



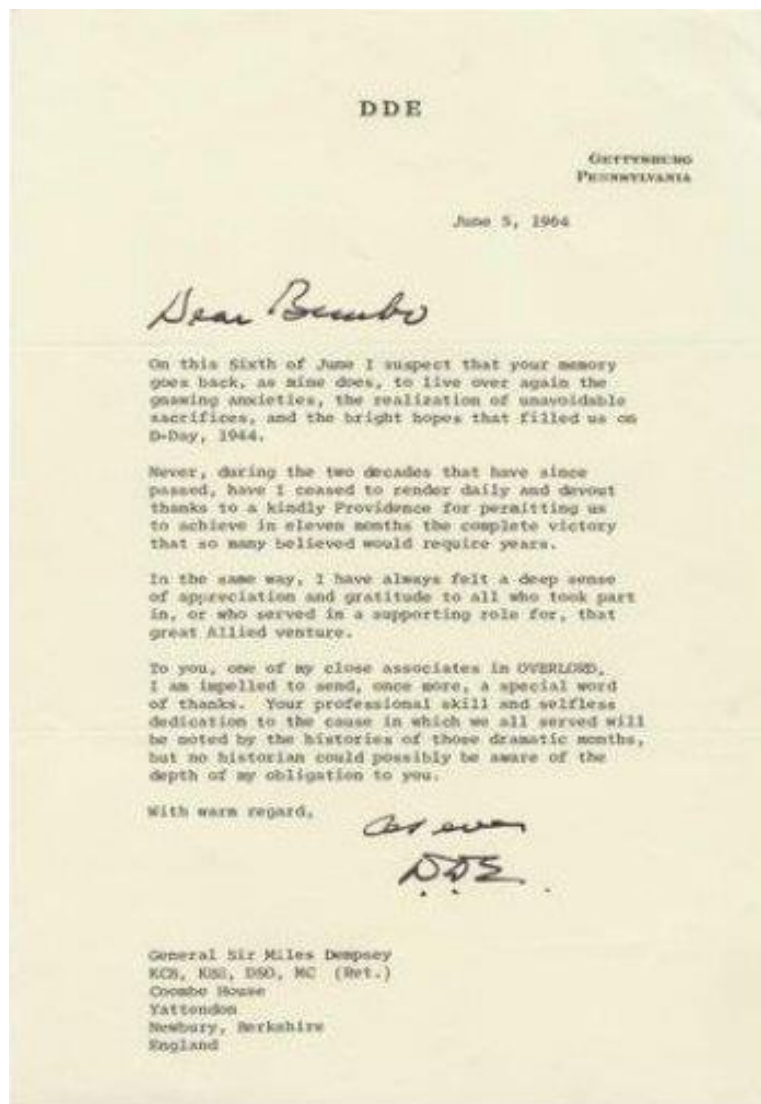
## Shrewsbury School and D-Day

Wednesday 5 June 2019

*Amidst the national commemorations to mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day, Salopians can feel proud of the fact that two former Shrewsbury School pupils played significant and influential parts in its ultimate success.*

***General Sir Miles Dempsey (I 1911-14) (whose 50th anniversary of death falls today, 5th June 2019) was Commander of the British Second Army and led them in the Normandy Invasion; and General Sir Bernard Paget (Ch 1901-06), Commander-in-Chief of the 21st Army Group, prepared and trained the British forces for the Normandy Invasion and planned D-Day.***

Fifty-five years ago, on the 20th anniversary of the Eve of D-Day in June 1964, the former American President Dwight D. Eisenhower wrote the following letter to Old Salopian, General Sir Miles Dempsey, Commander of the British Second Army, 1944-45:





*Dear Bimbo,*

*On this sixth of June I suspect that your memory goes back, as mine does, to live over again the gnawing anxieties, the realization of unavoidable sacrifices, and the bright hopes that filled us on D-Day, 1944. Never, during the two decades that have since passed, have I ceased to render daily and devout thanks to a kindly Providence for permitting us to achieve in eleven months the complete victory that so many believed would require years... To you, one of my closest associates in OVERLORD, I am impelled to send, once more, a special word of thanks. Your professional skill and selfless dedication to the cause in which we all served will be noted by the historians of those dramatic months, but no historian could possibly be aware of the depth of my obligation to you.*

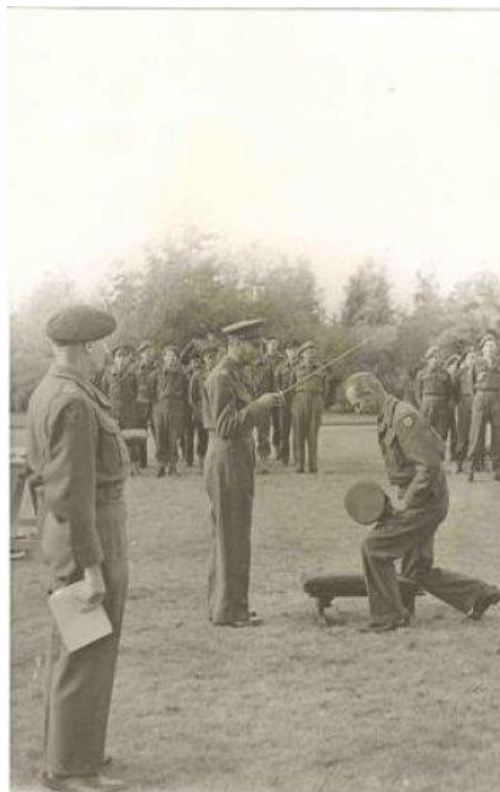
*With warm regard.*

*As ever,*

*DDE*

The letter is part of a collection of papers, diaries and photographs belonging to General Sir Miles Dempsey that were sold at auction in London in 2014, a few days before the 70th anniversary of D-Day. In an article published in *The Telegraph*, Judith Miller, Editor of the Miller's Antiques Price Guide, described her own excitement at finding the collection and recognising the hugely significant role played by Dempsey in the Normandy Invasion – made all the more compelling by the fact that Dempsey is, as his biographer Peter Roston readily points out, "almost unknown to the general public".

"Week-in, week-out I receive advance notice of forthcoming sales from auction houses in Britain, Europe and the United States," wrote Judith Miller. "Occasionally, however, something comes through that totally resonates, that engages my attention at the expense of all else and, in this particular case, made me actually rub my arms with excitement at the sheer historical gravitas of it...."



*General Dempsey being knighted on the battlefield by King George VI, 15th October 1944*



“Having played significant roles in the evacuation of Dunkirk, the North African campaign against Rommel, and the invasions of Sicily and Italy, Dempsey had been personally selected by General Bernard Montgomery to command the Second Army – the main British force, which also included Canadians – for the D-Day Landings, which began on the 6 June 1944.

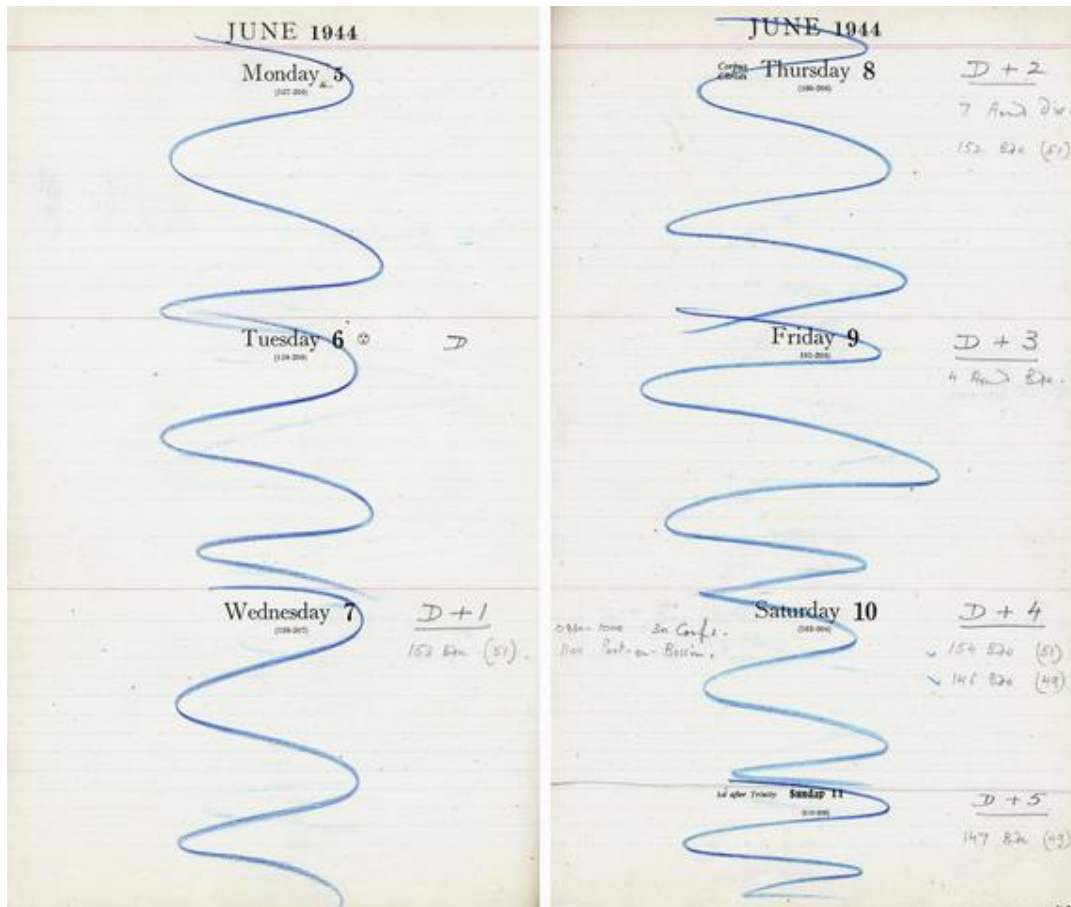
"Montgomery's proved an astute choice: successful assaults by the Second Army on the Gold, Juno, and Sword beaches on the Normandy coast, were followed by a war of attrition designed to capture the town of Caen, selflessly drawing in vital German units and firepower and, in so doing, allowing the Americans space to establish a bridgehead to the west and break out into northern France.

