

New appointment for Headmaster Mark Turner

Monday 1 May 2017

Shrewsbury School's Headmaster, Mark Turner, has announced that he is to leave Shrewsbury at the end of the summer term 2018, to take up a new role as Head of St Michaels University School in Canada.



Chairman of Governors, Matthew Collins, commented:

“Under Mark Turner's outstanding leadership since 2010 Shrewsbury has evolved, grown, and flourished.

“The move to co-education, which began in 2008 has been fully and successfully realised during this time. With more pupils on the school roll than at any time in its history, and a fourth girls' house set to open in September, the School is in excellent heart. It is proud of the strength of its boarding community and pastoral care, the academic, sporting and artistic achievements of its pupils, and the beauty of its campus. There is further testament to this in the recent ISI Inspection report, in which the School's education quality was classed as "excellent" in all respects.

"Governors will be seeking a successor with the vision, and credentials to lead Shrewsbury through the next stage of its development. We are looking for experienced candidates from a wide range of backgrounds and expect to make an appointment later this year.”

A copy of the Chairman's letter to parents and guardians may be downloaded here: [Chairman of Governors letter to Parents and Governors, 2nd May 2017](#)

An exciting new chapter for Shrewsbury School cricket

Monday 1 May 2017

Friday 28th April 2017 marked an historic day for Shrewsbury School, as we competed in our first ever senior girls' cricket fixture.

Report by Gwen Davies, Graduate Cricket Coach

Women's cricket has been a rapidly growing game in the country since the England Cricket Board introduced professional contracts for the England Women in 2015. And in the last three years at Shrewsbury School we have gone from having one girls' team of 11 players, to now having four teams with 45 girls playing.

The match against Moreton Hall on Friday was a fantastic showcase of just how far the girls have come.

Winning the toss, skipper Emma Graham decided to field first. Given that the senior team's strength is their bowling, the girls would admit that they didn't produce their best performance with the ball, as Moreton racked up 111 for 8 wickets from their 20 overs. However, this did not faze our opening batters, Sophia Breese (43) and Lizzie Ware (30), who got us off to an outstanding start with an opening partnership of 78 from just 12 overs. The damage was done!

The highlight of the game for me had to be Emma Graham crashing a six over mid-wicket for all her fellow pupils to see. She received a huge cheer from the crowd departing lessons in Hodgson Hall!

The game was quickly concluded by Issy Wong hitting a four, to win the game in just 18.1 overs; a fantastic start to the season and an astounding eight-wicket victory for a team that included ten U16s, one U17 and one U18.

Thanks must go to the ground staff for treating the preparations for this match just like a 1st XI fixture and also to Andy Barnard, Master in Charge of Cricket, for his tireless support. Exciting times ahead for girls' cricket at Shrewsbury School!



Shrewsbury School Foundation Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 2 May 2017

The AGM of the Shrewsbury School Foundation will be held at The Schools at 11.30am on Friday 19th May.

If you would like to attend, please contact Joanne Hutchinson on 01743 280889 or at jhutchinson@shrewsbury.org.uk for further details.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Lily Freeman-Attwood qualifies for Horse of the Year Show

Tuesday 2 May 2017

Congratulations to Lily Freeman-Attwood (EDH IV), who has secured a place in the Pony Foxhunter Championship Final at the Horse of the Year Show, which will take place in October.

Riding Capability Brown, Lily won first place in the second round of the Pony Foxhunter Championship last weekend.

Careers Bulletin for Sixth Formers

Wednesday 3 May 2017

This week's bulletin includes a link to a the 2017 edition of 'Paths to Professional Careers', which contains information and guidance for parents to help their child explore career options.

Please click [here](#) to download the bulletin as a pdf file.



Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Wednesday 3 May 2017

This week, the 1st XI cricket team.

As the blossom is carried gently on the warm spring breeze spreading out across the outfield like a soft sprinkling of petally potpourri, the sound of leather on willow once more transports those of us who are under the spell of the cricketing muse to Elysian Fields of wonder. I have been looking forward to this season more than most, possibly because I have just finished reading Jonathan Agnew's book on Johnnners. In the same way that if I had read a book on King Arthur I would now be acting in a chivalrous and courageous manner (I suspect some people must think I am endlessly reading such literature), I now want to play and watch cricket as it should be played. After all, as 'Aggers' points out, in which other sport would you find an instruction to play the game "in a gentlemanly manner"?

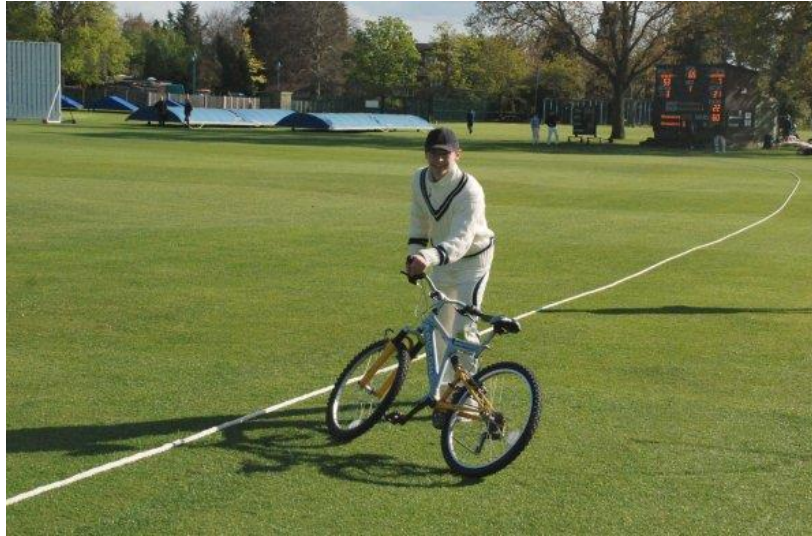
My poetic and perhaps idyllic views were quickly shattered not only by the North wind and the hail that came with it but also by the protestations coming from various visiting teams on the cricket field. I will not name names, but a team we defeated early in the pre-season tournament were certainly not content to allow their cricket to 'do the talking'. Personally, as many of you probably appreciate, I have never been one to speak when there is no need. Encouraging teams to 'make some noise' has always felt somewhat false. It's a bit like that moment when after a somewhat tedious speech one feels obliged to ask an inane question to fill the void. I could never get it right at school. I was regularly admonished for not taking the game seriously enough when chatting and then reprimanded for not making enough noise when I stopped chatting and took the game seriously. You can never win! Although, rather like the Shrewsbury 1st XI, we often did!



In terms of my time management, cricket is a lethal game to watch. I 'pop out of my office' to take in a few overs and two hours later I realise it will be another late night if I want to complete all the 'targets' that I had set myself for the day. I think it is almost more addictive than reading intellectually stimulating works of literature or preparing award-winning lessons (some of my other vices).

I recently decided to put my intellectual passions aside for a few minutes to see how the new-look Shrewsbury School 1st XI was shaping up against the Shropshire under-19 side. I immediately wandered into an Orchard I had not noticed on Top Common before.

Dan was watching his friends trying to defend a slightly below-par total of 124 in 35 overs. Such was Dan's concern for the team that he offered Charlie Byrne the use of his bike to aid his pursuit of a well-struck ball.



The grounds looked in immaculate condition and I hope that Head Groundsman Andy Richards and his team were not upset when the 1st XI captain George Garratt was heard to say “Come on lads, it’s a bit too flat out here!” I guess there are worse things a groundsman could hear, such as “the plague of moles is expected to arrive at Shrewsbury school in the next two minutes” perhaps.



In terms of the match I was watching, the Shropshire team were making heavy weather of their diminutive target. This was largely because of the diminutive Peter Clark (Fourth Form) (or should that be Clark Minimus?), who was busy taking his second five-wicket haul of the season, much to the delight of his father Matthew, who had ‘popped out of the office’ to watch the cricket for an over or two.



Peter had also made a major contribution to the demolition of Millfield in a pre-season tournament game which we won, also defending a relatively low total. Peter was being well supported with some athletic fielding by his Shrewsbury teammates who, frustratingly for the coaching team, would have won the game had they batted better.

I caught up with 'new' Shrewsbury School cricket professional Adam Shantry, who was watching on from the dressing room with recently retired 'old' professional Paul Pridgeon. Adam used to play for Northants, Warwickshire and Glamorgan. He admitted to scoring a century against Leicestershire and taking five wickets against New Zealand, including that of Brendon McCullum.



Adam told me that he had asked the boys to score some runs and bat responsibly. "I asked the boys to score some runs and bat responsibly," he said. He felt that the plan was clear and that our batsmen were aware of what was required, but that unfortunately the Shropshire bowlers were not aware of the plan. Paul wisely advised Adam that in future he should let the opposition know that he had asked the batsmen to score some runs. "It is a game played in a gentlemanly fashion and quite frankly it is very rude to prevent batsmen who have been told to score runs from doing so. In my career I frequently allowed the opposition batsmen to score a lot of runs off me."

Despite losing the game by two wickets, there were many positives to be taken from the fielding performance. However, Master in Charge of Cricket Andy Barnard was finding it difficult to find them. "They are not under this chair," he affirmed.



He told me that he would pull up another chair and have a good chat with the team, analysing where mistakes had been made so that they would never happen again. “We will sit down and think about what went wrong,” he said. Mrs Barnard mentioned that Mr Barnard frequently has to sit down to think about where things have gone wrong, and that he generally gets up in a better frame of mind.

I enjoyed popping out of the office for a few minutes and can see myself doing it again, such is the attractive brand of cricket played by this excellent team. Incidentally, Adam Shantry was born more recently than both Mr Barnard and Mr Pridgeon and he has therefore an understanding of modern media. If you want to watch the 1st XI games, they are now being streamed live via the Shrewsbury School TV YouTube Channel. Watch this space!

Before I go, I must just mention that I popped out of my office again today to watch the Girls’ under-18 team play their first ever match on home soil. Coach and Somerset Ladies star Gwen Davies told me that she has disguised herself as the 1st XI team mascot and that she places herself on the window sill pretending to be a gnome.



“No one notices me and I pick up all sorts of coaching tips,” she told me. “I told Moreton Hall that our batswomen wanted to score some runs today and it worked a treat. They were very generous to us and we won by 8 wickets.”

Clearly the courtesy of cricket means we are in for a great season from now on!

GJFB

RSSBC: J16 VIII win Gold at the Wallingford Regatta

Thursday 4 May 2017



J16 VIII

The Boat Club took five crews to race at the Wallingford Regatta over the Coach Weekend, 29th – 30th April.

Strong winds curtailed the racing format but did allow for all the crews to get down the course and post a time in what is a highly competitive event held at Dorney Lake.

The 2nd VIII were the first to take to the water in the J18B Eights' event. The crew had a good tussle with the Eton J16 eight to come in second in their heat. Their time placed them just short of the top six.

The 1st VIII competed in Challenge Eights in the morning. In their heat they led the field impressively through to 1500m, where Eton's 1st VIII came through to claim first place ahead of Shrewsbury in second. Unfortunately the final didn't take place because of the weather conditions, but the crew can be pleased with their fourth place on time in the highest category eights' event.



1st VIII

In the afternoon the 1st VIII, with a few crew changes, raced in the J18 Eights' event. The race was held in a time-trial format where the eight came in fourth.

The J16 VIII, Girls' 1st Quad and J15 Girls' Four all had time-trials for their events. The Girls' 1st Quad came ninth in their event and the J15 Girls placed 17th out of 30 in the Senior Women's Club event.



1st Quad

The J16 VIII handled the challenging conditions with distinction to take first place in the J16 Eights' event. They won by a margin of five seconds over the first and second placed crews from the Schools' Head of the River. It was a tremendous result for the crew in tough conditions.

Mr Hundermark, Director of Rowing





Girls' U15 cricket team are Lady Taverners' Indoor Cricket Regional Champions

Thursday 4 May 2017

Huge congratulations to our Under-15 Girls' cricket team, who have made Salopian cricketing history by becoming Midlands Regional Champions in the national Lady Taverners' Indoor Cricket competition. Lord's, here we come!



Report by their Coach, Gwen Davies:

Having won the County Championships of the Lady Taverners' Indoor Cricket competition at the end of last term, the U15 Girls' cricket team had an early start on Tuesday 2nd May to travel to Fenton Manor Sports Complex in Stoke, Staffordshire for the Regional Finals, to compete against the champions of eight other counties.

As we arrived, we were handed the itinerary for the day which stated who was in our groups and how many games we had to play. As the girls had never been past the County Finals stage in previous years, we had no idea what to expect, and so the instruction was to do the best we could and put on a display of competitive cricket. That we certainly did in the group stages, scoring 99, 98 and 98 in our first three innings.

The performances with the bat in the group stages were phenomenal and we really did look unbeatable. After concluding the first match by bowling Bishop of Hereford Bluecoat all out for 44, Laura Elliott overheard a hugely complimentary comment from their coach of "Unlucky, girls; that was a great effort against the best school here". And this was only the first game!

However, the Shrewsbury team didn't let this praise go to their heads and they knuckled down to produce their best indoor performances yet.

The top two teams from both groups qualified for the Semi-Finals. As we finished top of our group, we were up against the runners-up of the other group, Christopher Whitehead School. Winning the toss, skipper Issy Wong decided to bat first and we posted a total of 93 from their 8 overs. After dominating with the bat in the group stages, it was time the girls showed their talent with the ball – and they sure did shine as they bowled Christopher Whitehead College all out for 61 with an over to spare! A brilliant victory heading into the Final.

