



Choral Evensong in Chester Cathedral

Friday 1 March 2019

Shrewsbury choristers and musicians hit all the right notes as they travelled to sing Evensong at Chester Cathedral this week.



Under the expert charge of Alex Mason, Director of Chapel Music – and accompanied by Dr John Godwin – the Chapel Choir assisted evening worship in the inspiring surroundings of the former abbey church, which dates back to 1093.

Clergy, Old Salopians, staff and choristers nestled cheek-by-jowl in the ornately carved quire to enjoy wonderfully clear and dramatic performances of Samsion in G and Elgar's stirring anthem, *The Spirit of the Lord*. Henri Cramsie stepped in as Cantor in the Preces and Responses by Reading with characteristic verve.

In a rousing finale, Arthur Hope Barton took controls of the cathedral's huge Grand Organ with conviction and mastery that belied his youthful Third Form years to play out the choir with Karg-Elert's recessional, *Nun Danket Alle Gott*.



Mr Mason said: “It was a real privilege for the Chapel Choir to sing Evensong at Chester Cathedral. I was thrilled with their wonderfully stylish performances of the Samsion and Elgar in particular, and their professionalism throughout the occasion was commendable. Arthur Hope Barton almost literally pulled out all the stops for the recessional organ voluntary - a remarkable achievement for one so young. They all fully deserved their post-service feast at Pizza Express!”

Following the service, the 100-strong congregation moved to the magnificent surroundings of the Chapter House for a drinks reception hosted by the Headmaster. Current and prospective parents were joined by a strong turnout from the Old Salopian body, reinforcing the strength of links between Shrewsbury School and the Cheshire area over many decades.

Mr Fraser-Andrews



Shrewsbury SparkPoint - 'The Undiscovered Country'

Monday 4 March 2019

This week's edition considers the human obsession with attempting to divine the future...

Please click [here](#) to open Shrewsbury SparkPoint 'The Undiscovered Country' as a pdf.

SPARKPOINT 2019
SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

Welcome

Churchill's impressive performance of *The Scottish Play* this week offered a chilling insight into the perils of attempting to discern what the future may hold for us – and the consequences of attempting to twist fate. This week's SparkPoint therefore looks at the remarkable efforts of humans, throughout history, to try to see beyond the horizon – with varying degrees of success!

A Cold Night (extract)

The doubt of future foes exiles my present joy,
And wit me warns to shun such shores as threaten mine annoy;
For falsehood now doth flow, and subject's faith doth ebb,
Which should not be if reason ruled or wisdom weared the web.
But clouds of joys untread do cloak aspiring minds,
Which turn to rain of late repent by changed course of winds.
The top of hope supported the root, spread shall be,
And fruitless all their grafted guide, as shortly ye shall see.

Be dazzled eyes with pride, which great ambition blinds,
Shall be unsleaved by worthy wights whose foresight fadethoold finds.
The daughter of debate that discord eye doth sow
Shall reap no gain where former rule still peace hath taught to know.
No foreign banished wight shall anchor in this port;
Our realm brooks not seditious sects, let them elsewhere resort.
My rusty sword through rest shall first his edge employ
To poll their tops that seek such change or gain for future joy.

Queen Elizabeth I

POEM OF THE WEEK

prospicience
noun
The quality of having remarkable foresight combined with the wisdom of experience.

WORD OF THE WEEK

15 MINUTE CHALLENGE

ALDOUS HUXLEY'S BRAVE NEW WORLD

George Orwell's 1984 is probably his most famous dystopian classic, but Aldous Huxley's take on where the future might be headed is an equally gripping read. Arguably more emotional in his study of the future than Orwell, Huxley looks at the breakdown in human relationships and the numbing of emotion and feeling. Click the link to listen to an extract.

THE PLAY'S THE THING

Drama has always been an incredibly powerful way for society to review itself in the mirror. In this article, Aleks Soltek explores 10 modern plays which have painted unusual and interesting forecasts for the future. The ability of playwrights to take themes prevalent in our society and then push them to their extremes in the safety of the imagined universe is not to be underestimated.

NOSTRADAMUS

This French doctor and astrologer is probably the best known 'seer' in history. He is best known for the publication of a book containing 942 quatrains which all allegedly predict future events. Click on the link to find out more about his prophecies and about the level to which some people consider them to be accurate.

IMAGE OF THE WEEK

Characterised by an obsession with speed, technology and destruction – the futurist art movement finds real expression in this piece by Luigi Russolo (1913) – entitled 'The dynamism of a car'.

MUSIC OF THE WEEK

The 1998 classic from Boney M paints an interesting picture of the future from a decade that was rife with uncertainty and changing definitions of identity. Click the link to hear it.

Running for CRY

Monday 4 March 2019

On Sunday 24th March, Chemistry teacher Vicky Kirk and Shrewsbury School parent Karen Wilcox will be running the London Landmarks Half-Marathon to raise money for the charity CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young).

They will be running in memory of a friend's daughter, Freya, who died last year aged 19 of an undiagnosed heart condition.

They have an online fundraising page and would be very grateful for all donations, large or small: [Running for Freya](#)



Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Tuesday 5 March 2019

This week, the Art Faculty.

My office is covered in art as my wife is keen to 'recycle' the numerous pictures that my children bring back from school.



Personally, I have always found Tracey Emin to be an inspiration and I like to think that my office has a look of her 'unmade bed'.





There are some who seem not to see the meticulous manner in which I carefully arrange my papers and possessions and who claim it is a mess. Such people clearly have no appreciation of contemporary art.

The Shrewsbury School Art Faculty is opposite my study window, and when it is possible to see through it, I witness a stream of arty folk visiting the nirvana of creativity. I love going into the Art Faculty as there is such a breadth and range of work to be admired. I myself keep my artistry very much to myself but I can boast that all the pictures I produced when I was at school were displayed. It was a very well-produced copy, though I say so myself.

There is almost a completely new look to the Art Faculty teaching team. The new Head of Art is Ms Lucy Caddel who has joined us from Haberdashers' Aske's Crayford Academy. Lucy is a superb artist and particularly enjoys painting fruit.



“It’s so appealing,” she told me. “I find I go bananas when I have a brush in my hand,” she added as she sipped her orange juice.

Lucy is delighted to be working here, “It’s a plum job,” she admitted. ‘Currantly’ Lucy is keen to make the Faculty as accessible as possible. “I want it so that every young woman and young man goes about their business with real zest and enthusiasm.”

Lucy has brought with her James Yule, who she has worked with before. James had been in Dubai, but with global warming he felt he might as well come back to Shropshire. James is a definite enthusiast and enjoys working with creative minds. He has really loved working with his Fourth Form set: “Every day is like Christmas when you are working with such amazing students,” Mr Yule added.

He particularly likes Minna Moore’s pink centipede. Such is his imagination, he can almost see it as real. “Reality is all about perception, and this centipede is attacking me,” he claimed.



He is also a big fan of Tabitha Winkley's work. Though Ms Caddel and Mr Harrison could not work out where Tabitha got the idea to make a rotten apple from.



Stewart Harrison is the third member of the new triumvirate. He is no mean artist himself and is a musician of some note (mostly the right ones). Stewart has a clear idea of his purpose in life, despite Alex Loumidis suggesting otherwise, his major job being to enhance the historical knowledge of our Art Historians.



“Art History is my life and I see it being made all around me.” Mr Harrison said. “Alex Loumidis could be the next Andy Warhol,” Alex Loumidis is keen to be the next Andy Warhol. “I am keen to be the next Andy Warhol,” he intimated.



Mr Jarrod Gabbitas is another wonderfully talented artist but he is not new to the department. “I am not new to the department,” he told me. “I like to keep fresh and I am open to change,” he added, so I gave him 50p to keep him happy.



Yiota Maxfield comes in on a Thursday to help with the creative demands of the School. “I pop in once a week for a ‘craftanoon’,” Yiota explained. She is skilled in creative crafts and felt work, among other artistic mediums. She has an expertise in art therapy, and William Cowper was quick to tell me that he looks forward to the session all week. “I can’t sleep at night before my creative art sessions. The lack of sleep has made me slightly anxious, but I find the art I do is very relaxing and calms me down. So, I am working in a vicious circle.” Frank Mansell feels that Art is very therapeutic, and George Clowes was quick to agree. “Art is very therapeutic,” he observed.



Emily Edwards and Fran Baynes wanted to show me their breakfast on a plate. “Mrs Maxfield has been egging us on,” Emily explained.



Mr Yule then showed me round the Faculty whilst eulogising about the Upper Sixth, who are all currently working on their trial exam pieces. We came across Elwood Rainey working on a piece

the theme of which is 'who am I?' He was clearly on a very personal and thought-provoking journey and was completely absorbed in the creative process.



Olivia Taylor has also found her art work to be absorbing. Indeed, it is so absorbing I could not get her to notice I was there. I have concluded that she likes to create art that has purpose and is poignant. The picture of her staircase has become a hit on Instagram with over a hundred likes already.