“The Second Army's subsequent rapid advance into Belgium, liberating Brussels and Antwerp in September, and prefacing Dempsey's battlefield knighthood in mid-October, was followed by the crossing of the Rhine on the 23 March 1945 – Dempsey being not only the first British Army commander to do so, but also by now – the Second Army having swelled to over half a million men – the commander of the largest British army in history.

“Compared to Patton, Bradley, Clark and, of course, Montgomery and Eisenhower, Dempsey has, outside of military circles, been something of an unsung hero of the liberation of Europe and the overthrow of Nazi Germany. This is in part due to the fact that, after the war, he never wrote any memoirs. But it is also due to a strong sense of modesty and propriety: on May 3 1945 a delegation of senior German officers representing General Keitel and Admiral Doenitz attempted to surrender the German army to him but, typically, he sent them instead to Montgomery, which led to the formal surrender the next day, the 4 May 1945, at Luneberg Heath.

“What is abundantly clear, however, from the collection of letters, and related diary and photographs... is the extent to which Dempsey's crucial role in one of the most momentous events in human history was appreciated by his superiors.”





General Dempsey's engagement diary, June 1944

Among Dempsey's papers was an Order of Service for "The Knight's Vigil Held On The Eve Of D-Day". Peter Rostron's biography of Dempsey opens with a description of that service, which had been arranged by Dempsey for the officers and men of Headquarters Second Army. As Rostron's description hints, the service perhaps also held for Dempsey – who left Shrewsbury in 1914 at the age of 17 – memories of the many occasions when he had gathered in the Chapel at Shrewsbury School with his fellow pupils, almost all of whom would, as he did, go straight from School into the trenches of the First World War.

"Dempsey, a devout Christian, called on his men, in the service known as "The Knight's Vigil", to dedicate to Almighty God the task which lay before them. Accompanied by his Chief of Staff and his Deputy, he led them in that evocative prayer which he had known thirty years before at Shrewsbury:

*"Teach us good Lord to serve Thee, as Thou deservest; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to ask for rest; to labour and not ask for any reward save that of knowing that we do Thy will".*

Rostron later goes on to describe the profound influence Revd Cyril Alington, Headmaster of Shrewsbury during Dempsey's years at the School, had on him: "It is to the effect of the young



and enormously energetic Alington's huge persona that the deep religious faith and upright, honourable character, which were to be Dempsey's throughout his life, may be largely attributed. As well as some photographs, Dempsey kept to the end of his life his cricketing records [he was captain of the 1st XI] and a collection of typed handouts on religious themes, such as an analysis of the Bible, from his time at Shrewsbury."



*Dempsey with fellow members of Shrewsbury School OTC, Field Day 1913*

But the story of Shrewsbury School's connection with D-Day at the most senior military level does not end with Dempsey. Shrewsbury can lay claim to another arguably even more influential – and certainly even more overlooked – hero of the Normandy Invasion.

During the months leading up to D-Day, Dempsey's commanding officer was General Sir Bernard Paget, who had been at Shrewsbury School from 1901 until 1906 and had, like Dempsey, then gone on to Sandhurst before serving with notable distinction in the First World War. (Paget won both the MC and the DSO, the highest military awards for bravery; Dempsey was awarded an MC in the First World War and the DSO in the Second.) Paget was Commander-in-Chief, Home Forces from the end of 1941 until July 1943, when he was promoted to General and assigned to form 21st Army group of 15 divisions – which included Dempsey's 2nd Army – in preparation for the Normandy Invasion.



*From the Imperial War Museum Archive: 42nd Armoured Division Exercise, Near Malton In Yorkshire, 29 September 1942. The Commander in Chief Home Forces, General Sir Bernard Paget, with the Division Commander, Major General M C Dempsey, DSO, MC, watching the exercise from a Crusader tank*



*From the Imperial War Museum Archive: The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Anthony Eden and the Commander in Chief Home Forces, General Sir Bernard Paget watching the 42nd Armoured Division exercises*

Paget spent the next months not only building and preparing the forces for the Normandy Invasion, but planning the Invasion itself. “Shortly after Paget’s death, papers which he had refused to allow to be published disclosed details of operation ‘Skyscraper’, prepared by him in the spring of 1943 as a detailed study of the proposed invasion of north-western Europe. It was described as ‘a blueprint for the D-Day operations of 1944; there were the same beaches, and the same objectives, while the problems of an opposed landing had all been fully assessed... the first key plan of the invasion.’” (Oxford Dictionary of National Biography)

The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography says of Paget that “he may go down in history as the greatest trainer of British soldiers since Sir John Moore”. Yet despite having commanded the 21st Army Group throughout the preparation for the invasion of Europe, the role of Commander-in-Chief for leading the combined forces onto the beaches of Normandy in Overlord on 6th June 1944 was taken from Paget’s grasp. Instead it was given to General Montgomery, who had been with Paget at Sandhurst, fresh from his successful campaigns in North Africa and Italy and widely feted and celebrated in the press as ‘the conquering hero’.

It was a decision that General Brooke, the Chief of the Imperial General Staff found very difficult: “The replacement of Paget with Montgomery for the liberation of France was a matter which was causing me much anxiety. Since the threat of invasion had lapsed, Paget had been placed in command of the forces in this country destined ultimately for the cross-channel operations. He had done a marvellous job in training up these forces, and I wish it had been possible to leave him in command for D-Day.”



*L to r: Field Marshal Alan Brooke, Minister of War Sir James Grigg and General Bernard Paget*

Paget was, naturally, bitterly disappointed. However, in what many would argue is true Salopian style, he got on with the alternative job he was given in the Middle East and he never once expressed his disappointment publicly. As his son and biographer Julian describes in the preface to the biography of his father he wrote in 2008, “He was a man of exceptional modesty, and he firmly refused to write his own memoirs, or allow anyone else to do it. He was determined not to join ‘The War of the Generals’ with each setting out to promote their own claim to fame.... As a result, little has been written about his achievements.... In accordance with my father’s wishes, I have tried to avoid any criticism of others, or to cause controversy. I have not sought to resolve the rights and wrongs of various controversial issues in which he was involved, but have stated the situation seen by my father at the time, and have left it to readers to make their own judgements.”

Julian Paget leaves two of his father’s best friends to sum up his achievements. The Rt Hon Sir James Grigg, who was Secretary of State from 1943 to 1945, wrote: “It was on his creation of what was possibly the finest British Army of all time that I base the assertion that Paget rendered matchless service to the state. Mr Churchill once referred to Montgomery as ‘that great Cromwellian soldier’. I thought then and I think now that the epithet applied much more fittingly to Paget.”



The second quote chosen by Julian to conclude his biography of his father is by the author Sir Arthur Bryant, who co-founded the Ashridge College of Citizenship with Paget in 1946: “The nobility and selflessness of the man were apparent to everyone who worked with him. By many of those who knew him, he will be remembered as the supreme embodiment of what a British soldier should be – a man of rocklike character, high moral and physical courage, unfaltering in obedience and in the performance of his duty, yet always eager to encourage initiative in others. Throughout his career he has been guided.... by a deep, religious faith and a crusader’s sense of mission. Such men arouse love and loyalty in those who serve under them, and leave behind an abiding impress.”

The qualities Bryant most admires in Paget might also be described as the epitome of a ‘true Salopian’, and it is fitting that his tribute was published in *The Salopian* magazine, June 1960.

Paget devoted a large part of his later life to the cause of adult education in citizenship, which he saw as being vital for the ‘winning of the peace’. “If we are to win the peace and establish a better world as a result of this war, we must maintain in peace those qualities which made us great in war, and are the redeeming feature of war. We must learn to put things first; duty before self-interest, and we must have high moral purpose and belief in ourselves and our Destiny.”



*General Sir Bernard Paget inspecting the Shrewsbury School CCF, 1943*





This quote is from a speech Paget gave at Shrewsbury School in 1943 – a year when he might have been forgiven for being unable to spare the time to return to his alma mater to give a talk and inspect the CCF. Like Dempsey's visit to inspect the School CCF in 1945, their readiness to return – as both of them continued to do during the rest of their lives - demonstrates the importance Shrewsbury School had for both of them.



*General Sir Miles Dempsey inspecting the Shrewsbury School CCF, 1945*

In 1948, Paget formally unveiled the School's memorial to the Salopians killed during the Second World War. This memorial is the curved stone wall positioned behind the statue of Sir Philip Sidney, the School's other great military hero, which serves as a memorial to all those Salopians – contemporaries of both Paget and Dempsey – killed in the First World War.



*General Sir Bernard Paget at the unveiling of Shrewsbury School's WWII memorial, 1948*



## Junior Essay Prize 2019

Thursday 6 June 2019

*This week saw the much anticipated announcement of this year's Junior Essay Prize competition...*



Dr David Gee, schoolmaster at Shrewsbury for over 50 years, kindly agreed to be this year's judge and received six anonymous shortlisted scripts over the recent Exeat.

Covering a wide range of syllabus extension areas from elite sport, journeys to Mars and responses to poetry, Dr Gee was suitably impressed with the craft and quality of this year's essays.