Beating Headington in the other Semi-Final, our opponents in the Final were Painsley from Staffordshire. After hearing whispers of Painsley having more than a couple of Staffordshire County cricketers, the nerves started to pile on. We batted first once again and posted a total of 76. The nerves had got to the girls and unfortunately they hadn't performed with the bat as well as they had in previous games. However, I had no doubt whatsoever about their bowling ability! Showing some ruthless characteristics, the girls manage to bowl Painsley all out for 54 in the 7th over! We'd done it... Regional Champs!!

There was some fantastic talent on show in the entire competition and I'm extremely proud of how far the girls have come. Now it's on to the National Finals at Lord's on the 15th of May!



Captain Issy Wong being presented with the Midlands Regional Trophy



The news this week 100 years ago: 5th - 11th May 1917

Thursday 4 May 2017

To commemorate the lives of the boys and masters of Shrewsbury School who gave their lives in World War 1, we publish each week on the school website the names and short biographies of each Old Salopians killed, to coincide with the 100th anniversary of their death. This is part of a four-year project in collaboration with St Chad's Church in Shrewsbury, which began in September 2014: [This week 100 years ago - Old Salopians in WW1](#) Sadly, the names of former members of School House feature all too frequently.

This week we remember:



Captain **Arthur Fox MC**, 1st Bn. King's Shropshire Light Infantry. School House, left in 1915 receiving his commission in March that year. His promotion to Captain followed in November 1916. He was awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry in April 1916 when (aged 19) he was acting Company Commander. The citation in The London Gazette on 30th May 1916 read: "When he found half his company too weak to carry out an assault, he went back, under heavy fire, and brought up his supporting half-company, equipped with bombs and shovels. After the assault, in which he captured a trench, he beat off two counter attacks, and consolidated his position in very difficult circumstances."

Shrewsbury

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“He was ... destined to be a clergyman (but for the war); at Shrewsbury his friends remember him as one of the straightest and simplest characters they have ever known. His religion was the most real thing in a singularly honest character.” *The Salopian*

Killed in action in France, 8th May 1917, aged 20.

Buried at Philosophe British Cemetery, Mazingarbe, France. Grave I. O. 5.

Second Lieutenant **Kenneth George Shackles**, 4th Bn. East Yorkshire Regiment.

School House, left in 1913. He enlisted in 10th Bn., East Yorkshire Regiment, and after more than a year's training went out as a private. After six months' service both in France and Egypt he was invalided home and received a commission in the same Regiment, February 1917.

He is probably related to Ronald Guy Shackles, who died 19th September 1918.

Died of wounds in France, 11th May 1917, aged 21.

Buried at Bucquoy Road Cemetery, Ficheux, France. Grave I. F. 22.

Standing ovation for pianist Galin Ganchev (OS)

Thursday 4 May 2017

Galina Ganchev (M 2010-15), one of the most excitingly talented tyro concert pianists to emerge from Shrewsbury School's Music Department, made a triumphant return to the Alington Hall on Friday 28th April. Review by James Fraser-Andrews.



Galina Ganchev (M 2010-15), one of the most excitingly talented tyro concert pianists to emerge from Bradley-Fulgoni's bustling stable in the Maidment, made a triumphant return to Shrewsbury School on Friday 28th April.

More mature in tone and balance, and with a technique even more lustrous after hard-won hours of polishing at the Royal Academy, this young Bulgarian artist stunned a packed Alington Hall audience. How satisfying it was to see so many pupils, staff and regular crowd, used to gorge on fare from the piano world's biggest stars, marvel at a performance of such style and presence that took its precocious place alongside this roll-call of famous names with such assurance.



Galin brought back to the banks of the Severn a programme that gleamed with the bright-lit energy of the metropolis. To begin, pianist-composer Schumann's Humoreske in B-flat maintained a fine line in wit, whimsy and the tenderest of song lines, and, albeit with occasional glimpses of nervousness, strong powers of conception wove a clear thread through this music of such episodic, capricious nature. It was a bold statement of imaginative intent from an artist clearly immersed in his art.

Written for the young Tatyana Nikolayeva, Shostokovich's 24 Preludes and Fugues, gnomic yet feisty chamber pieces for two hands, brought the first half to a finely spun and ultimately declarative close in these other young hands gifted with steel-and-feathery touch. They allowed intimate voicings to be held in tension with a relish for some fearsome counterpoint.

The Chopin Mazurkas which ushered in the second half – in A minor, A-flat and F-sharp minor – gave Galin ample opportunity to conduct a more stately dance with a cultured left hand that has clearly profited from expert tuition of Ian Fountain at the Academy. But the *pièce-de-résistance* was Prokofiev's first 'war sonata', No.6, where convulsive, jagged batteries of sound were balanced with icily iridescent colours conjuring all the threat, uncertainty and joyous momentaneity of the USSR in 1940, the year of its composition. Blistering technique in the salvos of its conclusion commanded the appreciative audience to its feet, including maestro Peter Bradley-Fulgoni, whose nurturing of Galin's precocious talent was justly acknowledged during the interval by Shrewsbury School's Director of Music, John Moore.

By way of encore, Galin treated us to one of his own compositions, a soulful nocturne that managed to bridge all the harmonic intensities of the evening and yet becalm the audience back into the spring night, the whiff of pianistic gelignite hanging indelibly in the air. From one great pianist-composer at the start to another manifestly on his way. Galin Ganchev. You heard him here first.

JRFA



Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - 'Toy Story'

Thursday 4 May 2017

This week's edition considers the fundamental role toys play not only in entertaining and educating us, but in shaping our perceptions of the world.

Please click on the image below to open 'Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - Toy Story' as a pdf:

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL | SPARKPOINT

The Trouble with Toys

They seem pretty harmless – wooden, plastic and metal items that we give to children to pass the time: but toys play a fundamental role not only in educating children in problem solving, basic mathematics and personal interactions, but also in documenting the attitudes and aesthetics of an era.

Key to all of this is gender stereotyping. Without meaning to, some fairly dangerous values about boys and girls can be subconsciously reinforced. A new-born boy is likely to receive a blue bear, a girl a pink one – boys tend to receive castles, trains and soldiers as birthday gifts as they grow up, and girls get dolls houses and toy ponies. The landscape is changing, of course, but the playthings of childhood should not be overlooked as influences which shape future life.

SP64 – Barbie

Perhaps the most controversial toy over the decades – the inevitable proportion of the plastic person have been held accountable for self-image problems the world over. Click [here](#) to discover how something as simple and straightforward as a doll (first produced in 1929 in America) has had major ramifications for children and societies everywhere.

5 Minutes

SP65 – Meccano

This extraordinary construction toy has endured for well over sixty years and is still massively popular today. Although kits can be purchased for specific models, the strength of the toy – much like Lego – is its versatility: it can be used for simplistic toy construction all the way through to full scale engineering modelling. Click [here](#) to discover more.

5 Minutes

SP66 – Lego

There are now four times as many Lego bricks in the world as there are human beings. This enduring and extraordinary toy has captured an international audience of children and adults alike and has proved massively commercially successful – but it wasn't an easy road to it's initial creation. Watch an extract of this [video](#) to discover why that brick you just trod on is a feat of engineering!

5 Minutes

A Ladybird World

Children's books also play a vital role in shaping our perceptions of the world. The iconic Ladybird series give an informative but perhaps rather narrow introduction to the world around us. Click [here](#) to discover more.



Have Thursday see our third 'Ladle Festival' event of the year and it would be great to have as many participants as possible. With some of the older year groups now at the main school, it's a great opportunity for some junior people to give it a go. You can bring absolutely anything you'd like to share in a friendly and welcoming setting. Perhaps you have written a poem or some creative writing of which you are quite proud? Perhaps you'd like to sing a song or read an extract from a play? Anything goes. Email me – mr.walters@shrewsbury-school.com – if you'd like to participate.

Mr Walters | Deputy Head (Academic) May 2017



The news this week 100 years ago: 5th - 11th May 1917

Thursday 4 May 2017

This week we remember two Old Salopians:



Captain **Arthur Fox MC**, 1st Bn. King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

School House, left in 1915 receiving his commission in March that year. His promotion to Captain followed in November 1916. He was awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry in April 1916 when (aged 19) he was acting Company Commander. The citation in The London Gazette on 30th May 1916 read: "When he found half his company too weak to carry out an assault, he went back, under heavy fire, and brought up his supporting half-company, equipped with bombs and shovels. After the assault, in which he captured a trench, he beat off two counter attacks, and consolidated his position in very difficult circumstances."

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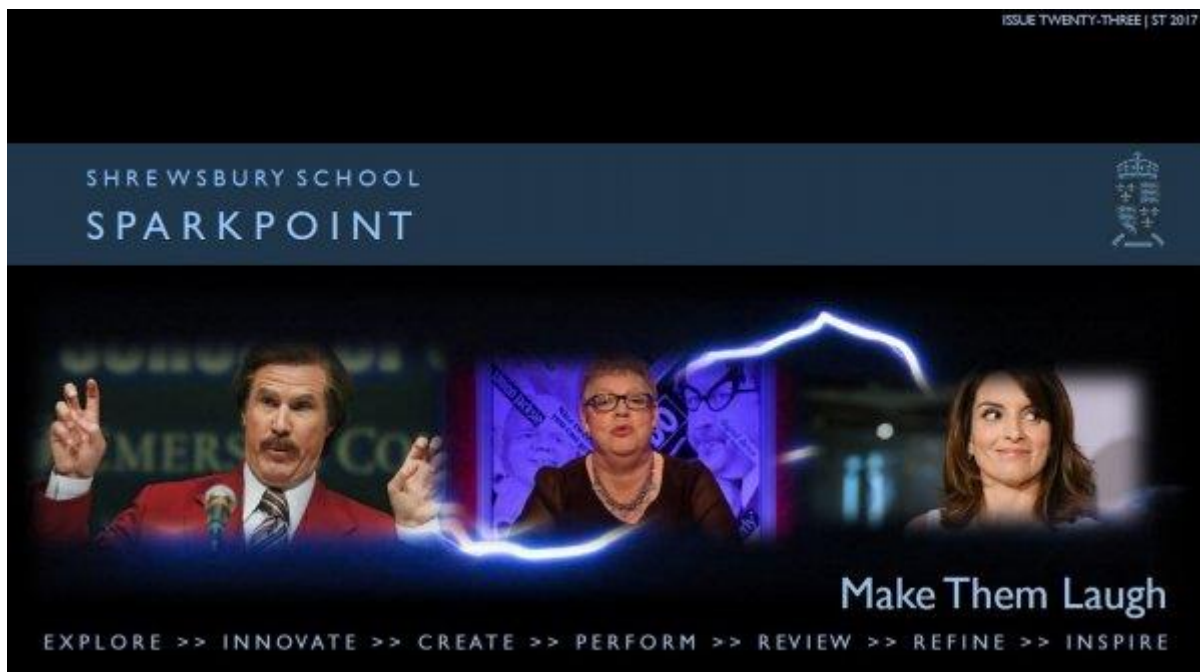
Buried at Bucquoy Road Cemetery, Ficheux, France. Grave I. F. 22.

Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - 'Make Them Laugh'

Sunday 7 May 2017

"Laughing is a hugely important process and one which has proven mental benefits." As the exam season gets properly underway, Deputy Head (Academic) Maurice Walters has produced an issue of SparkPoint that is designed to get readers smiling.

Please click on the image below to open 'Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - Make Them Laugh' as a pdf:



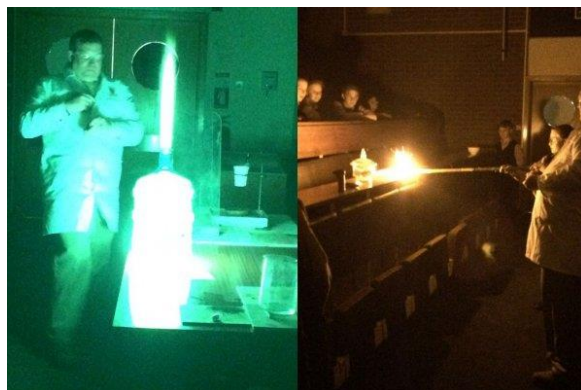
Prep School Chemistry - the shows go on

Monday 8 May 2017

On Thursday 4th May, Shrewsbury School's Senior Chemistry Technician Rachel Schofield and Head of Science Dr Andy Briggs ran another of their very popular Prep School Science Enrichment Afternoons, this time for pupils of Yarlet School.

Fourteen Year 7 pupils, together with their Head of Science Mrs Patsy Barron and assistant, were once again given a trip around the Site, which included a tour of the science facilities at Shrewsbury School.

Starting in the Science Lecture Theatre, Dr Briggs provided his ever-growing repertoire of spectacular explosions and illuminating flash-bang demonstrations. There were plenty of smiling faces and excited comments, even before the jelly babies for the volunteers came out! The pupils experienced sights, sounds and smells that are real chemistry at work.



Once in the laboratory, and in small groups, the pupils were allowed to experience a variety of chemical situations and reactions themselves. To extend their learning, they were also able to use some equipment that is not often used in prep schools, including chemical elements and solutions.





The magic egg in a bottle trick is always competitive, the smelly plastic milk builds character and the flame tests are extremely popular. All the senses were engaged, which is what chemistry is all about.

