

## Alastair Humphreys' 'Microadventures' Tackled in the Guardian

Monday 2 May 2016



Alastair Humphreys' (Rt 90-95) book "Microadventures: Local Discoveries for Great Escapes", was given a great write up in the Guardian at the weekend when writer Rachel Dixon tried a 5-9 adventure for herself.

The idea of Microadventures is that you don't need lots of time or money to bring more adventure into your life, that it is possible to start small, with a local adventure, such as a night out on a nearby hill.

Whilst it doesn't sound as though Rachel's night out was the most comfortable she had experienced, Microadventures are all about stepping outside of our normal lives and creating memories.

[You can read the article on this link.](#)



# Salopian volunteers create ‘Marycourt Walk’ at Severn Hospice

Monday 2 May 2016

More than 60 pupils have been spending their Thursday afternoons working as volunteers at a number of different local community projects.

Among them are Sam McLoughlin (Rb LVI), Alex Walton (M LVI), Boris Kwok (Ch V), Andrew Kim (S LVI) and Archie Free (Rt V), who together with Dr Law have been helping create a path in part of the gardens at Severn Hospice.

When asked by the Hospice to name it, the boys chose ‘Marycourt Walk’ after the house in Ashton Road where Mr Schützer-Weissman lived.



## Update on the Events Leading up to James Taylor's Enforced Retirement.

Monday 2 May 2016

*By now you will have all heard about the retirement of James Taylor, but the following article gives more information about the actual events on the day of his diagnosis and the long term impact of his condition.*



Following the shocking news of James Taylor's enforced retirement from cricket, James has been tweeting regular updates about his progress but has, perhaps not surprisingly, been fairly quiet about the actual events leading up to the diagnosis of his heart condition. Speculation had been that the illness was picked up during a routine check-up following a suspected virus, however this was not the case.

On the 1st May the BBC News Sports Correspondent, Joe Wilson, posted a moving interview on the BBC website. In it James describes the frightening way in which he was taken ill during a routine training session and the fact that he thought that he was going to die. It's even more shocking to realise quite how close he actually came.

On 2nd May the website [www.espnricinfo.com](http://www.espnricinfo.com) published a more detailed interview, which had been requested specifically by James himself. This actually makes quite difficult reading for friends and fans and indeed for anyone with a heart. We get the full detail of how events unfolded and just how incredibly close this came to being a terrible tragedy and a life cut short;



but whilst we are all thankful for the fact that it is not, it is impossible at the same time not to appreciate the awful injustice in James' situation and the conflicting emotions he must be experiencing. It's heartbreaking stuff.

In both interviews James takes the time in his interview to praise the NHS and the 'unbelievable' way in which he has been cared for. He says "I owe so much to them and I will continue to support them in any way I can."

Recovery is going to take a long time and a huge amount of adjustment. For the time being James carries a defibrillator, connected to a heart monitor, which will kick into action if required. As a result he is able to get out and about, although he is only allowed to walk until more is known about how much exertion his body can take. He hopes to have an internal defibrillator fitted next month.

Above all James Taylor's resilience, positivity and immense likeability shine through at all times in both of these interviews.

**[You can read the BBC article on this link.](#)**

**[You can read the ESPN article on this link.](#)**

James mentions his long term partner Josephine in his interview and we thought that you might like to know that Josephine, her brother Campbell (Rb 01-06) and her sister Libby (EDH 11-13) will be running the Nottingham Marathon to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. The charity have been, and will continue to be, a huge support to both James and Josephine as they live with the implications of his condition, and also do huge amounts of research into heart conditions like James's.

**[Please click on this link to give your support and to find out more information.](#)**





## British Youth Fencing Championships

Tuesday 3 May 2016

*Thirteen Shrewsbury School fencers qualified for the British Youth Fencing Championships, which were held at the EIS arena in Sheffield last weekend. The highlight for the Shrewsbury fencing fraternity was a well deserved fifth place for Jan Tai (R III) among a field of 53 fencers in the Under-14 boys' épée event.*



*L-R back row: Marco Lo, Matthias Owen-Sinclair, Will Holcroft, James Hinwood, James Fearn, Rhys Trevor; front row: Kimberley Xia, Suky OuYang, Lisa Stolyarova, Angel Chan, Sherry He, Georgie Voelcker, Jan Tai*

After the round of poules, Jan was ranked first and was therefore given a bye into the direct elimination stage. He won his first direct elimination against Randall Morgan (NW region) 15 -11 and then went on to defeat Ishmail Mardin (London) 15 -8, which took him to the quarter-final stage where he lost to Mattheu Pallud (London) 12- 8 in a very tense encounter. Jan gained a very early lead over his opponent but failed to maintain the momentum after the minute interval, when Pallud twice forced him off the back of the piste with well timed attacks.

### Other results

Rhys Trevor	31st	U18 boys' sabre
Matthias Owen-Sinclair	29th	U18 boys' foil
Sherry He	33rd	U16 girls' sabre
Kimberley Xia	21st	U18 girls' foil



James Hinwood	38th	U16 boys' épée
Will Holcroft	46th	U16 boys' épée
Angel Chan	44th	U16 girls' foil
Suky OuYang	47th	U16 girls' foil

This was the first time that most of our fencers had encountered this level of competition. No one appeared to be daunted by the sheer number of fencers taking part and they all gained valuable experience.

A big thank you to parents, guardians, staff (past and present) and to school fencers for their support in getting our fencers to these national finals.

*Ken Holding*  
*Wrekin Sword*



# MSH Bake Off

Tuesday 3 May 2016



*Very difficult to judge!*





## Salopian wins Sports Writing Competition

Wednesday 4 May 2016

*Fifth Former Sam Bayliss (Rt) has won a sports writing competition launched by Shrewsbury Town Football Club in memory of former journalist and Shrewsbury Town fan Colin Bloomfield, who died of cancer last year. He was presented with his award at Shrewsbury Town's final home game of the season.*



*Sam Bayliss (left) with Aled Hughes (photo courtesy of Shrewsbury Town)*

The competition attracted many entries from across Shropshire and was judged by Tim Nash of the Shropshire Star, Stuart Dunn of Radio Shropshire and Ian Whitfield of the Shrewsbury Town media department. Sam was awarded first prize in his age category for his piece on how football without fans is nothing. Tim Nash described it as: "Brave, innovative, inventive and a clever excursion too - not sure I've ever seen or read an analysis of the different crowd dynamics at a football ground in detail, so full marks for imagination - a possible feature writer in the making here."





Aled Hughes won the older age category and both he and Sam enjoyed special VIP treatment at the Shrewsbury Town versus Peterborough match. They were presented with their awards by Colin Bloomfield's mother Alison and close friends Mike and Glyn Pryce during half time.

Speaking to Shrewsbury Town journalist Simon Wilderspin afterwards, Sam said: "I really enjoyed the day. The prize was as good as it could have been. It was so cool to be live on radio and on the speakers at half-time. It was special to see Colin's mother, and receiving the award was truly an honour. My favourite part of the day was probably learning all about, and seeing, the behind-the-scenes areas, though it was closely followed by being in the Press Box and meeting the players. It was truly memorable and an experience that I learnt a lot from and will never forget."

Read more at <http://www.shrewsburytown.com/news/article/shrewsbury-town-colin-bloomfield-3096835.aspx#YBbA6MKsLVydTE6R.99>

## Reeling with joy

Wednesday 4 May 2016

*Amongst Shrewsbury's more arcane societies, the Reeling Society, founded by Rory Fraser (Ch), Head of School 2013-2014, must rank high.*



Continued in being with characteristic aplomb by Guy Cabral (Ch UVI), the Society held its first ever Ceilidh and Dinner on Friday 29th April. Dr Case, invited in to photograph the event, described it as "the very best of coeducation and one of the loveliest things I've seen at Shrewsbury". The photographs speak for themselves.



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The Ceilidh was followed by a convivial dinner for 25 in the Churchill's Private Side, hosted by President Guy Cabral, celebrating a successful year which has seen the society attracting an increasing number of reelerers. The Reply was given by incoming President Angus Kincaid (Ch), appropriately enough the future leader of the clan Kincaid which his mother Arabella currently heads.



*Angus Kincaid and Guy Cabral*





## Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Wednesday 4 May 2016

*This week, girls' tennis.*

The sun came out, the birds were singing and there was a feeling that summer was really on the way. Reaching for my dark glasses and my sun hat, I ventured forth in search of a summer activity. A good session in the nets with a variety of youthful Ian Bothams meant that I was a little late to capture the full tension of a tennis match between Shrewsbury and Ellesmere girls.

I caught up with Jenny Hill who had been playing with her partner Esther McLaughlin. Jenny was pleased with how the match had gone. She and Esther had won a closely contested set 6-3. The score had been 3-3 until the Ellesmere pair wilted in the heat and Jenny and Esther's superior fitness came into play.



Jenny was quick to praise Shrewsbury School Tennis coaches Matthew Clark and Nicola Bradburne. "I must quickly praise Mr Clark and Mrs Bradburne. They are living embodiments of the concept of treating your body as a temple."

Just then, as if by magic, Mr Clark appeared and offered Jenny a few tips on her sliced backhand. Jenny told me that Mr Clark is one of the few coaches that she has encountered who is able to communicate his ideas without a racket and dressed in a sharp suit.



“Mr Clark is just a supreme coach. He makes tennis so much fun and so accessible. He gets on his invisible skate board and just brings a freshness and uniqueness to the game.” Jenny told me that her parents had been keen tennis players but that she had recently lost her mother to golf, for which she blamed her father. I asked Mr Clark if the fact that Jenny’s father was a Chief Superintendent had any bearing on her place in the team. Looking slightly nervous, Mr Clark asked me if he was watching. Realising that the coast was clear, Mr Clark relaxed and denied any such accusation. “I am innocent of that charge and many others,” he told me.



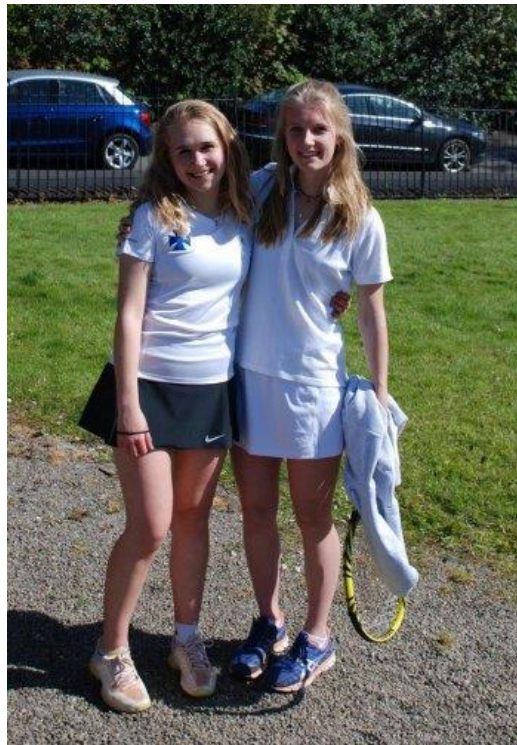
*Mr Clarke also inspires real skateboarding.*



Antonia Wordie and Ursule Taujanskaite played an epic match and were clearly revelling in the atmosphere at the Gorswen courts. “It is better than Wimbledon,” Antonia told me. Ursule claimed that she had won at Wimbledon with Antonia. I have been unable to corroborate this news but as I am sure that all our students are extremely trustworthy, I will take Ursule’s word for it.



They are such a natural pairing that when I asked them questions they answered together and spoke exactly the same words. I asked them if they were enjoying their tennis. “The tennis here is great fun and we love playing as a pair.”





I asked the girls where their love of tennis heralds from. “Tennis comes naturally to us,” they said. “It also helps to have enthusiastic and tough coaches like Miss Bradburne and Mr Clark,” they added. “Mr Clark is the most positive man on the planet and Mrs Bradburne is not far behind although she is a woman.”

I caught up with Miss Bradburne after the match as she gave Antonia and Ursule a few pointers on their game.



“Was it a competitive fixture?” I enquired. I thought I might have sensed a slightly tense atmosphere between Mrs Bradburne and Stephen Welti the Ellesmere coach before the match.





“There was no tension at all,” Mrs Bradburne assured me. “I always like to welcome opposition coaches in a friendly and welcoming manner. I was always told it is important to make eye contact when greeting someone.”

In a rather professional journalistic manner, I pushed Mrs Bradburne further. So the fact that Stephen Welti has a tennis centre named after him and was a semi-professional tennis player did not cause any feelings of resentment?

“Why would it, when I played tennis at Leeds and Brighton with my friends?” This was of course the kind of honest reply I expected and we can be clear that there was no rivalry between the coaches at all.

The Ellesmere team were very friendly and told me that they enjoyed playing on the high quality courts. I think what they were trying to say is that Shrewsbury is full of bounce. They were victorious on the day but my tutee Mima Price explained that tennis is about sharing the love. “You have to sacrifice to love sometimes,” she told me. Wise words indeed, but that comes as no surprise as she did have the foresight to choose me as a tutor.

It is clear that girls' tennis is in rude health at Shrewsbury. The under-15s were not on the courts that afternoon as they were all playing cricket, such is the demand for their talents.



However, Mrs Bradburne assured me they are a very good group of tennis players – and you can always trust Mrs Bradburne.

*GJFB*

## Success in the 1st House Cricket Competition

Wednesday 4 May 2016

The senior inter-house cricket tournament started very well for School House. In a single afternoon, we won back-to-back matches against Rigg's and Radbrook to book ourselves a place in the semi-final. It is the furthest that we have progressed in the competition for several years so the boys thoroughly deserved their celebratory pizzas that evening!

A decent contribution was made by the whole squad, but notable run scorers were Will Street (UVI), Leo Sartain (UVI), Kwaku Antwi (UVI) and George Newton (LVI) who batted straight through both innings without losing his wicket. Gus Lloyd (V) took a remarkable catch at a pivotal point in the first match, which helped turn the tide in our favour.

The bowling figures of the day went to Kwaku: despite having to resort to spin because of an injury that prevented him from employing his usual devastating medium pace, he tore through Radbrook's top order with 4 wickets for only 7 runs. We are looking forward to meeting Ridgemount in the semis... watch this space!



*The School House 1st Cricket XI. L-R BACK: Wentao He (LVI), Vardan Hambarzumyan (LVI), Kwaku Antwi (LVI), James Nelson (LVI), Leo Sartain (UVI), Andrew Chan (LVI); FRONT: Sam Zadorozhny (UVI), Gus Lloyd (V), Will Street (Capt. UVI), Hugo Richardon (UVI), Will Biggs-Lovell (LVI), George Newton (LVI).*



# Preparing for this summer's Medic Malawi Expedition

Wednesday 4 May 2016

*Our third Community Service trip to Malawi takes place in July. For the first time, it will be a joint venture with The Shewsy, our Youth Club in Liverpool.*



Nineteen young people will travel and work together at the project run by the charity Medic Malawi, which includes a hospital, two orphanages and 'The Shrewsbury School Eye Clinic'.