Many congratulations to Eustacia Feng (M 4) for being chosen as this year's winning entry. Eustacia will receive her prize on Speech Day alongside the other school academic prizewinners.

*Mr Mackridge*



## School Firsts

Thursday 6 June 2019

*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 have been given the coveted award this term for their exceptional contributions to School life in non-sporting activities:

**For their outstanding leadership of and contributions to the Bastille Society:**

Libby Hedges and Ebrahim Jamshid

**For her exceptional contributions to School Drama:**

Eleanor Niblett

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

Matthew Tsang and Felix Jebb

# Senior Girls' Quad win Silver at National Schools' Regatta

Friday 7 June 2019

*A new chapter in the annals of the Royal Shrewsbury School Boat Club, as the girls now join the boys in reaching the podium at the highest national level.*

The National Schools' Regatta took place at Dorney Lake over three days from the 24th - 26th May. The Boat Club took various crews to the event, which began with elimination time trials followed by semi-finals and finals. The time trials saw crews racing over 1,900 metres, with the top 12 crews in most events going through to a side-by-side race.

The J15 girls' quad were the only RSSBC crew to race on the Friday and faced a formidable challenge by taking on 67 other crews to qualify. The girls put in a strong performance, coming in 18th and securing a spot in the C final. This was a closely fought affair, with the girls coming in 6th.



*J16A VIII*

On Saturday, eight Shrewsbury crews raced. The time trial results saw the 1st VIII come 3rd of 28, the 2nd VIII 1st of 12, the J16 VIII 9th of 18, the J15A VIII 10th of 25, the J15B VIII 15th of 21, the Girls' J15 VIII 14th of 25, the Senior Girls' Coxed Four 16th of 19 and a Senior Girls' double 16th of 50.



*1st VIII*



The 1st VIII came 4th in the A Final, missing out on bronze in a photo finish. The 2nd VIII also came in 4th in their A final. The J15A VIII won their B Final, and the J16 VIII came third in their B Final.



*J15A VIII*

On Sunday, four Shrewsbury crews raced: the Senior Girls' top boat making their first appearance at the Regatta; the 1st VIII split into coxed and coxless fours; and the J16s racing in a coxless four.



*Senior Boys' Coxless Four*

All four boats progressed from the time trial into the side-by-side racing, with the Girls' 1st Quad making a strong statement by coming first in the time trial out of 40 crews. The girls built on this performance to control their semi-final and come in first, putting themselves in a strong position for the final.

The Girls' Championship Quads is arguably one of the most prestigious events at the regatta, along with Boys' Championship Eights, with the top programmes using the event in preparation and hopeful selection for Henley Royal Regatta. All six crews that qualified for the final were within three seconds of each other across the two semi-finals.



The Shrewsbury Quad made a strong start in the final and set up a long and powerful rhythm that held them in the top three through the first three timing marks, just off the fast-starting Gloucester Hartpury crew and in a tight battle with Henley Rowing Club. Both those clubs have been dominating the junior girls' rowing season in recent years, with Gloucester Hartpury having won three of the last four Henley titles.

In the closing stages of the race, Shrewsbury held their form excellently and staved off challenges from Headington School and Tideway Scullers. A boat-stopping crab in the Gloucester boat in the last few strokes saw them drop from first to fourth as Henley claimed gold and Shrewsbury silver.



The result in the context of Shrewsbury's rowing history is significant and sets the girls up fantastically for an assault on the Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cup and Henley. The result not only placed them as the top school crew in the event but, along with the 1st VIII's performance in the Championships Eights, places Shrewsbury School as arguably the top co-educational rowing school in the country.

The Senior Boys' coxless four came 6th in the A Final, the coxed four were 2nd in the B Final, and the J16 coxless four came 5th in the B Final.

*Athol Hundermark*  
*Director of Rowing*

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



# Senior and Junior Essay Prize Competitions

Friday 7 June 2019

*The winners of both the Senior and Junior Essay Prize competitions have been announced...*

Air Marshal Sir Michael Simmons (DB 1950-55), one of the architects of the Richard Hillary Essay Medal Competition in memory of RAF fighter pilot and author of *The Last Enemy*, Richard Hillary (Ch 1931-37), visited the School last month to meet this year's winner, Anna Cowan (MSH), and the two runners-up, Lara Gabbitas (EDH) and Alexander Sparkes (I).

The essay prize on a single word topic (this year 'challenge') was judged by Graham Hoyland, adventurer, mountaineer and author of *Last Hours on Everest* about the fatal ascent of George Mallory and Sandy Irvine (WHM 1916-21).

# Historic moment for Shrewsbury School Cricket

Friday 7 June 2019

*Two exciting firsts for Shrewsbury School cricketers this week: Issy Wong became the first girl to play for the Boys' 1st XI; and Harry Cooke took two (yes, two) hat-tricks for Shropshire CCC U15s.*



Playing against Myerscough College on Wednesday 5th June, Issy contributed to a 7-wicket victory for Shrewsbury with two wickets of her own – the first a stunning yorker that sent the batsman's leg-stump flying, and the second setting up a fine catch by Peter Clark.







“It came as no surprise that Issy was selected, on merit, for the Shrewsbury School 1st X1,” said Teacher in Charge of Cricket, Andy Barnard. “Her progress over the past year has been phenomenal.”

The following day, Fifth Former Harry Cooke had an outstanding match playing for the Shropshire CCC U15s against Herefordshire. Remarkably, he took not just one but two hat-



tricks, part of a spell that saw him take eight wickets for just six runs. Prior to that he had also scored 61 runs. A day to remember.

"Harry has had an impressive start to the summer following a winter of hard work," said Cricket Professional and 1st XI Coach Adam Shantry. His commitment to the off-season programme, concluding with the incredibly worthwhile Easter tour to Cape Town has paid dividends, and he deserves his success.

"He has already enjoyed opportunities to opening both the batting and the bowling at 1st team level, and will be given many more chances to develop further."



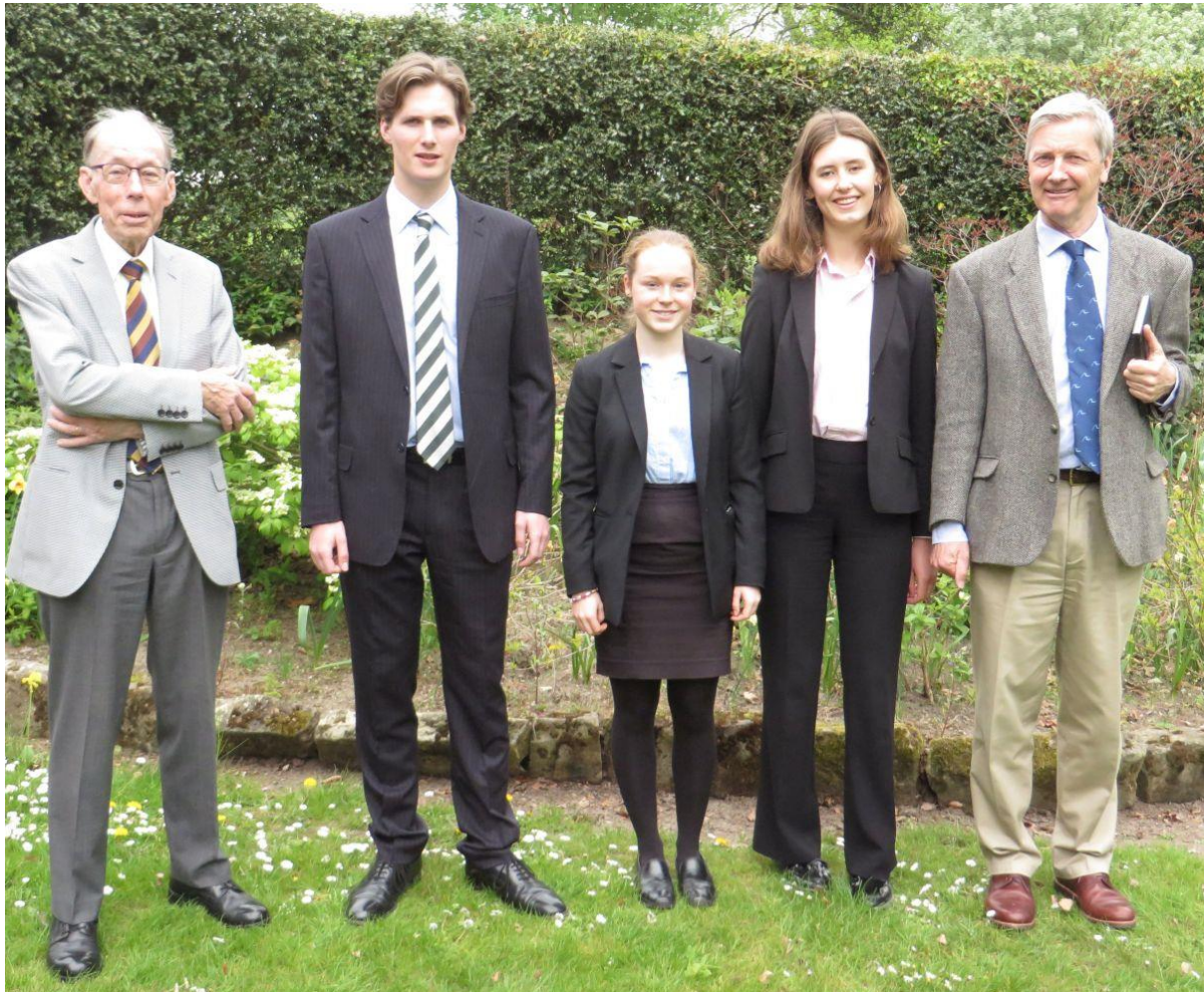
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Covering a wide range of syllabus extension areas from elite sport, journeys to Mars and responses to poetry, Dr Gee was suitably impressed with the craft and quality of the essays.