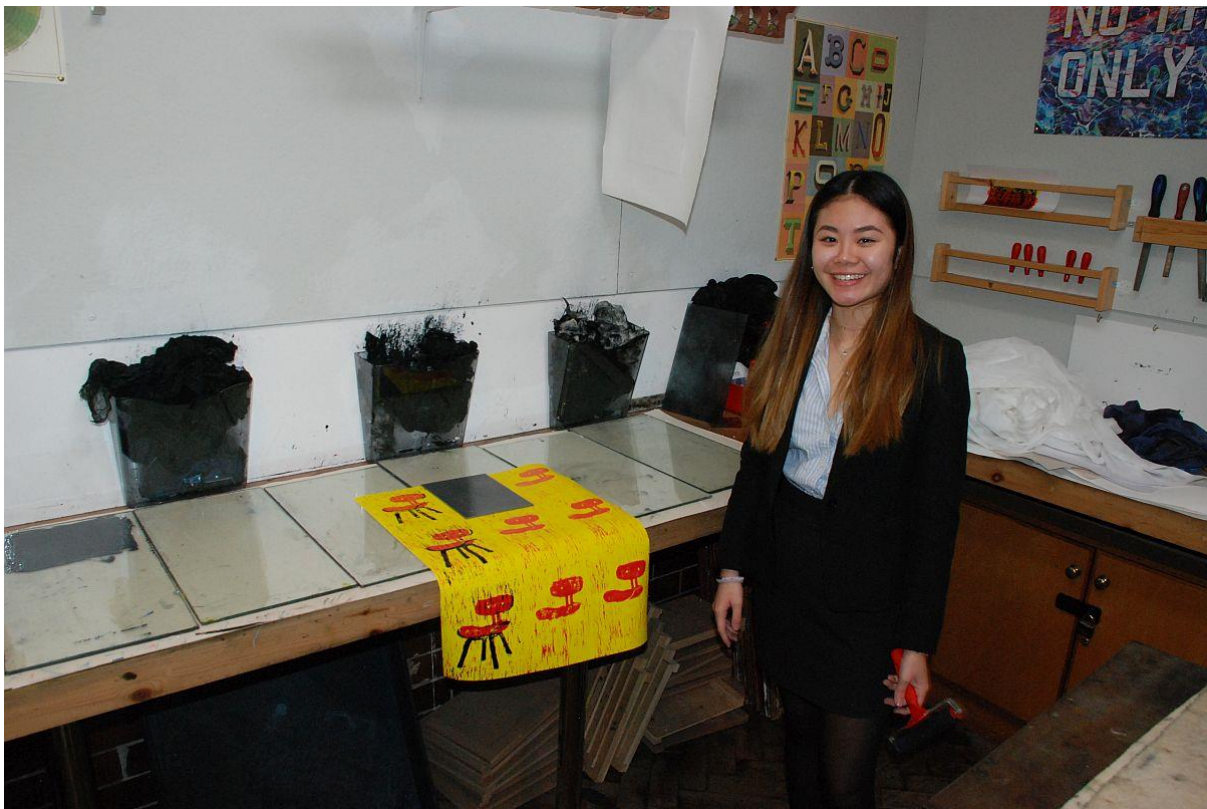
Molly Kaye is working at a sofa which is in the shape of a large pair of lips. I asked her what her inspiration was. She told me that she has been asked by her family to make them a new sofa. Molly is such a lovely young lady that she has taken up the challenge and just hopes her parents like it. I think they will, Molly!



Anna Scott-Bell was not keen on being photographed making something with sand and clay that was inspired by one of Kader Attia's untitled installations. Anna is too modest, and I am highlighting her brilliance – after all, it is important to get used to fame.



Kiwi Chan is working on some distorted faces in a very clever manner, and Anthea Siu is keen on chairs.



Olivia Collingwood-Cameron was keen to show me her sketch book and has been quietly creating a variety of masterpieces, while Freddie Williams has been inspired by Kyffin Williams and has been painting Welsh landscapes.



There is so much talent I will have left several budding artists out, but I hope I have managed to paint a picture of the broad landscape that is the artistic scene at Shrewsbury School.

GJFB



RAF cadets take to the skies

Tuesday 5 March 2019

On Wednesday 27th February, eight of the CCF Royal Air Force Section cadets had the opportunity to fly with pilot instructors at RAF Cosford.



Ivan Gersbkovich

In the Grob Tutor aircraft, which is the first aircraft service personnel use in their military flying training, each cadet had a 30-minute flight, with almost all of that time spent at the controls.

As Fifth Formers, they all had some prior flying training through the gliding opportunities that the RAF Section offers, so they were able to move quickly past the basic manoeuvres that most cadets would learn on Air Experience Flights.





L-R: Krystal Zhu and Andrew Maxwell. Andrew is one of just 17 cadets in the UK to have been awarded a pilot scholarship this summer.

Travelling above the Midlands countryside as far as Shrewsbury or Birmingham, the cadets learned to fly inverted (upside down!) and performed a number of aerobatic manoeuvres themselves, including loops, stall turns and barrel rolls.





With a few more days like this planned for the rest of the year, the entire Section should get the chance to experience this for themselves.

Plt Off DM Wray



Basketball: Shrewsbury Sharks reach national quarter-final

Wednesday 6 March 2019

Our senior basketball team, 'The Sharks', played the biggest game in their history on Wednesday 6th March with a quarter-final in the national English Basketball Association (EBBA) Cup.



This was a great occasion. Our opponents Charnwood Academy, Loughborough, were the defending champions and are the powerhouse of school basketball with a link to the Leicester Riders professional team. Their boys train two or three times per day and many go on to play professionally in the UK and obtain scholarships to US colleges.

The Sharks gave an excellent account of themselves and remained competitive in every quarter of the match. They perhaps missed a few too many easy shots at key moments to not make the game closer and put more pressure on their opponents.

A final result of 89-49 was a great effort.

The Basketball Club continues to go from strength to strength, as the U18s are already County Champions and the U16s have a chance in the next few weeks to become champions too.

The annual Boys' House and Girls' House Basketball Competitions take place over the next two available Sundays. These are always festivals of fun, flair and no little skill!

Will Hughes



“By the pricking of my thumbs, something wicked this way comes...”

Thursday 7 March 2019

Director of Drama Helen Brown reviews Churchill's house play - a powerful and cleverly contemporary production of 'Macbeth', performed over two evenings last week in the Ashton Theatre.

Richard Hudson's modern-dress production welcomed the audience into the boardroom of Scotland Plc, drawing parallels between the cut-throat brutality of medieval warfare and the contemporary world of mergers and acquisitions.

Tom Allen's Macbeth was not a battle-scarred warrior but a power-hungry, sharp-suited businessman with an eye for the main chance. After his bravura performance as Richard III in the Fourth Form, I was looking forward to seeing Allen tackle another of Shakespeare's great anti-heroes, and he did not disappoint, demonstrating a crisp, intelligent control of the verse that made the complexities of the language utterly intelligible.



Following a hostile takeover bid by rivals Norway Plc, Macbeth returns home, to be accosted *en route* by a trio of witches – played here by the Wyrld Sisterhood Cleaning Services, brandishing

mops and dusters, the linguistic transition from the early 21st to the early 17th century provided by the metatheatrical discovery in the waste paper bin of a discarded copy of *Macbeth*, reminding them of their school days when they once played the Wyrd Sisters.



The Upper Sixth triumvirate of Will Hope, Harry Remnant and Toby Pattinson have given sterling service to school and house drama over the last five years, and it was hugely impressive to see them delivering such well-judged cameo performances in the same week as their A level trials.





The witches deliver a prophecy: Macbeth will become Thane of Glamis, Thane of Cawdor and finally King of Scotland. His friend Banquo (played with maturity and gravitas by Elliot Crossley) will be the father of kings, but never rule himself. As the play unfolds, we see the lengths to which Macbeth is prepared to go in order to fulfil the prophecy and achieve ultimate power.

He is spurred on in his actions by his ambitious, ruthless wife, played by Imogen Morgan (G). The modern context threw up interesting interpretative possibilities here: left at home, unwelcome in the wholly masculine world above the glass ceiling, Lady Macbeth's cruelty seemed to stem from thwarted abilities given no outlet. Her high heels and cocktail dress providing a stark contrast to the suits surrounding her, her intelligence was all dressed up with nowhere to go. Her final descent into madness – beautifully played by Morgan – seemed inevitable.



One of the challenges in staging classical tragedy is how to deal with the body count – and this is one of Shakespeare's bloodiest plays. The director made clever use of multi-media throughout – both video and text-messaging – to assist with the storytelling, and credit is due to Petr Rostokin (O) for his brilliant video editing. The filmed murder of Lady Macduff and her children (Eve Hartley (G), Theo Bould, Morgan Matthews and Karl Salman) in the insalubrious environs of the Churchill's cellar was particularly chilling, and gave added poignancy to the moment when Macduff (Hugh Mackinnon) hears of their deaths.

This was a whole-house production, so it is impossible to single out every member of the cast. I am always delighted when house drama unearths unexpected talent and gives students an opportunity to perform on the Ashton stage. Alongside the five drama scholars in the cast were plenty who have never performed before, and they deserve particular praise.

HRB

Please click on the large image below to open and scroll through a gallery of photos taken by Dr Richard Case.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL





RSSBC: A busy and successful weekend of racing

Thursday 7 March 2019

RSSBC crews competed at three different venues last weekend, in the Hammersmith Head, the West Midlands Junior Championships and home time-trials against King's Chester - all valuable preparation for the Schools' Head and Scullery Head next week.



The winning G1st VIII at Hammersmith Head

The Seniors and J16s travelled to London to compete in the **Hammersmith Head**. There was a very strong field with most of the crews likely to compete at Schools' Head in attendance.

- 1st VIII 5th/9 in Open Eights
- 2nd VIII 4th/17 in Sch/Jun Eights
- J16 VIII 7th/22 in J16 Eights
- G1st 4X 2nd/11 in Sch/Jun Quads
- G1st VIII 1st/14 in Women's Development Eights

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



1st VIII



G1st 4X



J16A

The J15s stayed at Shrewsbury and hosted **King's School Chester** for an afternoon of racing on the Severn. With the rain holding off, nine crews took to the water to compete in three time-trials in front of a large crowd of parents and supporters on the Boathouse balcony.

The pupils had a fantastic afternoon, as some looked to retain their previous win from last term, others hoped to even the score, and a few enjoyed their first experience of competition.

Shrewsbury A eight took the fastest boys' time of the day, with the King's girls' eight pipping Shrewsbury by three seconds to be the fastest girls' crew.

We also saw fantastic performances from the Shrewsbury boys' B eight and the girls' octuple.



J15 4X at the West Midlands Junior Championships

On Sunday, seven RSSBC crews travelled to Stourport to race in the **West Midlands Junior Championships** in the hope of gaining selection to represent the region at the Junior Inter-Regional Regatta, which will be hosted in Peterborough on the first weekend in the Summer Term.

The crews put in the Club's best ever set of results in qualifying the following boats:

J16 8+

J16 4+

J15 4+

J15 4X+

GJ15 4+



GJ15 4X



Biology Olympiad Success

Friday 8 March 2019

Fourteen Upper Sixth biologists entered the Royal Society of Biology Olympiad 2019 and between them amassed four gold medals, three silver and two bronze, plus three highly commended and two commended awards.



The Olympiad consisted of two online, multiple-choice papers rewarding general biological knowledge as well as application and problem-solving.

A total of 9,465 students from 727 schools worldwide participated this year. All Salopians were awarded "Commended" or better - many congratulations to them.

Gold Medal (awarded to the top 7.2% of candidates)

Veronica Munday
Otto Rothwell Hurley
Will Hope
Ali Davies

Silver Medal

Reuben Denison
Mia Keliher
Pran Poshyananda

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Bronze Medal

Koby Ferdinand-Okpala
Ludo de Falbe

Highly Commended

Susannah Wu
Karen Li
Jenny Xu

Commended

Maddy Baly
Henri Cramsie



National Schools' Lacrosse Championships 2019

Friday 8 March 2019

Congratulations to the Senior Lacrosse Squad on their best ever performance in the National Schools' U19 Lacrosse Championships, held in Aldershot last weekend.



