

CCF: RAF Flying experience

Thursday 1 March 2012

Eight members of the RAF section spent Wednesday afternoon taking their first flight in a RAF aircraft at No.8 Air Experience Flight at RAF Cosford. The boys, all members of the fourth form, have been in the RAF since November have been looking forward to this since they joined. Amongst their number was Jonathan Trenchard (S), who is the great-great nephew of Viscount Hugh Trenchard, founder of the Royal Air Force at the end of the First World War.

Jonathan spent 20 minutes in the air in a Grob Tutor, a single engine two-seater basic trainer aircraft. In that time, he took the controls and did various aerobatic manoeuvres such as looping the loop, stall turns and Cuban rolls. He described his flight as 'awesome and the best thing I have done since coming to Shrewsbury.'





A Week in the Life of Ed Grant (I UVI) - studying in Bordeaux

Thursday 1 March 2012

Ed Grant went on the Sixth Form Study Visit to Bordeaux over half term, and was asked to write up his experiences for the 'Week in the Life' slot. We hope to get a few photos to go with his piece in due course...

Friday 10th Feb

After the rigours of a busy half term, I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to once again attend the 6th form study visit to Bordeaux in Southern France, an annual venture intended for both the education and cultural immersion of 6th form French students. We set off early on the Friday morning, even earlier than anticipated, in order to compensate for the havoc that the snow was inflicting on the unsuspecting British motorists, we know it well. Our arrival at the airport, delayed by an emergency coach change, was pleasantly uneventful as we went through the motions and eventually boarded our flight. After a brief hop over the channel we arrived in Bordeaux, and were greeted warmly by our respective families, who quickly whisked us away to our houses.

Saturday 11th

After any amount of travelling one needs a good lie in, the staple of any Salopian's week. Today was no exception, and after a quick lunch with our new family, we headed off for a rendez-vous at the Virgin megastore at 2:00, for a trip to the fabled vineyards of St Emilion. On arrival, the connoisseurs amongst us were horrified to find that access to the vineyards themselves was forbidden due to the amounts of snow they had received that last week, so we could only do the first half of our excursion. However, such a minor annoyance could not detract from the beautiful town of St Emilion, where we were given a comprehensive tour of the town's most notable landmarks and monuments, including an underground church, one of only two in the whole world. After our shortened excursion, we all made our way back to our host families, with varying degrees of success due to the size and complexity of the French road systems.

Sunday 12th

Sunday was spent with the families, allowing Messieurs Mostyn and Portier a welcome reprieve from what was an exuberant group of boys and girls. My family, due to their work and family commitments, did not have any elaborate plans for the day; however they did kindly take us out for a brief tour of the surrounding area, and gave us some useful local insight as to the Bordelaisian way of life, which is very relaxed and chilled out, not unlike the attitude of Shrewsbury. After the tour, it was back home for another exquisite meal and an evening of discussion, finding out more about the host family and the French lifestyle, which appeals to me a great deal.

Monday 13th

Monday was the beginning of our lesson course at the Alliance Française, a highlight for any budding linguist. These lessons, tailored for our Pre-U requirements, provided a useful opportunity to practice our grammar and all aspects of French, with plentiful breaks throughout for a quick breath of fresh air and a drink. After the lessons, we were taken on a walking tour of



Bordeaux, passing through some of the more famous areas of Bordeaux. Having been on the previous Bordeaux trip, I vaguely knew of such areas, however it did give me a chance to refresh my memory and to learn one or two new facts about the city. In the evening, after the tour, we visited the theatre, where we were treated to an improvisation show, consisting of hilarious sketches and witty, spontaneous acting. After the show, we had the long walk back to our host families who, as always, greeted us warmly whilst also putting their four kids to bed, a difficult task at the best of times.

Tuesday 14th

Tuesday began a lot brighter than the previous days, as the weather had risen to just above absolutely freezing, and settled at the tolerable level of finger-numbingly cold. Once again, we gritted our teeth and settled down for the lessons, which thankfully went by without too much fuss or anguish. After a brief lunch at the wonderfully named “Flunch”, we proceeded to the Grand Theatre, where we were given a swift tour of this magnificent opera house. Such was the brevity of the tour that we were able to have an extended period of free time, with which we decided to indulge in some proper French culture, and went for a little tasting of typical Bordelaisian wine, without excessing of course. After this free time we regrouped and headed to the cinema, where we watched perhaps one of my all-time favourite films “Les Intouchables”, a truly inspirational display of cinematic artistry.

Wednesday 15th

After the lessons on Wednesday, we had a packed out itinerary. First stop was the Atelier de Chefs, where I learnt how to cook a sumptuous fillet of fish, whilst also experiencing the frantic nature of a French kitchen, which can get very heated. After a fantastic lunch, it was off to the town hall of Bordeaux, where we were once again given a very thorough tour of the fabulous old building, ending up in the conference hall, where I, naturally, was drawn to the Mayor’s seat. After the town hall, we had a little snippet of free time to experience what the town centre had to offer, whilst indulging in the long-awaited warmth, and sampling a bit more of the French culture. Our busy day concluded with a good old fashioned game of ten pin bowling, always a good ego boost for those who were perhaps more competitive in the group.

Thursday 16th

The final day of lessons! After the lessons and a quick lunch at the Alliance, we visited the Musée d’Aquitaine, which proved to be very comprehensive, ranging from Neolithic history to modern day innovations, all in the space of 1 and a half hours. One highlight of the museum, for me, was the section on Montescue, as I found out all about his influence on important historical events such as the American Revolution. After the museum we did a bit more exploring, and found some very interesting shops around the museum, some more tasteful than others perhaps. A sizeable chunk of free time followed, allowing us to have a breather and buy souvenirs for home. In the evening, we had cocktails at the Alliance, followed by a very intriguing talk on French poetry. We returned home afterwards, having met an old Salopian en route who was studying in Bordeaux, and then, with the permission of the family, we went out for a drink to celebrate a successful week.

Friday 17th

The day started well, as we were allowed a slight lie in before our visit to the Tour Pey Berland, where we were privy to a fantastic view of the whole of Bordeaux, stretching far into the horizon. After we had finally descended the seemingly endless spiral of stairs, we headed to the

Alliance for a sandwich and a breather, and then headed home to pack up and get ready for travel. We arrived at the airport and, fortunately, there were no delays to speak of, which was most beneficial as I was feeling rather run down after such a hectic week. We arrived in London on time and, after what can only be described as a network rail odyssey, I arrived home, shattered and ready for a rest.

A tutor trip with a difference: Oldham's boys at the Carling Cup Final, Wembley

Thursday 1 March 2012

Tutor trips usually consist of a film and maybe a meal afterwards, or maybe bowling, however, having a member of my tutor group, Johnny, whose Dad is very involved in a very popular football club, Liverpool FC, which every member of the tutor group supported, meant that we got the chance to have a very different tutor trip. We were expecting a very welcome ticket to Anfield (Liverpool's home ground), but when the option of seeing the Carling Cup Final at Wembley arose - probably the only final Liverpool would be in for at least another 5 years - our tutor, Mr Schofield, and the group couldn't turn it down, despite the long drive.



We arrived for lunch, an inevitable McDonalds was on the menu, with what seemed like the rest of Liverpool and Cardiff (Liverpool's opponents). After a tasty 'Big Mac', we set out towards the towering Wembley. The tension was rising, as more and more fans arrived, but with 2 hours until kick off, we weren't allowed in, so instead we took a walk around the stadium, attempting to find any famous people, however the biggest star we could find was the presenter from LFC TV, whom Mr Schofield and Ned recognised. At 3.00pm we were allowed in, and after an hour of warming up and preparations, the match began. A match against Cardiff City would usually be a straightforward victory for any top league side, but we were very lucky to have such a close game, with an incredible atmosphere, which eventually went to penalties; with Liverpool just scraping the win!

A great day overall, and a huge thanks to Mr Schofield for taking us, and Johnny's Dad for arranging the tickets.

Ollie Pumphrey, 4th Form, Oldham's Hall

Photo: The three lucky Oldham's boys at the Carling Cup Final 2012 courtesy of Mr Philip Bunnag and MS - Ollie Pumphrey, Ned Hall and Johnny Bunnag.



Fives: results summary w/c 14th February 2011

Tuesday 1 March 2011

Wednesday 16th February v St Olaves, Emmanuel - Played 18 Won 11 Drew 1 Lost 6

SENIOR (3) v St Olaves

Thomason & H.Lewis v ST 1 WON 3-0

Thomason & H.Lewis v ST 2 WON 2-0

Thomason & H.Lewis v ST U16 1 WON 2-0

Lewis & Bunting v ST 2 WON 2-0

Lewis & Bunting v ST 3 WON 2-0

U16's(2)

Lloyd & Gould v ST 1 LOST 0-3

Blofield & Flowers v ST 2 WON 3-1

U15's (4)

Peel & Marques v ST 1 WON 3-2

Holroyd & Harvey Scholes v ST 2 WON 3-1

Warburg & Hulse v ST 3 WON 3-0

Yale & Bibby v ST 4 WON 3-1

U14's (7)

Lewis & Pearce v ST 1 WON 3-1

Humes & Delikatny v ST 2 LOST 2-3

Rolfe & Sato v ST 3 LOST 0-3

Adair & Litchfield v ST 4 LOST 0-3

Kandi & Heywood v ST 5 LOST 2-3

Clay & Al Adwani v ST 6 LOST 1-3

Fletcher-Wilson & Burberry-Casey DREW 2-2

Wednesday 16th February v Charterhouse School - Played 13 Won 11 Drew 0 Lost 2

SENIORS(2)

Lloyd & Flowers v CH 1 WON 3-0

Gould & Marques v CH 2 WON 3-0

U15's (5)

Blofield & Peel v CH 1 LOST 1-2

Holroyd & Harvey Scholes v CH 2 LOST 0-3

Lewis & Pearce v CH 3 WON 3-0

Warburg & Hulse v CH 4 WON 2-1

Bibby & Yale v CH 5 WON 3-0

U14's (6)

Humes & Delikatny v CH 1 WON 2-1

Rolfe & Sato v CH 2 WON 2-1

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Adair & Litchfield v CH 3 WON 1-0
Adair & B-Casey v CH 3 WON 1-0
Kandi & Heywood v CH 4 WON 2-0
Clay & Al Adwani v CH 4 WON 1-0
Fletcher-Wilson injured



RSSH: Midlands & Northern Schools' Cross-Country Championships (MANISCCC)

Monday 5 March 2012

Shrewsbury retained the MANISCCC Trophy and their position as the leading cross-country school in the North, after a competing over a gruelling 4-mile course at Sedbergh School on Saturday 3rd March 2012.



John Dempsey (Ch); Theo Clarke (S); Tom McHugh (G)

Outside of the two major national events (The Knole Run and the Coventry Relays), MANISCCC is the biggest cross-country race on the schools' circuit, a championship now in its 53rd year and one that the Hunt look forward to with some relish at this point in the season. This year's hosts were Sedbergh, seven-times winner of the Seniors event, and we travelled up to Cumbria knowing that they would be setting a very tough, hilly, and technical course. On arrival and following a course inspection, our predictions were certainly accurate, with an extremely challenging 4 mile course set out for the Seniors, and an equally grueling 2.5 miles for the Colts. Both races involved tough climbs, log jumps, water-jumps, and a good number of sheep to be avoided!

In the Colts race, whilst having won the event last year for only the second time and with an individual winner in Rory Fraser, we knew our squad this year would lack the depth to be

able to retain the title, though our young side acquitted themselves extremely well, packing intelligently and helping each other in the tough sections of the course. Indeed, at the close of the race, our four counters all came through in a group with John Dempsey heading the Hunt team up in 7th overall, Jake Samuel in 8th, Theo Clarke in 9th, and Tom McHugh in 10th. This was particularly impressive running given that only Samuel and Clarke are regular runners, with Dempsey and McHugh normally to be found on the rugby pitches of Shrewsbury. Our final runner Oli Lansdell placed 22nd, an excellent run for a 3rd former, and he will have gained valuable experience for next year when he remains in the Colts age-group. The boys did extremely well to take 2nd place in the team event with 34 points, well clear of third-placed Wellingborough who were 13 points behind, though we couldn't do enough to trouble a strong Manchester Grammar outfit who turned in 16 points.

Colts results:

7th John Dempsey (Ch) 19.54

8th Jake Samuel (O) 19.59

*Photos below (top first):
Seb Blake (S) and George Mallett (S) on the hill section
Ed Mallett (S) coming home in 2nd place*



9th Theo Clarke (S) 20.01
10th Tom McHugh (G) 20.14
22nd Oli Lansdell (PH) 22.32

Ed Lloyd (Rt) tackles the water-jump
Otto Clarke (S) nearly takes a tumble after the water-jump

Our senior squad went into their race determined to retain The Nutter Cup having won the trophy last year for the first time since 1999. On the back of what has been a phenomenally successful season, we were determined to win our ninth trophy of the season at MANISCCC, despite tough competition from hosts Sedbergh and Manchester Grammar School, both of whom had placed highly at the National Relays.



After a promising start with some good hard running out of the pens, disaster struck when Huntsman George Mallett fell on one of the early downhills, tearing his knee open and losing valuable ground. Indeed, having been amongst the lead pack, he suddenly found himself in the mid-20s and behind all our other runners. However, in typically determined fashion, Mallett picked himself up and over the course of the next two miles gradually made his way up the positions until, incredibly, in the final lap he had forced his way back up to 5th position overall, where he eventually finished. It was a remarkable effort, though a great shame that he had not been a part of the lead pack as he may well have challenged for the individual title. That challenge was instead taken up by his younger brother Ed, who tracked the move of Manchester Grammar's Ryan Ganose (who had come home 5 seconds ahead of him at the national Knole run), and moved up through the lead pack until he was chasing the lead runner. However, Ganose managed to extend his lead into the final lap and with a stumble on one of the log jumps, Ed was unable to make any inroads on the lead, coming home nevertheless in an excellent 2nd position. Next year Ed will look to challenge for the individual title, following in the footsteps of Oli Laws, who won in 1998, the only time a Hunt runner has won the individual title.

The Malletts were well-supported as always with a flurry of Hunt vests, with Tom Cousins proving his mettle on this kind of tough course by coming home as our third counter in 8th place, one of his best performances to date for the Hunt, and a measure of his strength as an athlete. Close behind were Seb Blake in 9th and Ed Lloyd in 10th, with our final counter George Nugee in 17th. Otto Clarke's 18th will have been a disappointment, but it was a tough race for him with his footwear proving problematic over the unrelenting mud of the Sedbergh course. Nevertheless, a team total of 51 points was enough to see off a strong Sedbergh outfit who returned 59 points. A little close for comfort, then, but the team were deserved winners of the trophy, and once again proved the quality of running that is fast-developing amongst the Hunt. Shrewsbury School is very much on the map as far as cross-country running is concerned, and we are proud of the position we now hold as one of the top three schools in the country for the sport, and once again, the leading school in the north.



In the championship's history, 14 schools have won the Senior championships, with Shrewsbury having won the cup for the sixth time this year. Our aim over the coming years is to move up the leaderboard as far as number of wins, and with our sixth championship win this year, we move just behind Sedbergh's 7 wins (1986; 1987; 1990; 1991; 2000; 2009; 2010), Bradford Grammar School's 8 wins (1980; 1982; 1984; 1985; 1996; 1997; 2001; 2004), and Manchester Grammar's leading 10 wins (1968; 1970; 1971; 1972; 1977; 1978; 1979; 1981; 1983; 2008)

Seniors results:

2nd Ed Mallett (S) 27.13

5th George Mallett (S) 28.03

8th Tom Cousins (PH) 28.43

9th Seb Blake (S) 29.09

10th Ed Lloyd (Rt) 29.24

17th George Nugee (G) 30.45

18th Otto Clarke (S) 30.59

Fives: EFA Williams Cup Champions once again

Monday 5 March 2012

'A show of strength from Shrewsbury' - Mark Williams, EFA Competition Organiser, and Fives Coach at Eton.