Congratulations to Eustacia Feng (M 4) for being chosen as this year's winning entry and to Will Singleton (R 3, Runner-up), Kate Woodman (M 3, Third place) and Mew Hansiriphan (O 4), Poppy Stephens (MSH 4), Georgina Cooper (G 4), whose essays were all shortlisted.



Eustacia and Anna will receive their prizes on Speech Day alongside the other school academic prizewinners.



# Mrs Peak's SwimRun Challenge for the Shewsy

Friday 7 June 2019

*In her own words, Mrs Peak will be going so far outside her comfort zone to raise funds for the School's youth club in Liverpool this Saturday "that she may not come back".*



She will be taking part in the Great North SwimRun – a 12km cross-country course alternating running around and swimming through Lake Windermere. *(And the weather forecast is currently "heavy rain and strong, gusting winds"...)*

"This is the first time I have ever attempted anything like this. As a teacher I constantly tell young people that they learn from pushing themselves out of their comfort zones.... I'm practising what I preach and I'm so scared. What will I learn?"

She would be very grateful for any donations to help spur her on her way as she "tries to make a small difference to a wonderful youth centre with tremendous young people and staff at its heart".

The link to her online donations page is: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/annapeak1>

## The Genius of Leonardo

Monday 10 June 2019

*Figure studies, maps, engineering and weapon designs, architectural plans, anatomical drawings – all these aspects feature in the Exhibition of Leonardo drawings at The Queen's Gallery.*



Unsurprisingly, the offer of a private Salopian tour and talk by Desmond Shawe-Taylor (I 1968-73), Surveyor of The Queen's Pictures, on Thursday 6th June was fully subscribed. Those attending were left to wonder at the genius of Leonardo reflected in his drawings, taken from an album acquired by Charles II.

Our thanks again to Desmond Shawe-Taylor for yet another *tour de force*.





## Record number of Shrewsbury School athletes qualify for the Mason Trophy

Wednesday 12 June 2019

*Despite persistent rain, our Athletics Squad were in tremendous form at the County Schools Championships in Telford on Saturday 8th June.*

Well done to all 28 athletes who competed, and particular congratulations to the nine who qualified to represent Shropshire in the Mason Trophy (Midlands Championships), which will be held at Alexandra Stadium in Birmingham on Saturday 15th June:

- Ben W – 1500m
- Francesca Harris – 1500m
- Harrison Cutler – 1500m
- Will S – 1500m
- Kitty S-P 75m – Hurdles
- Fadi Masri-Kayalif – High Jump
- Tom Jackson – 1500m Steeplechase
- Ed Forde-Johnston – 1500m Steeplechase
- Irina Liniger – 100m and 200m



*Will Singleton and Ben Weston after finishing 1st and 2nd in the 1500m*



# Sidney-Darwin Dash and Quarter-Mile Challenge 2019

Thursday 13 June 2019

*A large crowd gathered on Top Common after Chapel on Sunday 9th June to cheer on the runners in the finals of the Inter-House Sidney-Darwin Dash and Quarter-Mile Challenge.*

Full results will be published on the website shortly, but highlights included:

Lillian Wilcox (EDH) doing the double and winning the Senior Girls' Sidney-Darwin Dash and Quarter-Mile Challenge – the first time this feat has been achieved.



Toby Pegge (PH) retaining his Senior Boys' Quarter-Mile Challenge title from last year.



Matt Brinkley making it a Porthill double by winning the Senior Boys' Sidney-Darwin Dash in a thrilling photo finish.





Jonny Price (I) almost doing the double, having dominated the Junior Boys' Quarter-Mile Challenge from the start. He was pipped on the line by Henry Lees (Rb) in the Junior Boys' Sidney-Darwin Dash.



A Grove double in the Junior Girls' races: Irina Liniger (G) was impressive in the Junior Girls' Sidney-Darwin Dash, and Jemima Gee (G) pipped Eva H (G) to the line to win the Quarter-Mile Challenge.



Well done to all runners.

Thank you to Dr Case for the photos and to Film Fellow David Clifford for capturing the high-octane atmosphere of the event on film. It's introduced by Abi Watkinson (MSH U6) and Tom Jackson (R L6), who explain the history of the races.

## Shewsy Visit to Shrewsbury School

Friday 14 June 2019

*On Sunday 9th June, we welcomed 30 young people and staff from Shrewsbury House ('The Shewsy'), our youth club in Everton, Liverpool.*



Joined by ten ladies and gentlemen of Mary Sidney Hall and School House respectively, our Shewsy visitors enjoyed a tough game of bubble football, proved skilfull at tag archery, created a wonderful art mural under the guidance of our inspiring Art Department, and took to the water for a canoeing session on the River Severn. (To claim that everyone stayed dry would be a lie - the river was too tempting...!)



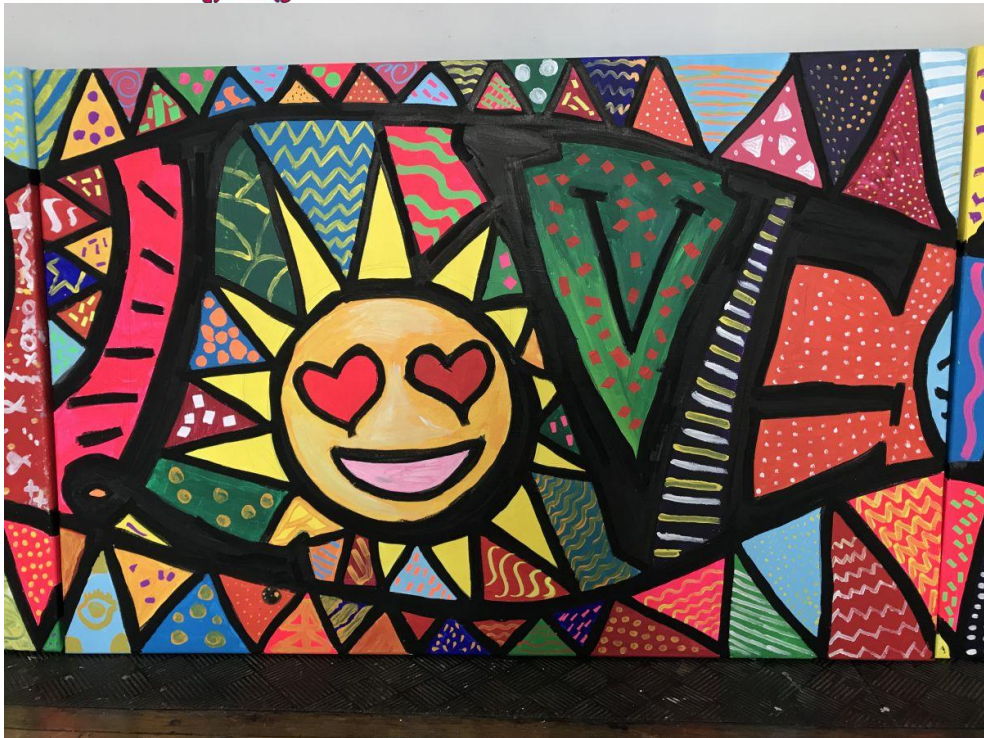


'People matter more than things' - the Shewsy motto says it all, and despite the many activities, what mattered most were the many smiles and the laughter coming from Evertonians and Salopians alike.

*Mrs Russell*











## Our Summer Reads 2019

Friday 14 June 2019

*For many people the long days of Summer provide the ideal opportunity for some well-earned reading time. We asked staff and pupils to share their Summer reading wish-lists...*

As usual they didn't let us down.

In this booklet we share the books that friends and colleagues will be reading this Summer. The result is a wonderfully enticing and eclectic mix of books.

If you didn't already have a "to read" pile ... you will now!

*Jo Elliot, Head Librarian*

*"A writer only begins a book  
A reader finishes it"*  
Samuel Johnson

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Email: [library@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:library@shrewsbury.org.uk)  
@MoserLibrary  
<http://intranet.shrewsbury.org.uk/library>

"One benefit of Summer was that each day we had  
more light to read by"  
*The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls

# OUR SUMMER READS 2019

## Summer Organ Recitals bring a glimpse of summer amidst the rain

Monday 17 June 2019

*This year's Summer Organ Recitals have blasted off with suitable fanfare, fizz and a fond farewell.*

On 5th June, Alex Mason played out his final recital as Director of Chapel Music before his move to Lancing College as Director of Music, with some beautifully judged Bach, Couperin, Howells, Vierne, Jongen and Walton's ever popular *Crown Imperial*. The recital finished with a creative and affecting improvisation on the theme from *Dambusters March* – suggested by a member of the audience and an apt meditation as the nation commemorated the sacrifices of D-Day, 75 years on.



The following week it was the turn of the pupils with excellent performances by Arthur Hope Barton (I), Rohan McCourt (Rt) and Ivan Leong (SH) of music by Bach, Langlais, Karg-Elert and Mathias amongst others. Ivan gave a lyrical account of Bach's chorale prelude *Ich ruf zu dir* and Rohan McCourt produced a rousing interpretation of *Fanfare* by Mathias. Next up was Arthur Hope Barton with a stylish account of Bach's *Fantasia in G minor*. He also closed the concert with a virtuosic rendition of 'Te Deum' by Langlais.

The series finished this week with a recital by international concert organist Henry Fairs, which included works by Schumann, Vierne and Rachmaninov.