This year has been tough in Malawi: the rains were late and inadequate, and the Hospital's Malnutrition Centre has been a lifeline for adults and children. The Community Service expedition will include the chance to see the work of the Shrewsbury Eye Clinic first hand, as patients have their sight restored. Students will be painting the new bakery, built to generate income for the hospital, and will be helping out at the orphanage, which cares for over 100 children, from newborns to teenagers.



Preparations for travelling to Malawi took place in Liverpool and Shrewsbury last week.

Getting to know the others on the trip was the priority for Sunday's visit to Liverpool, and this included team games based on 'Twister', teaching each other good hand-washing techniques, buying and selling in a 'market stall' and chatting over fish and chips. The Liverpool contingent took us on a 'Ferry 'cross the Mersey', and as we munched our McDonald's, it no longer seemed to matter particularly whether an individual was a Fifth or Sixth former, from Everton or Shropshire.



Sir Eldryd Parry, OS and former President of the Salopian Club, is a leading expert on Medicine in African Hospitals, and it was a great delight and privilege that he was able to speak to the Medic Malawi team, combined with the Medical Society.

His principles are based on understanding the person and their environment, before applying the science, and he emphasised the importance of respectful, careful listening and learning by observation. His case studies were carefully chosen from his own visits to Malawi, and it was fascinating to see how individual cases – a man's wounded hand, for instance – were described compassionately in the context of his livelihood, his working day, climate change and GM crops.





For those going to Malawi, his advice was to ‘watch and learn’; for those going into medicine, he advised depth, not breadth: keep returning to the same country, to the same hospital, to deepen your understanding.

The team are planning a ‘Busking in Shrewsbury’ day on Saturday 21st May. They are in need of adult collectors; if anyone is able to volunteer as a collector for an hour or so between 10am and 3pm, please email [ljd@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:ljd@shrewsbury.org.uk).  
LJD



## David Harrison Mathematics Prize

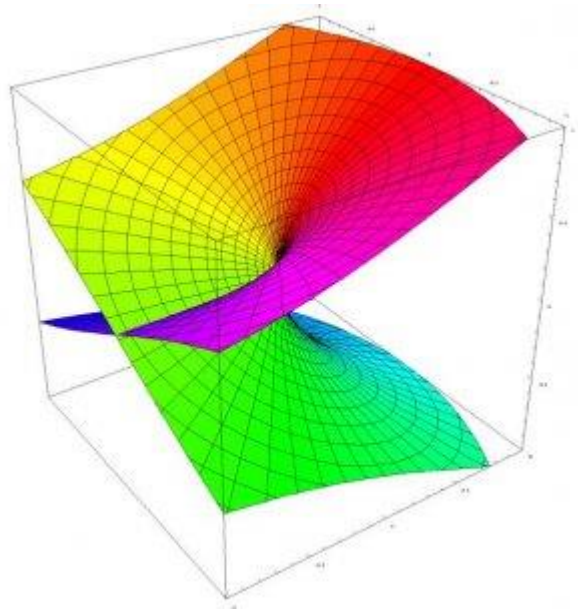
Wednesday 4 May 2016

*This annual competition is open to all year groups and takes the form of a presentation on any mathematical topic, which is given to an audience of Third and Fourth Formers.*

This year's competition took place on 28th April and was, as ever, of a very high standard.

Ed Chapman (Rb LVI) won over the judges with his talk 'All Artists are Mathematicians' which focused on the works of M.C. Escher and the mathematics of how he transformed the plane in his work 'Print Gallery'.

Ed's spot prizes for artistic knowledge captured the attention of the audience as he delivered a polished account of the inadvertent Riemann surfaces in Escher's work.



*'Print Gallery' - M.C. Escher (1956) and an example of a Riemann surface*

Suky OuYang (MSH IV) was runner-up with a talk on the irrational numbers.

This prize is endowed by Mr and Mrs Peter Harrison in memory of their son David, who was Head of Mathematics from 1995 to 1996, and who tragically died in the mountains of Alaska in the summer holidays of 1996.



*Ed Chapman*





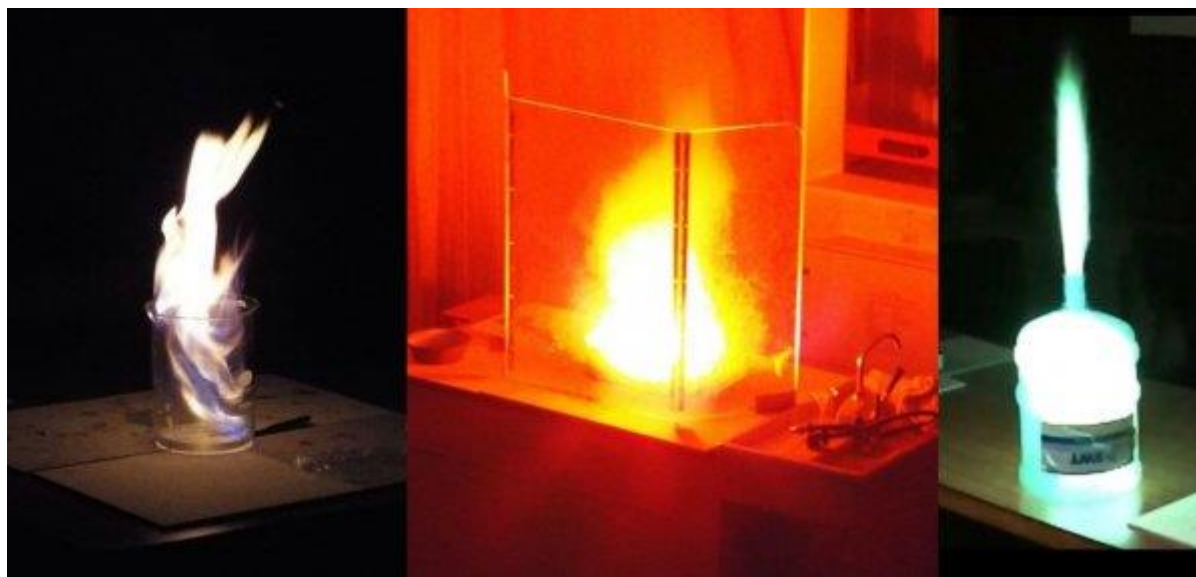
## Prep School Chemistry Shows keep on burning

Thursday 5 May 2016

*Last Thursday, the Chemistry Department hosted another action-packed chemistry enrichment afternoon – this time with two prep schools: the Year 7 scholars from Birchfield and Year 8 pupils from Terra Nova, accompanied by their respective Heads of Science.*

As the visits gain momentum this term, Senior Chemistry Technician Rachel Schofield has had a very busy time developing new ideas with Head of Chemistry Dr Andy Briggs and Chemistry Technician Kathryn Davidson.

The 18 pupils from Birchfield and Terra Nova had a whistle-stop tour of the Chemistry Department and prep room during their visit. The extent of our facilities was an insight into the science opportunities at Shrewsbury School. They then gathered in the Science Lecture Theatre for flash and bang demonstrations by Dr Briggs. A few enhancements to the show meant there were lots of flames, sparks and bangs, which the pupils may not have had much opportunity to see close up before. The show highlights the sights and sounds that is real chemistry at work. It seems the more dangerous the demonstration, the more eager the volunteers!



Moving on into one of the chemistry laboratories was where the real hands-on experiments of the afternoon took place and also where the pupils could experience the 'smells' of chemistry. This time they were able to use some household items which let them get their hands dirty too.



We endeavour to keep revising the experiments we offer the prep school pupils, to allow them to experience a variety of chemical situations and reactions themselves. In groups of twos and threes, the pupils had access to some equipment they do not often use in prep schools, including chemical solutions, polymer reactions, the magic egg in a bottle trick and most enjoyable flame tests; liquid nitrogen is always a highlight.



The pupils from both schools were very well-behaved and polite. They demonstrated excellent lab skills and concentration in a busy lab environment. It was a pleasure to host them and meet some girls and boys who will join us at Shrewsbury in September.

The finale was assisted by a fierce wind in the science quod, which made the exploding elephant's toothpaste even more dramatic - probably our best ever version of this demonstration.

With a few gifts to take away, it was another very successful and enjoyable afternoon.

*Andrew Briggs and Rachel Schofield*





## RSSBC: Wallingford Regatta

Thursday 5 May 2016

The 1st & 2nd VIII's competed at Wallingford Regatta over the Bank Holiday weekend. The 2nd VIII competed in J18B Eights category and came in 5th in their heat behind two schools' 1st VIII's and two 2nd VIII's.

The 1st VIII raced in J18A Eights, which included entries from 18 schools including 9 from the top 10 at Schools' Head. The 1st VIII raced well in their heat, coming in 2nd to St Paul's School and qualifying for the final with the 3rd fastest time. The crew made the final, along with St Pauls, Eton, Westminster, Radley and Shiplake.

In the final the Eton rowed impressively to take the win from St Paul's and Radley, with the 1st VIII having to settle for a commendable 4th place.



*The 1st VIII (furthest from the camera) on the start line of their semi-final.*



# Summer Term Field Day for the Third and Fourth Forms

Thursday 5 May 2016

*Our two youngest year groups picked a fine day for their termly venture out of school.*

Field Days are a chance for pupils to extend their experience of the broad extra-curricular programme that Shrewsbury offers. The Third Form were heavily involved in Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award training on a sun-soaked Long Mynd. The Fourth Form were also out of school but on visits relevant to their chosen Thursday afternoon activity, be that Rovers, Sports Leadership or Combined Cadet Force (CCF).

Here are some accounts of what went on.

## **Rovers' bouldering trip to the Peak District**

*Report by Tessa Scott-Bell (MSH IV)*

The day started with a long but music-fuelled bus ride to the Peak District. It was there that we were going to experience real outdoor bouldering and challenging rock climbs for the first time. Once split into smaller groups, we set out on a moderately hard route up a face with a large corner crack but some very unnerving foot holds! We had four members of the group belaying and one climber at a time. After some very unusual positions and a few scraped knees, everyone had successfully reached the top.

The second climb was much harder as we limited the space we could use to two thin cracks up the centre of the face. Mimi was the first to attempt the climb and she did a great job to get up to the middle ledge. Sophia was up next and after some experimenting with some advanced and less-so climbing techniques, she made it past the central hurdle, one of the trickiest parts of the day. Alice and Olive did an amazing job of belaying and making sure everyone was lowered with care. Overall it was a really enjoyable day and the climbing experience just about topped the glorious weather and the extra snacks!

Master i/c Rovers (Mr Will Reynolds) writes: "A fun day was had by all, including Mr Graham who got his first experience of climbing and 'The Rovers' excellent club spirit. It was a fantastic to see the students using all their knowledge, leadership and coaching skills that they have been taught throughout the year."





### **Sports Leaders have fun after completing their qualification**

*Report by Piers Merison (SH IV)*

After most of the group had been sent away to get a pen, we began. We spent the morning doing paperwork that we needed to complete to get our Sports Leader qualification. Having all finished the inconceivably large amount of written work, we had lunch in KH. We then piled onto the bus and headed to the PGL centre.

Two groups were to do archery whilst the others did trapeze and then switch halfway through. First we were taught how to use a bow and we were then given time to practise before we got on to doing some games. Most people got the hang of the sport but there were a few who were less than good. We played a relay race in teams of four where you took it in turns to fire at the target, getting increasingly closer, colour by colour, to the gold in the middle.

When our hour and a half was up, we travelled through the centre to the trapeze. This consisted of a ladder leant against a pole, with notches to climb up and a small square to stand on at the top, and a hanging bar to grasp onto once you had climbed the pole and made a leap of faith. We took it in turns to climb and leap. It was good fun to watch. The pole wobbled a lot when a person stood on it and it was very funny to see the terrified look on the person's face as they swayed uncontrollably.

It was a good day out and a fitting final session of Sports Leaders.



### **Shrewsbury cadets visit local Infantry regiment**

*Report by Will Hope (Cb IV)*

After being welcomed to Clive Barracks at Tern Hill by the 1st Battalion of the Royal Irish



Regiment, we learnt about their long and distinguished history. We then got stuck into the stands which had been prepared for us by the Battalion, the first of which was the armoured foxhound vehicles. We then went on to various weapon stands including anti-tank, mortar, sniper and mounted weaponry. Once we had finished these hands-on displays, we then had a quick shoot in their DCCT (firing simulator) and headed off for a final brief.

Overall this was a fun and well-executed day which offered a wonderful insight into the life of a serving soldier. I am sure this amazing day was enjoyed by everyone and for this I would like to thank the 1st Battalion Royal Irish.

### **Shrewsbury cadets visit adventure centre**

It was an exciting day for some pupils of the CCF as we embarked on a new activity for Field Day. Stand up paddle boarding, or 'SUPPING' as it's called, is a crossover between surfing and kayaking. The board is a much larger version of a traditional surf board and students propel the board from a standing position using a paddle. It sounds easier than it actually is! Most of the cadets spent the day 'in' the water and not 'on' the water, or somewhere inbetween. It was a great experience and enjoyed by all.

In addition the cadets had a chance to try 'slack lining', a twist on the traditional activity of tightrope walking. Only raised about a foot off the ground, the narrow piece of 'slack' fibre tape was the only route from A to B. Similarly, most cadets spent much of the time falling off the line as opposed to standing on the line.

Finally, the day finished with Lazer tag, which is a slightly less painful version of paintball. The cadets had the opportunity to employ all the fieldcraft skills they had learnt to date, or they had the option to employ their own tactics! Most decided to employ the latter, and as one can imagine the afternoon descended into controlled chaos. It was a great day and much enjoyed by all.



### **RAF glide on thermals**

*Report by Ben Holehouse (O IV)*

The day started with us unpacking the hangar and wheeling the gliders out on to the airfield. Once out, we were all briefed on the day's circuit and the likely changes in wind direction. The morning was good, however the thermals had not developed much energy so we flew a simple



circuit a few times. We stopped for lunch around 1:15, by which time we were all starving. The Gliding Club's café was very much appreciated and I think by far the most popular meal was the 'ham, egg and chips', which was delicious. After a good morning we were delighted to find some fantastic thermals developing.

After clearing the airfield of sheep and horses (for the second time in the day) I flew in a sheared thermal with what looked to be a buzzard following us up until around 3000 feet before pulling out and doing multiple reduced G dives and a spin as well. I stayed in the air for around 40 minutes and struggled to descend in the strong thermals in the end, resorting to stalling and opening the air brakes.

Once I touched down, it was nearly time to go. So after a fantastic day in the sun, we repacked the hangar and left for school.

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# Cambridge University Choral Scholarship

Thursday 5 May 2016

*Congratulations to Ursule Taujanskaite (MSH), who has been offered a Choral Scholarship to Selwyn College, Cambridge.*

Director of Chapel Choir Alex Mason said, "We're delighted that Ursule has been offered a Choral Scholarship. She has been an excellent Chorus (Head of Choir) here at Shrewsbury and I'm sure she will thrive in the choral environment of Cambridge."

Ursule, who is about to sit five A Levels in Biology, Chemistry, French, Maths and Further Maths, has also received an academic offer from Selwyn College to read Psychological and Behavioural Sciences.