Shrewsbury had a very good start to Day One – which was played as a round robin in sections, with seven schools in each – and scored a convincing 7-2 win over Rendcomb. Goals came from Georgia Kannreuther (4); Phoebe Wasdell, Izzy Morris and Laura Elliott.

Our toughest game of the day came next, against Berkhamstead. Often one of the top teams overall, they started strongly; but although they broke through a couple of times, our strong defence led by goalkeeper Mimi Mason-Hornby kept the score to 0-2 at half-time. Shrewsbury then had a great start to the second half, with Wasdell scoring a brilliant goal to make it 1-2. It stayed like this for some time, but the excellent Berkhamsted attack continued to put pressure on the defence and then got four goals in the space of three minutes. Shrewsbury didn't lose heart and continued to play good lacrosse, which was rewarded with a goal from Kannreuther to give a final score of 2-6. Not a bad result against a top team.

Games 3 and 4 were much easier for Shrewsbury and although against slightly weaker opposition, Shrewsbury maintained their own high standard and structured play. Excellent defending from straight defence Ella Windle, Lucy Lees and Lara Ockleston meant two clean



sheets with a 7-0 victory over Glenalmond and an 11-0 victory over Denstone College. Goals were from Wasdell (8); Kannreuther (4); Morris (3); Poppy Collingwood-Cameron (2) and Georgie Nicholas.



Game 5 against St Swithun's was a much tougher game. They had won all their games thus far, so we knew it was going to be a hard match. Shrewsbury went 0-1 down in the first minute, but quickly got this back to 1-1 with a great goal from Wasdell. It was end-to-end lacrosse for the next five minutes, with neither attack being able to break the defence. Finally Kannreuther scored to make it 2-1 to Shrewsbury, but soon came the follow-up from St Swithun's to make it 2-2 at half time.

Shrewsbury started the second half brilliantly, with a superb goal from Morris to edge in front. Unfortunately, having worked so hard in the first half, Shrewsbury started to tire. St Swithun's took advantage of this, utilising their numerous substitutes, and scored two goals in quick succession. Shrewsbury tried to get back in the lead, but were left a little open at the back and conceded two more goals in the final two minutes to finish 3-6.

We had to pick ourselves up for the final group match against St Helen's Northwood. A bit of a scrappy first half gave us a 2-1 lead at half-time (Kannreuther and Wasdell). We capitalised on this in the second half though to score two more goals (Wasdell and Morris) to give a deserved 4-1 win.

This result placed us third in our section with four wins and two losses and thus we entered Division 1 on Day 2, narrowly missing out on qualification for the Championship Division.

Day 1 Goal Tally: Wasdell 15; Kannreuther 11; Morris 6; Nicholas 1; Elliott 1. Goal difference of +19.



With all teams seeded, Day 2 was always going to be anyone's game. Shrewsbury were in Division 1, Pool D with Walthamstow, Sherborne and Haberdashers' Aske's.

Game 1 against Walthamstow was end-to-end throughout. Shrewsbury went 2-0 up with goals from Kannreuther, but Walthamstow came back to make it 2-2. This gave them momentum and Shrewsbury found themselves 2-4 down at half-time. In the second half, the defence kept Walthamstow at bay, with great support from Annabel Naylor and Sophia Dixon. This allowed the midfield players of Poppy Collingwood-Cameron and Izzy Morris along with Laura Elliott to take the ball up the pitch and give our attackers a chance to hit back. They took their chances brilliantly as Kannreuther added another to her tally and captain Wasdell got her first of the game. Kannreuther scored another, before Walthamstow took one back to make it 5-5 with one minute to go. Leading by example, Wasdell worked the ball into the fan, wrong-footed the defender and scored the decisive goal. A great 6-5 win and a fantastic start to Day 2.



We knew that Game 2 was going to be just as tough. Sherborne had also won their first match and were keen to lead the group. As predicted, it was a high-quality, extremely competitive game. There was nothing between the two teams and it finished 2-2, with goals again from Wasdell.

Our final group match was against Haberdashers' Aske's. We started strongly and were 3-0 up at half-time. Excellent support play from Sophia Bureau and Mollie Matthews allowed us to move further into the lead in the second half and the game finished 5-1 (consistent Wasdell and Kannreuther, as ever, the scorers). This meant we finished top of our group so would hopefully have an easier draw moving into the last-16 knockout rounds.

Our last-16 match was against Claremont Fan. This was a slightly easier draw, but it would be important to take the lead early and stay in control. Shrewsbury did this with an emphatic 6-0 win: five goals from captain Wasdell this time, who was on fire, and one from Nicholas. This gave us a place in the quarter-finals – somewhere Shrewsbury had never been before!



St George's Harpenden were the opponents and it was a strongly contested game from the outset. Shrewsbury went 1-0 up, but that was quickly countered as St George's hit back to make it 1-1. It was end-to-end lacrosse for the rest of the half, with both defensive units staying strong, but just before half-time St George's snuck in to make it 1-2.

The second half went much the same way as the first, with both teams playing outstanding lacrosse. With one minute to go, captain Wasdell equalised to take the final score 2-2. This took us to sudden death extra time! St George's had the first attacking play in extra time and it took a fantastic save from Mason-Hornby to keep Shrewsbury in the game. Phoebe Wasdell took the ball through midfield and scored an amazing goal to give us a place in the semi-finals.

Our semi-final was against St Paul's School. A previous Championship team, we knew we had our work cut out. As the rain continued to pour down, Shrewsbury played some of their best lacrosse of the weekend to give us a score of 2-2 at half time. In the second half, St Paul's were

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



constantly on the attack and although our defence worked hard to limit their chances, they were just too strong. So the final score was 2-4 to St Paul's, who went on to win the final.

Day 2 Goal Tally: 16 for Wasdell 16; Kannreuther 7; Nicholas 1. Goal difference of +10.

This was a fantastic effort from Shrewsbury and our best ever performance at the Nationals. Great credit is due to the whole team, especially captain Phoebe Wasdell who led the team brilliantly.

Many thanks to all our supporters who braved the atrocious weather, and to Katie Bird for her coaching and support. And sincere thanks to Paul Coups, who has been an outstanding coach and enabled the players to understand and achieve their potential.

Nicola Bradburne

Assistant Director of Sport

A fond farewell to Matron Linda Riley after 23 years in Severn Hill

Friday 8 March 2019

We send warm wishes to Linda Riley, who has recently retired as House Matron in Severn Hill after 23 years' sterling service.



Appointed in 1996 by Dr Gee, Linda has supported no fewer than five Housemasters and scores of boys.

“Linda has brought an abundance of kindness, tenderness and care, advice and good humour to Severn Hill, which so many past and present pupils have commented on in correspondence received since the announcement of her retirement,” said Dan Nicholas, the current Housemaster of Severn Hill. “All of us who have been part of Severn Hill and worked and lived with Linda over so many years are hugely thankful for everything she has brought to the House and to Shrewsbury School – and we wish her the very best of everything in retirement.”

A special Tea Party in Linda’s honour was organised by her fellow Matrons and held in the Peterson Room on 28th February. “Linda was quite overwhelmed by the whole event,” said

Clare Birch, Head Matron. “The Catering Team provided a wonderful spread of sandwiches and cakes, and we presented her with a bouquet of flowers, a retirement cake, a ferris-wheel garden ornament filled with primroses. and a scented candle.”

Paul Vicars, Housemaster of Severn Hill from 2006-2012, was unable to be there on the day but sent a message paying his own tribute to Linda: “A good Matron is like gold dust, and we certainly had a great and caring one in Linda. A measure of her abilities and her warmth of welcome to us as a family is that she is godmother to one of our twins. Linda was integral to the success of Severn Hill and to our ability to manage the House and the demands of a young family. Any role within a boarding school is a lifestyle choice, but perhaps none more so than that of Matron – and Linda’s kindness and desire to look after the boys has benefitted many generations of ‘Severn Hillians’.”





RSSH: Spring Relays 2019

Friday 8 March 2019

On Wednesday 6th March, the RSSH enjoyed a successful afternoon at the Spring Relays held at Attingham Park - a venue that seems to save up its dramatic weather for whenever cross-country races are staged there.

Heavy rain greeted the various teams as they arrived on the site to register, but as the race developed, the rain dried up and we were even treated to some patches of sun and the odd rainbow. This relay event has been hotly contested in recent years, and the setting of Attingham Park provides a stunning backdrop to an exciting race.

Shrewsbury felt they had a strong chance of success, particularly among the boys, who recently set the School's fastest-ever time round the King Henry VIII Relays course in Coventry, placing 4th overall. S. Anselm's and Haberdashers' Adams both provided stiff competition that day and were present to have another go at us this week. The girls knew that Wrekin College would set a very high standard, having impressed at the County Championships in early February.

In the Junior Boys' race, the Shrewsbury A team got away very well, with Harrison Cutler (R) setting off in fine style, running 7:09 and building a gap round the 2.1km course of about 20 seconds ahead of S. Anselm's at the change-over. Bromsgrove School were in third, ahead of Shrewsbury's B team, led by Cyrus Cropper (Ch).

Our A team's second leg was run by Jonny Price (I), whose lap of 7:20 indicates how far he has developed as a runner this term, and in truth by this point the race was almost beyond the other teams, after S. Anselm's dropped back to over a minute behind.



Jonny Price

Our B team's second leg was run by Joe Rooney-McGee (R), who really had the bit between his teeth as he set off past the Mansion. He is another who has made real progress this season, and his time of 8:13 was very close to our A team runners' times, meaning he had made significant ground on Bromsgrove. He handed over to George Collings, who ran 9:05.



Joe Rooney-McGee



Charlie Huntley



Our A team third leg was run by Charlie Huntley (PH) in 8:12, solidly maintaining our gap ahead of the other teams, before Archie Collings (Rb) took over, who somehow managed to go the wrong way, but who nevertheless still managed to post a very respectable time of 8:11 and stretch the Shrewsbury lead. He passed the baton to Will Singleton (R), a lad who is in exceptional form at the moment, having won the Midlands League race at Wellingborough on Saturday. His was in fact the fastest time of the whole Junior Boys' race, posting a blistering 7:04, leaving the last-leg runner Ben Weston (R) little to do – he could have won the race at a canter, but still ran strongly to post 7:31 and take the gold medal for Shrewsbury A.



Will Singleton

S. Anselm's came through strongly in second, with two good times from their 5th and 6th leg runners, while Bromsgrove took third. Our B team ran valiantly to place 4th out of 4, with Will Yao (I) running 9:16, Damian Jeleu (R) running 9:27 and Arthur Hope Barton (I) crossing the line in 9:06.