*Mr Fraser-Andrews*



## Athletics: Mason Trophy

Monday 17 June 2019

*Despite competing in torrential rain, the Salopian athletes representing Shropshire at the Mason Trophy (the Regional Athletics Finals) in Birmingham last Saturday were on top form.*

A record number of seven Salopian athletes competed. (Nine were selected but not all could attend.)

Ben W (R) had a fantastic run at his first Mason Trophy coming third in a PB of 4.32.56 in the 1500m. He still has another year completing at this age group!

Kitty S-P (M) finished third in her 75m Hurdles heat in a flawless run, finishing overall in 9th with 12.33. This weekend she is competing in the Regional Finals Combined

Events: [County Schools Junior Girls Combined Events Champion](#). Good luck!



Harrison Cutler (R) had another good run in the 1500m and another PB of 4.30.41 to finish 17th.

Fadi Masri-Kayalif (SH) had a solid afternoon in the high jump, coming 2nd and taking the silver medal with a jump of 1.75m.



Francesca Harris (EDH) came fifth in the Inter Girls 1500m - a strong performance in a competitive field and in the midst of sitting her GCSEs.

In the 1500m steeplechase Tom Jackson (R) finished 4th in a time of 4.49.03 and Ed Forde-Johnston (O) finished 13th in 5.48.27. *(They are pictured respectively right and left below.)*



Tom has now been selected to represent Shropshire at the English Schools Track and Field Championships in Birmingham on the 12th/13th July – a major achievement. He will be competing in the 1500m steeplechase.

Shrewsbury

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# Schools and Universities Polo Association (SUPA) National Championships

Tuesday 18 June 2019

*Two teams represented Shrewsbury at the Senior Schools National Championships this year at the prestigious setting of the Black Bears Polo Club near Henley in Oxfordshire.*



It was excellent to be able to field two competitive teams at such an illustrious ground and both teams acquitted themselves very well.

When congratulating the A Team (Milo Herbert, Ned Moreau, Ben Henderson and Dylan Griffith), three of whom were playing in their last ever match for Shrewsbury, their coach Glynn Henderson said he had never coached a school team of this quality and ability before and stressed how proud he was of the way they had played and conducted themselves during the tournament.

They finished in a highly contested intermediate section, only conceding one goal all day. They beat a vastly more experienced Millfield side and drew against Cheltenham in the opening match, Dylan Griffith the youngest member of the team scoring an amazing goal from half way down the pitch at full gallop.

Milo Herbert overcame the handicap of breaking one of his stirrup leathers in the match against Heathfield to ensure that the team again had a respectable draw with one goal apiece to both teams.

The B team of Oscar Hamilton Russell, Luke Russell, Jonty Gould and Bilal Anwar were mighty contenders in the Novice division, sweeping all before them to beat D'Overbroecks in the final, after beating Rugby (twice in two different chukkas) and Stowe on their march to the final.

All the boys were a credit to the school, brilliantly organising and managing the ponies during the day.



## Charlotte qualifies for Horse of the Year Show

Wednesday 19 June 2019

*Congratulations to Charlotte Hollinshead (G 5), who has achieved her dream of qualifying to compete at the Horse of the Year Show.*



*Successfully clearing the wide water jump. Not many other horses made it.*

The Horse of the Year Show is the most famous and prestigious horse show in the equestrian calendar and takes place in October at the NEC in Birmingham.

Charlotte and her pony Alena's Ennistymon qualified for the event in style by jumping a triple clear in the Second Rounds of the Foxhunter course at Keysoe in Bedfordshire and finishing in third place against strong competition.

# Shrewsbury Higher Education Week

Thursday 20 June 2019

*This week, Fifth and Sixth Formers took part in a cornucopia of university-related events.*



Alongside several sessions taking the Lower Sixth through making a successful UCAS application, on Wednesday Shrewsbury hosted its biennial European Universities Conference.

Though the B-word casts something of a shadow of doubt over funding, the amazing opportunities offered by studying in Europe were revealed. David Hawkins, a real university guru of all things international, provided an excellent overview of the benefits of thinking globally for education.

Representatives from the European Universities Consortium and two Dutch universities then went through the possibilities on offer at their institutions, where the teaching style may suit Salopians more than a traditional British lecture format.

Capping off the event, Ben Ambrose from Medical Doorway discussed how studying at some of Europe's top medical schools could inspire the next generation.







On Thursday, the Fifth Form had a US universities brunch, where Miss May (a Princeton alumna) and I offered an introduction to what America has to offer. As one of the few schools in the country that provides free SAT training, it is an exciting prospect.

On Friday, over 20 Old Salopians returned to offer their insights into their courses and universities in what was the first event of its kind. From Business to Medicine, History to Psychology, a wide range of courses were represented, as well as universities from Edinburgh to Bath, Dublin to Oxford. We are most grateful to the OS for giving up their time to help the next cohort make informed decisions.

*Mr Percival*

*Higher Education Adviser*

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The final edition for this academic year of the weekly Futures Bulletin can be downloaded here: [Futures Bulletin, 21st June 2019](#).

Follow the Futures Department on Twitter [@shrewsfutures](#)



## Midsummer Moments at Shepherd's Bush

Thursday 20 June 2019

*What's not to like?*

The Saracens playing cricket at Shepherd's Bush, a free bar and an on-ground barbecue all on a balmy midsummer's evening. In modern parlance, what's not to like?

About 100 Salopians gathered at Shepherd's Bush Cricket Club on Thursday 20th June to witness a thrilling tied match between the Saracens and the home club, after which the party went long into the night. Particular thanks for due to Will Speer (G 90-92), Chairman of Shepherd's Bush CC and to James Kidson (O 03-08) for their help in organising the event. A repeat next year we hope!



## English Schools Track and Field Championships selection

Friday 21 June 2019

*Congratulations to Tom Jackson (R L6), who has been selected to represent Shropshire at the English Schools Track and Field Championships - an impressive achievement.*



This is a great achievement and a rich reward for Tom's impressive recent performances in the Mason Trophy (see report: [Mason Trophy 2019](#)) and Shropshire Schools Championships - and for the dedication and many hours of hard work he has devoted to his training.

He will be competing in the 1500m Steeplechase at the Championships, which take place at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham on 12th and 13th July.

## Third Form WW1 Battlefields Tour

Friday 21 June 2019

*It all started on a very cold, dark and wet Thursday morning at 4.15 am... Thank you to George for his account of the Third Form Battlefields Tour.*



We all proceeded to the ferry and smoothly crossed into France. Here was where we picked up our fabulous tour guide, Mike. From there we went to have some food and see the Menin Gate.

After supper, despite the rain, which seemed to follow us from Shropshire, we attended the service where the Last Post was played and poppy wreaths were placed. That service has been happening every day since 1927 (excluding 1940-45, due to World War Two).

The second day was much milder, and the sun came out as we visited The Canadian Vimy Memorial, The Somme battlefield, Thiepval, the Lochnagar Mine Crater and the deep tunnels of Arras.

We drove further into France in the morning and saw the spectacle that was the Vimy memorial to dead Canadian soldiers. The statue of Mother Canada mourning the loss of her children was quite humbling.

When we later arrived at the battlefield of the Somme, we saw some genuine Allied trenches and walked the same walk they had done on 1st July 1916 to the German front line. The memorial at

Thiepval was also very humbling, and we learnt the backstories of some of the students from Shrewsbury School whose names were inscribed on the walls.



We also had a small service of our own, when Sam U (S) read a poem by Revd Cyril Alington, previous Headmaster of Shrewsbury, and Emma C (MSH) placed a poppy wreath to commemorate the soldiers that fell at the Somme.





A slightly lighter visit to the Lochnagar Mine Crater followed. But even this gave us the knowledge that German soldiers here were sent 5000m into the air and were disintegrated. The shockwaves from this were felt in Coventry.

Finally, to end the day we went 20 metres underground in the city of Arras, where Allied troops waited for days before triumphing at the Battle of Arras, in April 1917.

We concluded our trip on Saturday. We went to Langemark Cemetery where over 40,000 Germans are buried. There was a stark contrast between the Allied cemeteries and the German one we visited. Due to many reasons, Germany simply couldn't afford great monuments to honour their dead.

The trip finally ended with a mass raid of a chocolate shop in Belgium.

*George S-D (O 3)*

# Midsummer Moments at Shepherd's Bush

Monday 24 June 2019

*The Saracens playing cricket at Shepherd's Bush, a free bar, and an on-ground barbecue, all on a balmy midsummer's evening. In modern parlance, what's not to like?*



About 100 Salopians gathered at Shepherd's Bush Cricket Club on Thursday 20th June to witness a thrilling tied match between the Saracens and the home club, after which the party went long into the night.

Particular thanks are due to Will Speer (G 1990-92), Chairman of Shepherd's Bush CC, and to James Kidson (O 2003-08) for their help in organising the event.

A repeat next year, we hope!



