



## Painting Shrewsbury School Tartan

Thursday 1 March 2018

*A sudden burst of patriotic pride, a bold announcement on Twitter and a determination to raise awareness and funds for a very worthy cause resulted in Mr Middleton appearing in school on Monday (as the temperature dropped well below zero) dressed in his kilt.*

This was the tweet he had posted the previous evening:



**Shrewsbury DHCC** @ShrewsburyDHCC · Feb 25

Last time @Scotlandteam won Calcutta Cup I wore my kilt to teach in the next day (at a Scottish school). If this gets 100 Retweets I'll wear it tomorrow @ShrewsSchool , a very English school. And I'll donate £100 to @MNDoddie5 @DoddieWeir5 #CureMND Help RT @riddell07!



61 1.7K 1.1K

It had been retweeted well over 100 times within the first hour. By the next morning, that number had reached over 1,400 (and 1,717 at the time of going to press).

He sent the following message to staff by way of explanation:

*The real reason I'm wearing my kilt today is to raise funds for the Doddie Weir Foundation and supporting his work in raising awareness and funding for the cruel and debilitating terminal Motor Neurone Disease. Doddie*



*was a great hero of mine growing up (we went to the same school- he went on to play rugby for Scotland and the British Lions, I alas, did not) and was diagnosed with this awful disease last year. He's been even more of an inspiration in the way in which he's met the diagnosis with typical good humour and a passion for using the diagnosis in a positive way, doing huge amounts in support of his Foundation.*

*Doddie is famous for wearing outlandish tartan, so in standing in support of Doddie, I'm aiming to get photos of as many staff and pupils in tartan today. I can supply tartan options (Tam O'Shanter hat, tartan tie, tartan treds...). You just have to pledge at least £1 for the privilege of wearing tartan.*

Many did, of course – and by the end of the day, he had raised over £1,000.



The fundraising page is still open, and all donations will be very gratefully received:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/tartanfordoddie>



## RSSBC: Victories for the J14s, J15s and J16s at the Head of the Trent

Thursday 1 March 2018

*There were some very impressive performances from the Shrewsbury crews who raced at the Head of the Trent in Nottingham last Sunday in sunny but bracing conditions.*



*J16s*

The morning division saw two senior eights and a J16 eight competing over the 5700m course. The Senior boats came 8th and 10th overall among a strong field.

The J16 Eight won their event by a healthy margin over nearest rival King's Chester.

The second division over 3800m gave a chance for three J14 and three J15 crews to compete. All six crews handled the conditions very well with some impressive performances.

The J15 girls came 5th in their event.

The J15 boys came 1st and 3rd in the J15 VIII's' event.



*J15 boys*

The J14 boys and girls made it a double victory in the J14 Octuples event.



*J14 boys*



*J14 girls*

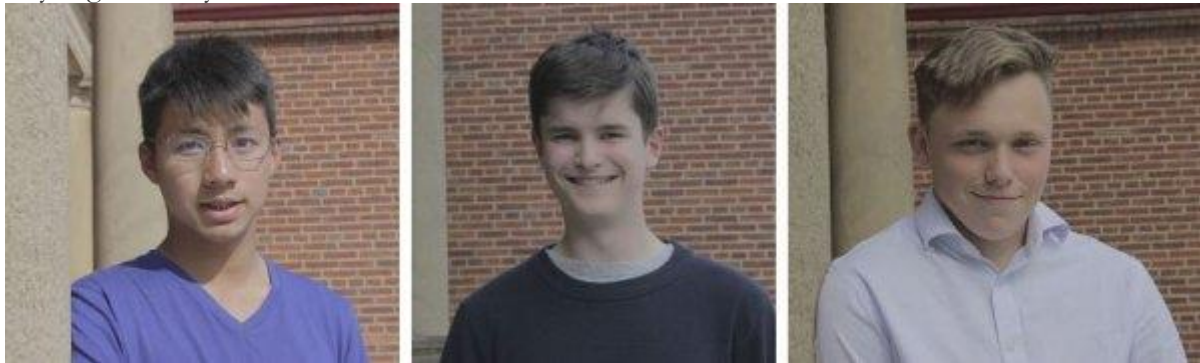
## One week until ShrewsMUN 2

Friday 2 March 2018

*After much planning and preparation, there is now only one week to go until the opening ceremony of Shrewsbury School's second Model United Nations Conference, ShrewsMUN 2. Over 180 pupils will be attending from 15 schools across the country.*

*Secretary General Oliver Bureau (Ch UVI) writes:*

A few weeks after the hugely successful [inaugural ShrewsMUN conference last March](#), I, along with a few friends (namely Mill Luangamornlert and Chad Usher, the Deputy Secretary Generals at ShrewsMUN 2) started to make plans for this year's conference. We decided to follow largely the same format as last year with just a few minor tweaks. Probably the most major of these is the delegates' social, which we decided to host on the Saturday night and has been ably organised by Mill.



*L-R: Mill, Oliver, Chad*

This year, we decided that the theme of the conference would be about encouraging trust and dialogue between nations and individuals. We felt that this is especially important in the world in which we live as it seems that the automatic reaction of many world leaders and, indeed, many other individuals, is to fear others and to shut them off (and sometimes even to build walls along your borders with them). Therefore, we decided that we should do our bit in trying to stop this worrying trend from continuing and to encourage people to talk to each other to eradicate this feeling of fear.

It has not just been Mill, Chad and I organising this conference. We have had help from many people, such as our Head of Media, Angus Warburg, who has produced a number of excellent videos in the run-up to the conference. Our Heads of Admin, Koby Ferdinand-Okpala and Ebrahim Jamshid have also been great at helping to organise some of the more mundane aspects of the conference. Our Head of Charring, Henry Mayhew, the Head of Press, Sam Bayliss and the Security Council Presidents, Tamara Fox and Nina Churchill, have also been very helpful in decision-making and in their respective positions.

Having said this, perhaps the largest contribution to the preparations for the conference weekend has been from Mr Peach, Shrewsbury School's Head of MUN. At a recent conference at Royal Russell School in Croydon, I learned that Mr Peach has been running MUN at Shrewsbury for a staggering 25 years! It is no exaggeration to say that, without him, not only

# Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



would we not be looking forward to Shrewsbury School's second MUN conference but we would probably never have attended a conference at all.

We are very excited that the conference is only one week away and hope that the time spent on preparations pays off. I am greatly looking forward to welcoming all attending schools, visitors and guests to Shrewsbury.

The conference takes place on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th March. Full details are published on the [ShrewsMUN 2 website](#).





# Academic Extension Lecture: ‘Made in the Image of God, or Modified Great Ape?’

Friday 2 March 2018

*On Friday 23rd February, Professor Andrew Berry (OS) from Harvard University delivered a fascinating and thought-provoking lecture as part of the Academic Extension series of lectures on ‘Watersheds’. Three Sixth Formers share their thoughts about it.*

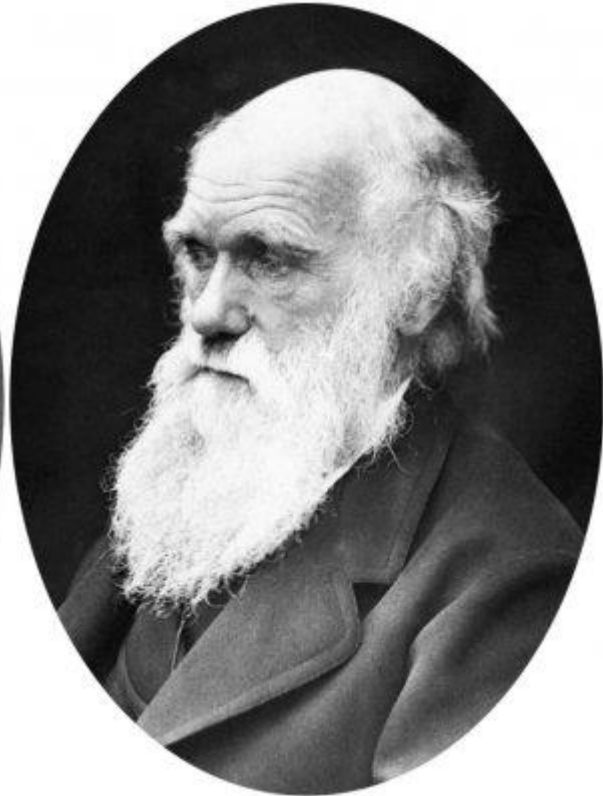
## **Betty Chao (G UVI):**

I was a bit surprised at first to find out that the lecture by Professor Berry on evolution was to be given in Chapel. I think that’s the first lecture I can remember being delivered there. However, the moment I walked into Chapel in the evening, I immediately got a sense of the message.

In the lecture, Professor Berry talked about Charles Darwin’s and Alfred Wallace’s big ideas. We were all amazed to hear that both men independently came up with the “greatest evolution theory” – the theory of the natural selection – at the same time. Professor Berry dug down further, discussing why they had both come up with their theories in the 19th century and where they got evidence from.

He finished his talk with a deep call from his heart: save the earth and all the species on it. We all agreed with him. A lot of interesting questions followed up the lecture and Professor Berry answered all of them in neat and simple ways.

I have learnt about many new things from Professor Berry’s lecture. However, there is one area in which I am particularly interested. It is the debate between evolution and religion. Professor Berry talked about people thinking evolution and creationism are mutually exclusive and showed us past and present evidence, like the church in the 19th century discarding Darwin’s evolution idea. Nevertheless, he personally thought that people can believe in evolution and God at the same time, and I agree with that; hence his lecture title ‘Made in the image of God, or Modified Great Ape?’. In this case, it can be both!



*Alfred Russel Wallace and Charles Darwin*

**David Wright (SH UVI):**

On Friday 23rd February I was lucky enough to be able to listen to Professor Andrew Berry talking on “Made in the Image of God or Modified Great Ape? Biology’s Seismic Idea”. The lecture took place, debatably fittingly, in the Chapel.

Professor Berry proved to be a fantastic speaker with a great deal to say. His style was quite relaxed with very little text on his presentation and no written notes, though he didn’t cut short on material. He was very impressive in how much he knew and when asked questions at the end was able to answer using areas away from his teaching focus, evolutionary biology.

His talk was about the history of the discovery and acceptance of evolution by natural selection, as well as about moments when Science contradicted the Church. He also went on to talk about the potential evolution of humans in the future, which I found very intriguing. He said that, in the potential event a group of humans moved to another planet and were isolated there, that a separate species of human could evolve.

His pitching was also very good, and he gave the talk at a suitable level so that those who knew nothing could understand and those who were more knowledgeable stayed attentive. Overall, I found the talk informative, interesting and delivered with enthusiasm.

**Rob Ford (S UVI):**

Having the Chapel as the venue for a lecture on evolution was brave and slightly controversial, but Professor Berry spoke on how the ideas had developed to the point we’ve now reached in



the current day. Even though I have been in Darwin's old school for five years and have even walked in his footsteps in the Galapagos, Professor Berry was able to teach me lots more about him – specifically about his relationship with the Church and how his theory was received among the creationist ideas that were so prevalent at the time.

Surprisingly, Professor Berry revealed that there are still many 'anti-evolution' countries – arguably including the USA, where only 40% of the population believe in the concept of evolution. So overall it was a hugely insightful and enthralling description about this watershed moment in the history of our understanding of the world in which we live.





## The news this week 100 years ago: 2nd - 8th March 1918

Friday 2 March 2018

*This week we remember Thomas Bradburn, a surgeon with the Royal Navy, who died of illness contracted on active service, 8th March 1918.*

**Surgeon Thomas Stratford Bradburn**, H.M.S. "President" (Armd. Cars). Royal Navy.

School House, left in 1899 for Hertford College, Oxford, then studied medicine at Birmingham. Commissioned in the Navy at the outbreak of the War, he served for seven months in the North Sea and then spent a year with Mine-Sweepers in the North Sea and Arctic Ocean, being decorated with the Order of St Anne – with Swords. In December 1916 he was in a destroyer that was blown up.

He died in the United Kingdom of illness contracted on active service, 8th March 1918, aged 37.

*Buried at Wasperton (St. John The Baptist) Churchyard, England. Grave East of church.*



# Samuel Beckett's 'Fin de Partie' ( 'Endgame' )

Friday 2 March 2018

*Performed in the original French, this was an ambitious choice for a school drama production - but one that succeeded triumphantly, as Mr Warburg describes.*

When *En attendant Godot* (*Waiting for Godot*), Samuel Beckett's first play, was performed in 1953, it caused an immediate sensation. The audiences of the time sensed that something new was afoot and as is so often the case with groundbreaking work, those who did not love it thought it was scandalous. Feelings ran high. It has, of course, been performed in thousands of theatres all over the world since. Some have claimed to understand its keen analysis of the human condition, others feel it must be some sort of con trick.

Four years later Beckett was back, this time with *Fin de Partie* (*Endgame*). If *Godot* was bleak, then *Fin de Partie* appears bleaker still. Beckett is an artist of true integrity, stripping away anything that might distract an audience from his penetrating analysis of the human condition. Yet in the seemingly barren and pessimistic settings he portrays, there is a teasing quality, touches of humour, of slapstick, hints of commedia dell'arte and clever wordplay – puns, ambiguities and scholarly references which can delight those who are in tune with this highly intelligent playwright. There is undoubtedly plenty to laugh at in the play, but it is also quite clear that what we are laughing at seems to have deep metaphysical significance.





To select *Fin de Partie* in the original French, for a school production, is testament to admirable ambition from those involved and I wish to salute Mr Sheppe in particular, whose brainchild this was and who, like Beckett himself, shuns praise and thanks, but without whom the play could and would not have been performed. M. Portier and Jeanne Fournis, our Bordeaux Fellow, were generous with their time and expertise, helping both with French accents and stagecraft.

Freddy Williams, one of the real pupil stalwarts of the Drama Department, gave unstintingly of his time and expertise in helping direct the play, and what a fine job he did. Also working behind the scenes and producing a wonderful set was Alex Davies, our Theatre Technician. Dr Brown, Director of Drama, lent generous support to the production and was ably assisted by Morgan Smith, Abi Watkinson and Charlotte Roberts with make-up. Jake Ludlam did a super job with the lighting. For the performances themselves, the cast were assisted by a host of native or near-native speaker prompters, so thanks to Henri Cramsie, Antoine Legeais, Antoine Céolin and Oscar Mattinson.

What a task for the four young actors – not just to learn their parts, but to do so in a foreign language, while at the same time grappling with deep and mystifying dialogue, signifying everything and nothing.

In brief, picture the scene: a claustrophobic room, the floor laid out in black and white to represent the chessboard allusion the play's title suggests, for this is about an Endgame. There are two tiny windows only – but to see out of them requires a ladder and only one of the four characters is able to move. Hamm, the main character is blind and stuck in a wheelchair. Clov, his manservant, is physically unable to sit and spends the play doing his master's bidding, but at least he can move. Backstage sit two dustbins and every now and then up pops a lid and the face of either Nagg, Hamm's Father, or Nell, Hamm's Mother emerges to engage in conversation and reminiscence. For those who remember it, we could be watching a curious version of *Bill and Ben the Flowerpot Men*.



Taking centre stage (literally if you know the play), was Jacob Jefferis as Hamm. This is an enormous role and a daunting prospect for any actor, professional or otherwise. Step in Jacob, in his first ever role on stage, in any language. He acquitted himself extremely well, delivering his complicated lines in impressive French and clearly understanding the angst but also the humour of the role.

His foil, as the indomitable Clov, Hamm's servant, was Lucas Jones Polanco. What a splendid job Lucas did as the much put-upon man, pandering to Hamm's every whim, trudging wearily from one side of the stage to the other, ascending and descending ladders, bringing Hamm a succession of unlikely props. The interplay between the two main characters – the intensity and frustrations of the relationship but also the hilarious moments of humour – were all marvellously conveyed.

Not to be outshone, Sophia Breese as Nell, and Tobias Libreros as Nagg were quite brilliant in their roles. Both are confined for the duration of the play to their respective dustbins, so all we ever see of them are their heads and shoulders. But they packed a mighty punch with the expressions on their faces and the brilliant delivery of their lines, conveying the nostalgia for lost love and the magic of yesteryear. Sophia's accent is so convincing that she can easily be mistaken for a native speaker, and she is clearly a highly talented young actress. I will remember the way she conveyed so much emotion with the words 'Ah, hier!' for a long time. I do hope we will see her treading the boards again soon.



Tobias Libreros deserves particular mention, for he is a mere stripling in the Third Form. What a prospect he is. He has a bubbly personality and is a startlingly good communicator, without inhibitions, who relished his complicated lines and delighted the audience with the sensitive relating of his tales. Partly French he may be, but he clearly has a great future in Salopian theatreland in English as well.