In the girls' race, Lillian Wilcox (EDH) led our A team out well with a time of 8:29, placing us third at the hand-over behind Wrekin College A team and Bromsgrove, but very much in contention for second. Wrekin College had fielded their best runner in this first leg, and her time of 7:34 meant their gap was considerable and one that was never really challenged over the race.



Alessandra Ardissino passing the baton to Sophia Dixon

Lillian passed the baton to Alessandra Ardissino (M), who ran strongly to post a time of 8:42 and take second place in the process. The third leg was run by Sophia Dixon (MSH), who had a Bromsgrove runner not far behind her the whole way, but she held her nerve and extended our lead over them by about ten seconds, running 9:06, before handing over to Francesca Harris, who stormed off in the hope of making up the deficit to Wrekin. This she did admirably, eating 40 seconds into the lead, but the gap was too much for her and Wrekin took the trophy by a lead of nearly 50 seconds.



Francesca Harris



Shrewsbury's B team placed 5th, with good runs from Anna Cowan (MSH) running 9:05, Felicity Hayward (EDH) in 9:35, Sophia Bureau (G) managing 10.13 and Morgan Smith (MSH) crossing the line in 11.44.

With these two races over, it was the turn of the Senior boys, in which we were able to field three teams (just about). Our A team was led out by Paddy Barlow, whose gritty determination came in very handy in a battle with S. Anselm's opening-leg runner, with the latter crossing the line first in an impressive 7:05. Paddy managed 7:19 as he handed over to Rider Hartley, with Bromsgrove and Shrewsbury B (a great effort from Ingramite Max Green running 7:31) hot on his heels. Rider managed to make up time with the leader, and at the hand-over the gap was less than ten seconds.



Rider Hartley

Shrewsbury B's second-leg runner was Matthew Thevathanan (PH) who ran strongly for 7:48, which put some distance between us and Bromsgrove. Into the third leg, Oscar Hamilton-Russell very confidently set off in pursuit of the leading runner and worked hard to make up ground. In a thrilling final couple of hundred metres, Oscar battled past him and gave Shrewsbury the lead for the first time in the race, having posted an electric time of 6:51.



Oscar Hamilton-Russell at the finish

He handed over to Tom Jackson (R), whom this course suited very well, and he enjoyed leading out ahead. Tom extended our lead admirably and in the process set one of the fastest times of the day in 6:45.

Sam Western (S) was up next, who could relax knowing that S. Anselm's were some distance behind. A fast leg from S. Anselm's in leg five meant our lead was reduced slightly, but as Charlie Ockleston (O) took the anchor leg he was determined not to let it slip any further. His time of 6:35 was the fastest of the day, and gave Shrewsbury the win.

Our B team managed third place, with excellent runs from Max and Matthew, followed by Ted Williams (R), Jonny Snell (Ch), Artur Sarsenov (SH) and Milo Herbert (R) running 8:11, 7:44, 8:11 and 7:36 respectively.

It was a lovely afternoon of competitive running, and with two winners' trophies and a team silver to our name, a top performance by the RSSH.

Well done to all competitors, and many thanks to those friends of the Hunt who came to support in such damp conditions!

Ian Haworth

Teacher in Charge of the Hunt



Moser's Hall Cross-Channel Challenge for Alder Hey Children's Hospital

Tuesday 12 March 2019

Well done to everyone in Moser's Hall, who collectively swam the distance from England to France and then rowed back home to raise funds for the Alder Hey Hospital Children's Charity.



Their Cross-Channel Challenge took place on Sunday 10th March and began with all the girls swimming 34 kilometres (21 miles) in a team relay: a total of 1,320 lengths of the Shrewsbury School swimming pool.

As soon as they reached land in France (virtually at least), a smaller group took over to row back to England. They had originally planned to do this on the River Severn, but high-water levels meant that they were forced indoors instead. Undaunted, the team rowed a total of two and a half hours on an ergo.



Moser's Hall's combined efforts have raised more than £1,700 for Alder Hey Hospital – a superb effort. Their online fundraising page is still open and they would be very grateful for all donations: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/mosershallswim>



Birmingham Dinner - NEW VENUE - Copt Heath Golf Club

Tuesday 12 March 2019

Are you going? Is there anyone on this list you haven't seen for ages and would like to catch up with?

If you would like to go the dinner on Thursday 21 March 2019 at 19:00, please book through Ticket Source - <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/solihull/copt-heath-golf-club/birmingham-dinner-new-venue-copt-heath-golf-club/2019-03-21/19:30>

Full name	Dates
Peter Adams	S 1959-64
Tim Cave	Rt 1975-80
Giles Bell	Staff
Peter Birch	DB 1966-71
Grant Charlesworth-Jones	O 1991-96
Sion Charlesworth-Jones	SH 1998-03
David Christian	DB 1954-59
Tim Cox	CH 1969-73
Andrew Everall	DB 1980-82
Peter Fanning	Staff 1981-2012
Robert Forsyth	O 1994-99
Charles Hill	SH 1980-84
Richard Hudson	M 1967-72
Will Hughes	G 1988-90
Daniel Hurcomb	I 2007-12
Chris Jamieson	G 2004-09
Nick Jenkins	Director
Garth Marshall	DB 1964-69
Russell Marshall	DB 1964-69
Jonathan Mitchell	Rt 1977-82
John Moore	Staff
Dan Nicholas	O 1975-80



Paul Nichols	President (S 1966-71)
David Pearson	R 1953-57
Anthony Smith	I 1954-59
Henry Southern	G 2003-08
Rod Spiby	PH 1979-84
Alastair Wager	S 2007-12
Tony Walters	DB 1958-63
David Warmington	I 1951-55
Richard Warmington	I 1984-89
Leo Winkley	Headmaster
Richard Woodgate	RT 1954-59
Brendan Parsons	SH 2010-15
Simon Kinvig	PH 2002-07

With the closure of the St Paul's Club, where the Birmingham Old Salopian Dinner has been held for the past ten years, the Birmingham Branch of the Salopian Club have arranged to hold this year's dinner at Copt Heath Golf Club, near Solihull, (B93 9LN) on Thursday 21st March 2019. This venue is not in Central Birmingham and indeed is the wrong side of the city for those coming from Shrewsbury, but the Club has an excellent reputation for good food and the committee very much hope that those who have attended the dinner in the past will continue to give it their support.

The Golf Club is very near junction 5 of the M42 and has excellent parking. There is also a good rail service for those wishing to travel by train and arrangement will be made to collect and return them from and to the station. Accommodation at the near by Greswolde Hotel can also be arranged, if required, with transport to and from the Golf Club.

The Club is very nicely appointed and we shall sit at one long table (St Paul's Club style). With prior notice, so that a slot can be reserved on the first tee, any who wish to **play a round of golf in the afternoon** are welcome to do so at a reduced green fee of £35. Pay on the day. There are very adequate changing facilities for those wishing to change at the Club.

The details are as follows: -

Time 6.30 for 7.30

Dress: Dinner Jacket preferred

Cost £50 per head (£25 per head for those under 25)

Those attending will have the opportunity to meet the new headmaster, Leo Winkley, and John Moore, who is retiring at the end of the summer term, will again be present with some pupils to entertain us after dinner. Peter Fanning, who has worked with John in the writing and staging of very many musicals over the years will also be attending as a guest and has been invited to say a few words.



Sixth Former Jake reaches finals of Big Bang UK Young Scientists Competition

Wednesday 13 March 2019

Congratulations to Upper Sixth Former Jake Williams (Rb), who has been selected as a finalist in The Big Bang Young Scientists Competition, held at the NEC in Birmingham on 13th and 14th March 2019.



The Competition encourages school pupils to undertake projects exploring areas of interest in STEM subjects. Thousands of entries are made online or by presenting projects at regional fairs.

Jake's project is one that he spent four weeks of last year's summer holidays working on at Birmingham University, having been accepted for a prestigious Nuffield Foundation research placement there. The project involved devising a method of electronically measuring urine flow in catheters of hospital patients, to help enable more efficient monitoring of patients' responses to treatment.

Jake's detailed and thorough write-up of the project won a Gold Crest Award from the British Science Association and has also clearly impressed the judging team of the Big Bang Young Scientists Competition. As a Finalist, he was invited to present his project in person to a panel of judges and answer their questions.

The Finals of the Competition are part of The Big Bang Fair – a huge two-day science event in the NEC. After his presentation to the judges, Jake also had the opportunity to talk about his project with a wide audience of visitors and to answer their questions. The Fair welcomes about 20,000 people each day – many of them school groups from across the country.

Shrewsbury
CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Cadogan Hall

Thursday 14 March 2019

A memorable night in an elegant location

Over a dozen Old Salopians played with the School Orchestra on Sunday 10th March and many more joined parents and supporters in the auditorium of the Cadogan Hall to witness John Moore's final London concert as Director of Music. Henry Kennedy (I 09-14) conducted the initial piece, Shostakovitch's Festive Overture opus 96, with his usual flare, while other pieces included two outstanding performances by current pupils, Matthew Poon and Henri Cramsie, of Bruch's Violin Concerto No 1 and Bellini's Concerto for Oboe respectively.



An evening of extraordinary music finished with Beethoven's Symphony No 1 and a highly energetic rendering of Danzon No2 by Marquez, following which John Moore was thanked by Henry Southern (G 03-08) on behalf of all Old Salopians for the priceless legacy he has bequeathed to us all.



Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Bastille Society Lecture: 'The Survival of the Crusader States'

Thursday 14 March 2019

On Friday 8th March Shrewsbury's Bastille Society welcomed Professor Helen Nicholson, Professor of Medieval Studies at Cardiff University.



L-R: Professor Nicholson, Ebrahim Jamshid (Co-President of the Bastille Society), Mr Cook

Professor Nicholson came to speak on the topic of Crusades, which the majority of students taking Pre-U History will cover as their Special Subject. After studying at Oxford University, Professor Nicholson moved on to lecture at several of the UK's top universities, indeed tutoring Shrewsbury's own Mr Cook as he did his dissertations on the Crusades whilst at Cardiff.

Her lecture covered the multiple interpretations of how the Crusader States survived during the period from 1100-1187. It was a fascinating and extremely useful talk for all the Sixth Form historians in attendance.

The Bastille Society were very grateful to her for travelling to Shrewsbury and we hope to see her become a regular in the Bastille lecture series, as her talk received such a positive response from the Sixth Form historians who will have benefitted hugely, with exams on the very topic right around the corner!

