

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



## Netball: Tuesday 15th February - 1st VII v Priory School 19-13

Tuesday 1 March 2011

We travelled just a short distance down the road for a netball match against Priory School. It was our first game against them and hopefully one that will continue. The game was pretty close throughout the 4 quarters, with some slightly inconsistent play from both teams. Shrewsbury improved in the 2nd half, playing the ball around much better than the first and finished up 19-13 winners. A good win, but a little disappointing after the previous week.

Mrs N J Bradburne

Shrewsbury

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## Football: Wednesday 16th February - 2nd XI v Idsall School 1-1

Tuesday 1 March 2011

The 2nd XI drew 1-1 with Idsall School in a Shropshire Schools' League match played at Shrewsbury. We were fortunate to be gifted an own goal in the first half, but later conceded an equalizer to a lively Idsall attack.

*Mr S J Biggins*



# A Week in the Life of Laurence Jeffcoate (Ch 4)

Thursday 3 March 2011

*Laurence was asked to write an account of his last week at school before half term...*

My name is Laurence Jeffcoate, and I'm a fourth former in Churchill's.

The last week of the half term was hectic to say the least – an ordinary school week in my life! Among lessons, sport, and top schools, I had to fit in several rehearsals for many different performances. Sunday evening and Monday morning before lessons were spent organising Junior House Debating, which takes place in societies hour. This week, my team had to propose “This house would become Vegetarian”, and since neither I nor my team mates are vegetarian, we had to do plenty of research to put together a persuasive argument. Fortunately, we managed to win the debate, putting us through to the knock-out round.

In the evening, there was a rehearsal for the singers in the Faure requiem, which is being performed with orchestra and the community choir in Birmingham later this term. After that, it was back to the house for a rehearsal for Churchill's house play 'A Yorkshire Tragedy', which takes place the week after exeat. I also had to prepare my poem for the Bentley Elocution Competition, which was the following evening.

On Tuesday, I performed in the lunchtime concert in the chapel. As it was the day after Valentine's Day, the theme was 'Love is in the air'. The concert went very well, with some excellent performances, and I really enjoyed singing 'Black is the colour of my true love's hair'.

In the evening I competed in the final of the Bentley Elocution. The standard was very high throughout all age groups. I recited the poem 'The Second Coming' by William Butler Yeats. With so many excellent recitations, I was delighted to be chosen, along with Theo Simmons, Rob Cross, Jack Flowers and James Brown.

You might have thought that was enough for one week, but on Wednesday I had chamber Choir and orchestra rehearsals and on Thursday a senior brass rehearsal and a further play rehearsal. Being both a singer and a French horn player I am needed in lots of different ensembles.

Friday evening saw a celebratory concert in the Maidment Building for its 10-year anniversary. I performed in senior brass, orchestra and chamber choir. Jacob Owen (4th Form Ch) played a cello concerto that was played at the opening concert 10 years ago. There were other fantastic soloists, including Rob Collins on sax and Ali Webb playing piano and singing some of the songs he sang recently on Radio 2. My parents were in the audience and so after the concert I was able to go home for exeat for a few lie-ins and a well-earned rest.



## Faculty Focus: The Music Faculty

Thursday 3 March 2011

The Maidment Building (home of the Music Faculty) is, as ever, humming with activity.

On the last day before half term, we celebrated The Maidment's 10th Anniversary with a wonderful concert that had strong links with the opening concert in 2001 at which HRH Prince Charles was our guest of honour. Although HRH was not there this time round, we were absolutely delighted to have OS Andrew Hughes (Ch 1999-2001) back with us. Andrew played the solo Haydn cello concerto in 2001, and has since gone on to read music at university and is now a freelance cellist making a name for himself in London. Andrew joined the orchestra for the 10th Anniversary concert, supporting our new young soloist Jacob Owen (Ch 4) who played the same piece ten years later.

We played again the opening fanfare that was written by OS Anthony Pasquil (M 1998-2003), who is now a conductor in Australia, and a message of support from Ted Maidment, currently in Kenya, was read out. The post-concert refreshments included a Maidment (building!)-shaped birthday cake, with the appropriate number of candles.

The next big concert on the horizon is the Birmingham Town Hall one on Sunday 20th March. With over 300 performers, it is a huge undertaking for everyone involved. It is a wonderful opportunity for three Salopian concerto players to shine: Rob Collins (S UVI) oboe, Jonathan Poon (CH UVI) flute, and Tom Elcock (Rb UVI) trumpet. We have been auditioning for the soloist treble/soprano part of Faure's Requiem, and will announce the triumphant contender next week! Tickets are still available: £12/£10 from Birmingham Town Hall 0121 780 3333 [www.thsh.co.uk](http://www.thsh.co.uk) or from our Music Office 01743 280810 [dkwood@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:dkwood@shrewsbury.org.uk).

Two Salopian quartets have got through to the semi-finals round of the national Pro Corda chamber music competition - the Wind Quartet competed yesterday in Oxford, and the String Quartet are competing today at Uppingham. All groups get the chance to perform their chosen repertoire to the panel of musicians and educators who give a supportive and inspiring appraisal during a mini coaching session at each round. We should hear next week whether either of our quartets has made it through to the finals round at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

The new Tuesday lunchtime concert programme is really taking off now. This week, on St. David's Day, we had some 'poetic piano playing' from seven of our pianists, introduced (in Welsh) by Carys Gittins (MSH LVI) with a charming St. David's Day poem. Next week's concert will be by our diploma instrumentalists, at 1.30pm in the Chapel.



## Advance Notice: Sport scholarships assessment weekend: 4th/5th March 2011

Friday 4 March 2011

Every year, Shrewsbury School awards up to 100% of the school fee to a talented oarsman, cricketer or footballer. This award has been donated to the school through the exceptional generosity of two Old Salopian brothers in memory of their late mother. The Cassidy Scholarship is usually awarded to a boy who is currently in State education and in need of financial assistance.

In addition, the school offers a small number of minor sport scholarship awards each year to talented sportsmen at 13+ and 16+ entry, regardless of educational or financial circumstances. Sport scholarships are also available to talented girls at 16 + entry in a number of our traditional sports.

Shrewsbury has been consistently one of the top rowing schools in the UK for many years, indeed the 1st VIII won the prestigious Princess Elizabeth Cup at Henley as recently as 2007. On the football field, Shrewsbury were Independent School F.A. Cup winners in 2000 and as recently as 2010 (beating Repton 3-0 at MK Dons FC). In cricket, our outstanding facilities give us an immediate advantage over our competitors. The Neville Cardus Indoor Cricket Centre (built in 2006) and the School's many superb cricket pitches create an environment second to none. Some of our recent leavers are contracted to first class county clubs and many of our current pupils are attached to county, regional and national squads.

We are running our second sport scholarship assessment weekend on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th March 2011. This will include fitness and sport specific assessments as well as an interview with the Director of Sport. Representative experience at county, regional or national level is an obvious advantage, but the School is mindful that some candidates may have had greater opportunities than others.

For further details about the sport scholarships, please contact the Director of Sport, Mr Paul Greetham on 01743 280697 or by email [pg@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:pg@shrewsbury.org.uk). For details of the application process, please contact the Sixth Form Registrar, Mr Matthew Clark on 01743 280551 or by email [mdhc@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:mdhc@shrewsbury.org.uk).

If you would like a poster about the Margaret Cassidy Sports Scholarship to put on your school/club noticeboard, please contact our sports office on 01743 280697 [sport@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:sport@shrewsbury.org.uk), or download a copy here: [Cassidy Scholarship 2011](#)



## Emma Darwin Hall - building works well underway

Saturday 5 March 2011

*Please see our page [Girls at Shrewsbury](#) to see what some of our current and former girls have said about their time here.*

Emma Darwin Hall opens in September 2011 and will accommodate approximately 60 Sixth Form girls, thus becoming the second girls' house at Shrewsbury School. Our first girls' house, Mary Sidney Hall, was also purpose-built and opened its doors to girls in September 2008 when Shrewsbury's Sixth Form became co-educational.

Needless to say, the arrival of the first cohort of girls was eagerly anticipated by Salopians, staff and friends of Shrewsbury, not all of whom were convinced that co-education would be a success. However, within the first term of the girls' arrival the dissenting voices became silent as the girls' assimilation into Salopian life was seen to be both smooth and complete.

A second girls' house was always part of our plan, but we wanted first to be sure that we had got the formula right. After our second cohort of girls arrived in September 2009 and their integration seemed to be as seamless and successful as their predecessors had been, we set the wheels in motion for a second girls' house to be built. All staff members were invited to suggest names for the new girls' house, and 'Emma Darwin Hall' emerged as the winner.

Emma Darwin (1808-1886) was the wife of Charles Darwin, our most celebrated Old Salopian. Born into the Wedgewood family, she was a talented pianist (she studied with Frederick Chopin in Paris), an assiduous diarist, philanthropist, schoolteacher and nurse. A non-conformist, Emma was tolerant of her husband's scepticism and respected his openness and intellectual courage. She and Charles Darwin married in 1839 and raised ten children together, in what one historian has described as "*in a distinctly non-authoritarian manner*". Liberal, loyal, strong and loving, Emma Darwin's name will now live on at Shrewsbury and will, in a small but important way, symbolise the education of generations of Salopian women. Please see [Emma Darwin herself](#), an article that was published in The Salopian in July 2010, for more detail about this truly remarkable woman.

Emma Darwin Hall will provide superb accommodation for Sixth Form girls. Sara Hankin, the Housemistress of Mary Sidney, has been integrally involved in the design and specification. The accommodation will be light and airy yet cosy. The social spaces are generous and the House will be modern in every sense. The girls will enjoy their own courtyard and gardens. As well as the Housemistress, the design will provide for a resident tutor and matron. All the lessons learned over the last two years have been taken on board to create an exceptional environment for living and learning. It is fitting that a house named after such an accomplished pianist should have the Maidment Music School as its neighbour.

The founding Housemistress of Emma Darwin Hall will be Kait Weston. Kait was educated at Taunton School and Cardiff, Newcastle and Oxford Universities. At Oxford she rowed in the Womens' Boat Race, and won. Kait has taught Biology at Shrewsbury since 2004 and has been Assistant Housemaster in Port Hill since 2008. Married to Andrew, they have two sons: Charlie and Bertie.



Outside the classroom, Kait enjoys gardening, walking, running and rowing. Less energetic pursuits include entertaining and knitting. The prototype Emma Darwin Hall house scarf is already underway! Before the first Emma Darwin girls arrive in 2011, Kait will be recruiting a tutor team for the house and making sure that every last detail of building, finish, routines (and everything else) is seen to.

In the meantime, please see the [Emma Darwin Hall handbook](#) and the [EDH Michaelmas Term Fasti](#) (Word files).

The official opening of Emma Darwin Hall will be on 17th September by Charles and Emma Darwin's great-great-granddaughter **Ruth Padel**, the renowned poet, novelist and former academic.