There is such paradox in Beckett and in his plays. Beckett himself, a gentle, shy and very private Irishman, the only Nobel literature laureate to have played first-class cricket (he was a left-hand batsman and a left-arm medium-pace bowler), never happier than when watching tennis at Wimbledon. Yet he made his home in Paris and was there introduced to James Joyce – a meeting that was to have a profound effect on him. He felt overshadowed by Joyce’s brilliance and chose the opposite tack for his own writing – deciding that his work should focus on poverty, failure, exile and loss. So we the audience watched this marvellous production of *Fin de Partie*, and paradoxically as it ended, we realised that what we had witnessed had brought us a theatrical experience of richness, success, welcome and discovery.

TDJW

# Shrewsbury School Chapel Choir sing Evensong in Hereford Cathedral

Friday 2 March 2018

*An atmospheric retelling in words and film of a memorable and enjoyable occasion on Wednesday 28th February for singers and congregation alike.*

*With thanks to Mr Hudson and to our Film Fellow David Clifford.*

With the 'Beast from the East' approaching, this term's Cathedral Evensong looked until the last moment as if it might have to be cancelled, but the wise decision was made to go ahead after our Long Mynd coach driver explained that in his opinion the snowflakes were "far too small" to put him off. He was proved right and two hours later we were rehearsing in the Norman magnificence of one of England's most unjustly underrated cathedrals.



As usual, the Choir, consisting of 70 pupils and five staff, filled the stalls built for rather small numbers, and all felt inspired by the limpid acoustic as we tapped into centuries of the choral cathedral tradition. The varied programme spanned the whole 500 years of the Anglican tradition: the Tudor period represented by the Richard Ayleward Responses and William Byrd's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, the 20th century by the ever-topical 'O pray for the peace of Jerusalem' by Herbert Howells.

A congregation around the size of the Choir had made it through the snow and ice and sat huddled in the nave, their presence and support much appreciated by the singers, many of us with scarves and other warm clothing artfully concealed about our persons.





As ever, food for the soul was followed by food for the body, and after a long and windy walk through wintry cloisters to change, we piled into a neighbouring branch of ASK for pizza and ice cream(!). One elderly couple – out for a quiet meal – on learning that we had just sung evensong in the cathedral, asked if we would sing them something. With no music to hand, the often-sung responses had to do duty, and the astonished waiters and our appreciative pensioners were treated to ‘O Lord open thou our lips ... and our mouths shall shew forth thy praise’. I imagine that some of them may have thought we were talking about the pizzas!

A marvellous occasion for which we again thank Director of Chapel Music Alex Mason and our organist Dr John Godwin.

*RTH*

Mr Clifford's film of the Chapel Choir preparing for the Evensong can be viewed below:



## OS Basketball vs Shrewsbury School U18 Basketball

Saturday 3 March 2018



The OS Basketball lost their game to the Shrewsbury School U18 Basketball 55-51 on Saturday afternoon March 3 at the Shrewsbury Arena in Shrewsbury Town - and none of their big four of Bryan Yick (M 10-15), Michael Pong (M 13-15), Michael Kwan (S 10-15) and Benny Wong (Rt 11-13) were performing very well on the afternoon.

In total, the OS's big four shot a combined for 15-for-35 for the game, with Pong finishing with 19 points, 5 rebounds, and 10 assists, while Kwan had 12 points and 6 rebounds, and Wong & Yick combined for 16 points, 10 rebounds, and 5 assists. Newly recruit Chris Thomas (M 10-15) has a good first match playing as a centre, finishing the game with 3 rebounds and 4 personal fouls, while Billy Chu (O 11-15) and Kevin Jim (I 11-16) came off the bench strongly, combining for 4 points and 2 rebounds.

What's disappointing for OS Basketball though is how they performed during the fourth quarter of the game. They had 5 turnovers in the last 5 minutes and out of the 8 shots which the team took, only two of them were converted for points.

This is such an embarrassing result for the team, as OS has beaten the Shrewsbury U18 basketball twice in the previous years. The OS basketball took the lead for the whole match and it was the last-minute mistakes that cost them the match. Credits should not be taken away from the U18 team though, they played solid defence and had some clutch plays late in the fourth quarter.

The OS Basketball team will play the Shrewsbury U18 this time again next year, aiming to regain their winning streak.

OS who played in the match were:

Bryan Yick (M 10-15)  
Michael Pong (M 13-15)  
Michael Kwan (S 10-15)  
Chris Thomas (M 10-15)  
Billy Chu (O 11-15)  
Benny Wong (Rt 11-13)  
Kevin Jim (I 11-16)



## Singing Prizes

Monday 5 March 2018

*Almost 40 pupils took part in the Singing Prizes competition held in the Maidment Auditorium on Sunday 25th February.*

Thanks and congratulations to all the singers for a hugely enjoyable and entertaining afternoon of music.

The judges were Janet Shell and Christopher Goldsack, who have both enjoyed extensive international performing careers and are also experienced teachers and adjudicators. Their detailed feedback on each pupil's performance made the event almost more of a 'masterclass' than a competition.

They awarded prizes to the following:

### **Novice**

1st - Laura Elliott

2nd - Catrin Heath

3rd - Klim Sizov

Commended - Judah Wainwright

Commended - Coralie Williams

### **Intermediate**

1st - Georgina Cooper

2nd - Sophia Lyons

3rd - Tianci Wang

Highly Commended - Mary Lees

Highly Commended - Ed Tarling

Highly Commended - Orlando Williams

Commended - Harry Davies

### **Senior**

1st - Ohin Cheng

2nd - Theo Jarvis

3rd - Sophia Price

Highly Commended - Jessie Inglis-Jones

Commended - Angus Warburg

Commended - Phoebe Morris



*L-R: Orlando Williams, Klim Sizov, Georgina Cooper, Ohin Cheng, Laura Elliott, Mary Lees*



## Rowing in the age of technology

Tuesday 6 March 2018

*In an interview for Rowe.rs, 1st VIII rowing coach Sam Grant explains how using a sophisticated sports app is enabling the RSSBC to create individual training programmes to help pupils balance their rowing, academic and other school commitments most efficiently.*

Please click [here](#) to read the article.





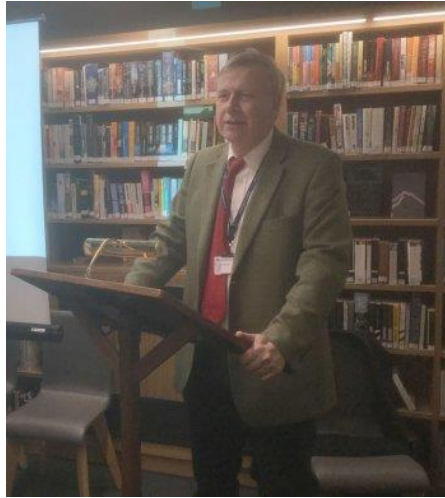
## ‘This won’t hurt... much’ – Medicine in the Ancient World lecture

Wednesday 7 March 2018

*Former Head of Classics Dr John Godwin braved the elements and returned to Shrewsbury School on a stormy Friday evening last week to give a fascinating, funny and at times gruesome lecture to pupils from two academic disciplines – those intending to study medicine, and Classicists – on the subject of Medicine in the Ancient World.*



Dr Godwin looked at the Hippocratic Oath (no longer sworn in fact by doctors these days) and its basis on sound, logical principles of doing no harm to the patient and keeping a patient’s medical details confidential. In this respect, given the huge advances in medical science, some things have changed very little.



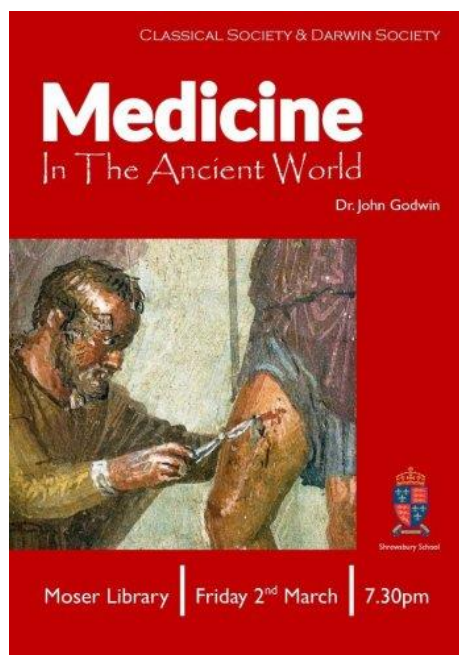
Medical treatment in the ancient world was a private business, to be paid for; no welfare state or ancient equivalent of the NHS meant that if you couldn't afford to pay, life expectancy could be brutally short.

Pupils hugely enjoyed the concluding element of the talk, illustrated with some hilarious cartoons, about birth control in ancient Rome and classical Athens. The ancients thought a huge array of substances, from herbs and spices (pepper, anyone?) to crocodile dung (don't ask), could prevent unwanted pregnancies.

As pupils and teachers left the talk, I have no doubt that they, as I did, were harbouring thoughts of unalloyed gratitude and relief that we live in this era, and not back in the 'bad old days'.

Many thanks to Dr Godwin for treating us to an informative and highly entertaining lecture delivered with his customary flair, humour, and academic rigour.

*Mr Fitzgerald, Head of Classics*





## Amelie Davies selected to represent Wales in the U16 Hockey International Test Series

Wednesday 7 March 2018

*Congratulations to Amelie Davies (MSH V), who has been selected to play for the Wales Under-16 Hockey team in their International Test Series next month.*



This will be the second year that Amelie has represented Wales in the Test Series. Following her selection in March 2017, she has been training and progressing with the squad for the last year. With fewer than half a dozen of the players from the original squad remaining, Amelie has worked extremely hard to retain her place in the Test team.

Wales will once again face Scotland, with three matches over the Easter weekend at the Glasgow National Hockey Centre, which was designed to host the Hockey Commonwealth Games in 2014.

In addition to playing in the Shrewsbury School 1st XI hockey team, Amelie is also part of the 1st VII netball team, one of the top fives players and is part of the girls' cricket team who were runners-up last season in both the Lady Taverner's National U15 Indoor Cricket Competition and the School Sports U15s National Finals.



# RSSH: South-East Schools Championships

Thursday 8 March 2018

*There were some very strong performances from our Hunt runners on Sunday 4th March at the South-East Schools' Championships held at Harrow.*

The 'Beast from the East' had threatened to ruin our plans for a busy weekend of cross-country, and indeed our Saturday fixture at Wellingborough unfortunately had to be cancelled. Thankfully though, Harrow School showed admirable defiance of the wind and snow in refusing to cancel the South-East Schools' Championships, to which – our geographical position notwithstanding – we had been kindly invited. In the event, the temperatures improved dramatically over the weekend and when we got off the coach with two boys' teams an hour before the races were due to start, it was mild enough to forgo our hats and gloves.

We last competed at the SES Champs two years ago, with strong teams in Junior, Inter and Senior categories. We had been impressed by the level of competition and the excellent race organisation, but unfortunately last year the proposed date clashed with another fixture and we were unable to attend. Knowing that some of the country's top cross-country schools would be there, including Sedbergh, St Alban's and The Judd School, I was excited to see how our lads would do. Unfortunately a few injuries and other issues meant that we were again forced to take a somewhat weakened team, with only six runners in each age category rather than the permitted eight.

Our first team to race was the **Inters**, made up of Third Former Harrison Cutler (R), Fourth Formers Tim Clarkson Webb (O) and Oscar Hamilton-Russell (R), and Fifth Formers Sam Western (PH), Jonny Snell (Ch) and Artur Sarsenov (SH).



In a strong field, Sam and Oscar made good early starts and found themselves in the leading pack as the race stretched out after the first bend. The course itself hugged the boundary of



several playing fields, and as the runners passed through one field to another after about 600m, Sam was looking comfortable on the shoulder of a leading pack of three, while Oscar was not very far back, a little ahead of Harrison, Artur, Tim and Jonny, who were in amongst the body of the pack.



*Sam Western*

As the course wound around up and out of sight after another kilometre or so, we waited anxiously for our next glimpse, which would be after about seven or eight minutes, the runners coming back towards the start before veering off again to complete another half-lap. At this stage, Sam had settled nicely into 5th place, with the race leader from 'The Judd' having built up a healthy lead, stretching the leading pack out. Oscar looked very strong in his position somewhere around 15th, making an overtake as he passed us. Harrison (who should really have been racing in the 'Junior' category, given his age) was running very impressively not very far behind Oscar, showing how much he has improved in the last few months. Artur too looked comfortable, with Tim and Jonny working together a little further back.



*Oscar Hamilton-Russell*

As they came into view for the final straight, Sam had held his position well and was even making ground on 4th, but the finish line came just a bit too soon for him. Still, this was another mature, confident and positive performance from arguably our stand-out athlete of this year. Oscar claimed an excellent 11th place (he has a good chance of replicating or even beating Sam's 5th place next year when he will run again in this category as a Fifth Former), while the run of the day might be said to have come from Harrison, who finished 18th. Had he run in the Junior event, I think he would have contended for a podium place, so this was a truly remarkable effort from him.



*Harrison Cutler*

Artur Sarsenov indicated that he is coming back into some form after injury difficulties, placing 26th, while Jonny Snell and Tim Clarkson Webb completed the team scores, coming 42nd and 45th respectively. Our team score of 147 was enough for 4th place overall, which given we had a few absent (Tom Jackson, Sam Watts and Paddy Barlow, to name just three) was a strong result for us, though we were obviously a little disappointed to just miss out on the medal positions.

In the **Seniors race**, we were even more stretched, with our Huntsman, both Whips and several others out through injury. Nevertheless, we had some good quality among the six who travelled down, including the in-form Charlie Ockleston (O), fresh from his victory in the Hunt Club Champs on Wednesday. Accompanying him were Tom Hughes (Ch), Will Manley (PH), Ali Harris (R), Toby Pegge (PH) and Will Holcroft (Rt).



*Senior team*

The race got off to a blistering start, and Charlie did well to keep in touch with the leaders in the first few hundred metres, but sensibly realised early on that the front two were in a race of their own, such was their quality; he contented himself with battling it out among what remained of the leading pack.

A little further back, Ali Harris had established himself in the top 20 positions, and Tom Hughes was about ten places behind him. Will Manley and Toby Pegge were working together somewhere in the middle of the pack, while Will Holcroft was struggling towards the back, the quality of this field having perhaps stunned him somewhat!

Six kilometres later, the race was won by the local hero, George Grassly of Harrow, with an enormous 52-second gap ahead of 2nd position, who had fallen back after trying to keep up with the winner. Charlie came through in 6th, which marks an astonishing improvement over the past

two months (indeed, the lad who claimed the place ahead of Charlie at the Knole Run in January was back in 21st at Harrow, and another who placed seven places above him then, now finished ten places behind). He has been one of the most committed and spirited runners in the Club this year, and it's great to see him reaping the rewards of this hard work.



*Charlier Ockleston*

Ali Harris finished in 20th, battling well among some very strong runners, while Tom Hughes came through in 28th. Toby Pegge and Will Manley came across the line together in 36th and 37th, while Will Holcroft finished strongly in 49th. The team total of 176 earned us 5th place, which was a respectable score.

It's a big commitment to give up your Sunday to embark on a 400-mile round-trip in service of the Hunt – especially with exams looming for so many – and I'm hugely grateful to the boys who raced. It was a good day of cross-country against some very stiff opposition and they did themselves proud.

*Ian Haworth*  
*Teacher i/c The Hunt*



# The Birmingham Dinner 2018

Thursday 8 March 2018

*Never Outdone in Brum*



Almost 50 Old Salopians gathered together in the charmingly traditional setting of the St Paul's Club in Birmingham for yet another fabulous evening of dining and entertainment. Richard Woodgate (Rt 1954-59) acted as a magnificent host to OSs of all the generations, from those who had served more than 60 years as a member of staff (mentioning no names, Dr Gee) to members of the current sixth form.

There was a sparkling drinks reception, followed by a sumptuously traditional four course feast which included the unexpected addition of rice pudding with Walsall sauce. If you would like to know the secret recipe, you will need to attend next year!

After dinner, the group was treated to a very special recital by sixth formers Abi Watkinson (G), Dominic Sullivan (I) and Theo Jarvis (MSH), accompanied by John Moore (Director of Music). The talent, presence, composure and performing ability of all three were particularly praised by the Headmaster in his later speech, and was greatly appreciated by all those present.

After dinner, speeches were also made by Richard Woodgate and Nicholas Barber (SH 1954-58), as President of the Salopian Club, which particularly reflected on the ever-changing landscape of education.

Happily reunited with old friends, well-fed and well-watered, the group dispersed into the night, already looking forward to the return journey next year.



## Understanding the world of business

Thursday 8 March 2018

*In order to support the A Level Business course, the Business Studies Department has this term run a series of talks given by guest speakers.*

Focusing on key topics of study including business start-ups, marketing, social media marketing and ethical behaviour, they have given the students a valuable and fascinating insight into the realities and decision-making processes involved in setting up and running a business.