## Churchill's joint 2016 winners of Senior House Fours

Thursday 5 May 2016



In a thrilling finale Churchill's finished as joint 2016 winners of the House IVs competition, beating off stiff competition from their old sparring companions Rigg's and Moser's, as well as from the relatively new kids on the block, Oldham's.

The crew consisted of Fifth Formers James Snell and Oliver Bureau and Lower Sixth Formers Sam Russell, Dan Powell and Fintan Simmons (cox). Special thanks to Dan Powell who took on the organisation of the crew, including ensuring that they were smartly turned out each week, as required by the rules of the competition.

This win consolidates our lead in the Leadbitter Cup standings (the measure of the overall top rowing House) and bodes well for Bumps ahead, with strong rowers at every level in the House.

Watch this space.



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## Oldham's are House Quiz semi-finalists

Thursday 5 May 2016







## The news 100 years ago: 6th - 12th May 1916

Thursday 5 May 2016

*This week we remember:*

**Second Lieutenant Edward Pitcairn Jones, 5th Bn. attd. 9th Bn. Rifle Brigade.**

School House, Head of House, left in 1915; exhibitioner to Oriel, Oxford.

Died of wounds in France, 13th May 1916, aged 20.

From *The Salopian*: "Initially he showed talent as a rower but this was swiftly cut short for medical reasons; he narrowly missed out getting his School Colours for football which was a shame due to his 'natural activity'. ...He was entirely fearless and unselfish and there was no one whose respect he did not win... He died of a very painful wound, but he found time to think of everyone but himself, making light of his own sufferings and facing death with perfect readiness and absolute faith."

*Buried at Avesnes-Le-Comte Communal Cemetery Extension, France. Grave I. A. 19.*



# Link minstrels

Friday 6 May 2016



# Oldham's - 4th place in Senior IVs rowing

Sunday 8 May 2016



*L-R: George Rowley (UVI), Tom Shepherd-Cross (V), Reuben Arkwright (cox LVI), George Lechmere (UVI), Alex Lawson (LVI)*



# Senior IVs Inter-House Rowing Competition

Sunday 8 May 2016

With Matt Rowe (LVI) away in Munich representing Great Britain at the highest level in his age category (*see news item for 12th April below*), it was left to some of the other rowers to ensure that School House's rowing season got off to a good start.

Inspired by Matt's success, they put in strong performances for all nine of their races over the three week competition. There were plenty of convincing victories that bode well for the Bumping Races at the end of term.



*The School House crew extending the clear water between them and the following boat.*



*The School House Senior IV boat. L-R: Mill Luangamornlert (V), Christian Cavenagh-Thornhill (V), David Wright (V), Vardan Hambardzumyan (LVI) and Alex Merton (LVI)*





# Summer

Sunday 8 May 2016



*Junior Summer*



*Senior Summer*

## Half-centuries for Oldham's cricketers

Monday 9 May 2016

Saturday was a good day for Shrewsbury cricket with all sides undefeated against Repton... and it was a great day for Oldham's with three school players scoring 50 runs.



*L-R Frank Morris (U15A XI, 56) Tom Atkin (2nd XI, 59 not out) and Rory Henderson (U14C XI Captain, 50)*





## Equestrian: Lily Freeman-Attwood wins Horse of the Year Show qualifying event

Monday 9 May 2016

*Congratulations to Lily Freeman-Attwood who has qualified for the Horse of the Year Show in style, winning the 138cm qualifying event at Weston Lawns Equitation Centre in Warwickshire on Sunday.*



Sixty-three combinations entered the class, all hoping to finish among the top three who would win places in The Stable Company Horse of the Year Show in October. After two rounds, just six pairs had jumped clear and made it through to the final jump off.

Lily and her pony My Buggy Malone were drawn last to go. Having watched the previous pair achieve their third clear round - the only pair in the competition to do so - Lily knew that she not only needed to jump clear but also do so in a very quick time.

Riding with pace and precision, Lily achieved her treble clear in 47.67 seconds, the fastest time of the day.



# RSSBC: Senior House Fours and Quads Competitions

Monday 9 May 2016

The Senior House Fours competition was jointly won by Churchill's Hall and Severn Hill.

The Senior House Quads prize went to Emma Darwin Hall.







# Severn Hill are joint winners of Senior House Fours

Monday 9 May 2016

The Senior House Fours competition was jointly won by Churchill's Hall and Severn Hill.



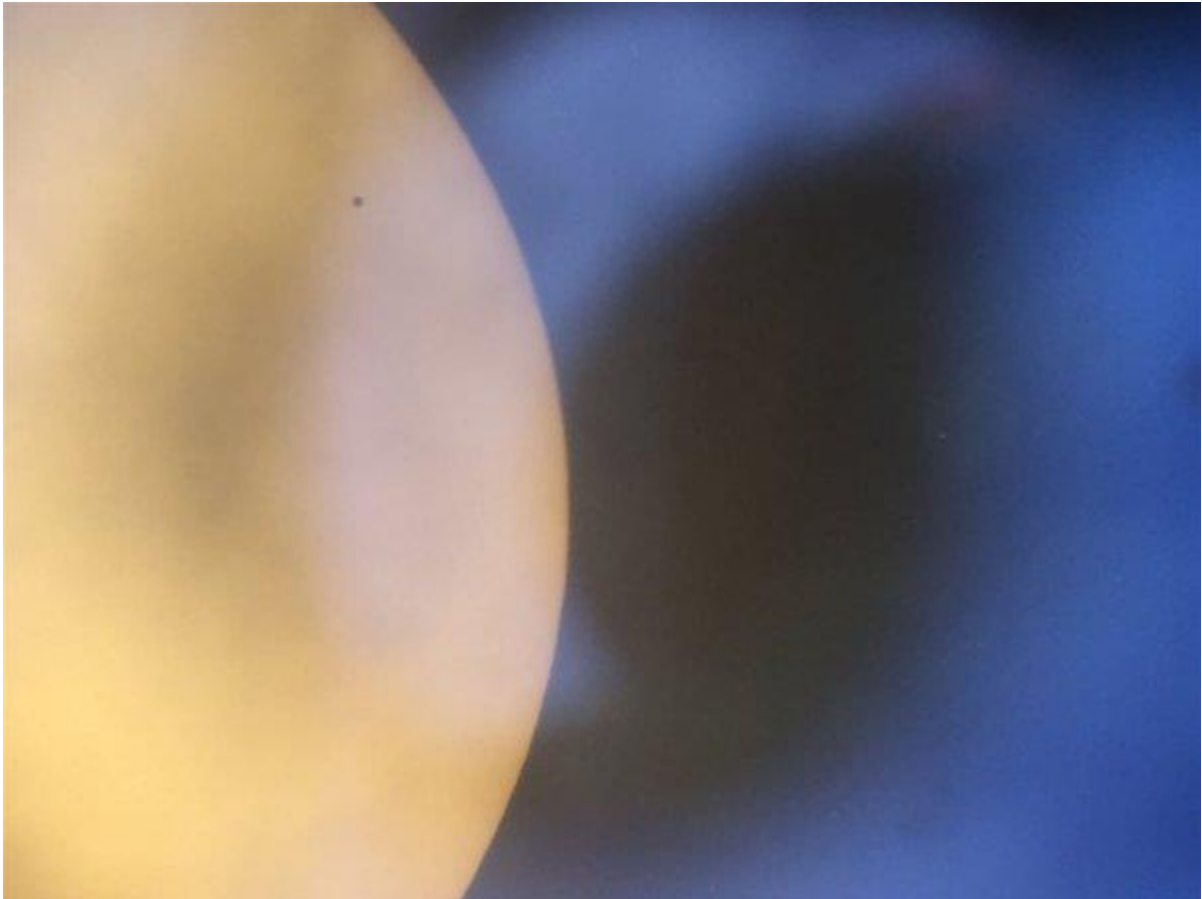




## Transit of Mercury

Monday 9 May 2016

*Astronomical Society President Tom Dodd (Rb UVI) took advantage of a gap in the clouds on Monday 9th May to capture an image of Mercury transiting the Sun at 12.56 pm.*



The Astronomical Society set up telescopes in the Craig Building courtyard so that pupils and staff could view the transit, which lasted from 12.12 pm to 7.41 pm. Although the weather was cloudy, Mercury was visible for about two hours, enabling around 100 pupils to see the transit for themselves.

## The RSSBC celebrate their 150th anniversary at the Shrewsbury Regatta

Monday 9 May 2016

*The Boat Club enjoyed the wonderful weather over the weekend as it celebrated its 150th Anniversary in fine style at the Shrewsbury Regatta. An armada of boats took to the water with over 100 crews in a variety of boat classes racing across the two days and wins in 44 different events. . A jovial atmosphere was enjoyed by hundreds of pupils, families and Old Salopians on the banks of the Severn.*

*A big thank you goes to Pengwern Boat Club who hosted the Regatta.*



Brief reports from each age group are as follows:

The **J14 Boys** excelled at their first Shrewsbury Regatta, winning 21 pots in total. On Saturday, the J14A Octo dominated their race from the start in the final against King's School Chester. Meanwhile, the B boys got plenty of race practice in, competing against fierce competition from King's. Minds are now focused on turning the tables at National Schools' on 27th May.





On the Sunday, focus was drawn away from National Schools' crews as the J14 Boys took home all four pots available in the J14 Single Sculls category. An invitational race of mixed octuples, boys and girls, took place in the afternoon and proved to be an exciting race to watch, with nine boys and girls coming away with a win. A successful weekend at Shrewsbury Regatta for the J14 Boys was just what they needed before their first National Schools' Regatta... May the success continue!



Wins:

- J14A Octuple
- J14 Double - (James Weir and Connor Hickey)
- J14 Single (Newport - Louis Nares)
- J14 Single (Oswestry - Frank Kelly)
- J14 Single (Newport Plate - George Bramwell)



J14 Single (Oswestry Plate - Archie McKirdy)  
J14 Octuples (Mixed crews)

The **J14 Girls** squad took part in six different events across the weekend ranging from sculls through to octuples. The first event of the day saw the girls break up in to three quads to race against some strong opposition. A. Cowan (cox) L. Lovick, O. Moir, L. Gabbitas, S. Worthington recorded convincing wins in each round of the competition to become the winners of the Kingsland WJ14 4x+ title.

T. Jackson (cox) A. Tonks, A. Cox, A. Cowan-Taylor, E. Fox-Davies had a tough first race, losing by a canvas to the eventual winners. The crew regrouped and recorded excellent wins in the plate competition and took home the Greyfairers Plate title. A. Duckworth (cox) I. Lewis, L. Birmingham, H. Haynes, M. Matthews won the first race but went out in the 2nd round to the eventual winners.



Sunday saw the girls compete in 1x (I. Lewis), 4x+ (A. Cowan (cox) L. Lovick, O. Moir, H. Haynes L. Gabbitas) and the rest of the girls in a mixed Octo with the J14 boys. I. Lewis was the eventual winner of the Junior Sculls Plate competition. The 4x+ had an excellent first race but after a long weekend of racing went out in round 2, losing by half a canvas to the eventual winners in a nail-biting race.

The weekend provided the girls with some fantastic racing opportunities and experience. There were highs and lows throughout the weekend which has given the girls something to work towards for National Schools'.



The **J15 Boys'** squad was split into a selection of both small and large boats and put in good performances all round to win ten events over the course of the weekend. Ali Davies did well to come home with the top count of four wins from four events. With many boys racing six or more times over the weekend, it was a testament to their fitness, dedication to training and to their skills in sculling as well as sweep oar rowing. They now look forward to the National Schools' Regatta to test themselves against the other J15 crews in the country.







The **J15 Girls** had a fantastic two days of racing. All of the squad took home silverware, with wins coming in the Eight on both Saturday and Sunday and the WJ15 Quad on Sunday.



The **J16 Boys** raced in a variety of boat types across the weekend and learned the important lessons that can only come from side-by-side racing. The crews won J16 4+, J16B 8+, J17 2- and J16 8+.





The **Senior Girls** also put out a range of small boats and enjoyed some very competitive racing in the doubles, which saw a few races go right down to the last stroke. The girls won WIM2 4X, Nov 2X, Nov 1X and J17 1X. It was also great to see six of the novice girls take to the water in their first competitive races.



The **Senior Boys** didn't miss out on the action and 25 of them claimed silverware over the weekend's racing. The 1st VIII entered 12 events, winning in 9 of them: J17 1X, J18 1X, IM3 1X (Sat & Sun), J18 2X, IM1 2-, IM2 2-, IM3 2-, IM3 4X.





The **2nd VIII** took on a Sabrina VIII in IM2 VIIIs and got the better of the Old Salopians in a good race. The crew then split up into fours on Saturday and Sunday afternoon, registering wins in IM1 4+s and IM2 4+s.





The **3rd VIII** took home the J18 VIII's' title after beating the J16A VIII in the final.



# Churchill's wins the Inter-House Quizzing Competition

Wednesday 11 May 2016



The Churchill's A quiz team successfully defended their inter-House quizzing title, run along University Challenge lines, in last week's final against an Ingram's team.

The quizzers (*pictured below L to R*) are Caspian Cowan Taylor, Oliver Bureau (captain), Fintan Simmons and Tom Hughes.



## Cricket news round-up

Wednesday 11 May 2016

*Shrewsbury School cricket teams have been enjoying a winning streak, with a busy fixture list and a clean sweep for all our boys' and girls' teams last week. Matches this Wednesday (11th May) were rained off, but on Thursday the U17s won through to the third round of the School Sports National U17s Cup.*



### Midweek matches

There was a packed programme of midweek matches on Wednesday 4th May, including a block fixture for the boys' teams versus Wrekin College.

The **1st XI** won their match by 8 wickets, having hit 142-2 chasing 139ao. Dan Lloyd was the pick of the bowlers with figures of 4-14. George Panayi 2-16 and Pat Jacob 2-25 also took wickets. George Garrett scored his maiden 50 with 58 runs and Harry Adair made 54\*.

The **U16A XI** had a 152-run victory, scoring 233-4: Ed Stapleton 100\*, Jordan Zaza 74, Naveen Hari 30; Matthew Clay was the pick of the bowlers (3-13).

The **U15A XI** got Wrekin 92ao, with Peter Clark taking 3-20. They knocked it off in 7 overs: Archie Turner 38\* and Ludo Litchfield 28\*.

The **U14A XI** registered a five-wicket victory, Sam Western taking 3-21 and Luke Bourne-Arton scoring 45\*.

The **U14B XI** registered a 48-run victory with Louis Street scoring 55\* and Cosmo Adair 28.

In their match on Wednesday, the **2nd XI** played Denstone College's 1st XI. Denstone scored 168-7 and there were 2 wickets each for Ross Orchard 2-8 and Ollie Dixon 2-24. In reply our stand-out batsmen were Matt White (55) and Josh Malyon (65\*). The total was reached with the last ball of the match.

Meanwhile the **U15 Girls' XI** beat Bromsgrove by 32 runs, Emma Graham and Lizzie Ware scoring 35\* & 24 respectively en route to a 132-2 total. Bromsgrove were 100-9 in reply, with Emma Graham also being the lead wicket-taker (3-14). Other wickets were taken by Rosie Davis 2-15, Lizzie Ware 2-9 and Eve Hartley 1-15.