## Field Day: An opportunity for Salopians to take part in a whole range of activities

Monday 7 March 2011

On Thursday Afternoons pupils take part in a huge variety of activities - which are neither entirely sporting, nor academic. The emphasis for the fourth form is on physical skills such as CCF, Outward Bound or Leadership Skills; in the upper years, there is a wide range of choice from Mountain Biking and Gliding to making a film, Community Service or bird watching. Field Day offers pupils and staff an opportunity to spend an entire day on this activity, which in most cases means going off site.

Around 50 third form boys went Outward Bounding on the High Ropes at 'Get-Wet' in Bala; the remaining 80-or-so bussed off to see 'War Horse' and 'Billy Elliott' in London Theatres. The three CCF headed for overnight exercises or flying experience (see [CCF Overview report](#)), while on site the Sports Skills group learned a whole host of circus tricks that will surely serve them well in later life. Fifth Form cooks divided into two teams to wow members of staff with their culinary expertise, serving them a cordon bleu meal - at a beautifully 'dressed' table in KH. Other Fifth Formers headed off for a day of mountain biking, to go climbing in Nescliffe, to learn self defence, or to do a course of digital photography.

The Sixth Form artists (of both years) indulged in a full day of painting, whilst other Lower Sixth pupils were playing golf or visiting hospitals and retirement homes. The rest of the Upper Sixth took the opportunity to catch up with coursework.

Bus loads of Salopians spread out the length and breadth of the country. We counted them out and we counted them back, tired but happy - and, mostly, ready to bed.



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# Chemistry Quiz Victory for Shrewsbury: Royal Society of Chemistry's Quiz

Monday 7 March 2011

After receiving a first-round bye and we were drawn at home against a strong team from Newport Girls' High School. Our team consisted of two fourth (Chris Papaioannou (PH) and Stephen Chandler (Rb)) and two fifth form boys (Sam Watts (SH) and Matthew Davies (M)).

After a closely fought battle, we ended up victors, 54-47, performing incredibly well.

Our team is now through to the regional final, which will take place at KES Girls School Birmingham on Tuesday 22 March. Success would lead to a place in the national final later this year.

*Photo L-R: Chris Papaioannou, Stephen Chandler, Matthew Davies, Sam Watts  
Andrew Briggs*

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# Fives: Shrewsbury wins the National Schools Eton Fives Williams Team Cup - again!

Monday 7 March 2011

Shrewsbury School retained the National Schools Eton Fives Williams Team Cup, winning it for a record 9th time on Sunday 6th March at Eton College.

'Six schools entered this National competition for 3 pair school teams. Each pair from each school played five 2 game matches against their corresponding pairs from other schools. One point was awarded for each game won. It was very good to see a young team from Ipswich for the first time. Highgate and Shrewsbury dominated the event, with St Olave's finishing a creditable 3rd. Most of the results followed an expected pattern, but the St Olave's 1st pair pulled off an impressive win against Highgate, and then dropped a game to Eton and Berkhamsted. In the clash of the titans in final round, Highgate needed to win at least 4-2, otherwise Shrewsbury would take the trophy. After one game, Shrewsbury were ahead 2-1, and although they were pushed hard in the second, they pulled through in all three pairs to prove themselves clearly the strongest team.'

*Mark Williams*

*Eton College*



## **RSSH: Shrewsbury host and win both the Senior and Junior Midlands and Northern Independent Schools' Championship!**

Monday 7 March 2011

### *MANISC Cross Country race Sunday 6th March*

Having last hosted the event in 1996, the MANISCCC race this year returned to the grounds of Shrewsbury, where the top runners from the Midlands and the North competed over what was a deliberately very challenging course. Shrewsbury last won the Senior championships in 1999, and the Junior competition in 1998, the latter being the last year in which the Hunt had won an individual title in the competition as well.

Up against some of the top dozen or so running schools in the country (in particular Sedbergh, winners of the Senior competition for the previous two years, and Manchester Grammar School, who were runners up this year in the National Knole Run), our Senior team were going to have a hard task, and indeed in the opening lap our top two runners Cal Winwood and George Mallett were only just inside the top 10. By the end of the race, however, Mallett and Winwood pushed up through the field, with Mallett eventually taking the individual bronze, and Winwood just behind in 4th. George's younger brother Ed worked extremely hard up Ridgemount Lane to push into the top 10, coming home in 9th position, a remarkable achievement for a runner only in the 5th form. The team event looked to be very close, with Manchester Grammar placing four of their six 'counters' in the top ten, compared to Shrewsbury's three. However, as is often the case, it came down to the final counters, and with our other three counters packed inside the top 25, the Hunt ran away as team champions, a comfortable 18 points ahead of second-placed Sedbergh, with Manchester two points behind them. The team lifted the Nutter Cup for only the fifth time in the race's 52 years of competition.

The Juniors stamped their authority on the race fairly rapidly with Rory Fraser and Otto Clarke in the thick of the action at the front of the field. The end of the race proved a dramatic affair, with Fraser and Clarke engaged in a lung-bursting sprint finish at the end, with Fraser eventually getting his head in front to win the race, just one second ahead of Clarke. A one-two for Shrewsbury and the Hunt was an exceptional effort, and Fraser's name will now be etched into the records alongside some fairly well-known names (including the 2002/2003 winner Alistair Brownlee from Bradford Grammar School, who went on to become the Triathlon World Champion in 2009!). With our other two counters placing inside the top ten, and indeed one of our B team runners also placing inside the top 10, the team championship title was never in doubt, with Shrewsbury well clear of second-place Manchester Grammar. Appropriately enough, the trophy for the Junior event is named 'The RSSH Cup' (donated by former Hunt coach Bob Parker), and it will be good to see the name of the Hunt once more etched upon it, only the second time that we have won the event. Only three schools in the history of the event have ever done 'the double' with wins in both Seniors and Juniors in the same year, and Shrewsbury are now the only school to have done so twice.



In the girls' event, an extremely strong Ampleforth team ran away comfortable victors, with Sedbergh and Uppingham battling it out in a close race for 2nd and 3rd. The Hunt girls ran well, and placed a commendable 6th out of 8 teams. Particular mention should go to Imola Atkins, who placed 7th overall, an excellent achievement.

## **SENIOR BOYS:**

### **1st RSSH 69 points**

2nd Sedbergh 87 points  
3rd Manchester GS 89 points  
George Mallett- 3rd  
Cal Winwood- 4th  
Ed Mallett- 9th  
Guy Vernon- 12th  
Ed Lloyd- 17th  
Aubrey Higgin- 22<sup>nd</sup>

## **JUNIOR BOYS:**

### **1st RSSH 20 points**

2nd Manchester GS 42 points  
3rd Uppingham 55 points  
Rory Fraser- 1st  
Otto Clarke- 2nd  
Toby Lansdell- 7th  
Henry Dashwood- 9th  
Marcus Bedson- 10<sup>th</sup>

## **SENIOR GIRLS:**

1st Ampleforth 32 points  
2nd Sedbergh 46 points  
3rd Uppingham 48 points  
6th RSSH 103 points  
Imola Atkins- 7th  
Lucy Birt- 31st  
Hebe Dickins- 32nd  
Georgia Leece-Drinkwater- 33rd  
Abi Milller- 39th



## **Creative Writing: Visit by David Morley, founder and director of the University of Warwick's Creative Writing Programme**

Tuesday 8 March 2011

On Monday 7th March David Morley, one of the country's most respected poets and teachers of Creative Writing, visited the school to give a reading from his work and lead a writing workshop with a group of the school's aspiring creative writers.

David founded and is director of the Creative Writing Programme at the University of Warwick and a group of ten Salopians were able to benefit from his considerable expertise during a writing workshop in the afternoon. As someone who trained as a Freshwater Biologist he was keen to emphasise the poetic sounds and patterns that can be found in the natural world and, on a glorious early spring afternoon, lead a walk around the Severn riverbank before returning inside to help translate the experience into poetry.

During the reading in the evening he treated the audience to a number of poems from his most recent collection /Enchantments/, which was a Telegraph Book of the Year, as well as some never-before-performed poems which will form part of a new play at The Royal Court in London. He then answered a range of questions from the floor which ranged from what inspired him to write poetry to the influence of his Romany heritage on his writing and the elusive concept of /El Duende/. All left inspired to read – and write – more poetry.

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# Art Exhibition Opening: Molly Derbyshire

Tuesday 8 March 2011

The third of the Solo Exhibitions in The Art School from our artists in the Upper Sixth. These are wonderful opportunities for the girls and boys to have a show of their best work done in the last 6 months.

All exhibitions are open to the public, and start at 6.30pm on Mondays. They are always extremely popular with many members of the staff and school present, as well as parents and friends from the local community. Wine and refreshments are served.



# Half term's History and Classics trip report to Italy, by Henry Brereton

Wednesday 9 March 2011

There are very few situations in which, for the average Salopian, having to be awake at 4.15 am in cold and drizzly February conditions is even remotely justifiable. Fortunately the school calendar does not provide many of these occasions, however it stands as testament to the attraction of the History and Classics trip that so many were to be found huddled together outside the Alington Hall at that time on such a morning. After taking the coach to Luton and then flying on to Rome Ciampino, this band of 5th and 6th formers shortly found themselves basking in the heat of the Italian sun, rewarded for their journey by a comparatively balmy 12°C.

Having clocked in at our hotel in Rome, we spent the remainder of that Saturday on a whistle-stop tour of our surroundings, which was punctuated by a visit to the Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore. The astonishing beauty of this church was to be paralleled by the Renaissance wonder of the Villa d'Este the following day, but not before an eye-opening encounter with a peaceful rally protesting against Silvio Berlusconi's rule, which was marching in the name of the combined forces of Socialism, LGBT rights and Ecology. Needless to say, the group passed on unperturbed. The historians amongst us were afterwards pleased by a trip to the Museo del Risorgimento, and other places in Rome visited included the Coliseum, the Pantheon, the old Forum and, of course, the Vatican. The last of these, it must be said, proved more than just an opportunity for sending postcards with unusual stamps on them, and was probably the most interesting and striking of the city's attractions. The fine art of the Villa Borghese, currently showing an exhibition of Cranach's work, certainly was a highlight also.

After 3 nights in Rome, with our last evening spent by the Treviso fountains, we headed south towards Sorrento, stopping on the way to visit the ancient city of Pompeii. Here some enormous poses were struck by various individuals in the theatre (big enough, it seems, to have required the intervention of a concerned nearby steward), and we witnessed the only building in the entire town apparently historically interesting enough to warrant a queue outside of it – the brothel. The next and final full day of the trip saw another controversially early start, this time for climbing the mercifully well-fenced trail up Mount Vesuvius on an alarmingly windy day. The last trip made was to Herculaneum, a visit offering us ample time for reflection on the lives and habits of the ancients, before heading back to the hotel and getting ready for our departure the following morning. Despite the lack of the now familiarly irritating Ryanair on-time arrival fanfare, our flight passed without incident and the group made it back to school mid-afternoon on Thursday tired but content.

All in all, the trip went off as an unbelievable success, and many thanks are owed to TPP, LJW and NJB for having organised and supervised it.