Libby Hedges (G U6), Co-President of the Bastille Society



Young OS Music Night

Thursday 14 March 2019

Music Stars at the Star of Kings

Thanks to the organisation of Henry Southern (G 03-08) and the energy of the Young OS Committee, over 60 Salopians assembled on Friday 8th March at the pub basement of the Star of Kings, Kings Cross, to experience some inspirational music performances from Joe Bell (I 10-15), Luke Lloyd-Jones (Rb 11-16), Daisy McConnel (EDH 11-13), Charlie Straw (S 07-12) and George Bates (S 09-14). Some alcoholic refreshment provided by the Salopian Club was added to the mix and made the event not only one to remember but one to be repeated.



The Global Social Leaders/Age UK Tea Party

Friday 15 March 2019

....Pupil leadership at its best.



As has become tradition, each Field Day, the School hosts a tea party for local elderly residents. These are special inter-generational occasions that are vastly enjoyed by pupils and visitors alike, perhaps particularly because of one of their major distinguishing factors: that they are entirely pupil-led. Pupils do all the planning, organising and running of the event, and they also provide all the catering and the entertainment.

On Thursday 14th March, the School's Global Social Leaders and members of the Cookery and Concert Party groups were delighted to welcome more than 100 visitors, for a party that was generally acclaimed to be a triumph across the board.

Planning began in October, headed by Ben Mulligan (I), Alice Hughes (MSH) and Lucy Lees (EDH), guided expertly by Ben Coulson (Rt). This intrepid group, part of the Global Social Leaders initiative, gained valuable experience in event planning, liaising with both the School's events and catering teams, as well as with the various local care homes with whom the School has a relationship. This term, they also linked up with Age UK to help extend the invitation to local elderly people not living in care homes, and with Guide Dogs UK, who brought three guide

dogs to enjoy the company of the visitors as part of their training, as well as offering a fascinating insight into how the dogs are trained.



Event management is never easy, but Ben, Alice and Lucy managed with professionalism the organisation of transport (with thanks to Mr Hudson, Mr Fitzgerald and Mr Humphreys for their chauffeuring skill), laying of tables (guided expertly by Marius, Chantel, Gemma and the KH team), creation of a delicious spread of sandwiches and cakes (with thanks to Miss Wheeler, Mrs Thomason, Mrs Martin and Mrs Rance) and entertainment of both a concert and sing-a-long (with thanks to Mr Moore and Ms Turpin for their inspirational uplifting help), all capped with a fiercely competitive game of Bingo.

There are countless times when I'm proud of Salopians – but events like the Tea Party show them at their very best. The visitors had an excellent time, forging real bonds with their student hosts, so much so that a few were very reluctant to leave at the end of the day and only went on their way with a promise of an invitation to the next party.

We can't wait.

Mr Percival





Hockey news round-up

Friday 15 March 2019

The last few weeks have been frenetic but rewarding for the boys' senior and junior hockey teams.

The **1st XI** took on Adams' Grammar on 27th February. Although they allowed Adams to capitalise on a defensive mix-up and open the scoring, our central midfielders of Fingal Dickens (R) and Ollie Thomassen (S) started to dominate the opponents, with Lucas Arkwright (O) also finding more space on the right-hand side. The equaliser came after some excellent individual skill by Jac Evans (O) on the stroke of half-time.

Shrewsbury's second goal came through great forward play by Felix Jebb (O) and Seb Price (R) down the left, scoring with a reverse stick shot. The third goal came from excellent combinations between the midfield and attack, with Dan Davies (Ch) able to generate some space along the Adams' baseline before squaring to Jebb for a smart finish at the back post. Evans' second goal came in a similar fashion with the team now scoring at ease. The final result was a win (4-1).

On the same day, our junior teams took on Wrekin College.

The **U15 XI** made it an unnecessarily difficult match that should not have gone down to the wire! After allowing the opposition two goals as a head start from essentially breakaway play, the U15s finally made some comeback in the last ten minutes of the match, Charlie Jones (Rb) eventually finding the net from some scrappy play in the Wrekin circle. The second goal came from a well-drilled ball from just outside the 25-yard line, that connected with a deflection from captain Harry Twelves (S) into the top of the net, levelling the score with only seconds to spare. The U15s' final score was a 2-2 draw.

The **U14 XI** continued their winning habit by defeating Wrekin with some consistently accurate passing and movement that dominated the opposition. Although it took until the second half, the three goals from Oscar Edmondson (PH), Freddie Wells (I) and Harvey Walker (SH) were well-deserved, and together with the fortress in front of goal that was Ollie Thompson (Rt), the team never looked like losing. The U14s won (3-0).



The following Saturday saw the **U15 XI** playing their toughest fixture of the season against Denstone College, so it was a little surprising that we were only down one goal at half-time! Due to the tenacity of the team, and a 'fortune favours the brave' attitude, we were able to grab back a goal through a rapid counter-attack that saw the ball transfer quickly from our end of the pitch, up the left-hand side and release Seb Price (R) to score from open play. Final result a 1-1 draw.



This then brought all squads into the County Tournaments part of the season, with competitions at U18, U16 and U14 level.

The **1st XI** travelled to Lilleshall National Sports Centre to challenge for the Plate competition, but despite playing valiantly were not able to return successful.

The **U16 and U14** competitions were held here at Shrewsbury School, and despite the loss the day before against a scratch Abbotsholme team of U15 and 2nd XI players, the **U16 XI** challenged for the Plate competition, captained by Will Gardner (Rt). Having drawn against Wrekin 2 – 2, with both goals from Seb Price (R) earlier in the day, we needed to beat Thomas Telford by more than 5 goals in the final match of the afternoon to win the Plate. With goals from Price x 3, Gleb Petukhov (SH) x 3, Hugo Price (O) and Harvey Walker (SH), we won the game 8 – 0, and with it **won the Shropshire U16 County Plate!**

The following day saw the **U14 XI** in the equivalent competition, and after beating Wrekin College earlier in the afternoon 2 – 1 with both goals from Tom Hughes (S), we faced Oswestry in the final game of the match. Although a win might have been a formality, the U14 XI were ruthless in their execution, and beat Oswestry 15 – 3, with goals from Walker x 4, Price x 5, Hughes x 2, Dan Grinnall (O), Oscar Edmondson (PH), Joss Gowar (S) and Freddie Wells (I). As a result, we **won the Shropshire U14 County Plate** as well.

Schools' Head of the River 2019

Monday 18 March 2019

The Boat Club took five crews to race at the Schools' Head of the River in London on Friday 15th March, the most prestigious event of the 'head' calendar.



2nd VIII

Due to the strong winds forecast, three other crews were unfortunately not able to race.

The event went ahead with the reduced field in fast tailwind conditions. All the crews handled the conditions well in marshalling and produced some encouraging results.

The 1st VIII came in 5th of 34 crews.

The 2nd VIII put in an outstanding performance and only narrowly missed out winning their event by 1.2 seconds. They finished 2nd of 15 crews and a very impressive 11th overall, beating many 1st VIIIs.

The J16A VIII came 8th of 22 crews.

The J15A VIII came 6th of 11 crews.

The Senior Girls' VIII came 9th of 19 crews.



1st VIII



J16 VIII



J15 VIII



Senior Girls' VIII



2019 Darwin Science Competition for Prep Schools

Monday 18 March 2019

We were delighted to welcome teams of young and enthusiastic scientists to take part in our second Darwin Science Competition at Shrewsbury School on Thursday 14th March.

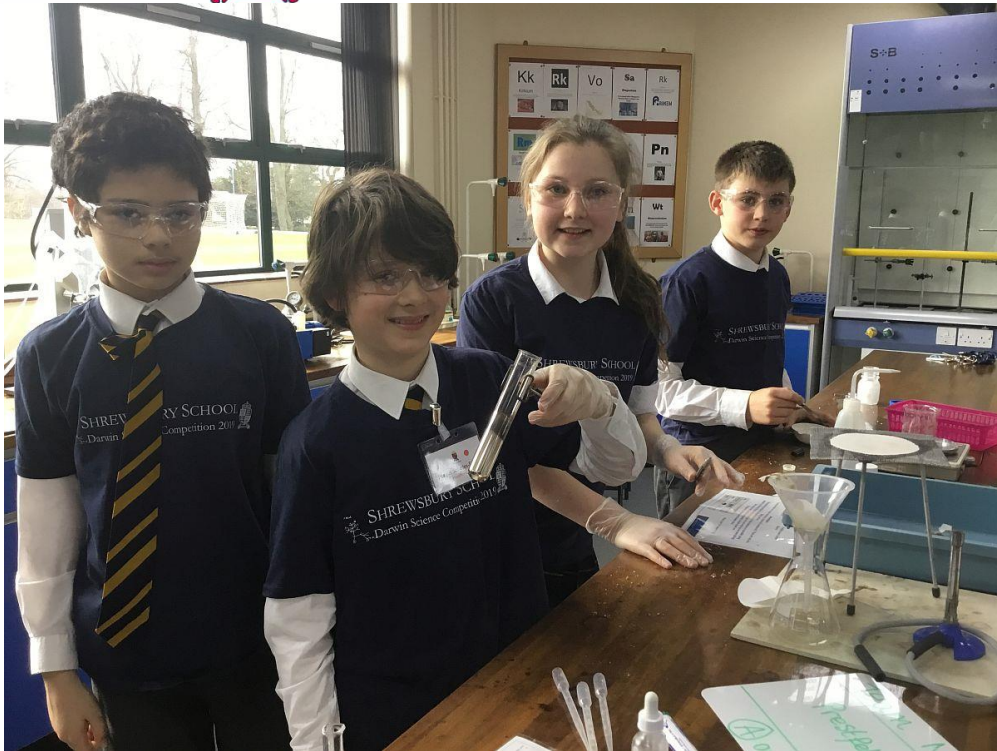


It wasn't hard to decide to name a flagship Prep School event after our most famous former pupil, Charles Darwin.

The competition pitted ten teams of Year 7 pupils from ten different prep schools against each other over a number of both 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 together with picture rounds, 'identify the apparatus' 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 across the Biology, Chemistry and Physics Faculties. From structures to specimens, to separations and silver mirror reactions and building the building, 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. Only six points separated the top three teams in the written quiz! The overall champions of the Darwin Science Competition 2019 were Cothill 1, with Packwood Haugh and Shrewsbury High Prep coming a close second and third.



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



Winners of the practical sessions were:

Physics: 1st – Shrewsbury High Prep 2, 2nd – Cothill 1, 3rd – Prestfelde 1

Biology: 1st - Yarlet 1, 2nd – Prestfelde 1, 3rd – Moor Park

Chemistry: 1st - Cothill 1, Joint 2nd – Yarlet, Abberley Hall 1 & Abberley Hall 2

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



Darwin Science Competition 2019 winners - Cothill 1

All pupils went home with a goody bag 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 to encourage as many pupils as possible to investigate their scientific passions as thoroughly as Charles Darwin.