On request, the pupils were also allowed to safely experience some new processes and elements, including mercury. A finale of liquid nitrogen flowers and elephant's toothpaste ended a successful afternoon.



The Yarlet pupils showed exceptional lab behaviour and their enthusiasm in both the demonstrations and experiments made it a pleasure to stage the event.

In a thank you email sent to Dr Briggs and Mrs Schofield the following day, Yarlet's Head of Science said, "The demonstrations were great and the investigations really engaged the children. They all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It is really kind of you to do this for us and very much appreciated."

Rachel Schofield and Andrew Briggs

GB gold medals for 2 Salopian rowers

Monday 8 May 2017

Congratulations to Matthew Rowe (SH UVI) and Barnaby Fox (PH UVI) who won GB gold medals last weekend at the 2017 International DRV Junior Regatta, which was held at the Munich Olympic Regatta Centre in Oberschleissheim.



Boys' tennis news

Monday 8 May 2017

The boys' senior tennis team enjoyed an excellent victory against Uppingham last Saturday, 6th May.

Although in recent years the Shrewsbury 1st VI have won against Uppingham at home, this is the first time they have beaten them away from home for more than 20 years.

First pair Alex Loumidis and Alex Webb led from the front, winning 6-0 6-1 6-4 in their sets. Max and Guy Morris won 2 out of their 3 sets, and Tom Bromley-Davenport and the Frank Morris won a set. Shrewsbury were 2-1 down after the first round, as were the 2nd VI, where first pair Jesse Mattinson and Lucas Paul won all 3 of their sets.

“To come from behind after a long coach journey showed great character and resolve by the Shrewsbury squad,” commented Master in Charge, Myles Harding.

The 3rd IV did well to claw their way back from 2-0 to 3-3.

Shrewsbury v Uppingham

1st VI won 6-3

2nd VI won 5-4

3rd IV drew 3-3

U15A won 7.5-1.5

U15B won 7-2

U14A lost 5-4

U14B lost 5-4

The 1st VI have also recorded wins recently over Ellesmere and King Edward's School Birmingham. They are looking forward to playing Repton on Saturday 13th May.

Halford Hewitt 2017

Monday 8 May 2017

After the excitement of reaching the semi-final last year, the golfing gods decided to pair us against Tonbridge, the 2016 winners and the team we would have played had we won the semi, in this year's first round!

Since we last won the competition in 1993, Tonbridge have appeared in ten finals, winning eight of them. We were not favourites, but after last year's successful run we hoped that we might catch them off guard. It was not to be and Tonbridge won 4-1.

In the Plate Competition, we defeated Clifton in the 1st Round but then lost to The Leys.

The Shrewsbury team was Andy Pollock (Captain), Jon Howse, Richie Roberts, Alex Stewart, Laurie Briggs, Will Painter, Jonty Champion, James Skelton, Angus Pollock and James Pollock. Laurie Briggs, a 3 handicap golfer from Royal Liverpool, made his debut in the Hewitt and James Mainwaring made his debut in the Plate.

Pictured below is Salopian golfer, Richie Roberts, playing in the Halford Hewitt at Deal wearing the new OSGS sweater.



The Grove House Play 'The Penelopeid' - review

Wednesday 10 May 2017

A review by Richard Hudson of The Grove's fantastic all-female production of Margaret Atwood's satirical drama.



"History," says Mrs Lintott in Alan Bennett's *The History Boys* "is a commentary on the various and continuing incapacities of men ... History is women following behind with the bucket." This certainly was the strong message portrayed by this short, punchy and wholly captivating production of Atwood's feminist classical satirical fantasy.

The Penelopiad is Margaret Atwood's (of *The Handmaid's Tale* fame) witty rewriting of Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, or parts thereof, from the perspective of Odysseus's long-suffering wife Penelope, feistily portrayed by Niamh Thomas in Helen Brown's all female production.



Maintaining a kingdom while her husband Odysseus, played with mischievously arrogant self-regard by Flora Moreau, was off fighting the Trojan War was not a simple business for Penelope. Already aggrieved that he had been lured away due to the shocking behaviour of her beautiful cousin Helen, played with a mesmerising mixture of metropolitan sophistication and flouncing vulgarity by Eve Hartley, Penelope must bring up her wayward son Telemachus (Betty Chau),

face down scandalous rumours and keep over a hundred lustful, greedy and bloodthirsty suitors at bay. And then, when Odysseus finally returns and slaughters the murderous suitors, he brutally hangs Penelope's twelve beloved maids... It was a man's world, and maybe still is now.



Helen's Brown's visually seductive production does not reflect well on the menfolk, as the women, lounging around the bar in Hades, reflect on their earthly lives on Ithaca while Odysseus enjoyed himself for 20 years at Troy and returning from it. The actresses handled the brilliant script - part classical tragic pastiche, part Manhattan bar banter, part Ladies' loo gossip, part elevated Brechtian didactic theatre - with aplomb and very evident enjoyment.

Minor parts were also wittily presented, not least the wonderfully dippy Oracle, played by Stephanie Christenson, emitting the conveniently ambiguous advice for which Delphi was notorious – perhaps the most famous example being, 'Trust no one'.



Congratulations also to the many backstage who contributed to a production which felt much more like a School than House play, and left the audience - or should have left them - reflecting on the 'fake news' patriarchal flavour of so much historiography.

RTH

To view a gallery of photos from the play, please follow the link: [The Peneolpeiad Photo Gallery](#)



Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Wednesday 10 May 2017

This week, the U14C cricket team.

Having dwelt on the senior cricket team last week, an opportunity arose to examine how things are going for the most junior team in the school hierarchy. Andrew Barnard, our Master in Charge of Cricket, is a very wise man and he has ensured that future senior cricketers are well looked after in the lower echelons of the School. Not for our Under-14Cs a clapped-out member of staff well past his prime who over-estimated his limited abilities as a cricketer. The Shrewsbury Under-14 Cs are blessed with possibly the most successful coaching duo since Brian Clough and Peter Taylor took Nottingham Forest to European glory. Mark Roberts is a renowned Welsh cricketer who puts the cricket into Criccieth. (There aren't many English towns that resonate so soundly of the beautiful game.) His demonstration of genuine fast bowling in the nets on Friday afternoon will live long in the memory and may help to explain why every member of the team bowled on Wednesday in the local derby with Shrewsbury High Prep. And Giles Bell is renowned for his cricketing cunning and once played in the same team as former England Captain Nasser Hussain. "I was a very good scorer and Nasser Hussain was a very good batsman; I am very cunning," I said.



The Under-14Cs have played four games so far this season, losing the first two and winning their last two. The coaches work very well together and are delighted with the steady progress of the team. "We are heading in the right direction," Mark Roberts told me as he drove off to Wales.

A number of well-known statisticians have noted that Shrewsbury have won all the games that Giles 'Dickie' Bell has umpired this season. I wondered if that had caused the Master in Charge of Cricket any sleepless nights. Andy Barnard, the 'Gandalf' of Shrewsbury School cricket, told me he had not lost sleep over this issue. "I have not been dreaming of Mr Bell recently," he stated. "'Dickie' Bell has only given one LBW decision this year and is honest as the day is long. He was an excellent 12th man in his playing days but those days are over." Mr Bell denied that he was intimidated by his team's bowlers' aggressive appeals. "They are all very polite young men and I have no concerns for my welfare. None of them are here now are they?" he said in an anxious and nervous manner.



However, sections of the opposition crowd on Wednesday were unhappy with a controversial LBW that accounted for Shrewsbury High Prep's top batsman on Wednesday, as they could not hear the appeal. "I had to explain that the team are a very well-mannered outfit and that the polite request by fast bowler Ed Craik was not audible to anyone more than a few feet away," Dickie Bell told me.

Other sections of the crowd questioned Ed Craik's age, wondering if he was in fact Middlesex and Ireland opening batsman Paul Stirling. Ed was quick to dismiss such allegations. "I am not Paul Stirling and I am not 26, although it is a credit to Mr Bell and Mr Roberts that people have mistaken my fluent batting style and frighteningly quick fast bowling for that of an international cricketer. It's amazing what two top coaches can do in a few net sessions," Ed told me. Other players have also been complimentary about their coaches.



Rhys 'send the ball' Woodward scored 75 against Repton last Saturday and was delighted to hit his first ever six at Shrewsbury High Prep School. "To score a six makes all the drills we have done in the nets worthwhile. I would never have achieved this without the superb coaching we get from Mr Bell and Mr Roberts," Rhys commented as he wiped away a tear of joy.



Rhys

Henry Dong and Milton Tai are enjoying the opportunities to hone their skills, and Henry Dixon, Billy Watkinson and Andrew Maxwell have all performed to a high level this season, making their all-round performances difficult to ignore when it comes to team selection.



Jonty

Jonty Gould used to go to Shrewsbury High Prep and he helped the team exploit the pitch in exactly the right manner. “I am just glad I was there to interpret the conditions for the lads,” Jonty said. His interpreting of the conditions led to a 31-run victory in a closely-fought contest in which cricket was the winner, and the youngsters from Shrewsbury High Prep could be proud of their brave performance against such a well-coached outfit.

Captain Ed Bayliss was delighted with the team effort. “I am delighted with the team effort,” he told me. His highlight of the season so far has been dismissing his younger brother in the Packwood encounter. “It is important to have something in the locker to use when communicating with one’s siblings and I will always be able to refer to this moment,” he smiled.



Captain Ed

With two matches for the C team squad on the same day this Friday, the players will be stretched! One group will be going to Birchfield while the other team are taking on Prestfelde at home. There is an air of quiet confidence amongst these cheerful young exponents of the game. Let’s hope the rain does not put paid to their chances of more glorious exploits!

GJFB

General Election Hustings

Wednesday 10 May 2017

On Wednesday 10th May, we welcomed all five Prospective Parliamentary Candidates for the Shrewsbury and Atcham constituency to Shrewsbury School.

Report by Richard Hudson.



Parliamentary Candidates (L to R): Daniel Kawczynski MP (Con), Edward Higginbottom (UKIP), Emma Bullard (Green) (standing), Cllr Hannah Fraser (Lib Dem), Dr Laura Davies (Labour)

Barely a month from the election, a packed Ashton Theatre was treated – and it was indeed a treat – to five-minute presentations from the five candidates for Shrewsbury and Atcham, a Q & A session and two-minute closing speeches in a Hustings chaired with military precision by Ed Plaut (S UVI) and Megan Redhead (MSH UVI) sitting either side of Mr Matthew Clark, whose sphynx-like demeanour gave no indication of his own political sympathies.

Presentations were variously slick, confident, smug, complacent, passionate, wooden, mechanical, well-informed, self-contradictory, delusional – but always fascinating. The candidates revealed few surprises and in all but one case displayed loyal, if not always believable, admiration – even devotion – to their party leaders.

Unsurprisingly, Brexit, hard or soft-boiled, featured heavily in the Q&A section, with only the Conservative and UKIP candidates personally convinced by the wisdom of the popular mandate. Other questions dealt with VAT on school fees, the balance between local, national and international politics, the integrity of party leaders, university tuition fees, EU staff in the NHS, low-paid workers in highly profitable businesses and the tax system.

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All candidates dutifully stressed the importance of the youth vote, even though a larger turnout by young people might benefit some parties more than others, and the fully-engaged audience applauded each candidate with admirable even-handedness.

A drinks reception followed and, to judge from the headlines in this morning's newspapers, nothing off-message was revealed in this more informal gathering.

Clearly this is an enormously busy time for the candidates and the audience expressed its warm appreciation to them for giving up so much time, showing by their presence that democracy is alive and well.

RTH



Shrewsbury Regatta

Wednesday 10 May 2017

A total of 74 school crews raced in the Shrewsbury Regatta last weekend (6th/7th May). Between them they finished with a tremendous 33 wins across all age groups and a total of 144 medals.



The majority of the pupils were racing in small boats and competed in multiple events.

There was a fantastic atmosphere with large numbers in support from parents and Salopians over both days.

It was great to see a vibrant and competitive Boat Club winning numerous events across all the age groups over both days.

Well done to all, and thank you to Boatman Andy Clark and all the coaches in managing the challenge of getting so many pupils out racing.

Saturday wins: J18 8+, IM3 8+, J16 8+, WJ15 8+, IM2 4+, J16 4+, WJ15 4+, WJ15B 4+, WJ16 4X, WN4X+, J14 4X+, WIM2 2X, IM3 2X, WJ18 2X, WJ16 2X, J18 2- and IM1 1X

Sunday wins: IM3 8+, J14 8X+, IM2 4+, IM3 4+, J16 4+, J16 4X, J15 4X+, WN4X+, WJ15 4X+, N2X, WJ17 2X, J15 2X, J17 2-, J18 1X, WJ16 1X, J15 1X

Athol Hundermark, Director of Rowing



The WJ15 squad, winners of the WJ15x+ and Nov4x+ events

Please click on the image below to scroll through a gallery of images taken during the Regatta. (Clicking on the magnifying glass in the top right-hand of a photo will open it up at full size.)

Shrewsbury School performs Purcell's 'Dido and Aeneas'

Wednesday 10 May 2017

The performance of Purcell's 'Dido and Aeneas' last weekend showcased some of the outstanding vocal talent at the School.

Purcell composed what has come to be regarded as England's 'first opera' in 1688 for performance in a school, so the roles suited our young singers very well.