# 'What You Will' to go to Edinburgh Festival

Wednesday 9 March 2011

We finally had confirmation this week that the highly acclaimed 2010 School Musical *'What You Will'*, with lyrics written by Peter Fanning and music by John Moore, will be playing at C Venues, Chamber Street, during the Edinburgh Festival 15th to 20th August.

This is a huge undertaking for all pupils and staff involved, not least because it is in the middle of the summer holidays and almost 10 months after the last performance. The preceding week will involve some frantic rehearsals here, culminating in one final chance to see this brilliant production at the Ashton Theatre before a fleet of minibuses depart for Edinburgh.

Please see Des Hann's [review of What You Will](#).





## Lower Sixth Geography Field Trip to Liverpool

Thursday 10 March 2011

On Tuesday, all 43 Lower 6th Geographers spent the day in Liverpool looking at the re-branding of the city centre as a part of the requirements of their Geographical Investigations unit that will be taken in May.

Although there is no longer any coursework in the Edexcel A level course, there is plenty of scope for fieldwork and this is one of three days of fieldwork that is done in the Lower Sixth year.

The day consisted of an urban trail visiting various areas of the city centre and looking at the various attempts at regeneration that have taken place since the 1950s. The recent European Capital of Culture celebration that took place in 2008 was the catalyst for some £4 billions worth of projects that have transformed the city in recent years.

Our trail took us from St George's Plateau and Lime Street, looking at the grandeur of the Victorian city to the Ropewalks district, where considered Liverpool as a 24-hour city. Our next port of call was the £1 billion Liverpool One development, where the pupils took a working lunch as well as studying the spectacular architecture.

The afternoon was spent looking at the waterfront and Liverpool's transition from a working port to a centre of tourism and entertainment. This involved survey work being done at the King's Waterfront (Echo Arena and BT Convention Centre), the Albert Dock and the Pier Head.

All of the pupils were tasked with taking photos of the built environment as a part of their fieldwork, some of which appear here.

Rob Morris, one of the teachers in the faculty, has been involved in research on the rebranding of Liverpool along with colleagues from Liverpool Hope University. Click [here](#) to see an article co-written by Rob in 2010 about the rebranding of Liverpool.

*Photos by Mark Prescott (Rb) and RHM*



## Football: w/c 28th February 2011

Thursday 10 March 2011

Two Senior teams travelled to St Mary's, Crosby on Wednesday. The A team won 3-1 with Roy Chatterjee scoring all three and the B team lost 1-2, Harry Croft scoring the consolation goal in the last few minutes.

The 2nd XI continued with their fine form by beating Bridgnorth Combined 6th Form 5-2 in a Shropshire League game. The goals were shared around nicely with Alex Bould scoring twice, Lucas Munz from the penalty spot, Jack Stacey and Connor Jones getting one each.

On Saturday our A XI proved to be far too strong for the Old Salopian Veterans. The energetic school team scored many well constructed goals to leave the Vets very tired and frustrated. Jack Stacey came off the bench to score a hat-trick, Roy Chatterjee (2), Matt Gregson, John Cameron, Charlie Pilkington and Charlie Carr-Smith from the touchline scored the goals.

*Mr S J Biggins*



## A Week in the Life of Camilla Aylwin (MSH UVI)

Thursday 10 March 2011

The first Monday after half term always seems to require specific mental preparation to get up in the morning and this one was no different. After finally managing to get ready, lessons follow the normal suit yet with the transition from winter timetable to summer timetable getting the better of some students, with the most frequently asked question at lunch being ‘what time does the next lesson start?’ After a busy day of lessons, sports hour starts and I make my way down to the boathouse in all too many layers for my liking as, although school has optimistically declared that summer is upon us due to the change in the timetable, true to form the good old English weather is clearly not ready to get warmer just yet. As a cox for the school’s top squad, the training this week promises to be a rigorous affair as Schools Head looms ever closer at all but a week away. After a tough session on the water for the rowers, supper and top schools follow and finally I can collapse into bed.

Tuesday and Wednesday follow the same pattern as Monday with busy rowing sessions however with string orchestra on Tuesday and chamber choir and orchestra rehearsals on Wednesday. All rehearsals are gradually getting ever longer with Mr Moore, Mrs Nightingale and Mr Joyce slowly losing more hair and sleep as the concert at the Birmingham Town Hall is just a matter of a week and a half away, an event where the excitement is now building quite rapidly.

A busy Thursday is now on the agenda. Despite the fact that the phrase ‘field day’ would mean a big lie in to the U6 and a day of activities for the lower school, for myself and the others in my string quartet (Ellie Hudson, Anthea Ma and Jacob Owen) it meant a 6 o’clock wake up call to go to Abingdon School and play in the semi final of the Pro Corda chamber music competition, an experience which we found invaluable due to the feedback and help from the judges and we wait on tenterhooks for the result.

That evening the same quartet played background music at a school convention at Stokesay Court. We always thoroughly enjoy playing at these events and this particular one was no different, a beautiful venue with a very appreciative crowd.

Finally the busy week comes to a close with the Mary Sidney house dance on Saturday, the largest house dance and event in the fasti where great fun was had by all who went, due to the theme, ‘when I grow up I want to be....’.

By Sunday it’s time to relax, make plenty of trips to the grot shop, do any remaining top schools of course (!), make any sorely overdue phone calls to parents who, by now, feel severely unloved, and finally, dive into bed in preparation for more rehearsals, training and lessons next week where the dates for Schools’ Head and the Birmingham Town Hall concert wait just around the corner.

Phew, what a week!



## Badminton: w/c 28th February 2011

Thursday 10 March 2011

The school team played a return home fixture against Bedstone College on Wednesday March 2nd, and emerged as very comfortable winners. The boys pairs won all their 12 games, and in only two of them did they allow their opponents to score more than 11 points (against 21). The girls pair also won their four games, again very convincingly, only conceding 22 points in total. The afternoon was concluded with some informal but enjoyable mixed doubles and singles. The squad has been committed and enthusiastic throughout this year, and this fine result was much deserved after all their efforts.

Boys; Jirat Tantipiriyakij and Nikhil Morjaria, Jirapas Tantipiriyakij, Taylor Tang, Sean Lim and Nic Supornipaibul

Girls; Ann-Christian Kimmig and Mercury Cheung.

*Mr A Dalton*

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## **Birmingham Town Hall concert - and the soloist is .... Ellie Hudson!**

Thursday 10 March 2011

After some highly accomplished performances in the auditions for the solo part of Faure's Requiem at next week's concert in Birmingham Town Hall, it was announced today that the part will be sung by Ellie Hudson (MSH UVI). Both trebles and sopranos were auditioning for this part, which added to the complexity of the decision-making process!



## Fives: Detail of matches w/c 28th Feb

Thursday 10 March 2011

Congratulations to the Fives pairs who represented the School on Sunday at the Williams' Team Cup competition (see full report below). Jack Hudson-Williams, George Thomason, Henry Lewis, Jason Tse, Ben Jones and Harry Flowers secured superb victories throughout the day, only dropping one set!

### FINAL POSITIONS

- 1 SHREWSBURY 29
- 2 HIGHGATE 23
- 3 ST OLAVE'S 18
- 4 ETON 11
- 5 BERKHAMSTED 7
- 6 IPSWICH 0

### RESULTS vs Highgate

The day prior to the Williams Cup, several boys and girls pairs competed in a match vs Highgate.

#### Seniors Pairs

Flowers & Jones Won 3-0  
Croft & Mucklow Lost 1-3

#### Under 16 Pairs

Styles & Pragnall Lost 0-3 Won 2-0  
Christie & Bromley- Davenport Lost 0-1 Lost 0-2  
Lloyd & Blofield Lost 0-1 Lost 0-1

#### Under 15 Pairs

Flowers & White Drew 2-2  
Peel & Gittins Lost 0-3  
Marques & Holroyd Lost 0-3  
Warburg & Quirke Lost 0-3

#### Under 14 Pairs

Lewis & Pearce Lost 0-1  
Delikatny & Yick Lost 0-3

#### Girls 3/4 Pair

H.Blofield, A.Brett, Lost 12 sets with a variety of partnerships  
A.Long, L.Rands,  
I,Barber, I Atkins

*Mr A S Barnard*



## CCF: Overview of Field Day activities

Thursday 10 March 2011

The CCF had an action packed and varied field day - depending on what section pupils are in.

**The Royal Marine Section** travelled down to Dartmoor on Wednesday night for a day of 'Vertical Assault Training' with mountaineering instructors from the Commando Training Centre, Lympstone. Cadets abseiled, climbed special assault ladders and generally had a challenging and full-on day. 'Awesome' was the reaction of many boys.

**The Army Section** travelled down to an Oxfordshire country estate on Wednesday night for Bushcraft training. Their first task was to rescue a hostage from an crashed aircraft in some woods, then it was on to a very well run session of bushcraft skills: fire and shelter making, cooking, trapping. Cadets learned a huge amount from the instructors of 'The Bushcraft Company'.

**The Royal Air Force Section** visited RAF Shawbury and saw the aircraft storage facility (in which Harriers, Tornados and other aircraft are stored). They also tried the high ropes course at the base, and the day finished with some flying experience for all in a helicopter. (In fact, some of the cadets flew two days in a row having visited RAF Cosford's Air Experience Flight the day before for flights in Grob Tutors).



## Experiences of a 'Gapper' at Shrewsbury International School, Bangkok

*There are currently two Old Salopians spending part of their gap year working at Shrewsbury International: Elliott Whittaker (PH) and George Kimberley (G). They will be submitting a piece for this page in due course (Elliott arrived in early February 2011, so we thought we'd give him time to settle down first!). They are joined by Milly Barratt from Shrewsbury High School (well known to us through as she played in the orchestra here), and Lizzy Uttley from Cheltenham Ladies' College.*

*Ben Powell Davies and Roddy Skinner, who both left Shrewsbury (UK) in Summer 2009, were lucky enough to get a six-month gap year placement at Shrewsbury International Bangkok. Please find below Ben's account of his first few weeks out there.*

I have officially been a citizen of Bangkok for six weeks, two days, 15 hours. Now one of the locals, I have been asked to jot down a few of my thoughts and feelings regarding the experience so far in a jovial yet informative manner. Thus follows my attempt:

So (you ask!); the first week? Well... I know it happened. I visited many exciting places and met many new people. Apparently. Sadly, I can recall very little of this. Jet lag combined dramatically with heat exhaustion and culture shock, effectively disabling both Roddy Skinner (the other gap student) and me for the first four days. Fortunately the other members of the school common room were as understanding as they were supportive, and carefully introduced the local knowledge we would need during our 6 month consignment. The announcement that cheddar would set us back £26 per kilo, whilst being a difficult obstacle to hurdle, paled into insignificance against the news that we may as well abandon the seemingly recurring Salopian quest for a hot sausage roll. On the bright side, Starbucks is very much an international corporation!