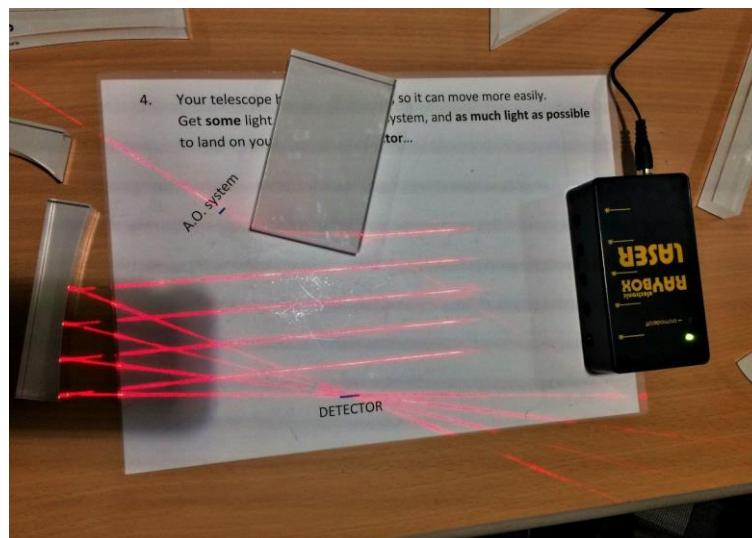
# Signals from Outer Space – the Third Form visit Jodrell Bank

Tuesday 25 June 2019

*Dr Elliot (Head of Astronomy) and the rest of the Physics Department were delighted to take the Third Form to visit the Lovell Radio Telescope at the Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre this week.*



The day involved attending two workshops taught by Planetary Scientists from Manchester University on 'Exoplanets' and 'the Invisible Universe', visiting the interactive exhibitions and the exhibits around the base of the Telescope itself.







The 'Whispering Dishes' were very popular!



*Can you hear us?*



*We can hear you!*

The Lovell Radio Telescope received signals catching the moment when the Apollo 11 astronauts landed on the Moon almost exactly 50 years ago.

Our own intrepid explorers had to cope with 'radio silence' for the whole day as all mobile phones on site have to remain in 'airplane mode' so they do not affect the signals coming from Outer Space.

*Dr J. Pattenden*





## Historic first as four Salopian crews qualify for Henley Regatta

Wednesday 26 June 2019

*An exciting and historic moment for the RSSBC – and possibly a first for any school – as our 1st VIII, 2nd VIII, Senior Girls' Quad and Sabrina alumni VIII all compete at Henley Royal Regatta.*

On Wednesday 3rd July, the 2nd VIII will race in the Temple Cup, the 1st VIII will race in the Princess Elizabeth Cup and Sabrina will race in the Thames Cup. A full timetable for the day's racing can be found on the Henley Regatta website: <https://www.hrr.co.uk/racing-timetable>

The Senior Girls' Quad will race in the Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cup.



# Looking forward to Medic Malawi 2020

Thursday 27 June 2019

*Plans are now underway for the next Shrewsbury School / Shewsy trip to Medic Malawi in July 2020.*



In assemblies last week, the Fourth and Fifth Forms learned about the partnership between the community of Mtunthama (central Malawi) and 'Medic Malawi', which funds projects in the area.

Next summer, a group of Salopians and members of the Shewsy Youth Club in Liverpool will spend two weeks in Malawi, visiting and learning about the various projects (including St Andrew's hospital, nutrition centre, Amao orphanage, and the eye clinic which is sponsored by Shrewsbury School). There will be opportunities to fundraise for the charity in advance, and to see how these funds are put to use.

Now a popular and well-established trip, any pupil who wishes to get involved or wants further information should contact Mrs Temple ([lrt@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:lrt@shrewsbury.org.uk)).

Closing date for expressions of interest: **Friday 27th September 2019** (start of Coach Weekend)

Trip dates: 29th June – 15th July 2020

Cost: TBC (approx. £2750)

Website: [www.medicmalawi.org](http://www.medicmalawi.org)

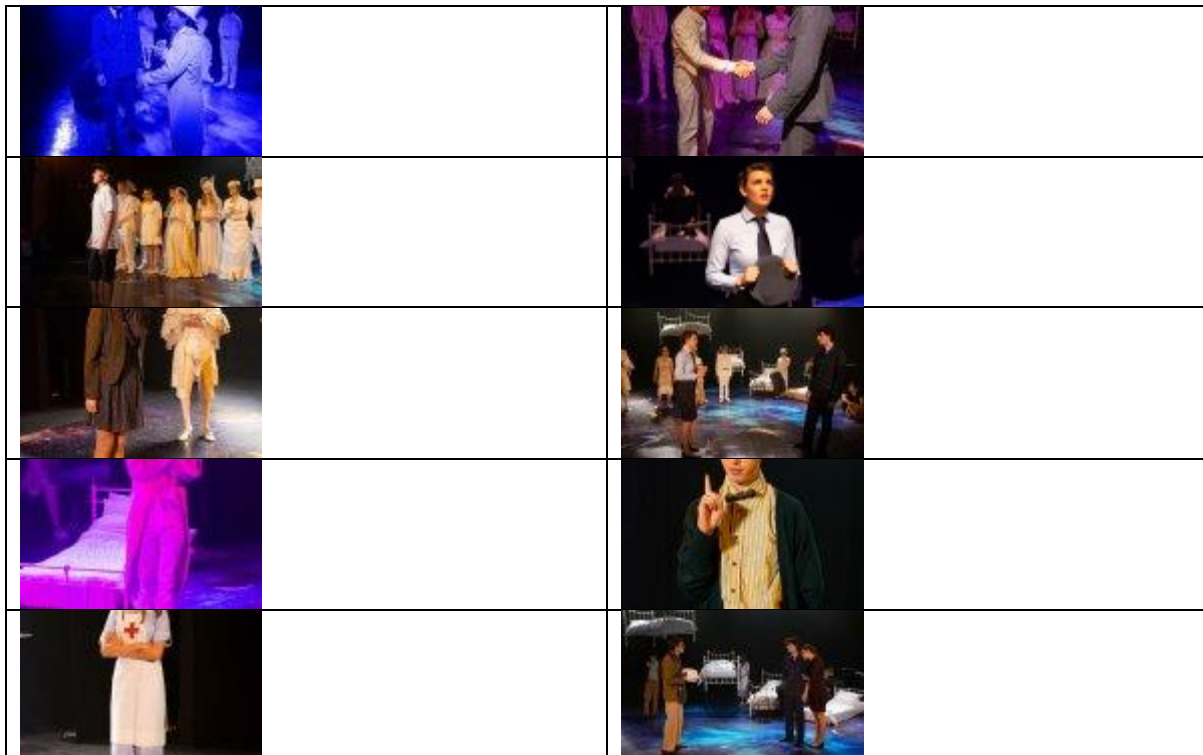
To read an account of the last Shrewsbury School / Shewsy visit to Medic Malawi in July 2018, please follow the link: [Medic Malawi 2018](#)



# Salopian Week Play: 'A Matter of Life and Death' - photo gallery

Thursday 27 June 2019

*A selection of photos from this year's powerful Salopian Week Play, 'A Matter of Life and Death' by Emma Rice.*





# Personal and Social Development workshops and lectures

Thursday 27 June 2019

*During the post-exam period, two highly rated speakers and two thought-provoking workshops have focused pupils' minds on a broad range of issues, including gender equality, addiction, ethics in relationships and inflating our balloons of self-belief.*

James Shone from the charity I Can and I Am spoke inspirationally to four different year groups on the topic of “Inflating our Balloons of Self-belief”.



Following a 16-year teaching career and having been offered a job as Headmaster in 2012, James was diagnosed with a brain tumour. Following 27 hours of brain surgery, James unfortunately lost the majority of his sight. James showed us how he embodies a positive attitude to life and a determination to turn setbacks into springboards. In his talks he aimed to inspire confidence in every individual to enable them to know who they are and what they are able to do, rather than focusing on what they can't.

Patrick Foster shared his journey about a severe addiction to gambling with Fifth Form and Lower Sixth in an emotional, gritty and enthralling talk “**Before the Fun Stops, Stop**”. Having heard about his high-profile boarding school days, his professional cricket career, a solid university experience and then his glamorous job in London, we then learned about how things unravelled and spiralled out of control in his new career teaching at a prep school. He discussed some of the problems and the isolation that can occur with gambling addiction and many other manifestations of addictions.



James Shone and Patrick Foster related extremely well to Salopians, having both had successful backgrounds at schools very similar to Shrewsbury. We are very grateful to them for speaking so



frankly, discussing their successes as well as giving candid first-hand stories about how certain events can hugely change lives and about the impact this has upon those closest to you.

The **Good Lad Initiative** led a three-hour participatory workshop to engage Third Form boys in discussions about gender equality.

Rigid gender stereotypes impact everyone, can have negative consequences in the short and long term and contribute to gender inequality. We wanted to start a vital conversation with our youngest year group about the state of gender inequality that helped them become aware of the issues, but crucially, also made them think about being part of the solution.



We split the boys into groups of 20 facilitated by two of the Good Lad Initiative volunteers. This gave the groups plenty of time for high quality, thoughtful discussion. The approach was to get the boys learning from each other as well as from the facilitators. No one claimed to have all the answers – and they told the boys that from the start – they were there to get them talking, questioning and thinking about the issues in new ways.

Gareth Cheesman from ACET UK delivered a Lower Sixth group workshop on "**Ethics in Modern Relationships**". Some of the ideas discussed concerned:

- Who owns your body? You, your parents or the state?
- What rights do you have about your body?
- What responsibilities do you have with your body?
- Is it a responsibility to keep it healthy? Why?
- Is it a responsibility to keep it clean? Why?
- If we are living without a physical disability, is there an ethical responsibility to make good use of our body?
- Do we have a responsibility to our species to reproduce? As without reproduction we will die out as a species. Or is our world so overpopulated we have a responsibility to our planet to not reproduce?
- Does the source of an ethical principle impact how much you value it?

Gareth offered a refreshing approach to Relationships and Sex Education by engaging pupils in conversation rather than by lecturing about the issues.