Heading up the cast were Sophia Price (EDH LVI) as Dido and Angus Warburg (PH LVI) as Aeneas. Both singers were superb and delivered their arias and recitatives with aplomb. Dido's famous lament never fails to move and Sophia Price captured the spirit of this beautifully.

Notable supporting roles were sung by Amelia Marriott (EDH LVI), Jessie Inglis-Jones (EDH LVI), Phoebe Morris (EDH III), Julianna Hinwood (MSH UVI), Amber Wilkinson (MSH LVI) and Will Hope (Ch V) and the chorus provided some final ensemble singing.

The first half meanwhile was a sequence of solo songs by singers from all year groups. Angus Kincaid (Ch UVI) opened proceedings and demonstrated yet again his immense vocal talent, Fintan Simmons (Ch UVI) sang with warmth and charm and Emily Hartland (G IV) dazzled with virtuosity, but it was Orlando Williams (Rt III) who closed the first half and brought the house down with his consummate performance of the 'Hole' song!

Praise must also go to Mr Moore for his superb piano accompaniment and the singing teachers Kathryn Turpin and Jonathan May for their excellent vocal tuition.

Alex Mason, Deputy Director of Music



Careers Bulletin for Sixth Formers

Wednesday 10 May 2017

The Careers Fellow, Mrs Dry, produces a weekly bulletin for Sixth Formers with links to information on work experience opportunities, university taster courses, gap year schemes, school leaver programmes - along with news articles and other items that may be of interest to students and to parents.

Please click [here](#) to download the bulletin as a pdf file.



Announcing the winners of the Biology Photographic Competition 2017...

Wednesday 10 May 2017

The four judges of the inaugural Shrewsbury School Biology Photographic Competition had a difficult task to choose the winners from among the stunning images submitted in all three categories. The winning photos are displayed here.

Junior Category (Third, Fourth & Fifth Forms)

Winner: Nicholas Yale (S)

Runner-up: Anna Cowan (MSH)

Commended: Max Green (I), Danila Polyntsov (I)

Senior Category (Sixth Form)

Winner: Morgan Butler (EDH)

Runner-up: James Crewdson (S)

Commended: Miu Tran (EDH), Amelia Marriott (EDH)

Staff Category

Winner: Raymond Vardill

Runner-up: Kate Bronner

Commended: John Balcombe, Jackie Matthews

Two Salopian oarsmen win GB Gold

Thursday 11 May 2017

Congratulations to Matthew Rowe (SH UVI) and Barnaby Fox (PH UVI) who won GB gold medals last weekend at the 2017 International DRV Junior Regatta, which was held at the Munich Olympic Regatta Centre in Oberschleissheim.



They were both members of the crew that won the A final of the Junior Men's Eight.

Matthew also won gold in the Junior Men's Pair.

Shrewsbury's Director of Rowing Athol Hundermark was delighted with their success. "The event runs over two days and acts as a preparation for the Junior World Championships, which are taking place in Lithuania in August. The Great Britain selectors will look to see how they do against other nations, and Matthew and Barney can be very happy with how they did in Germany.

"Matt competed in the World Championships last year and Barney was at the Europeans, so they know how fierce the competition is and how it all works. It is fantastic that they have come back from Munich with medals around their necks, and a lot of confidence as well - and that is important."





Cricket: Clean sweep against Repton

Thursday 11 May 2017

Congratulations to all players and staff on achieving a clean sweep over Repton on Saturday 6th May.

There were some outstanding individual performances; perhaps the most impressive in the 1st XI were the 118 not out from Jamie Crawley and six wickets for Fourth Former Peter Clark.

Scoresheets for most of the Shrewsbury School cricket teams can be viewed on the CricHQ website: <https://www.crichq.com/clubs/204564/teams>

The 1st XI also qualified, with a home tie, for the HMC T20 qualifying matches on Sunday 7th May.

Semi-Final 1

Shrewsbury 176 for 3 (20 overs) (Jamie Crawley 52no)

Oswestry 67 for 6 (20 overs)

Shrewsbury won by 109 runs

Final

Shrewsbury 157 for 7 (20 overs) (Dan Humes 38, George Garrett 45)

Newcastle 55 for 8 (20 overs)

Shrewsbury won by 102 runs

School House oarsman wins GB Gold

Thursday 11 May 2017

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Port Hill oarsman wins GB Gold

Thursday 11 May 2017

Congratulations to Barnaby Fox (PH UVI) and Matthew Rowe (SH UVI) who won GB gold medals last weekend at the 2017 International DRV Junior Regatta, which was held at the Munich Olympic Regatta Centre in Oberschleissheim.



They were both members of the crew that won the A final of the Junior Men's Eight.

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Shrewsbury's Director of Rowing Athol Hundermark was delighted with their success. "The event runs over two days and acts as a preparation for the Junior World Championships, which are taking place in Lithuania in August. The Great Britain selectors will look to see how they do against other nations, and Matthew and Barney can be very happy with how they did in Germany.

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Instrumental Diplomas for four Shrewsbury School musicians

Thursday 11 May 2017

Four Shrewsbury School woodwind players have passed their Trinity Guildhall instrumental Diplomas. These are the most advanced performance awards, which follow on after Grade 8 exams.

Sophia Price (EDH LVI) (Flute), Henry Mayhew (Ch LVI) (Clarinet) and Jesse Mattinson (Rb UVI) (Saxophone) have now gained their ATCL diplomas, which is considered the equivalent of a first year undergraduate final recital. Sophia and Henry were awarded distinctions.

William Bedson (Rb UVI) (Saxophone) took his LTCL, which is considered the standard of a third year undergraduate final recital at University. William is now the third Shrewsbury School student to have achieved this level, following in the footsteps of Henry Kennedy (I 2009-14) (Saxophone) and Nateawat Ruechuseth (Ch LVI) (Piano).

“Obviously I am delighted with these marks,” said Head of Woodwind Maria McKenzie. “They all should be very proud of such high level achievement for which they have all worked incredibly hard.”



L-R: Jesse Mattinson, Sophia Price, Henry Mayhew, William Bedson

Instrumental Diplomas for two Radbrook musicians

Thursday 11 May 2017

Many congratulations to saxophonist Will Bedson (Rb UVI), who has gained his Trinity Guildhall LTCL Music Diploma (which is considered the standard of a third year undergraduate final recital at university) and to fellow saxophonist Jesse Mattinson (Rb UVI), who has gained his ATCL Diploma (considered the equivalent of a first year undergraduate final recital).

Sophia Price (EDH LVI) (Flute) and Henry Mayhew (Ch LVI) (Clarinet) also passed their Diplomas and were both awarded distinctions.

Will Bedson is now the third Shrewsbury School student to have achieved the ATCL Diploma, following in the footsteps of Henry Kennedy (I 2009-14) (Saxophone) and Nateawat Ruechuseth (Ch LVI) (Piano).

“Obviously I am delighted with these marks,” said Head of Woodwind Maria McKenzie. “They all should be very proud of such high level achievement for which they have all worked incredibly hard.”



L-R: Jesse Mattinson, Sophia Price, Henry Mayhew, William Bedson

“Thanks for the memory”

Thursday 11 May 2017

Pupils at Shrewsbury School have created a magnificent mural for Sabrina House Care Home in Shrewsbury, which has been inspired by the people who live there.



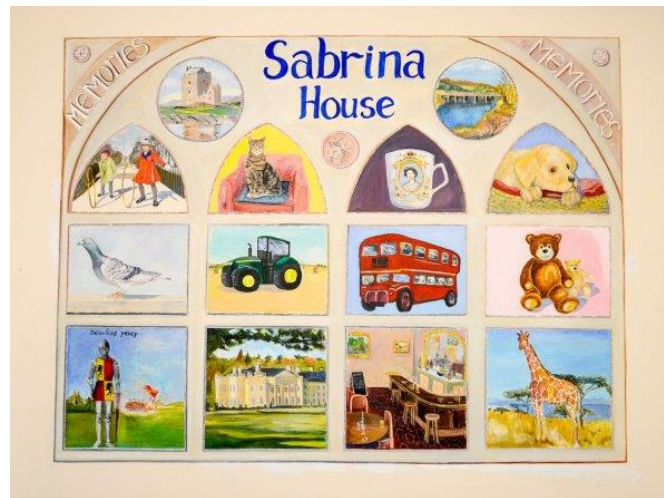
The project has been a collaboration between the School's Art Department, Sabrina House Care Home and Creative Inspiration Shropshire, a social venture established in 2014 by Dr Jane Povey to provide participatory creative arts programmes for vulnerable and isolated people in the local community.

Shrewsbury's Head of Art, Rose Shawe-Taylor, explains: “I had been wanting to do some activity with Shrewsbury School students which takes art into the community, and Jane Povey's initiative proved to be the perfect opportunity. The planning stage was the difficult part; how to incorporate a diverse range of memories into a coherent whole. Then one of our students came up with the idea of a series of windows, rather like an advent calendar, and after that the design was straightforward.

“Part of the fun was hearing the residents talk about their memories – from racing pigeons to driving a double-decker bus, and chatting to the lovely staff who made us endless cups of tea. I only wish that Dan, who was at Sabrina longer than any other resident, had lived to see the finished result.”

The residents and staff at Sabrina House have been thrilled with the project: “Having the students from Shrewsbury School visit Sabrina House has enriched the residents' lives immensely. Those residents who are not able to socialise outside of the home can become somewhat isolated from the outside world. So having the girls and boys visit gives them the opportunity to interact with people from outside, which is particularly important for those residents who don't have family and friends who visit.

“It has been lovely to see the artists interact with the residents. Right from the first day when the artists were asking residents what they would like the mural to look like, it was plain to see a bond forming. The students showed a real empathy, far beyond their years, which was obvious to all of us looking on. The mural has become a talking point, especially when visitors see it. The residents take great pleasure in pointing out the various sections and chat about something in it they may be personal to them.”



“Being a part of this life-changing experience was not only a privilege but it was also an honour to give back to the community,” said Nifemi Runsewe (MSH LVI). “Socialising with the elderly and the carers at Sabrina House was a key aspect of painting the mural. Not only were we able to ask the elderly people at the care home what memory of theirs they would like us to reflect on the mural, but we also got to know a bit more about them and their lives. So we were able to create a mural that was done with love, as art is the moment where work meets love.”



“The mural also brought us students a lot closer together. This project enabled me to feel a part of something a lot bigger than an average school project, whilst making friends I am sure to keep for years to come. At the end of the day, seeing the smiles on the faces of the elderly as they recognised which painting was dedicated to them was the icing on the cake because happiness is not from what we get, but what we give.”

The mural project forms part of a wider collaborative programme between Shrewsbury School, Creative Inspiration Shropshire and care homes in Shrewsbury that has included concerts, sing-alongs and a hugely successful Afternoon Tea Party for guests from Sabrina House and Swan Hill care homes, held at Shrewsbury School in the spring.

Creative Inspiration Shropshire has greatly valued the contribution the Shrewsbury School students have made this year in enriching the lives of residents and staff at local care homes,” said Dr Jane Povey, Creative Inspiration Shropshire’s Founding Director. “The beautiful mural at Sabrina House marks the end of a fantastic first year of collaborative work with musicians, artists and chefs from the School.”

Henley Royal Regatta, 28th June 2017 – 2nd July 2017

Thursday 11 May 2017



Each year the Shrewsbury School Foundation joins the Salopian Club for a wonderful lunchtime reception at Henley Royal Regatta. This longstanding event is always well attended and is one of the favourite summer activities of Shrewsbury School Foundation supporters.

We very much hope to see you at the Royal Regatta again this year.



OSGS Qualify for Finals of Grafton Morrish

Sunday 14 May 2017

On a windy day at Olton Golf Club in Solihull, OSGS qualified for the finals of the Grafton Morrish to be played at Hunstanton and Brancaster in Norfolk during October.

The competition is scratch foursomes for a team of three pairs from the Golf Societies of 108 schools. Eight regional qualifiers are played on courses around the country to reduce the list of finalists to 48 teams.

Four teams could qualify at Olton with Shrewsbury drawn to play alongside a strong Monmouth team.

Mark Ferguson and Simon Shepherd led the team off and, after a 1 over par back nine, finished with 29 points. Alex Stewart and Angus Pollock had a disappointing back nine and contributed 21 points.

Our third pair of Will Painter and Laurie Briggs reached the 18th green requiring a par to record another back nine of 1 over par and 28 points.

As Will addressed his putt for par, a downhill left to right slippery six footer, news filtered through from the Clubhouse that Shrewsbury were in 5th place and required a par to be tied in 4th place. The crowd around the 18th green fell silent, then cheered as Will's putt fell to the bottom of the cup!

Monmouth qualified top with an impressive 97 stableford points whilst Shrewsbury and Warwick, tied in 4th place, endured an agonising wait to find out who would progress to the finals.

The competition rules state that, in the event of a tie, the team with the best aggregate back nine score qualify; Shrewsbury will visit Norfolk in October.

Anthony Smith, President of OSGS, observed events unfold. Armed with binoculars, a packet of sherbet lemons and sporting the new OSGS sweater, he provided regular updates on our progress. Aware that we were off the pace after nine holes, the team played some quality golf over the closing holes spurred on by the President's wisdom and words of encouragement.

Onwards to Norfolk!



OSGS Golfing Sweaters in action at Tandrige

Sunday 14 May 2017



Simon Cullingworth and Will Hawksley wearing the new OSGS sweater at Tandrige GC.