The **U14 Girls' XI** registered their first win (a 67-run victory) against Moreton Hall. The girls batted first and scored 117-3: Issy Wong 20\*, Mollie Matthews 20\* and Amelie Davies 17. In reply Moreton were bowled out for 50.



### **Saturday matches**

On Saturday 7th May, the boys played a block fixture against Repton - resulting in another clean sweep.

The 1st XI won their match by 4 wickets. The stand-out performances were Charlie Cooke taking 4-38 and the batting of George Panayi (55\*) and Dan Lloyd (32\*) to finish off the match from an unlikely position.

There were also wins for the 2nd XI (by 6 wickets), 3rd XI (by 9 wickets), U15A XI (by 17 runs - D/L), U15B XI (by 6 wickets), U14A XI (by 51 runs - D/L), U14B XI (by 119 runs) and the U14C XI (by 5 wickets).

Stand-out performances from the day were: Max Parsonage's 101\* for the 2nd XI; Jordan Zaza's 5-63 for the 3rd XI; Marcus Bruce's 71\* and Tom Atkins' 59\* for the 3rd XI; Frank Morris' 56 and Ludo Litchfield's 52\* for the U15As; Max Wolstenholme's 5-47 for the U15Bs; and Frank Mansell's 5-6 for the U14Bs. Well done to all.

### **HMC T20 Competition**

On Sunday 8th May we hosted the group stage of the HMC T20 competition. The 1st XI beat



Wolverhampton Grammar by 62 runs and Ellesmere by 55 runs to win the group, thus securing a home draw in the next round.

### **Schools Sport National U17s Cup**

The U17s played Ellesmere College on Thursday 12th May in the second round of the Schools Sport National U17s Cup. Shrewsbury won by 3 wickets, with Third Former Peter Clark being the top wicket-taker (4-21) and Patrick Jacob, Tom Brunskill and Arthur Garrett taking 2 wickets apiece.

# 'Fun and Flames' - Prep School Chemistry Show

Wednesday 11 May 2016

*Another Thursday, another Chemistry Enrichment Afternoon. This week the Chemistry Department welcomed 16 enthusiastic Year 7 pupils from Packwood Haugh.*

Sixteen Year 7 pupils from Packwood Haugh School accompanied by Head of Science Mr Richard Herzog were entertained by demonstrations and experiments, designed by Senior Chemistry Technician Rachel Schofield, Head of Chemistry Dr Andy Briggs and assisted by Chemistry Technician Kathryn Davidson.

A brief introduction to our Chemistry Department and an eye-opening peek into the prep room started a great afternoon with an incredibly enthusiastic group of bright pupils.

Following this, the pupils gathered in the Science Lecture Theatre (SLT) for flash and bang demonstrations by Dr Briggs. There were flames, sparks and bangs a-plenty - and just as many volunteers - so everyone managed to take part. It was a great opportunity to see, smell and feel chemistry up close.



After the session in the SLT and because it was a very warm day, the pupils were welcomed into the chemistry laboratory with a surprise special treat of 'dry-ice' (solid CO<sub>2</sub>) cooled blackcurrant squash.



They then had a circus of multiple hands-on experiments to perform, which allowed them to get their hands dirty (and smelly) too!







We endeavour to keep revising the experiments we offer the prep school pupils, and all lab space was utilised with activities that would allow them to experience a variety of chemical situations and reactions themselves. In small groups, the pupils had access to some equipment they do not often use in prep schools, including chemical solutions, polymer reactions, dry-ice and liquid nitrogen. Household items have been brought into the session to show the pupils how they can perform chemistry at home (subject to parental approval!). A particular favourite now is making plastic from milk, which the pupils can take home once it's dried.



The pupils were very well behaved, enthusiastic in their questions and their answers and very polite. It is always a pleasure to host pupils with excellent lab skills. It was also fun sharing our facilities with siblings of current pupils.

The finale was the 'elephant's toothpaste' demonstration, and everyone went away with the satisfaction of having had a successful and enjoyable afternoon. Mr Herzog later commented, "Thank you so much for yesterday. Hugely enjoyed by both children and myself. I really appreciate the time and effort that goes into doing something like that." Roll on next Thursday...

*Andrew Briggs and Rachel Schofield*





## OSGS Make it to the Semi Final of the Halford Hewitt

Wednesday 11 May 2016

*The Halford Hewitt has been described by the golf writer Nick Tremayne as 'the greatest of all truly amateur tournaments'. Founded in 1924 it is competed for today by the old boys of 64 English and Scottish public schools which each field five foursomes pairs, making 640 competitors in all. The sheer size of the "field" - plus the hundreds of supporters who routinely turn up - is part of what makes the "Hewitt" a unique sporting event. The tournament has a rich history, frequently pits average golfers against famous internationals, and produces moments of golfing pressure simply not experienced by amateur players elsewhere.*

*The OSGS made it to the semi-final this year, for the first time since 1993 and you can read Andy Pollock's fantastic account of the tournament blow.*

Andy Pollock writes:

In the last couple of years we have lost in the second round in very closely contested matches against good sides. This year's draw gave us a first round draw against Hurtspierpoint, who are not one of the stronger schools in the competition, but the rest of our part of the draw was packed full of strong sides, so to progress beyond round two we knew we would have to play well.

Three of our stronger players, David Cassidy, Mark Ferguson and Alex Stewart, were unavailable due to business reasons but everyone else had played in a number of warm up matches and they were keen to progress further than previous years.

After our practice round one of the Hurtspierpoint team had been overheard in the changing rooms saying that Shrewsbury were only a middling Hewitt school these days and they fancied their chances. We knew it would not be a pushover but that was helpful motivation. Jon Howse and Richard Roberts out top won 2 and 1, Will and Jonty Champion at two won 3 and 2, James Skelton and captain Andy Pollock at four won 4 and 3 and we were one up in both the other matches. Job done but the prospect of two matches on Friday due to our position at the top of the draw was daunting.

First match out on Friday we faced the winners of Oundle and Malvern, both schools with a good record in the Hewitt. Oundle it was who beat Malvern 3-2 when the Malvern last pair missed a four footer to take it down to nineteen. Six of our side and six of the Oundle side had played against each other in 2010 when we lost to them three and a half to one and a half, the Champions being the only winners.

We decided to re-order our side with Will Painter and Simon Shepherd moving from five to first and they only lost on the eighteenth after a great scrap with Oundle's strong top pair. Howse and Roberts also lost by 2 and 1 playing second. The Champion brothers won 2 and 1, James Skelton and Andy Pollock won 3 and 2 leaving it to our inexperienced fifth pair, Angus Pollock and his nephew James.





Oundle had an eight footer on the eighteenth to win which they left short. James smote one miles down the middle of nineteen, Oundle were shorter off the tee in the light rough and proceeded to put their second in the water in front of the green. Angus hit long and left into the second cut of rough. Oundle play their fourth to fifteen feet past the pin and James, conscious that a thin puts us in the water, leaves it short for Angus to hole out from fully sixty feet!!

Angus had captained the Shrewsbury Saracens in two Cricketer Cup finals against Oundle in 1988 and 1989 both of which Oundle won narrowly so it was fitting that he should hole the winning putt from twenty two yards!!

A strong Cranleigh side were our next opponents on Friday afternoon. They had beaten Merchiston, winners a couple of years ago, in the first round and Canford, another strong side who usually do well as do Cranleigh. Their supporters were already booking their accommodation for Friday evening.

We decided to change the order again. Howse and Roberts back to top after a pep talk from the captain to make sure they finish off early good work and they deliver 2 and 1. The Champions at two are in a real ding dong and always behind. James Skelton and Andy Pollock playing at three face a plus one handicapper from Sunningdale and John Davies, who played in four Walker Cups in the 1970's!! Playing at four the James and Angus Pollock combination are still on a high from their win in the morning and coast to a 3 and 2 victory and it is tight in match five.

The Skelton and captain's match is a real ding dong, one up, one down that sort of thing. Square at the turn Shrewsbury win ten, eleven, twelve. Cranleigh then go birdie birdie at thirteen and fourteen!! On the eighteenth tee Shrewsbury are still one up but ahead the Champions have fought back from three down with four to play and are moving to the nineteenth tee so there are two chances to win the overall match.

On the eighteenth after two good drives and second shots just off the green, Cranleigh are four feet away in three with Shrewsbury eight feet away. Cool as a cucumber James Skelton holes out to win the match. Ahead the Champions had two for it on the nineteenth and pair five were all square coming down the eighteenth. A very fine victory with all members of the side make a strong contribution.

It was such an exciting day that former Hewitt stars Anthony Parsons and Peter Broad who were there to support us stayed until the last putt was sunk in the evening. They had told us the night before that even if we won in the morning they would have to leave at lunch time!!!

The advantage of playing twice on Friday is that you only have one match on Saturday so we had a leisurely breakfast as we awaited the outcome of the Edinburgh Rossall match. At 12.30 we teed off against Rossall against whom there have been many famous matches in the past. We decided to go with the same order.

They were very confident in their first three with some young blood, one of whom was a young pro just returned to Amateur status. Howse and Roberts, now galvanised, sailed through 4 and 3 with a barrage of birdies, the Champions out second succumbed and James Skelton and Andy Pollock held on to the coat tails of the pro for as long as they could before the birdies started and lost 4 and 3.

Angus and James still on a high from the day before sailed through 3 and 2 giving Will Painter and Simon Shepherd the chance to show what they could do. Two up with two to play they



managed to lose seventeen to a six!! Rossall got up and down on eighteen to take it down nineteen.

It had rained heavily all day and nineteen was playing into a strong wind so getting there in two was impossible which suited us as Will and Simon never went for it in two even with the wind behind!!

Both pairs on in three, nothing much in it, probably about twenty five feet with Rossall's putt slightly easier but not straightforward. Simon's putt was a beauty and died on the lip of the hole. They left their's eight feet short and missed the next putt. Shrewsbury in the semi final for the first time since 1993 and we have to quickly find some accommodation!!

Radley are the opponents in the semis, they have been there or thereabouts for the last ten or fifteen years so have plenty of experience. We are all not sure what is going on! Another change in the batting order as we move James and Angus to two and the Champions to three with the captain and James Skelton to four.

Howse and Roberts win a great match on the eighteenth. James and Angus, playing arguably the Radley strongest pair manage to take it to sixteen before recording their first loss. The Champions against another strong pair also finish second. Skelton and the captain are in another real ding dong, all square on the sixteenth tee but putts from the captain on sixteen and seventeen failed to drop and it is not to be. The fifth pair took an honourable half.

It was a great few days, everyone enjoyed themselves and the team spirit was fantastic. The fact that everyone during the run played a crucial role at some point was very satisfying. Jon Howse and Richard Roberts have turned into a very fine top pair. Will and Jonty Champion, with over thirty years experience each are a match for anyone, former Cambridge blue James Skelton and Andy Pollock are a strong combination. Will Painter has played in 114 matches and even in his early sixties still plays a good game of golf and his partnership with Simon Shepherd was very successful, neither are long off the tee but chip and putt very well.

The surprise pairing was Angus and James Pollock. Previously not automatic picks for the side, although both had played four matches before, going into the semi final they had the best win percentage of any pair, three wins, and a half when they were leading anyway. Under extreme pressure they delivered against Oundle in the second round and then won their next two matches convincingly setting up the wins for the team.

As stated at the beginning, Messrs Cassidy, Ferguson and Stewart were unavailable. Ed Lowes and Mike Thelwall-Jones, both former team members are both playing regularly again and hopefully will be back again before too long.

The average age of this year's side was 49 and an average handicap of 4.2. If you would like to help get the average age and average handicap down please do not be shy in coming forward. There is a great spirit in the Shrewsbury squad and we hope that may have been excited by the report of our run this year and you may wish to come and experience it for yourself. The Halford Hewitt is one of the most interesting and exciting competitions in which to play.

If you would like to find out more please contact Andy Pollock on [andypollock@btinternet.com](mailto:andypollock@btinternet.com)

We look forward to welcoming you.

Finally, thank you to all our supporters who, even if they could not attend in person, were in regular contact with their good wishes before and after every round. And of course we should not forget Will Painter's wife Claire who caddied for him in very round and as the OSGS's first WAG was also our lucky charm! We look forward to seeing her on many more occasions.





## School House oarsman wins GB gold at Munich Regatta

Thursday 12 May 2016

*Congratulations to Matthew Rowe (SH LVI), who represented Great Britain at the Munich International Junior Regatta last weekend. On Sunday he raced in a coxless four that won their race in impressive fashion by 10 seconds.*

The previous day, Matthew raced in a pair that came 4th in the A final.

With 850 competitors from 15 countries taking part, the Regatta provided valuable preparation for the World Junior Championships this summer.

For more news about the success of the GB Rowing Team Juniors, please see <https://www.britishrowing.org/2016/05/eight-medals-in-munich-for-gbrt-juniors/>





## Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Thursday 12 May 2016

*This week, the Under-15 rowing squad.*

Last year there was too much water for the Shrewsbury Regatta to go ahead. Starved of this very conveniently situated regatta for too long, I had been looking forward to seeing some of Shrewsbury's up and coming oarsmen and women in action last weekend. But I then realised that it conflicted with the Under-14C XI's destruction of Repton and that I was then nipping up north to impart words of wisdom to the excellent students of Ardvreck and Cargilfield Prep Schools.

Yet even in Scotland, word was filtering through that the Under-15 year group of oarsmen and women at Shrewsbury were in dominant form. Were those the cheers from the sunny Severn I could hear mingling with the lowing of the hairy beasts surrounding me in the Highlands and their cattle? Tom Fitton, one of the Under-15's inspirational coaches, told me that they won 14 of the 20 events they entered and took a haul of 60 tankards back home. There are rumours that they may be sponsored by British steel!

I caught up with the squad as they prepared to race a variety of different crews on Wednesday afternoon. The boys were in vibrant form and were clearly enjoying one of my many jokes. (Q: What's red and round and speaks in a quiet voice? A: A hoarse radish! – It was little wonder that they were in such high spirits.)



Jack Li had won in a single scull. Ali Davies and Ben Holehouse had also been victorious, as had Eric Myint-Maung and Chad Usher. Chad and Eric work well together as a pair. Speaking as one, they were quick to tell me that they had defeated a pair of unidentified Sixth Formers. (It is rumoured that they had a strong resemblance to Alfie Yeoward and Alex Lawson.) They went on

to tell me that in the final they raced a pair of more mature gentlemen who were both wearing bandanas. I asked Chad and Eric if they had seen the film 'Rambo' and if after the race they had experienced any flashbacks. They replied, "We have seen 'Rambo', our fathers made us watch it when we were quite small. It is one of the reasons for our mental toughness now. Yes, we have had flashbacks but only of us winning! We will be back!" I wondered if they were confusing 'Rambo' with 'The Terminator'. They assured me that was not the case. "We have seen many macho films and they all roll into one. Hasta la vista baby!"