Professor Lalage Bown OBE visited Mary Sidney Hall and gave a vivid account of her role in promoting education for women in Nigeria and Zimbabwe as well as her reasons for setting up the charity Womenkind Worldwide. The audience was captivated by her first-hand experiences and the examples she described of extreme inequality.



Teresa Heath-Wareing, Managing Director and Founder of THW Social Media Marketing, came to Hodgson Hall to give a talk on the ups and downs of running your own small business as well as the importance and relevance of the growing field of social media marketing. Although Teresa kept her trade secrets safely guarded, she did give a detailed account of the importance of Facebook's algorithms and the strategic use of social media to support marketing in today's business world.



Clare Downs, Managing Director of Monkhouse Foods, spoke to the students about her reasons for setting up her own business, the skill-set required to do so and the importance of marketing and clear communication with your customers. She gave a detailed account of how the food and drink market has changed in recent years, including the increase in small brands and the opportunities and challenges that this presents.

We are extremely grateful to all our guest speakers, who have been very generous with their time and knowledge - to the great benefit of our Business Studies students.

*Mrs Pritchard*





## The news this week 100 years ago: 9th - 15th March 1918

Friday 9 March 2018

*This week we remember John Brindle, who died on 13th March 1918.*

**Captain John L. Brindle, 4th Bn. The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment.**

Haydon's (now Rigg's), left in 1913. School OTC records show that he scored the second best in the musketry course on 20th November 1912, with a score of 106. Gazetted Captain in 1915, he died in the United Kingdom from illness contracted on active service, 13th March 1918, aged 23.

*He is buried at Chorley Cemetery, England. Grave A. N.C. 119.*



*Officers of the 4th Battalion, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. L-R: Captain J L Brindle, died 13/03/1918 aged 23, Captain C G R Hibbert (Old Salopian), killed 16/06/1915 aged 27; Lt-Col Ralph Hindle, killed 30/11/17 aged 35; Captain J L Whitfield, killed 23/06/1915 aged 33; Captain E M Rennard, killed 08/08/1916 aged 21.*



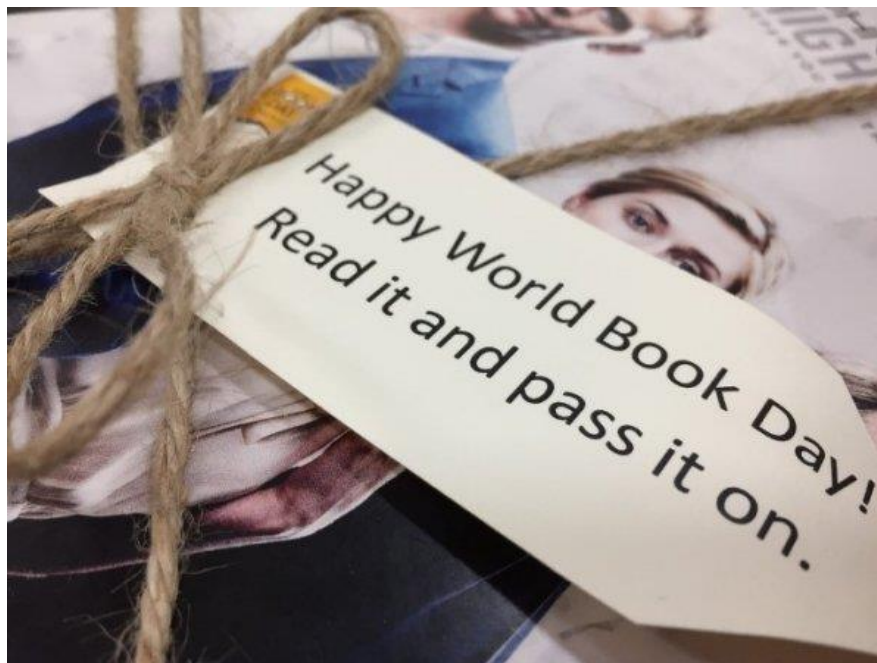
## Celebrating World Book Day

Friday 9 March 2018

*Books and readers are celebrated every day in the Moser Library, but World Book Day (1st March) – with its international focus – gave the Library staff the chance to do so on a bigger scale.*

*Head Librarian Jo Elliot writes:*

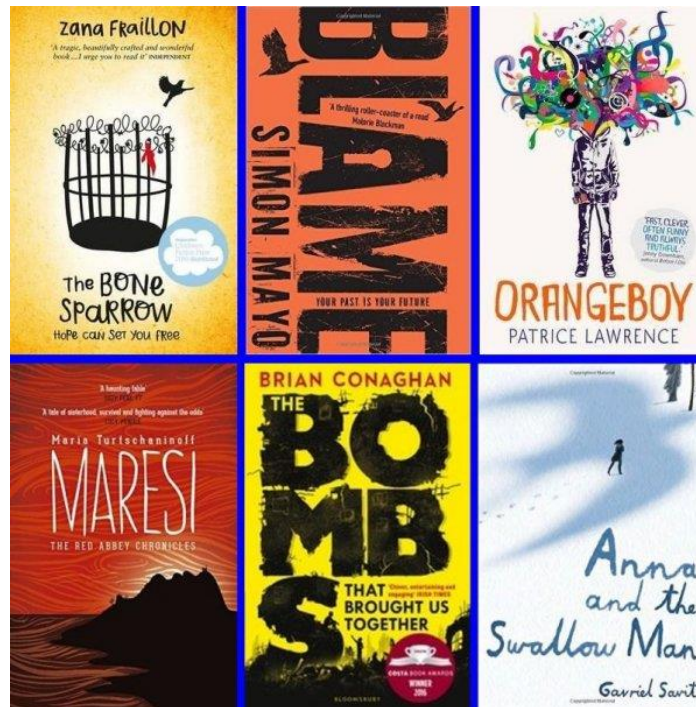
One of our aims this year was to reach out to those pupils and staff who might not be regular library users. With that in mind, we distributed free books to various sites across campus. Each book was hand-picked by staff as a great read and branded with the message “Read this and pass it on”.



This was the biggest giveaway we have ever done and, as in previous years, it was very well received. Comments, like this one from Heather May, really made our day!

*“What a treat ... beautifully wrapped books left in nooks and crannies around school. Loved seeing one on each table at lunch. My tutees went back to house with an armful, buzzing about which to read first.”*

World Book Day also saw the culmination of our very first School Book Award. In the Summer Term of 2017, library staff shortlisted six of our favourite recent Young Adult titles. Our current Third Form were offered their choice from the shortlist as a welcome present over the summer holidays.



We had quizzes, sumptuous displays, some talented staff members were recorded reading extracts from the books and we rewarded our readers with a chocolate version of the books – which were very hard to resist!



In the week leading up to World Book Day, staff and students were invited to vote for their favourite book from our shortlist. We received over 100 votes, with *Blame* by Simon Mayo emerging as a clear winner. There has been a buzz all year about this thrilling dystopian novel set in a world where children are imprisoned for the unpunished “heritage crimes” of their parents. Buoyed by the positive response to this year’s Award, we are well into the planning of the Shrewsbury School Book Award 2019. The longlist will be announced after Easter.

The icing on our World Book Day cake was our World Book Day Literary Quiz. Library Assistants Sue Iliffe and Kathy Berry took the lead on this. They worked with our wonderful team of library volunteers to create a fun inter-House quiz with four rounds – memory, sound, picture and traditional question and answer – all with a bookish twist.



*Kathy Berry and Sue Iliffe with their team of library volunteers*

The team from Moser's Hall were worthy winners in a tightly fought contest. This was such a success that we plan to make it an annual event.

Sue Iliffe captures the tense, competitive atmosphere:

“The room was hushed and as our quiz master Mr Farmer began the first round, the team Duke of Edinburgh's Award volunteer helpers got into place ready to present their memory round objects and the quiz had begun, several jokers being played. After the last object was described we swiftly moved onto the literary round where students eagerly awaited the questions. Teams were deep in discussion conferring with each other each time Mr Farmer read out a question. At the end of round one, when the papers were collected and answers verified by library staff and the Duke of Edinburgh students, there were two teams taking the lead.



Round two, the picture round, other jokers in play; a flurry of excitement as students wracked their brains trying to remember faces and places. Again collected by and verified by library staff and Duke of Edinburgh students, the results proved close. The music and sound clip round was next. The last flutter of jokers were played, double points needed, and students eagerly awaited the sounds. As the first bars of the *Jaws* theme blasted out, a buzz filled the room. As the final clip, 'Consider yourself' from *Oliver*, soared around the Churchill's Room, students hummed along.



The scores were close, and the only thing left was the memory round. Answer sheets were distributed and students quickly wrote down as many of the 20 objects as they could remember. As Mr Farmer read out the objects again, answer sheets were frantically being marked and scores finalised.

At last the results were in, and Mr Farmer had the pleasure of announcing the worthy winners – Moser's Hall.

All in all, a fun and tightly fought battle, a great finale to end the World Book Day celebrations.”



*The Moser's team with their trophy*



Follow the Moser Library on Twitter [@MoserLibrary](https://twitter.com/MoserLibrary)



## RSSH: Spring Relays

Friday 9 March 2018

*On Wednesday 6th March, the Royal Shrewsbury School Hunt hosted the annual Spring Relays in the glorious setting of Attingham Park, the fourth time the long-standing race has been staged at this venue.*

This year we welcomed two new schools to the event, Sedbergh and St Anselm's, both schools of real running pedigree. Alongside regular attendees Wrekin College, Haberdashers' Adams, Bromsgrove, Sir Thomas Rich's and of course ourselves, we were all set for a great afternoon of good quality racing.

A brief shower around lunchtime threatened to make things a little tricky. But thankfully the clouds soon parted and we were treated to near-perfect running conditions, with a light breeze and spells of sunshine.

In the **Girls' race**, Alessandra Ardissino (M) got us off to a strong start, completing the 2.1km course in 8.31, placing us 3rd out of seven teams, behind Bromsgrove and Wrekin College.



*Anna Cowan*

Our B team also fared well, with Anna Cowan (MSH) only a few seconds behind fourth-placed Sedbergh, as she passed the baton to Livy Elliot (EDH), while the A team second leg was run by Huntswoman Immie Evans (G), in what will almost certainly be her last race in a Hunt vest. She also ran quickly, in 8:30, and had overtaken Bromsgrove, with only Wrekin ahead of us by about 20 seconds. She handed to Sophia Dixon (MSH) who worked hard to defend against a strong Bromsgrove runner, eventually succumbing but managing to hold off Sedbergh, who were pressing hard.



*Sophia Dixon*

Meanwhile, Livy Elliot had put in a strong time in the second leg to secure 5th position, a good margin ahead of the Sedbergh B team and Haberdashers' Adams, and handed over to fellow Third Former Flora Kanan (EDH), who ran well but had little to do, with fourth-placed Sedbergh A well ahead and sixth-placed Sedbergh B too far behind to threaten.

In the A team, Sophia completed her lap in 8:50 and handed over to Chessie Harris (EDH), who had to make up the five-second gap between us and Bromsgrove. She did this admirably, running the fastest time of the day (7.34) and keeping up the pressure on eventual winners Wrekin, who in the end were just too far in front for Chessie to catch, winning by about 25 seconds.





*Chessie Harris*

Our B team held on to 5th, thanks to a good run from Felicity Hayward (EDH), with Sedbergh B and Adams taking the last two positions.

In the **Junior Boys' race**, Oscar Hamilton-Russell led the line for RSSH, alongside Will Unsworth (S) for the B team. Oscar ran his guts out to keep up with an exceptional first leg from St Anselm's (which would eventually prove to be the fastest junior lap of the race, in 6:55). He came through just a few seconds behind in 7:02, handing over to Tim Clarkson Webb (O), who had proved at Harrow on Sunday that he is coming into some good form at the moment. His time of 7.47 meant that we had taken the lead by the end of the second leg, and he passed the baton to Third Former Harrison Cutler (R).



*Harrison Cutler*

In the B team, Will Unsworth had found himself at the back of the race, but kept his speed up to keep the team in contention with the others. He handed over to Charlie Huntley (R), in his first relay race for Shrewsbury School. Charlie's time exactly matched Will's, and that left us just six seconds behind the Haberdashers' Adams team, giving Will Owen (Ch) something to chase down for the third leg.

In the A team, Harrison set off at an electric pace, and though he probably misjudged this slightly as he was struggling towards the finish, he still ran exceptionally quickly (7.21), meaning we had stretched our lead at the front to nearly 30 seconds ahead of St Anselm's, with Wrekin College another 20 seconds or so further back.

Johnny Price (I) took the fourth leg, and showed the improvement he's made this season by running a 7.56, stretching out our lead to over a minute. Ed Forde-Johnston (O) ran the fifth leg, making it three Third Formers in a row, managing a time of 7.50, before handing over to Tom Jackson for the final stint. He has recovered gradually from the glandular fever that affected him at the end of the Michaelmas Term, and though he had a setback the previous week by rolling his ankle, he was still able to set one of the fastest times for the day with his leg of 7.14, and claim victory for the Hunt by a margin of just over a minute.

The B team, meanwhile, managed to hold on to 5th, with strong running in legs four, five and six by Sam Williams (SH), Cosmo Waddell (Ch) and Huw Hacket-Pain (SH).

In the **Senior Boys' race**, our A team was led in the first leg by Ali Harris (R), who struggled to keep up with some exceptionally fast running from both St Anselm's and Adams, whose opening efforts marked the fastest two times of the day overall in 6.31 and 6.33. Sedbergh and Sir Thomas Rich's also started very well, leaving Shrewsbury in 5th at the end of the first leg. Still, Ali's time of 7.05 was still quick, and kept us well in contention as he handed the baton to fellow member of the Upper Sixth, Will Sawyer (PH).

Our Senior B team was led out by Will Manley (PH), running 7.47. Will Sawyer managed to overtake Sir Thomas Rich's and with his time of 7.21, bring us to within a second of Adams as he passed over to Tom Hughes (Ch). Tom went even quicker with a time of 7.16, overtaking Adams and establishing a lead over them of nearly 50 seconds by the end of the leg, at which point we were just ten seconds behind Sedbergh in 2nd, while St Anselm's appeared unstoppable 30 seconds further up the course.

Our B team had Henri Cramsie (SH) and Will Holcroft (Rt) in legs two and three, and the fast, flat nature of this course probably didn't really suit them, but they persevered admirably and kept the team within sight of Bromsgrove, though the gap was considerable.



*Henri Cramsie*

In the fourth leg, the A team had Rider Hartley (Ch) taking the baton, and he set off very strongly in pursuit of Sedbergh. However, he couldn't quite match the pace of the Sedbergh runner and fell back a little, eventually running a time of 7.44, to hand over to fellow fifth-former and Churchillian, Jonny Snell. Jonny had rather a lonely race, as he was about 45 seconds behind

Sedbergh, and over a minute ahead of 4th-placed Adams, yet his time of 7.48 shows he's made considerable progress in the last few weeks.

He passed on to Charlie Ockleston (O) for the last leg, who though he knew the pair ahead of him were probably uncatchable, still set off at a very quick pace. At the front, Sedbergh had managed to overtake St Anselm's in dramatic style in the fifth leg, and the two teams were just five seconds apart at the start of the sixth. After an excellent effort from the St Anselm's runner in 6.44 (the third-fastest time of the day), they managed to take the trophy, 14 seconds ahead of the valiant Sedbergh runner, who had given everything he had to hold St Anselm's off.

Charlie, for his part, had quietly run a 6.48, the fourth-fastest run of the day which, considering he had no one around him, is impressive indeed!



*Will Cowper*

Our B team managed to claim one scalp in the final leg by overtaking Bromsgrove to take 6th, with strong runs from Will Cowper (Rb), Milo Herbert (R) and Fingal Dickins (R).

It was a lovely afternoon out, and we had great fun hosting such a keenly fought competition. Congratulations to Wrekin College for their Girls' win, to St Anselm's for their win in the Senior Boys, and of course to the RSSH for taking the Junior Boys' title.

*Mr Haworth, Teacher in Charge of the Hunt*



## Heads of the River 2018

Sunday 11 March 2018



Sabrina's racing season is under way!

Last Sunday, following our participation earlier in the year in the Wallingford and Wycliff Head of the River races, the Sabrina Eight competed in the Tideway Head. For once the conditions were relatively good – it wasn't raining, snowing or windy! The crew rowed well but their racing rating was about 31 when, had they been able to go over at 33, they would have ended up higher in the final order. As it was, the crew came in a very respectable 114 out of a field of over three hundred. They certainly shouldn't be dispirited as they rowed solidly and, bearing in mind that because arranging outings has been a problem of late, they hadn't had time to work at the higher rating needed to really demonstrate their undoubted abilities.