Shrewsbury School won the Teams Cup at Eton on Sunday 4th March, for the 10th time since its inception in 1993. We are the first school ever to win it for three consecutive years. Our boys were accompanied by Andy Barnard, Master IC Fives, Grant Williams and Seb Cooley.



Team Cup Winners 2012:
Back Row: Adam Morris (RB), Sam Yvelti (L), Henry Lewis (I), Jack Flowers (I)
Front: Connor Jones (PH), Jack Hudson-Williams (PH) Captain, Guy Williams (RB), Henry Blofield (PH)

The following report was written by Mark Williams, the Fives Coach at Eton, and the organiser of the Eton Fives Association (EFA) Williams School Cup:



"Six schools entered this competition which is for school teams of 6 players. The format is a round-robin where each school plays a two game match over 3 pairs against each of the other schools.

"Shrewsbury confirmed their current status as the leading fives school at this level by beating all of the other schools, and only dropped one game in their 2nd pair match against St Olave's. Their strength in depth and quality of play was

evident all day, and they are worthy champions. St Olave's deservedly claimed the runners up place by defeating everyone else and had a strong first and second pair. Eton, Harrow, Westminster and Berkhamsted finished in that order, and competed strongly against each other. All had young players gaining invaluable experience.

"The consistent rain and very cold temperature were the only factors detracting from a thoroughly worthwhile day's fives."

Mark Williams



RSSBC: Girls exceed all expectations at Women's Head of River

Monday 5 March 2012

The RSSBC Girls' Crew arrived in London on Friday afternoon in order to take their first paddle on the famous Boat Race course. A short paddle beyond Hammersmith Bridge allowed them to get a feel for the tidal stretch of water, and the sheer scale. Undeterred, they challenged local club Pengwern to a few short pieces which saw the Novice school crew hold their own against a senior crew. Job Done!

Race day meant an early start, but amid the chaos of other crews arriving and rigging, the Shrewsbury crew were able to sit and contemplate the next few hours.

The race went as well as we could possibly have hoped. Having overtaken two crews within the first 4 minutes of the race, the crew were sitting strong. They found their more familiar race pace slightly later than intended, but it was this that then allowed them then to challenge the next fleet of crews. A tussle with 4 other boats highlighted the tenacity of cox Amy Steventon, as they emerged 2nd. This placed the crew in a strong position to then push for the finish line.

The crew exceeded all expectations finishing 220th overall, and climbing 62 places. Within the Novice Academic category they finished 18th/39, and placed 33rd/64 across the overall Novice group.

Having raced at both Reading and the Women's Head, the girls now turn their attention to improving on last year's penultimate position when they compete against the country's School Crews at the Schools' Head on Tuesday 20th March.

CHLW



Back Row: Georgia Bustin / Olivia Wood / Amy Stockdale / Eliza Hodgson
 Front Row: Amy Steventon (Cox) / Bridget Lapage / Katie Williams / Olivia Levy /
 Rainbow Satchatippavarn



Field Day March 2012: Rock Climbing, Golf and High Ropes

Monday 5 March 2012

Please find below a small selection of reports and photos from last week's Field Day.
Rock Climbing with Richard Hudson



Six Fifth Form climbers had their mettle tested at Trevor Rocks, high above the Llangollen valley, in glorious early March sunshine.

This is an old quarry with some very challenging 80 ft near vertical cliffs, but this is a good group who had no trouble completing the three routes they attempted.

RTH



The hole in one at Astbury Golf Course

L-R: George Mitchell (S), Jack Calvert (SH),
 Alex Styles (S), Harry Bromley-Davenport (SH)

Golf with Tim Foulger

In the glorious sunshine 11 of us enjoyed 18 magnificent holes on Astbury Golf Course, Cogleton, Cheshire.

After bacon baps in the clubhouse we tee-ed off in four-balls rather innocently expecting to breeze round the course in well under our handicaps. The 3rd hole put paid to that: narrow fairway - out of bounds left, trees right inevitably led to a 3 off the tee, the second shot was long and for the unsuspecting (us) just perfect distance to plop into one of the many, deep water hazards! For me it was all downhill from there! But not for Jack Calvert, an amazingly well struck 3 iron (not one of his best clubs) on the 15th 183 yd par 3 put him into the Golf Club record books with a hole in 1! However, even this amazing feat was not enough to stop the back-nine charge of George Mitchell who stormed away with the match-play competition. A great day was had by all, and we'd like to thank Astbury Golf Club for wining and dining us so well. We would highly recommend this course as a challenge to all aspiring Tiger Woods!

TRF



Third Form trip to an Adventure Rope course with Vicky Kirk

The day involved a number of high rope activities at Albrighton Hall, for which team work was essential - and great fun!



High All Aboard - at the top of a telegraph pole they had to balance on a small platform and work as a team, leaning back holding hands!



Left: Jacobs Ladder - work as a team to climb up the ladder without pulling on the ropes

Middle: Giant swing

Right: Crate Stack Challenge - standing on top of a very wobbly tower which they built whilst balanced on it - another team effort!



Adventure Tunnelling - through the tubes and up to the top of the tower followed by stepping off the top on the Parachute Simulator



RSSBC: Another victory for the 1st VIII at Hammersmith Head

Tuesday 6 March 2012

This is the first time that we have competed in the Hammersmith Head for some years, and we were delighted to have taken first place in the IM2 eights.



1st 8 overtaking Cygnet Boat Club and Bristol Ariel Boat Club on their way to victory in IM2 eights

Our top 2 eights made the journey to the historic Tideway stretch of the Thames over the weekend, to compete in the Hammersmith Head on Sunday 6th March. Both crews and coxes made use of a paddle on the course during Saturday evening, but found that the conditions then were totally different to the full flowing river that they had to contend with on Sunday.

The Schools' Head, in two weeks' time, could be won or lost by the cox, so this practice on the course is invaluable. Both Sophie Walker and James Eardley will have gained precious experience as the Hammersmith Head course is run over the first part of the Schools' Head, from Mortlake to Hammersmith Bridge.

Heavy rain greeted our arrival at St Paul's School, where we were boating (many thanks to them, for their hospitality as ever). This rain would continue right through the race, making the whole experience a bigger and fairly unpleasant challenge.

Abingdon School were racing too; as last year's Schools' Head winners, they were always going to be one of the top School boy crews. As the results would show, this proved to be the case and victory by one second was theirs. However disappointing this may have been, one third of a length over an eleven minute race is not much to make up - and we did win our event IM2 eights!

To put into perspective how fast the country's top School boy eights are, our boys came sixth from around one hundred crews, beating the top men's eight from Star, who had beaten them by two seconds last week at Trent. They also lost to a huge men's eight from St Petersburg, Russia, by four seconds...

The 2nd eight again performed well - racing in a senior men's event they came ninth from thirty two starters, and were only beaten by School first eights. Schools' Head will be very interesting for this crew: having not raced any other School 2nd's, we will relish that challenge!

This Head is not one that many Schools favour. Most Thames-based Schools will race at Kingston Head next weekend, whilst we will stay north and pit our wits against the northern

heavy weights, Durham University and Agecroft, together with King's School Chester, who raced well at Reading Head recently.

We intend to keep the fine silver trophy that we won as Head winners last year.

RESULTS

1st 8 1/17 IM2 8 11.21

2nd 8 9/32 IM3 8 12.03

Paul Manser



The School House & Mary Sidney Hall Play: 'The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole (aged 13³/₄)'

Tuesday 6 March 2012

An anonymous review, with photos by Harry Bozman



Last Friday and Saturday night saw the performance of what has been heralded by a member of the 5th form as 'the best house play *ever*'. Indeed, a visiting speaker and esteemed member of the clergy praised this spectacle as one 'worthy of a school play', rather than one on the humble scale of house plays.

The ladies of Mary Sidney and the gentlemen of School House entertained us with a visual feast of comedy, charisma and creativity. The play conveyed the familiar vicissitudes of male adolescence; an apt choice in a school where many are experiencing this bewildering stage. Sam Watts delivered a compelling portrayal of the 'tormented intellectual', Adrian Mole, captivating the audience as he led us through the highs and lows of pubescent life. His mother and father (Christie Knight and James Humpish) played their parts to slick perfection, evoking at times humour and at others pathos as they presented the hard hitting realities of married life.

Mr Lucas, Mrs Mole's lover, was played by Tom Fletcher-Wilson; for a man about site renowned for his aptitude in the art of romance this part was not too stretching. Yet, he still delivered a sterling performance, wooing the audience along with Mrs Mole. Max Farmilloe gave an hilarious, yet touching rendition of Bert Baxter, the cantankerous old age pensioner with whom Adrian forms a bond, voicing controversial opinions on cigarettes, socialism and retirement homes much to the audience's amusement. Meanwhile, Cecily Higham gave an almost too-convincing portrayal of Pandora, Adrian's love-interest, with a certain member of the history faculty audibly commenting that she had been so appropriately cast that there was hardly any need of acting in this role. Nigel, played by Harry Al Adwani, was an equally entertaining role, as the struggle of a fourteen-year-old weekend-punk was depicted brilliantly, whilst forming a comical juxtaposition with the poetry-writing protagonist. Perhaps the pinnacle of humour was achieved in Jack Calvert's cameo appearance as Mr Scruton, the Führer-esque headmaster of Adrian's school, by which he reduced us all to hysterical laughter.

Congratulations must go to Mr Bell, who patiently directed the play with his comic wisdom. Thanks must also go to Mrs Hankin and Miss Burge, who choreographed a wonderful dance routine as well as played a vital part in the masterminding of the whole event. Backstage, the team responsible for lighting, props and the set also deserve commendation as they ensured that the delivery of this play was nothing short of a polished and professional performance.





The Pro Corda Chamber Music Competition semi-final

Wednesday 7 March 2012

Two of our music groups, the Beethoven Trio and the Clarinet Quartet, performed on Tuesday at Trinity School, Croydon as part of the semi-final of the Pro Corda Chamber Music Competition.

The Beethoven Trio (Dorit Hasselberg - Clarinet, Jacob Owen - Cello and Allen Yu - Piano), performed the Clarinet Trio in Bb Major, and the Clarinet Quartet (Dorit Hasselberg, Christopher Hardman, Jake Pople and Henry Kennedy), performed the Dubios Clarinet Quartet.

Both groups performed exceptionally well and enjoyed being coached after their performances by tutors from the Pro Corda organisation. We will now wait to see if either group have been fortunate enough to reach the Finals Day at Sevenoaks School on Sunday 18th March.





The Salopian Club Welcomes Two New Honorary Members

Wednesday 7 March 2012

Last year, and just before he died, **Richard Raven** (M 1945-5) recommended that the Club consider inviting two long-term supporters of Shrewsbury School and the Salopian Club



- **Ronald Williams** and **Geoffrey Clarke** - to be Honorary Members.

Ronald (Ron) Williams (pictured in the middle between Nick Randall, left and David Gee, right) served the Shrewsbury School as a hard-working groundsman and gardener for over 25 years. Ron's friendly greeting and ready smile was famous throughout the Site and there must be very few pupils or staff who have not been on the receiving end of his friendly banter at one time or another!

Geoffrey has been an avid supporter of Salopian cricket and football for the past 16 years or so. In that time he has developed an encyclopaedic knowledge of those that have represented the School at 1st team level and has proven a useful guide to many a parent.

The new Hon Old Salopians were welcomed at a lunch arranged at Director, Alex Baxter's home on Tuesday 28th February. Club ties were presented to Geoffrey and Ron by the Club Chairman, Nick Randall (O 1972-76). Also attending the lunch was Dr. David Gee, history master at Shrewsbury.

Pictured below : Geoffrey Clarke (middle) with Nick Randall and David Gee





Football: OS Veterans triumph over School's A XI

Wednesday 7 March 2012

A mixed 6th form team took on the OS Vets which included Jimmy Aston in goal and teachers Mr W Hughes, Mr N Sceery and Mr D Ithurbisque. The match was played out in a fantastic spirit and a very entertaining afternoon ended with a 5-3 victory for the Vets. A very good occasion all round.



Following last year's drubbing at the hands of the School by 9 goals to nil, the Old Salopian Veterans team were seeking a modicum of revenge last Saturday, 3 March. On a superbly prepared pitch and with decent weather, apart from a stiff north-westerly breeze, the conditions were set fair for a good game of football. The sizeable crowd witnessed an entertaining and open end-to-end game.

In a tight first half the score was 2-all before the Vets hit a purple patch during which they seemed to score at will. With well-taken goals either side of half-time, the Vets seemed to be dominating the game and at one stage were

cruising at 5-2. Nevertheless, the School side continued to attack at every opportunity, eventually scoring a consolation goal towards the end of the game.

The final score-line of 5-3 was probably a fair reflection although many of the vets side were relieved when the final whistle sounded.



A big thank you to Steve Biggins for organising the match and giving some of his younger players an outing against the Old Salopians, and also to the ground staff for preparing such an excellent playing surface.

Alex Baxter



The 2012 Gala Concert in Birmingham Town Hall

Wednesday 7 March 2012

A 'majestic and moving' concert in a stunning venue.



Back in the eighties, the weekly music listings for West Berlin (it was still divided then) had on a Tuesday just two entries: Berliner Philharmoniker and Shrewsbury School Symphony Orchestra. Last weekend in Birmingham, the School again provided the sole alternative, this time to the CBSO and as the latter were giving a performance of *Tristan*, it meant that for once a JFM concert was beaten for length, though not by much. It takes confidence to venture into the musically sophisticated environment of the Second City, as well as much hard work, but there is sufficient talent – and enthusiasm – to mount a programme worthy of the venue. The refurbished Town Hall is a shining example of civic pride at work.

The warmth of the acoustics was well illustrated in the first item, “*Surround Sound*”, in which the brass ensemble on the platform was supplemented by drums and trumpets positioned elsewhere in the auditorium. Nigel Gibbon directed this novel and rousing aperitif.

The String Orchestra has made distinguished contributions in the past, but on this occasion, the chosen work, an arrangement of a movement from Dvorak’s “*Dumka*” quartet, did not perhaps bring out the best in them. However, at points we could detect the poise and vitality that marked their St Cecilia performance, but elsewhere, the playing at times sounded a little laboured.



It was inconsiderate of Brahms to open his second piano concerto with a solo from the French horn, notoriously difficult to play from cold, but Edward Elcock gave the pianist his cue in fine style. The response from Jacob Owen, yet another talented artist who can tackle the grand concertos, was lyrical, sensitive, seemingly nerveless. His playing throughout had a clarity and a grace which lent a Mozartian feel to the

interpretation, though that is not to say that it was lightweight. The programme note revealed that the commonest expression mark in the first movement is dolce, an aspect faithfully represented here, yet Jacob could and did give us powerful flourishes as required and nothing dented his





composure. At one point his music fell over, to be quickly propped up again by the conductor, and it says much for these resourceful musicians that momentum was sustained. The performance did anything but fall flat. Nobly accompanied, it was a memorable treat.



Regular Shrewsbury concert-goers will have seen Jacob Owen before, leading the cello section in the orchestra, and with not a minute to recover, he was back in his place for the Dvorak *Symphony No 8*. This is a favourite of John Moore's, which he conducts with a marvellous blend of passion and subtlety. While it is not the Berlin Phil, but a mixed-ability unit that he is directing, he manages to transcend limitations and inspire a thrilling reading. In quiet passages, the delicacy of the flute-playing stood out, and the climaxes, illuminated by the brilliance of the principal trumpeter, and hammered home by the fiery timpanist, were astounding, the whole orchestra responding as one to every fluctuation in tempo. Wonderful music-making.

A big hit in November, the Wind Orchestra is very much the creation of its director, Maria Eglinton, and when you hear them in action, you will know what a compliment that is. Her choice of repertoire stretches, but does not over-extend the forces at her disposal and the playing of "*Paris Sketches*" was stylish, exuberant, and hugely enjoyable.