I enquired slightly nervously if they had played any mindgames with their competitors. Chad was quick to mention that Eric was really up for the race and looking his opponents in the eye had said: "Do I feel lucky? Well, do ya punk?" Eric felt this bravado allied with a fear of men in bandanas had helped contribute to their fine win.



The Under-15 eight beat Harper Adams and The Welbeck Navy Defence School. I wondered how the lads felt about this and they were all concerned that the standard of the Navy might be in some decline. That may be true, but I had just found out that Toby Cope had been the cox for the day. Having coached him cricket last year, I wondered if the mental toughness I helped instill in my Under-14C team had benefitted him this year. Toby just looked me in the eye and said, "I just motivate my crew with some of your favourite phrases." He went on to say that he had yelled at his crew on the start line "The inches we need are everywhere around us. In any fight, it's the guy who's willing to die that's gonna win that inch. Because that's what living is! The six inches in front of your face!" Toby even sounded like Al Pacino in 'Any Given Sunday', and I suddenly knew who was really responsible for this resounding success.

The girls were also on good from. I came across Molly 'Special' Kaye and Chloe Edwards, who were sitting out a training session owing to ancient injuries.





Chloe had won three tankards at the weekend and Molly two. The reason for the difference in quantities of silverware was that one final had involved both our under-15 girls' quads battling against each other and Chloe was in the winning one. They were both delighted with their win in the eight against King's Chester and the more mature ladies from Bewdley Rowing Club. I think I am right in saying that this was the first ever win by Shrewsbury School in a race of this nature. Molly must take some credit for this as an inspirational cox. Described by some of her friends as generally relaxed and mellow, she sure packs a punch as a cox. Chloe told me that Molly started with a Kevin Spacey quote from 'Swimming with Sharks': "You have no brain. No judgement calls are necessary. What you think means nothing. What you feel means nothing. You are just here for me. Now row!" I looked at Molly in something of a new light and decided not to ask her any more questions.



There were tough and victorious Salopians everywhere. I bumped into Tessa Scott Bell who proudly informed me that she had won a tankard with Lucy Price by defeating another Bewdley crew in the final. Charlie Tonks told me that she had had a most satisfying day. “I have had a most satisfying day,” she told me. I asked her what her motivation for winning was. She said that much of it stemmed from seeing the pain that losing can have on someone. “I have watched my father suffer as Manchester United look like they may fail to qualify for the Champions League and I thought I don’t want to suffer like that!” Jasmine Lo told me much the same. “I get really low when we lose and I have always tried to avoid living up to my name.”

Lexi Bothamley-Dakin is another top oarswoman who has no real recipe for success but she did tell me, “Philosophy of Religion inspires me to keep going when it gets tough. After all, if I can survive a double lesson with you, Mr Bell, what’s a 10k ergo?” I used to like Lexi!



*The J15s on their way to victory at Shrewsbury Regatta last weekend*

I can tell you that the mood at the Boathouse is very positive at present and the under-15 crews are optimistic about success at the National Schools' Regatta in two weeks' time. I thought I would seek a final word of wisdom from articulate, sophisticated English teacher and rowing coach Lauren Temple, who was keen not to appear in this column and claimed not to know of its existence. I asked her for an inspirational quote in this year of Shakespearian celebrations. Lauren told me she likes to tell her crews: "To crush your enemies, see them driven before you and to hear the lamentation of their women." I imagine that must be from one of the history plays.

Well done the Awesome oarsmen and women!  
GJFB





# House Quiz Competition

Thursday 12 May 2016

*Seventeen teams entered this year's House Quiz; just four made it through to the final, which took place in the Ashton Theatre on 6th May. Quizzing at Shrewsbury follows a format similar to that of BBC TV's 'University Challenge' and is organised by Dr Oakley, captain of the victorious team from Corpus Christi College, Oxford in 2005.*

After seventeen preliminary matches including a couple of rematches, Ingram's, Oldham's, Rigg's and Churchill's took to the stage of the Ashton Theatre for the House Quiz Finals. Although Dr Oakley comperes the early rounds, he retreats to the lighting box to make way for Mr Percival's 'Paxmaniacal' patter for the final three matches.

Ingram's, who had previously seen off a much fancied Ridgemount team on a sudden death tie-break, were extremely convincing in their semi-final win over Oldham's. They shared the starter questions with each team member getting at least two correct. Harvey Hancock made the biggest contribution with 80 of their 225 points, just shy of the Oldham's team total of 90.

The second semi-final saw Rigg's take on Churchill's. Rigg's had chalked up easy wins over The Grove and Churchill's B, whereas Churchill's had had much closer and more controversial encounters. The match started off rather one-sided with Churchill's pulling away to an impressive lead. The Rigg's team then woke up and Ed Donovan summoned the answers to five starters. Sadly, it was too little too late and Churchill's booked their place in the Final for second year in a row with Caspian Cowan Taylor correctly answering seven starters, ably backed up by Oliver Bureau with four and Tom Hughes with three. The final score was 285-125.

The Final was then between the 2009 champions Ingram's and the defending champion's Churchill's. It felt like a very close encounter to begin with, but Churchill's superior bonus conversion gave them the edge at the half-way point. Some inspiration from Charlie Johns from Ingrams kept them in the match, but Churchill's scored the same number of points as in their semi. The final score was 285-160. Caspian Cowan Taylor dug out the answers for a further six questions, making him the most prolific buzzer of the finals and the competition as a whole.



*L-R: Caspian Cowan Taylor, Oliver Bureau (captain), Fintan Simmons and Tom Hughes*

Congratulations to Churchill's on retaining their title. Given all four members will still be *in statu pupillari*, other teams may need to start practising now to challenge them in 2017.

CWO

## Shrewsbury athletics team compete in the Achilles Relays

Thursday 12 May 2016

On Thursday 5th May Shrewsbury School was represented at the Achilles Relays in Oxford, arguably the most prestigious date in the Athletics calendar. (They take place on the 'hallowed ground' of the Iffley Road Track, where Sir Roger Bannister broke the four-minute mile in 1954.) The School took four teams: at U15, U17 and U19 categories for the boys, and one U17 girls' team.

The clash with Field Day for the Third and Fourth Forms made our teams a little thin in the younger age categories, so many of those who went were asked to do rather a lot of running! We were at full strength in the U19 boys category, though, and confident of some success here with the quality of sprinters and longer-distance runners we have. A core of four Fourth and Fifth Form girls (all from The Grove) made up our U17 girls' squad.



Warm conditions greeted us in Oxford, which certainly proved to be a factor in the latter stages of the event, especially in the 4 x 800m races. The heats for the 100m were first up, and though none of our teams progressed at this distance, we were at least competitive and were unfortunate not to get through in the U19 category, where we only narrowly missed out.



We had better success in the 4 x 200m, where the U17 girls and the U19 boys progressed through to the final with some excellent running and nice, smooth change-overs. We only entered one team in the 4 x 400m, in the U19 boys, and though we only had one 400m specialist, the team put on a very good display against some strong opposition and qualified through to the final. In the 4 x 800m, the U17 boys did well to come 5th in their event, while the U19 lads went one better with 4th, averaging just 2:14 per leg – an excellent show of strength here.



In the final of the 4 x 200m, the U17 girls managed a really encouraging 5th place, up against some of the best schools in the country – a sign of real growth here since last year. In the U19



category for the same distance, the boys managed to hold on to 5th place in the final straight, despite not being the best prepared. (They'd munched their way through some sandwiches just beforehand, not knowing they'd qualified!) This was one event too far for them though, and since two of these runners were slated for the final of the 4 x 400m final, we decided not to contest it – some of them had already run four races, and were exhausted!

Overall, while we may have been a bit disappointed not to come away with any medals, there were some excellent team performances here and a great day of athletics was had by all. There are signs of real strength here for the rest of the season. Well done to all who competed.

*IPH*



## 'An Evening of Chamber Music' by Shrewsbury School staff and guests

Thursday 12 May 2016

*Those discerning followers of Shrewsbury School music who gathered in the Maidment Building on 29th April were rewarded with an evening of high class chamber playing.*



*François Ragot and Fanny Corbus*

The participants, members of staff and their guests, were individually and collectively on top form, blending as if they had been together for a lifetime, rather than the few hours available to them.

In the first part of the programme, a string quartet by Saint-Saëns, all four proved equal to the technical demands of the work and produced a notably rich sound. The excellent acoustics of the auditorium have never been more in evidence. David Joyce was a confident, eloquent leader, ably supported in the first item by Jayne Robinson, and by Fanny Cobus (viola) and François Ragot (cello) in both. We are grateful to the latter two for making the long journey from the South of France to lend their expertise to the venture. They radiated commitment and enjoyment in everything they did.

Conscious of the looming shadow of Beethoven, Brahms famously delayed the composition of a symphony, but his piano quartet is a mighty work, symphonic in scale and given here an impassioned, noble reading. At the piano, John Moore gave a performance that was both massive and lyrical, a formidable feat, but to the credit of all concerned, the string players were not swamped and the whole was an achievement rightly given a rousing reception.

I feared that the decision to give an encore might result in anti-climax, but such was the elation within the quartet that they rounded off the evening with a triumphant flourish. More cheering.

*Martin Knox*

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## Grafton Morrish 2016

Sunday 15 May 2016

The Grafton Morrish is a scratch foursomes competition for old pupils of Schools who are members of the Headmasters Conference. About 115 schools enter every year and eight qualifying events are held around the country, from which 48 teams progress to the finals in October at Hunstanton and Brancaster.

As a midlands school our qualifier is at Olton Golf Club in Solihull, Birmingham. We play against ten other schools and four qualify.

This year our team of Mark Ferguson and Simon Shepherd, Jon Howse and Alex Stewart, Will Painter and Andy Pollock qualified by coming second to Monmouth School. Repton and Malvern failed to qualify this year.





# Maiden County Championship Century for David Lloyd

Sunday 15 May 2016



David Lloyd (G 08-10) impressed with his maiden championship century during Glamorgan's match with Kent. He scored 107 and his partnership score of 2015, with Graham Wagg, was a Glamorgan record.

The incredible Shrewsbury School legacy to British cricket continues in fine form.

You can read the full BBC article [on this link](#)



## Cricket news update

Sunday 15 May 2016

*The 1st XI's unbeaten run continues and there were wins last week for several of our other teams too.*

On Saturday we played a block fixture against Sedbergh. The 1st XI, the U14A, U14B and U15B XIs were all victorious. However, the 2nd XI and the U15As lost.

The 1st XI won by 5 wickets; the standout performances were Jamie Crawley's 60 and George Newton and George Panayi taking 3 wickets each for 36 and 28 respectively.

The U14As won by 6 wickets having chased down Sedbergh's 108-5 (30 overs) in 18.4 overs. Garrett (36) and Jack Goodall (20\*) were the standout batsmen.

The U14Bs registered a dominant 165-run victory, having scored 225-5 (Frank Mansell - 57 and Alex Powell - 54) before bowling Sedbergh out for 50.

The U15Bs won convincingly thanks to Charlie Ockleston's 3-3 with the ball and Ben Henderson's (S) 36\* with the bat.

The 2nd XI and the U15As both lost, despite Josh Maylon's 58 and Archie Turner's 37.

Earlier in the week there was a comfortable victory for the U15C team against Old Swinford Hospital. Shrewsbury batted first to score an impressive 133-4 and their opponents never appeared likely to muster the run rate required, resulting in a 53-run victory. Standout performances were: Keita Nakamura and George Twelves for accurate opening bowling and a magnificent six from George; Leo Jin's fine middle-stump delivery from sparking wild celebrations; a captain's performance from Joe Scott, batting throughout the innings to bring stability; and Man of the Match Xander Nuijten - 38 runs and 2-8 with the ball. Captain Joe Scott batted through the innings until the final over when he was clean bowled, scoring 32 to hold the team together.

## RSSBC: Nottingham City Regatta

Sunday 15 May 2016

*The Boat Club took five eights and the Girls' 1st Quad to compete at the Nottingham City Regatta. With two weeks to go to the National Schools' Regatta, the event provided an ideal opportunity to refine some of the work done on the River Severn and get some multi-lane practice. The highlight was an impressive win by the 2nd VIII.*



*2nd VIII*



*J15A*





*J16A*

With only one junior category available to race, the J15As, J16As & Bs and 2nd VIII all entered the IM3 8s category. The first two from each heat of six would proceed to the final. The J15As and J16As both put in strong performances against senior opposition to come third in their heats and the J16Bs came in 5th out of 6. The 2nd VIII led their heat from start to finish to progress to the final.



*J16B*

In the final the 2nd VIII produced their best row of the season to date and opened up a length on the opposition in the first 500m, which they continued to extend down the course to win by an impressive margin of 5 seconds. It was a timely boost for the crew who have now won two weekends running and will be looking forward to taking on the challenge at National Schools'.

The Girls' 1st Quad got their first race this year on a multi-lane course in the WJ18 4X event and showed some encouraging signs with a quick start and good cruising pace but struggled to make the most of their speed and had to settle for third place.



*Girls' 1st Quad*

The 1st VIII raced in the J18 VIII's' event. The crew performed strongly, leading the field from start to finish and posting the second fastest time of the day overall.



*1st VIII*



## RSSBC 150th Anniversary Gathering on Saturday 7th May 2016

Sunday 15 May 2016

*Two events have been planned to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Royal Shrewsbury School Boat Club, - a spectacular dinner will take place in November, but the first was the gathering at the School Boathouse during the Shrewsbury Regatta on 7th May.*



With the highly appropriate backdrop of Salopians competing in the annual Shrewsbury Regatta, the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the R.S.S.B.C. took place on Saturday, 7th May 2016.



More than two hundred guests, including members of Sabrina Club, other Old Salopians, together with parents and their ladies and current members of the R.S.S.B.C., assembled in the Gifford Room of the







Yale Boathouse, to hear speeches by the Headmaster, Mark Turner and by Philip Lapage (Master and R.S.S.B.C. coach since 1982). Refreshments of champagne and canapés were served and the walls of the room were decorated by magnificent, greatly enlarged photographs of the victories of School crews, (which included 14 victories at Henley), collected and arranged by Nick Randall to encourage current Salopians to emulate the achievements of their predecessors, and also by the text of the chapter on the history of the R.S.S.B.C, similarly enlarged, from David Gee's book, *City on a Hill*. Another brand new book, lavishly illustrated, specifically designed to celebrate 150 years of the personalities and activities of the Club, was offered to all those present and will be available at other regattas and R.S.S.B.C. gatherings throughout the year.

Among the honoured guests were Mrs Coralie Arkwright, the great-niece of Edwin Pugh (M 1913-1916 in whose memory the adjacent Boat House was named), together with her husband Darren: their welcome presence added further significance to the occasion.



The celebration was concluded by the naming of three boats. Neil (Rt 1983-1988) and Andrew (G 1992-1997) Racz (who were both coxes) each donated and named a coxless pair in honour of his brother, while a coxless four was named for Paul Manser (DB 1974-1979), who has served the Boat Club for nine years as a devoted coach and tireless administrator.