RSSBC: Nottingham City Regatta

Sunday 14 May 2017

The J15, J16 and Senior crews competed at the Nottingham City Regatta held at Holme Pierrepont on Saturday 13th May, racing mainly in senior events to get some tough competition in preparation for the National Schools' Regatta at the end of May.

There were plenty of entries into most events, which meant crews had to race in heats and generally come in the top two or three in order to qualify for the final. A stiff headwind welcomed the crews onto the start line.

The best result of the day came for four boys from the 1st VIII who won the Senior Coxless Fours' race, showing great maturity and pacing to row through their opposition in the final few strokes of the race.

A brief summary of the other results:

1st VIII - 3rd in IM1 VIIIs, 1st in Sen IV-, 5th in IM2 IV+

2nd VIII - 5th in IM2 VIIIs and 2nd in J18 VIIIs

3rd VIII - 5th in J18 VIIIs

J16 VIII - 4th in IM2 VIIIs, 4th & 5th in IM3 IV- heats

J15 VIII - 3rd in Novice VIIIs heat, 3th in IM3 VIIIs heat

1st 4X - 3rd in WJ18 4X

WJ16 4X - 4th in WJ16 4X

WJ15 VIII - 3rd in Novice VIIIs and 3rd in Novice IVX+

Athol Hundermark, Director of Rowing

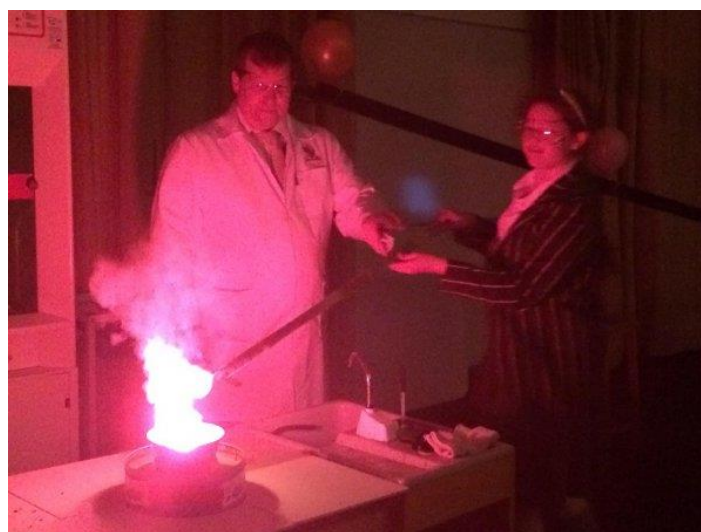
Please click on the image below to scroll through a gallery of photos from the Regatta.

Prep School Chemistry: There's no smoke without fire

Sunday 14 May 2017

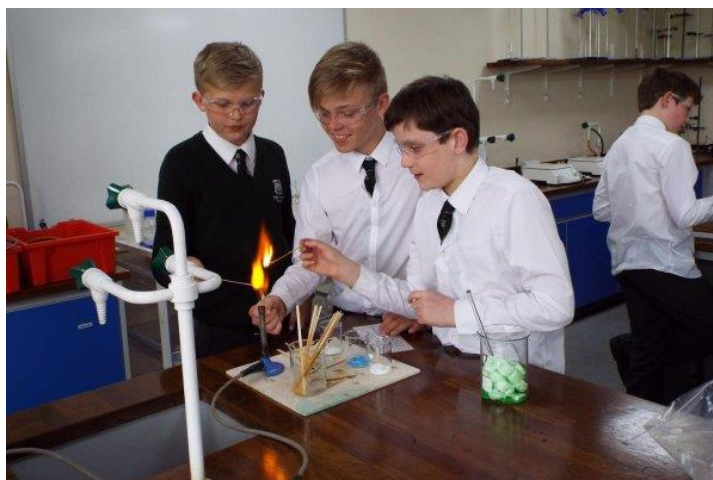
Last Thursday (11th May) was our penultimate Prep School Science Enrichment afternoon of the academic year for the Chemistry Department.

A large year group of 24 Year 7 pupils from Terra Nova School were welcomed once again into the science facilities at Shrewsbury School, together with their Head of Science Mr Simon Pickering and accompanied by Madame Lee and assistant.

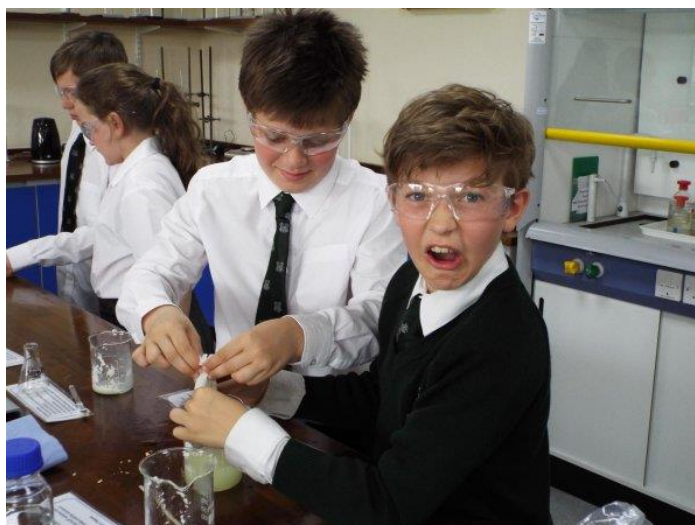


As always, Dr Andy Briggs, our Head of Science, started the event with a number of 'flash bang' demonstrations that gave plenty for the pupils to see, hear and smell. Terra Nova provided lots of eager volunteers, despite not knowing what they were letting themselves in for. Sparks were flying, illuminating colours, flames and smoke were all experienced in fun – with even a test of our fire alarm for good measure!





After a brief breath of fresh air, it was then into the laboratory for a variety circus of experiments involving chemical situations and reactions for the pupils to perform themselves. Although a very busy laboratory, all groups were able to try out equipment and chemical elements they do not often use in prep schools. The pupils were also allowed to safely experience some new processes and elements, including Mercury. All the senses were engaged, which is what chemistry is all about.



A finale of Liquid Nitrogen flowers and elephant's toothpaste ended a successful afternoon. The Terra Nova pupils showed amazing enthusiasm for science, both in practical work and questions. It was a pleasure to host pupils with such sensible lab behaviour, and the staff and students agreed it was a very worthwhile and enjoyable afternoon.



Rachel Schofield and Andrew Briggs

Girls' U15 cricket team are National Runners-Up

Sunday 14 May 2017

Shrewsbury School's Under-15 Girls' cricket team finished an exciting day at Lord's Cricket Ground as Runners-Up in the National Finals of the Lady Taverners' Indoor Cricket Competition.



Having been crowned Midlands Regional Champions on 2nd May, Shrewsbury joined teams from Devon, Essex, Norfolk and Yorkshire for Finals Day on 15th May to compete for the national title.

Shrewsbury won their first match against St Aidan's High School by 36 runs and then went on to play Felsted School in the second round. Shrewsbury made 98 – 8 in their eight overs, but it was not quite enough to keep their opponents at bay, and in the final nail-biting over of the match Felsted claimed victory.



In their third match against South Dartmoor Community College, Shrewsbury's Captain Issy Wong made 63 runs, leading the team to a total of 119. When South Dartmoor ended their eight overs on 89, Shrewsbury claimed their second victory of the day.

In their fourth and final match against Old Buckenham High, Shrewsbury didn't quite manage to produce their batting performances of the previous games. Despite a low total, the girls were determined to keep fighting on till the end. But they just narrowly lost on the final ball of the game. Nevertheless, even though the girls had won two and lost two, by racking up the runs in the three previous games (which put them at the top of table when it came to runs scored) they ended up finishing second overall.

"We are gutted to have come so close," said their Coach Gwenan Davies "but I'm extremely proud of how far the girls have come. They've shown some fantastic character throughout the entire competition and to come second out of 900 schools in the country is an outstanding achievement.

"It's truly remarkable to think that just two years ago girls' cricket at Shrewsbury School was in its infancy, but it's now a podium sport offering four teams with squads of 13 in each! The girls continue to show relentless drive to be the best possible cricketers they can be, and it is a genuine pleasure to be guiding them through.

"The future looks bright for Shrewsbury School girls' cricket!"

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Shrewsbury School Foundation Annual Telephone Campaign, 3rd - 24th July 2017

Monday 15 May 2017

Following on the heels of a tremendously successful parents' calling programme in March, Shrewsbury School Foundation will be conducting its annual Telephone Campaign in July. As many of our supporters realise, the annual charitable gifts received from Old Salopians and parents form the building blocks of giving at Shrewsbury School. For well over ten years the Foundation has appealed to parents and Old Salopians for vital bursarial support which is a priority for the School.

This year a unique appeal has truly resonated with parents. As the Moser Library's funding is complete, thanks to large charitable gifts, many parents have chosen to donate funds in support of items such as IT equipment, eBooks and furniture. This will enable their own children and others to take full advantage of the new facility.

On behalf of Shrewsbury School, please accept a heartfelt thank you for your charitable gifts which make a huge difference to teaching and learning here at Shrewsbury.



'Sifaka' in concert - "a breath of fresh air in the Salopian landscape"

Monday 15 May 2017

Old Salopian, former Moserite and Music Scholar Sam Wilson returned to Shrewsbury last weekend with his six-piece band from Leeds 'Sifaka', who have been setting stages alight with their fusion of soul, rock and African blues. Review by John Moore.

Arriving in the Maidment Building fresh from highly successful appearances at the Cheltenham Jazz Festival, Sifaka were a breath of fresh air in the Salopian landscape.

Their music draws on many roots for its inspiration. The rhythms and sounds of contemporary African popular and traditional music, the rhythm and blues of the late 1960s in the UK, and even jazz inflections and harmonies make their way into the writing, which is always thoughtful, but powerful and immensely accessible at the same time. The musicians are all superb performers, whether on guitars, drums, keyboards or vocals, and in Sam's case on flugelhorn as well!

Mared, their wonderfully versatile singer, leads the vocal line supported by Sam, who does a lot of the song-writing himself. Mared has a voice of quite extraordinary range and power, which is clearly one of Sifaka's greatest assets. However, they are a band that is very much the sum of their individual talents, and that combination is a winning one, which will take them a long way we hope.

Their latest single, *Sun Down on Cape Town*, is a superb piece of writing. Catchy, funky and with a great hook-line, one cannot help but love it. (Available on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUaIKflb1u0>)

As a finale and to acknowledge the clear debt they owe as a band to the past, they finished with Joe Cocker's timeless version of the Beatles' *With a Little Help from my Friends*, which they played with complete conviction and authentic detail. The spirit of Cocker himself was almost visible in the room, so powerful was their rendition.



Shrewsbury

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The whole evening was started by a wonderful set from Cameron Bates (S UVI) on keyboard and vocals. Cameron is the real thing, blessed with a wonderful singing voice and genuine brilliance as a songwriter in his own right. The audience loved him, and it was terrific to see a current pupil so capable of supporting a professional act whilst still at school. He is a name to watch out for in the future.

So, a wonderful evening of great contemporary popular music, with Sam Wilson leading the band so very well. We hope next year to bring other similar Old Salopian talent back to the School, and I'm sure that there will be even more to celebrate in future years.

JFM

Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - 'The Nature of Cyber Crime'

Monday 15 May 2017

Following one of the most significant world-wide cyber attacks last Friday, this week's edition of SparkPoint focuses on the cyber landscape.

Please click on the image below to open (safely) 'Shrewsbury SparkPoint - The Nature of Cyber Crime' as a pdf file:



SHREWSBURY SCHOOL | SPARKPOINT

Chaos beyond all imagining...

Last Friday heralded the start of one of the most significant cyber-attacks in recent history. Affecting perhaps more than five-hundred thousand devices across over twenty-four nations, the ransomware hit critical state infrastructures (notably the NHS) and brought procedures to a standstill the world over.

In a society that is – as digital detox demonstrated – increasingly dependent not simply on technology, but on the interconnectedness of everything, we are more and more vulnerable to the sort of attacks that seek to fragment and destroy those links. As you move forward from Shrewsbury into university and then the workplace, you will need to have a strong awareness of safety and security online and indeed, you'll need to know your enemy. To that end, this week's issue focuses on the cyber landscape.

Science Fiction Foretells the Future

If the concept of cyber-crime and indeed of a more invasive and technologically-driven society interests you, then you may be interested to read the award-winning 'The Circle' by David Egan which imagines the consequences of these innovations. [Click here](#) for review.

Frigitiously, culture is not immune to the advancement of technology. They have developed a knowledge that can analyse the style of particular artists and then compare an entirely original style in that style. Click here to hear a song written and performed in the style of the Beatles. It's not something I think we'll be putting on the iPod anytime soon, but it's quite extraordinary. Now for things that progress.

Mr Walters | Deputy Head (Academic) | May 2017

SP70 – Early Computer Viruses

It was the development of the internet that viruses truly became a problem for the first time with the growth and development of computer networks and, of course, the growing popularity of the World Wide Web. [Click here](#) to watch a video which explains, in plain English, how the earliest viruses were deployed and the impact they had on the systems that became infected.

5 Minutes

SP71 – The Millennium Bug

Most of you are far too young to remember the nation we entered a new Millennium. Although most of us were out at wild parties, the celebration was dampened significantly by the looming threat of the Millennium bug – a date-related issue in computer systems which was supposed to cause chaos the world over. [Click here](#) to see the level of fear exhibited in the media.