The crew is now focussing on becoming 2,000 metre fit, which will involve lots more time in the boat. They are, as is always the case with our Sabrina crews, a really fantastic and enthusiastic group. Please support them by going to The Metropolitan Regatta, Marlow Regatta (both of which are at Dorney Lake) and, of course, Henley.





Then, on Monday, we had our usual get together at the Blue Anchor on the embankment at Hammersmith to watch the Schools' Head and to support the eight crews fielded by the School this year. About seventy-five people came to the pub and enjoyed not only spectating and mixing with each other but also the chilli con carne served by the pub's new management. The general consensus was that the pub has tidied itself up and the food provided for us was of a higher standard than before.

Please see below a selection of photos of the crew on Tideway and other Sabrina members and their families who congregated at London Rowing Club after the Race as well as photos of some of the School's crews and the party at the Blue Anchor.

Sabrina members are encouraged to come to as many of the events as they can over the next four months. There will be lots going on. For further information, please refer to the 'Forthcoming Events' section of the Old Salopian section of the School's website.

All of us at Sabrina hope you have a very enjoyable Spring and Summer.



## Art in Education

Monday 12 March 2018

*Shrewsbury School's Head of Art Rose Shave-Taylor joined students from the charity Art History Link-Up at the National Gallery on 6th March, where they discussed the importance of art in education with His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and the National Gallery's Director Gabriele Finaldi.*



## A Gap Year in Tanzania

Tuesday 13 March 2018

*Old Salopian Will Hayward (R 2012-17) is currently spending part of his gap year working as a volunteer at DCT Mvumi Secondary School in Tanzania with the help of John Clark. We are grateful to him for sending us a fascinating account of his life there.*



### How did I end up volunteering in Tanzania?

As I entered my last few years at Shrewsbury, the prospect of a Gap Year became more tangible and I soon started planning. Once things began to come together I managed to establish some targets for the year:

1. Be financially self-sufficient.
2. Try to put something back into society.
3. Challenge myself by doing some independent and slightly unusual travelling.

My initial plan was to go for an Army Gap Year commission. I duly applied and passed the first two rounds of selection but then failed the Board and it was back to square one. With my three targets in mind, I thought about where I might like to spend my time: East Africa sprang to mind, having thoroughly enjoyed a running trip to Kenya and Ethiopia with The Hunt in 2013. In principle and in line with my targets, I decided that I would earn some cash, do a few months of volunteering and complete the year by doing some travelling.



With the help of the Shrewsbury School Careers Department and the help of John Clarke a Shrewsbury Governor, I now sit writing this at DCT (Diocese of Central Tanganyika) Mvumi Secondary School.

Having earned enough money working long shifts in a Herefordshire cider factory and fundraised for Mvumi School Trust (the British charity that supports the school) by cycling 1284 miles, I set off to Tanzania.



*The countryside around Mvumi*

DCT Mvumi Secondary School is located in the Dodoma region of Tanzania, which is one of Tanzania's poorest and most arid. There are about 650 students at the school with 150 or so supported by Mvumi School Trust via bursaries or scholarships, thanks to generous donations and sponsors. The school always achieves a strong set of results and gives children a great opportunity to move on to further education. For many pupils, education is a route out of poverty, echoing the school's motto 'Education is Liberation'.

DCT – as the school is known by the locals – is also home to the region's secondary education visually-impaired unit, which means that all visually-impaired students from the Dodoma region who take part in secondary education attend DCT.

The school structure is one of junior (FI-FIV) and senior (FV-FVI), with competitive entry to the senior school. More information about the great work can be found on the Trust and school's websites - <http://mvumischooltrust.org.uk/> and <http://dctmvumi.sc.tz/>

### What is it like to be a volunteer at DCT Mvumi Secondary School?

Volunteers work through the Trust, which is currently represented here by the very welcoming and extremely hardworking Jane and David Whyte, who deal with the day-to-day running of the charity. Volunteers live in the guest house, which is well equipped with everything you could want, apart from an oven and hot water! There can also be long periods without electricity, which can cause a whole host of problems.



*A chameleon in Mvumi*

Lunch is provided at school but all other meals are self-catered, which is fun, but buying food is an experience (although Agnes the housekeeper is always willing to lend a hand). Now I am on my own, I keep it simple. But when there were girls around, they managed to put together some very tasty things. The choice of fruit and veg is incredible and if you are a fan of mangoes or bananas, this is the place to come – I often find myself practically living off them. Eating out is easy and often cheaper than cooking for yourself, but the options are limited: the ‘go to’ has become chipsi mayai (chip omelette) which is 2000Tsh, i.e. about 70p.

At school the atmosphere is extremely friendly and volunteers are warmly welcomed by the staff and pupils. Inevitably all schools have to operate to a timetable, but the African concept of time is a little different from ours. (For instance, boarding pupils interpret the start of term very flexibly.) My school day starts with attending the staff meeting at 7:30am but I wake up closer to 5:30am as the boys start singing!

Each day Jane and David put together a timetable with a range of tasks. Your tasks will be adjusted to your strengths and interests; so for instance a volunteer who has now left was a med student, so he helped with biology. I am by no means very academic, so I spend a lot of time doing handyman and computer work, which includes fixing doors, painting, updating the website and lots of typing so that resources can be translated into Braille.



The bit of teaching that I do is helping the Form 1s with their English. As all secondary education in Tanzania is in English, it is vital that the students reach a good standard; this is difficult, as the vast majority of primary schools teach in Swahili.

Lessons end at 2:30pm every day and then it's time for lunch, which for the pupils always consists of ugali and beans, but staff often get rice and sometimes even meat! What you do for the rest of the day is up to you. There is sport three times a week and plenty of other things you can get involved with around school.

There is time to get away from Mvumi. A few weekends ago the Kiwi volunteers and I had a long weekend off when we climbed Mt Hanang, Tanzania's fourth highest peak, and saw some of the oldest rock art in the world. From Mvumi, Dodoma (the capital) is only 50km away, which means you can easily go and experience Tanzania's city life.

The ample downtime can be filled in a variety of ways, whether it be cards (often with a warm lager in a local pub) or walks and runs in the beautiful countryside to little children's shouts of "*Mzungu*" – foreigner. Quite a bit of my spare time has been spent on planning the remainder of my Gap year; especially my route around Tanzania and Uganda, including an expedition in the snow-capped Rwenzoris and devising a way that two school mates and I can complete a 10,000-mile road trip in an old banger around the Caspian Sea.

My time here is proving very enjoyable and I hope it is a help to the community. It would be great to hear of more Salopians coming out here.

Please do follow my [blog](#) to get more of an insight into what life is like here.



## School House boys take centre stage in Samuel Beckett's 'Fin de Partie' (Endgame)

Wednesday 14 March 2018

*To select Fin de Partie in the original French, for a school production, is testament to the admirable ambition from those involved. Especially for the two Lower Sixth School House boys in the lead roles, who learned their lines in a foreign language, while at the same time grappling with the deep and mystifying philosophical dialogue, signifying everything and nothing.*

Fin de Partie superficially appears to be a very bleak play, which strips away anything that might distract an audience from Beckett's penetrating analysis of the human condition. Yet in the seemingly barren and pessimistic settings he portrays, there is a teasing quality, touches of humour, of slapstick, hints of commedia dell'arte and clever wordplay – puns, ambiguities and scholarly references which can delight those who are in tune with this highly intelligent playwright.

In brief, picture the scene: a claustrophobic room, the floor laid out in black and white to represent the chessboard allusion the play's title suggests, for this is about an Endgame. There are two tiny windows only – but to see out of them requires a ladder and only one of the four characters is able to move. Hamm, the main character is blind and stuck in a wheelchair. Clov, his manservant, is physically unable to sit and spends the play doing his master's bidding, but at least he can move. Backstage sit two dustbins and every now and then up pops a lid and the face of either Nagg, Hamm's Father, or Nell, Hamm's Mother emerges to engage in conversation and reminiscence.



*Jacob and Lucas*

Taking centre stage was Jacob Jefferis as Hamm. This is an enormous role and a daunting prospect for any actor, professional or otherwise. Step in Jacob, in his first ever role on stage, in any language. He acquitted himself extremely well, delivering his complicated lines in impressive French and clearly understanding the angst but also the humour of the role.

His foil, as the indomitable Clov, Hamm's servant, was Lucas Jones Polanco. What a splendid job Lucas did as the much put-upon man. The interplay between the two main characters – the intensity and frustrations of the relationship but also the hilarious moments of humour – were all marvellously conveyed.



The cast was assisted by a host of native or near-native speaker prompters, including our own Henri Cramsie (LVI).



## RSSBC: Eights' Head of the River, Schools' Head and Junior Sculling Head

Wednesday 14 March 2018

*The Boat Club have had a busy week, with 19 crews competing over Sunday 11th, Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th March.*

The senior boys had two crews racing at the **Eights' Head of the River** on the Tideway in London.

Over 300 senior men's crews from clubs and universities from around Europe competed over the four-and-a-half-mile course.

For only the second time in the event's history, there was a dead heat for the win between Oxford Brookes University and Leander Rowing Club. This is remarkable, given that the crews were racing for over 17 minutes and could not be separated from the video feeds. Huge congratulations go to last year's RSSBC Captain of Boats Matthew Rowe, who was competing in the Oxford Brookes Boat.

The first of the senior boats came 42nd and was the fastest junior crew competing in the event. The second boat came 103rd.





*2nd VIII*

On Monday, eight crews took to the same stretch of the river, this time in the **Schools' Head of the River** which attracted a field of 356 crews. All the boys' crews were competing in the highest tier of their categories and recorded the following results:

1st VIII - 6th of 15

2nd VIII - 4th of 11

3rd VIII - 5th of 7

J16 Coxed Four - 4th of 17

J16 VIII - 11th of 13

J15A VIII - 13th of 17

J15 2nd VIII - 6th of 25

The senior girls' second boat competed in the girls' School 1st VIII category, coming 9th of 14.

On Tuesday nine crews were racing a bit further out of London at Dorney Lake at the **Junior Sculling Head**.

Not to be outdone by the scale of the previous two events, 556 crews took to the water over the course of the day.





*Senior Girls' 1st Quad*

The first Shrewsbury crew of the day was the lead senior girls' boat in the quad that came 15th of 36 in WJ18 4X. The next senior girls' boat in the WJ17 4X category came 15th of 24.

The J15 girls raced against another 61 other crews in their event, coming in 32nd.



*J15 girls*

The J15 boys who raced in the eight the day before took to the water in the octuple to pick up our first silverware of the week with a thrilling bronze medal.



*J15A VIII*

The last four events of the day saw chaos aplenty and was not for the fainthearted, as the J14s took to the water *en masse* for their first ever national competition.

Five Shrewsbury octuples joined the flotilla and recorded some fantastic results against a very competitive field.

The highlight was a bronze medal for the boys' A boat in a field of 58 crews. The girls' A boat also put in a strong performance to come 11th of 48 boats.



*J14A boys*



*J14A girls*

The boys' B & C crews came 6th and 5th respectively against their opposition.

The girls' B crew unfortunately had a bit of a shipwreck in their last leg and had to settle for 14th place.

*Mr Hundermark, Director of Rowing*



*J14C VIII+*



# Darwin Prep School Science Competition 2018

Wednesday 14 March 2018

*We were delighted to welcome teams of young and enthusiastic scientists to take part in our second Darwin Science Competition on Thursday 8th March.*

The competition pitted 16 teams of Year 7 pupils from ten different prep schools against each other over a number of written and practical rounds.

In the quiz rounds during the morning, the teams of four demonstrated their general scientific knowledge, answering questions drawn from biology, chemistry, physics and astronomy that included picture rounds, “identify the apparatus” by touch alone and physics calculations. Particular fun was had with rounds to identify sounds from the animal kingdom and some fiendishly tricky chemistry smells.

After a quick refuel in KH, the pupils moved on to complete a series of fun practical investigations in the Biology, Chemistry and Physics Faculties. From structures to plants, and from silver reactions to building the best electromagnet, the teams battled to accumulate points through the sessions, as each investigation was judged.

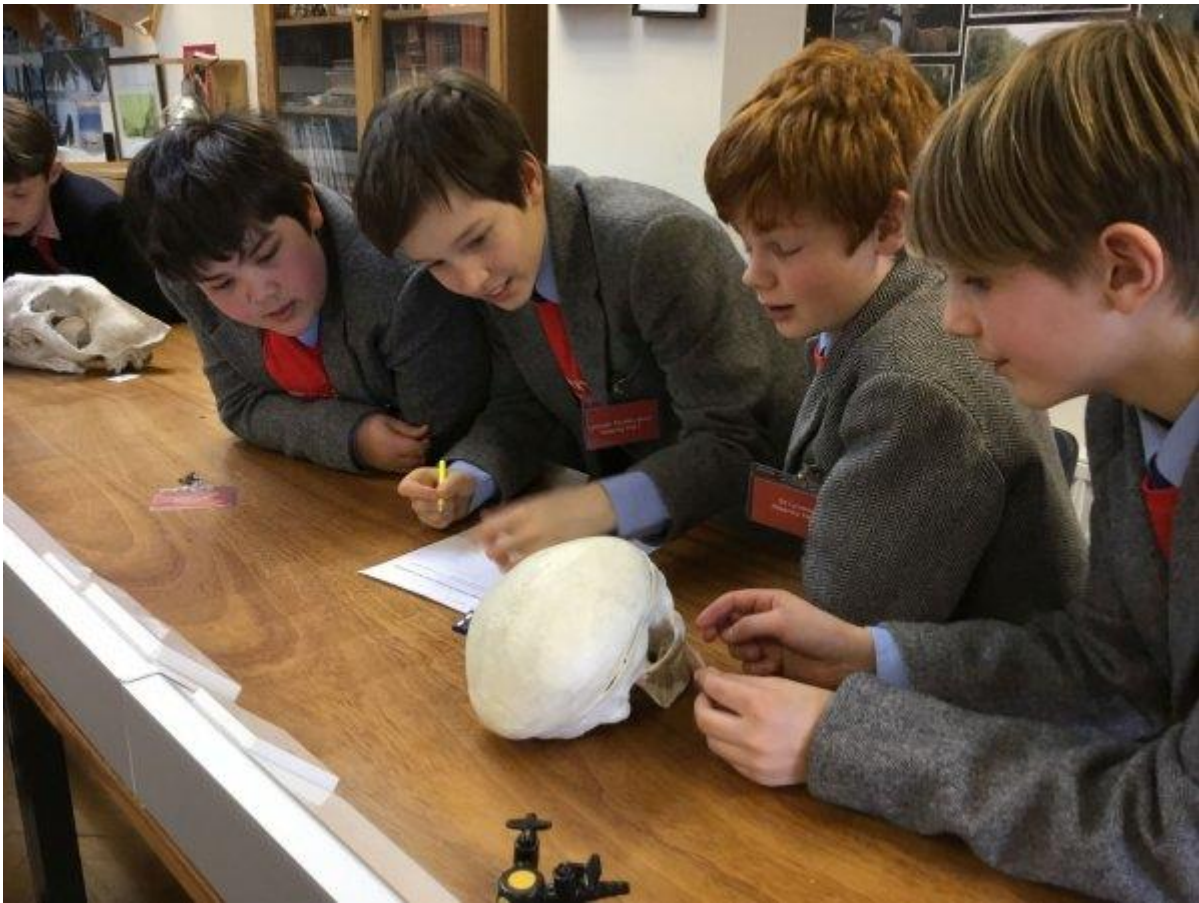




Scientific analysis, laboratory skills and teamwork were demonstrated in abundance by all of the teams who took part.

The pupils were able to experience working in our laboratories with equipment and chemicals that they do not have access to at their own schools.





The standard was very high and the results were very tight; in the written quiz, only seven points separated the top four teams.

The overall champions of the Darwin Science Competition 2018 were Prestfelde 1, with Shrewsbury High Prep and Bilton Grange 1 coming a close second and third respectively.

The winning team was presented with a specially designed glass trophy featuring Darwin's 'I Think' Tree of Life doodle, which they will be able to keep. Those team members also received individual prizes of a special Darwin winners' mug and a beautiful hardback copy of 'The Science Book' – a complete science compendium with inventive artwork, concepts and biographies.





*Prestfelde 1*

The winners of the practical sessions were:

- Physics: 1st - Winterfold House 2, 2nd - Bilton Grange 2, 3rd - Shrewsbury High Prep
- Biology: 1st - Bilton Grange 1, 2nd - Shrewsbury High Prep, 3rd - Yarlet
- Chemistry: 1st - Cothill 1, 2nd - Bilton Grange 1, 3rd - Prestfelde 2

Each 1st place team was awarded a fun science activity prize for their efforts.



All the pupils went home with a goody bag, T-shirt and certificate to congratulate them for their participation, hard work and excellent science etiquette during the day. The competition will run annually and we hope it will help to encourage and inspire as many pupils as possible to investigate their scientific passions as thoroughly as the famous Old Salopian after whom the competition was named.