A further celebration, in the form of a dinner in London on 5th November, of which further notice will be given in all Salopian publications, will complete the observance of the anniversary year.



## OS In Oxford

Monday 16 May 2016



Many thanks to Ed Carroll (Ch 10-15) for kick starting what we hope will become an annual tradition - a gathering of OS currently studying in Oxford.

18 OS from across the various years attended the drinks in the Kings Arms, Oxford and a very enjoyable evening was had by all. The Salopian Club put money behind the bar to support the event and we hope to see more events of a similar nature in the future.

Pictured above left to right are: Miranda Woods (MSH 13-15), Aue Angpanitcharoen (Ch 10-15), Ilya Lapan (I 12-14), Ed Carroll (Ch 10-15), Dominic Dootson (M 10-15), Dan Lo (SH 10-15), Charis Virgo (MSH 13-15), Crystal Chan (MSH 12-14), Judah Rand (R 08-13), Tom Lloyd (Rt 09-14), Jack Flowers (I 07-12) & Tabby Price (MSH 10-12).



# Shropshire Athletics County Championships

Monday 16 May 2016

*Twenty-one Shrewsbury School athletes took part in the Shropshire Athletics Championships on Saturday, producing some excellent performances and returning with a number of medals and PBs.*

Noted performances were:

Ben Remnant (Ch) - Gold in the 800m and 1500m

Charlie Johns (I) - Bronze in the 1500m

Sam Watts (Ch) – Silver in the High Jump

Reuben Arkwright (O) - Silver in the Long Jump

Immie Evans (G) - Bronze in the 800m

Lillian Wilcox (EDH) - Bronze and a PB in the 1500m

Claire Richards (G) - Silver in the Long Jump

Punn Vajrabhaya (SH) - Silver in the Discus

Antoine Ceolin (Rt) - 4th in the 100m

Monty Hardcastle (I) - Gold in the 200m.

In the relays Shrewsbury's U17 Women were 2nd and Shrewsbury's U17 Men were 3rd.



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## Tennis: Shrewsbury v Uppingham

Tuesday 17 May 2016

*Shrewsbury enjoyed an overall win of 5-2 against Uppingham last Saturday, which included wins in all the senior fixtures for the first time in nine years.*

The 1st VI won 5-4; the 2nd VI won 8-1; and the 3rd VI won 6-2.

The U15As & U15Bs lost 2-7 and 3-6 respectively. But at junior level, there were wins for both the U14As (7-2) and the U14Bs (6-3).



## Junior School Essay Prize

Wednesday 18 May 2016

*Last Friday 13th May, 63 Third and Fourth Form pupils volunteered to sit the Shrewsbury Junior School Essay Prize.*

Pupils were asked to write one essay in an hour on a question of their choice from a wide range of topic areas. Covering academic areas as diverse as nuclear power, the relationship between scientific research and God, the EU referendum and identity, pupils were certainly challenged by a range of thoughtful, stretching questions.

Originality of thought, poise and academic flair were the order of the day and it was particularly pleasing to those reading scripts this week to witness the sheer variety of response offered - indicating a clear range of talents and academic interests across our Third and Fourth Forms.

A selection of essays will be chosen from each year group to go forwards to an external judge before the winner is announced after the Exeat. Well done to all those who took part for showcasing their intellectual curiosity and willingness to 'go beyond' the confines of their syllabus.

## James Hinwood fences for England

Wednesday 18 May 2016

*During the Easter holiday, James Hinwood (Rt IV) travelled to Poland to take part in the Wratistlavia Challenge as part of the 12-man England cadet épée squad. The event attracted fencers from across Europe.*



In his first round of poules, James won five out of six of his first bouts with a healthy plus-13 hits indicator, which seeded him 22nd going into the direct elimination stage.

Having beaten Grzegorz Woldeyes (Poland) 15-3 in his first direct elimination fight, his next fight was against Mikalai Zdanchuk (Belarus) which he won 15 -12.

He then met Robbie Brown (Scotland), winning this fight 15-14 in what proved to be a very tense encounter.

In the last sixteen fencers he met Matyas Brykner (Czech Republic) and lost 15 - 12.

His final position was 13th from a field of 160 fencers – an outstanding result.

*Ken Holding  
Wrekin Sword*



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# Shrewsbury School's holiday course for children: Archery - 3rd August

Wednesday 18 May 2016

Children of all abilities are welcome to attend this one-day coaching session with the School's Head Archery Instructor. All budding archers will experience a full day of coaching in an enjoyable and safe environment, teaching safety, aim, shooting accurately and achieving that all important bull's-eye!

This course is for 8-13-year-old boys and girls. There is no minimum requirement and complete beginners are welcome.

## **Date**

Wednesday 3rd August, Tuesday 23rd August

## **Price**

£30

## **What you will need**

Please bring a packed lunch, with drinks and snacks, and wear sports clothing - including a long-sleeved top.

## **Booking**

To book a place on this course or any of our academy and sporting programmes please complete the **Registration Form** and return either via email to [sport@shrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:sport@shrewsbury.org.uk) or via post to Sports Facilities Department, Shrewsbury School, The Schools, Shrewsbury, SY3 7BA.



## Ingramites take on the Three Peaks Challenge for charity

Wednesday 18 May 2016

*On Sunday 28th May, James Fearn, Jack Lock, Guy Nicholson and Henry Lai of Ingram's Hall will attempt the Three Peaks Challenge, one of the most iconic endurance events in the UK, climbing Ben Nevis (1,345m), Scafell Pike (978m) and Snowdon (1,085m) within 24 hours. They are raising funds for the charity Plan UK.*



The team have been training over the past few months with regular walking sessions, including a recent trip with their Housemaster Mike Wright to climb Snowdon and familiarise themselves with the route they will be taking during the Challenge itself.

The venture is part of a major fundraising initiative for Plan UK that Ingram's Hall have been working on throughout the year. Plan UK is a global children's charity that works with children in the world's poorest countries. (See their website <http://www.plan-uk.org/>.) So far the team have raised £3,750 and donations are still coming in. As well as online fundraising, movie nights and cake sales have helped contribute to this figure.

The team and the rest of Ingram's Hall are pushing on with their charity collections and are planning more fundraising. This summer Mr Wright will be undertaking his own mountain challenge for Plan UK, trekking through the Andes. They have set up a collective Ingram's Hall online JustGiving page. If you would like to donate, it is simple and fast and all details will be kept in confidence and will not be used for further contact: <https://www.justgiving.com/teams/IngramsHall>

# Why I'm running the Shrewsbury Half Marathon

Thursday 19 May 2016

*Passy Goddard (G UVI) explains why she is proud to be running the Shrewsbury Half Marathon next month as part of Team Shrewsbury School, raising funds for the Restart Centre in Kenya.*

*Last October, Passy was one of a squad of 13 runners who took part in the Hunt's tour to Kenya and Ethiopia. In amongst their intensive training programme, a major highlight of their trip was a visit to the Restart Centre in Gilgil, which provides a safe home to just over 100 orphans and street children from the surrounding area.*



"We had the opportunity to meet, play and learn with the children. Despite differences in language and culture, the sense of human connection transcended these barriers and really hit home the value of mutual human care and interaction.

Surrounded by grinning, excited children, it was too easy to forget the reason for them being there. Behind smiling eyes, each had their own tragic story; their upbringings tales of brutality, neglect and corruption. Yet, at the Restart Centre, they have been given the support, security, love and education that we so easily take for granted. Essentially a restart at life. With every contribution, Restart strives closer to making its motto a reality: "Think not what you are, but what you can become".

With this motto in mind, I will be proud to don my vest on 19th June not only to support the Restart Centre, but also to represent the School one last time. The Half Marathon will be my final race for Shrewsbury School, which I have been honoured to represent over the past two



years. The sense of camaraderie which the vest stands for creates something far more valuable than individual achievement; it truly embodies the School ethos. No better way to finish my Shrewsbury career than truly feeling part of a bigger cause – both for the School and for Restart."

Support would be very much

appreciated: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PascaleGoddard>

To find out more about the work of Restart, please visit their website: <http://www.restartafrica.org/>



## Emily Skelton wins Durham University Scholarship for the Arts

Thursday 19 May 2016

*Congratulations to Emily Skelton (EDH UVI), who in addition to being offered a place to study Anthropology and Sociology at Durham University, has also been awarded a Vice Chancellor's Scholarship for the Arts.*

This scholarship is for applicants who demonstrate an "exceptional level of excellence" in the Arts, and Emily is looking forward to being heavily involved in university theatrical and musical productions over the next three years.

During her time at Shrewsbury, Emily has had leading roles in several School and House plays and musicals, including playing the part of Roxanne in *Cyrano de Bergerac* and Miss Havisham in *Great Expectations*.





## Nifemi Okusanya is crowned ‘fastest boy in the School’ and takes his second Sidney-Darwin Dash title

Saturday 21 May 2016



*Finalists in full flight*

The Sidney-Darwin Dash is a 100-metre sprint on Top Common, in which the fastest runners from each House are pitted against each other. It is fair to say that School House’s Okusanya brothers were hotly tipped as favourites. So, when older brother Ladi (UVI) unexpectedly pulled up with a quad injury in the heats that put him out of the final, Nifemi (LVI) was left with full the burden of expectation.

However, despite the disappointment of being unable to compete in his final year, Ladi was there to help train his brother and put him through his warm-up routine on the morning of the race. It was also Ladi who was there at the finish to photograph and congratulate his little brother, as he crossed the line well ahead of the pack to take the title in front of cheers from the whole School. It was a comfortable victory for Nifemi; despite a slip at the start and a chronic thigh injury, he crossed the line in 11.46 seconds, which means that he has his eye on the record next year (11.04s)... there is even talk of him going sub 11 seconds.





*Nifemi receiving the trophy from the Headmaster*

School House had further success in the Junior event: Arron Lewis (IV) took the bronze medal in an excellent race in which the winner broke the School record. Arron has high hopes of following in Nifemi's footsteps in the future.

Having won the Junior Sidney-Darwin Dash two years ago, Nifemi has now added the Senior title to his achievements. The key to his victories? Well, all we'll say is that on both occasions he has feasted on Mrs Besterman's pasta the night before... The recipe shall remain top secret!

For a full report on the morning's races, please click on the following link: [Sidney-Darwin Dash and Quarter-Mile Challenge 2016](#)



*Arron and Nifemi with their medals*



# Shrewsbury win the U18 Boys' Basketball County League

Sunday 22 May 2016

*Following last week's victory over Madeley and a walkover against Thomas Telford, it has been confirmed that Shrewsbury School Basketball team 'The Sharks' can now be declared winners of the U18 boys' County League.*



With wins last term against Ellesmere, William Brookes, New College Telford and Idsall, the Sharks are worthy winners of the Shropshire County league. The crucial performance was an epic 2-point victory against Idsall (89-87). This was Idsall's first defeat in three years and was the launchpad for the Sharks' season.

This was very much a squad effort and all the team played their part. Leading points scorer Travis Ho (Rt) led the way and was unplayable at times. Aaron Zhao (SH) and Wentao He (SH) were also instrumental, rebounding well on both sets of boards. Captain Adam Leung (M) was Mr Consistent and marshalled the troops well both on and off the court. His younger brother, Felix (M) went from strength to strength and will be a key player for the next three years. Ken Lai (S) recovered well from a nasty ankle injury to become one of the most improved players in the School and he was a key squad player.

Koby Ferdinand-Okpala (SH), Sergei Vartanov (SH), Harry Zhang (I) and Eccles Cheong (SH) all played their part and gained valuable time on court which will stand them in good stead for next season.



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None of this year's success would have been possible without the excellent coaching of Geoff Parry and Josh Crutchley. They have added steel, discipline and team ethic to Shrewsbury basketball, which has always had the flair and creativity. They have engineered some fine victories with their experience and know-how of how to win tight games. Training sessions are intensive and purposeful and player development is a key feature.

This has been a memorable season, with a strong showing in the National Cup too and the future is bright and in very good hands.

*WAH*



# Sidney-Darwin Dash and Quarter-Mile Challenge 2016

Sunday 22 May 2016

*Now in their sixth year, the Sidney-Darwin Dash and Quarter-Mile Challenge have rapidly established themselves as Salopian sporting traditions, with the races keenly contested and the whole School spectating after Sunday morning chapel.*

The genesis of the event came when a local resident of the town contacted the School asking whether we would be interested in a silver butter dish top that she had found in her attic, presented on 17th June 1869 to a certain H. Hughes for winning the Shrewsbury School Quarter-Mile. Having gratefully received this donation, we added a rather fine plinth and silver plates and considered the idea of recreating the old 'Quarter-Mile' event. A suitable location was scouted for, with various areas around the school campus and beyond considered, but the area around Central was settled on to include a loop down past the Main School Building and around the Alington Hall. We decided, moreover, to extend the event to include a sprint, with the tree-lined avenue from the Sidney to Darwin statues providing a natural 'track' to put our speedsters to the test.

It was certainly quirky and not your average athletics event, but the first year's event was a tremendous success, with competitors and spectators relishing the uniqueness of the event and the exciting action that it generated. The trophy was won by Port Hill's Howard Stringer in a time that remains the event record, a title that he retained in his Upper Sixth year in 2012. The junior Quarter-Mile was won in that first year by Stuart Brown from The Grove, with Chike Kandi from Moser's Hall taking the winner's tankard in the newly-christened junior 'Sidney-Darwin Dash'. Howard Stringer completed an impressive 'double' in winning the senior Sidney-Darwin Dash, a feat not yet repeated by a Salopian.

As Darwin himself would have noted, the event itself has evolved over the years with the races moving to the grass of Top Common in 2015 and girls competing in both age-groups since last year, now that the School is fully co-educational. It remains an exciting and dramatic event with the School's top athletes competing for the trophies in this eagerly-awaited contest.





In the first race of the day, the Junior Boys' Quarter-Mile, fastest qualifier Harry Remnant (Ch) led from the front in a dominant display that never looked under threat, with the real battle behind him for the minor medals. Remnant's time of 55.75 was well outside the Junior record (Charlie Tait-Harris's 52.41 set in 2014) but it was a comfortable run and a well-deserved victory. Behind, Felix Kenyon-Smith (S) held off the challenge from Henry Ludlam (R) with the pair crossing the tape in 58.69 and 58.98 respectively.



The Junior Girls' Quarter-Mile saw Abi Watkinson bring home the first of The Grove's silverware in what was to prove a very successful day for the House. Her time of 71.37 was just enough to hold off Sophia Dixon (MSH) behind, who finished in 72.50, with Groveite Laura Elliot taking bronze in 72.57.





In the Senior Girls' event, The Grove secured two further medals, though neither Immie Evans nor Passi Goddard could match the powerful running of reigning champion Olivia Papaioannou (EDH). Evans (the Junior record holder with 70.07) posed an early threat to Papaioannou, with her tactics clearly focusing on staying on the shoulder of the reigning champion and this year's Huntswoman. It bodes well for the Hunt that next year's Huntswoman Immie Evans has really stepped up at this senior level and could challenge the ever-impressive Papaioannou. In the end, she couldn't match the speed of Papaioannou in the final bend, who came home powerfully to retain her title (the second Salopian to do so after Alice Sykes-Waller's victories in 2013 and 2014) in a time of 62.81, smashing Sykes-Waller's record by over a second.