5 Minutes

SP72 – The Science of Encryption

The gentleman hosting [this video](#) may be slightly irritating, but the points he makes are very valid. We are all providing a data buffet on a daily basis to dubious personages on the internet, but this video helps to explain exactly how encryption works to prevent our data from being abused (in most cases) and demonstrates exactly why that protection ought to be at a very, very high level.

5 Minutes

data encryption

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Careers Bulletin for Sixth Formers

Wednesday 17 May 2017

The Careers Fellow, Mrs Dry, produces a weekly bulletin for Sixth Formers with links to information on work experience opportunities, university taster courses, gap year schemes, school leaver programmes - along with news articles and other items that may be of interest to students and to parents.

Please click [here](#) to download the bulletin as a pdf file.



Piano recital by Arthur Yu (SH UVI) - a review by Mr Fraser-Andrews

Wednesday 17 May 2017

Shrewsbury's latest pianistic talent began his farewell tour last week, but Arthur Yu made sure his impact will last for some time to come.



In his first and last full length recital at the School, pristine technique and impressive command of Romantic idiom joined in a show of supple talent and breath-taking vigour.

Arthur, the latest pianist to glide from the Maidment to world-beating conservatoire, steered the auditorium's glistening Steinway (fresh from a Polish polish and extensive refurb) through a programme of early- to mid-Romanticisms with panache, dexterity and remarkably assured facility. Thoughtful programming allowed this young musician to make revealingly elegant links to the often classical temperament, particularly in the first half, which pulses under the skin of much of this music.

Mozart's enervated and tender A-minor sonata made a bold beginning to the evening which, while light on operatic tragedy perhaps, was strong on deft fingerwork and poise. Something more of the night infiltrated Arthur's rendition of the Nocturne in C minor, the wistful ache at the heart of the piece stylishly achieved with mature sensibility and comprehensive vision. Chopin's third Scherzo inspired fluttering descents, lovely ethereal touch and contrasts to the exigencies of bravura passages which he despatched to a collective and appreciative gasp. Yet



there was even more, as an artful, glittering rendition of Andante Spianato et grande polonaise brought the first half to an end.

After the interval, Arthur explored the deeper reaches of the instrument. Liszt's B minor Sonata, the high-price entry ticket to the world of serious pianism, was paid with change to spare. In a change of gear made to look near-effortless, Arthur managed to emerge from and return to its world of still subterranean colour and, in its fervours, stroke the purring Steinway bass into a roar. This piece demands much on many levels, but here was fine musicianship to match.

Arthur concluded with Liszt's La Campanella, the rippling peals and bracing virtuosity finding confident and energetic voice in one so startling young. Astonishingly, there was still enough left in the tank to replay the Scherzo as an encore, yet another triumph for the nurturing talents of Peter Bradley-Fulgoni and School House.

As he heads north to the RNCM, Arthur can count on many more admirers following an evening as full of personality as this. Bravo!

JRFA

Covering the Crime: The magic of masks in 'Medea'

Thursday 18 May 2017

This week sees what is possibly a first for drama at Shrewsbury. Almost 2,500 years after it was first written, the Classics Faculty are producing the Euripidean tragedy 'Medea', to be performed in the Ashton Theatre this Friday and Saturday (19th & 20th May) – and the cast will be wearing Greek masks which have been made in-house, thanks to the talents of the Art Faculty.



The play's Director, Head of Classics Paul Fitzgerald, says: "Having taught *Medea* as an A level set text for a number of years, I have always been drawn to its power to deliver. Produced in 431 BC, it still raises issues that are incredibly pertinent today: feminism, racism, love and loyalty and, of course, revenge. I wanted to hark back to a more traditional look and thought that the use of masks by the characters would create a powerful visual element. I looked on-line for masks to buy, but there was nothing out there that really caught my eye, so I decided to have them made. Thankfully, Art Mistress Emily Stokes was keen on my proposal to make them in school, got on board and the results are nothing short of stunning."



Miss Stokes used mod rock for the base of each mask and clay for sculpting the features of the face. "It was slightly more difficult to produce the masks for the Chorus of Corinthian Women as they required individually made hair pieces," she explains. "In painting the masks, I decided on a muted colour palette similar to the one used by Peter Hall in his National Theatre production of *The Oresteia*."



Mr Fitzgerald adds: "When you see the actors and actresses wearing them onstage, under lights, the masks almost come to life; they have a disarmingly powerful effect. They contribute to the look, the feel and the drama of the whole piece; I hope to adapt and use them again in future productions."

Performances of *Medea* take place in the Ashton Theatre at 7.30pm on Friday 19th and Saturday 20th May and tickets are free.

To see more photos from the production, please follow the link: [Medea - photo gallery](#)



Dancing in the aisles of Shrewsbury School Chapel

Thursday 18 May 2017

Sunday Evening Chapel on 7th May saw something entirely new for Shrewsbury, as we welcomed the Birmingham Community Gospel Choir, winners of the BBC Gospel Choir Competition in 2015.



It took only a few minutes before the whole of the congregation entered into the spirit of what was shared by the choir - joy, praise and enthusiastic singing, interspersed with some poignant personal testimony from the choir members.

For 45 minutes pupils were totally immersed in the exuberance of the occasion, ignited first by an upbeat version of *What a friend we have in Jesus* and ending with nothing less than a glorious rendition of *O Happy Day* and *Lovely Day*.





The evening concluded with choir members carrying their mikes down the aisle singing, whilst the keyboardists still jammed away up in the chancel. They gathered in the vestibule still singing and giving high fives to every pupil on exit... A night to remember!

Rev'd Alex Aldous



Shrewsbury School Girls' U15 cricket team are National Runners-Up

Thursday 18 May 2017

Huge congratulations to our Under-15 Girls' cricket team, who finished an exciting day at Lord's Cricket Ground on Monday as Runners-Up in the National Finals of the Lady Taverners' Indoor Cricket Competition.



L-R (back row): England player Sarah Taylor, Laura Elliott, Mollie Matthews, Lara Ockleston, Amelie Davies, Georgia Kannreuther, Coach Gwenan Davies; (front row): Alice Hughes, Ellie Kynaston, Isy Wong, Georgie Nicholas

Having been crowned Midlands Regional Champions on 2nd May, Shrewsbury joined teams from Devon, Essex, Norfolk and Yorkshire for Finals Day on 15th May to compete for the national title.

Shrewsbury won their first match against St Aidan's High School by 36 runs and then went on to play Felsted School in the second round. Shrewsbury made 98 – 8 in their eight overs, but it was not quite enough to keep their opponents at bay, and in the final nail-biting over of the match Felsted claimed victory.



Amelie Davies

In their third match against South Dartmoor Community College, Shrewsbury's Captain Issy Wong made 63 runs, leading the team to a total of 119. When South Dartmoor ended their eight overs on 89, Shrewsbury claimed their second victory of the day.



Issy Wong

In their fourth and final match against Old Buckenham High, Shrewsbury didn't quite manage to produce their batting performances of the previous games. Despite a low total, the girls were determined to keep fighting on till the end - but they just narrowly lost on the final ball of the game. Nevertheless, even though the girls had won two and lost two, by racking up the runs in the three previous games (which put them at the top of table when it came to runs scored) they ended up finishing second overall.



“We are gutted to have come so close,” said their Coach Gwenan Davies “but I’m extremely proud of how far the girls have come. They’ve shown some fantastic character throughout the entire competition and to come second out of 900 schools in the country is an outstanding achievement.

“It’s truly remarkable to think that just two years ago girls’ cricket at Shrewsbury School was in its infancy, but it’s now a podium sport offering four teams with squads of 13 in each! The girls continue to show relentless drive to be the best possible cricketers they can be, and it is a genuine pleasure to be guiding them through.

“The future looks bright for Shrewsbury School girls’ cricket!”





Oldham's win First House Cricket

Thursday 18 May 2017

Oldham's Hall comprehensively defeated School House to claim the First House Cricket Bat for the first time since 2003.

Oldham's lost the toss and batted with Captain Charlie Byrne (UVI) scoring 45 and James Cowburn (LVI) batting throughout to score 37. Oldham's set a total of 118 off 15 overs.

In the field, Felix Jebb bowled an outstanding 3 overs and took 4 wickets for 5 runs to be named Man of the Match. School House were all out for 38 runs.

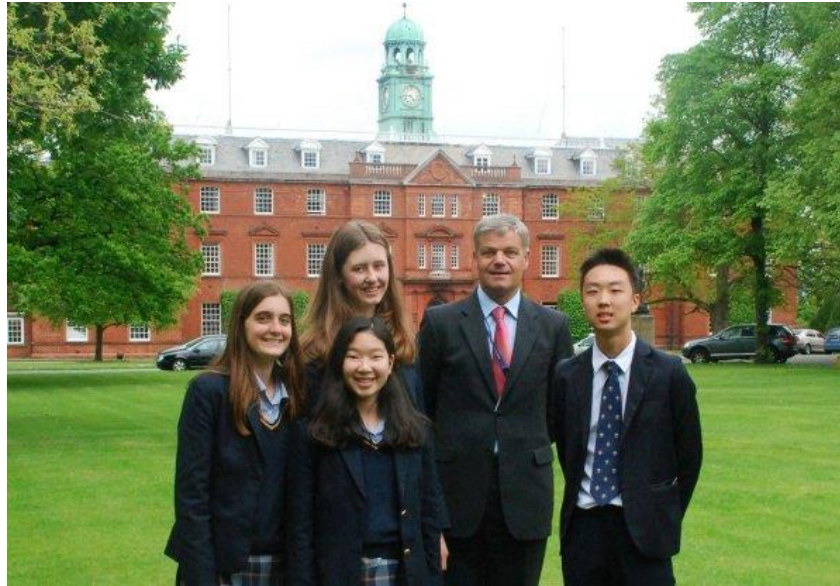
The team is pictured below and includes five U16 players – the future of cricket currently appears very bright in Oldham's!



Headmaster's Commendations

Monday 22 May 2017

The aim of the Headmaster's Commendations is to recognise and reward outstanding academic achievement and intellectual curiosity. Congratulations to the following Fourth Form and Lower Sixth Form pupils, who have been awarded Commendations this term.



Fourth Form HM Commendation winners Artemis Cooper (MSH), Hannah Cheng (EDH), Lara Gabbittas (EDH) and Hiroaki Shu (R)



Lower Sixth Form HM Commendation winners Glory Chan (MSH), Nina Churchill (MSH), Nateewat Ruechusetb (Ch) and Jamie Channon (PH); Stephanie Christenson (G) is not pictured.



Oldham's triumph in 1st Leagues Cricket

Tuesday 23 May 2017

Oldham's again made it to the final of the 1st Leagues House Cricket competition this year.

They met the gentlemen of Ridgemount in the final of this 12-over format, who are always competitive in any environment. Ridgemount bowled superbly taking 6 wickets, which in this game knocked 30 from Oldham's total, leaving them on 35 after 12 overs. (Five runs are lost for each wicket - not good.)

However, Oldham's bowlers struck early with a wicket in the first over. After only the third over, one Ridgemountaineer was heard to say quietly to his team, "Somehow Oldham's always win". It looked against the odds on this occasion, but more wickets fell and eventually Ridgemount, who scored 68, finished with a net 23, having lost 9 wickets and with them 45 runs.

As has become tradition with significant Oldham's victories, the players celebrated with Dominoes on the House (again... this is becoming costly).



Sidney-Darwin Dash and Quarter-Mile Challenge

Wednesday 24 May 2017



Angus Drummond (UVI) winning the Sidney-Darwin Dash in some style. Pictured well on his way after 60m.



Oldham's finalists L-R: Tom Drury (LVI, Sidney-Darwin Dash, 12.08s), Angus Drummond (UVI, winner Sidney-Darwin Dash, 11.10s), Reuben Arkwright (2nd Quarter-Mile, 54.08s)



Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Wednesday 24 May 2017

This week, the Boat Club.



The National Schools' Regatta takes place this weekend. Hence when I sauntered down to the Boathouse this week, I found myself surrounded by busy water boatmen and women. I don't mean the type that eat algae and minute aquatic organisms that I used to catch when pond-dipping with my prep school Biology teacher 'Time bomb Tenby'. I am referring to the crews that were busy preparing their boats for their journey down to the Eton Dorney Lake, where this year's action is taking place.



The first crew I came across were the 2nd VIII consisting of Jake Elliott, Don Vincent Hickey, (whose proud claim to be the biggest in the boat I will not debate), Sam Russell, James Joseph,



Bryce Rutter, Morton Moss, Max Craik, Artem Stopnevich and cox Immy Rooney, who is renowned for keeping the crew on the right course. The crew clearly have a great deal of respect for Immy and she is renowned for demanding a high level of mental and physical toughness, exemplified by her refusal to allow them to speak by frequently stating “you can’t say that”. Coach Miss Milanova is full of praise for her crew and is hopeful of a medal. “I am hopeful of a medal,” she told me as she clutched her metal detector in her right hand.