*Rachel Schofield, Senior Chemistry Technician, and Andy Briggs, Head of Science*

## Another impressive win for School House in the inter-house swimming competition

Thursday 15 March 2018

*The School House boys plunged into the pool with 8 consecutive years of victories behind them; a run of dominance unmatched by any other house in the history of the event. This year, it was the turn of the junior boys to dive into the limelight, making it an incredible 9 in a row.*



*The winning squad. Front (L-R): Rodion Chernov (III), Fadi Masri (IV), Amos Cheung (IV), Peter Crews (III); back: Alan He (IV), Julius Schneider (IV), Tobi Braithwaite (IV), Milton Tai (IV), Rory O'Neill (III).*

All the boys swam well, with captains Fadi and Amos both leading by example by winning their races. However, it was Third Formers Rodion, Rory and Peter, who were the surprise star signings, leaving their opponents floundering in their wake! Notably, Rory and Peter managed to set record times in their races, which even beat the fastest competitors from the year above! With these astonishing performances from the youngest members of the house, we are set up nicely when it comes to defending our title in the future. Well done to everyone involved!

## British Consul General hosts reception for Shrewsbury School International Hong Kong

Thursday 15 March 2018

*Families of children enrolled for Shrewsbury International School Hong Kong were joined last week by members of the Governing Body of Shrewsbury School UK, members of the school team, the Friends of Shrewsbury School Hong Kong, Old Salopians and other key school supporters at an evening cocktail reception held at the British Consulate in Hong Kong.*



Founding families of Shrewsbury International School Hong Kong were joined by members of the Governing Body of Shrewsbury School UK, including Sir David Lees, alongside members of the school team, five members of the Friends of Shrewsbury School Hong Kong (FSSHK), a group of Old Salopians and other key school supporters.

The guests were greeted by Stephen Holroyd, Director of Schools for Shrewsbury International Asia, who explained to the assembled company that Ben Keeling, Headmaster of Shrewsbury Hong Kong, was unable to be present because he was about to become the proud father of his first child. All guests shared the joy and excitement of this piece of good news.

Sir David Lees, Chairman of the Board of Governors of Shrewsbury School Hong Kong and former Chair of Governors at Shrewsbury UK, spoke about the importance of school governance and the quality of education shared between the family of schools. "Drawing from my own personal experience of sending my own children and now six grandchildren to Shrewsbury School in the UK, I can speak first-hand about the rich educational heritage offered to families seeking a renowned British education here in Hong Kong." He was also proud to

point out the importance the School places on the education, well-being and security of all pupils.



*L-R: Sir David Lees, Consul General Andy Heyn, Stephen Holroyd*

British Consul General, Mr Andy Heyn OBE, also talked about the importance of ensuring quality British education in Hong Kong for ambitious families.

"We are delighted to see Shrewsbury open its doors here in Hong Kong, bringing with it more than 465 years of tradition in academic excellence. It was for this reason that we supported Shrewsbury School in their successful bid to win the license let by the Education Bureau back in 2014."

The founding parents of Shrewsbury International School Hong Kong were excited and proud to meet all the other guests and to be joining the Shrewsbury family.

The five Friends of Shrewsbury Hong Kong Committee members (*pictured below*) shared their experiences as parents of pupils at Shrewsbury School UK and their appreciation of the excellence of both the School's educational provision and its care for their children.



Shrewsbury International School Honk Kong will open in August 2018 in tandem with a new Shrewsbury Bangkok City Campus, both offering specialist primary education.

*Betty Ip, Chair of FSSHK*

# Rathbones National Schools Lacrosse Championships

Thursday 15 March 2018

*The U19 lacrosse team rounded off their extremely successful season with a great performance on the first day of the National Schools' Championships last weekend – although this made it all the more disappointing that the organisers had to cancel the second day's play.*



This year's Rathbones National Schools Lacrosse Championships (RNSLC) have been beset by problems caused by the extreme weather we have been experiencing this winter. A deluge of snow and Arctic winds at the beginning of March meant that the Championships had to be postponed by ten days.

Despite the fact that the rescheduled date for the National Championships fell over Coach Weekend (and Mothering Sunday), all 17 of our U19 squad gave up some of their weekend to play; a credit to just how committed they are to the sport. After a very early start on Sunday morning, we arrived at Wycombe Abbey to pitch camp amongst the other 46 schools' gazebos. (Amazingly, only ten schools had dropped out from the postponed tournament.)

We had a tough draw. Our first match was against Bedford, who got through to the Championship Division last year. But we beat them 3-1, with goals from Georgia Kannreuther (MSH), Phoebe Wasdell (MSH) and Clemmie Baynes (G).



Then last year's Championship Runners-Up (and eventual 2018 winners!) Lady Eleanor Holles beat us 1-5. However, our attacks executed a perfect set move, ending with an amazing goal from Flora Moreau (G).

In our third match we beat Peter Symonds College 3-1, with two goals from Georgia Kannreuther and one from Phoebe Wasdell.

Next up was Haberdashers' Aske's, who we beat 6-1 with two goals each from Georgia Kannreuther and Phoebe Wasdell, and excellent goals from Laura Elliott (G) and Poppy Collingwood-Cameron (EDH).

Then we lost 1-4 to another former Championship Division team, Queen Anne's, although our defence were hugely successful at keeping them at bay. Our goal was scored by Georgia Kannreuther.

Feeling slightly demoralised, we then lost to Westonbirt 0-3. But the girls came back fighting for their last match, winning 6-2 against St Bartholomew's: five goals from Phoebe Wasdell and one from Isabel Morris (MSH).

We finished the day's play seeded top of Division 1. A meal out at Bluegrass in High Wycombe brought the day to a close.

We arrived in pouring rain for the second day of the tournament, raring to win our Division. But we were greeted with the disappointing news that due to waterlogged pitches the tournament was to be cancelled for those teams in Divisions 1, 2 and 3, and that the Championship Division was to be relocated to another location with astro pitches. It was an extremely disappointing end to a hugely successful season for our 1st team, although there was some consolation in the knowledge that they had done a great job the day before.

Awards were made for Coaches' Player - Captain Clemmie Baynes, and Players' players - Clemmie Baynes and Annabel Naylor.

Top goal-scorer of the Tournament - Phoebe Wasdell (9 goals).

Away from this tournament, the U19s have only lost one match this season and were Runner's-Up in the North Schools' Lacrosse Tournament.

Thank you to Clemmie and Phoebe for their hard work with the team this season as Captain and Vice-Captain respectively. Clemmie has truly led from the front. On the pitch she has the amazing ability of not only defending her own opponent but successfully managing the rest of the defensive unit as well. We will certainly miss her and the other Upper Sixth Formers leaving us: Brigitte Jennings, Flora Moreau and Amy Pook.

Thanks are also due to our amazing external coach Paul Coups, who has coached the England U19 Men's team in the past. He has inspired and challenged the girls and is instrumental to their success.





*Flora Moreau, Brigitte Jennings and Clemmie Baynes with coach Paul Coups*

Phoebe Waddell and Stan Dixon (MSH) take over the reins as Captain and Vice-Captain next season. The squad is in great hands!

*Mrs Nicholas*



## Shrewsbury School Quiz Team are National Schools' Challenge Quarter-Finalists

Friday 16 March 2018

*Many congratulations to Oliver Bureau (Ch UVI), Alex Sparkes (I V), Tom Allen (Ch IV) and Tim Antelo (Rb III), who have won their Inter-Regional Regional of the Schools' Challenge and are now one of eight teams in the National Quarter-Finals of the competition.*

*Dr Oakley reports:*

Having defeated KES Birmingham in the Regional Final last November, the Shrewsbury team earned a tie against Dixie Grammar in Market Bosworth in the Inter-Regional Round of 16, which was held on 15th March. Dixie Grammar have enjoyed success in the Junior Competition and have qualified for the National Rounds of the Senior Competition in the recent past.

There was no neutral quizmaster (we gave Richard Osman a call but he was busy\*), so it fell to me to read for the first 15 minutes and then swap with the teacher from Dixie for the second half.

In contrast to the earlier rounds in Birmingham, Shrewsbury got off to a good start, answering three starter questions before Dixie reached the buzzer. An incorrect interruption from Alex opened the door for Dixie, but Alex closed it slightly with the next question on 'John Johnson' *aka* Guy Fawkes.

Ollie pre-empted 'Which Spanish tennis player...?' – there are not many in common parlance to choose from. Starters 14 and 15 went to Dixie, and they began to make a dent into Shrewsbury's lead. Tom then got his first starter on politics and followed it with correctly identifying 'Three Men in a Boat' from its opening line. Dixie got the final starter before half-time and the scores stood at 360-200 in Shrewsbury's favour.

A change of reader (but no time for oranges) meant teams had to regroup. For a few minutes the match seemed evenly poised, with starters being exchanged and bonuses on chemical elements and murder victims polished off. (A question on Julius Caesar at this stage was very apt, given the date.) Dixie knew their onions on all things edible, but Shrewsbury were not going to be knocked off course by 'Charybdis'. The final five starters of the match all went to Shrewsbury. Tim impressed everyone with his answer 'L.M. Montgomery', and a full set of bonuses on banknotes took the final score to a 730-340.

It was an impressive all-round display and the first time we have got this far in the competition since 2002.

The team will compete next in Westminster on Sunday 22nd April.

*(\*There is not one ounce of truth in this.)*



*L-R: Ollie Bureau, Tim Antelo, Tom Allen pictured after their win against KES Birmingham (Alex Sparkes was absent)*



## Making Examinations Epic

Friday 16 March 2018

*Mr Middleton describes the experience of being part of an invited audience at the A Level Theatre Studies examined performance of 'The Admirable Crichton'.*

I've watched a lot of exams in my time. Most of them take place in large rooms – assembly halls or sports halls – with rows of desks 25 deep. A look of feverish concentration is etched on the faces of those sitting the exams, lips stained with ink where pens have rested in moments of pensive pause.

I've yet to meet a teacher who can, hand on heart, say that invigilating examinations is one of the great joys of the profession. As the pupils adeptly dissect their exam papers with the acute concentration and masterful execution of a surgeon, we teachers look on, pacing the aisles in stately, thoughtful fashion. The clock ticks, painfully slowly. An arm may be raised here and there – an extra piece of paper, perhaps, or a panicked visit to the bathroom – but for much of the time we pace, we wait, we pace again.

An important role for sure, but I suspect that at the close of our teaching careers we won't list the exams we've watched as amongst our most memorable experiences.

An exception to this can be found each year in the Ashton Theatre, where last week the assembled audience had the distinct pleasure of watching an examination that was significantly more memorable than those we more commonly observe as invigilators: the A Level Theatre Studies examined performance.

During the two-year Theatre Studies course, students have to perform three extracts from contrasting plays, the final piece being assessed by an external examiner who sits right in front of them in the auditorium alongside the assembled audience who have been allowed access to watch their examination. This is about as nerve-wracking as it gets!

This year the Upper Sixth chose to apply the theories of Bertolt Brecht to their version of JM Barrie's play 'The Admirable Crichton'. One of the key figures of 20th century theatre, Brecht's drama was finely laced with a complex tapestry of social and political issues. His vision of an 'Epic Theatre' sought to remind the audience that they were watching a play rather than a constructed version of reality. It can be disorientating for the uninitiated, but this style of theatre had a profound impact on the development of drama through the 20th century and beyond, and has a lasting influence on practitioners to this day.



Those who had the distinct privilege of watching the Upper Sixth Theatre Studies group in action last week were treated to a work of creative flair that paid testimony to the skills and versatility they have developed over the past two years. With a small group of just four students (Nina Churchill, India Eaton, Jack Humphreys, Lisa Stolyarova), the play required significant multi-roling which is, for those familiar with Brecht's style, of course a typical feature of Epic Theatre. So, for example, there was Jack one minute playing the young aristocrat Ernest Wooley, the next playing the bonnet-wearing Mrs Perkins. Likewise, one moment India played a Cockney household servant, the next she was one of 'them upstairs'.

The multi-roling was part of the brilliance of the piece and added to its slick pace and fizz. Nina Churchill, playing the eponymous Crichton, is no stranger to the Ashton stage and she relished taking on the title role of the butler who believes that class division is 'the natural outcome of a civilised society', whilst Lisa Stolyarova was suitably snobbish and pompous as Lord Loam's daughter.



Amongst other themes, the play examines class division and the subordination of woman, its socio-political subtext made explicit through projected captioning (a further feature of Brecht's Epic Theatre) and the satirical use of 'Ladybird Book'-style images.

Whilst dealing with serious issues, this was an extremely funny piece as well, with an imaginative and witty use of the *mise en scène* and surprises in store round every corner. (Jack dressed as a parrot was a particularly memorable moment!)



To create a piece of theatre that is both entertaining and thought-provoking is quite a feat, but the Upper Sixth Theatre Studies group pulled this off with aplomb. What we saw was an

# Shrewsbury

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extremely slick and professional production, but this was the result of many months of invention, collaboration and experimentation. As Director of Drama Helen Brown explains, “Creating theatre is a collaborative process and the students have to support each other in order to succeed. Throughout the rehearsal process, they pulled together and developed the piece as a group.”

Reflecting on their examined performance, Dr Brown noted that she was hugely proud of their final piece. The group have come on a significant ‘journey’ since starting the course, and the quality of their work has reached an impressive level; so much so that one colleague departing the auditorium was heard to say that they could quite easily watch the play all over again.

I would happily join them. This was one examination that I’ll remember for some time to come.



## Dinner in Dubai

Friday 16 March 2018



Thirty five Old Salopians, partners, parents and friends of Shrewsbury School packed into the Wakame Sofitel restaurant in downtown Dubai for a memorable Salopian evening on Friday 16 March. There was a real international flavour to the evening as Salopians in Dubai were joined by others who had jetted in from Bahrain, Abu Dhabi and Oman, as well as Giles Bell and Nick Jenkins from the United Kingdom who were delighted to meet up with many of those who had once sat at the back of their classes and seemed to have emerged relatively unscathed by the experience! A delicious medley of Japanese food was served, after which conversation carried on into the early hours with many a reminiscence of times at Shrewsbury.

Particular thanks are due to Rupert Connor for once again organising what is becoming an annual event and galvanising fellow Salopians to attend from far and wide.





## The news this week 100 years ago: 16th - 22nd March 1918

Friday 16 March 2018

*On 21st March 1918, the German Army began launching a series of massive attacks along the Western Front, which came to be known as 'The Spring Offensive'. The Roll of Honour at Shrewsbury School reflects the huge losses sustained: this week marks the centenary of death of six Old Salopians; next week we will be remembering a further seven.*

*This week we remember:*

**Lieutenant Harold Loftus Barlow**, Royal Flying Corps.

Bennett's (now Severn Hill), left in 1905.

Killed whilst flying in the United Kingdom, 18th March 1918, aged 29.

*Buried at Stourbridge Cemetery, England. Grave K. 310.*

**Corporal Ernest Llewellyn Cross**, 25152, 2nd/7th Bn. Manchester Regiment.

Day Boys, 1st XI goalkeeper, left in 1896.

Killed in action in France, 21st March 1918.

*Remembered on Pozieres Memorial, France. Panel 64 to 67.*

**Second Lieutenant Maurice Anderson McFerran MC**, 5th Bn. attd. 2nd Bn. Royal Irish Rifles.

School House, left in 1915. Gazetted in September 1916, he went to the front in January 1917 and took part in some heavy fighting at Messines Ridge and in the Third Battle of Ypres; he won his MC at Cambrai.

While scouting, he was killed instantly by a shell on the first day of the big attack at St Quentin, France, 21st March 1918, aged 20.

*Remembered on Pozieres Memorial, France. Panel 74 to 76.*



*McFerran is in the one in the middle of this photo. On the far right is Philip Finch, who was killed in France on 28th March 1918, one week after McFerran. Also pictured are WM Lee, Gilmour and TR Bowden*

**Lieutenant Henry Stanley Webb, 4th Bn. attd. 9th Bn. "B" Coy. East Surrey Regiment.** Ingram's, left in 1912. Serving two years as a Private in South Midlands Field Ambulance, he was present at La Bassée in 1916. Later commissioned, he was wounded at Monchy-Le-Preux in April 1917 but returned to the front.

Killed in action in France, 21st March 1918, aged 23

*Buried at Fouquescourt British Cemetery, France. Grave III. G. 10. 2346 Royal Army Medical Corps.*

**Lieutenant Charles Leslie Wilkinson, 6th Bn. attd. 2nd/5th Bn. Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment).**

School House, left in 1904.

Died of wounds in France, 21st March 1918, aged 32.

*Remembered on Arras Memorial, France. Bay 7.*

**Captain Frank Darley Livingstone, 15th Div. Train Army Service Corps.** Moser's, a brilliant Salopian, he left in 1904 as a Scholar of Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he became President of the Union. He then studied for the Bar. He intended to run for parliament but the war intervened.