At last the choir got their turn and in a concert dedicated to the memory of Vaclav Havel, writer and first President of the Czech Republic, it was fitting that their main offering should be Dvorak's *Te Deum*. Initially overwhelmed by the volume of the orchestra, they sounded as remote as they looked on their lofty perches, but balance was restored and quieter passages were delivered with admirable warmth of tone. Guest soprano, Naomi Harvey, and our own Jonathan May, brought professional power to their solos and made a soaring contribution to a conclusion

which left nothing to be desired, chorus and orchestra blending to massive, reverent effect. Was it all over? Not yet, for on came Alex Mason, School choirmaster, to direct Parry's *Blest Pair of Sirens*. At that moment, it felt as if it would be one work too many, but the impression was soon dispelled. Birmingham Town Hall is steeped in the tradition of British choral music, and as the ode unfolded, words, music, and architecture seemed to be in harmony. In an ecstatic finale, the choir reached new heights, the organ rumbled in the depths, the whole of the venerable building resounded in glorious praise.

Martin Knox



Galin Ganchev: a short biography

Thursday 8 March 2012

Galin's biography and route to Shrewsbury is a truly remarkable one. It was originally written up to accompany one of his recitals at school during 2011.

Galin was born into a musical family. His father Gancho is a conductor as well as a musical director and his mother Miglena is a professional pianist and vocal coach. The family's musical tradition goes back to his maternal grandparents, with grandfather Shisho being a viola player and conductor, and his grandmother Marijka a violinist.

Galin Ganchev Ganchev began his piano studies at the age of six and later underwent more formal tuition under the tutelage of private piano teacher Eli Chor badjijska for six years at the *'Dobri Hristov National School of Arts'* in Varna. At the age of twelve, Galin continued his piano studies for a further year with Stanislava Stavreva and since September 2010 he has been studying with the internationally acclaimed Anglo-Italian pianist Peter Bradley-Fulgoni at Shrewsbury School.



Galin's love of the performing arts grew during the eight years he spent taking part in rehearsals and performances for the 'Varna Children's Opera', directed by his parents, Gancho and Miglena. Galin had the opportunity to take some principal parts, such as, for instance, The Kid from Charlie Chaplin's film of that name. *"It was such a big part of my life to be included in such an artistic family as that of the 'Varna Children's Opera'"*, Galin says, with a smile on his face.

Whilst in Bulgaria Galin took part in numerous concerts and competitions winning a special prize at the Sofia *'Young Virtuosi Competition'* in April 2009, for his performance of the *'Chaconne and 21 Variations'* by Handel, a work which he later performed in the competition's Prize-Winners' Concert in Varna. Galin then took part in the competition *'Magic – for German and Austrian piano music'* as well as taking part in a master-class in Varna given by the internationally renowned British concert pianist Michael Roll. Galin went on to perform in the subsequent concert organised for a select group of pianists chosen from amongst all those taking part in the master-class.

In May 2009 Galin, was invited to play at an *'International Charity Concert'* in the United Kingdom organised by the noted Shropshire benefactor Gareth Jenkins. There he had the opportunity to perform alongside a number of well-known musicians, including Phillip Griffiths, Stephen Garner, Susie Allan and John Moore.

Subsequent to his performance at the concert, Galin received an invitation to study the piano with the internationally acclaimed Anglo-Italian pianist Peter Bradley-Fulgoni at the Music Department at Shrewsbury School, and in February 2010 Galin travelled to the United Kingdom

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and auditioned successfully for a music scholarship at Shrewsbury School, which he took up in September 2010.

Now only his love of the piano has surpassed everything that he has achieved previously. *“My desire to practise the piano and give concerts has led me to the threshold of what promises to be a fascinating and magical life. I love to make my audiences experience the works of music I perform at the deepest emotional level.*

When I sit at the piano I immediately feel at one with it, and such a feeling of ‘unity’ with the instrument cannot be explained by anything other than the language of music itself.”



A Week in the Life of Chris Hardman (SH UVI)

Thursday 8 March 2012

Since performing at Birmingham Town Hall on Sunday, Chris has been down to Croydon to compete in the Pro Corda semi-finals, and he will also be performing in tonight's Musical Stage concert, in the Alington Hall. Not to mention the usual lessons, studies and pressures of looming A Levels that all our Upper Sixth pupils are dealing with!



MONDAY

Today I woke up in a panic. Knowing that it was the beginning of the week running up to the Birmingham Town Hall concert means lots of rehearsals, late nights and exhausted pupils. I woke up early so that I could get some work done before the day began and I rushed off to class. Lessons went smoothly and I was on top of my work. Following a quick wind quintet rehearsal at lunch time, it was back to lessons to finish the day. This evening was the first rehearsal of both Chorus and Orchestra working together. It was long, and went on for what seemed an eternity, but alas, by half past nine it had finished, and the orchestra could return back to their houses to do some work and finally get to bed!

TUESDAY

Today's lessons started well, and I had done all the necessary work for the first two periods, which put me in a good mood for the rest of the day. My 'To Do' list has grown from a post-it note into a whole sheet of A4, and I'm beginning to wonder when I will get any of my work done. Tonight was my first run through of the wind orchestra piece for Birmingham Town Hall, and I had promised my teacher that I would look over the music before we sat down to play it. My afternoon consisted of much practise of this piece, and for my A-Level performance exam in three weeks time. When I next looked at the clock it was time for a quick bite to eat and then a rush of to rehearsals. Thankfully I managed to play the music without any issues (or major ones at least!). The rehearsal lasted for about an hour, which I was grateful for as it meant that I would still have time to catch up on any homework that was missed as a result of the rehearsal.

WEDNESDAY

It wasn't long after I had woken up on Wednesday morning that I remembered that I was supposed to have written my first article for the BASBWE magazine. My day was stricken with panic as I was trying to think of a practical solution as to why I hadn't written the article. Finally, period 3, my only free period on Wednesday came around, and I rushed back to house and started work on it. Wednesday night was the biggest of the rehearsals for orchestra, and I knew that it would be a long and tiresome. It started promptly at seven, and by eight o'clock I was completely worn out. Orchestra is a nerveing experience at the best of times, wondering if you



will miss-count or play wrong notes, making yourself look like a fool in front of the whole orchestra, but when you are just days away from the concert, all of these nerves are heightened, and I become a nervous wreck! All the time I am thinking, when will I manage to get my work done? When will I get the time to sleep? The rehearsal had ended at ten o'clock, so I went back to house, and fell into bed.

THURSDAY

Besides completing my BASBWE article, Practising for my A-Level performance, doing the rehearsals for Birmingham Town Hall, Choir practise, finishing my English Coursework, finishing off my A-Level Composition and doing my various essays, Thursday was fine. Thank God it was 'Field-Day', or I think my chances of getting out of this week alive would have narrowed even further. I managed to take an anti-lazy attitude and wake up at 7am to start my work. By 9am I was already feeling tired again and was looking over at my bed from my desk with a longing gaze. To add to the drama of the week, my Clarinet had broken, and been taken away to be fixed! At this point, there was no hope. I was on the verge of a mental breakdown, and needed a good cry. Nevertheless I kept my head up high and continued on through the day, completing most of my tasks. At 6:30, it was time for choir, which was followed immediately by the last Wind Orchestra rehearsal. You may think that the repetition of music rehearsals each night would become tedious, but the crazed rush to get everything done on time made each day new, exciting and scary.

FRIDAY

MY LAST DAY OF REHEARSALS! This is all that I could think about all day. Soon it would be over, and my life could return to its normal self again. I went to lessons, exhausted. I kept on asking myself if it was possible to be any more tired than I already was? After a long lunchtime rehearsal for a competition the following Tuesday, I completed my lessons and went straight back to the music department for a music lesson. This took even more time out of my working hours, but with A-Level performance approaching and the possibility of application to RNCM (The Royal Northern College of Music) I could not afford to miss it. Two hours after my lesson had ended, I was in the Alington Hall for the final time. It was the very last rehearsal at school before the concert, and as ever, I was nervous about messing up and making a fool of myself. We slaved over the music for just about three hours, at the end of which, all of the orchestra was mentally and physically worn out. I quickly returned back to my house, where I had to complete my English Coursework. The English was in for 1st period Saturday morning, and there was no hope of deadline extensions. I worked on this until late at night, at which point I didn't think I could do any more, so I finished it up, and finally went to bed.

SATURDAY

English Coursework was in, all my work was done, and I could relax. There was no rushing around, just a day of rest. My day had been planned since the week began. I would do lessons, and then I would have to catch up on all of the relaxing that I had missed out on during the week. I had decided that I would go and watch the School House play that night, which lightened my evening and I decided upon an early night so that I would be in form for tomorrow.



SUNDAY

Chapel was an hour later this morning, so I didn't have to wake up until a very late 8:45! I got dressed and went off to rehearse for Choir. We sung Parry's 'I was Glad', which put us all in a good mood for the strenuous day to come. By 12:30 we were on the coaches ready to leave, and settled in for the hour long journey to Birmingham. It was around 2pm when we arrived and we all filed into the Town Hall, unpacked

our instruments and went straight into rehearsals. We rehearsed everything straight through with a 'no mistakes allowed' mentality, and soon enough, everyone had rehearsed and it was time to go and get some dinner! Unfortunately, it was the only day in the week that it had decided to hail and I had forgotten to bring my coat! We were given around 2 hours to find a place and have dinner, and then we were back. The concert opened with 'surround sound' with the brass band, followed by the String Orchestra performing our very own David Joyce's arrangement of Dvorak's 'Dumka'. It was then that the nerves started to kick in, as it was time for the Brahms Piano Concerto no.2. Playing in a concerto is more terrifying than any other performance because one wrong note can elicit an enormous amount of guilt at ruining the concerto for the performer who has inevitably spent hundreds of hours learning. This went down a treat with the audience, and Jacob Owen had performed it to an excellent standard. It was now time for a Dvorak's symphony No.8 and then we could all have a break. The second half opened with 'Paris Sketches for Wind Orchestra' by Martin Ellerby. Dvorak's 'Te Deum' was performed wonderfully by the whole community choir and orchestra and was certainly something to be proud of. It has occurred to me recently, that each year we do a concert, we seem to end it with Parry? It doesn't bother me in the slightest as the music is beautiful and exciting to play. As the concert ended with the final blasting chords of the Parry, I could not help but feel relieved. It was over, all that hard work and time had paid off, and resulted in a magnificent concert. I got on the bus to head home, and could not help but wonder, what next week would bring...

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Canoeing: BCU One Star Awards

Thursday 8 March 2012

Congratulations to the following boys for achieving their British Canoe Union One Star Award - Adrian Tong, Ben Quirk, Charles Lane-Fox, Joe Collings, Samyr Aslam Baskeyfield, William Angell-James and James Aiken.

The award follows eight weeks of Thursday Afternoon training sessions on both the closed cockpit kayak and tradition canadian style canoe, and a complete day on the River Severn journeying for six hours on the water.

The boys can now go on complete the two star award if they wish during Wednesday afternoon boat club sessions.

J Billington

RSSBC: The framework for the new boathouse goes up

Thursday 8 March 2012

Major progress at the river, with the framework for the new Boathouse now fully erected. Brickwork has now started and everything is going to plan!

For those who know the building well, note that the old metal staircase has gone, and temporary steps have been installed at the other end of the building.





CCF Field Day: Biennial inspection on 1st March 2012

Thursday 8 March 2012



L-R: Two cadet paintballers before target practice; Lt Col Forster sharing some stories with 4th form cadets; Charlie Gillow about to attempt the climbing tower; Lt Col Forster and three junior cadets puzzle over some tricky military knowledge questions.

The CCF was on show at the recent Shrewsbury School Field Day. Each two years all CCF's are inspected by a senior officer appointed by one of the three services. This time it was the turn of the Royal Marines to provide a CCF Biennial Inspecting Officer and thus Lieutenant Colonel Robin Forster RM visited us for the whole day and saw our cadets 'in action'. The day began with a presentation at school by the three Senior Cadet NCO's who head up their respective sections. Impressive presentations were given by Sgt Christian Randall (Royal Marine Section), Sgt Miles Pattison Appleton (Army Section) and Flt Sgt James Lane (RAF Section) who had just come back from an overnight exercise.

For our senior cadets the Field Day began the previous night when all 5th and 6th formers started Exercise Rigid Mould – deploying to the local Nesscliff Training Area for night patrols, sleeping in 'bashas' (improvised tents) and a dawn canoe 'insertion' from the River Severn. In the end the enemy (the Nesscliffistani Republican Army or NRA) were defeated - as they always are on these heavily orchestrated exercises designed to develop teamwork and leadership at all levels. But all had some exciting fun in the process.

Meanwhile, and in contrast, the junior cadets (4th formers) had a lie in and did not have to start until 0830 the next morning. They also travelled to Nesscliff where they competed for the Kemp Trophy Inter Section Competition – each one of the six sections were marked on first aid, military knowledge, climbing, fitness, navigation, shooting and paintball skills stands. Well done to the Royal Marine Team A for winning the event and to Army Team A for being a close runner up.

In his letter to our Headmaster after the inspection, Lt Col Forster said 'how impressed' he was with the School's CCF, and that 'the standard of cadets was very high and the presentations by Christian, Miles and James were excellent.'

*Major Nick David
CCF Contingent Commander*

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Old Salopian Football Club - Arthur Dunn Cup Semi-final

Saturday 10 March 2012

The Old Salopian Football Club (OSFC) got through to the semi-final of the Arthur Dunn Cup when they defeated Haileybury last month, and they are now due to play Tonbridge on Saturday 17th March.

The semi final will be played at Tonbridge, with kick-off at 1pm. Any Salopian in the South East who would like to support the OSFC will be very welcome. They will be meeting at noon at the Ivy House, 199 High Street, Tonbridge, TN9 1BW.



CCF: Amphibious Day at RM Poole

Monday 12 March 2012



On Tuesday, 6th March thirteen Royal Marines cadets set off with an intrepid mission to survive a day with the Royal Marines at RM Poole, the home of 1st Assault Group and the SBS.

After a long coach journey, we arrived at HMS Excellent, Portsmouth, and more importantly HMS Bristol, where we would spend a joyous night's kip! The following morning, we awoke at 0600 to the ship's tannoy pipe of "All Hands! All Hands!", to discover that some had been treated to a better sleep than others, due to the vagaries of the continuous ship's rumbles throughout night! By 0730 we had breakfasted, 'squared away' all our kit and were off to Hamworthy, Poole.

When we arrived at Poole, we were greeted by the Amphibious Training Team from 1st Assault Group, led by Capt Andy Lacy, who took us through various classroom briefings, chart readings and knot tying exercises, as well as a tour of the base, as we waited for the storm outside to abate. The most common question asked as we examined each different craft was "Have you ever capsized this one?"

After some 'scran' at lunchtime we were 'suited and booted' and ready to "rock'n'roll"...

The first vessel we experienced was the Landing Craft, and after a short safety brief we were ready to practise the basics of beach landings in true Saving Private Ryan fashion. The final practice involved a full ride in through the surf onto the beach!

The next craft to have a full cadet test was the much smaller 8-man zodiac inflatable, regularly used for covert reconnaissance missions. After a brief spin around Poole harbour, where all aboard each boat were thoroughly drenched, we practised quiet beach landings, including leopard crawls through the surf and sand.

To follow was to be the highlight of the day. A chance to ride in an ORC, a patrol boat capable of reaching speeds of over 40 knots, then stopping within its own boat length, was a recipe for complete fun. It was evident that the training team had kept the best for last, as for the final 30 minutes of the visit we were given an adrenaline-pumped blast around Poole Harbour at break-neck speeds, twisting and turning in impossibly tight turns, faces being attacked by stinging salty spray at every change of direction, jump and dip.

Once on dry land, there were smiles and grins all round, and in Royal Marines terms it was truly “Happy Days”!

The Royal Marines cadets would therefore like to give heartfelt thanks to the Amphibious Training Team and RM Poole for a truly fantastic and jaw-dropping day!