Bangkok itself is a plethora of culture and colours that overwhelmed all five senses from the moment I stepped out of the airport. The city heaves with people (13 million of them, to be exact) twenty-four hours a day, and hence travel can be difficult sometimes. The fastest way is often to take a motorbike taxi. This involves desperately clinging to the back of a bike whilst the driver plots the most terrifyingly erratic route he can find, in the process contravening every traffic by-law known to mankind – including the ones involving driving on one side of the road. Unsurprisingly, common side effects can include holes in clothes, insects in mouth, and occasionally a mild case of death. Much better is to take a *tuc tuc*. These wonderful vehicles are essentially reliant robins with neither the doors nor the consistent cornering stability. Nevertheless, there is something immensely satisfying about zooming along in a souped-up tricycle in which the crumple zone is the driver!

Our accommodation is owned by the school, and lies 20 minutes away by taxi (a journey that will set you back a whole pound, including tip!). Roddy and I have a commodious apartment to ourselves, as do Steff Butcher and Ellie Buckley (the gap students from Cheltenham Ladies) in a building housing two swimming pools, a gym, and a restaurant offering free door-to-door deliveries. Should you become bored of the view from the sofa, there are roughly 15 eateries within a 10 minute walk and, if you're prepared to travel further afield, some simply exquisite places to visit. One of these is an open air restaurant set on the roof of a skyscraper, adjoining a live jazz club that serenades the patrons as they dine in a state of utter relaxation and comfort, 64 floors comfortably separating them from the trials and tribulations of everyday life in the





hustling bustling world below. Of course, Steff's right when she says the service is faster at Burger King, but I can't help but feel that she's rather missed the point.

The school itself is beautifully set beside the River Chao Phraya, and boasts a surprisingly extensive campus considering it resides in the 28th largest city in the world. There are swimming pools, rooftop tennis courts, multiple sports pitches... even a hotel owned by the school to accommodate staff members (we gappies were initially angling for top-floor residence – sadly it transpired someone beat us to it, but as soon as we discover the identity of the current inhabitant (a Mr. S. M. Hol.?) we hope to contend the position). The school buildings are modern, spacious, superbly equipped, and fastidiously maintained, and as a result I sometimes forget I'm teaching in a school of 1,400. Indeed I sometimes forget that I'm teaching at all - the children are so inquisitive and eager to learn that class is almost a discussion. My only current predicaments are how to pin them back to the syllabus, and how to get them to stop correcting my English.

To summarise; I have to say that Bangkok is one of the scariest, hottest, noisiest, most continually demanding, exhausting and overwhelming places I have ever travelled to, and I absolutely love it.

*Ben Powell Davies*

*'gappie'*



## CCF Field Day: Night exercise for the Army Section

Friday 11 March 2011

We arrived at a farm just outside Oxford in the dark at 10 o'clock on Wednesday night, 2nd March. We were split into two groups, one led by Sgt. Leece Drinkwater the other led by Sgt. Appleton. Each group were allocated maps and compasses and told to night-navigate across the training area which we had never see before in the light, let alone pitch black.

The first group were briefed on a plane crash in a nearby wood and told there would be casualties which needed evacuating to a helicopter landing site. As the cadets combed through the wood in an extended line, there was a shout as the casualties were found. In the plane we found two casualties. One was screaming with a bone sticking out of his leg, the other lying unconscious in the cockpit. We administered first aid, using what we could find in the wood. Stretchers were made out of long sticks and bits of plastic. This was a good test for the cadets to show their first aid skills and initiative, as well as showing natural leadership. The cadets were fast and worked as a team which enabled them to get the casualties out quickly to the helicopter landing site.

We arrived back at camp thinking the hardest part of the night was over, but our next task was to assemble the bell tents we were going to sleep in. The cadets seemed to find this easier than the seniors.

We awoke to the smell of cooked breakfast which was very strange in the middle of a wood. Nearly everyone had slept well apart from one cadet who somehow had managed to not sleep in his sleeping bag all night.

The day started with a lecture about basic survival skills including the four necessities of bushcraft: Fire, Water, Shelter and Food. We were shown how to make a fire without matches and told that we would be cooking our own lunch on them. So if we couldn't light our fires, we were going to be hungry. Before making our fires we were show some very cool traps which included traps from catching deer to rabbit. The cadets' favourite trap was a rather nasty flying spear. We had to gather wood and after a number of attempts everyone managed to get a fire going. We were then was given some fish to cook on our fires. After lunch we plucked a pheasant and then we fired the meat.

Sadly the day had flown past, everyone had really enjoyed it and benefited from the whole experience. We hope that we can go back for another night to learn more bushcraft.

*Miles Pattison-Appleton (Cb LVI)*

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## Shrewsbury's Reception at Stokesay Court

Friday 11 March 2011

Following on from the hugely successful reception that we held at Capesthorne Hall in Cheshire last term, last Thursday saw a coachload of staff and some pupils depart for Stokesay Court, which shot to fame recently as the setting for '*Atonement*'.

Situated as it is just 5 miles north of Ludlow, we were delighted to entertain prospective parents from South Shropshire, Worcestershire and Herefordshire, with children at school at The Elms, Moor Park, St. Richard's, Abberley and Winterfold, along with three prep school headmasters.

Our guests were waited on by our pupils, and serenaded by our string quartet who came straight to the reception from Abingdon, where they had been competing in the national Pro Corda chamber music competition. Stokesay's magnificent oak-panelled hall soon filled up, and it was standing room only for the Registrar's and Headmaster's addresses.

The Registrar made the point that Shrewsbury's pupils come from 60 counties in the country; we're going to try to get 'The Shrewsbury School Reception Roadshow' to as many of these as we possibly can!



## Fives: Shrewsbury win EFA Schools' Mixed Pairs Championship at Eton

Monday 14 March 2011

*Alice Brett (MSH) & Jason Tse (I) beat a combined Haberdashers Aske's/Harrow team to become EFA Schools' Mixed Champions!*

Shrewsbury School claimed their second national title in two weeks by adding the Mixed Pair Title to the Teams Title at Eton on Sunday 13th March.

15 pairs from 5 schools entered this competition including 2 pairs from Ipswich and Anna Snowden from Haberdashers Aske's who had won the competition last year. The usual mixed rule whereby the male can only score one point when he serves applied.

The pools stage produced some competitive matches and all 8 quarter-final pairs were of a good standard. The top four pairs duly reached the semi-finals which matched the pairs that had won each pool against the pairs that had come second in the other. Both matches were very close, and in both the pair finishing second in the pools won the match:

Shrewsbury entered a record number of eight pairs in this event and returned a number of successes.

### GROUP STAGES

Hannah Blofield (MSH) & Guy Williams (Rb) & Ben Jones (PH) & Lucy Rands (MSH) came top of the two qualifying groups by playing some high quality fives, but could not get beyond the semi finals after falling to the top two seeded pairs.

### QUARTER / SEMI FINALS

Shrewsbury School had 4 pairs in the last 8 and 3 pairs in the last 4

### SEMI FINALS

Alice Brett (MSH) & Jason Tse (I) beat Hannah Blofield (MSH) & Guy Williams (Rb) 5) 12-7, 14-11

Anna Snowden & James Lawson Baker (Haberdashers Aske's/Harrow) beat Lucy Rands (MSH) & Ben Jones (PH) 12-10, 12-8

### FINAL

In the final, Shrewsbury quickly established a lead and never let go to win both games:

Alice Brett & Jason Tse (Shrewsbury) beat Anna Snowden & James Lawson Baker (Haberdashers Aske's/Harrow) 12-2, 12-7 to become EFA Schools' Mixed Champions.

**Plate A Winners:** Alice Long (MSH) & Alex Styles (S) beat Laura Kramer & Adam Morris

**Plate D Winners:** Izzy Barber (MSH) & Henry Blofield (PH) beat Sara Lim & Simon Bunting



# A Week in the Life of Tom Elliott (I UVI)

Thursday 17 March 2011

*As Deputy Head of School and Co-head of Ingram's Hall, Tom was asked to write his experiences of School life in the week leading up to the Ingram's Play, which he is producing as well as acting in. His account below gives the impression that almost every waking hour has been devoted to the play, but his Housemaster is keen for people to realise that he also played in a 1st XI football match on Saturday, has done some Fives training, been shopping for props (with his Housemaster) and has continued to take his studies extremely seriously in order to make his offer from Oxford!*

House play week is always a difficult one, and sometimes it's almost impossible to know where to find the energy to keep going.

It begins with a Sunday rehearsal which usually last from eleven o'clock in the morning until eleven o'clock at night, with a half hour break thrown in there at some point if it can be afforded. The fact is that, at this point, with only five days to go before the first performance of the play, there is no stage or lighting to work with, almost nobody knows their lines and it seems that for some reason everybody has forgotten how to act. This year was exactly like all the others: after twelve straight hours of much shouting and confusion, the realisation hit me; it was almost midnight on Sunday evening, we were opening on Friday, and, at this point, we did not seem to have anything which bared the least resemblance to a play. As I got into bed that night I found myself seeking some sort of comfort by reaching for that old cliché: 'Things can only get better'.

Fortunately, I was right. Monday dawned a new day and with it came fresh energy and renewed enthusiasm. Barely able to concentrate in lessons, I found myself revisiting every aspect of the play which needed attention (that is, most of it), and by the time the cast arrived for rehearsals that evening I knew exactly what had to be done. We went through everything in minute detail from the very beginning and nobody was allowed to leave until they had got it right. Perhaps the measures imposed were a touch extreme but something had to be done, and urgently, in order to ensure that this house play wouldn't be an embarrassment when it went on stage. It was yet another long and tiresome rehearsal as people got frustrated and weary from the excessive repetitions of tiny aspects of the play. At the moment when Monday night turned into Tuesday morning, however, I felt like we had got there, achieved something; my faith had been restored and I finally suggested that it would be a good idea for everyone to go to bed.

Tuesday. Technical Rehearsal. Four o'clock in the afternoon until half past ten at night. The technical crew are the saviours of theatre productions and they always seem to receive little or no recognition for it. I spent all afternoon with these people trying to get them to understand exactly what it was I wanted and becoming unnecessarily and selfishly frustrated with them as they tried to explain that most of it just was not possible. I was like a spoiled child in negotiations with his parents over a particularly specialised toy, getting angry when told I couldn't have it. The crew must have got so frustrated with me as I was so unaccommodating and probably most unhelpful. And yet, by late that evening we seemed to have established a set-



up which satisfied everybody and I made sure to apologise to them for having to put up with me and thank each one of them for all the hard work they had put in. We were getting there. Slowly.

Wednesday's rehearsal was longer still. After my mock French oral exam (for which I was woefully unprepared) finished just after two o'clock, I entered the theatre knowing I wouldn't be leaving there until the next morning; there was quite a bit to be done that afternoon. It began with more minor technical tweaks and alterations (it seems that I'm just never quite satisfied) and then moved into sorting out backstage practicalities. Scene changes were run through in minute detail with ever individual who had to move anything at any stage throughout the entirety of the production. They were told what to move, where to move it, when to come on stage, how long they had and then were all given a back up plan in case something went wrong on stage (you never can trust actors to just get it right). By the time that was done the actors were arriving and, after a short motivational chat, we attempted our first ever run-through of the play... It wasn't a disaster which, if you are acquainted with house plays, you will know is quite something even at this late stage of rehearsals. There was still plenty of work to be done but I felt everyone deserved an early night before the dress rehearsal tomorrow.