Howard Stringer's 2011 record in the Senior Boys' event may not have come under threat again this year, but an incredibly exciting race saw the one-lap speedsters fighting an astonishingly dramatic race in the final Quarter-Mile event of the day. It was Sam Mitchell of Radbrook who took the surprising early lead, keen to improve on his third place from 2015. Behind, Scott Hatton (S) and Huntsman Oscar Dickins (R) hung on to his coat tails. But as they neared the final bend with just 150m to go, as anticipated, the attack came from reigning champion Charlie Tait-Harris (S). This was how he won the race in 2015, waiting until the latter stages of the race before pouncing. However, this year he had the electric pace of Fifth Former Monty Hardcastle (I) to deal with, no doubt buoyed by his performance in Thursday's heats where he emerged as fastest qualifier.



Hardcastle went early in the final, injecting astonishing pace into the final bend to go clear with just 100m to go. Tait-Harris responded and kicked, but a gap of 5m had emerged and Hardcastle didn't appear to be flagging. Indeed, he stretched clear in the home straight to the cheers of the crowd alongside the track. He crossed the line in 52.06 to take the title, the first time an Ingramite will have their name engraved on the trophy. Tait-Harris had to settle for

silver this year with a time of 54.37, though with one year left at Shrewsbury he'll no doubt be keen to exact his revenge and reclaim the trophy in his Upper Sixth year! Severn Hill also picked up the bronze medal, with Lower Sixth Former Scott Hatton holding off the late challenge from Oscar Dickins to take third with 55.25.



Into the sprints, and first up it was the Junior Boys' event. Race favourite Matt Brinkley (PH) had run the fastest time in qualifying and was in imperious form in the final, showing his lightning pace in breaking the tape in 12.06, smashing the Junior record by close to half a second. His time would have placed him joint 5th in the Senior Boys' race this year, so there is no doubting his talent. Behind, Tom Plaut brought home a fourth medal for Severn Hill with 12.19 and second place, carrying on the family tradition of sprint excellence (elder brother and last year's Head of School James Plaut holds the Senior Boys' record for the Sidney-Darwin Dash and father Michael was the man to beat in the sprints during his time at Shrewsbury). Third place was Aaron Lewis (SH) with 12.44, just ahead of Toby Pattinson (Ch) and Third Former Antoine Ceolin (Rt).



The Junior Girls' race also saw a new record with Daisy McMullen (G) lowering her Housemate Claire Richard's mark of 13.35 last year to 13.31. It was a Grove 1-2 with Laura Elliot



recovering well from the Quarter-Mile Challenge, where she had picked up the bronze, to go one better in the sprints and pick up silver with a time of 14.81. Amelie Davies (MSH) completed the podium with 14.94.

Having just seen her Junior record go in the previous race, Claire Richards marked her debut in the Senior event with an astonishing performance that saw her win by over a second and take over half a second off the record, lowering the mark to 13.04. With the sun shining and possibly the hint of a tailwind, conditions were perfect, as demonstrated by three records in the Sidney-Darwin Dash; though it is worth pausing to congratulate the Grounds staff on preparing such a fast track for the athletes.



It was another Grove 1-2 in this event, with Sally Joyce taking silver in a time of 14.19 ensuring that every one of their athletes came away with a medal, scooping up eight of the twelve available and three out of the four winner's spots. They will be hard to beat at Sports Day! The Sidney-Darwin Dash podium was completed with Nell Kirkby (MSH) taking bronze on debut in a time of 14.31.

In the final event of the day, the starting line-up was without Max Parsonage of Severn Hill, the fastest qualifier from Thursday's heats. Struggles with an injury meant he was unable to challenge for the title. With Ladi Okusanya (SH) also out injured, that opened up the event to a number of contenders in what is always a fiercely contested race. With the rousing music from 'Chariots of Fire' playing in the build-up, the crowd were ready for an explosive race – and so it proved.

Out of the blocks a strong start from Angus Drummond (O) showed his intention to challenge, though Charlie Tait-Harris (S) was determined to make up for the disappointment of the Quarter-Mile Challenge so was also up there in contention. However, a blistering second half from Nifemi Okusanya (SH) saw him push through the field in the closing metres to break the tape and take home the title with a swift 11.46. Behind, Tait-Harris picked up another silver with 11.69, and whilst he will no doubt be disappointed not to have won either title, it is a hugely impressive achievement to come away with two silvers with very little recovery time in between



the two events. Drummond just held on to take the bronze with a time of 11.88, with Ridgemount's Josh Malyon just outside the medals with 11.93.



As ever, this proved an exciting set of races, and my thanks go to all those who helped ensure the race ran smoothly: Dr Foulger and Ms Davies for taking charge of the races; the Praepostors for time-keeping and place-judging; Julian Chesshire for the music; the Headmaster for presenting the prizes; and most importantly the Groundsmen for preparing the whole event. I will be handing over the event next year to Ms Davies and look forward to seeing the event continue to make its mark. I very much hope that I can return as a 90-year-old and be wheeled out to see the event still going strong!

*PJM*



# Mud slide

Sunday 22 May 2016



*Oldham's boys... being boys and enjoying the 'outback' slide after a thunder storm, early evening, Sunday 22nd May.  
Matron is yet to comment on the laundry implications...*

## International physics magazine publishes Shrewsbury School Sixth Former's scientific paper

Wednesday 25 May 2016

*Congratulations to Sherry Xu (EDH UVI), who has had a paper accepted for publication in an international peer-reviewed physics magazine.*

Sherry was a member of the Shrewsbury School team that represented the UK in the International Young Physicists' Tournament in Thailand in 2015, where they won a bronze medal.

One of the projects she worked on and presented involved the physics of a model hovercraft. After the competition she continued to refine her research and submitted a paper describing the behaviour of a model hovercraft powered by a party balloon to the International Young Physicists' Journal. This has now been accepted for publication.



*Sherry with fellow IYPT 2015 team members Dom Dootson, Rory Champion and Tom Dodd*





## Upper Sixth Sports Awards

Thursday 26 May 2016

*Fifty of the top sportsmen and women in the Upper Sixth were presented with sports awards at a ceremony held in the Ashton Theatre on Friday 22nd May.*

### **Sportswoman of the Year – Olivia Papaioannou**



Olivia has achieved phenomenal success in more than one sport. She started her Shrewsbury career as a serious lacrosse player but wanted to further enhance her performance by improving her fitness and so joined 'The Hunt'. From the first outing it was clear she had enormous drive and determination to improve. Her performances in 'The Hunt' have got better and better and most recently culminated in her being crowned Northern Schools' Cross-Country Champion, taking the title at Trafford at the end of last term. Originally Shrewsbury were only going to take a boys' team to the event, but Olivia decided to get a girls' team together, managing to persuade others to come along to the race despite term having finished. It was a trip well worth making because she led the girls home to take the team title for the first time ever. Thus it was a fitting end to what has been a superb season for her.

Some of Olivia's peers have described her as an inspiration, stating that not only is she an outstanding sportswoman herself, but she also turns up to every session with good humour and so much energy that it's contagious and she carries the team. She is endlessly giving of both her time and her support and she is a great role model.

Not satisfied with national success in the Hunt, she has also continued with lacrosse and remains an outstanding player. Her selection for the England U19 squad is testament to that and is clearly an amazing achievement, especially given that she was unable to train fully for lacrosse



this year due to her Hunt commitments. She is a very consistent, extremely strong and focused player, and has a dogged determination. Her Housemistress has described her as a super-determined young lady, focused and incredibly hard working; she also has a wry sense of humour. And in addition to her sport, she is also a talented musician, academic scholar and Praepostor.

## Sportsman of the Year – George Panayi



Although George is known throughout the School predominately for his cricketing skills, he has also been in the top Fives pair since Third Form. He showed again this season how he can unsettle opponents with incredibly quick hands defending on top court and with volleys from serious altitude. Shrewsbury School Fives will miss both a player of this calibre and a team man of such stature.

George has played 1st XI cricket since he was in the Fourth Form and to date has helped the School achieve a National T20 Trophy and three consecutive Silk Trophies (never previously done by any school). He is Captain of the 1st XI this year and a quick bowler of the highest order. He is a member of Warwickshire Cricket Academy and has represented England at U17 Level. It is clear that he has the ability to forge a career at first class level in the game.

On top of this focus on high level sport, George is also a Music Scholar, with a Diploma distinction on the saxophone and a fine bass voice. To combine this with the high level of sport he plays is impressive and shows the dedication he has. His Housemaster describes him as has being an unfailingly cheerful and positive influence in the House, the ideal sporting role model, never displaying any enthusiasm for 'laddish' behaviour and a true gentleman.

### **The Elle Gurden Award for Outstanding Contribution to Girls' Sport - Antonia Wordie**



Antonia can be described as an all-round performer. She came to the School with a strong sporting history, especially in Lacrosse. It is clear to anyone involved in Lacrosse this year how much she has done for the sport as a whole. When we were struggling to find a coach, as Captain she stepped into the breach and, with Mrs Nicholas, ensured Lacrosse not only kept going but that each and every session was well organised and expertly delivered. She is extremely hardworking and has shown leadership in her role as Captain of Lacrosse by running training sessions, organising stick work practice and in pre-match preparation. Without her enthusiasm, commitment and determination, the Lacrosse team wouldn't have had the success it has enjoyed this year. She has now presented the School with a cup that will be awarded to individuals who show that same commitment and dedication.

However, this award is not just for achievement in one sport. Antonia is also an integral part of the netball team, organising and leading the centre court, and is a committed tennis player. In addition, she combines a busy musical and academic timetable with training and fixtures.

She has taken every opportunity to be very supportive of her peers and her Housemistress described her as a real team player, not just in sport, but also in the House. She juggles her sport with heaps of music and her Deputy Head of School commitments – and always with a smile on her face.

### **The David Spencer Memorial Award for Outstanding Contribution to Boys' Sport - joint winners: Oscar Dickins and Paddy George**

*For the first time, we have joint winners of this award. Through discussion and debate at meetings of Teachers in Charge of Sport and conversations with coaches, these two recipients just could not be split. They have different strengths as sportsmen, but both fit the criteria of true hard-working and high-achieving Salopian sportsmen and therefore it is fitting that they both receive the David Spencer Award.*





## Oscar Dickins

has been an outstanding runner from the very outset of his Salopian career, winning the New Boys' Race in 2011. In the Fourth Form he was a member of The Hunt's silver-medal winning team at the English Schools' Cross-Country Championships. Since then he has been a dedicated and devoted senior member of The Hunt, becoming Huntsman this year and joining the tour party for the Club's trip to East Africa last October. He raced in our top squads, winning bronze medals in the 2014 and 2016 National Relays. In the last year he has perhaps achieved an unprecedented individual haul of all the major running trophies in the School, at one time holding all four at the same time: Birley Cup for Hunt Club Champion; Steeplechases Trophy; Derby Cup (historic trophy given to winner of the 1500m); and the Hector Rose Bowl for the winner of The Tucks.

Aside from his individual achievements that culminated in winning The Tucks, he also led The Hunt team to their first national title in 20 years, lifting the Knole Run trophy alongside fellow Huntsman Ben Remnant in January, the first time in more than 50 years of the competition that The Hunt have won the Knole Run. He was a pivotal member of that team where he placed 9th out of 300 runners. His dedication and commitment to preparation and training were key to The Hunt being crowned national champions in this event for the first time. Though our winner today has focussed mostly on one sport, he has committed fully to this sport across all three terms throughout his five years at the School. He is not only a credit to himself but a credit to the School and he has been instrumental in the rise of The Hunt in the national standings.



## Paddy George

is a very modest young man, who plays down his extraordinary sporting talent. However, when you look at his regular three-term commitment to rowing and achievements to date, it is clear he is a worthy winner of this award. He started rowing at the School in the Third Form under the tutelage of Mr Wilson and was selected to represent the J14A Octuple which went on to win gold at the National Schools' Regatta in 2012. In the Fourth Form he raced in the J15 VIII that won bronze at the Schools' Head and silver at National Schools'. In the Fifth Form in the J16 VIII, he helped the crew to silver at the Junior Inter Regional Regatta and won bronze medals at National Schools'.

Since then he worked extremely hard to earn his seat in the 1st VIII in the Lower Sixth and represented Wales at the Home Countries Regatta 2015. In the Upper Sixth he was made Captain of Boats and is now a key member of the 1st VIII. He won the Victoria Sculls in September 2015 and came 5th in GB trials in November. He is currently still involved in trialling for GB crews in the summer and has been selected to represent Wales for the second year running.

Paddy's commitment to his sport cannot be questioned – training six days a week, three terms a year, come rain, wind or shine. He is an extremely talented oarsmen, whose presence in the boat is felt by the power and determination with which he trains and races.

### **The following were presented with Service to School Sport Awards:**

Abi Reynolds (& Eleanor Gurden Award Nominee)  
Tom Breese (& Sportsman of the Year Nominee)  
Ben Remnant (& David Spencer Award Nominee)  
Henry Newbould (& David Spencer Award Nominee)  
Bertie Gilliat-Smith (& David Spencer Award Nominee)  
Henry Bambridge  
Freddie Bon throne  
Kit Crabtree  
Edward Dolphin  
Tom Edwards  
Jack Fox  
Checky Galbraith  
Lisle Gannon  
Pascale Goddard  
Alex Goode  
Thomas Hart

# Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Sian Hinton  
Travis Ho  
Sarah Jackman  
Edward Jones  
Hector Kaye  
Harry Lane Fox  
George Lechmere  
Daniel Lloyd  
Luke Lloyd-Jones  
Sally Joyce  
Sam Mitchell  
Amy Mobley  
Jess Moeran  
Jake Morris  
Gavin O'Dwyer  
Max Parsonage  
Oliver Pope  
Martha Pownall  
Scott Reynolds  
Guglielmo Riva  
Charlie Rogers  
Ben Sansom  
Lucy Scott  
Emily Skelton  
Henry Thomas  
Charles Wade  
Nicholas Watkins  
Sam Watts  
James Walker



# Why I'm running the Shrewsbury Half-Marathon

Thursday 26 May 2016

*"Prior to this school year, the last thing I'd have expected myself doing was becoming a cross-country runner," says Josh Wong (SH UVI). Yet on 19th June, he will be running the Shrewsbury Half Marathon as part of Team Shrewsbury School. Here he explains why - and how.*

Growing up in Hong Kong, I never thought I'd discover the wonders of the countryside, or how mud and dirt could be a fantastic playing field and not something wholly unapproachable.

In my previous years at school, sport and I weren't really the best match. For me, sport had always taken the back seat and my passion for computers was really what defined me. Then with the (gentle) persuasion of an ever-so-charming Mr Middleton, I put my consoles aside and decided to take up The Hunt – and I could not have anticipated how my life would change.