Cpl Ed Chapman (M LVI) and Sgt Joe Tusting (Rt UVI)



An insight into Community Service

Monday 12 March 2012

Whilst most Salopians spend their Thursday afternoons playing sport or enjoying some other recreational activity, a small group of lower sixth formers religiously visit the local residential homes. Oscar Arrowsmith, Jack Ahmed, Chris Pearce and I go to Swan Hill, a care home for the elderly located 5 minutes away, on the street opposite Shrewsbury High School.



Though some would find this option fairly unusual and wouldn't expect lower sixth form students to choose to utilise their time in this way, it has turned out to be one of the best decisions I have made at Shrewsbury School as without these visits, I would never have met Margaret Jarvis.

A usual trip to Swan Hill will last up to two hours. I start my visit by greeting the other residents within the home, and quickly find out what they have been up to that week. I then check that there is nothing that can be done back in the kitchen and make sure all the residents have got their cups of tea or coffee, before proceeding to spend the remaining hour and 55 minutes with Margaret, either outside in the garden or in her room. Conversations with Margaret are easy to settle into; we discuss anything from the hot topics of what gossip has occurred within Swan Hill, to nostalgic anecdotes. Time seems to go increasingly quickly during these conversations as Margaret never fails to have an entertaining story - our chats often end up with me in fits of laughter. I even forget that I am not just talking to one of the girls back in Emma Darwin!

Despite Margaret's grand age of 97, her alertness and kindness never cease to impress me. The atmosphere within Swan Hill must be depressing at times, but her consistent positive attitude inspires me. She never lacks a smile on her face and rarely has a bad thing to say about anything or anyone. Margaret has introduced a completely new outlook on life for me, and I see her as a true inspiration. I truly feel privileged to have been able to get to know her and would encourage anybody to take up Community Service in the lower sixth - although it may initially feel like the less exciting option, you may just be lucky enough to get to know someone just like Margaret.

Emma Pring (L6 EDH)



Beethoven Trio through to the Pro Corda finals

Monday 12 March 2012

Following on from their sparkling semi-final performance of the Clarinet Trio in Bb Major last week, Shrewsbury's Beethoven Trio now know that they will be travelling to Sevenoaks School on Sunday 18th March to compete in the Pro Corda Chamber Music Festival for Schools.

Our successful musicians are: Dorit Hasselberg - Clarinet, Jacob Owen - Cello and Allen Yu - Piano.



OS Sam Wilson (M 2006-2010) continues to cycle for charity

Monday 12 March 2012

Within a month of leaving Shrewsbury in 2010, Sam and his jazz band 'The Quarter' were playing at The Big Chill and then at Edinburgh Festival.

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

Sam's latest challenge is to cycle from Leeds to London (via Paris, for added interest) in aid of the Haven Breast Cancer charity. He will be leaving on 19th March 2012.

Please see <http://www.justgiving.com/Sam-Wilson3> for more information.





RSSBC: Victory at the North of England Head at Chester

Monday 12 March 2012

Our 1st VIII dominated the field on Saturday, beating Durham University's 2nd VIII - an older and much bigger crew - by a thumping 16 seconds. King's Chester were the second school team, and our margin over them was 43 seconds. Our 2nd VIII came second in their division, and all thoughts and efforts are now concentrating on next week's Schools' Head on the Tideway.

RSSBC's 1st and 2nd VIIs had their last chance to hone their racing skills at the annual North of England Head, this was to be the third race in three weeks for these two crews.

As the crews raced down the straight with one thousand metres to go it was fairly obvious by the gap between our 1st VIII and the rest of the pack that this was going to be a good day for the boatclub. Defending their title from last year as fastest crew our boys (and Sophie!) came out on top once again. More significant was the margin: last year we sneaked victory by one second, whereas this year this increased to sixteen seconds over 2nd placed Durham University 2nd VIII, and the distance over King's School Chester was a massive 43 seconds.

Our 2nd VIII had an equally encouraging day, coming 2nd in their event, behind Durham University 3rd VIII. Again, they were pitting themselves against much older and physically stronger opponents. Our crew has most certainly picked up speed in the last few weeks and they will be totally focused on giving their best when they meet and race other school second VIIs."

Overall, a very encouraging day.

We have a record 11 School crews entering next week's Schools' Head - the biggest event of our rowing calendar - on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th March. The J14 group race at Dorney Lake on Monday at 3.30. The Girls, J15, 1st, 2nd and 3rd VIIs start on the Tideway at 2.15 on Tuesday 20th March. We wish them every success.

Paul Manser



The SSDPA Quiz Night in Quod

Monday 12 March 2012

The SSDPA Quiz night on Friday the 9th March was extremely well attended with almost 100 parents, teachers and pupils crowding into Quod.

Some eyebrows were raised at the some of the compilations of the teams and rightly so, as the teachers ran out clear winners! KH put on an excellent curry which went down very well - this really was a very good evening to end everyone's busy week.



Salopian Club: Medical Talk and Dinner

Tuesday 13 March 2012

On the evening of 7th March the Salopian Club, in conjunction with the Careers Master and the School's **Medical Society**, piloted the first Old Salopian careers talk and dinner.

On this occasion, we invited OS medics to Emma Darwin Hall, and 25 sixth formers heard inspirational talks by Dr Piers Dixey (O 1999-2004) and Dr Dan Morris (PH 1987-92). Piers concentrated on life as a junior doctor on a stroke unit, while Dan presented the challenges of a busy ophthalmic specialist and wilderness medicine. Also attending the talk and dinner were Dr Terry West (parent of 3 Shrewsbury educated doctors) and medical student George Jarvis (PH 2004-09).

Afterwards at dinner in the Peterson Room our sixth form prospective medics sat and talked with the professionals, gleaning all sorts of valuable ideas, anecdotes and perspectives. We very much hope that the success of this pilot event can be repeated every two years or so and that the network will continue to build, helping both current pupils and Old Salopians.

We hope to repeat this type of event on a regular basis, providing careers talks by Old Salopians from different disciplines and professional backgrounds. Although Old Salopians have been coming back to the School for many years to give careers talks, the difference with this new programme is the format, which allows pupils and Old Salopians to mix freely after the event, and the follow-on activity by the Salopian Club in developing professional groupings that will help to mentor and advise pupils once they have left the School.

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Old Salopians feature large in annual Fives Varsity Match

Wednesday 14 March 2012

In the annual Varsity Fives Match that took place at Eton on 3rd March, Old Salopians were out in force.

In the Men's Blues match, 4 of the 12 players were Old Salopians - and the three playing for Oxford all won their matches! In the Ladies Match, Old Salopian Alice Walker (MSH 2008-2010) captained the Ladies' Oxford team to victory in tremendous style!

A full report is available on the Eton Fives website: www.fivesonline.net.



RSSH: Hunt Club Championships 2012

Wednesday 14 March 2012

This year's course for the annual Hunt Club Championships was a flat and fast 'out and back' run from Pengwern boat club, over the suspension bridge and down to the weir, with the return leg retracing the runners' steps. Having tackled the tough terrain of Pontesbury Hill last year, this course- whilst longer- favoured the speedsters. 'The Long Run' as it is known, has been run annually since the very earliest days of the Hunt's formation in the 1830s, and is always a closely-fought battle between the top runners within the club. Unfortunately, Huntsman George Mallett was unable to contest the championships due to a niggling injury, though his name had already been etched upon the Birley Cup in 2010 when he was the surprise victor as a 5th former. As such, the race was on between younger brother Ed and fellow Severn Hill athlete Seb Blake, who moved the pace on in the early stages as the lead pack headed down the river. Closely behind was 5th former Otto Clarke (also of Severn Hill) and Senior Whip Tom Cousins (Port Hill), and with last year's winner of the Mark Mortimer Cup for 1st Junior Boy absent through a chest infection (Churchill's Rory Fraser), these four looked certain to be contesting the top places. However, it was Ed Mallett who asserted his continued dominance with a swift 20.49 to ensure his name joins his brother's upon the esteemed Birley Cup, with Blake in the runners-up spot with 21.16, and Clarke an excellent third in 21.34.



Hunt Club Champs 2012
Winner of the Birley Cup:
Ed Mallett



Hunt Club Champs 2012
Winner of the Mark Mortimer
Cup:
Oscar Dickins

In the Junior category, there was a clear victory for Oscar Dickins from Rigg's Hall, this year's winner of the New Boys' Race, who now adds the Mark Mortimer Cup to his growing collection of trophies and medals. Second junior was Theo Clarke, younger brother of Otto, with Charlie Godman (Moser's) in 3rd.

In the final category of the day - Senior Girls - we were delighted to be able to present Imola Atkins (MSH) with the Willie Jones Cup, a trophy she retains from last year.

TOP PLACINGS:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1st Ed Mallett (S) 20.49 | 1st Senior Boy, Winner of the Birley Cup |
| 2nd Seb Blake (S) 21.16 | 2nd Senior Boy |
| 3rd Otto Clarke (S) 21.34 | 3rd Senior Boy |
| 4th Tom Cousins (PH) 21.55 | |
| 5th Toby Lansdell (PH) 22.49 | |
| 6th Angus Hayward (Ch) 23.23 | |

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7th George Nugee (G) 23.48

8th Oscar Dickins (R) 24.04 1st Junior Boy, Winner of the Mark Mortimer Cup

9th Tom Fitzpatrick (R) 24.14

10th Henry Dashwood (SH) 24.19

11th Theo Clarke (S) 24.31 2nd Junior Boy

12th Charlie Godman (M) 25.12 3rd Junior Boy

17th Imola Atkins (MSH) 31.09 1st Senior Girl, Winner of the Willie Jones Cup



Chemistry: Shrewsbury in the Finals of RSC Chemistry Schools' Quiz

Wednesday 14 March 2012

For the second year in a row, Shrewsbury qualified for the finals of the Royal Society of Chemistry Midlands Chemistry Quiz Competition after narrowly beating last year's runners-up, Wolverhampton Girls' High School, in the second round.

Our team of four consisted of two 5th formers: Chris Papaioannou (PH), Stephen Chandler (Rb), and two 4th formers: Charlie Davis (PH) and Oliver Hope (Ch), who found themselves competing against a strong team from Rugby in the Quarter Finals, held at the University of Birmingham. The tension was high throughout as the two teams were so closely matched, but Shrewsbury emerged victorious in the end with a 57-53 score.

This set up a semi-final against the defending champions, Camp Hill Boys' School, Birmingham. We performed extremely well in a closely-fought battle, but unfortunately this proved to be a 'bridge too far' and we finished a close second.

This is the first time that Shrewsbury has ever made the semi-finals in this competition. Let's hope they can go one or two steps further next year. Well Done!!

ADB



A Week in the Life of a Housemaster: Peter Middleton, Rigg's

Thursday 15 March 2012

MONDAY 5th MARCH

Ah, Monday morning!... I awoke, bright-eyed and eager, ready for an exciting new week- as ever, I felt full of bounce and vigour. Slowly making my way down the Private Side staircase, I noticed with satisfaction that the daily broadsheets were awaiting me, freshly ironed by one of my delightful 3rd Formers. My two-year old daughter Isla greeted me in the kitchen having already been up for two hours learning Latin Grammar and practising the harpsichord, whilst the Upper Sixth were busy preparing me a typically hearty Full English Breakfast. "Well done boys," I cried out as the entire L6th jogged past the kitchen window having returned from their daily 20-mile run, and - conscious that my morning game of croquet with the other Housemasters was just two hours away - I quickly drained my champagne and asked my valet to prepare a selection of cravats to choose from.

And then I woke up. Urgh, Monday morning! I awoke, bleary-eyed and exhausted. Looking in the bathroom mirror, I saw with horror what looked to be a grey hair erupting from my right eyebrow. Oh well, at least people would perhaps stop confusing me for the Head of House.

Hastily dressed in an ink-stained, dribble-drenched suit (the ink was my fault, the dribble I hasten to add was my daughter's), matron and I held our weekly meeting and discussed the week ahead, compiling a list of breakfast truants for Tardy Book that seemed fairly similar to our overall House list. Double-5th form was next, which is actually far less daunting than it sounds as the mighty set 4 are a top bunch and always great fun. It's revision time, and I can safely say we all enjoy 'reliving the magic' (good, healthy pedagogical propaganda there) of Edith Wharton's novella *Ethan Frome*. On the whole a good session, though towards the end of the lesson, whilst discussing the depiction of Zeena Frome in the book as a grotesque and abhorrent creature, somebody decides to point out that I have "a wonky nose". Thanks. Then somebody pipes up, 'Yeh, and you've got a weird running style,' which is met with a chorus of agreement and nodding heads. Hang on - who are these people who watch me run, tutting critically as I pass? And do I really run that strangely? To their credit, as I am about to launch myself out of the window and onto the concrete slabs below in a moment of self-conscious angst, one or two of the more sensitive members of the class hastily throw in a few compliments, and I have to agree that, yes, I suppose I am a fun teacher, and yes, my mother probably does love me.

The afternoon passes by in a haze of further lessons, a prospective parent tour, a Housemaster's Meeting, and somewhere along the line Isla presents me with a smiley face sticker. It's just the encouragement I need - I must be doing something right! With lessons over it's time for Monday Benjies, an historic Hunt run of 2.3km that is essentially a time-trial, and one that is always fiercely contested. Typically we have well over 50 boys running the event, and I have long resigned myself to the fact that I am regularly beaten by a good handful of them (probably due to my "weird running style" and, oh yeah, my "freakishly skinny ankles"). Isla just about dies when she decides to run into the middle of the starting area just when the starter's orders are being given, though thankfully she is spotted just in time. I run a rather sluggish time, but there are terrific performances from leading athlete Ed Mallett (7.21), and I'm thrilled for James Humpish who smashes his PB by over twenty seconds to run 9.01 (the next week he would break the elusive 9-minute barrier), and delighted too that Sonny Koh breaks 10 minutes for the first time and gets his name on the school Standards Rankings.



The evening passes without incident with Rigg's Hall well-marshalled by former Housemaster DK, and after the nightly rounds and typically entertaining chat from the Upper Sixth, I settle down to a pile of marking - what better way to end off the day!

TUESDAY 6th MARCH

I wake up and promise myself I won't write vast realms for my Tuesday entry in the 'Week in the Life Article'.

Only one lesson in the morning, but it's those pesky 5th formers, who this morning announce that they have a new theory about me - they are calling it Weird Friday. Seemingly my behavior becomes distinctly eccentric (or "bonkers" as one of them puts it) during Friday period 7. I cast my mind to what happens during Friday lunchtimes, but can't think of any furtive narcotic abuse that I am involved in that may explain my behavior. Still, I resolve to contact my shrink and ask him about it...

In the afternoon I transfer to the Ashton Theatre for AS Level Theatre Studies, and am thrilled to see that the set is up for one of the group's performance of Mark Ravenhill's 'Pool. No Water'. We go over some key scenes together and then I look at the other group's opening sequence of Steven Berkoff's 'West'. The quality of both pieces is first-rate, and I am extremely impressed with the work they have put in over the weekend. At the end of the period, I dash down to the Main School Building for U6th English, running my way down Central to make it on time. This is partly out of necessity, and partly to humour the awaiting class who watch from the McEachran room as I stride comically down the long straight and up the stairs. They are far more forgiving than my 5th form, and congratulate me on my swift 100yard 'Ashton Dash'. Then it's heads down to some coursework preparation - a 3,000 word exploration of 19th Century Literature, with particular focus on our studied texts: Lord Byron's 'Childe Harold's Pilgrimage'; James Hogg's 'Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner'; and Thomas De Quincey's 'Confessions of an English Opium-Eater'. All good, cheery stuff.

In the evening I pop back over to the theatre to see how preparations are coming on for the Rigg's House play - 'Robin Hood' - written and directed by resident Assistant Housemaster CEC. Freddie Thomson and Conrad Morson are busy painting the set, thankful for some peace and quiet whilst Mrs B sorts everyone out with their costumes. I too am glad that my secretary Mrs B has found someone else to boss around this week, and keep a low profile in case she spots me. Lurking in the back of the auditorium, I watch the first act and must say I'm quite impressed. It is, shall we say, a little close to the bone in places, but with a few tweaks here and there I think we should get away with it.