The Under-14C crew were noisily confident. Amos Cheung was quick to talk up his crew’s chances of victory. He told me that with crewmates as awesome as Tim Levin, Will Unsworth, Jasper Yipp, Christian Loumidis, Will Owen and Euan Parr, there was no danger of defeat. Coach Dr Oakley has come up with numerous mathematical equations to which the answer is always ‘gold’. He told me that “on paper the Under-14Cs are a very fast crew”. Maths was never my strong point, but I noticed there were not quite enough names for a full eight. Dr Oakley informed me that his crew have a tough equation to solve before Friday at which point the name of the mystery crew member will be disclosed. I hope I copied it down right. I think it was $7 + mc = 8$ ($mc =$ mystery crewman).

The still aptly named Matt Rowe loomed into view; he is one of the few students I look up to! Matt told me that he and Barney Fox (who is not known as Basil Brush) are ‘Going for Gold’ in the Pairs’ race on the Sunday. With the rest of the 1st VIII, Rory McKirdy, Zander Lister-Binns, Alex King, Sam Branford, Matt Hedges, Matt Farrow and cool controller cox Tom Shiels. they are also going for a medal on the Saturday. There was a steely determination to force their way into the top four, thereby getting a good draw for Henley. I sensed a particular enthusiasm to beat Eton. The crew speaking as one, which was very impressive and a little unnerving but showed what great unity there is in the boat, explained why they had lost to Eton earlier in the season.

“Our race plan was to be behind Eton at half way but we found ourselves ahead, and realising we were not delivering our race plan we completed a 360° spin to allow Eton the lead. We were then a little dizzy and unable to catch Eton up. We have decided not to spin on Saturday,” they told me.

Coach Sam Grant told me that he likes the crew to feel he is always on their shoulder. “I always feel that I am being closely monitored by Mr Grant,” Rory McKirdy admitted.



If you look closely, you can see Mr Grant on the 1st VIII's shoulder

I sensed confidence within the crew as we chatted and wondered if there was anything they were doing in training that was giving them a lift. There was general agreement that Barney Fox is susceptible to placebos. “These are not Smarties but go-faster vitamin pills that look and taste just like Smarties,” Barney said as he tucked into a handful of brightly coloured chocolate buttons.

“For me it’s all about *esprit de coeur*,” said Matt Rowe. Alex King thought that the training was important and Zander Lister-Binns thought success was down to extra coxing. The rest of the crew were unanimous that it was down to the beetroot shots they take on a regular basis. I asked Mr Grant what was special about beetroot he told me, “Beetroot is just a vegetable really.” Rumours that his family own a beetroot farm are unsubstantiated. Matt Hedges was able to tell me that drinking beetroot juice after exercise reduces muscle soreness and helps your muscles recover, according to new research from Northumbria University, published in this month’s European Journal of Applied Physiology. The authors also suggest that it is good for your liver, lowers blood pressure and is packed with nutrients. The rowers all think it is disgusting and it can lead to interesting colours after various ablutions!

The only colour the rowers are interested in this weekend is a golden one. Tom Shiels told me that he is hoping that his crew will not be affected by cross winds at Dorney. It is important to be in a good lane and that means a quick time trial time. He was keen that I did not make any jokes about winds, beetroot consumption and jet-propulsion. Nothing like that has crossed my mind.

Every crew is hoping for a medal, but the whisper is that the Under-16As, the Under-15 girls and the top three crews are our best bets. There was a general concern that the level of beetroot



consumption might go up if they didn't perform well. Having tried some for breakfast this morning, they have my sympathy and I very much hope they 'beet' everyone else!



GJFB



Shepherd's Bush vs Saracens

Wednesday 24 May 2017

Shrewsbury Saracens beat Shepherd's Bush by 19 Runs

The season got underway with a new fixture for the Saracens at Shepherd's Bush CC. With many Salopians representing SBCC in the Middlesex League on a Saturday and with Will Speer (G 1990-92) as Chairman, ties have never been stronger and this is a great addition to the year's matches.

Under cloudless skies, new Cricketer Cup skipper Ben Williams (Rt 2008-10) won the toss and elected to bat. Regular openers Jack Brydon (O 1999-2004) and Ben Chapman (Rt 1995-2000) strode weightily to the crease but their partnership didn't bear fruit with Brydon dollying to midwicket for 1. The captain followed in the next over, palpably LBW for a first ball duck leaving the Saracens in trouble at 8-2. Former skipper Tom Cox (M 2000-05) joined Chapman to rebuild the innings and they did so with some considerable skill, biding their time before dismantling all before them in a scintillating partnership of 155. Chapman was particularly severe on James Kidson's (O 2003-08) offspin (usually seen in Saracens colours), with a number of mighty blows as his 50 came up from 34 balls. From a relatively sedate 63-2 from the first ten overs, Chapman and Cox moved through the gears as the Saracens scored 119 off the second ten overs with Chapman finally dismissed in the 18th over for 89 from 53 balls with 8 x 4 and 4 x 6 including a run of 24 consecutive scoring shots. Cox joined the fun with some classic inside out hitting to finish unbeaten on 76 from 59 balls with 8 x 4 and 3 x 6.

In reply the new ball pair of Alasdair Pollock (I 2010-12) and Stephen Barnard (Rb 2009-11) made early inroads with Pollock claiming two wickets in the 5th over, both comfortably taken at backward point by George Lewis (I 2010-15) to leave SBCC struggling on 24-3. From there some fairly generous off-spin from the Lewis brothers and Hillman (M 1994-99) and some predictably shoddy fielding in the deep allowed steady accumulation. A wicket apiece for Hillman and Thomason (G 2006-11) and some excellent keeping from Brydon kept things vaguely in check and with the result never in doubt, Shepherd's Bush meandered to 163-5 from their 20 overs giving the Saracens a winning start to the season by 19 runs.

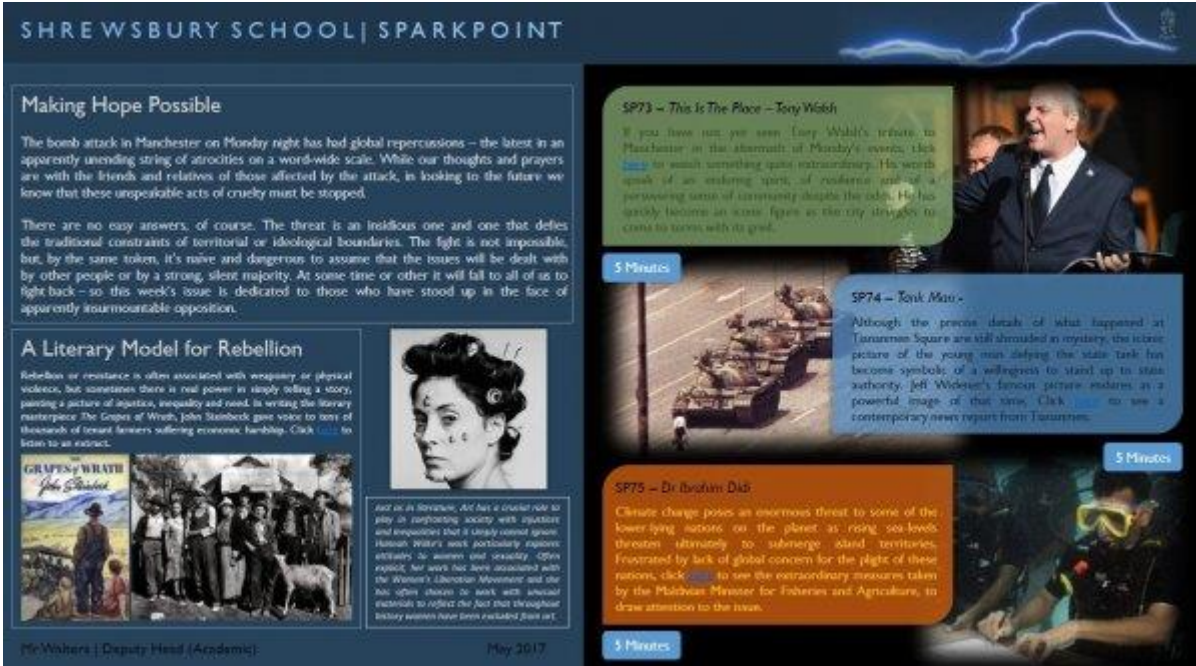
A big thank you to Will Speer, James Kidson and all at SBCC for their very warm reception and we very much look forward to a re-match next year.

Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - 'Fighting Back'

Wednesday 24 May 2017

This week's edition is dedicated to "those who have stood up in the face of apparently insurmountable opposition". It includes a link to the poem written by Tony Walsh and recited this week at a vigil for the victims of the Manchester atrocity, that speaks of an enduring spirit of resilience and a persevering sense of community despite the odds.

Please click on the image below to open 'Shrewsbury SparkPoint - Fighting Back' as a pdf:



SHREWSBURY SCHOOL | SPARKPOINT

Making Hope Possible
The bomb attack in Manchester on Monday night has had global repercussions – the latest in an apparently unending string of atrocities on a world-wide scale. While our thoughts and prayers are with the friends and relatives of those affected by the attack, in looking to the future we know that these unspeakable acts of cruelty must be stopped.
There are no easy answers, of course. The threat is an insidious one and one that defies the traditional constraints of territorial or ideological boundaries. The fight is not impossible, but, by the same token, it's naive and dangerous to assume that the issues will be dealt with by other people or by a strong, silent majority. At some time or other it will fall to all of us to fight back – so this week's issue is dedicated to those who have stood up in the face of apparently insurmountable opposition.

A Literary Model for Rebellion
Rebellion or resistance is often associated with weaponry or physical violence, but sometimes there is real power in simply telling a story, painting a picture of injustice, inequality and greed. In writing the literary masterpiece *The Grapes of Wrath*, John Steinbeck gave voice to tens of thousands of innocent farmers suffering economic hardship. Click [here](#) to listen to an extract.

SP73 – This Is The Place – Tony Walsh
If you have not yet seen Tony Walsh's tribute to Manchester in the aftermath of Monday's events, click [here](#) to watch something quite extraordinary. His words speak of an enduring spirit of resilience and of a persevering sense of community despite the odds. He has quickly become an iconic figure as the city struggles to come to terms with its grief.
5 Minutes

SP74 – Tank Man
Although the precise details of what happened at Tiananmen Square are still shrouded in mystery, the iconic picture of the young man defying the state tanks has become symbolic of a willingness to stand up to state authority. Jeff Wideman's famous picture captures in a powerful image of that time. Click [here](#) to see a contemporary news report from Tiananmen.
5 Minutes

SP75 – Di Ibrahim Diab
Climate change poses an enormous threat to some of the lower lying nations on the planet as rising sea levels threaten ultimately to submerge island territories. Frustrated by lack of global concern for the plight of these nations, click [here](#) to see the extraordinary measures taken by the Maldivian Minister for Fisheries and Agriculture, to draw attention to the issue.
5 Minutes

Mr Waters | Deputy Head (Academic) | May 2017



National Equestrian Championships selection

Wednesday 24 May 2017

Congratulations to Jack Ashworth (S UVI) on Kafka and Thomas Tulloch (Rt UVI) on Bally Blackjack, who have been selected to ride for the North Wales and West Midlands team at the National Under-18 Championships this summer.

Both boys already compete at Under-21 level and have had wins and excellent results throughout the season to catch the eye of the selectors.

The National Under-18 Championships take place at Frickley Park over five days at the end of July. They include two days of dressage followed by a day of cross-country across the Frickley parkland, when competitors have to negotiate their way over some 25 obstacles, including two water complexes. On the last morning there is a final veterinary inspection to check the horses after the rigours of the previous day. Those horses passed fit go forward to the final showjumping phase, after which the final results are announced.



Jack Ashworth riding Kafka



Thomas Tulloch riding Bally Blackjack



Salopian musician joins CBSO Youth Academy

Thursday 25 May 2017

Fourth Form trumpet player Frank Coughlan (SH) has been offered a place with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Youth Academy after auditioning for their main Youth Orchestra last week.

The Youth Academy is a chamber orchestra conducted by Michael Seal and the players are usually selected from the CBSO's larger Youth Orchestra. It is unusual for Frank to have been offered a place in the Academy straightaway, as he is not yet a member of the Youth Orchestra.

The Youth Academy's concert this summer takes place in Birmingham Town Hall and will include performances of Shostakovich's Symphony No. 9, Barber's Cello Concerto and Stravinsky's Symphony in Three Movements.



Frank (left) performing with the Shrewsbury School Symphony Orchestra at the Cadogan Hall in March



Sidney-Darwin Dash and Quarter-Mile Challenge

Thursday 25 May 2017

Now in their seventh 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 in 1869 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 found and we decided to extend the event to include a sprint, with the tree-lined avenue from the Sir Philip Sidney to Charles 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.

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. It remains an exciting and dramatic event with the School's top athletes competing for the trophies.

Well done to all the athletes who took part. Each final was exceptionally close and provided fantastic viewing.

Winners:

Junior Girls' Quarter-Mile Challenge: Francesca Harris (EDH III)**

Junior Boys' Quarter-Mile Challenge: Sam Watts (Ch IV)

Senior Girls' Quarter-Mile Challenge: Claire Richards (G LVI)

Senior Boys' Quarter-Mile Challenge: Monty Hardcastle (I LVI)

Junior Girls' Sidney-Darwin Dash: Laura Elliott (G IV)

Junior Boys' Sidney-Darwin Dash: Bilal Khan (I IV)**

Senior Girls' Sidney-Darwin Dash: Daisy McMullen (G V)

Senior Boys' Sidney-Darwin Dash: Angus Drummond (O UVI)

** = NEW RECORD

Please click [here](#) to see the full results and a list of the current record holders.