Writing this on Wednesday evening, I have got a feeling that we might just pull this thing off. It is quite something to witness the whole process, as almost an entire house comes together to put something on stage. You can see how much pride people take in their own house and its production, right through from those people painting the set to those out acting on the night. It is a rare pleasure and a privilege to be a part of something like that and I think it's for that reason that, despite all the stress and anxiety it may have caused, I have never wanted to miss out on being involved in an Ingram's house play. And this year is no different – I wouldn't want to be doing anything else.

*Tom Elliott*



## First OS girl to be Captain of Girls' Fives at Oxford

Thursday 17 March 2011

OS Alice Walker (MSH 2010 leaver) has just been awarded a Half Blue in Fives, and has been appointed Oxford's Captain of Girls' Fives from September. Girls' Fives at Oxford was only awarded a Half Blue status last term, so Alice is one of the first girls with this coveted award.

Alice was Captain of Girls' Fives at Shrewsbury, and recently competed (and won) against her old schoofriends in the Final of the Plate in the EFA Championships at Eton. She was invited to join the committee of the OS Fives Club at the Fives Annual Dinner Awards in May last year, thus becoming the first female member on any OS sports committee.

Alice is now reading Engineering Science at Oxford, having got an A\*, two As and a B in her A Levels last year.



## **Fives: Shrewsbury through to final in inaugural EFA Old Boys/Schoolboys tournament at Eton**

Sunday 20 March 2011

For the third Sunday in March, Shrewsbury School fives players were again involved in a national final.

George Thomason (G), Jason Tse (I) and Ben Jones (PH) joined forces with three OS's: Tony Walters, Mike Hughes (SH 1980) and Grant Williams (Coach) and battled their way to the final of the EFA Old Boys/Schoolboys tournament at Eton yesterday, playing against teams from St Olave's (x2), Eton, Harrow (2 pairs: exeat weekend), Ipswich, Emanuel and Berkhamsted. Each pair was made up of one old boy and one current schoolboy.

The teams were split into two groups and each pair played a match of 2 games with foot at 11 regardless. Shrewsbury went through to the semi-finals without dropping a game, and then proceeded to dispatch Harrow with great confidence, which meant a final against St Olaves. The Shrewsbury schoolboys performed brilliantly outclassing their same age opponents, the matches ultimately being decided on the difference in class, fitness and age with the more senior players, but it was a close run thing. By the end of the day each pair had played 11 very competitive games

My thanks goes out to all the boys who gave up their Sunday yet again and showed real commitment in supporting the School and the Old Salopian Club. It was a titanic effort.

*Grant Williams*





## First Guildford Dinner - at last!

Sunday 20 March 2011

32 Old Salopians finally gathered at The County Club, Guilford, after their original plan to meet in December had been snowed off; and 12 wives were also especially welcome at what was the first Surrey Dinner.

All were greeted at dinner by the chief organiser Roger Musson (Rt 1955-60) who agreed that what had started out as a Surrey gathering had become a 50's evening with Ridgemount particularly represented, and he thanked Sir Christopher Wallace (Rt 1956-60) and Tony Blacoe (Rt 1956-61) for their help. He also gave a warm welcome to the guest brushers - Michael Hart, Lawrence Le Quesne, John Alford and Robin Mouldale - and acknowledged the enormous debt he and his colleagues owed to those who had taught them.

The County Club fed us all excellently and after dining the President, Richard Barber OBE (SH 1955-60) enthused about his recent Presidential visit to the School, and what exciting developments were being discussed by the Club, including the appointment of a new Director. Then Jonty Lord (M 1975-80), the only current Salopian Member of Parliament, (MP for Woking just down the road) brought the company up to date with political excitement (!) and his new way of life.

Before all adjourned to the bar, the gift of a print John Alford's painting of Bumpers was presented and auctioned and a silent collection (no coins please) made - and an extraordinarily generous cheque for £655 was prepared to be sent to Shrewsbury House.

The evening therefore ended in tremendous warmth and a strong feeling of affection for all that those five years at Shrewsbury still meant. The thanks of all go to the County Club for looking after us so well, to Roger Musson and Miriam Walton at the Office for all their efforts in gathering everyone together, and to Rosemary Musson for decorating the tables and room so beautifully.

*Hugh Ramsbotham*

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# Old Salopians' Birmingham Dinner February 2011

Sunday 20 March 2011

Forty eight Old Salopians and staff gathered at the St Paul's Club in the historic jewellery quarter of Birmingham on Thursday 17 February for the annual dinner. It was pleasing to the organisers that more than half of those attending were under forty with some quite recent Old Salopians present, including several at Birmingham University. As is the tradition of the Club, guests were seated at one long table, the joint was carved at the table and rice pudding with Walsall sauce (neat gin) was on the menu!

Richard Woodgate, who presided, welcomed the new headmaster, Mark Turner and wished him and his wife, Elizabeth, a long, fulfilling and successful tenure as headmaster of Shrewsbury School. After dinner Michael Webb spoke briefly about his OS Club sponsored visit to Afghanistan; Robert Collins, who has gained a scholarship to Birklee College of Music in Boston, USA, then entertained us with items of music on the oboe and alto saxophone, accompanied by John Moore, Director of Music. Richard Barber President of the Old Salopian Club proposed a Toast to The Schools to which Mark Turner responded. The headmaster told us that the School had recently achieved "excellence" on all fronts in a recent OFSTED inspection, which was a tribute both to himself and his predecessor, Jeremy Goulding, that a new girls' house named the "Emma Darwin Hall" was nearing completion and that the school was full and powering ahead on all fronts.

## Farewell dinner for Tony Walters

Sunday 20 March 2011

A farewell dinner for Tony Walters, retiring Executive Secretary of the Old Salopian Club, was held at the Royal Overseas League in London on Thursday 17th March 2011, following the Committee Meeting.

The event was attended by almost 50 people who had worked with Tony over the last seven and a half years, including several past-Presidents and other officers of the Club, past Headmasters and the present Headmaster, Mark Turner, and many others.



## RSSBC: National Junior Sculling Head, Dorney Lake, 18th March 2011

Sunday 20 March 2011

### *Four J14 crews race on Dorney Lake*

This year for the first time that anyone can remember Shrewsbury was able to field 4 J14 Octuples, and was the only school to do so.

The A crew raced very well, overtaking the crews that came 1st and 3rd at Hampton Head in February. They came away with the bronze medal (out of 42 crews), being pipped by two local rivals - King's Chester and the Grange School - which should make for some great racing at Shrewsbury Regatta next term!

The B octuple found themselves up against a number of schools who had entered matched crews - the notional B crews from both Abingdon and Canford beat their own A crews, for instance! - so ended up a slightly disappointing fifth in their category.

The C crew had a very good, clean, powerful row, overtaking Emmanuel B and getting some very useful experience of side-by-side rowing in the process. They finished 2nd in their category to Bedford School.

Although the D crew had no direct competition (and therefore could consider themselves the fastest D octuple in the country!) they were set the task of beating at least one other crew. This they did by beating Shiplake College's C crew.

All of the crews came off the water having enjoyed their first national competition, and will now look forward to next term and the excitement of the regatta racing season.



## **RSSH: Benjies record of thirty years is broken by 4 seconds!**

Monday 21 March 2011

In the afternoon of Monday 21st March 2011, Cal Winwood (I UVI) attempted to break the 30 year-old Benjies record held by Adam Eyre-Walker (Rt 1979-1984), whose time of 7.17 has gone down in folklore and was, until today, generally thought to be unbeatable.

Today, however, it was felt that the conditions were right to launch an attack on Eyre-Walker's time, and tackle the harder old course that goes up Port Hill rather than Ridgemount Lane.

Wearing the red vest of the Huntsman, Cal stormed home in 7.13, helped on by the cheers from the Ingramites who lined the final 100 yards of the route. Master in charge, Peter Middleton, describes this as "an astonishing achievement."

Dr. Eyre-Walker recently returned to the school to deliver the Darwin Society lecture.

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## Hockey Vs Thomas Telford: Won 1-0

Monday 21 March 2011

A very encouraging team performance saw us worthy winners.

For the first minute or so we found it hard to get the ball out of our own half, but after that it was almost entirely one-way traffic. Indeed such was our territorial dominance that Oli Pattison-Appleton, our keeper, didn't make a single save in the whole game. Played Ben Gould up front gave our attack some much-needed fire power, and it seemed like the only way the opposition could stop Timmy Bird was by going for his legs rather than the ball, but everyone in the team played their part in a great all-round performance. Unfortunately the opposition goalkeeper had a good day and we only managed the one goal, scored by Joe Mason.

*Mr M F Wade*

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# Squash vs Cheltenham College: Lost 11-1

Monday 21 March 2011

Against the strongest opposition of the season, Cheltenham College, Shrewsbury struggled and came second best losing 11-1.

The match wasn't a level playing field age group wise as they had eight U6th formers and four L6th formers, whereas Shrewsbury had one U6th, one L6th, three 5th, three 4th and four 3rd formers.

George Bates (S 4) won for Shrewsbury at No.9 string.

*Mr M J Harding*



## Badminton Vs Wrekin College: Mixed Doubles, Won 11-5; Singles, Won 5-3

Monday 21 March 2011

In Shrewsbury's first full mixed doubles match (and deliberately on request not using our strongest side), the school finished as comfortable winners against Wrekin College. Captained for the first time by Fon (MSH), who partnered Pao as 1st pair, the team performed very strongly throughout the afternoon, and quickly adapted to the very different tactics of mixed doubles - where the positioning of the players becomes much more important.

Taylor and Mercury were statistically only just behind the first pair, also winning all their games, but perhaps the most surprising and pleasing performance was that of Mark Li and Janet Wong, who played some excellent and stylish badminton. Amina and Awin made up the fourth pair; they were unfortunate to not win a game, but pushed their opponents hard.

The afternoon concluded with some singles games, where their girls were undeniably stronger, apart from in the game where Janet Wong again showed her latent ability. The boys won all four of their singles comfortably.

An enjoyable afternoon against long-standing opponents whom we are always pleased to compete with.

*Mr A Dalton*



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# **Basketball Vs New College Telford (Shropshire U19 League): Won 52-35**

Monday 21 March 2011

A good team performance, with fine individual efforts from Jason Tse on defence and Ambrose Cheung, Aries Yiu and Michael Cheung who hit three x 3 point shots on offence.