Rigg's is hauntingly quiet with almost everyone in the house involved in the play in some way or another, and they are so tired when they return from the theatre at 10pm that matron, myself and tutor AEM have no problems getting them all to bed on time.

Some time later, it's time for bed for the Housemaster too, and I hit the sack satisfied that my Tuesday entry for the Week in the Life article is much shorter than Monday's. At this rate, Sunday's entry will be very short indeed...

WEDNESDAY 7th MARCH

7am and Isla and I head down the corridors to wake the boys up. This is probably her favourite thing in the world to do (other than staring gormlessly at yet another episode of Peppa Pig). As she opens the various doors, the unsuspecting Riggites find themselves with a wide-eyed, curly-haired toddler right in their face demanding, "Wake up, lazy boy!", or occasionally a berating,



“Messy boy!” She does, however, delight U6th former Jack Bailey by singing Happy Birthday to him (though it was nearly a week ago when he turned 18...)



Hunt Club Champs 2012
Winner of the Birley Cup:
Ed Mallett

The morning’s main event is my Annual Review with Head of Faculty KL. I nervously join Kristina in *The Quod*, anxious to find out whether or not I have been sacked. Fortunately, it appears nobody has told her about *Weird Fridays*, and clearly she has an open mind about my wonky nose and freakishly skinny ankles. We have a good long chat over a nice cup of tea, and I leave feeling valued and well-supported, glad that at least my colleagues take no notice of my weird running style.

Before lunch, I rush down to the Stott Pavilion to meet Stephen Alexander from Kukri who is producing a short film on *The Hunt*, having already put one together for the Boat Club. After a quick recce of the course for today’s Hunt Club Championships, it’s time for some interviews: as Master i/c I am asked a whole host of questions about the history of the club and recent successes, a process that at first I find a little awkward, but I soon relax when I realize that my skinny ankles won’t be in shot. I decide not to be like Simon Cowell and demand they shoot ‘my good side’, and resign myself to the fact that my wonky nose will no doubt be glaringly obvious on screen, thus warding off prospective parents and scaring small children.

The race itself is easily won by Severn Hill speedster Ed Mallett, who lifts the historic Birley Cup in the absence of his elder brother and Huntsman George who is nursing a slight injury. I am delighted that my Rigg’s rising star Oscar Dickins (winner of this year’s New Boys’ Race) comes home as first Junior and wins the Mark Mortimer Cup, with Imola Atkins of Mary Sidney Hall retaining her title as Girls’ Club Champion and retaining the Willie Jones Cup.

The evening sees TCW in charge of Rigg’s, so I take the opportunity to head over to the theatre to watch some of the dress rehearsal, where a small select audience seem to be having a whale of a time. It all bodes well for the first performance, with what looks set to be a sell-out audience on Thursday night. CEC’s stamina over these past few weeks has been incredible - having directed house plays myself in years gone by, I know just how much work has gone into them, so I make a point of publically acknowledging all the work he has put in after their run-through is over, and then leave them to devour on the mountains of pizza that are just reward for their efforts. Just what they need before bed-time...

Later I go to bed myself after two packs of crisps and a perusal of *The Times* at some ungodly hour in the morning. Not convinced this is particularly healthy either!

THURSDAY 8th MARCH

I wake up and manage to snatch a conversation with my wife. It is good to remind myself from time to time that I am actually married, and as she heads out of the door to the GP surgery where she escapes from this mad existence, I pause to think just how lucky I am to have such a supportive wife as Jenna who uncomplainingly keeps me sane, feeds me, and offers sound rational advice each and every day.

Thursdays tend to be my quietest day as far as lessons and sport are concerned, so they’re normally a good chance to work through some admin. I have one prospective tour to do, though it’s a family I have met twice before, so it’s a much less formal meeting and we have a



productive discussion about the various pastoral, academic and sporting emphases at Shrewsbury. We don't bother with another tour around the house which I am thankful for as I end up feeling a little bit like an Estate Agent, and find myself pointing out irrelevancies such as the tall ceilings and the 'dual aspect' of certain rooms (I'm not even sure what that really means, but it sounds convincing).

Over lunch we have a Faculty Meeting (I haven't actually dined in KH once this week, and realise late on Wednesday that I forgot to even have lunch at all!). I arrive five minutes late following my prospective parents' meeting, and burst through the door anxious to salvage at least one or two sandwiches that haven't already been devoured by Sheppe, Hann and Law. We rattle through the meeting with a typical mixture of officious urgency and riotous hilarity. Kristina is on fine form marshalling (no pun intended JWDM) this band of unruly miscreants.



Rigg's House Play:

Paddy Lynch-Staunton as the Sherriff of Nottingham; Merlin Dickins as Guy of Gisbourne; Guy Leslie as Robin Hood

After a quick scoot down to the Stott Pavilion in the afternoon to distribute some pairs of spikes donated by Mo Hill from 'Up and Running' in town, I rush back up to Rigg's to load my car with wine for the pre-show reception at the Top of the Shop. RW - whose duty night is normally a Thursday anyway - has already got things under control, with matron having set up all the glasses and tables earlier in the day. The boys had said that it may be best if parents are "quite tipsy" by the time they enter the theatre, so I encourage them (the parents) to drink plenty ahead of a show that I fear may still be a little too close to the bone in places. Nevertheless, once the play gets under way, my fears of causing everyone huge offence are lifted after the opening sequence, where most of the audience become fully immersed in participating in what is essentially a pantomime, and within minutes we are all in stitches at Merlin Dickins's portrayal of Guy of Gisbourne and James Aitkens's scene-stealing cross-dressing as 'Nanny'. Whilst a whopper of a show in terms of length, the audience remained packed for the second act, with everyone keen to find out just whether James Aston's Rudolf would be re-united with Josh Mason's Santa, and whether CEC could possibly fit in any more thinly-veiled cinematic allusions.

The boys were buzzing after the show, and rightly so - everyone was in agreement that it had been a success, and I must say I went to bed feeling really quite relieved!

FRIDAY 9th MARCH

It's Weird Friday, but alas for my 5th Form, they won't get to test out their theory because it's also a Coach Weekend and lessons end at 1pm. If there is any truth in their theory, I'd better be careful for we are hosting Rigg's parents in the Private Side for a lunch, and I will need to



maintain some semblance of sanity to those parents who have entrusted me with caring for their children.

Whilst the rest of the school duck away at 1pm, the Faithful stay for the final matinée performance of Robin Hood, including a large number of staff. Whilst a smaller audience, the cast still manage to put in an energetic and entertaining performance, with the girls from Emma Darwin impressing again with their brilliantly-choreographed dances, and the boys from Rigg's doing their stuff brilliantly too. I was delighted to see so many of my boys involved in the play in one way or another, and the whole process was terrific in bringing everyone together and developing house unity.

Having said farewell to the last of my charges after the play, I managed to find some time to finish off my U6th reports and complete my budget deadline. The Bursar will be pleased - I'm under budget for next year!

With the boys all gone and the house and windows all shut up and locked, we enjoyed a quiet evening with my younger brother who had come up for the weekend to stay with us. My father and elder brother - who had travelled down from Scotland for one night to babysit Isla whilst the house play was on, left around 11pm, at which point the rest of us decided to head to bed and take the chance to have an early night.



UK Inter-Counties:

PJM looking pretty shattered!

SATURDAY 10th MARCH

Begin to regret those packs of crisps earlier in the week as I wake and remind myself that I have stupidly agreed to race this afternoon in the UK Inter-Counties. I'm not sure the Shropshire Team Manager quite believed me when I said that my fitness had gone rapidly downhill since becoming a Housemaster, and that my current lifestyle of late nights, unhealthy eating, and sporadic exercise wasn't exactly conducive to competing at the biggest cross-country event in the country. At the peak of my fitness last year whilst in the midst of London Marathon training I only managed 200th, so I wasn't exactly full of optimism about my prospects this year. Nevertheless, despite it being a weekend off, in a strange way I was quite looking forward to the event, and it is always good to compete for the county, albeit one who tends to fare pretty badly on the national scene!

My primary concern about the race was that my weird running style would be on show once again, this time exposed on national TV. It was with horror that I found out early on Saturday morning whilst looking at the TV schedule that the event had been 'promoted' from Sky Sports 4 to Sky Sports 1. The level of humiliation looked set to increase. Every year, aside from tracking the lead athletes, one of the cruel producers always asks a cameraman to linger rather too long on the final couple of athletes in the field, usually accompanied with one of the commentator's saying something along the lines of, "Well, he's having a bad day". There was a very real threat that this might be me they would later be describing.



UK Inter-Counties:

At the finish with my loyal supporters Jenna and Isla!

we were off and charging like lunatics up a steep and unrelenting first hill. By the top of the hill I was rather pleased with myself, mainly because I had skillfully maneuvered myself into an empty channel on the far left of the field directly in line with the camera (confirmed later when we watched the replay of the event, a clip that will no doubt be preserved for at least 60 years to come). This, I suspect, was my last moment of glory, and after the long first lap, I realized that this was going to be a long afternoon. Whilst not amongst the last runners, I could certainly see them, if not quite hear them breathing down my neck. Settling into a rhythm over the first and second lap, it was with some consternation that I heard over the tannoy the race commentator excitedly describe the sprint finish of the lead athletes. I still had about 2km to go! Eventually I trudged over the line exhausted, but incredibly, was only a minute behind my time from last year, finishing in 42.22. According to Isla, I won the race, but this did not appear to be confirmed by the official results that placed me 231st, but given my current levels of fitness, I was happy to accept it!

On return, having put Isla to bed we sat down and watched Scotland lose yet another rugby match, but to be honest, by this point in the week, I didn't really even care, and was happy just to sit, chat to my wife and brother, and get to bed.

SUNDAY 11th MARCH

Sleep.

Nevertheless, upon arrival, I made sure I wasn't at the back of the Shropshire 'pen' so I could get out of trouble fast and avoid any spiking. 300 or so of the top runners in the UK (6 from each county, including the Scottish and Welsh regions) lined up - plus me - and following all the other age-group races, we were set to tackle the 12km course as the final 'showcase' event of the day. Mo Farah, I noted earlier, was at the World Indoor Championships, so that was one less athlete to worry about. I doubt he got mocked for his skinny ankles, I thought as we waited for the gun, but before I could give it much thought,

Shrewsbury

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Football: w/c 5th March 2012 vs Sandbach

Thursday 15 March 2012

Sandbach were the visitors to senior on Wednesday and provided a competitive game of football for the Shrewsbury A XI. The opposition favored a physical approach to the game and we did well to withstand the pressure of their second half performance which was wind assisted. The game was decided by two Max Pragnell first half goals, with a solid team display evident in the second half. Overall it was a good game of football and a good 2-1 victory.

Mr S. Biggins



Rugby: w/c 5th March 2012

Thursday 15 March 2012

1st XV

The boot of William Mason and a superbly well worked try finished by Charlie Farquhar kept Shrewsbury in touch last Wednesday against a big, physical and uncomplicated Welbeck College side who had lost two matches all season up to this point. With 25 minutes to go, the score was 17-14 to the visitors and Shrewsbury looked in a good position to challenge, however Welbeck were the next to score and with time running out, Shrewsbury's heads dropped a little acknowledging that it was going to be tough to get back into the match. Welbeck went on to score two more tries in the dying minutes, but Shrewsbury were a credit defensively for most parts of the match, and walked off the pitch with pride intact.

In other news, both the 2nd XV and 3rd XV were beaten by their Welbeck College counterparts, whilst the U15's recorded a strong victory against Church Stretton 24-12.

Mr D. Kirkby

Shrewsbury

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Fives: w/c 5th March 2012 vs Eton

Thursday 15 March 2012

The highlight of the fixture was the clash between two of the top rated U16's pairs ahead of the National Championships at Eton. The Shrewsbury 1st pair U16's (H.Blofield and H.Flowers) eventually won a marathon five setter, 3-2 (14-11 in the 5th).

In all other matches the seniors dominated their Eton counterparts whilst the juniors didn't fare so well, with all matches going Eton's way.

Congratulations and thank you to all 21 boys who gave up their time to play for the school - it is very much appreciated.

Mr A. Barnard

Tennis: w/c 5th March 2012

Thursday 15 March 2012

Despite putting in a tremendous amount of effort, the Shrewsbury boys fell at the first hurdle in the national championships, losing out to a very good Idsall School team. A tough first match of the season, with plenty of positives to take away for the forthcoming fixtures.

Mr M Harding



Robin Hood as you've never seen it before - a Rigg's Hall and Emma Darwin production

Thursday 15 March 2012



Rigg's House Play:

Paddy Lynch-Staunton as the Sherriff of Nottingham; Merlin Dickins as Guy of Gisbourne; Guy Leslie as Robin Hood

“How refreshing”, commented another parent to me after the play, “that the school which gave birth to Private Eye and some of the Monty Python team can still find an expression of comic satire and light-hearted lampoonery. That was amazingly funny.” True, Private Eye has been sued on occasions and it is not recommended reading for the straight-laced, fainthearted or unintelligent. But if the hallmark of a good play is to attract too many would-be viewers on the opening night (standing room only at the back, anecdotally; I was at the front looking the other way. Don't for heaven's sake tell H&S) and to provoke sustained laughter for about two hours, then Robin Hood was a huge success. There is reason to celebrate its success: while a strong lead was provided by those at the top of the House, few, if any in Rigg's, had nothing to do with it, and half of Emma Darwin L6 were involved too. Sound, light, front-of-house, back stage, refreshments were all pupil-led with little professional input on the night. The simplicity of the set and a well thought out lighting plot allowed swift scene changes. Actors were created from hitherto retiring individuals (well, downright shy, some of them), and they collectively overcame that gnawing sense of fear and stage fright as the sense of occasion generated by CEC's scripting and the audience reaction lifted their energy to level after level. Regional accents strengthened as the play proceeded and minor actors on the sidelines (and major players temporarily off the plot) added hugely to the production by staying in character even when out of the lime-light. It was in all senses a courageous production.



Leslie's confident, sunny and open Robin Hood provided half of a comedy duo with Lapage's Gerald of Wales, portrayed with a lively sense of comic timing in his great uncle's accent, ably backed up by a vibrant and confident Kinnaird as a previously-unknown-in-this-story Bog Trotter. Katie Williams as Will Scarlett and the Merry Men from EDH added another colourful dimension again. Lynch-Staunton as Sheriff gave us the character we love to hate, well supported by Day as his grinding henchman, Mostyn (hmmm.) Kim and Shelley (Rainbow and Emily Hay) provided such a humorous and strident counterpoint to the Sheriff's narrative that it is hard to work anything fluent at this point. In true panto style, fun was banished by the kidnapping of Father Christmas (Mason) and the comic pathos of his separation from Aston's Rudolf was highlighted in the strobe-lit reunion. Dickens' interpretation of the inept titled and powerless Gisborne left us in no doubt as to his intentions for the gentle Marion (Rosie Parr) whom he

must marry to enable the Sherrif to ascend to power in the absence of Angell-James's King Richard. By no means least was Aitken Minor (6'2", I think) as Nanny, also suitably embellished with a relative's accent and whose character developed exceptionally well as the play proceeded, and Aitken Major (6'6") as Little John had a suitably woodland-elfin take. Scofield's Tuck and Douglas's Joker demonstrated great strength in depth. Special mention must go to other seniors never yet seen on stage, Leigh-Bramwell as Simon Cowell (don't ask), Morgan as Jim, Adeyefa as Jessie Flash and Bailey as Gap Yah added a very positive atmosphere. All others not named deserve praise; I hope that they will appear on stage again in the near future to claim their place, for their contribution to the whole was huge.