It's safe to say that I wasn't the best athlete at the start. Running a Benjy (a 2.25km course around the School) once a week was already out of my comfort zone. But with the support of my team I went from strength to strength, and I am now very proud to have represented the School racing for The Hunt – a nationally competitive running community – and at the same time forged memories that will remain with me for the rest of my life.



With all of the training and opportunities The Hunt has given me, I will run for the School one last time as a Salopian in the Shrewsbury Half-Marathon on 19th June. I will give everything that I've got, not only for my own personal achievement but also to show the teachers who have

been looking after me this year how much they have helped me to change for the better. To all of them, I would like to say thank you: they have taught me that there is indeed more to life than computers.



Josh and the other Team Shrewsbury School runners are raising money for the Restart Centre in Gilgil, Kenya. If you would like to support them, donations may be made online via their Virgin Money Giving page: [Donate to Restart Africa](#) Please mention Team Shrewsbury School in your donation message.





## Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Thursday 26 May 2016

*This week, the Under-17A cricket XI.*

Whilst watching the Under-17 team play against Queen Margaret's Grammar School Walsall in the National Under-17 tournament yesterday, I was struck by the Happiness evident all around the ground. This emotion is clearly an important one and cannot be underestimated. I am a regular sufferer of what I like to call a Happy Surge. This can be brought on by watching my children playing in the garden, enjoying a magnificent view or watching Bobby Zamora score another goal for Brighton and Hove Albion (sadly something that will never happen again).

Anna Peak, the current Housemistress of MSH and soon to be Deputy Head (Pastoral) is a massive advocate of mindfulness and there are rumours she may be bringing it into the classroom. "I am a massive advocate of mindfulness," Anna told me. Next year will see the start of a Mindfulness Society – something that I am sure any cricketer who has read about the troubles of Jonathan Trott, Mike Yardy or Monty Panesar will embrace.

Of course cricket has always been associated with mindfulness. Where better to reflect on life and all that it entails than out on the boundary – unless you have two coaches giving you two to one 'improvement suggestions!' as suffered by Jamie Crawley.



Jamie later told me he found it hard to react to the advice he was getting as he had a different voice in each ear, making it difficult to assimilate the information he was receiving – and so he



blanked out both.

Why is cricket bring so much joy to the Shrewsbury community? A recent email I received from Mr Barnard, which was sent to everyone involved in cricket at the School, may go some way to explaining the recent surge in happiness at Shrewsbury.

“Well done everyone this half term. As we approach the business end of the term, our teams across all age groups and gender remain with an interest in all competitions entered.

- U14s NSC County Semi Final v Ellesmere College or Thomas Adams, Wem
- U15s ESCA T20 County Final v Ellesmere College
- U15 Girls National Cup Quarter Final v Horizon Community College (Barnsley) or Urmston GS (Manchester) U17s National Cup Quarter Final v Bromsgrove (Home)
- U18s HMC T20 Regional Semi Final v TBC

It is not just these high-profile teams that are enjoying success. The recent fixtures against Repton saw a clean sweep for Shrewsbury. Reptonians (Reptilians, according to spell check) are no mugs with a bat and ball and yet Shrewsbury cricketers continue to surpass themselves. Of course happiness should not be confined merely to success but if you have personally had a bad day with the bat, a victory for team can wipe away some of the heartache – as Captain of the Under-17s George Newton told me after his second low score in a row. George admitted to me that cricket can sometime make him a little ‘groggy’, especially when he is out for 0. Luckily George is one of those who can always pep himself up by taking a wicket. “Cricket sometimes makes me happy,” he told me.



I caught up with one or two of the Under-17 squad. Pat Jacob was not happy when it was suggested by some of his friends that he has ‘poor chat’. He did take some comfort from that the fact that occasionally people laugh at what he says. “In the 2nd Edition of the *Handbook of Emotions* (2000), evolutionary psychologists Leda Cosmides and John Tooby say that happiness comes from ‘encountering unexpected positive events’,” Pat said.

For Dan Humes, cricket has not brought happiness lately as he has broken his thumb and is now unable to play against his brother Jamie in the Old Salopian fixture. Luckily he is acquainted with

the work of Sonja Lyubomirsky who concludes in her book *The How of Happiness* that 50% of a given human's happiness level is genetically determined (based on twin studies), 10% is affected by life circumstances and situation, and the remaining 40% of happiness is subject to self-control. "I recognise that 10% of my happiness has been affected by my injury and I am learning to cope with that," he told me.



*The support team*

Archie Turner has learnt his cricket 'down under', but despite that he has managed to gain a place in the Under-17 team! His father had made it over to see him on his debut as wicketkeeper and was very happy with what he saw. As were the Clarks. Peter Clark, another Third Former, took four wickets on his debut and is now an Under-17 regular. One of his brothers, Marcus, was watching Peter with great pride yesterday. "It is lovely to see that all my training has paid off," he exclaimed. Peter's progress has given great joy not only to Marcus but also to his granny, his mum and of course his father, Mr Clark. The only person who was not happy was Mr Harding who felt that his tennis squad had lost a good player to the cricket fraternity.



*Mr Clark and Mr Harding*



With his classical background, I wondered just how happy Matthew Clark was. “I am very happy. Of course in the Nicomachean Ethics, written in 350 BCE, Aristotle stated that happiness (also being well and doing well) is the only thing that humans desire for its own sake, unlike riches, honour, health or friendship. Note that Eudaimonia, the term we translate as "happiness", is for Aristotle an activity such as cricket. In fact I am sure he meant cricket, rather than an emotion or a state.”

So it would seem that cricket is bringing a lot of happiness to the Shrewsbury community. Even the dour, withered frames of Coaches Paul Pridgeon and Andrew Barnard are looking a little more life-like. I know that they are a very positive pair and are renowned for praising their young charges. I wondered why that was and Paul told me that “according to Mark Leary, as reported in a November 1995 issue of *Psychology Today* [a favourite read of Mr Pidgeon’s] we are happiest when basking in the acceptance and praise of others”. Mr Barnard added, “Sara Algoe and Jonathan Haidt say that "happiness" may be the label for a family of related emotional states, such as joy, amusement, satisfaction, gratification, euphoria, and triumph. All these emotional states can be achieved through playing good cricket.”



I found myself humming Ken Dodd’s 1964 classic ‘*Happiness*’ with a cricket theme:  
*Happiness, happiness, the greatest gift that I possess*  
*I thank the Lord I’ve been blessed*  
*With more than my share of cricket nets.*





*Happiness is... Peter Clark*

To me this old world is a wonderful place  
And I'm just about the luckiest human in the whole human race  
I've got no money and I've got no flat  
Just an indoor centre and a cricket bat

*Happiness, happiness, the greatest gift that I possess.  
I thank the Lord I've been blessed  
With more than my share of cricket nets.*

Happiness to me is an off stump wide  
Or a sunset fading on a cricket side  
Or maybe a big old heaven full of players up above  
still all playing the game I love.

Happiness is fielding in the sun  
hitting a ball and then taking a run  
I can see it in the sunshine, I breathe it in the rain  
Happiness everywhere.

*Happiness, happiness, the greatest gift that I possess  
I thank the Lord I've been blessed  
With more than my share of cricket nets.*  
A wise old man told me one time  
That cricket is nothing but a frame of mind  
I hope when you go to measuring my success  
That you don't count my runs count my happiness.

*Happiness, happiness, the greatest gift that I possess  
I thank the Lord I've been blessed  
With more than my share of cricket nets.*

# Cricket news update on a successful first half of term

Thursday 26 May 2016

*As we reach the halfway stage of the season, our cricket teams have much to celebrate and lots to look forward in the next half of term. Here are some latest news updates from the 1st XI, U17A XI, U15A XI, U14A XI and the Girls' U15 XI.*



## 1st XI

The 1st XI have completed 10 games (having had their first 4 games cancelled due to poor weather). Despite some Arctic conditions at times, they have won 7 and lost 3 (2 to strong adult sides). A further game was abandoned due to rain with Shrewsbury well on top. In addition, they have played 4 T20 games and won them all, reaching the last 32 of the National Schools T20 cup with either Bromsgrove or RGS Worcester our likely opponents.

Leading run scorers are Harry Adair with over 500 runs including two centuries and 3 half centuries, while Dan Lloyd (PH), George Newton and George Garrett have all scored over 200 runs and one half-century each. The bowlers are led by the two slow left arm bowlers Dan Lloyd (28 wickets) and Tom Brunskill with 17 wickets. George Panayi (14) and Charlie Cooke (14) are not far behind, despite not having bowled in all the games due to injury. Harry Adair has also taken an incredible 15 catches and run another two opposition batsmen out.

A severely depleted Shrewsbury School 1st XI took on Myerscough College (Old Trafford) 1st XI on Wednesday. Myerscough College won the toss and decided to bat in conditions that favoured the bowlers and quickly slumped to 34/4. Only two Myerscough College batsmen reach double figures as they struggled against an accurate Shrewsbury attack and only captain George Panayi remained wicket-less. Myerscough College managed just 106, bowled out in the 33rd over.

The Myerscough College bowlers struggled with their accuracy in the first few overs, bowling with a white ball, but at the same time still managed to bowl enough unplayable deliveries to



decimate the Shrewsbury top order. George Newton, Harry Adair and Panayi all perished cheaply as the 1st XI crashed to 30/3. Charlie Byrne with 18 and Max Parsonage with 10 steadied the ship, but then 4 quick wickets went down as Shrewsbury slumped to 68/7. Head of School Tom Breese was joined by Josh Malyon (13\*) who added an unbeaten 44-run partnership to secure victory in the 26th over with Breese (26\*) hitting his 2nd enormous 6 to win over long off and in to the Fives Courts.

*Rob Morris*

## **U17A XI**

The Under 17s reached the last eight of the School Sports Magazine National Under-17 competition with an emphatic victory over Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall at home on Thursday. Three Third Formers represented the side and two, Arthur Garrett (4-19) and Peter Clark (2-7), were the pick of the bowlers as Queen Mary's were bundled out for 93 in their 30 overs. Shrewsbury made easy work of overhauling the target with half the overs to spare, with Jamie Crawley making 38 and George Garrett 29\*. Shrewsbury now face fierce rivals Bromsgrove in the quarter-finals at home after half term.

## **Girls' U15 XI**

The third round of the School Sport Magazine T20 Cup saw us away at Moreton Hall. This was a massive game for the girls, as Moreton were the team that knocked us out last year and went on to finish second in the competition. After a highly motivated and productive training session the day before, the girls were ready, although there were plenty of butterflies and unsettled nerves floating around in the warm-up.

The skipper, Sophia Breese started us off well by winning the toss and putting Moreton in to bat on a very unpredictable wicket. Issy Wong (2 for 3) and Lara Ockleston opened the bowling from each end and struck early. With Moreton 9-2, enter Milly Home, who took the game away from us last year by scoring 60\*; the pressure was on. Milly Home and G Grace began to build a partnership, running along nicely at 30-2. Then a change of bowling from Sophia Breese to bring on Emma Graham (3 for 11) brought the breakthrough! The wicket the girls were waiting for, a fantastic catch from Issy Wong in the deep dismissed Milly Home on 10, and soon enough Moreton were 73 all out.

With both coach and players very pleased with the bowling and fielding performance at tea, we knew there was still a job to do. After a very nervy start, losing a wicket in every over, the domino effect was inevitably kicking in, until the mature and sensible head of Emma Graham (26 not out) steered us home, with assistance from the young gun, Lara Ockleston (16 not out), who eventually hit the winning runs from the penultimate ball of the last over. A great end to a great game!

This is a fantastic result for the girls, who now look forward to the Quarter Finals at either Horizon Community College (Barnsley) or Urmston Grammar School (Manchester). This will be the furthest the girls have ever gone in the competition, and they most certainly have the potential to go on and win it. These are exciting times for girls' cricket at Shrewsbury School!

*Gwenan Davies*

## **U15A XI**

The Under 15A XI have reached the County final of the ESCA T20 competition. They have defeated Wrekin College and Bridgnorth Endowed School so far and are hoping to win the





trophy for the third successive year.

Standout performers this season have been Ludo Litchfield, Dan Davies, and Archie Turner.

Much credit deserves to go to all the boys, who have turned last year's win/loss record of Won 4 Lost 16, to one of Won 9 Lost 2 at the halfway point of term.

*Adam Shantry*

## **U14 XI**

The Under 14A XI have remained unbeaten all term so far, winning 8 out of the 9 games scheduled, with the Bromsgrove game having to be abandoned without a ball being bowled.

Notable victories came against a very strong Millfield side, winning by 9 wickets and other pleasing results were the wins against Repton, Sedburgh and a strong Denstone side.

The lads have all contributed to some very good team performances throughout the term with each player making a telling contribution when required. Whilst not wanting to single out individual performances as it has very much been about a team ethic, it must be noted that the team has been led extremely well by captain Peter Clark. He and Arthur Garrett have both been exceptional with both bat and ball.

The team now have a Lord's Taverners semi-final to look forward to after half term with the aim to win the county round and qualify for the Under-15 Lord's Taverners competition next year.

*Steve Wilderspin*



## School Firsts

Thursday 26 May 2016

*Each term a committee of Sixth Form pupils meets to award the School's highest form of 'colours' – a 'School First'. 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.*

*At a meeting of the School Firsts Committee on Thursday 26th May 2016, the following awards were made:*

**For his exceptional contributions, in many fields, to the life of the School:**

Tom Breese (PH UVI)

**For their commitment to and success in MUN:**

Rhys Elliott-Williams (PH UVI) and Ed Plaut (S LVI)

**For her exceptional contributions to the academic and extra-curricular life of the School:**

Loren Kell (EDH UVI)

**For their outstanding service and commitment to the RAF and Gliding Sections of the CCF:**

Alfie Yeoward (O UVI) and Ed Jones (M UVI)

**For long and dedicated service to the Beekeeping Society, latterly as President:**

Jonathan Jones (Rb UVI)

**For his many contributions to the extra-curricular life of the school:**

Luke Lloyd-Jones (Rb UVI)

**For their outstanding contributions to Debating, being ranked in the top 30 nationally:**

James Whitaker (Rt LVI) and Ed Plaut (S LVI)

## 22nd Gold Medal at the Chelsea Flower Show for David Austin

Thursday 26 May 2016

*Roald Dahl has been honoured in the form of a beautiful peach coloured rose, by David Austin (SH 41-43) and it was shown for the first time at the Chelsea Flower Show.*



David Austin (SH 41-43) is one of the most famous names in horticulture and has now won an incredible 22 Gold Medals at the famous Chelsea Flower Show.

His latest bloom was commissioned by Roald Dahl's widow, Felicity, who hand picked it for its lovely peach colour. The rose grower won his 22nd Gold Medal and met the Queen as she visited the stalls.

You can read the full article about the Roald Dahl rose from the Shropshire Star on [this link](#).





## U15 House

Tuesday 31 May 2016



*Oldham's U15 House cricketers, delighted to top their pool after beating Radbrook, Severn Hill and, recently, Ridgemount. Frank Morris scored an undefeated 42 in the Severn Hill match and against Ridgemount, Archie Mobbs bowled a four-wicket maiden to seriously halt the batsmen's progress. Photo courtesy of Mrs Beth Evans.*