*Mr W A Hughes*



## Benjies - What are they?

Monday 21 March 2011

**Master in Charge of The Hunt, Peter Middleton, answers a question that many have been asking since the announcement this week that Cal Winwood had broken the 30-year-old record Benjy time:**

"... As for the origins of Benjies, I couldn't tell you when they began, but I think they are a fairly ancient tradition, certainly going back 50 years or so. They are named after the Headmaster Benjamin Kennedy (not sure why!) who ran the school from 1836-1866 (of course, the Hunt was a fledgling club in his era. In fact, I think he was the Headmaster that banned it looking at those dates! Perhaps an ironic name then!)

Benjies are a weekly time-trial of 2.3km run by not only Hunt runners, but also by a great number of pupils in the school. On occasion, we have had over 100 out tackling the course, and regularly have around 60. In the Michaelmas term, there is a Junior Inter-House Benjy competition (current holders are Churchill's). This year, 78 pupils in the school have achieved the sub-10 minutes standard required to get onto my Rankings board (up from 53 last year). Two years ago, only one pupil ran under 8 minutes (Huntsman George Jarvis in 7.47). This year so far 9 have run under 8 minutes, and four have run 7 minutes 30 or below. Cal's time of 7.13 is on the old course, but his new course time is 7.06!"



## Football: w/c 14th March 2011

Monday 21 March 2011

### *One win, two draws*

An 'A' XI played Sandbach School and drew 1-1. Shrewsbury started the game very slowly and gave away a lot of possession to a useful team who played neat and attractive football. Shrewsbury had four Under 16's in the squad and welcomed back Tom Elliott for his first game since his cruciate knee operation. In the second half we stepped up the pace and created some good goalscoring opportunities.

The 2nd XI Football team played 2 games last week. They beat New College Telford 3-1 at home and drew 3-3 with Thomas Telford School. This now means they have won the Shropshire Schools Under 19 League for the first time. Many congratulations to all who have played for the 2nd XI this year, well done to Mr Clark and thanks go to Andy Cooke who has coached the 2nd XI this year.

*Mr S J Biggins*



## Rugby: 1st XV vs KES Stratford – Won 29-21

Monday 21 March 2011

### *A pulsating match*

For a neutral, this was a pulsating match; end to end stuff, and a dramatic finish. In a tight first half, KES took the lead with a neat back row move finished by the number eight, before Shrewsbury equalised and then pulled ahead with the conversion. Half time 7-5 to Shrewsbury. KES Stratford took advantage of Shrewsbury ill-discipline at the tackle, by slotting two penalties and a long range drop goal, plus a converted try, which appeared to have almost killed the game – KES Stratford leading by 21-10. Shrewsbury rallied in the final fifteen minutes determined not to lose their last game of the season proper. Ben Howarth, Will Mason and Nick Oakes all crossed the Stratford line in a Shrewsbury onslaught, two of which were converted by Ruaidhri Smith.

A deserved win in the end in a game Shrewsbury were determined not to lose.

The 1st VII's squad now travel to Stonyhurst and Rosslyn Park for season ending sevens tournament.

*Mr P Greetham*



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*Mr S J Biggins*

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## Netball: 1st VII vs Shrewsbury 1st VII vs Sixth Form College - Lost 18-13

Monday 21 March 2011

This was a disappointing result for Shrewsbury as the team started well, but then went off the boil and allowed the Sixth Form to get into the game. At the end of the first quarter, Shrewsbury were deservedly 5-2 up. However, the Sixth Form upped their game and came back in the 2nd quarter to make it 7-6 to Shrewsbury at half time. At this point, Shrewsbury didn't quite manage to get into full swing and although still having some good moments of play were a little inconsistent, whilst the Sixth Form really got into a rhythm. Final score 13-18.

*Mrs N J Bradburne*



# A Week in the Life of Edward Carroll (Ch 3)

Tuesday 22 March 2011

*Ed is a cox for the J14 squad, and competed last Friday as part of the J14B crew in the National Junior Sculling Head at Eton College's Dorney Lake. Finding themselves up against several other 'B' crews who beat their own 'A' teams, Shrewsbury's J14B's rowed extremely well, and placed a strong 5th. They are now looking forward to the summer and regatta racing. [RMW]*

This week, together with lessons, Top Schools and other activities, was the week of the National Junior Sculling Head, so I had a lot of training sessions, yet did manage to squeeze some free time in here and there.

On Monday, amid the plethora of lessons and other work-related activities, the J14 Squad was getting ready for the big race on Friday – we had been training since the beginning of last term! I was coxing for the race, and looking forward to it. Aside from rowing, my lessons for the day had been enjoyable and I got a lot done – even though there are only 2 weeks left of term!

On Tuesdays, there are 3rd form tutor periods – I was due to finish my talk on Space that I started last week. It went very well, and my tutor group was very engaged and a good audience. It was fun to talk and get the questions – testing me on my knowledge!

Wednesday is always a good day for me, as I get a long free afternoon away from lessons, with a big relaxing period before supper. This week however, I had an orthodontist appointment – Bang in the middle of rowing training. We had to schedule around this, so in true boathouse fashion, they all had cookies and watched a DVD while I was gone – I didn't even get a bite! Around this, however, we did as much as we could – 2 short outings instead of 1 long one. After all of this, I could settle down for my afternoon, slotting in some Top Schools here and there.

Thursday is another good day, as I have drama and PSHE in the afternoon. These were fun, and in drama we finished watching a film called 'Shakespeare in love'. Afterwards we all came down to the boathouse for our final training outing before the race. The pressure was on. We went out, raced, and came back in. It had to be short, as we had to do the dreaded derigging. This was a daunting and time consuming task, as you have to take off all of the riggers – where the blades go in the boat. When we had finally finished, we put them on the trailer, and got some rest.

Friday was race day. We had a late breakfast arranged for us – a treat! After a small coxes briefing for each of the 4 coxes, we were off to Dorney Lake, Eton's Rowing Club's Lake. The sights there were fantastic! We arrived, and got off the bus... to rain. It was drizzling with rain and we were forced to rerig the boats in the freezing cold. After a while though, this cleared up into some relatively nice – and welcome – sunshine. After all this we collected our lunches and got ready. We were called over, and put our boats in, ready to go... and pushed off. We got into our lane, and started. We shot off straight away down the line of buoys keeping my boat and me in the right place. We went up and down the 4K stretch, with much support from parents and fans. As soon as we had finished, we had to take the boat out, and take all the riggers off again – hardly enough time to rest for a bit!

# Shrewsbury

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Once all was done, we set off in our coach, back to Shrewsbury. We were told the results on the way back, and were very pleased with what we had achieved. All of that training paid off as a great day out and a really enjoyable (and competitive) race. We arrived back at around 10pm realising how many Top Schools were due the next day...

Unfortunately for us though, on Saturday, we were back down on the river, putting the riggers back on our boats. After this, we went out for a relaxing single and double sculling session.

The Rowing side of the week was over. On Sunday, amidst some Top Schools, I was able to relax, and went home for the day, tired after the whole week of rowing training. As I came back to school that evening, I was wondering what next week would bring...





# The Symphony Orchestra & Community Choir at Birmingham Town Hall – Review

Tuesday 22 March 2011

Concerts in the nineteenth century were, like the dinner menus of the period, notable for their massive scale and wide variety, features which are still to be found in John Moore's programme planning. Returning to the venerable Town Hall in Birmingham, a venue combining modern facilities with historic splendour, the Music Department served up course upon course to satisfy every appetite. It is a tribute to the success of the Maidment Building, recently celebrating its tenth anniversary, that so much individual and collective rehearsal can go on, for, make no mistake, this concert was the product of many, many hours of dedicated preparation. Some three hundred singers and instrumentalists were involved, a logistical challenge in itself, and the smooth running of the evening owed much to good planning and also the professional assistance of the Hall's own platform staff. The many "scene changes" were swiftly accomplished – just as well!

First on was the Wind Orchestra, under the direction of Maria Curtis, in a performance of Malcolm Arnold's Four Scottish Dances that was particularly distinguished in the quieter passages. More often than not, this kind of large ensemble fails to achieve delicacy, but here there was refinement and wit where appropriate. The bassoon solo was outstanding and the vigorous sequel superbly managed.

There followed a triple bill of concertos, Tom Elcock leading the way with a movement from Edward Gregson's composition for trumpet and string orchestra. The soloist rose to the challenge of a work which called for a range of effects, the inherent difficulties disguised by his advanced technique and the accompaniment, under David Joyce, was excellent. Whereas it can be the case that the backing to a virtuoso is distractingly inferior, here, and in the other two in the sequence, the playing was polished and idiomatic. The strings keep on getting better.

The Mozart flute concerto (the one originally for oboe) got off to a flying start, the exposition jaunty and tender, the soloist, Jonathan Poon, mellow in tone and nimble in articulation.

Robert Collins has made a massive contribution to the musical life of the school and he can have done nothing better than his dazzling account of Joseph Horowitz' oboe concerto. However demanding, however hectic the writing, he was in control, and in the second movement, the "hymn-like slow processional" was beautifully realised. This gifted artist was rightly acclaimed at the end.

End of first half? Not likely! "Finlandia" next and what a breathtaking interpretation. Perhaps John Moore was inspired by the success of the preceding item, perhaps he had an eye on the clock; whatever the motive, he set speeds which could have thrown the orchestra into confusion, but they responded with razor-sharp attack and the overall effect was thrilling. The dignity of this heroic tone-poem suffered not a whit, the "big tune", though faster than usual, retaining its power to inspire.

After the Brass Ensemble and the Chamber Choir, the main course of the second half came in the form of the Faure Requiem. The first few bars were a trifle muted, as distinct from reverently hushed, but the large chorus soon warmed up and the Director can be rightly proud



of the response he obtained. The orchestral playing was of a high standard throughout and the whole had a spiritual quality in keeping with the solemnity of the work. It was a treat to hear Stephen Garner's rich baritone fill the hall so effortlessly, and Marianne Shawe-Taylor, deputising at short notice for the indisposed Eleanor Hudson, sang the Pie Jesu to great effect. What followed (yes, there was more to come!) had a celebratory quality, often sought, seldom found. Chorus and orchestra threw themselves into Parry's Coronation anthem "I was glad" and at its climax, John, elated and sensing that his forces were with him, risked a series of pauses such as a soloist might indulge in – but three hundred? The response was flawless, a glorious, uplifting conclusion to the evening. It must be exhilarating indeed to participate in such a moment. For a grateful bystander, it was profoundly moving.

*Martin Knox*



## Rugby: 1st VII reach semi-final of U18 Stonyhurst Sevens

Thursday 24 March 2011

The 1st VII Squad reached the semi-final of the U18 Stonyhurst Sevens on Wednesday, only to be pipped by Giggleswick by four tries to two. Earlier in the day, Shrewsbury had stormed through their pool, scoring over 20 tries and conceding only one, including a memorable 33-7 win over the hosts Stonyhurst College.

The U16 VII Squad were knocked out at the quarter-final stage by 26-22 against RGS Lancaster (see separate report by Matthew Davies (M 5)).

A successful day's sevens at one of the premier sevens events of the season. Next stop Rosslyn Park!