While the Eye authors were exclusively Churchillian (Boo, hiss, say some, but Stay, say I; indeed two of them were successive Heads of House), Palin of Python fame is a dyed in the wool Riggite, still occasionally seen sporting a Rigg's tie and he has been broadcast singing The Carmen* in a foreign clime on a cold dark night round a camp fire. Not that one particularly advocates the latter, but it illustrates how the memories taken from school remain vivid for a long time. I suspect we have not heard the last of Cooke's Robin Hood by a long chalk.

Anon (name and address provided) and on, and on.

**The school song, silly.
Philip Lapage, Parent.*



Hockey and Badminton: w/c 5th March 2012

Thursday 15 March 2012

HOCKEY

U16 vs Adams Grammar

Despite the final score this was a much better performance than last week. Adams Grammar teams are always well drilled and we spent most of the game in our own half. Yet despite this we continued to play as a team and persevered until the very end which was pleasing to see. Our positional play was much improved, but we didn't pressure them enough when we did get into their half, which made it too easy for them to clear the ball. The final score was a 0-5 defeat; however more positives can be taken from this game, than could be from last week's performance.

Mr M. Wade

BADMINTON

Shrewsbury School (H) vs Wrekin College

This was the last match of the school year against Wrekin College; fixtures against them have proven to be enjoyable and competitive. This fixture started off with some mixed doubles, then doubles, and it finished off with a boys' singles game.

The first pair (Jirapas and Amanda) didn't have as much success as they had hoped for, as they won only 1 game and lost 2. Second pair (Taylor and Janet) played very well, winning 2 and losing 1. And the third pair (Awin and Azimah) won 1 and lost 2. The final score in this mixed doubles section was therefore 5-4 to Wrekin, but it could so easily have gone the other way. The doubles matches were more successful for Shrewsbury as we won 4 games to 2 overall. Then a singles match was played by Jirapas against Wrekin's number. It was a well fought match by two very able and talented players, and in the end Jirapas won 21-12.

Mr A Dalton



Netball: w/c 5th March 2012 vs King's Chester

Thursday 15 March 2012

As both the teams of King's Chester were missing a number of key players, we decided to mix up both of our teams in the interest of fairness.

Our 1st team consisted solely of L6th girls, enabling us to have a glance of what next year might look like. It was a very windy afternoon and both teams started out with some rather average shooting. It was a tight and close match in the first three quarters but our superior fitness told in the final quarter with the girls overcoming exhaustion to pull away with an impressive 16-8 win.

Miss. G. Woo

Shrewsbury 2nd VII put in a fantastic performance in very windy conditions against King's Chester. Alice Paul scored the majority of the 45 goals with a consistent and accurate performance. Libby Naylor and Becky Haynes moved the ball around court very well, taking advantage of their superior pace and exploiting the space this created. Overall, a clean, concise and effective performance from all the girls ensured a dominant 45-9 victory.

Miss O. Thorogood



Fives: Under 15s at the National Championships at Eton

Monday 19 March 2012

Ten U15 pairs entered the Nationals at Eton on Sunday 18th March, and the top five pairs qualified from the pools; one pair were the runners-up in the Plate A; one pair won Plate B (our first - and hopefully not last - bit of silverware from this tournament), and our top pair - George Lewis and Jamie Humes (both 4th form Ingrams) - are playing in the semi-final at 4.30pm on Monday 19th March.

10 U15 pairs entered the Nationals yesterday (Sunday 18th). Other schools competing were Berkhamstead, Westmimster, Eton, Mill Hill, St Olave's, Ipswich, Wolverhampton, High Wycombe, QE Barnet.

Our top five pairs qualified from the pools. Pairs 6-10, KO'd from the pools, entered Plate A: and pair 6, Paul Sharpe and Henry Clay, battled valiantly to the last in the final of plate A before being beaten by Berkhamstead 1. This was a fantastic performance by two boys who have never played at such a competitive level.

Pair 5 (Dom Dootson, Reiss Rashid) were KO'd in round two but went on to win plate B - our first and hopefully not last piece of silverware!

Pair 2 (Freddie Earlam and Freddie Adair) fought hard but went down 1-2 in sets against QE Barnet 1; they will continue on into the U16 tournament and represent a great prospect for the future, earning particular praise from senior coach Grant Williams.

Pairs 3 and 4 (Oliver Nolan and Dan Delikatny, and Will Schofield and Yutaro Sato) won through to round 3 but were KO'd, ending their run at the Nationals.

Pair 1, George Lewis and Jamie Humes, finished a long day winning their Quarter Final and they go on to play their Semi at 4:30 Monday afternoon. For a pair who have not had that much time on court together they are showing tremendous promise.

TSM

18th March 2012



Kathy Campbell is appointed Director of Admissions

Monday 19 March 2012

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Kathy Campbell as Shrewsbury's Director of Admissions. Kathy takes up this post in our Senior Management Team in September 2012.

Kathy has a degree in Design and Communication from Ravensbourne, and has twelve years of experience of schools' marketing. She will be coming to us from Stowe School where she is currently the Director of Admissions and Marketing.

Kathy's earlier career was in commercial design and marketing, working for Conrans, The Times Literary Supplement and The Times Educational Supplement. Previous clients have included Sony, Argos, Harrods and CBS Records. She has also taught A Level Graphic Design modules at an independent girls' school, and has been a visiting Graphic Design lecturer on higher education courses.

Kathy has two daughters - Hannah (17) who goes on to university this autumn, and Jenny (16) who is looking forward to joining Shrewsbury's Sixth Form this September.

When she can find some spare time, Kathy's passion is dancing - ballroom, salsa, jive and tango - and she has thoroughly enjoyed teaching Sixth Formers to Waltz, Quickstep and Cha Cha Cha before their Leavers' Ball.

Kathy writes "I am delighted to have been offered the post of Director of Admissions at Shrewsbury at such an exciting time in the School's development as it moves to full co-education. It is a vibrant school with an excellent, world-class reputation and welcoming atmosphere – what a pleasure it will be to have so many exceptional qualities to select from when promoting the breadth and quality of an education at Shrewsbury to a prospective pupil!"





Musings from our Head of Classics: The future of Classics - goodbye Mr Chips?

Tuesday 19 June 2012



The old image of Classics as a moribund dry subject taught by decrepit pipe-smoking pedants is long out of date, and the subject has been enjoying a real revival in recent years. The delight of reading Latin and Greek texts for yourself is being brought to the living room by Mary Beard in her brilliant TV series 'Meet the Romans' and this (along with the racier diet of *Spartacus*) is helping to cause a surge in interest in the Romans and Greeks. Boris Johnson is also doing his bit by pushing the 'Latin for London' initiative which is trying to get Latin into every school in the capital.

Shrewsbury has always taught Latin, Greek and also Ancient History and our numbers have grown dramatically in recent years. Our pupils are happier than ever to study these 'dead' languages and their culture; the languages are taught for the literature rather than the other way round, and yet grammatical rigour is still required if the pupils are to read the text with accuracy. Pupils enjoy the poetry, the politics, the humour and above all the clash of cultures as we try to understand a world where slavery was normal and blood was shed for entertainment.

Ad multos annos!

JG

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Old Salopian Lodge Meeting and Lunch – Sat 16th June 2012

Tuesday 19 June 2012

A group of over 40 Old Salopian and Shropshire masonic representatives met at the School on Sat 16th June. The main meeting was held in the Ashton Theatre, after which Lodge members were joined by family members and guests for a buffet lunch in the impressive surroundings of the Moser Library. The Lodge is seeking to build closer ties with the School and is open to approaches from Old Salopians with an interest in Freemasonry. The lodge has two further meetings this year on Wed 26th Sep and Tue 27th Nov at the City University Club, details can be obtained from Chris Williams on Tel: 07956 9546 937 or e-mail: chrisjwilliams@yahoo.co.uk.

Legal Service for the High Sheriff of Shropshire held at Shrewsbury School

Tuesday 20 March 2012

The High Sheriff of Shropshire, Richard Burbidge, and his wife, Patricia, hosted the annual Legal Service at Shrewsbury School on Sunday 18th March. This traditional ceremony is held every year to celebrate the Queen's Peace and our Heritage.



On a beautiful, sunny, spring day, proceedings began with a reception and lunch in the Alington Hall for over one hundred invited guests, who listened to a moving speech by the county's Lord Lieutenant, Mr. Algernon Heber Percy. Then, led by the School choir, a procession moved off through the school grounds to the chapel where a special service was held. The procession included some sixteen judges, six visiting High Sheriffs from adjacent counties, the Bishops of Shrewsbury and Hereford, the Queen's Remembrancer, the Chief Constable of West Mercia and our Lord Lieutenant and his wife.



Governors of Shrewsbury School.

The choir's rendition of Haydn's *The Heavens are Telling* was later described as spine-tingling, and followed a thought-provoking and stimulating address by the Bishop of Shrewsbury to a congregation of over two hundred and fifty.

Following the service, everyone moved back to the Alington Hall for tea and a ceremony to mark the long service of six magistrates from the Shrewsbury and North Shropshire and the Telford and Wrekin benches.

Richard Burbidge is also the Chairman of the



RSSBC: Schools' Head of the River Race - Championship Girls Eights

Wednesday 21 March 2012

With just a two week period to learn from the Womens' Head, the crew made their way back to the Tideway to pitch themselves against the best schoolgirl crews in the country.

The race went to plan. The familiarity of the course still fresh in their minds, the crew ably adapted their race plan in order to establish their rhythm early. By its very nature the event was going to be tough. After all, they have been rowing for no more than 6 months, with only two VIII's races under their belts. The Category? - The Championship Girls 8+, the Girls' equivalent of the 1st VIII event.

The results speak for themselves: 12th/16, beating St Peter's School, St Mary's, Cheltenham Ladies' College and Emanuel, all established rowing schools. Their finish time of 21:13 was over 3 minutes quicker than a fortnight ago.

The most significant result suggests there is yet more to come from this talented group of girls. In just two weeks the RSSBC Girls Crew closed in on the top two schools, Lady Eleanor Holles and Headington by 34s and 1:28s respectively. The crew of Amy Steventon, Amy Stockdale, Libby Wood, Bridget Lapage, Katie Williams, Rainbow Satchatippavarn, Eliza Hodgson, Georgia Bustin and Liv Levy should be proud of this achievement.

This marks a significant end to the Head season in which the squad have worked tremendously hard and made huge progress. They now turn their attention to summer regatta racing after a well earned Easter Break.

CHLW



Galin Ganchev (M IV) is given a standing ovation for his recital in the Alington Hall

Wednesday 21 March 2012

Last Friday, 16th March, a musical event, which richly deserves wider notice, took place in the Alington Hall.

Galin Ganchev, a 15-year old pianist from Bulgaria in his second year as a pupil at Shrewsbury, gave a truly stunning recital of works by Bach, Beethoven, Liszt, Chopin and Balakirev, to an astonished and captivated audience of about ninety.

As with his previous performance in the Hall - of Grieg's Piano Concerto with the School Orchestra - Galin completed this latest solo recital, lasting well over an hour, entirely from memory. His performance was remarkable, not only for the range of the works he had chosen, but also for the technical brilliance which characterised his playing throughout. The programme reached its climax in the two final items, Chopin's Scherzo in B Flat Minor and Balakirev's Oriental Fantasy, both pieces well-known for the exceptionally severe demands which they make upon both technique and stamina.

Galin's delighted audience, deeply impressed, accorded him a prolonged and enthusiastic standing ovation, relishing the prospect of many future opportunities to hear him play.

David Gee

RSSBC: National Junior Sculling Head at Dorney Lake

Wednesday 21 March 2012



On a wonderfully sunny day at Eton's Dorney Lake (home to the 2012 Olympic Regatta), 3 third form octuples took to the water against 57 other crews from around the country. Our training had been limited by illness, injuries and commitments to various other sports; however, the boys raced with real determination and finished with some results that suggest we have yet to see the best from this group of new oarsmen.

Racing was over 2 legs, one against a brisk headwind, the second (thankfully) with a helpful tailwind.

The A crew boated with confidence, and rightly so. On the first leg they were second fastest (only 10 seconds slower than eventual winners King's Chester and 13 seconds ahead of the next crew). Unfortunately, after only 400m or so of the second leg, a major "crab" brought the boat to a dead stop for what seemed like an age, and meant that our bow man could no longer row, leaving 7 boys to heroically finish the remaining 1400m without their eighth man. They will be disappointed with their eventual 7th place, but they will come back stronger next term.

The B crew's training was the most disrupted, with only one outing together as a crew before we de-rigged the boats and put them on the trailer. They raced very well, overtaking 3 other crews in the process. They came 7th out of 19 B crews, and beat 12 A crews. A fantastic effort.

The C crew turned in the performance of the day. They were the fastest C crew on the first leg, beating a whole host of A and B crews. On the second leg, all was going well until they broke a blade 100m from the finish line. By Mr Peach's estimate they were stationary for over 30 seconds. In the final results they still beat 7 A crews and 6 B crews, which shows the potential of the boys in this crew - a number I am sure will feature in higher crews over their time at Shrewsbury.

RMW

Oldham's House Play 2012: 'The Hothouse' by Harold Pinter

Wednesday 21 March 2012



Oldham's Hall has garnered a reputation over recent years as the hot ticket as far as House plays are concerned, with a talented core of actors who have memorably staged numerous first-rate productions, not least 2011's 'The Real Inspector Hound' in the Ashton Theatre. This year the stage relocated to Oldham's itself, and the more intimate space of the Hall itself. In fact, this was the perfect location for such a dark and sinister play as Pinter's 'The Hothouse', first performed in 1980 at the Hampstead Theatre directed by the playwright himself. The setting of the play is ambiguous- an institution whose 'residents' and 'patients' are referred to not by name but by numbers. Interspersed with a dislocating and strained soundscape (created by OS James Brown who was brought in to provide technical expertise), the Hall was a suitably claustrophobic setting, with shafts of light from outside producing stark and ominous shadows upon the stage floor (MDBJ was particularly proud of this decision as it was his own!) The would-be affable ex-Colonel figure of Roote is played with suitable pomposity by Jonathon Wood, one of a string of talented U6th formers who provided the impetus for the production, not least Freddie Fullerton, who was both a performer in the piece (playing the 'sacrificial' figure of Lamb) and an expert director once again. Indeed, it has been a distinguished theatre career for Fullerton here at Shrewsbury, and his direction of 'The Hothouse' was an appropriate high point to end on. Pinter is not easy to direct so it is a mark of the quality of such a production that the play evoked the underlying sense of malevolence lurking dangerously below the surface yet retained at the same time the comedy and absurdity of the paranoid vision.

Roote's assistants Gibbs and Lush are played with aplomb by Gus Haynes and Alex Walker, with 5th former Walker certainly well-capable of carrying on the high standard of Oldham's productions in future years (if he hasn't been put off by having 'whisky' thrown in his face not once but twice in this show!), alongside Harry Schofield, making his stage debut here at Shrewsbury as Lobb, where he crafted a convincing and impressive performance for a 3rd former. Haynes was certainly one of the stars of the show, with his depiction of the intelligent and emotionally-arid figure of Gibbs well-controlled and increasingly powerful as the play progressed. Fellow U6th former Alex Montgomery plays staff underling Tubbs and provided further comedy particularly through his expert timing. Georgia Bustin was brought in from Emma Darwin Hall to provide the femme fatale figure of Miss Cutts, and certainly looked to be enjoying playing the manipulative role!

A slick production that came in just under the hour mark, all who saw 'The Hothouse' were full of admiration and praise for a production that certainly ranked amongst the very best House plays of this season. Congratulations to all!

PJM



A Week in the Life of Archie Smyth-Osbourne (Rt UVI)

Wednesday 21 March 2012

Sunday 11 March

Feeling rather worse for wear after a Great Gatsby themed eighteenth on the Saturday night we made our way to Rugby for the National Schools Polo Championships.