*Andy Briggs
Head of Science*

House of Lords Tour

Monday 18 March 2019

OS in The House of Lords

To visit the Houses of Parliament at any time is a great privilege, but especially so on Thursday 14th March when the third big vote was due on the Brexit debate in the Commons. Fortunately for the Salopian party, this particular event was not mirrored in the Lords, so under the expert guidance of Lord Hodgson (R 55-60) we were able to visit the magnificent chamber and its surrounding state rooms as well as take part in a most informative briefing session in one of the committee rooms.



A glance at the plethora of imminent business that has to be scrutinised and debated reassured us that Their Lordships have plenty to be getting on with! The Salopian party was most appreciative of Lord Hodgson's time and expertise and of Peter Fanning's work to arrange the visit.





Schools' Head of the River Gathering - Friday 15th March

Tuesday 19 March 2019

Sabrina gather at the Blue Anchor

Once again the Blue Anchor at Hammersmith provided a welcome shelter from the elements for Sabrina members and Shrewsbury parents alike who had assembled to cheer on the School crews at the Head of the River Race on March 15th, and the traditional lunch of chilli con carne did much to keep out the cold. Particular thanks are due to James Russell (PH 90-95) and the Sabrina Committee for once again organising this event which grows in popularity each year.





Rugby: 1st VII win Stonyhurst Plate Competition

Wednesday 20 March 2019

Congratulations to the 1st and U16 VIIs on their tremendous performances in the Stonyhurst Sevens Tournament – and particularly to the 1st VII, who won the Plate.



Despite tough group draws, both teams progressed to the knock-out stages of the competition.

The U16s scored notable wins over Merchant Taylors' and St Edward's, with a narrow loss to Kirkham Grammar. Fantastic performances from across the squad enabled the team to score some fine tries, with Will Stanford-Davies, George Ludlam and Oli Taylor in particular off-loading effectively to take the team through to the quarter-finals. They found the knock-out stage a step too far, however, with a well-drilled Oratory side proving a handful.



The 1st team found themselves in a pool of death, with three sides tied for the top spot after one loss each in their pool of five: Lancaster Grammar, King's Macclesfield and Shrewsbury. On conversion count-back they found ourselves in the Plate competition, and set out on the task to win it.



The team breezed past Rossall School in the quarter-finals (47-0), before defeating Birkenhead 26-7 in the semi-final. By the last match of the day the team were carrying knocks and bruises, and exhaustion was running high. But only 15 minutes stood between the team and silverware, and they were determined not to go home empty handed!



Facing a Cheadle Hulme side that they had beaten 26-10 in the group stages, they knew that they had the skills to win the match; it was just a case of trying to stave of the tired legs long enough to win!

The match got off to a flyer, with Tom Plaut scooting round the outside right winger to touch down in the corner. Soon Felix Kenyon-Smith had chipped over the top and chased down his kick to score under the posts, before Arron Lewis used his strength to hand off a Cheadle player and touch down under the posts. By half-time Plaut had scored another on the right wing, and at 26-0 by half-time we were in a strong place.



Though Chedale scored after half-time, a Frank Morris side-step and break finished off the match as a contest, and even though Remnant's final try was called back for a forward pass, the boys had won a memorable victory, 33-7.

A great time was had by all in the sunshine at Stonyhurst, with coaches Norman Stalker, Peter Cook and Steve Rintoul encouraging the boys effectively throughout the day.

Chris Cook
Teacher in Charge of Rugby

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Southwark Cathedral

Wednesday 20 March 2019

Evensong at Southwark Cathedral

The congregation at Evensong in Southwark Cathedral on Tuesday 12th February was swelled by the presence of 40 Salopians who had crowded in for the service. The act of worship was followed by a fascinating tour of the cathedral and a drinks reception at the Anchor pub nearby, looking out across the river to an illuminated St Paul's the other side. Many thanks to Patrick Craig and Peter Fanning for organising such an excellent evening.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL





RSSBC: Junior Sculling Head

Thursday 21 March 2019

On Monday 18th March the RSSBC girls' squads travelled to Dorney Lake, Eton to compete at the Junior Sculling Head.



WJ18 Quad

The race consisted of two 1800m time-trials on a windy Olympic lake, with hundreds of junior rowers in attendance.

The WJ18 quad lead the way for RSSBC with a fantastic first run, but the conditions got the better of the girls in the second leg, with the crew finishing 10th out of 36.

The WJ17 quad also had a tough time across the rough water but placed a very respectable 14th in their event.



WJ17 Quad

The WJ15 A quad had an excellent afternoon placing 13th out of 70 crews and were thrilled to beat a few top rivals. The WJ15 B quad placed 41st in the challenging conditions.

For the newest members of the Boat Club who started in September, the Scullery was their first competition. The WJ15 octuple raced valiantly and finished 17th out of 21 crews.

The RSSBC girls had a great day of racing with all crews looking to use the experience to build on their performances for the summer regattas.

Olivia Walters
Graduate Sports Rowing Coach



J15 Octuple

Public Schools' Fencing Championships

Friday 22 March 2019

Many congratulations to the Shrewsbury Fencing team on their outstanding performances at this year's Public Schools' Championships, where highlights included second place in the prestigious Winston Churchill Cup.



“The secret to fencing consists in two things: to give and to not receive,” so runs a lesser known witticism of the celebrated French playwright Molière.

It goes without saying that the nub of the sport is to land hits on your opponent without being hit yourself. Yet for the Fencing team here at Shrewsbury this is doubly true; although fencing is an individual sport, it is all about giving. This was fully in evidence at the Public Schools' Fencing Championships this year, where 20 Shrewsbury fencers gave each other their full support across three days at Crystal Palace.

There were top results and personal bests aplenty, with Suky Ou-Yang maintaining her impressive ranking as 6th in Senior Girls' Sabre for the second year in a row and Jude Huffer making an assured debut in the Senior Boys' Sabre competition at 9th place.



New entrant Almaz Rafiz took 22nd place in Girls' Senior Epée and Ed Scott took 20th place out of 79 entrants in the Boys Junior Epée in his first appearance at Public Schools.

Best of all, their efforts as a team were well rewarded, as Shrewsbury came away with second place in the prestigious Winston Churchill Cup, an award for the highest collective score of all fencers from a single school in a single weapon, won by William Holcroft (3rd), James Hinwood (8th), Jan Tai (16th) and Koby Ferdinand-Okpala (31st) placing out of 90 fencers in the Senior Boys' Epée.

Behind this impressive tally lies a friendly rivalry dating back almost a decade between Holcroft and Hinwood. For years the two sportsmen have been neck and neck, testing each other's metal – literally and figuratively. Throughout their five years at Shrewsbury, where both are proud young men of Ridgemount, and before that at Packwood together, the two have shared a passion for Fencing and have pushed each other to excel in the sport.



Regular bouts in training would see Hinwood up one match and Holcroft the next. Fast forward to Public Schools, and both are entering the third round of the competition; both have fenced equally well in the first two rounds of the competition and both are about to enter Direct Elimination – a sudden death round where fencers have 3 minutes to fence to 15 hits. To the victor go the spoils and the higher rank in the competition. Whoever wins the match would be taking home the trophy for 3rd place, the other 8th. In a shock call from the judges, Hinwood and Holcroft are called to fight each other; it could have gone either way.

Early this year, Hinwood stole a march on Holcroft when he finished 1st in the West Midlands Under-18 Boys' Epée and in May he will represent the West Midlands at the National Finals in Sheffield. At the start of the Lent Term, Hinwood was awarded the Michael Schützer-Weissmann Fencing Cup, a new award to honour the memory of the legendary Salopian teacher, who loved the sport. Hinwood was a worthy inaugural winner, and the gauntlet was thrown down to Holcroft to see if he could match him.

As training intensified in the lead up to the Public Schools event, Hinwood specialised in trick shots – going for the foot and a flick to back – a move usually mastered by foilists and one that would take Epées by surprise. Meanwhile Holcroft spent time on gauging distance, anticipating tactics and finding exactly the right moment to strike.

Back on the piste, with a minute to go until time was up, the two faced off; first Holcroft was in the lead, then Hinwood, until with a sudden spurt Holcroft rode to victory 15-13.



After these fireworks, it seemed as though Fencing couldn't get much more exciting this season: until we come at last to the Master at Arms prize, a special category of award for those fencers who show mastery of all three fencing weapons: Foil, Epée and Sabre.

The most coveted prize at Public Schools, this award is usually claimed by Millfield, Whitgift or Brentwood, each with squads triple the size of Shrewsbury's. With his efforts in Epée, Foil and Sabre combined, Holcroft came within a hair's breadth of raising the title, bringing home a superb 2nd place for Shrewsbury. But Holcroft won't be gloating – he'll be back on the piste, challenging Hinwood to a rematch.



*Heather May
Teacher in Charge of Fencing*

RSSBC 1st VIII retain North of England Headship with a new course record

Monday 25 March 2019

The 1st VIII broke a 72-year-old record with their outstanding performance over the 5,000m North of England Head course on the River Dee on Saturday.



The 1st VIII held off a very strong field that included senior men's club and university crews to retain the headship that they won two years ago. (Last year's event was cancelled due to river conditions.) The crew were ruthless in their execution, breaking the previous record set by Downing College Boat Club, Cambridge in 1947.

The 2nd VIII also produced an excellent result to come 5th overall.

The Senior Girls' VIII produced a solid row to come 4th in their event.

The J16 VIII and Quad both won their events to cap off an excellent performance for the Royal Shrewsbury School Boat Club.



2nd VIII



Senior Girls' VIII



1st VIII

*Athol Hundermark
Director of Rowing*



Birmingham Dinner - NEW VENUE - Copt Heath Golf Club

Monday 25 March 2019

Copt Heath Golf Club dinner passes muster!

Sad though we were to leave our traditional venue at the St Paul's Club in the centre of Birmingham, the Copt Heath Golf Club proved a more than adequate substitute. After a number of OSGS members had taken advantage of playing on the course during the afternoon, just under 40 Old Salopians (including the President, Paul Nichols (S 66-71)) assembled for a first class dinner, followed by speeches from the Headmaster and Peter Fanning who paid fitting tribute to John Moore, the School's outgoing Director of Music, for his extraordinary contribution to both the School and the Salopian Club.



The evening concluded with songs from Henry Southern (G 03-08) and Chris Jamieson (G 04-09) along with current pupil, Dom Sullivan (I), to the accompaniment of John Moore himself. Those who may have had doubts about an out of town venue can be re-assured; thanks to the excellent organisation of Richard Woodgate (Rt 54-59) and his Birmingham Committee, this particular evening must rank as one of the best Birmingham dinners yet.