*Mr Farmer*  
*Director of Welfare*



# Fourth Form 'Women in Engineering Day'

Thursday 27 June 2019

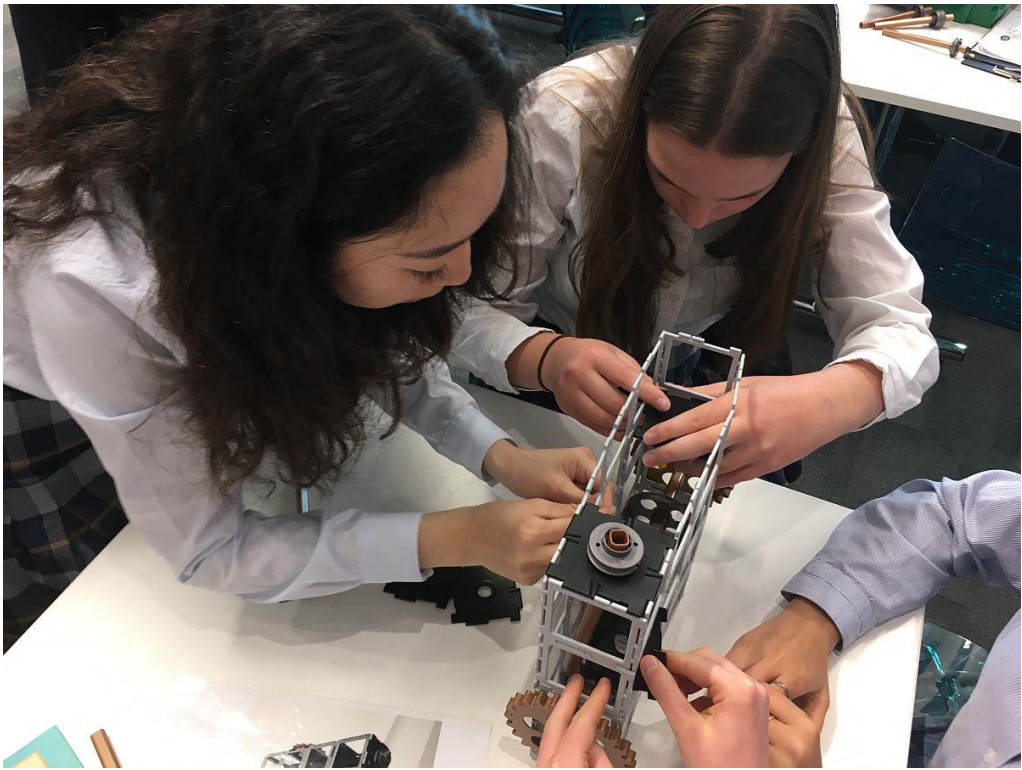
*On Thursday 27th June, 12 Fourth Form girls attended a 'Women in Engineering' day at Jaguar Land Rover (JLR).*



They learned about what engineering is all about and were given the opportunity to talk with women engineers at JLR and find out about their jobs in the company.

The girls were also given a tour of the engine manufacturing centre and could see how robots are used in the engine assembly line.







Finally they competed in a competition to construct a model engine. We came first and second out of six teams from other schools. The girls demonstrated excellent team skills and initiative.

A great day was had by all!

*Mr and Mrs Kirk*





## Old Cliftonians vs Saracens

Thursday 28 June 2018

*Cricketer Cup, Round 1: Old Cliftonians 233-6, Williams 4-35, 50 overs LOST to Shrewsbury Saracens, 236-4, Williams 99, 37.3 overs - by 6 wickets*

The Saracens started their campaign away to Clifton College in the first round of the Cricketer Cup.

With returning captain Ben Williams (Rt 2008-10) losing the toss, the Saracens were asked to bowl first with openers Alasdair Pollock (I 2010-12) and Steve Barnard (Rb 2009-11) making an economical start. In the 7th over Barnard went down injured bringing Williams and then Charlie White (Grove 2009-14) (replacing Pollock) into the game earlier than expected. Wickets tumbled with the Saracens pressing home their advantage and reducing the hosts to 50-4 and then 86-5; however, Clifton's opener and number 7 staged a valiant comeback putting on 111 for the 7th wicket. Thanks to some good death bowling from the seamers the Saracens restricted the hosts to 233-6 in their 50 overs: Williams finishing with 4-35, Charlie White 2-65, and Worcestershire's Olly Westbury (S 2013-15) an economical 0-33 off his 10 overs of off-spin.

Jack Brydon (O 1999-04) and Ben Chapman (Rt 1995-00) led the Saracens out for their run chase in the second innings, with Brydon in particular seemingly keen on getting off to a fast start. That he indeed did, striking 46 off 33 balls before holding out to mid-on (second time unlucky). Chapman followed shortly thereafter (also caught mid-on...) reducing the Saracens to 62-2 and bringing Westbury and Williams to the crease. The pair rebuilt before pressing the accelerator thanks in part to some mixed bowling from the Clifton attack. The two put on 147 for the third wicket before Westbury was unfortunate to be dismissed to a ball that didn't bounce and then Williams fell shortly thereafter LBW on 99. With just 25 to win the damage had been done; Ben Price (O 2008-10) and Tom Cox (M 2000-05) saw the lads home, 14\* and 8\* respectively, sealing the win in just over 37 overs.

Overall a solid win for the Saracens and sets up a second round fixture away to Uppingham on 1 July. With a clear calendar in terms of county fixtures the Saracens will be hoping to call on several of our professional cricketing alumni to add further strength to the side. Hoist it up!

## Recent Cricket Highlights

Friday 28 June 2019

*There has been plenty of cricket news to celebrate during the last two weeks of term.*

The **Boys' 1<sup>st</sup> XI** beat Uppingham in their two-day match played at home during Salopian Week. Highlights included a splendid century partnership on Day 1 between Will Sissons and Ludo Litchfield; and Arthur Garrett finishing Day 2 with bowling figures of 6-35, and in doing so reaching 100 wickets for the U17s and 1<sup>st</sup> XI – an outstanding achievement, particularly as he is still only in the Lower Sixth.

At the time of going to press, Shrewsbury 1<sup>st</sup> XI had won their first Silk Trophy match against South African visitors Grey College.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> June, the **Girls' 1<sup>st</sup> XI** had a great win against Wales U17. They posted 206-2 (Issy Wong 98, Harriet Shuker 62\*) and limited Wales to 125-7 (Laura Elliott 2-22, Alice Hughes 2-16). The Girls' 1<sup>st</sup> XI beat Stamford in the Quarter-Final of the National U18 Cup to reach Finals Day on 27<sup>th</sup> June. Playing at Moseley Cricket Club, they won their Semi-Final against Malvern College, posting 253-1 from their 20 overs. They were disappointed not to beat Felsted in the Final, but were nevertheless delighted to be National Runners-Up.

The **Boys' U17A XI** reached the Regional Finals of the U17 National Cup, but after an under-par performance with the bat they were defeated by Bromsgrove.



On 18<sup>th</sup> June, the **Boys' U15A XI** (pictured above) defeated Ellesmere College by 8 wickets to become County Champions. Harvey Walker claimed the Man of the Match Award with a crucial 33 not out.



Three days later they played Oakham in the Quarter-Finals of the Inspire National Cup. Despite a superb 108 from their Captain Harry Cooke and an imposing 244-6 from their 40 overs, they lost in the final over of the match.

Following a convincing win against Queen Mary's Grammar School in the Regional Finals of the U15 T20 Regional Final, the U15 XI reached Midlands Finals Day on 27<sup>th</sup> June. Sadly their campaign ended there, as they lost to Trent College in a low-scoring encounter.

Their attention now turns to the Clarke-Williams Trophy at Uppingham.

The **Boys' U14A XI** finished their season with a comfortable win in the County Cup.

# The 151st Bumping Races - Day 1

Friday 28 June 2019

*The 151st Bumping Races finally got underway today. (Yesterday's cancellation means that for the second time in four years there will only be three races, not the usual four.)*

Grove I, Mary Sidney I, Emma Darwin I, Moser's I all bumped twice in Division 2 so remain in contention for 'blades'. Oldham's I, Radbrook II and Radbrook III remain at the head of their respective divisions after rowing over twice.

Confirmed bumps were as follows:

## Round 2

### Division 1

Rb bpd SH

S bpd PH

### Division 2

G bpd SH

MSH bpd PH

EDH bpd S

M bpd Rt

### Division 3

SH bpd R

O bpd EDH

Rt bpd PH

## Round 3

### Division 1

Rt bpd PH

### Division 2

O bpd Ch

G bpd R

MSH bpd SH

EDH bpd PH

M bpd S

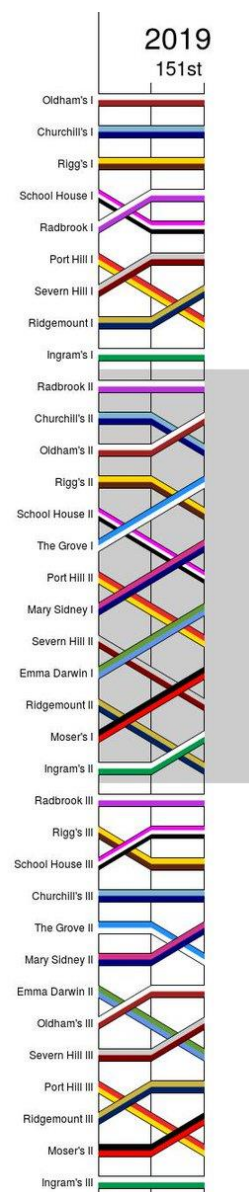
I bpd Rt

### Division 3

MSH bpd G

S bpd EDH

M bpd PH



Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



# School charity fundraising total reaches £34k - and still climbing!

Saturday 29 June 2019

*A huge thank you to pupils, staff, parents and the wider Salopian community, who have given so very generously of their time and cash to help Shrewsbury School raise £34,000 (and still counting) for 23 different charities this year.*

The charities featured in the collage are:

- THE SHEWSY
- Make A Wish UNITED KINGDOM
- mind for better mental health
- MEDIC MALAWI
- THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
- WINSTON'S WISH WW Giving hope to grieving children
- The Shrewsbury Ark
- Ankawa Foundation
- MIDLANDS AIR AMBULANCE
- Shrewsbury FOOD HUB
- actionaid Change lives. For good.
- SHREWSBURY U.R.C. REAL SHOW PEOPLE. DREAM FOOD. REALLY MATTER TO GOD.
- Alder Hey CHILDREN'S CHARITY
- meningitis UK Searching for a vaccine
- WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT
- RESTART AFRICA
- Cardiac Risk in the Young
- #wearredforzac
- PROSTATE CANCER UK
- Andrew Grene Foundation Transforming lives in Haiti



# Withington Model United Nations success

Sunday 30 June 2019

*On the day after Speech Day, three Salopians travelled to Manchester to take part in the Withington MUN Conference. Once again, Shrewsbury debaters made their mark.*



They were accompanied by Mr Peach, Teacher in Charge of MUN.