Our first chukka was against a Stowe team; although we went 1-0 down early on we managed to pull the game level and forced it to penalties; which comprised spot hit fifteen yards out with an unopposed goal, made trickier than it sounds by the churned up sand playing surface. All level at an awfully tense 1-1 after the first three penalties meant sudden death! Shrewsbury first up, miss! Stowe next, miss! Shrewsbury again, miss! Stowe for the win, miss! After an exhilarating eight penalties Shrewsbury find the back of the net and take the win with rapturous applause from the sell-out crowd. The win meant that Shrewsbury, made up of Will Hunter, Elliot Robinson-Boulton and myself, progressed straight to the final to take on Cheltenham, which after two great chukkas we lost. We came second overall and having collected our rosettes we made the trek back up to Shrewsbury.

Monday 12 March

Monday mornings are always brutal for a Salopian, but luckily my undesirable consciousness only had to last for forty minutes of Spanish before I was able to climb straight back into bed to enjoy a not so productive yet beautiful double PR. Mondays I like to allow myself a no exercise day, thus treating myself to an afternoon catching up on already late work, which usually consists of essays upon essays upon essays. The only factor pushing me to finish this work was the thought of another epic episode of the blockbuster sixth series of Skins which hyperbolically depicts the misery and misfortune that apparently surrounds Bristol teenage life.

Tuesday 13 March

Happy Birthday Mr. Hughes! The day went swimmingly, double French period one and two passed by more quickly than most doubles with the prospect of a double PR to come. Hockey training in the afternoon allowed me to let off a bit of steam in preparation for our cup match against Thomas Telford the following day. In seven o'clock dix we celebrated our housemaster's big day in typically Ridgemountarian fashion with champagne and bucks fizz in abundance; an ideal start to two hours of top-schools, where I hope any dodgy work will be forgiven. The time between the end of top-schools and bed is devoted to the Rec-room, where we watched the end of a Champions League match where magic Messi tore through the Bayer Leverkusen defence for the fifth time.

Wednesday 14 March

Wednesdays I get my lie in till ten o'clock which provided perfect pre-match preparations, and after lessons we jumped on to the minibus to Telford. Having lost last year we knew it wasn't going to be easy but when they appeared with one man short we knew they couldn't be taking it too seriously and consequently thrashed them 5-1. After the match I had to rush back to school for my French oral practice and a well needed trip to the Grot shop, in which an HSR and a red bull restored some spirits again. In the evening I was able to play Power Leagues at Shrewsbury FC where Ridgemount has its weekly fixture against the School House boys; we ran out convincing winners this time stretching our winning streak to three.



Thursday 15 March

I have always dreaded Thursdays and today was no different; it started early with chapel in which Mr. Tonks gave a talk on guilt and shame which turned out to be very interesting. This was followed by a full five lessons and lunch, before I had another French oral practice, this time I was talking about my chosen topic of Henri Matisse, a French Fauvist artist of the early twentieth century. The feedback I got was encouraging although apparently I still need to know more about his twenty-seventh trip to Paris... no rest for the wicked as I bicycled back to the house only to find out my Spanish oral practice had been moved forward and I only had half an hour to prepare; as it turned out it definitely was not enough time, and the lectora was certainly not impressed. The day ended well actually, as I had a tutorial after top-schools which gave me a chance to get away from the chaos in the house.

Friday 16 March

It was a fairly mediocre morning which passed untroubled as I looked forward to having no lessons in the afternoon, which of course meant rubbing it in to my friend who trundled off to the last two lessons of the day. The double PR gave me the opportunity to do some top-schools, which I was going to miss because of the Hockey dinner. For this dinner we went to an Italian restaurant in town, owned by a friend of our hockey coach Mr. Lucas, which gave us a healthy discount, and therefore a three course meal. Towards the end of the meal I was asked, as captain, to make a speech about our fantastic season and also hand over the reins of captaincy which deservedly went to Jimmy Bruce.

Saturday 17 March

The day of the Ridgemount house dance; themed 'Uniform Dating' which opened the door for some French maids and air hostesses, which we duly got as well as a couple of prison convicts and plumbers. I managed to miss most of the set up and preparation of the dance as I got the late call up the previous evening to play in the 2nd XV rugby against KES Stratford, disappointingly ending in defeat. When I got back to the house I was surprised at how good it all looked, especially with the three Six-Nations matches distracting everyone. We quickly finished everything off and went through for the champagne reception. Everyone turned up having put in plenty of effort with their costumes, and after the typically awkward drinks and limited conversation everyone knocked back their drinks and moved through to the dance floor, the music provided by the man himself DJ Sparks. The three hours went incredibly quickly, thankfully with no dramas and it seems everybody loved it!



Rugby: Two Grove boys give their account of the Stonyhurst Sevens Tournament

Wednesday 21 March 2012

Outstanding play by our U16A squad resulted with them playing a thrilling semi-final match against the hosts, which was given away in an unfortunate misunderstanding. Ollie and Stuart Brown (both G V) were asked to write 'an insider's view' of the training and preparation for the Stonyhurst Sevens Tournament, and a report of the day itself.



Throughout this term, we have both been heavily involved in work leading up to our GCSE's. We have also been involved in the build up to U16 7's Rosslyn Park tournament, and have competed in the Stowe 7's tournament, in which we reached the quarter-final of the plate. Recently, we have been building up to today's Stonyhurst 7's Tournament, and our hopes are high.

Mr Johnson and Mr Hughes have been building up our confidence and 7's knowledge so that we have the best chance possible. The preparation has been intense and we have progressed to a much higher standard than previously where at the start of the 7's season. Our training sessions normally consist of a contact session on Monday followed by a light session on Tuesday to avoid injuries before the actual tournament. Even with this well-structured plan, there have been injuries including the losses of Jonty Newbould, Harry Tomkinson and Jack Hodges ranging from a dead gluteus to a broken shoulder.

We are told that this year's Shrewsbury U16 7's squad is one of the best yet, so the pressure is on. Stonyhurst is supposed to be easier than the Stowe tournament, so without complacency, we must use what we have done in training and put it on the pitch so that we may achieve what we think we can.

We leave today, getting up at 6:30 to be able to get down to breakfast and then leave at 7:30. The journey is around about 3 hours and with Mr Johnson's and Mr Hughes' great music choice, we should be in the right frame of mind when we get there. Previously, we have enjoyed ourselves massively and this should be as much fun or better!

Match Report

After a mind-numbing coach drive followed by Mr Johnson's favourite square drill, we finally walked onto the pitch at 11.00 to begin our first match.

We had a relatively shaky start and conceded a try in the first few minutes; Rufus Lichfield ran in our first try to steady our nerves. Our second also came pretty quickly as William Waterworth ran a switch that opened up a gap for Stuart Brown to waltz through under the posts. Half-time came and went, and with an energy boost from Mr Hughes' famous jungle juice we showed our dominance with a try from Oliver Brown and then another from Marcus Bedson. Oliver Brown managed to convert all the high kicks that brought the final score to 28-7 - a good start to the day.



After an hour's break, we again took up our places on the pitch. The first few minutes consisted of the Shrewsbury 7 maintaining possession in our own 22" followed by a line break from William Waterworth to start off our scoring streak. William Waterworth ran in another followed by two from Oliver Brown, one by Ben Listerbins and another to cap it off by Oliver Roberts. Sadly though Oliver Roberts received a head injury in a bit of a scrap and wasn't deemed fit by the medical staff to continue playing for the rest of the day. The final score 38-0.

After two confident wins we came up against a very strong St Ambrose team. They scored two very quick tries in the beginning and maintained very good pressure on our team. Sadly, though, most of the boys had already admitted defeat and not even a very good solo effort by Oliver Brown could raise the moral of some of our players. The second half opened up more with multiple line breaks mainly from Oliver Brown and William Waterworth but a good scrambled defence disallowed us from crossing the line. With some strong running from the opposition left us with our biggest defeat of the season at 39-7.

With two big wins earlier on in the tournament we came up against the winners of group H, Kings Macc. Our pre-match warm up consisted of another one of Mr Johnsons' square drills followed by an inspiring talk by Oliver Brown. We started the game with some of the best 7's we played all season with Oliver Brown leading from the front to score our first try. Hugo Scott ran in our second but a well worked King Macc's overlap gave them a try to end the first half. The score now stood a 14-7. The second half started strong with some good pressure but Kings Macc's weathered the storm and scored another well-worked try. With full time looming the game became rather frantic but Robert Treasure seized advantage of a dog leg in their backline and scored under the post. All looked certain for a Shrewsbury win, but a good piece of individual skill by their centre allowed them to equalise at full time. The rules of the tournament state that in the event of a draw, golden try rules apply. After another toss of a coin for who kicks Shrewsbury won and opted for Kings Macclesfield to kick to us. As we were walking to our positions a rather small man, I think he was the King Macc's coach, quoted from 300, "give them nothing, but take from them everything". Hearing this, I had a feeling they would put everything into these final few minutes, I was right. A high kick went up from the kick off and Ben Listerbins contested for the ball with two opposition players. This gave us the advantage as he managed to tap the ball back to James Moulson. James quickly acted on the situation and passed the ball out to Stuart Brown who was positioned on the wing. Stuart backed himself against his opposition and managed to beat him on the outside and ran in a try to win the match. The team celebrated as if we had just won the whole tournament.

Then it came to the daunting semi-final in which we would play a Stonyhurst side which had not yet lost that day. It was a very tight match, Stonyhurst got off to a good start scoring the first try under the posts but however their kicker managed to miss the kick putting us right back into the game. After a sensational bit of retaining the ball, Oliver Brown sliced his way through the centre to score under the posts and convert, 7-5 to Shrewsbury. Half time came, things like "keep it the same, keep hold of the ball and we can win this" were heard. So the second half kicked off and Shrewsbury were immediately pinned back on their own 5 meter line, however nothing could go through us. Some magnificent tackles from Marcus Bedson to stop a certain try really kept us in the game. 1-2 minutes from the end there was a chip kick from Oliver Brown who gained the ball on the bounce but then got smashed in a tackle and had to go off injured. Without the team's captain, Shrewsbury had to keep their heads and try and grind out this win. And so, we got it to last play with Rufus Litchfield reaching skywards to collect the ball in the line-out, which was then passed down to Will Waterworth and - a moment which he will never forget - he passed the ball out thinking that it would be the end of play; in fact it was a penalty to Stonyhurst

who tapped and went, created the overlap and scored. A sad moment for the boys but a good performance throughout the day. We may forgive Will in the future weeks, but now the banter is going to have to be on flow!

Ollie and Stuart Brown





The Schools' National Fives Championships 2012

Thursday 22 March 2012

The National Fives Championship runs over 6 days at the end of each Lent Term, and is the highlight of our Fives season. This year, it was held at Eton and coincided with the last week of term, so the pressure on logistics in trying to get our players back to school as quickly as possible once their games were over was huge. Here, Seb Cooley gives a great insight into it all.

The Schools' National Fives Championships 2012 - and Shrewsbury School's part in them

The week began, certainly from my point of view, with massive tarmac miles. 4 buses, 6 journeys, 36 boys, 170 miles each way... and the decision that setting off with the U16s, I would educate them in some proper music. Cue Pink Floyd, Pulse. And cue also various comments from the chaps. "How long is this song, sir?", about half-way through Shine On you Crazy Diamond (for the philistines reading, the song is written about a former member who lost his mind to drugs, was used to open many of their live sets and, to answer the question, lasts around 13 minutes). My highlight came early on the M40, during High Hopes, when the Floyd, waxing inevitable, came out with the line most pertinent to our situation: "our weary eyes still stray to the horizon, for down this road we've been so many times". The fifth form, mostly, slept.

I fear I missed almost all of Sunday's play, but I did catch George Lewis and Jamie Humes closing out their final game of the day to make semi-finals of the U15s. And then hopped in the bus and drove back again. Monday's matches saw George and Jamie progress to the final (bagging a coveted bagel, 12-0, en route), Henry Blofield & Harry Flowers and Charlie White & Antony Peel reached quarter-finals of the U16s.

I, meanwhile, was circumnavigating Birmingham in the less usual anticlockwise direction but at the perfectly usual 5mph with the upper 6th, of whom Jack Flowers had just joined the great ranks of the twitterati. We were treated to regular updates as his list of disciples swelled; on arrival at Heathrow Central (not so far removed, ideologically, from Galilee Main Donkey Exchange), he had amassed 9, though to his frustration he could only identify one. Adam Morris. As surrealism continued apace, KH reconvened itself in the Oxford services as 3rd and 4th form rowers and 4th, 5th and 6th form Fives players, headed down, up, under, over and sideways, crossed paths. I was half expecting a Domino's scooter to pull up outside, having pursued from Shropshire. As we settled back down to business, caught up with those who remained from Monday's play and ate our gourmet Travelodge supper, Grant Williams guaranteed the continued mental challenge with another of his infamous philosophical top-5s. Gradually the guard weakens...

Minibuses squeezed to bursting point with boys and KH lunches then hit the Tuesday morning road to Eton for the Open competition. We had high hopes for many pairs which were quickly shown to be reasonable. Our top pairs progressed without trouble through their groups; there were some close matches, high drama was provided by pair 7 in a pool with Aldenham 1 and St Olave's 2 (seeded) with a 3-way tie and a points countback. This was in the end just the tip of the dramatic iceberg, for as we immersed ourselves further into the day the tension and close matches built up to an intensity of which Alfred Hitchcock would have been proud. The U16 quarter-finals began in the late afternoon; Flowers and Blofield were dominant throughout, White and Peel were cut short cruelly while 1-0 up following an altercation between Antony's big toe and a concrete wall. The toe came an emphatic second.



George Lewis and Jamie Humes were in the U15 final against Ipswich (who had never before had a pair in the final but whose young team are playing very well.) Shrewsbury attacked the U15 final with vigour and were quickly in a game that was more nip and tuck than a Los Angeles cosmetic surgery. Not surprisingly, it ended up a 5-game thriller. In the fifth, Ipswich's rising star raised his game and though George and Jamie kept in touch throughout, they were pipped at the last. It was a very creditable performance from them after just two years playing and we will look to next year's U16 championship to reverse the result.

Meanwhile shadows lengthened, indeed some feared that spring would turn to summer before play had closed, the 3rd form had long since arrived ready for Wednesday's U14 competition and Harry Bromley-Davenport and Alex Styles were on court against 4th seeds Highgate 1. There were frenetic rallies, there was mania, there were breaks due to cramp, there was sunset... and of course it went to 2-2. I thought that Shrewsbury had broken the resistance, but the younger of the Highgate pair showed great, quick hands and volleying that was a class better than anyone else's. Nevertheless for our fifth pair to run the 4th seeds so close is testament to the strength in depth of Salopian fives.

Jack Flowers finished the day on 19 followers.

Those who thought that 8:45 was a late finish to play were in looking perturbed on Wednesday morning, when a record 106 pairs arrived to contest the U14 competition. The logistics required to make a tournament of this size work make London's transport network look like a merry-go-round. Somehow, amazingly, it ran completely smoothly and efficiently. It was a warm-up day for our U14s, a test against pairs who have been playing rather longer than we.

Meanwhile Blofield & Flowers had their semi-final while Hudson-Williams & Lewis and Welti & Williams were playing quarters. The size of the U14s required that these be started after 6pm. I sense you can predict the corollary. The first pair, to give them their due, were clinical, conceding just ten points in their victory (12-4, 12-5, 12-1). Prior to that they had conceded only 7 points in 6 matches. Our other pairs apparently like to sport with their opponents. Welti and Williams, looking to make sure we didn't leave too early, went all the way to the traditional 5th game. In the words of Grant, "quelle surprise!" This fifth they won 12-1. After 9pm. Blofield and Flowers will be desperately disappointed to have lost their semi 3-1. It was a tight, closely-fought match throughout and could at times have gone either way. "Quelle dommage" does not begin to do it justice. May there be hunger for vengeance.

Jack closed the day on 29 followers.

The following morning before heading to the courts, Jack had 34 followers.