Never athletic, being a man of letters, he overcame all difficulties and showed qualities recorded by the Adjutant of his Corps: “a man of sterling value, and of such cheerful, virile, energetic disposition that we feel lost without him. He had the great gift of obtaining the love and devotion of those serving under him: both N.C.O.s and men are broken-hearted at his loss”.

Died of wounds in France, 22nd March 1918, aged 22.

*Buried at Duisans British Cemetery, Etrun, France. Grave VI. E. 35.*

## **Lieutenant Humphrey Francis Owen, 7th Bn. Royal Welsh Fusiliers**

Chance's (now Severn Hill), left in 1903 to study Land Agency. In training with the Inns of Court OTC, he was soon gazetted to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers and he went to France in May 1917. Badly wounded, he recovered and returned to a position in the line whence few came back. *The Salopian* records that “His brother, Capt. John D. Owen of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was killed a few months before the outbreak of war.”

Killed in action in France, 22nd March 1918, aged 21.

*Remembered on Arras Memorial, France. Bay 6.*

# The Old Salopian Fives Weekend

Saturday 17 March 2018

*Fives is in Fine Form - despite the weather!*



The third weekend in March saw the gathering of 56 Old Salopians, Shrewsbury Students and friends of fives for a fixture that filled all fourteen courts at Shrewsbury School.

The date was carefully chosen and listed on the school Fasti to give the school fives players stiff competition and practice immediately before the Nationals at Eton which commenced on Sunday 18th of March and to take advantage of the balmy and heart-warming Spring weather.

The Saturday fixture was a Grant Williams Invitational Event which also happened to coincide with St Patrick's Day, so the omens were all lining up nicely. The organisation went very smoothly which is unusual when it comes to getting Old Salopians to commit and ended up being marginally easier than organising a ceasefire in Eastern Damascus.

As we started to gather on Saturday at 1.45pm the snow was starting to fall quite nicely as the temperature dipped below freezing, perfect for an afternoons fives! As anyone who has ever organised a fives event will attest, there is always some last minute adjustments to the pairings and this was no exception.



Due to the fantastic attendance and the tremendous effort that the Old Salopians made travelling from as far afield as Durham and London we were able to run two fixtures concurrently. The first was a 14 pair rubber of the G Williams friends against the School including two ladies pairs, the other being six pairs of Old Salopians against the School.

The Salopians were very strong at the first five pairs and special mention must be given to Jeremy Lees (O 1977-82) and Martin Griffiths (R 1982-87) who were brought out of fives retirement having not played since leaving Shrewsbury School in the 80s. They had a practice game with their sons who are both at the Schools now and were then thrown in at 6th pair.

The Old Salopians were too strong for the School, fielding five current and past Barber Cup players but special mention should go to Tom Brunskill (S U6) and Dan Humes (I L6) who gave ex Fives Captains Tom Breese (PH 2011-16) and Guy Williams (Rb 2008-13) a run for their money despite losing in straight games. The first Salopian four pairs all won 3-0. The fifth pair of the Mitchell Brothers (Ian, PH 1982-87 and Andrew, DB 1976-80) were 2-1 up when the school pair decided they had other commitments and disappeared thus conceding. The sixth pair of Lees and Griffiths gradually rediscovering their form of former years went 3-0 down to Hinwood and McLoughlin spoiling the Salopians clean sweep. The Salopians won this fixture 5-1.

Beyond the Salopians, the Friends of Grant Williams had a much tougher challenge. The Ladies pairs of Fiona Mitchell and Emily O'Malley went down 0-3 to Sophia Breese and Lizzie Ware, Mandie Barnes and T Walters suffering a similar fate to Emma Graham and Katie Oswald, which bodes well for this week's Nationals.

Elsewhere the Schools were dominant with only the pairings David Wray (staff) and Bill Christie (parent) and Will Sillar (O 1977-81) and Dom Dootson (M 2010-15) victorious. The overall result was Grant Williams Invitational Team 8 versus the Schools 6.

A great day was had by all with Christie and Wray finally overcoming Legeais (parent) and Kynaston 3-1 at 4.15 pm, the last remaining spectators looking forward to a cup of tea which

was provided in the Quod. Many thanks go out to all of those who participated as well as Chris Hughes for his invaluable help in such a good Old Salopian turnout, Seb Cooley and Andy Barnard for organising the school pairings and to Shrewsbury School for use of the courts and the excellent tea in the Quod. Hopefully this fixture can become a staple of the Shrewsbury School and Old Salopian fives calendar.



*North v South*



The North v South match had been a regular fixture for many years but for one reason or another had not been played since 2009. With so many Salopians around it was a great opportunity to resurrect this great fixture.

Mother nature did us no favours overnight as we gathered at 10.30am it was still zero degrees with snowing laying on the ground. The local 10km run had been cancelled, and it was no surprise that we had a couple of cry offs in the morning which reduced us from five to four courts, but everyone present was up for it.

To achieve a result, the ladies court became a separate fixture which Fiona Mitchell and Mandie Barnes won leaving three courts for the main event.

First pair saw Tom Cox (M 2000-05) and Sam Welti (I 2007-12), both recent Barber Cup finalists take on T Walters and Tom Welti (I 2004-09), with nothing like a bit of sibling rivalry to add some spice. Sadly Tom Cox picked up an injury and was replaced by Adam Aslam Baskeyville who along with Andrew Mitchell (DB 1976-80) had already dispatched Ian Mitchell (PH 1982-87) and Adam Morris (Rb 2007-12) at third pair, another internecine battle.

Despite one of Sam Welti's purple patches which are now proven to be more than folklore, the experience of Walters and Tom Welti's determination to beat his brother saw them win meaning the



North retained the trophy after a nine-year break. The second pair of Grant Williams (parent) and Guy Williams representing the North went down 3-1 to Chris Hughes and Tom Breese in what was a very lively and fast paced game interrupted briefly when Tom Breese, returning the ball to the court in a move which was not even part of a rally, threw the ball onto the roof where it landed in the snow. He then had to suffer the indignation of standing on a snow-covered bench with a long broom trying to retrieve the ball whilst being showered in the snow that came off the roof with everyone watching and being very supportive as you can imagine.

The match was won 2-1 to the North. We all retired for lunch at the Boathouse where the trophy was presented to the victors, a perfect end to a great weekend with everybody looking forward to next year. Much fives was discussed throughout the weekend with plans afoot for a tour to Grillon and a Salopian end of season jamboree in June. Watch this space!





# Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - 'A Brief History of Hawking'

Tuesday 20 March 2018

*This week's edition celebrates the life and work of Professor Stephen Hawking, and in particular the profound intellectual impact he made on other people.*

Please click [here](#) to open Shrewsbury SparkPoint - 'A Brief History of Hawking' as a pdf.

shrewsbury school  
SparkPoint 2017

VOLUME 2 | ISSUE 19 | MARCH 2018  
A Brief History of Hawking

### The Passing of an Intellectual Giant

Many of you, like me, will have woken up on Wednesday morning to read the news that Professor Stephen Hawking, celebrated astrophysicist and revolutionary thinker, had died. Since that time, the media has been full of tributes and obituaries of a man whose impact on world scientific thought had been profound.

Given that Hawking was a great exponent of linking together areas of knowledge, of lateral thought and encouraging people to think laterally, it would seem appropriate to celebrate him in this edition of SparkPoint – not for what he himself achieved and accomplished (which has already been highlighted in so many articles) but for the impact he has had as a moment of intellectual ignition in others.

Despite the serious setbacks he experienced in his own life, Hawking never lost his keen sense of humour and an ability to perceive humanity as something special, emotional and unique – something for which he will be long remembered.

### SPI753 Singularities

Along with Roger Penrose, Hawking was able to prove the existence of singularities (a one-dimensional point of infinite mass) which had profound ramifications for the scientific understanding of space and time. [Click here](#) for a quick guide.

### SPI754 George and the Big Bang

Stephen Hawking was firmly committed to the idea that a scientific understanding of the universe should be communicated to children early on in life. Working with his daughter Lucy he produced a series of [adventure stories](#) to do just that.

### SPI755 The Hawking Foundation

Always keen for others to develop further and even improve his theories, Stephen Hawking established a Foundation in 2015 which would fund scientific research and also support those living with Motor Neurone disease. [Click here](#) for more.

THE STEPHEN HAWKING FOUNDATION

As well as his scientific work, Hawking rose to fame as a regular, rounded character on the Simpsons and Family Guy. Interestingly, for a limited time by demonstrating his ability to communicate and write light aspects of his theory, he was able to make it more accessible and demonstrate to other authors that it was possible to lead a fulfilled and extraordinary life. [Click here](#) for more.



## One Word Victory for Piers in the Richard Hillary Essay Medal

Tuesday 20 March 2018

*More than 40 of the School's brightest sixth form academics pitted their intellects against each other in an attempt to show that the pen truly is mightier than the sword in the Richard Hillary Essay Medal competition.*

The event was modelled on the historic competition undertaken to select fellows of All Souls College, Oxford, and provoked considerable interest around the school. It is amongst the most unusual and most prestigious of our competitions and this year's prize winner was Piers Merison (LVI).

The premise is a simple one. All entrants come to the Alington hall where they are presented with an envelope which will contain a single word, and the word for 2018 was – 'Sense'. They must then write an essay based on this word for up to two hours in exam conditions. The scripts were then anonymised and sent away for marking by Dr Richard Ashdown, Fellow of Somerville College Oxford.

The prize is named in honour of Richard Hillary (Old Salopian) who went on from Shrewsbury to study at Trinity College, Oxford. As a Spitfire fighter pilot in the Battle of Britain he heroically shot down five German fighters, and survived while escaping from his own shot down aircraft.

Hillary is remembered today at Trinity College, Oxford by an annual literature prize. At Shrewsbury, his name appears on the War Memorial and on the Battle of Britain memorial in Chapel.



*Proud Piers with his trophy*

# Darwin Society Lecture – 'Special Relativity, Black Holes and Gravitational Waves'

Wednesday 21 March 2018

*On 16th March, we were delighted to welcome back Dominic Dootson (M 2010-15) to give the fifth of this year's science enrichment lectures for the Darwin Society.*

In his Lower Sixth year, Dominic was part of the Shrewsbury School team that represented the UK in the International Young Physicists' Tournament (IYPT - also known as the 'Physics World Cup'), which was held here at the School (see the feature on [IYPT 2014](#)). The following year, he captained the UK team in the [IYPT held in Thailand](#), where they secured a bronze medal.



*L-R: John Balcombe, Steve Adams, Sherry Xu, Tom Dodd, Rory Champion, Dominic Dootson*

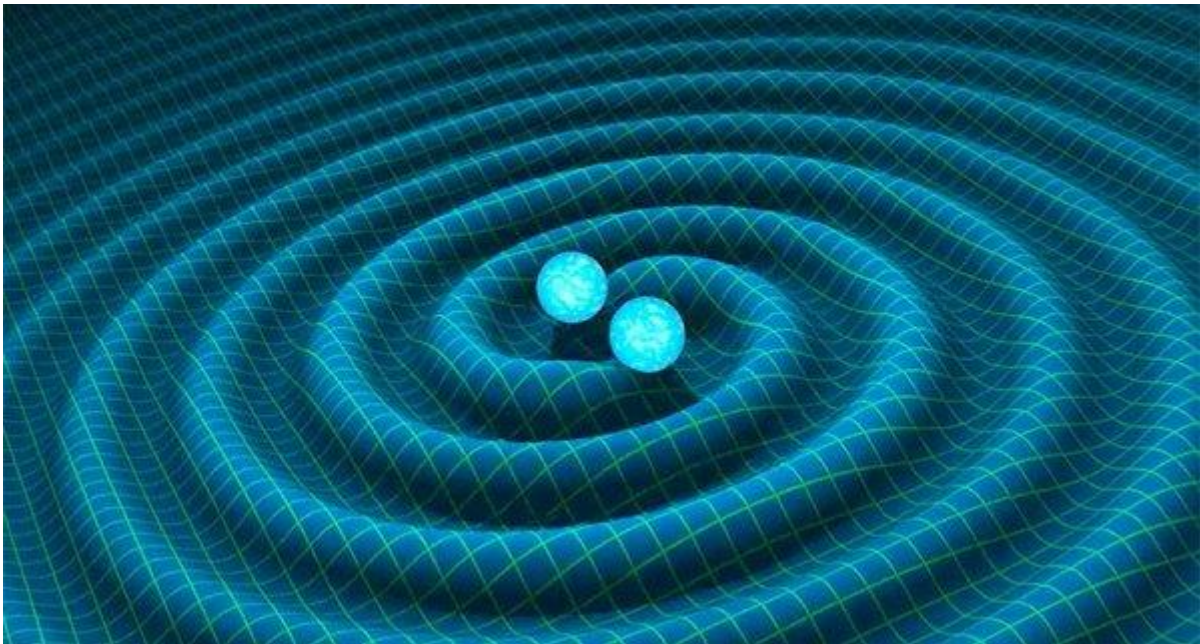


*Dominic 'in action' at the IYPT 2015*

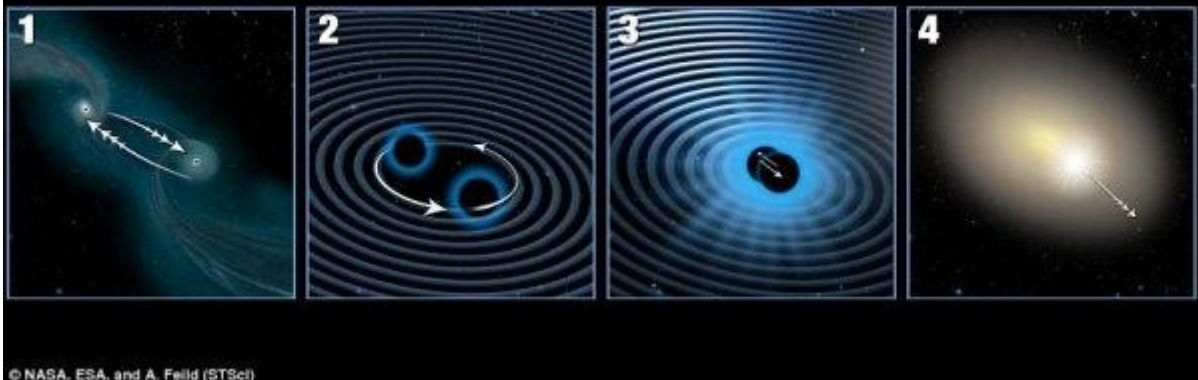
Dominic then went on to read Physics at Keble College, Oxford and he is currently in his third year. As part of his degree, he will embark on a Theoretical Physics Research Project in the autumn.

Dominic captivated an audience of current Shrewsbury School students, staff and visitors with his lecture on the different branches of Theoretical Physics, including Einstein's theories of special relativity and general relativity. These are used to explain the existence of gravitational waves, which travel very close to the speed of light and transmit energy - and which have only very recently been detected!

In addition, he explained the consequence of special theory ('Laws of physics are the same in all inertial reference frames and the speed of light is a constant') and black holes ('singularity' is the point of infinite density and once inside the 'event horizon', nothing can escape!).



### Gravitational waves eject black hole from galaxy



Dominic went on to give a special tribute to Professor Stephen Hawking. He predicted a quantum mechanical process that allows black holes to radiate electromagnetic radiation in the form of 'Hawking Radiation'. The radiation is due to the black hole capturing one of a particle-antiparticle pair created spontaneously near the event horizon.

This was a thought-probing and fascinating talk and gave an excellent insight into the field of theoretical physics.

*Martin Kirk, Head of Physics, and Dr Andy Briggs, Head of Science*



## Art Historian Charlie Johns shines in the ARTiculation Prize Regional Finals

Thursday 22 March 2018

*Congratulations to Charlie Johns (I UVI), who represented the History of Art Faculty at the recent ARTiculation Prize Regional Finals, held at the Barber Institute in Birmingham.*

The ARTiculation Prize is a competition established by the Roche Court Foundation and invites students of History of Art to present a ten-minute presentation on a work of art of their own choice.

Charlie selected a painting entitled "Regrets" (2013) by American artist Jasper Johns, a work that Charlie first encountered at the Royal Academy on a study trip to London back in November.

Charlie delivered a superb talk, brimming with authority, sophistication and maturity. His discussion of the painting, which in many ways represents an existential last gasp in Jasper Johns' life long *oeuvre*, manifested an empathy and understanding which belies Charlie's years.

Though the whole History of Art set, who went along to the Barber Institute to support Charlie, together with most of the audience, fully expected a hands-down victory for Charlie, he was in fact awarded second prize. However, the memory of his placing in the competition will soon fade, whilst the content and quality of his presentation will linger.

*Fergus Reid*



*Charlie (back left) with the other ARTiculation West Midlands speakers and James Lingwood at the Barber Institute of Fine Art*

## Fives: Old Salopians versus The Schools

Thursday 22 March 2018

*The third weekend in March saw the gathering of 56 Old Salopians and friends of Fives for a warm-up fixture against the Shrewsbury School players to help get them ready for the National School Fives Championships at Eton.*

The date was carefully chosen and listed on the school Fasti to give the school Fives players stiff competition and practice and to take advantage of the balmy and heart-warming spring weather.

The Saturday fixture was a Grant Williams Invitational Event that also happened to coincide with St Patrick's Day; the omens were all lining up nicely.



As we started to gather on Saturday at 1.45pm, the snow was starting to fall as the temperature dipped below freezing. Perfect for an afternoon's Fives!

As anyone who has ever organised a Fives event will attest, there are always some last-minute adjustments to the pairings – and this was no exception.

Due to the fantastic attendance and the tremendous effort that the Old Salopians made travelling from afar afield as Durham and London, we were able to run two fixtures concurrently. The first was a 14-pair rubber of the G Williams friends against the School, including two ladies' pairs; the other being six pairs of Old Salopians against the School.



The Old Salopians were very strong at the first Fives pairs, and special mention must be given to Jeremy Lees and Martin Griffiths, who were brought out of Fives retirement having not played since leaving Shrewsbury in 1984. They had a practice game with their sons, who are both at The Schools now, and were then thrown in at 6th pair.

The Old Salopians were too strong for the School, fielding five current and past Barber Cup players. But special mention should go to Tom Brunskill and Dan Humes, who gave former Fives Captains Tom Breese and Guy Williams a run for their money, despite losing in straight games. The first four OS pairs all won 3-0. The sixth pair of Lees and Griffiths, gradually rediscovering their form of 1984, went 3-0 down to Hinwood and McLoughlin, spoiling the Salopians clean sweep. The Old Salopians won this fixture 5-1.

Beyond the Salopians, the Friends of Grant Williams had a much tougher challenge. The ladies' pairs of Fiona Mitchell and Emily O'Malley went down 0-3 to Sophia Breese and Lizzie Ware, and Mandie Barnes and T Walters suffered a similar fate to Emma Graham and Katie Oswald, which bodes well for this week's Nationals.





Elsewhere The Schools were dominant, with only the OS pairings David Wray & Bill Christie and Will Sillar & Dom Dootson victorious. The overall result: Grant Williams Invitational Team 8 versus The Schools 6.

A great day was had by all, with Christie and Wray finally overcoming Legeais and Kynaston 3-1 at 4.15pm, the last remaining spectators looking forward to a cup of tea which was provided in the Quod.

Many thanks to all of those who participated, to Chris Hughes for his invaluable help in generating such a good Old Salopian turnout, Seb Cooley and Andy Barnard for organising the School pairings, and to Shrewsbury School for use of the courts and the excellent tea in the Quod. Hopefully this fixture can become a staple of the Shrewsbury School and Old Salopian Fives calendar.



We should never forget that your life at Shrewsbury School doesn't end on Speech Day. Friendships made at The Schools can carry on throughout your life, and Old Salopian Sport is a fantastic way to nurture those friendships for people with similar interests, both girls and boys. The Old Salopian Fives Club in particular is a warm and welcoming group who encourage players of all abilities. Financial help is available for students travelling to matches and events, and an online community makes it very easy to get involved.

*Grant Williams*



## Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Thursday 22 March 2018

*This week, the Sports Leaders.*

The weather this has put paid to some of our more traditional Lent Term sports. However, the recently formed Shrewsbury curling team have been practising on the 'Ollie's Egg' ice rink outside the Art Department.



Bertie 'It's-all-about-the-stone' Speed and Jonah 'Iceman' Greetham were training during a brief break in lessons. Bertie told me that his dream to represent Team GB in the Olympics meant that he has to grab every second he can on the ice. "If you want to reach the top in a sport, you have to put in the hours and seconds," he said. Jonah has only recently been converted to the sport. "I was not sure that curling was that cool, but then being friends with a 'Speed skater' has helped me to see how cool ice related sports can be," Jonah told me as he sucked an icicle.

Both curlers were sad that the School has not entered any competitive curling events so far this year. "It's a great sport. My brothers are keen curlers and we constantly wander off looking for opponents to take on; my mum is always wondering where her curlers are," Bertie told me.

Despite the current interest in curling, it has to be said that it leaves a large number of the School community cold. I wondered whether, if there were a significant Sporting Leader in the School community prepared to work with the curlers, the sport would grow in popularity. Personally, I have never had a need for curlers. But maybe I need a Sports Leader. Someone who can organise a tournament for me to play in. Someone to coach me in a sport that I need to improve in (Are there any? – Ed.). Someone to inspire me to lose the 'prosperity ring' I seem to be developing around my girth.

Luckily, I stumbled over a significant number of future Sports Leaders on Thursday afternoon being trained for greatness by Andy Smith and Simon Evitts from 'Embrace Physical Education'. Andy and Simon are good sportsmen themselves and they enjoy working with kids to help them to get the most out of sport and to enhance self-confidence and all the personal skills that come through team sports and sport in general.

Those who sign up for Sports Leaders work towards a nationally recognised qualification: Level 2 in Community Sport Leadership. They will also gain a First Aid qualification and an Eton Fives coaching badge. That's almost more qualifications than I have ever possessed in a year and they are all only 14-15 years old! I think I had better join next year. They can also go on to take what they have learned into coaching, if that is what they want to do.

The Shrewsbury gang enjoy the expertise of Simon and Andy. The Fifth Form mentors Ben Stewart, Layth Salman, Ben Hulme and Ed Evans informed me that Simon is the captain and coach of Shrewsbury Rugby Club. Andy plays for Beacon Brazil and is highly skilled in mentoring children in care and working with some challenging children. Ben and Layth told me they are inspired by Simon's rugby prowess and his leadership both on and off the field. Layth told me very proudly that the group had organised a tag rugby event for 120 children, which went very well and was enjoyed by all. "I am very proud," Layth said.

Revd Aldous was also present, as he is a top Fives coach and has become another inspirational figure to Ben Hulme and Ed Evans. "The Rev deals with the Fives," they told me. "Fives is ideal for a priest, as you frequently have to put your hands together," Ed told me. "You also have to bend down a bit and I am sure that a gifted genuflector will have an edge in some points." "Prayer might help in a match situation sometimes," Ben added.

I asked some of the trainee Sports Leaders how they were finding the course. Francesca Harris enjoys the First Aid side of things, as she worries about some of the little children in case they fall over. "I love First Aid, as I think I can help anyone who falls over," Francesca told me. Francesca is a very fast runner and would be able to reach patients before anyone else. I wondered if she would wear a blue light on her head, but she seemed strangely downbeat about my really good idea.

Bridget Merison told me that she enjoys Sports Leaders as "it's fun and less stressful than CCF. You are not being trained to kill people, which means it is probably a more positive option for me," Bridget stated in a very positive manner.

Georgie Nicholas feels that the course will stand her in good stead for later life. "The leadership skills will stand me in good stead for later life. I 'may' even want to be Prime Minister now," she said with feeling.

Tobi Braithwaite has gained some much needed self-confidence from the course. "I now know I am a natural leader. I would describe myself as the Jose Mourinho of the Sports Leaders community, whereas before I would have settled for Jürgen Klopp like Marcus Young." After some extensive research Tobi told me that he has discovered that the kids all love him and see him as an inspirational coach. Sithi and Doug-Hague Saunders were not sure that Tobi's research was correct and were wondering if his delusional tendencies should be checked out in the Sanatorium.



I sat in on a session where the Sports Leaders discussed what makes a good coach. The Longmynd 55- seater was held up as a good example. The discussion then focused on the other type of coach, and I learnt that I should have been encouraging my teams rather than berating them for being rubbish.

The Fives coaching session on Field Day was very successful and youngsters from Prestfelde and St George's Primary School were coached by the Sports Leaders who all looked very sporty and confident.



Ted Davies exemplified the afternoon by being very friendly, confident and organised. Andy and Simon were very impressed, and their target of giving everyone a fulfilling and fun afternoon seemed to have been met. The St George's and Prestfelde pupils were mixed up so that they could all make new friends on top of learning how to play a game that was new to almost all of them.



*Ed Evans and Ben Stewart compiling the results*

There were a lot of smiles and no smashed tea-cups!

Sports Leaders at Shrewsbury abound!

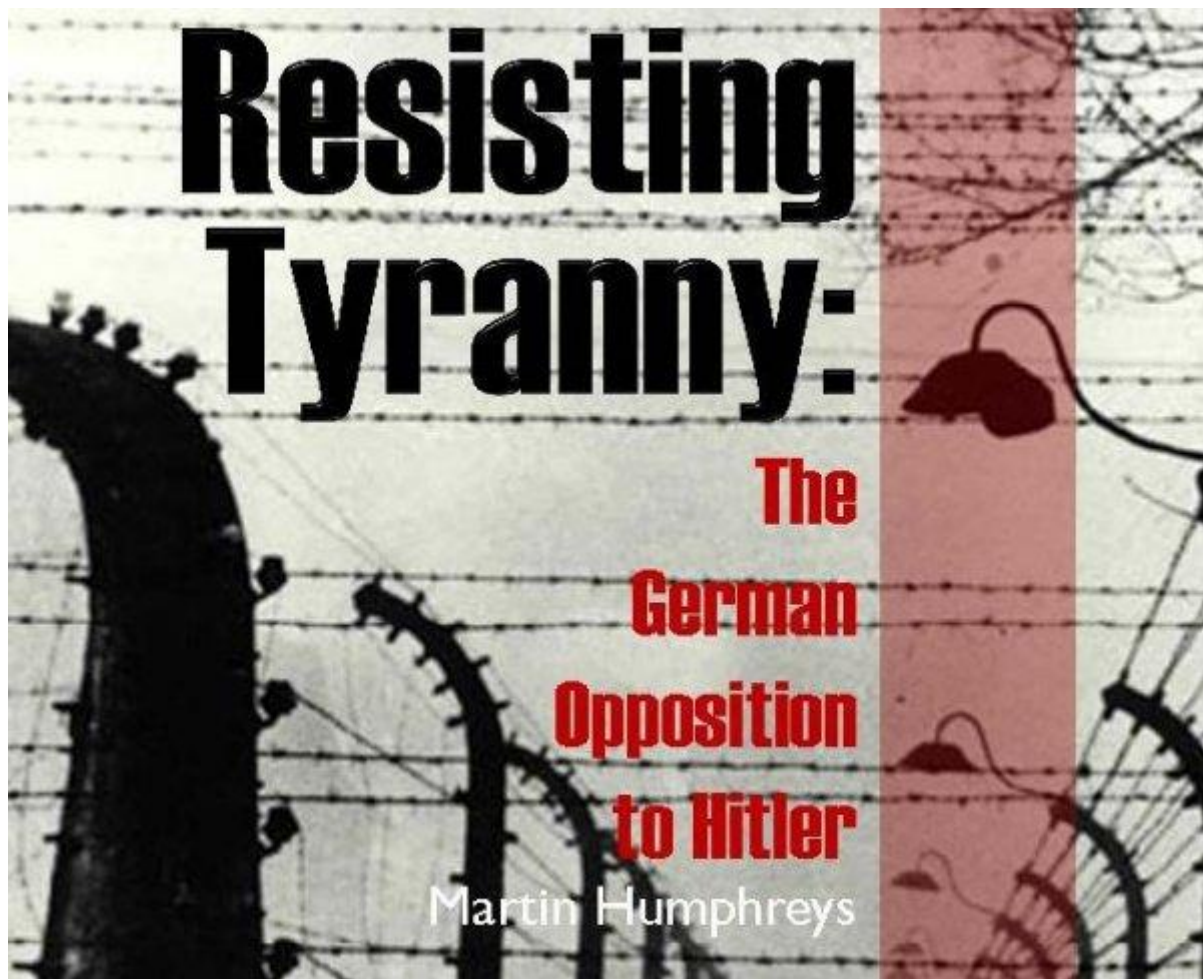
*GJFB*



# Bastille Society lecture: 'Resisting Tyranny: The German Opposition to Hitler'

Thursday 22 March 2018

*On Wednesday 21st March, Mr Humphreys delivered a thought-provoking lecture on the German Opposition to Hitler. - Report by Libby Hedges (G LVI).*



Surrounded by a sea of pre-GCSE Fifth Formers, Mr Humphreys was incredibly captivating as he argued how the German citizens showed a surprisingly little amount of opposition to their totalitarian dictator, with insightful comparisons to uprisings in Gaddafi's Libya.

The commonly taken 'inner emigration' approach allowed many citizens to watch on as Hitler divided the nation into the Communists, Trade Unionists, Jews, and so on.

In hindsight, as Mr Humphreys so convincingly argued, the German people had no other choice but to cling on to the July Bomb Plot as their scapegoat for not showing enough resistance. Hearing the notorious events from a perspective other than through the British prism, without

the 'beating heart of patriotism', was particularly intriguing and we want to thank Mr Humphreys for this fascinating lecture.

Closing the evening with the encouraging note that it was in fact the youths, in the form of Edelweiss Pirates and White Rose group members, who avoided indoctrination and stood up for what they believed in the most, definitely gave the audience a lot to think about.



Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



# Shrewsbury's Model United Nations Conference 2018

Thursday 22 March 2018

*'ShrewsMUN 2', Shrewsbury's second Model United Conference, organised entirely by pupils and held at the School on 10th-11th March 2018, was hailed an unqualified success by everyone who took part. Film Fellow Dave Clifford spoke to members of the Organising Committee as they prepared to welcome the 250 delegates for a weekend of discussion and debate focused on the themes of trust and dialogue.*

**[ShrewsMUN 2 - 10th-11th March 2018](#)** from **[Shrewsbury School](#)** on **[Vimeo](#)**.



# Hawksley-Burbury Science Competition 2018

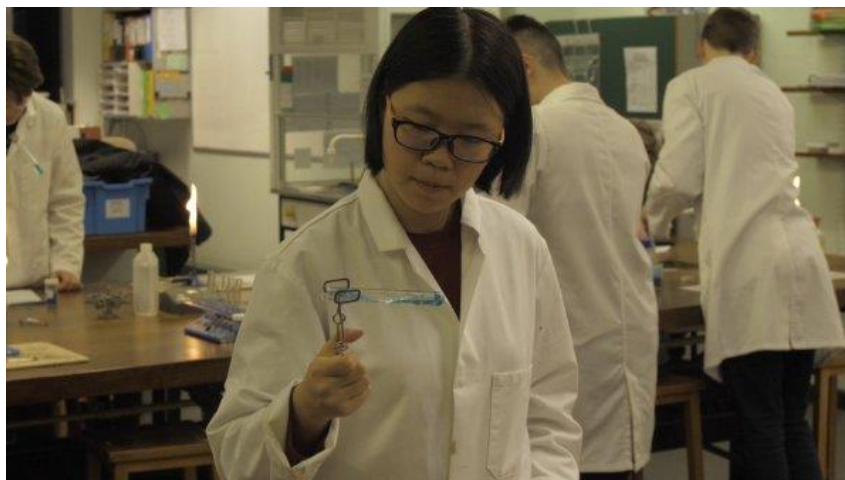
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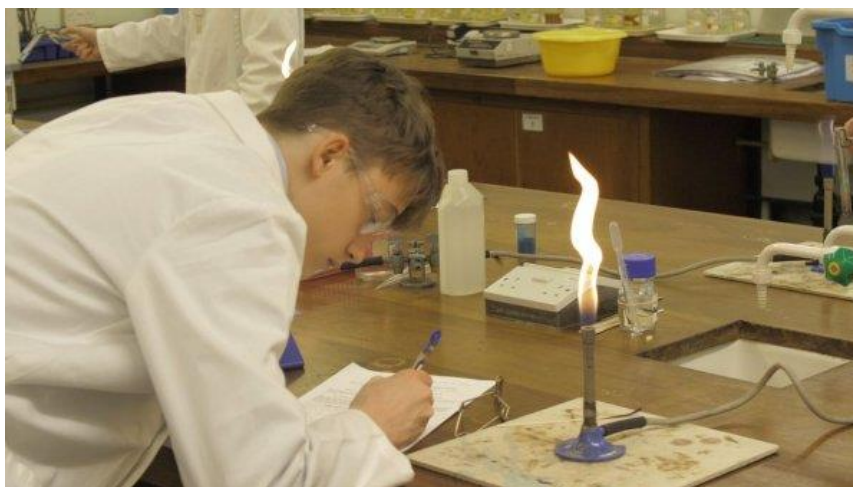
*Lisa Alekseeva and Anna Cowan made Shrewsbury School scientific history this week by becoming the first ever Fifth Formers to win the top two places in the annual Hawksley-Burbury Science Competition.*



Twenty-one pupils entered the competition this year, which is open to anyone in the Fifth and Sixth Forms. It is not necessary to be studying science at AS or A2 level to take part, as the competition tests skills of observation and scientific deduction rather than specialised knowledge.

There are three sections – Biology, Chemistry and Physics – and in each, candidates are set a number of short tasks requiring careful observation and analysis.





At the end of the competition, the following results were announced:

**Overall winner:** Lisa Alekseeva (EDH V)

**Prox accessit:** Anna Cowan (MSH V)

**Highly commended:** Ludo de Falbe (SH LVI) and Reuben Denison (SH LVI)

**Individual practical winners:**

**Biology:** Lisa Alekseeva

**Chemistry:** Ludo de Falbe

**Physics:** Adam Pattenden (S LVI)

Lisa will be presented with her prize at the Academic Prizegiving during Speech Day at the end of next term.

Special mention must also go to Mr Walters Deputy Head (Academic), who finished an outstanding 6= /22 in the Chemistry practical. As a Classicist, he was definitely out of his comfort zone and up against some of our best scientists. Unfortunately his result in the Physics practical, though still commendable, was not quite as strong.

*Andy Briggs, Head of Science*



## The news this week 100 years ago: 23rd - 29th March 1918

Friday 23 March 2018

*This week marks the 100th anniversary of death of seven Old Salopians who fought during World War 1.*

**Second Lieutenant Walter Arthur Francis Bailey**, 2nd Bn. Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry. Prior's (now Moser's), left in 1916. Entering Sandhurst as a prize candidate aged 17, he passed out in October 1916. He went to the Front in November 1917.

Killed in action in France, 24th March 1918, aged 19.

*Remembered on Arras Memorial, France. Bay 6 and 7.*

**Second Lieutenant John Herbert Fitzmaurice**, 6th Bn. King's Shropshire Light Infantry. Oldham's, left in 1916.

Killed in action in France, 25th March 1918 aged 19, only son of John Rupert Fitzmaurice, OS.

*Remembered on Pozieres Memorial, France. Panel 60.*



**Captain Maurice Baldwin Bolton MC**, 5th Bn. East Lancashire Regiment.

Moser's, left in 1911 for Pembroke, College Cambridge. Gazetted to the 11th Manchester's, he was promoted Captain May 1915. Transferring to the East Lancs. in July 1915, he went out in 1917. In November 1917 he was awarded the MC for gallant conduct near Nieuport.

"When the brigade ammunition dump was set on fire by enemy shells he at once collected a party which, by their exertions, prevented the spreading of the flames. Under his direction the party carried out burning boxes of Very lights and this prevented the other ammunition from exploding. He was employed in this work for about 40 minutes." – *The Salopian*.

Died of wounds whilst a prisoner of war in France, 26th March 1918, aged 26. He is probably related to Harry Hargreaves Bolton, who was killed on 24th May 1915.

*Le Cateau Military Cemetery, France.*

**Lieutenant Colonel Philip Vaughan Holberton**, 2nd Bn. Manchester Regiment.

Day Boys, Killing Hound, Football XI, left in 1896 for Sandhurst where he won the Sword of Honour presented by Queen Victoria.

He was slightly wounded in the South African War (King's Medal, two clasps, Queen's Medal, five clasps). He then held various appointments as Adjutant. He fought all through the Gallipoli Campaign with the Manchester's, afterwards being appointed Brigade Major.



In October 1916 he was given command of 1/5 Batt. Lancs. Fusiliers, with whom he was serving at his death. Four times mentioned in despatches, he received a Serbian decoration in 1917 and was on the waiting list for a brigade. "He knew the value of encouragement and the futility of abuse".

Killed instantly by a stray bullet at 2.00am, 26th March 1918, aged 39. "That chance shot robbed the army in general and his brigade in particular of one of its finest soldiers."

*Buried at Achiet-Le-Grand Communal Cemetery Extension, France. Grave IV. F. 8.*

**Lieutenant Charles Derek Alltree**, 9th Bn. Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Day Boys, left in 1912. Gazetted in November 1915 to the 12th (Service) Batt. South Lancs. Regt. he transferred in September 1916 and had been in France about three months.

Died of wounds whilst a prisoner of war in France, 27th March 1918, aged 20. He is possibly related to Ernest Woodbourne Alltree, who was killed 29th October 1918.

*Buried at Douai British Cemetery, Cuincy, France. Grave G. 7.*

**Lieutenant Colonel Trevor Carus-Wilson DSO**, 1st/5th Bn Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

Rigg's, left in 1887 and served in the South African War (Queen's Medal, five clasps). He went to France in May 1916 and took command of the Battalion that December.

Three times mentioned in despatches, he was also awarded the Territorial Decoration and D.S.O.

Killed in action in France, 27th March 1918, aged 48.

*Buried at St. Sever Cemetery, Rouen, France. Grave Officers, B. 5. 13.*

**Lieutenant Philip Gerard Finch MC**, 1st Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers.

Ingram's, left in 1915 for Sandhurst, obtaining his commission in August 1916. His Colonel, writing as he went missing, said, "He always did consistently well in every action. I twice put him up for a Military Cross, and the last time I am glad to say he got it."

Killed in action in France, 28th March 1918 aged 20

*Remembered on Arras Memorial, France. Bay 2 and 3.*



*Philip Finch (2nd from right) at Shrewsbury School in 1915*

## Outstanding performance on the national stage for Hunt runner Francesca Harris

Friday 23 March 2018

*All Hunt runners gave impressive performances at the English Schools Cross-Country Finals - but particular congratulations to Francesca Harris, who placed 12th in the Intermediate Girls category, despite being a year younger than most of her fellow competitors.*



On Saturday 17th March, Shrewsbury School sent 12 runners to represent Shropshire in the English Schools Cross-Country final, held at Temple Newsam Park in Leeds. Such a high number representing the county at this event is testament to the depth currently enjoyed at the School in this sport, and to the hard work of the individual athletes who worked so hard to earn their place.

On a bitterly cold day involving over 2,000 runners across three age categories, Shropshire acquitted themselves extremely well amongst some of the best athletes in the country. Through the biting wind and flurries of heavy snow interspersed with patches of sunshine, our little band of 12 fought for position within the huge juggernaut of runners over the first straight of about 500m. Each of the six races had about 350 competitors, so this was no mean feat!

The outstanding performance of the day undoubtedly came from Chessie Harris (EDH), who in the Intermediate Girls category managed to place an astonishing 12th overall, despite being a year young for the age group. Her development this year has been very pleasing indeed to her coach, Mr Russell, who was delighted with the result. Given that she was well in touch with the

leading five (less than 20 seconds behind 5th place), she will certainly be eyeing a podium spot in this race next year if all goes to plan.

Elsewhere, Harrison Cutler (R) ran very well in the Junior Boys race, placing 131st and 3rd for his county, while Charlie Huntley (R) and Jonny Price (I) came 300th and 337th in this stellar field.

In the Intermediate Boys, Oscar Hamilton-Russell (R) had a terrific race to achieve his 100th place, and like Chessie, he is still a year young in this age group so will look to improve on that next year. Likewise Tom Jackson (R), whose 149th suggests he can really push on from here next year. Sam Western (PH) struggled a bit, having suffered a bout of ill health in the week leading up to this race, but he showed a lot of grit to get round in 239th and place 6th for his county. He'll be in the senior age category next year, but will be aiming for top hundred nevertheless.



*L-R: Sam Western, Tom Jackson, Oscar Hamilton Russell*

Amongst the senior girls. Immie Evans (G) ran very well to place 250th, while Felicity Hayward (EDH), though finding the level of competition very demanding, battled through to finish 316th.

The senior boys set an electrifying pace early in their race, and Charlie Ockleston (O), Ali Harris (R) and Tom Hughes (Ch) all struggled for position in the mass of runners. Nevertheless, they worked their way through the field well, and while Charlie had to withdraw suffering a knee complaint, Ali managed a very creditable 216th, while Tom placed 293rd. As Upper Sixth leavers this year, it's great that these two can point to this as a real achievement at the end of their running career at Shrewsbury – it really doesn't get much more prestigious for U18 runners than this event.



# “The Play That Goes Wrong”? Absolutely not – this house play definitely went right!

Friday 23 March 2018

*“The Play That Goes Wrong” is a hilarious, farcical murder mystery, a play-within-a-play, originally conceived by award-winning company Mischief Theatre. The version that was adapted for School House by Mr Bird kept many of the original laughs, some new ones and some unexpected ones. Forgetting lines was just part of the fun!*

## house THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG



After benefiting from a large and sudden inheritance, the inept and enthusiastic but accident-prone Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society embark on producing an ambitious 1920s murder mystery. Disaster ensues but can the cast hold it together and reveal the murderer before the curtain falls, literally? No!



*Freddie Lawson (V) as the dapper Cecil Haversham on the left, with Koby Ferdinand-Okpala (LVI) playing the role of Inspector Carter*

In my five years as Housemaster of School House, I have always approached the House Play with trepidation. Therefore, this year I decided to hand it over lock, stock and barrel to the boys and Mr Bird, our wonderfully talented Assistant Housemaster, who even spent his holidays building the set from scratch by hand. So, when I sat in the audience on the first night, I was blissfully unaware of what to expect. However, they weren't going to let me off so easily and I found myself quickly roped into some "audience participation", which involved a dress and a blonde wig... That might sound disturbing, but it was just the tip of the iceberg; I will never be able to "unsee" some of the things that appeared on stage that night. Needless to say the production was hysterical and there was even some great acting! The boys clearly had a lot of fun doing it and must take a great deal of credit for pulling it off when they are so busy in other areas of school life. The audience was laughing throughout (in all the right places) and it was the perfect way to round off another packed and successful term. The following photos give a flavour of the entertainment:





*Louis Street (V), very sportingly taking on the role of Charles Haversham, which involved being on the receiving end of several “liquid outbursts”, while Rhys Woodward (IV) as Frances Colleymore 1, looks on.*



*Left: Koby inspecting new evidence that has come to light: the victim’s secret “dairy”. Right: Kogi Yu (V) playing the part of the Glamour Girl a little too convincingly...*



*Punn Vajrabhaya (V) on the left, playing the debonair Thomas Colleymore, alongside Roman Khidiribekhov (V) as the illiterate butler Perkins*



*On the left, Arron Lewis (LVI) considering if being a mantelpiece could actually be his dream job, while Frances declares her undying love for Cecil*



*Roman "assists" Henri Cramsie (LVI) with his lines when he comes on as the inspector's understudy*



*Arron's reaction to being asked to wear a dress (as Frances Collymore 2). Good or bad?*



*Audience participation from Mr B – this image had to be captured. Not sure if Koby's persuasion techniques were the cause!?*



*On the left, Freddie in his second role as Arthur the gardener, keeping the show going with the help of Gordon Chong (V), who played Trevor, the dopey sound and light engineer, who had to rush on stage to fill in while both Frances Collemores were unconscious...*



*Well done and thank you to the full cast and helpers – a tremendous effort. The End!*



## OSGS Spring Meeting (South) at Denham

Tuesday 27 March 2018



**Anthony Parsons** (Rt 1959-64), known as 'AP1' to quote one of the more printable of his soubriquets: Buckinghamshire Amateur Match Play Champion (twice), 'Snips' was a member of the winning Berks, Bucks and Oxon team that won the England Counties Championship in 1983: winner of the Denham Club Championship 6 times.



**The Captain and his putter:** Shot of the day when Andy Pollock (I 1971-74) 'AP 2', Captain of our Halford Hewitt team, holed from 65 feet, allowing for a borrow or 'break' of 12 feet for a birdie on the treacherous contours of the 8th green.

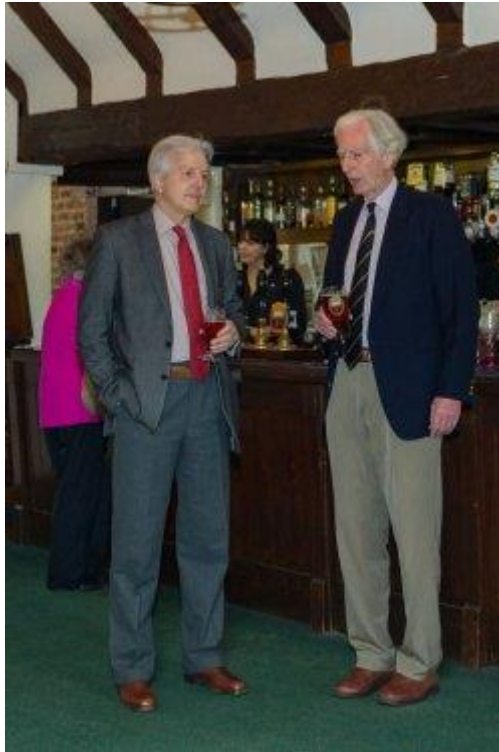


**Anthony Smith** (I 1954-59), President of the Old Salopian Golfing Society, spoke eloquently of his friend whom he first met back in the early 1970's at the Halford Hewitt, as follows: 'I had been playing in the Shrewsbury team for a few years. 'Parsnips' was invited to play by Johnny Clegg (SH 1943-49), who ran the OSGS with a rod of iron – or so it seemed. Not knowing much about him, we were told that Anthony was a good footballer, a low handicap golfer, but could be a little forthright in his views. Nothing has changed there! As it happened, my partner from the three previous years – Nick Wase-Rogers (Rt 1959-64), here at Denham today - was unavailable. Clegg stuck Anthony and me together. Neither of us played well in round one. Although the team won, we as a pair lost. The following day, Tony Duerr (Rt 1951-56) arrived. This required the pairings to be re-assembled. Parsons was dropped. I wonder if Anthony has ever been dropped from a golf team since! That was Anthony's debut in the Halford Hewitt. Who would have guessed at that time, that he would make over a hundred appearances for Shrewsbury?



**Anthony Parsons** cradling his caricature. The cartoon depicted a slim-line turn with AP1 driving off a silver peg (marked Tessiers, the famed Goldsmith and Silversmith in Bond Street where Anthony worked for many years as an authority on jewellery). The tee box records in Roman numerals LXIV (64) wins that Anthony and his partners won in CIV (104) matches in the Halford Hewitt for Shrewsbury. The citation reads for 'heart, herding and wit', politely

implying the qualities required for organising Salopian golfers at meetings at Denham for over 30 years.



**Polymathes and Philomathes** adorned the day. Nicholas Barber (SH 1954-58), President of The Salopian Club, is caught propping up the bar with Christopher Prentice (SH 1967-72), former HM Ambassador to Rome, with two Double Firsts between them, in Honour Moderations and Literae Humaniores at the University of Oxford.



**Stephen Shaw** (M 1956-61) in hot pursuit of his cousin James, but in vain, despite two purple birdies at the 8th and the 12th, matching his papal attire, as permitted at Tandridge GC.



**Lieut-General James Shaw** (R 1964-68), the winner AM with 32 points, driving in full command.



**Charles Shaw** (R 1962-66), foursomes' winner PM over 9 holes (16 points) with Hon Sec, driving effortlessly.

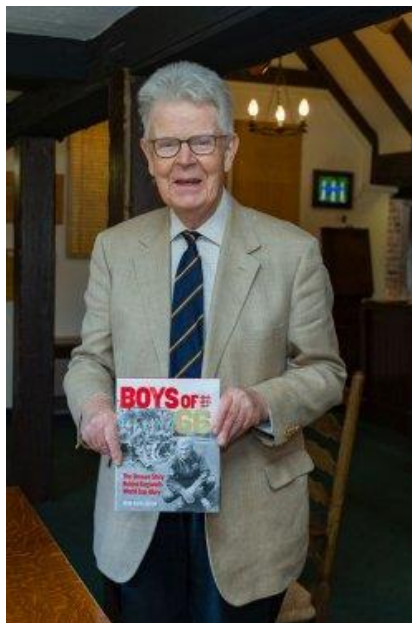






### Will Hawksley

(SH 1990-95), the second youngest in the field and James Pollock, the youngest (below left). Compare and contrast the earlier body turns.



**Hon Sec, Tim Lewis** (R 1950-55), former bookseller, cherishes his copy of the 'Boys of 66', presented to him by the author John Rowlinson (S 1962-66), 1st X1 colours 1964, 1965 and 1966 (Captain). Anthony's 1st XI colours relate to 1963, but John Rowlinson and Jo Russell (apologies) claim to bear the scars from Parsons ever since.



**John Parker** (SH 1952-57) drives off serenely, in the company of his



## The news this week 100 years ago: 30th March - 5th April 1918

Friday 30 March 2018

*This week we remember Walter Densham, who died of his wounds on 5th April 1918 aged 19, having already been at the Front for over two years.*

**Lieutenant Walter Henry Densham MC**, 3rd East Lancs. Bde. Royal Field Artillery. Ingrams's (now Ridgemount), left in 1915. He had been at the Front for over two years. Died of wounds in France, 5th April 1918, aged 19. "He was only a boy when he died but he was doing a man's job." – written to his mother – *The Salopian*. Buried at Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension No.1, France. Grave VI. A. 26.