Alex Sparkes (I L6) was named as the Outstanding Delegate in the Historical Committee and George Collings (Rb 4) was named as the Highly Commended Delegate in the Political Committee.

Alex was playing the role of Winston Churchill in the 1945 Cabinet, arguing against the Welfare State which was being proposed by his Labour colleagues.



George Collings represented Chile, as did Tom Bonthron (SH L6) who was taking part in his first MUN Conference.

# From Unifrog to the Ironing Challenge: the Post-GCSE Programme

Sunday 30 June 2019

*Returning from study leave, the Fifth Form have been given a taste of what lies ahead in the Sixth Form.*



Alongside lessons in their chosen subjects, they have enjoyed a packed programme of events, lectures and competitions designed as a launchpad for the next phase of their education.

The Post-GCSE Programme began with Afternoon Tea in the Moser Library, where students were welcomed by the Headmaster to their 'second intellectual home' outside of the classroom. Head Librarian Jo Elliot explained how Sixth Formers are encouraged to see the Moser Library with its catalogue of 40,000 books as a two-year training ground before moving on to the vast collections of University libraries.





While enjoying scones, cake and lemonade, students could roam freely, browse the books on display and take home their top picks from our [Summer Recommended Reading List](#).

Later in the week, students returned to the Library for an induction lesson with an unusual twist as the Library was transformed into an Escape Room!

Mr Percival, Higher Education Adviser joined forces with Dr P. Pattenden, Head of Elite University Admission, to give Salopians a roadmap to success at top-tier Universities. Students were encouraged to broaden their academic horizons and to look outside of the curriculum by exploring online courses (Moocs), engaging with the wealth of educational digital content at their fingertips, and rolling up their sleeves to learn something practical – from a summer job to building a computer from scratch.

Thursday saw the Fifth Form taking over the Fives Courts, transformed for the Lifeskills Competition designed to build their transferable ‘soft’ skills.

Students worked in teams to race against the clock while trying their hand at a range of practical challenges, including wallpapering, ironing, wiring a plug, and silver service.





*The winning team*

The contest was accompanied by a session on Careers Guidance with Mr Wain, Head of Futures, introducing students to Unifrog, a comprehensive database of careers and university destinations helping them to check their A-Level choices are setting them on the track they have in mind for their future careers.

During the week, students also attended a series of thought-provoking Personal and Social Development lectures and workshops organised by Mr Farmer, discussing issues including addiction and ethics in modern relationships (see article: [PSD Programme](#)).

As they transition into life in the Sixth Form, students were encouraged to see service as being at the heart of their experience, actively engaging in ways to better the lives of others. Head of Charitable Giving, Mrs Drew spoke about the power students have to make a difference over the next two years. Mrs Shantry invited the Fifth Form to sign up for residential trips to the Shewsy and Mrs Temple opened applications for [Medic Malawi 2020](#), when students can volunteer at the Shrewsbury Eye Clinic and orphanage.



As they looked to their future, the Fifth Form were encouraged to think about what part they can play in shaping a more sustainable future for the planet. The Post-GCSE Programme was brought to a close by guest speakers Sophie Peach and Alison Thomas from the pioneering Shrewsbury Cup Scheme, discussing the importance of waste management and how small-scale community action can have a big impact.



Lastly, Mrs Matthews called on the budding Sixth Form to walk in Darwin's footsteps by cherishing biodiversity. She introduced them to Re-Wilding campaigns and encouraged them to look for opportunities to protect, nurture and restore the wider environment.



*Biology Wildlife Garden Plan*

*Miss May  
Head of Middle School*

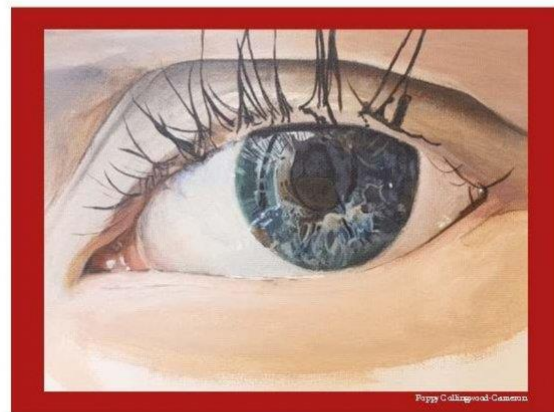
# Pupil Creative Writing Anthology: Fire Engine Volume 4

Sunday 30 June 2019

*Ghost stories, sci-fi flash fiction, prison shorts, a heart-felt poetic valedictory ode to Shrewsbury and much more – the latest edition of 'Fire Engine' is out now.*



Contents	
1.	Entrances
2.	A World Elsewhere
3.	Inside
4.	Tintern Abbey
5.	Hello. Goodbye.



Front cover: 'The Unsuspected Answer' by René Magritte. Back cover illustration by Maja Stockley

The bumper 48-page Fire Engine Volume 4, the annual anthology of some of the best Salopian creative writing, found its inspirations, the space to write and the time to edit during the Activities programme on Thursdays.

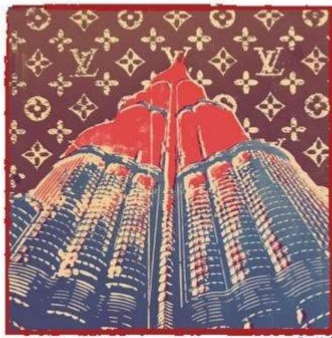
Trips this year have included visits to the evocative surroundings Shrewsbury Prison and Tintern Abbey, with expert help and advice from talks and writing workshops from top authors – thanks to Head Librarian Jo Elliot – including Carnegie Prize winner Tanya Landsman.

The anthology, illustrated with original photography and artwork from the current Art Faculty show, has been expertly designed and edited for a second consecutive year by Maja Stockley (G) – the first back-to-back editor in the four years since the foundation of the magazine. Edward Bayliss (Rt) assumes the editor's mantle next year.



## Love

I was a bottle of perfume  
 My musk was worn by many  
 Coming in ever-changing sizes  
 Each a far cry from the other  
 When you walked by  
 The scent consumes you.  
 But as time passes by, you get used to me  
 You forget it, you move on  
 You leave.  
 Just like every bottle, I am bound to be empty  
 And soon enough, I fade  
 Once I leave, there will always be  
 A symbol of my presence.  
 However, once I am gone, others will come  
 Through different bottles.  
 I return.



40

## How to Tame a Wild Tongue

Everything about this boy was still apart from his eyes. They were always moving, always searching for an answer. Even in the night, they glimpsed images of castles, conquests, blades, and battles. He was young, but a clever boy. And he sat now, his eyes not as active as they usually were but still sliding across the room in concentration. Unexpectedly, they stopped, as though on the cusp of a great discovery. Nothing, They proceeded to scour the room, two spheres of white and blue rolling onto each wall, dismissing each object as his eyes moved onto the next in an exercise of patience. Both eyes slipped down to meet mine. His eyelids peeled back, revealing the threadlike lines of red which seemed to skim across the whites of his eyes. The corners of his mouth curled up like a conductor's hands would raise to the air. Either way, this was the end. He knew what I didn't. I could feel a great bubbling inside, the tectonic plates shifted and I spewed burning words. Raging with animosity, devoid of all rational thought, I flung words at him like rocks. Irritated, like an open wound, I threw my arms wildly at him, spraying sparks.

AB

"Stop that racket," the voice of reason had drifted up from downstairs. The dove had flown into the crossfire. All things ceased. Once again, his eyes traced the walls. All was normal.

BB



41

"Maja should be very proud of all she has achieved over the two years in the Creative Writing Society, not only for her prolific output but for her determined focus on her craft," says Mr Fraser-Andrews who led the group. "In fact, all contributors from across the School have been impressively dedicated to their own gifts of expression.

"Just as important as the writing has been the editing, where much is put to the sword in order that ideas loom ever more sharply and impact can be more distinctly felt. It is particularly satisfying to hear echoes of the pupils' own ambitious reading in many of these works – Homer, Milton, Tennyson, Housman, George Eliot and Poe for instance – in which pupils have ably acknowledged their debt to, and begun conversations with, writers who have trod before them. This is genuine literacy in action, and stands witness to the hard work of the English Faculty, in particular, in nurturing such effective practice."

Copies of the anthology can be picked up - for free - from the Library. A pdf version can also be downloaded here: [Fire Engine Volume 4](#)