Hawksley-Burbury Science Competition 2019

Friday 29 March 2019

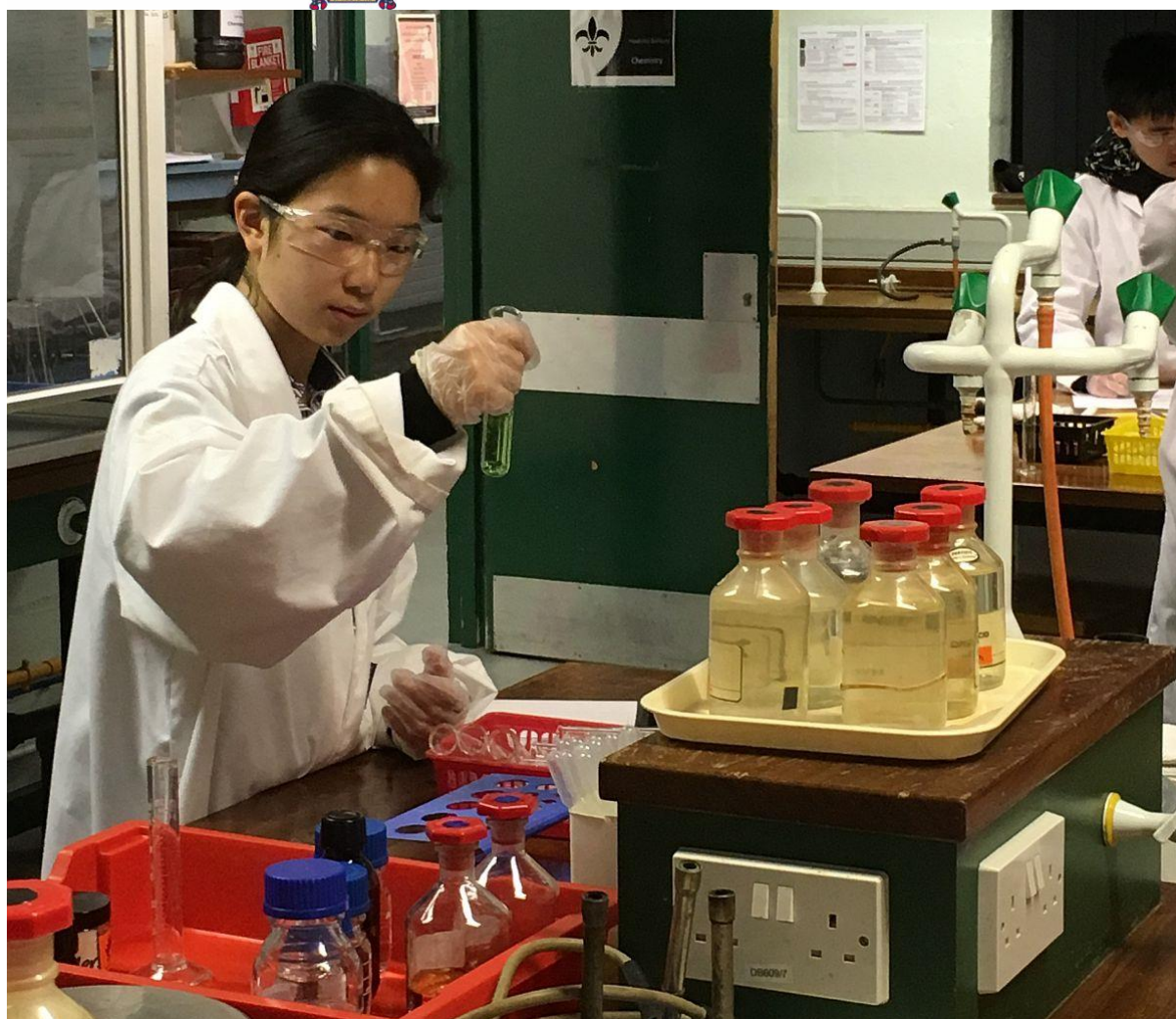
The Hawksley-Burbury Science Competition is our annual Practical Science competition and is open to any scientist in the Fifth and Sixth Forms, testing skills of observation and scientific deduction.



The competition is named after Samuel Hawksley-Burbury (OS 1848-50), a former Head of School who went on to become a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS).

It consists of three sections (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) in each of which candidates are set a number of short tasks requiring careful observation and analysis.

It is not necessary to be studying these subjects at AS or A2 level to take part, as the competition does not require specialised knowledge.



Twenty-two students and Deputy Head (Academic) Mr Walters (with the help of his son) took part in this year's competition.

Overall winner: Mohan Sun (SH L6)

Prox accessit (Joint): Chris Beard (Rb 5) and Jude Huffer (Rb L6)

Individual practical winners:

Biology: Mohan Sun (SH L6)

Chemistry: Kawthar AlNoaimi (M L6)

Physics: Jude Huffer (Rb L6)

Mohan will be presented with his prize at the Academic Prizegiving during Speech Day at the end of the Summer Term.

Dr Andrew Briggs
Head of Science



The Hunt Club Championships

Thursday 28 March 2019



On the last Saturday of term, the Hunt travelled to the Shropshire Hills for its annual Hunt Club Champs, the only purely internal race for members of the Club.

Staging the race off-site for the first time in a number of years, the course selected would be a challenging one – up, over and round the Lawley, involving a daunting ascent of around 300m in altitude gain.

The Junior Boys and Open Girls race would be one lap in total, while the Senior Boys had the dubious honour of doing an extra mile-and-a-half on top, starting their race at the other side of the hill. As the Juniors and Girls set off up the steep slope at the start, it was clear that this would be a tough race, and would reward the strongest and the fittest members of the club.



Harrison Cutler

Harrison Cutler (R) was first to the summit after about 12 minutes, ahead of Ben Weston (R) and Will Singleton (R), making it a Rigg's 1-2-3. Harrison raced well the previous week at the English Schools national final, and showed here again the excellent form he's found in recent weeks. Francesca Harris (EDH) was running well for the girls, comfortably leading their race by the top, though with such a difficult descent to navigate, she needed all her concentration.

In the Senior Boys, Sam Western (S) and Charlie Ockleston (O) started off well together at the front, but as they turned south to head up the hill, Sam's recent illness caught up with him and Charlie managed to pull away. Paddy Barlow (R) came through very strongly up the hill and made ground on Charlie, overtaking Sam in the process – showing how far he's come over the course of this year and what an exciting prospect he will be in the Upper Sixth. Milo Herbert (R) was also going well. Sam Watts (Ch) was struggling with a blister and had to work hard to keep Arthur Bramwell (R) at bay, who has shown a real affinity with hill running recently.

At the finish line, Harrison had managed to extend his lead at the front of the Junior Boys race, and claimed victory in 26:29, with Will Singleton (R) taking silver just 20 seconds back. Jonny Price (I) managed to place third in a very strong run, crossing the line in 27:12. Ed Forde-Johnston (O) was next, indicating that, after a difficult year with injuries, he could make an excellent Hunt runner next season.



In the Girls' race, Francesca had pulled away from her nearest rival, Anna Cowan (MSH), and she won the race in 29:57. Anna came through in 32:49, ahead of Sophia Dixon (MSH) in 35:08 and Felicity Hayward (EDH) in 38:07.



Charlie Ockleston

Charlie Ockleston is in imperious form at the moment, and it was fitting that in his last proper race for the Hunt, he was able to retain the Birley Cup he won last year. His lead over Paddy had been cut to almost nothing by the bottom of the hill, but over the last 1.5-mile flat track, Charlie had managed to pull away and establish a lead of almost a minute over the line, coming through in 36:39 while Paddy crossed the finish line in 37:34.



Paddy Barlow

Milo Herbert (R) was next, and again it was nice to see an Upper Sixth Former gain a podium spot in his last proper race. Sam Western had dropped back to 10th by the finish, but Sam Watts had battled bravely to finish in 4th, still just ahead of Arthur Bramwell who had thrown everything at him.

It was a lovely – though admittedly pretty tough – way to finish off an excellent season for the Hunt. Well done to all who competed, not just in this race, but in the many races over the course of the past two terms.



Ian Haworth
Teacher in Charge of the Hunt



School Firsts

Thursday 28 March 2019

School Firsts are one of the highest honours at Shrewsbury, rewarding pupils who have demonstrated exceptional contributions to School life. They are awarded each term by a committee of Upper Sixth Formers.

The committee members take their work seriously, for two main reasons: firstly, this is a good example of pupil power – while teachers may make nominations, it is only those ten or so Upper Sixth pupils sitting on the committee who have the power to vote; secondly, to retain the value of the ‘School First’, precious few are handed out.

Nowadays School Firsts have been split into two types: sporting and non-sporting. Below is a list of those pupils who were given the coveted award during the final School Assembly of the Michaelmas Term for their exceptional contributions to School life in non-sporting activities:

For his exceptional contributions to the extra-curricular academic life of the School:

Otto Rothwell Hurley

For their exceptional commitment to, leadership of and success in MUN (Model United Nations):

Chad Usher, Koby Ferdinand-Okpala and Ebrahim Jamshid

For their outstanding service and commitment to the Royal Marines Section of the CCF:

Harry Remnant, Freddy Williams, Emma Graham and Tom Plaut

For their exceptional contributions to school Drama and Musical Theatre:

Ben Lloyd and Dominic Sullivan

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

Reuben Denison and Rory Leslie

For their outstanding service to the Army Section of the CCF:

Arthur Gell and Tim Lovick

For his exceptional contributions to school life across a wide variety of fields:

Freddy Williams



'Twelfth Night' - performed by the Ladies of The Grove

Thursday 28 March 2019

The Grove treated audiences in the Ashton Theatre to "a delightfully wacky" and vastly entertaining all-female production of Twelfth Night last week. Review by Mr Hudson.

There's a wonderful moment in *Twelfth Night*, when at a moment of maximum complication, one of the characters metaphorically winks at the audience, saying, "If this were play'd upon a stage now, I could condemn it as an improbable fiction". There was more than enough complication in this delightfully wacky all-girl production put on by The Grove - whose long tradition of drama dates back to the Fanning era - directed by Helen Brown and Lauren Temple.

Much of the humour in *Twelfth Night* comes from gender ambiguity when two bored and underemployed aristocrats, Duke Orsino, (played with supercilious aplomb by Upper Sixth Salopian old stager Abi Watkinson), and Olivia (played by the equally experienced Eve Hartley) fall for the same man/woman.