## Last year's Harvard Fellow rows for Cambridge in the women's crew

Thursday 24 March 2011

Last year's Harvard Fellow, Anna Kendrick (AKK) - currently reading an MPhil in European Literature and Culture at Emmanuel College, Cambridge - has been selected for the Cambridge Blue Boat to race Oxford in the Henley Boat Races this Sunday afternoon (the day after the more well known men's boat race in London). There is additional interest in this year's race as the Oxford crew will feature Natalie Redgrave - daughter of Sir Steve!

So far this year Anna has been a member of the Light Blue crews which have won Academic IM2 4+ at the Fours Head, and IM2 eights at the Women's Head of the River Race last weekend. The Cambridge University Women's Boat Club (CUWBC) intends to compete at the British Universities Regatta in May, an international regatta in Seattle in May, and Henley Royal Regatta at the end of June/beginning of July.

Anna began her rowing at Winsor School, Boston, and was Co-captain of Harvard's Radcliffe Crew that came 2nd in the 2009 Eastern Sprints. She coached girls' rowing during her time at Shrewsbury, and excelled at our first-ever triathlon in 2010.

We wish Anna and her crew the best of luck!



## Ingram's Hall Play: Six Characters In Search of an Author

Thursday 24 March 2011

Some of our distinguished readers may have seen the splendid performance of the Ingram's Hall play on Friday 18th or Saturday 19th March. We would like to offer our thanks from the entirety of the Ingram's theatre production team. Having seen every Ingram's production over the past four years, I believe this was the most moving, the most thought provoking and the most entertaining in a long time. To add to the amazement of those who saw the performance must still be feeling, it is very important to add that this was a production that was re-written, created, and directed by Ingram's boys. Having said this, our very own Assistant Housemaster, Dimitri Portier, was always available to guide and advise our excellent directors Tom Elliott and Jack Flowers. Tom and Jack worked night and day over this production, not sleeping until every line they re-wrote was perfectly amalgamated into the classic Pirandello script. They gave more than anyone else, not only directing but acting too, Jack as the sceptical manager and Tom as the guilty father. This was truly a team effort though and the rest of those involved cannot go without mention.

First of the girls, Kate Swarbrick, the female lead, gave a vibrant, energetic performance as the promiscuous step-daughter. Second, Izzy Osborne, who, playing the aggrieved mother, added a sense of tension and drama to the stage. We cannot forget the other two female actors Gwen Ellis and Izzy Hamer who remained on stage as actresses within the play throughout. Another semi-female lead, played by yours truly, was hopefully not too disturbing to the younger members of the audience, however I believe the older members rather enjoyed it (I even recall hearing a wolf whistle at some point). Other actors included Edward Grant, Kiran and Nikhil Morjaria, Chris Williams, and Jack Houghton. Henry Lewis was the grouchy son and the two brothers to whom the tragedy occurs, namely, George Lewis and Rufus Litchfield.

Backstage crews and lighting crews were excellent and they worked tirelessly to make the very complicated scene changes fit together smoothly. Our technician Dan Hurcomb was backed up by Simon Jones, Andrew Hurcomb, Joe Bell, Jimmy Bruce and Harry Flowers. Other members of the backstage crew included egg-catcher Jamie Humes, Henry Rassmuss the doorman, Peter Evans, and Will Bruce. On Lighting we had Calvin Chan and Chris Chane who worked out the lighting system, without assistance, in just two weeks of rehearsals.

In conclusion one could see the warmth of the Ingram's Hall spirit involved in bringing the production to life and how the determination of all allowed us to put on a memorable performance.

By Max Mason



## Ingram's win our first ever House Netball Tournament

Thursday 24 March 2011

Shrewsbury's first ever house netball tournament took place this week, with all houses included and competing for the title.

The first round matches were a little scrappy, but once players got to grips with the rules, there was actually some good netball played! Unfortunately, the Mary Sidney girls with their far superior knowledge of (and adherence to) the rules, were knocked out by an extremely tall Grove squad at this stage.

Moser's looked like strong contenders from the outset, with some good shooting ability in their team, but other houses had the advantage of height so it was going to be difficult to call. School House and Ingram's put in good early performances, with School House just missing out to Radbrook for a place in the semi finals.

The final took place on a sunny Wednesday afternoon between Ingram's and Moser's. It was a close game and both sides played really well – demonstrating a vast improvement through the rounds. At half time it was 2-2. In the 2nd half, Ingram's were a little more successful in the circle and won 6-4. A great first tournament played in a good spirit. Here's looking forward to next year!

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## Concerts in the Round' at St. Chads Church, Shrewsbury

Saturday 26 March 2011

Our A Level students performed their exam pieces at St. Chad's on Friday 25th March, as part of the series of 'Concerts in the Round' - lunchtime concerts, open to the public, that take place in the beautiful St. Chad's Church in the centre of Shrewsbury.

This was the students' last chance to perform these pieces before their exams, and they were delighted to find themselves in front of an enthusiastic audience of over 100 people there.

# The Saracens - the Old Salopian Cricket Club

Monday 28 March 2011

The Old Salopian Cricket Club - The Saracens - has a long and noble history including going back to days when Old Salopians informed their counties that they were not available for County fixtures because they were representing the Saracens in the Cricketer Cup.

Annual activities include the Cricketer Cup fixtures, the matches against the School on Speech Day, the Cricket Week at Shrewsbury and the Devon Tour. The [2011 Fixture List](#) gives further details of all of these, together with the list of Club officials and managers and contact details.

Old Salopians, parents, staff, and of course, all Saracens are invited to come and support the Saracens team in the Cricketer Cup. The first round is against Marlborough on Sunday 12th June 2011 at Shrewsbury.





## A review of the new Tuesday lunchtime concerts in Chapel

Monday 28 March 2011

The already very active Music Department launched a new venture this term with a series of lunchtime concerts in the Chapel, entertaining a small, but always enthusiastic audience with a wide range of items for soloists and small ensembles. The average temperature inside was just above zero, but the music-making was heart-warming, whether from nervous newcomers to public performance or from veterans of the platform, and if the cold was a hazard, the acoustic properties of the venue were ideal right across the repertoire.

It is understandably difficult for members of the community to find time to spare on a full school day, yet it has often been the case that regrets have been expressed - after the event - about missing this or that item. Advance publicity with details of the programme would help, and the temptation to include too much must be resisted. What began as a rigorous cut-off at 2pm soon slipped into forty minutes or more. These points are made in the hope that this welcome weekly event will remain in the calendar, attracting listeners in greater numbers. For those present, it was always an oasis in the day and those who took part should not feel that their efforts were wasted.

So many boys and girls sang and played during the term that a comprehensive review is out of the question, but I will select as "Player of the Series" Eugene To, whose stunning performances of piano works by Debussy and Chopin made one want to hear more - much more. He deserves a recital of his own. Many others made their mark, some already familiar to Shrewsbury concert-goers, others alerting us to their talent for the first time. Finally I would like to offer my thanks to Christopher Hardman, who, as well as playing the clarinet quite beautifully, did a great deal on the organisational side, including deputising for JFM as master of ceremonies. He can be proud of his contribution.

*MKW*



## Football: w/c 21st March - 2 convincing victories to end the season

Monday 28 March 2011

### **Wednesday 23rd March: A XI v Royal Grammar School, Worcester**

The 'A' XI football team travelled to RGS Worcester and had a convincing win in their last match of the season. Roy Chatterjee added to his School record by scoring 5 goals - one whilst playing at left back, this now gives him a career total of 83 goals from 61 games. Max Pragnell scored 3 which took his total to 21 goals from 28 matches - 8 of which he started as substitute. Shrewsbury ended the game as 11-4 winners.

*Mr S J Biggins*

### **Wednesday 23rd March: 2nd XI v Royal Grammar School, Worcester**

The 2nd XI rounded off their season with a comfortable 4-1 victory over RGS Worcester 2nds. The 2nds scored 3 early goals and looked comfortable for the rest of the match. The highlight of the 2nd half was Lucas Munz' overhead volley for the fourth goal. Over the last 3 years, Lucas has played 50 times for the 2nd XI, so it was fitting that he should save his most spectacular finish for his final match.

*Mr M D H Clark*



## From 'Ready Steady Cook' to Claridges

Monday 28 March 2011

As a result of representing Mary Sidney Hall in our first ever inter-house Ready Steady Cook challenge, Eila Purvis (MSH UVI) has got herself some work experience at Claridges, which she will be doing after she leaves Shrewsbury in the summer.

Eila is studying for A Levels in Classical Civilisation, Religious Studies and Business Studies, plays the French horn in the school orchestra, and has become a keen rower since starting at Shrewsbury - she is a member of our Girls' VIII crew and competes at national inter-school level.

After a gap year, during which she will be spending six months working at a Red Cross hospital in Japan, Eila hopes to study Hospitality Management at Oxford Brookes.



## Hockey: w/c 21st March - 2 matches won, 1 lost

Monday 28 March 2011

### **Saturday 26th March: 1st XI v Bromsgrove B XI -Won 7-0**

Last year's fixture against Bromsgrove B (their A team are regularly National School Finalists) was a hard-fought 2-2 draw, so Saturday's match was an eagerly awaited opportunity to measure the progress we have made during this season.

Well, we did not have to wait to find out, and in the third minute of the match we scored the first of our seven goals, with a sublimely hit shot from Will Moorcroft. The next came only a few moments later, in the sixth minute, after some deft dribbling and quick passes between the midfield three of Archie Milligan-Manby, Archie Smith-Osbourne and Jamie Bird (Captain), through Will Leigh-Bramwell to Ali Bird, scoring the first of his two goals. The rest of the half was a training ground match, and at half-time we were 5-0.

We possibly played the second half even better, but although opportunities were made, only two were converted, and the match finished with a well-deserved win (7-0), with the final tally of goals from Moorcroft (3), Bird A (2), Leigh-Bramwell (1) and Bird J (1).

### **Monday 28th March: 1st XI v Bridgnorth Endowed School (BES) Semi-Final: Shropshire County Cup**

Lost 1-2

After a full season, and huge improvements across all areas of the game, it was with great anticipation that we faced Bridgnorth Endowed School (BES) in the Semi-Finals of the Shropshire County Cup. Having lost two weeks earlier to ThomasTelford School (6-9), who were beaten by BES in the last round of the Cup, the team came to the game with expectations of a tough match. They were not to be disappointed.

It was perhaps the scale of the challenge, or maybe the overall standard of the opposition, but it would probably be fair to say that we played the best hockey of the season during this match. The tackles were ferocious at times, and no quarter was given on either side. Passing had to be so quick and accurate that any failure in precision immediately gave the other side at least 20 m advantage for a counter-attack. The back four of Nick Thompson, Charlie Boutflower, Angus Thompson and Tom Fletcher-Wilson was as solid as they have been all season, and at half-time had only allowed a single shot at goal from any of BES's short-corners (and that unsaveable).

We in turn had countered, using much of our pace on the right wing with effect, and making use of every opportunity to score, which we did to take us into the interval at 1-1, confident that we had earned the right to match BES.

The second half was a gruelling affair, and despite going down a goal shortly after the break, we had a lot of the ball, especially in the last quarter of the match. Our break-outs were frequent, and against lesser opposition would have been converted. Unfortunately their keeper made very few errors, leaving us with only three chances to level the score. Sadly, none were taken, and after a punishing last ten minutes, through which both teams were committing themselves fully into every tackle and ball chase, the match finished as a 1-2 loss. Although disappointed with the



score, the team to a man should take comfort from knowing that they could not, and have not, played any better all season.

My thanks go to the whole team, led by Jamie Bird, Boutflower C (S), Lechmere F (R), Milligan-Manby A (R), Moorcroft W (G), Thompson N (G), Bird A (Ch), Darrington O (Ch), Leigh-Bramwell W (R), Milligan-Manby W (M), Nolan W (I), Phillips W (Rb), Smyth-Osbourne A (Rt), Thompson A (G), Barnett M (SH), Fletcher-Wilson T (SH)

### **Saturday 26th March: U16 XI v Bromsgrove School U16B - Won 6-0**

The first 50 minutes of this match showcased the best hockey the team has produced all term, and Ben Gould's presence at centre forward improved our attacking potential dramatically as he scored 4 goals. The best goal was by Ollie Horsnall, deflecting a waist-high hit into the net from close range. The other goal was scored by Joe Mason. We should have scored more goals, but two yellow cards meant we were on the defensive for the last ten minutes.

*Mr M F Wade*



## Biology Department Expedition to Sulawesi, Indonesia - August 2011

Tuesday 29 March 2011

After some very successful expeditions in the past, the Biology Department is taking a group of 17 students from the Fifth and Sixth Forms to Sulawesi, Indonesia, in August.

Sulawesi lies on the Wallace Line where the flora and fauna of Australasia and Asia meet, accounting for great terrestrial and marine biodiversity – 79% of species are endemic. The expedition will be run by Operation Wallacea with the objective of gathering ecological data that will contribute to conservation programmes and international research. In the past, surveys undertaken by Operation Wallacea student groups have resulted in the publication of hundreds of research papers and the discovery of 30 new vertebrate species.

The first week will be based in the tropical rainforest of Buton Island where the group will learn jungle survival skills and carry out ecological surveys to monitor biodiversity as part of a program examining the pressures of human impacts in the area. There will also be an opportunity to sleep out in the rainforest and access the forest canopy on ropes - something few people get to experience! The second week will be based at the internationally recognised Hoga Island Marine Research Station in the Wakatobi National Park - a world centre for marine biodiversity. Students will gain PADI Open Water diving qualifications in school before the expedition so that they can make the most of their week carrying out ecological surveys of coral reefs.

Participants should be challenged and inspired and will build a strong knowledge of ecological techniques and biology that will set them apart at university. Mention of the expedition, commitment to fundraising and diving qualifications on a UCAS personal statement will provide a powerful demonstration of subject interest sought by university admissions officers. The expedition will contribute directly to conservation in an area that has been identified as a global priority for conservation. Furthermore, it will provide an opportunity to gain an insight into life in the Developing World which will be of huge value to any young person.

The expedition will be led by two members of the Biology Department - Dr. Richard Case and Mr. Willam Simper. Dr. Case is a specialist in the populations genetics of marine fisheries, has trained as a mountain leader and has travelled widely in Southern Africa, South America, Borneo and Asia. Mr. Simper is a specialist natural historian, keen hunter and an experienced member of past school expeditions. Some of the student participants have already bought field guides to learn about the extraordinary fauna that will be encountered. On their return, they will be specialists in the biology of the Wallacea Region.

Pupils have been signing up to the expedition throughout the Lent Term, and their fundraising is well underway. On Sunday, Abi Miller (MSH UVI) and Imola Atkins (MSH LVI) put their Hunt training to the test and took part in the Liverpool Half Marathon in an effort to raise sponsorship for their trips. Abi completed the course in 2 hours 10 minutes, but unfortunately Imola didn't get to the end since she was suffering from 'flu, but valiantly completed the first 4-5 miles.

On the same day, Richard Case took a number of the pupils on a training and team-building day up the Glyders in Snowdonia.



# Harry Boutflower (S V) in the British Junior Beekeeping Team

Tuesday 29 March 2011

The British Beekeeping Association has picked Harry Boutflower as one of a team of three to represent the UK at the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers near Vienna in August 2011. This is a three-day competition, that covers both the theory and practical sides of beekeeping.

Harry's fascination with beekeeping started when he was 11 and his family moved to a house that had a hive in desperate need of attention. A teacher at his prep school, Sir Anthony Rigby, encouraged and supervised Harry's burgeoning interest, and Harry even made his own hive. He then went on to learn more about the art of beekeeping, he entered the Shrewsbury Flower Show (Bee Section) and took some Bee Keeping exams.

Harry writes "Since starting at Shrewsbury, I have been a keen member of the Beekeeping Club in Societies Hour, run expertly by Dr Allott and Mr Selby Martin. The club provides expert knowledge and I approve of its hands on approach. I am also still under the guidance of Sir Anthony, who has now been my mentor for the past 6 years.

"Earlier this term Dr Allott gave me the news that I had been selected to represent Great Britain, at an international Competition in Beekeeping in Austria. I am starting to realise how much I still need to learn as I am sure that we will face strong competition. I still feel amazed that I have been given this wonderful opportunity to represent the UK. I promise that I will give it my all!"



## Ist XI individual goal scoring record now set - 83, by Roy Chatterjee (SH UVI)

Tuesday 29 March 2011

*Roy and Charlie Pilkington selected for the ISFA U18 team, and tour in Finland.*



The previous individual record of the number of goals scored in 1st XI matches was 60, set by Raul Alexis in 2008. Roy Chatterjee smashed through this back in October, and continued to play, and score, to the end of the season. The new record, set by Roy, is 83 goals scored over 61 matches.

Roy joined Shrewsbury in the Sixth Form, after being awarded the 'life-changing' Cassidy Sports Scholarship, and has had trials for Leeds United and Derby County. As Steve Biggins has commented, Roy "has one of the best habits a footballer can have - he scores goals. He is quick, left-footed and he understands the game."

Both Roy and the Ist XI Captain, Charlie Pilkington (G UVI), were selected for the Northern ISFA (Independent Schools Football Association) team after trials in the Michaelmas Term. They then had a North v South game, after which a squad of about 18 players is picked for the full ISFA team and both boys were selected again. They will now be going on the annual ISFA tour, this time to Finland, over the Easter holidays, by which time they will have played 3 or 4 matches. They will also be playing against Scotland at Nottingham Forest FC on Sunday 1st May.

Max Pragnell (G 5) was also selected for the U16 ISFA tour, but he had to turn the place down as he lives abroad.

Roy also played in the England v Wales Fans Match at Cardiff, before the England v. Wales game. In the official video clip of the game, Roy is described by the team manager as a "star in the making; he could go all the way if he wanted to." Roy is also interviewed briefly after the match, in which he had scored the first and second goals, helping England to win 3-2. The clip is on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbUIhwPhxZE>.





## A Week in the Life of Henry Blofield (PH 4)

Wednesday 30 March 2011

*Henry was nominated by Andy Barnard to do this week's 'Week in the Life' article, as he has been taking part in the National Schools' Fives Championships at Eton and we thought it would be interesting to get an insider's view account of their time there.*

Like last year, all the fives players were encouraged to get as much time on court as possible to prepare for the nationals.

On Friday, I found out I was going to be playing with Harry Croft in the open competition. We had never played together before so we needed to get used to each other's play. We played a few games together on Friday and Saturday and quickly developed a partnership.

I travelled down to Eton on Sunday morning with my Dad and was relieved not to go in a cramped up minibus. The under 15 tournament began on the Sunday; however I couldn't qualify as I got to the semi-finals last year. We then travelled to the Travelodge; got showered and changed and went back to eat at the school. After our meal we went into Windsor for an hour or so and then returned back to the hotel. The under 16's started on Monday, I played with Charlie White and we finished second in our group. Although we played well in the next round, it wasn't enough to get past Eton's strong, but ill-mannered first pair. Again, we went back to the hotel, had a quick turn around and went back to Eton to eat. We were given the choice whether to go into town or not, I chose not to and to head back to the hotel for an earlier night.

On Tuesday, it was the open competition. Harry Croft and I were dealt a fairly tough group and managed to come third. We were then drawn against KES Birmingham's first pair and beat them comfortably. Next round we came up against St Olaves 4, we knew it would be a tough match as they came top of their group, but we were both driven by the fact that if we won this set, we would stay an extra night and miss another day of lessons. On the way back to the hotel, we stopped off at McDonalds.

On Wednesday we probably had the worst draw out of the last 16 – Shrewsbury 1. The game was played at about 3 o'clock, so I had some time at the hotel to myself and decided to have a quick 'power nap' followed by watching some TV. We left the hotel at about 12:15 and went to have lunch at the school. We took on the challenge of the first seed, lost 3-0 and faced the long trip back to Shrewsbury, but overall we were very pleased to get as far as we did.



## Saracens President's letter March 2011

Thursday 31 March 2011

**March 2011 - The President, Nicko Williams (SH 1954-58) writes:**

Dear Saracen

Our Cricketer Cup Captain, Rob Hillman, who has been a wonderfully enthusiastic and respected leader, has decided to step down and I am sure that you would like me to thank him for his selfless efforts over the years. The task of organizing Salopians can be more than a little frustrating, but he has been a model of restraint and efficiency and we wish him well.

It gives me great pleasure to tell you that Tom Cox will succeed Rob as Captain of the Cricketer Cup side. Tom was an outstanding cricketer at the Schools and a prolific run scorer at all levels, which has continued at Durham University and at Shrewsbury Cricket Club. He will be assisted in running the Cricketer Cup campaign by Ben Chapman, his Vice Captain. Ben has a splendid record in the competition and has worked tirelessly to make the Devon Tour such a happy and successful event. Good luck to them both.

Can I appeal to all those who enjoy watching cricket on the Common, - Old Salopians, parents, staff, and of course, all Saracens - to come and support our Team in the Cricketer Cup. The first round is against Marlborough on Sunday 12th June at Shrewsbury.

We would particularly like to see parents of the players, to recreate the support we enjoyed during the successful campaigns of the 70's and 80's, when an enthusiastic caravan of camp followers travelled round the country with us, suitably equipped with various forms of refreshment. Our President during those heady years was Alan Barber, a most distinguished captain of Yorkshire, and uncle of Richard, current President of the OS Club.

For younger / new Saracens, please do not wait to be asked to play in any fixture; the Cricketer Cup, the Speech Day game or the wonderful Devon Tour. Get in touch with the match manager and make yourself available. You will be made very welcome and we really need you.

I am glad to say that Andy Barnard, Master in Charge of Cricket, and Paul Pridgeon, Chief Coach, are fully behind your Committee's wish to see the recent success of cricket at the Schools being fully reflected in your Club's performance in the Cricketer Cup and other fixtures. Please rally round.

Yours sincerely

*NC Williams*  
**PRESIDENT**