The U14 beginners' competition was a much smaller affair than the previous day's, and felt like a sigh of relief. The Shrewsbury pairs were well prepared for this after yesterday's tough tournament and fared well, winning through most of their games. Indeed our top two pairs would have made the last four had pair 2 not had to concede their place in the semi-finals. George Panayi and Tom Breese were pretty emphatic in all of their games, showing class and solidity to make it through without nerves.

The mixed tournament started at 1pm and we contributed 15 pairs to the entry. This is a completely different challenge for our players, who are not used to appropriating quite the same level of chivalry on court. We ended up losing out in both semi-finals (Izzy Barber and Sam Welti in one half of the draw, Alice Long and Connor Jones in the other) to some more balanced Highgate pairs, whose girls have been playing for many years.

But the relaxed nature of the day and the sigh of relief were, predictably, but a highly convincing feint by day 5 of



the Championships. The semi-finals of the seniors were to begin at 6pm. We had a pair in each: Henry Lewis and Jack Hudson-Williams were hot favourites for the tournament and saw off a concerted and energetic challenge from St Olave's 2 without a wobble to win 12-8, 12-5, 12-3. The other semi was exceptionally interesting on paper: Shrewsbury 2, known to be two capable players, against second seeds St Olave's 1, a mature and proven pair in schools and adult competitions. Shrewsbury could only win by playing a risky, attacking game and working well together. The first game was, not surprisingly, a little cagey but St Olave's got the better of some protracted exchanges and won the first game. The second was close and nervy as the Shrewsbury pairing was tested on their teamwork and, crucially, their trust in each other to cover all areas of court. Their attack ended up paying off and they levelled at 1-0. The internal work had been begun but I felt the third game was crucial; I couldn't bring myself to watch and indeed the score headed to 8-8. Shrewsbury reached 10, but St Olave's drew level and a very bold and trusting call to play the game to 12 paid off as Shrewsbury won the next two rallies to go to game point and won the game shortly thereafter. St Olave's were always going to battle the fourth but Shrewsbury now had consolidated and were working well together: they managed to absorb any pressure and kept themselves in the game despite the onset of cramp from quite early on. When the Olavian intensity inevitably subsided we were ready and a superb run of cut returns by Guy and some stunning shots in from back court from Sam brought a run of five points which seemed to break the opposition's resistance. But from 11-5, lacking a rally to close it out, Shrewsbury slipped to 11-10 after three serves each. Was there yet to be a fifth game to this contest?! "No nerves!" came the call from coach Grant Williams at the back. Rarely have I heard anything less probable: I was sweating blood! But Sam and Guy held theirs and finished the game and the match to jubilation from the benches. 8 hours later I am still not breathing normally. Relaxed day? Fat chance!

Harry Flowers closed the day with 13 followers.

Friday. Finals day. This promised to be a more relaxed day. Obviously by now we'd all worked out what a ridiculous notion that is and were therefore steeled for more of the same. It was the major day for our girls, most of whom were playing both in the Open Ladies and in the Beginners ladies. George Panayi and Tom Breese were playing the U14 beginners' semi-finals (and hopefully final), so there remained plenty to watch. Our upper 6th pair of Izzy Barber and Alice Long reached semi-finals of the Open ladies: a great result given they were competing against players who have 6 years of experience to their two. The beginners is a tournament which puts us against schools on an equal footing. Such was Shrewsbury's dominance, all of our top four pairs reached the semi-finals. This testifies to the great enthusiasm and commitment shown by the girls this term and also to the encouragement and coaching of the senior boys and of CWC. Winners in the final were Rosie Parr and Hannah Pritchard, who beat Elen Murphy and Alice Paul in a very closely contested match.

Our U14 beginners, Breese and Panayi, played their semi-final against Eton 3 with sharp and elegant sidestepping of all puns on Tom's name. They played a close second game but were dominant in the first and third, Tom's accuracy and George's reach for volleys proving too much for the opposition. The pair looks a genuinely exciting prospect for the future and murmurings have been heard around the courts that this quality of beginners hasn't been seen since the current senior captain started out. They went into the final having played some good fives but knowing there were areas in which they could do better; they were going to be tested by Eton 1 and any weaknesses would be exploited. The Salopians, however, raised their game and were fast and accurate, winning a close first game 15-11 and the second 12-7. Did they relax in the third? Did Eton raise their game a notch? A bit of both I think, and they lost that game comprehensively, 3-12. Still, leading 2-1 and knowing very well that the opposition were dangerous and capable of beating them elevated this match into the category of proper sporting encounters that are genuinely a test of the skills and characters of the players involved. George and Tom passed the test, regaining their focus, fighting on and playing their own game to win the fourth game 12-7 and with it the match and the tournament.



Meanwhile on court 8, Shrewsbury 1 and Shrewsbury 2 were playing out the final of the Open tournament. The game's top psychoanalysts were of the opinion that Sam and Guy were the one pair that Jack and Henry would rather not have had to play and the dynamic was indeed an unusual one for a national final. It was the second pair who raised their game from the start and showed that actually, they'd like to win this. They matched the first pair shot for shot and, having scored the first points, held on to a one- or two-point margin throughout and won the first game. This was something of a wake-up call for Jack and Henry and the first game that Jack had lost at schoolboy level for two years. The first pair then started game two with more intensity and the sort of pace that we are used to seeing from them. They finally looked like a pair who were playing to win a championship and took the second game to level the match. Their consistent pressure did eventually crack Sam and Guy who had stood two enormous tests in the tournament already and couldn't raise the energy or pace they would have required to win this match. They kept in touch with Jack and Henry but couldn't get the runs of points to shake the first pair. It was a very worthy final and a spectacular exhibition of the brand of fast, athletic attacking fives that we coach and play at Shrewsbury. The assembled spectators were resoundingly impressed at the speed and level at which the game was played.

Overall I think all are agreed we had an excellent Championships with a good measure of success and thanks to the enormous efforts of the staff (particularly Andy Barnard who tops all of the league tables: hours of admin, number of return trips, credit card bill...) May next season be just as successful!

SKPC

24th March 2012



RSSBC: Schools' Head of the River Race - Top Squad

Thursday 22 March 2012

All our top three squads came third in their races - a terrific result, but inevitably one tinged with some frustration and disappointment too!

Near perfect conditions greeted our crews upon arrival at St Paul's School, Hammersmith on Tuesday morning.

Hopes were high for our 1st, 2nd and 3rd 8's after a good build up at Trent, Hammersmith and Chester Heads.



With the first 8 starting 3rd, we were hopeful of putting Eton to the sword after their average set of results recently. By half way our crew had caught up with the Eton boys, but were then unable to get by. This certainly did not help our cause in overcoming Abingdon and Hampton, both of whom we knew were fast boats. So for the 3rd year, 3rd place, certainly a

disappointment for all - but how many other schools would love to be in that position!

The 2nd 8 were certainly hopeful of a much better performance than last year, and after a strong race we emerged 3rd also, again behind Abingdon and Hampton. For a young crew (4 J16's) this is certainly a positive result and probably the right result behind two schools at the top of their game. To put this result into context they would have beaten 25 School 1st 8's!

The 3rd 8 also came 3rd! This group of U6, L6, 5th and 4th formers had a good build up to the head and was great experience for the younger boys to row on the mighty Thames. They also beat 15 1st 8's!

Crews

1st 8. S Lapage, R Chitty, H Lonergan, T Marshall, F Day, J Rand, M Kimpton-Smith, R Morgan. Cox S Walker.

2nd 8. C Clarke, C Lane-Fox, M Pattison-Appleton, D Beeston, P Gadsden, W Angell-James, R Homden, J Kynaston. Cox J Eardley

3rd 8. W Dodson-Wells, C Randall, R McCourt, C Rhodes-Bell, A Angpanitcharoen, H Rasmuss, U Capellen, T Lloyd. Cox L Koch de Gooreynd.

RESULTS

1st 8 3/41

2nd 8 3/19

3rd 8 3/4

Paul Manser



Music: Beethoven Trio perform in the Pro Corda Finals at Sevenoaks

Thursday 22 March 2012



The Beethoven Trio (Dorit Hasselberg - Clarinet, Jacob Owen - Cello and Allen Yu - Piano) travelled to Sevenoaks School on Sunday for the Finals Day of the Pro Corda Chamber Music Festival.

Students come from across the country to compete in this prestigious competition, and although our trio performed brilliantly, they were not chosen to represent the competition at the Wigmore Hall this summer. However, they have been asked to perform in a Pro Corda concert at the Millenium Centre, Cardiff, in May.

Dorit has been particularly busy this week, as she also took her LTCL Clarinet Diploma on

Wednesday, and was awarded a distinction. Eugene To took his ATCL Flute Diploma at the same time (already having his ATCL Piano diploma) and passed.

Maria Curtis



RSSBC: J15 crews at the Schools' Head

Friday 23 March 2012

Our three J15 crews all raced really well on their first-ever outing on the Tideway; the J15As even managed to scoop a Silver medal, beaten only by St Paul's - who had the great advantage of familiarity with this tricky stretch of water.



For the first time ever Shrewsbury had three J15 Eights racing in the Schools' Head.

After an immensely helpful guided tour of the course in a launch, courtesy of William Powell at Thames Rowing Club, the three coxes negotiated the difficult Tideway course with real expertise, and all three crews performed very well. Particularly noteworthy, however, was the J15 A VIII. Out of some 58 J15 crews in the race, our A crew came away with the Silver Medal, only St Paul's managing a

faster time. It was a stunning and gutsy performance from a crew who are showing more and more promise with every passing week, and bodes well for the regatta season.

MAJM



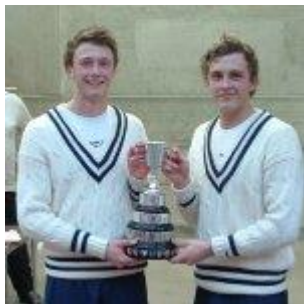


Fives: Winners of The National Championships at Eton

Sunday 25 March 2012

This is a summary of our successes at Eton in this 6-day annual tournament; to get a real feel for the flows of adrenalin and incredibly complicated logistics in keeping players away from lessons and school activities for as little time as possible in the last week of term, please see [Seb Cooley's full report](#).

Over 1000 young people from schools all over the country competed for the Schools' National Eton Fives Championships at Eton this week and Shrewsbury had outstanding success, including winning the coveted Open Championship.



The Open Championship - Trophy retained:

We knew that this one was ours once the semi-final matches were over, with our Number One and Number Two pairs finally through to play each other in the Final on the tournament's last day. This didn't make the Final any less thrilling to watch, and the tension was high as our second pair, Sam Welti (I UVI) and Guy Williams (Rb L) took the first game. Number One pair, not used to conceding games to anyone, came back with greater strength, and the 2012 Championship winners were Jack Hudson-Williams (PH UVI) and Henry Lewis (I

UVI).

Under 14 Beginners - Championship winners:

It is possible that both our top Under 14 pairs could have been contesting this title, too, as they both got as far as the semi-finals, but unfortunately our second pair had to concede their place as they weren't able to play in the Finals day. A record 106 pairs entered this competition, which was eventually won by our first pair - Thomas Breese (PH 3) and George Panayi (Ch 3).



Ladies Under 17 Beginners - Championship winners:

Salopian girls didn't just win this competition, they completely dominated it, with our top four pairs all making it through to the semi-finals. This testifies to the great enthusiasm and commitment shown by the girls this term and also to the encouragement and coaching of the senior boys and of CWC. Winners in the final were Rosie Parr and Hannah Pritchard, who beat Elen Murphy and Alice Paul in a very closely contested match.

The Mixed Championship - semi-finalists:

Shrewsbury entered a record 15 pairs in this competition. Two of our pairs got through to the semi-finals, but they lost out to more experienced/balanced Highgate pairs, whose girls have been playing for considerably longer.

Under 15s - finalists:

George Lewis (I IV) and Jamie Humes (I IV) lost the final in five games to the 1st pair from Ipswich School.

Under 16s - semi-finalists:

Our first pair, Henry Blofield (PH V) and Harry Flowers (I V) lost in a closely fought semi-final match to Eton's first pair. Our second pair were forced to withdraw due to injury at the quarter final ,while winning against Highgate's first pair.

Ladies' Open Championship:

Our Upper Sixth pairing of Izzy Barber and Alice Long reached semi-finals, losing to players with six years of experience.



Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Roger Marsh Blomfield (1/11/1925 - 20/3/2012): Funeral Arrangements for Tuesday 3 April

Monday 26 March 2012

We are sad to report the death of Roger Marsh Blomfield, at home in Shrewsbury on 20th March 2012, aged 86 years. He was on the staff at Shrewsbury School from 1958 to 1986 and was an RSSBC coach until 2005, a total of over 45 years.

He was Housemaster of Churchill's Hall from 1967-77 and taught History, English, French and Latin.

He was a hugely successful RSSBC coach from 1958 to 2005, a total of over 45 years, including the 1st V111 1965 to 1968, GB selection and World Junior Championship medals, numerous Second Eight wins in the Elsenham Cup and Third Eight wins in the West Cup. In his later years he wrote the History of Rowing at Shrewsbury School, established the Shrewsbury Regatta, and as President of The Sabrina Club, he led the fundraising and redevelopment of the School rowing tank and many other initiatives.

His funeral service will take place on 3rd April at 3p.m. in St Chad's Church, Shrewsbury. His family would love to welcome Roger's friends and colleagues to refreshments afterwards at Kingsland House, Shrewsbury School.

Family flowers only: Donations to WaterAid, if desired c/o Pughs Funeral Directors, 113 Longden Coleham, Shrewsbury SY3 7DN.

Enquiries to 01743 409450

Governors' latest report

Tuesday 27 March 2012

The Governors' Report is published annually in December, and aims to track progress against the School's major educational and charitable objectives during the previous academic year. The report also gives a good overview of the school's major achievements during this time.

The latest report is available here as a pdf file: [Governors' Report 2010-2011.](#)

The 2011-2012 Governors' Report will be published in December.

Moser's: House Rugby & Hockey on the last day of term

Wednesday 28 March 2012

House Rugby Sevens

With two of our five 1st XV players out with injuries, we still managed to field a good side for the House Sevens competition.

A slow start cost us the chance to qualify for the main final, but an excellent sequence of successive wins against Churchill's, the Grove, Oldham's and finally School House secured the plate competition trophy for Moser's.

An excellent finish to the term. Well done all.

PP



House Hockey Sixes

We didn't win any trophies in this one, but we got a great shot of Jamie Bradshaw pushing through the pain barrier to reach the ball first!



All the King's Men - Winners of Voice Festival UK

Wednesday 28 March 2012



All the King's Men, an *a cappella* singing group founded by **Henry Southern (G 2003-2008)** at King's College London in September 2009, was declared the winner of Voice Festival UK on 10 March. The Group also toured California in February. Henry says, "This means that we are officially the best collegiate *a cappella* group in the UK. What's more, we will now be representing the UK and Europe in the ICCA

(International Championship of Collegiate A cappella) Final in New York on Saturday 28th April. Following our summer tours to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August (which will be our third successive appearance at the Fringe) and Asia (visiting Hong Kong and Singapore) in September, we are planning a concert at Shrewsbury School in October too (t.b.c)'

For more information about All the King's Men, please visit their website: <http://www.all-the-kings-men.com/>

For more information about the competitions, you can find their websites here: <http://www.thevoicefestival.co.uk/> <http://www.varsityvocals.com/acappella-events.html#ICCA%20Finals>



Grove: House sport on the last day of term

Thursday 29 March 2012

House Hockey: Grove were the runners-up



Steeplechases:



Victory in the Rugby 7s (all 5th Formers, apart from one):





Recollections of RSSH Runs

Friday 30 March 2012

Willie Jones, master in charge of the RSSH during the 1960s and '70s, had some verses published in *The Salopian* in 1989. These verses capture the spirit of the traditional RSSH runs in a quite magical way. Willie has recently revised and updated them, and they are accessible [here](#).

My thanks to Willie for sharing them with us.

David Thomas

(This feature also appears on the OSH page)

Pictured: RSSH, 1866 - picture kindly supplied by Oliver Clutton-Brock (R 1958-63)