The bored, flirtatious, emotionally unstable Olivia falls for Orsino's disguised page-boy Viola, whom she thinks (the disguise is successful) is a man, while Orsino also falls for him - rather to his discomfort - relieved at the end of the play to discover that he is a woman after all in a memorable (and these days of course unnecessary) 'Oh that's all right then' moment. All parts being played by girls could only add confusion to an already confused scenario; clever direction ensured that this only added to the humour.

That the shipwrecked twins, Viola (disguised as the page boy Cesario) and her brother Sebastian were played by real twins (Lexi and Livi Bothamley-Dakin) added some metatheatrical verisimilitude to a production that abounded in both scripted and unscripted metatheatrical asides and other improvisations – with all of which the cast were, quite miraculously, able to enrich this immensely witty production.



One of the glories of *Twelfth Night* is the parallel plot involving the humiliation of Olivia's pretentious and overbearing steward Malvolio (played by the statuesque Sophia Bureau) by the trio of her sassy maid Maria (played by Hattie Haynes), her sharp-witted but permanently drunk



uncle Sir Toby Belch (played by Ella Windle), and Sir Toby's clueless, love-starved and dim-witted friend and creditor Sir Andrew Aguecheek, played by Jetty Russell, who made a hilarious virtue of necessity by playing the part on crutches - the result of a real-life injury.

The humiliation of Malvolio involves the bullies hiding in the shrubbery, and the two Third Formers (Eva Hall and Sapna Chudasama) who played Shrub 1 and Shrub 2 provided one of the many delightful cameos with which the production was liberally sprinkled.



'Colour!' is what I have scrawled in the centre of the programme on which I was taking notes. From the symbolically rainbow-coloured jigsaw flooring, to the kaleidoscope of colours used in the girls' costumes, the production was as literally as it was metaphorically colourful.

The plot of Twelfth Night can be hard to follow even in a 'non-gender-bent' production, so perhaps one of the biggest compliments was that paid by a Churchill's Third Former returning from the first night, who said that he had no idea what it was about, but that it was absolutely hilarious.

This was a whole-House production and there were far too many actors to name them all, but they are all to be congratulated for laying on a wonderfully entertaining evening.

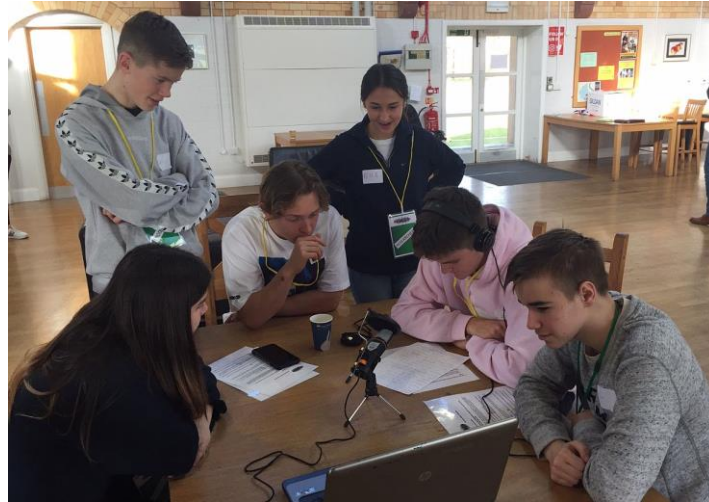
Richard Hudson



Insight into Radio day

Friday 29 March 2019

On Thursday afternoon, a group of Salopians received an excellent insight into the radio industry from a new company called Radio Active.

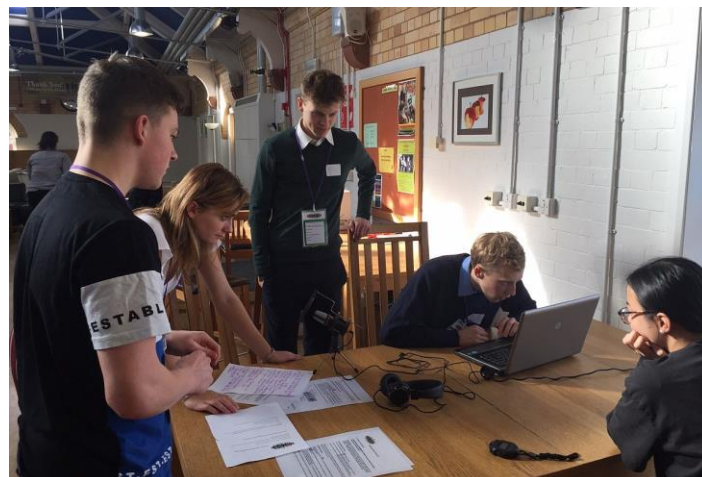


Coming fresh from their breakfast slot on one of the region's top commercial stations, Jo and Ed set up a challenge for the assembled Fifth and Sixth Formers of creating a 30-second advert for Shrewsbury School to go on air.

Drawing from their wide experience, they discussed how to keep your audience listening, how to appeal to a particular demographic and how to hone your message effectively in a short space of time. After a 'blue sky thinking session', they introduced the group to the recording equipment they'd use and showed them how to record and edit their clips.

In a high-octane afternoon, the pupils produced some highly entertaining adverts, providing some interesting tongue-in-cheek USPs of the School. The session provided an excellent chance for Salopians to develop both their communication, technological and teamwork skills as well as to see how marketing and media industries work.

Toby Percival





Old Salopian Eton Fives Club

Friday 29 March 2019

A win at last!

For many seasons the Old Salopian Eton Fives Club has been reaching finals of the Barber Cup and EFA Trophy and progressively doing better in Division 1 since fielding a team three years ago in both leagues.

However, we have all been acutely aware that we have been falling at the final hurdle in so many of our competitions. In fact, it has been 16 long years since the club last won silverware (Alan Barber Cup in 2003).

As a reminder our major club competitions and the Salopian record in each are as follows;

1. The Alan Barber Cup – the Champions League of Fives;
 - a. Winners 3 times - 1993, 1999 and 2003 (4th in overall wins).
2. Division 1 – The Premier League of Fives;
 - a. Winners 3 times - 1986, 1993 and 1997.
3. The EFA trophy – The FA Cup of Fives;
 - a. Winners 8 times - 1992,1994,1995,1999,2001,2004,2013,2014.

The Salopians have a unique accolade in being the club who have been losing finalists more than any other team in the history of the Alan Barber Cup (23 times finalist and 3 victories since it started in 1965) including losing 8 times in the final between 2010 and 2018.

Alan Barber was himself a Salopian and distinguished Fives player and Richard Barber (SH 55-60) is the current OSEFC President. The Barber Cup has always and will always be an incredibly important competition for the Salopians.

However, my note today focuses on the Premier League of Fives. Division 1.

It has been an even longer 22 years since we won Division 1. Consistency and strength in depth are crucial to being successful in the league. Consistency is not a word attributed to Salopians often. Very talented, and on our day can beat the best, yes. But consistent... no.

So, we have been working hard to build the club not only in numbers but improving individual players and pairs to improve our consistency. We have felt over the last couple of years that not only do we have the depth needed to win - rather than challenge – but we have improved as a group of players significantly.



It is therefore with great pleasure that I can report the Old Salopians have won Division 1. In true Salopian fashion rather than just winning it for the first time in 22 years, we were unbeaten – a first for a Salopian team.

The Salopians now have their name on the Division 1 winners cup for the 4th time and I am very proud to say that the 2019 OSEFC vintage will go down in the history books.



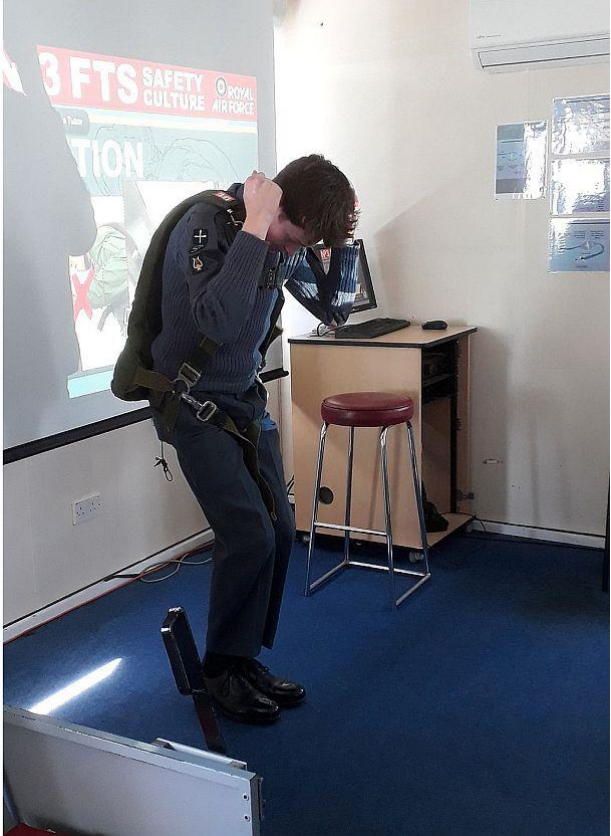
RAF Cadet Flying Experience... Again!

Friday 29 March 2019

On Wednesday 20th March, another lucky six CCF (RAF) cadets travelled to RAF Cosford for some flying training with RAF pilot instructors.



The first port of call at these events is a safety briefing, which covers a number of scenarios, including having to leave the aircraft in mid-air, which all cadets must show they understand. Pictured is Theo (SH 5), demonstrating how to jettison the canopy in the event that his instructor becomes incapacitated, as well as the position to adopt while descending by parachute.





Also flying were Ben (O U6) and Jack (Rt U6), soon to become Old Salopians, who were having their final aerial experience after a long stint of four years in the CCF. They are two of an 'elite few' who have put additional effort into gliding training and have earned solo gliding wings through the RAF Section. Ben asked his pilot for something a little more extreme... As his instructor just so happened to have flown F-15 and Tornado GR4 aircraft through his career, Ben was treated to a number of the Tornado display team moves first hand. Pulling a number of loops in quick succession at around 4 'G' was a highlight, as was the 'cuban-8', and Ben had a go at some of the manoeuvres himself!



Ben (above) just after his first solo glider flight and (below) about to take off at RAF Cosford



In the Grob Tutor aircraft (*pictured below*), which is the first aircraft service-men and women use in their military flying training, each cadet had a 30-40 minute flight, with almost all of that time

spent at the controls. All had some prior flying training through the gliding opportunities that the RAF Section offers, so were able to move quickly past the basic manoeuvres that most cadets would learn on Air Experience Flights and learn to perform a number of aerobatic manoeuvres themselves.



Ivan and Alan about to board



Sam



Jack (and pictured below after his first solo flight in the summer)

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL

