penny Readings’ in 1867, which may be regarded as the origin of the Bentley Elocution Competition.

The competitors’ voices in the 2011 competition rarely approached a howl, but the complexity of the poetry chosen for recitation, ranging from Shelley to Wallace Stevens, demanded a considerable variety of vocal, intellectual and emotional cadences. Twenty-three Salopians performed to a full house in The Maidment Building, including Robin Mouldsdale Esq., former athlete, teacher and housemaster extraordinaire, and this year’s guest-adjudicator.

We thank Robin sincerely for performing the impossible task of finding degrees among superlatives – that is, choosing the winners from among recitations of the highest technical skill and emotional intensity.



Old Salopians cycle the Freedom Challenge, South Africa, for charity

Thursday 17 February 2011

Two 2010 leavers, Sam Wilson (M) Kit Schutzer-Weissmann (PH), have just completed cycling The Freedom Challenge - an off road route covering the 2300km between Durban to Cape Town. It runs over the Drakensberg mountain range, through the wilderness of the Baviaanskloof and the desert of the Karoo. For more info see www.freedomchallenge.org.za. They made it into Cape Town on foot, with a sprained wrist and no gears!

In last week's missive, they wrote:

"Now a week's ride away from Cape Town, we have headed up the Drakensberg to Naudirs Nek at 2500m at night, with no brakes and 1 gear, through the wind and the rain. Heading through the Karoo with temperatures peaking at 40oC we were covering on average 100km by lunch time. We've run over a sleepy crocodile, been struck by lightning, and with 14 punctures and counting all is going beautifully!

We're riding for two very worthwhile charities...

The Blue Chair Charity set up at Shrewsbury School to raise money to cure leukemia (www.bluechairs.co.uk) and The Order of Malta Volunteers a charity run by young people to care for the sick, disabled and terminally ill (www.omv.org.uk)

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY! Anything from a pound to your legacy is welcome and enormously appreciated by both chairites. We would also feel that we are not sore for nothing! Donations can be made directly at <http://www.justgiving.com/Christopher-Schutzer-Weissmann0> or a cheque payable to 'Sam Wilson' and marked 'Kit and Sam Cycle Challenge ' 11 Shelley Road, Beechen Cliff, Bath BA2 4RJ - if you would like the charities to be able to claim Gift Aid, please sign and include your postcode.

*Many thanks for your support, its 'Lekker' as they say in SA"
Sam Wilson & Kit Schutzer-Weissmann*

Fives: Girls in the EFA Ladies Championships at Eton College

Sunday 20 February 2011

The girls competed in the EFT Ladies Championships at Eton on Sunday 20th February, alongside the Old Salopian Fives team who were playing in the final of the Barber Cup and the semi final of the EFA Trophy too.

Many congratulations to **Alice Brett** and **Lucy Rands** who reached the FINAL of the Plate and found themselves up against Old Salopian **Alice Walker** who was playing for Oxford University in the Second Pair. Alice (B) and Lucy lost narrowly, 15-14 to the Oxford pair.

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Art: One Man Exhibition: Tristan Francis (Art School)

Monday 28 February 2011

The second of the Solo Exhibitions from our artists in the Upper Sixth, this exhibition is a powerful collection of well selected pictures based on architectural forms and bridges. All the images are pared down to strong black and white shapes with a few boldly painted areas of colour. Tristan has been offered places at Newcastle and Manchester Universities to read Architecture.

The opening, as usual was well attended – staff, boys and girls and many people from the local community. It was particularly good to see Old Salopians and Ken Baskerville, Tristan's prep school art teacher and now deputy Head of Prestfelde Preparatory School.

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Fives: Kinnaird Cup results from Eton

Monday 28 February 2011

Our Seniors, Under 16 and Under 15 Fives squads spent the final weekend of half term competing in the Kinnaird Cup at Eton.

Many congratulations to **George Thomason** and **Jack Hudson Williams** for gaining a seeding (8th) in the National Open and progressing to the quarter-finals, where they were eventually defeated by the 1st seeds in the UK.

Jack Flowers and **Guy Williams** progressed through the 1st Round by beating Eton College 1, then lost in the 2nd Round before competing in a plate final, which they lost.