If you would like to see the races again, you can do so by clicking on the image below:

Gold DofE Awards Ceremony at Buckingham Palace

Thursday 25 May 2017

Lucy Petch (MSH), Nicholas Pearce (I) and Jake Samuel (O) enjoyed a day at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday, where they were formally presented with their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Awards.



L-R: Jake Samuel, Lucy Petch, Nicholas Pearce

They were accompanied by Major Johanne Billington, who runs the Gold Award at the School. “The Award presentations are usually held at St James’ Palace, but on this occasion they took place on the lawns of Buckingham Palace,” she explained. “It was a beautifully hot and sunny day, everybody was in high spirits and it was a perfect opportunity to be able to get dressed up, enjoy the spectacular surroundings and soak up the celebratory atmosphere.”



Nicholas with Steph McGovern

Every Award ceremony is attended by members of the Royal Family, who are introduced to groups of Award winners and their guests. This is the final year when HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh himself will be at the ceremonies, following his announcement that he will fully retire from Royal duties later this year. HRH Prince Edward the Earl of Wessex and his wife HRH Sophie the Countess of Wessex attended the ceremony on Wednesday.

“A number of ‘celebrities’ are also invited to the ceremonies to talk to small groups of participants,” said Major Billington. “Our cohort was accompanied by Steph McGovern, presenter of BBC Breakfast and BBC Watchdog. She was extremely friendly and approachable, and the students had plenty of opportunity to chat to her.

“The Award winners were only allowed one guest each, so families had to draw lots to decide who got the ticket! It was delightful to meet the parents of the students and hear their side of the story of the trials and tribulations of trying to complete the Award whilst still at school, the truth about how tough they really found the expedition, and how rewarding they found the volunteering section.”

The Gold Award is a difficult one to achieve. Thousands of students from all over the world attempt it, but the number who actually complete it is very small. It involves committing to three activities for 18, 12 or six months, in Volunteering (Service), Skill (Hobby) and Physical (Sport). In addition students have to organise their own five-day, four-night residential trip, and undertake a four-day expedition in wild country either on foot or by boat. When undertaken simultaneously with A Levels, this is no mean feat.

“Of the 25 students at Shrewsbury who attempt the Award each year, only about ten ever get to the finish line,” said Major Billington. “With such a low completion rate, it's clear to see why it carries so much weight when students apply for jobs after university.”

Security for the Awards Ceremony itself was not surprisingly very tight, but once the guests were inside the grounds of Buckingham Palace, they were ushered towards the lawns beside the lake where they were entertained by rousing music played by the Band of the Royal Marines.

“We were then taken into different areas where we are met by a steward and a county Award Representative,” said Major Billington. “Here we were registered, checked again, and briefed on the proceedings. Eventually we were all ushered into a 'horseshoe' formation in preparation for meeting a member of the Royal Family. We receive more briefings from a representative from the Duke's office who was a little of a 'warm up act' prior to the main event. Cameras were stowed away, phones switched off and we were all prepped on the manner in which we could address the Duke himself. For those in the know, it's easy to spot the undercover security and the discrete ear pieces. The whole day is choreographed to the very second.



"Each group gets about ten minutes to speak with a member of the Royal Family. When Prince Edward arrived, he quickly put the group at ease and had everyone chuckling and laughing within minutes. It was clear to see that he very much takes meeting the public in his stride.

“Steph McGovern had the responsibility of introducing the students to the Prince and presenting them with their certificates. She was extremely relaxed and personable and congratulated all the students on their amazing achievement.

“The day finished with more formal photographs and a few more 'meet and greets' before everybody was allowed to disperse. I felt very privileged and honoured to be invited to such an important day, and it was a fitting celebration of the achievements of young people everywhere who have invested so much time, energy and effort into such a rewarding programme. Well done to everybody who has ever achieved their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.”

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Major Billington with the Award winners

School House Upper Sixth are sent off in style!

Thursday 25 May 2017

The important milestone of the final day of lessons for the School House Class of 2017 was marked with a black tie dinner for them and their parents. It was a great occasion that celebrated the end of an era and an exciting new chapter in the lives of a fantastic group of young men.



The School House Upper Sixth enjoying their meal as guests of honour at the high table

We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know this talented bunch of lads and will miss them; they are charming, charismatic and distinctive young men, who have had an overwhelmingly positive impact on the house and school over their time here. Through sport, music, drama and a whole host of other things academic and extracurricular, they represent the all-rounders typical of School House.



The School House Hall set up for the dinner and very much looking the part!



Traditionally, the Housemaster says a few words of thanks and encouragement, along with a couple of anecdotes that lead to nervous moments for some of the boys... they each have to sit through one or two minutes dedicated to them while the rest enjoy listening to some defining moments of their friends' school careers that they didn't necessary expect to be shared in public!



Heads of House Vardan Hambarzumyan (L) and Nifemi Okusanya (R) making the most of their opportunity to reflect on the good times they have had in School House



Earlier in the evening, the Upper Sixth gathered on the roof of School House in the blazing sunshine to inscribe their names in the leadwork – a tradition that has been going on since the 1950s

These young men all have great potential to go out and make a success of their lives in whatever they decide to do. They are independent and more than ready to leave school to move on to the next phase of their lives. In addition, they have been a hugely supportive Upper Sixth; I would like to take this opportunity thank them for all they have done for School House. Thank you, good luck and please stay in touch!

HRDB



Shrewsbury School vs Shrewsbury Saracens

Thursday 25 May 2017

Shrewsbury School beat Shrewsbury Saracens by a nail-biting 6 runs

The annual fixture against the School was an excellent game, narrowly won by the boys after an excellent counter-attack by the Saracens took them close in a chase they were well and truly out of midway through.



On winning the toss, the School elected to bat on a very warm and sunny day. Openers Hargrave and Crawley batted untroubled through the opening overs to register an opening partnership of 62 which was only broken by a stunning catch by wicket keeper Dan Durman (PH 2013-15) off Toby Spencer Pickup's left arm seam. Both Crawley and new batsmen Garrett survived huge appeals for caught behind off left arm spinner, and captain, Dan Lloyd (PH 2014-16) who did eventually gain reward for a tidy spell with the wicket of Garrett, bowled reverse sweeping for 14. Crawley played compactly (as expected given his family connection with the game) for 38 until a brilliant piece of thinking by Lloyd saw him run out leaving the score at 116-3 after 21 overs.

Panayi (Ch 2011-16), Carrasco (Rt 2012-14), Hillman (M 1994-99) and Lloyd then bowled through to the death between them with momentum being kept in check with regular wickets from Panayi who finished with 3-35. Captain Garrett remained unbeaten with 59 but a score closer to 300 was well within reach at one point and the Saracens kept going under the hot sun to restrict them to a catchable score.

In reply, George Lewis (I 2010-15) and Dan Durman kept the scoreboard ticking in the early overs before a collection of rash shots and disciplined bowling saw the Saracens stumble considerably to 49-4 and then 87-6 after 23 overs. Peter Clark (son of long time Master, Matthew Clark) bowled beautifully to record figures of 8-0-23-1 with his left arm spin. With almost 40 wickets by half term, the School rightly has high hopes for this talented 4th former.

With the game seemingly won by the School, Carrasco and Hillman set about re-building against the spinners. With the required rate at over 10 an over and the field set back, ones and twos were the order of the day which rather tested the fitness levels. Carrasco then launched a barrage of blows, three times landing maximums over midwicket as the asking rate was kept hovering at ten an over. Carrasco reached a very well deserved half century but with 61 needed from the final 5



overs, it still looked a long way off. With the seamers back on for the death, scoring options increased and 23 came from the next over as both batsmen took a liking to the sparse leg side field as the ploy of trying to bowl wide Yorkers failed. With 27 required from the final 3 overs, the Saracens sensed a famous victory but two excellent overs of bowling yielded only 12 runs and 15 were required from the final over. Hillman was bowled from the first delivery for 68 leaving Carrasco to try and conjure a final twist. A bye followed by a boundary and 3 wides left 7 required from the last 2 deliveries but two dots sealed the game for the boys. An excellent game with some notable performers, not least Joe Carrasco who finished unbeaten on 78.

For the full score card, please download [here](#).



The news this week 100 years ago: 26th May - 1st June 1917

Thursday 25 May 2017

This week we remember two Old Salopians:

Lieutenant **Edward Leslie Orme**, 3rd Bn. attd. 2nd Bn. Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Rigg's, left in 1914. Younger brother of Francis Reginald Orme, who died 7th November 1914.

Killed in action in France, 27th May 1917, aged 20.

Remembered on Arras Memorial, France. Bay 6.

Captain **Charles Cecil Stanfield**, 3rd Bn. The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

School House, left in 1901. He went to the Front with his Regiment when war broke out and

took part in the Battle of the Aisne, being badly wounded on 20th October 1914. He then saw

service in the Dardanelles, was present at the evacuation, and later saw service in Egypt. In April

1917 he was selected to train an Officers' Cadet Battalion.

Died of illness in the United Kingdom, 31st May 1917, aged 33.

Buried at Aldershot Military Cemetery, England. Grave AG. 365.



'Medea'

Thursday 25 May 2017

A review by Maurice Walters of the Classics Faculty's bold, powerful and visually arresting production of Euripides' tragedy, performed over two evenings in the Ashton Theatre last weekend.

Medea, perhaps the most famous of Euripides' tragedies, is an intensely difficult play to produce. Dealing with Medea's own descent into madness and her inexorable journey toward a series of horrific, unthinkable acts – a successful production requires a careful balance of the sensitive and the dramatic. Paul Fitzgerald's production achieved all of this in a professional, brilliant and quite spectacular fashion to provide a thought-provoking evening of entertainment that will remain in the memory for some time.



The bold decision to present this play using traditional masks certainly presented a challenge to the actors – but one which they overcame in triumphant fashion. Expressive movement and careful modulation of the voice throughout allowed the audience to empathise and understand the characters they created, while the masks themselves – exquisitely crafted by Emily Stokes in our Art Faculty – really did allow us to see the action unfold as it would have been.

The transportation of the audience into the ancient state of Corinth was further enhanced by the stunning and elaborately detailed set. The House of Jason, complete with its classical friezes and ornate wooden doors was of a quality one would usually associate with high-level professional productions and Medea's appearance at the dénouement, rising above the house in her dragon-pulled chariot was a truly breathtaking coup-de-théâtre. A soundscape of eerie chamber music –

dominated by mournful cello and lonely piano – cocooned the action in an atmosphere of deep sadness while the soft, subtle lighting plot effectively demarcated the different scenes, particularly highlighting the choral odes.



Medea herself, played by Nina Churchill, presented with the audience with a woman defiant in defeat, determined to wreak her terrible revenge not just on the unfaithful Jason, but on the state of Corinth itself. Mysterious, angular gestures of her hand combined with some impressive vocal work to produce a disturbing performance rooted in a mature understanding of and sensitivity to the text.

Her erstwhile lover, Jason, admirably portrayed by Rhys Trevor, drew us in to his frustrations and the simplicity and recklessness of his hubris and flawed logic. Creon (Angus Moore) and the Aegeus King of Athens (Dan Powell) both made easy work of complicated and intense sections of stichomythia – presenting their arguments and exposition with a naturalness and clarity which meant that the audience remained engaged throughout.



The same could be said of the Tutor (Sam Browne-Swinburne), Nurse (India Eaton) and, of course, the Messenger (Will Shawe-Taylor) who worked hard to convey the emotional turmoil of Medea's household and the human responses to the dreadful vengeance she unleashed on the royal family of Corinth. A special mention must be made of Reggie Bell and Alfie Wright, whose innocent and touching portrayal of Medea's children heightened the pathos of her final, hideous action.



In any Greek tragedy, however, it is the Chorus who play an utterly pivotal role – explaining exploring the action and the meaning in direct address to the audience. This, for me, was where the play really shone – the ensemble (Tiggy Cowan-Taylor, Amelia Cox, Mollie Matthews, Liv Moir, and Eleanor Niblett) worked brilliantly together to dissect the meaning of the preceding scene, to consider the consequences, and to foreshadow the darkness to come. A combination of voices in unison and solo highlights produced vivid and exciting odes that added to the momentum of the play as a whole.



MHW

To view a gallery of photos from the production, please follow the link: [Medea - photo gallery](#)

You can also read more about the creation of the masks: [Covering the Crime: The magic of masks in 'Medea'](#)



A very special Award

Monday 29 May 2017

Charlie Ockleston (O V) was recently named as this year's recipient of The Will Ramsbotham Award.

The Award is generously funded by Oliver Brown (Huntsman 1985-86) in memory of his fellow Hunt runner Will Ramsbotham, who tragically died just eight years after leaving Oldham's Hall and Shrewsbury School (1980-85).

Up to Under-16 level, Will was (in the words of his father, Hugh) "totally absorbed by anything with a ball - school teams in cricket, football, rugby, fives, etc". His father describes the moment his son turned to Hunt running as pivotal in the trajectory that his life took, and the combination of his two great loves - running and climbing - "dominated his life and gave him immense joy and a very full, though tragically short, life."

His involvement with the Hunt, where he arrived late but went on to become Huntsman in a hugely successful squad, was an extremely influential one that impacted on many of his later decisions, such as gap year teaching in Nepal because of the trekking and climbing, and his route to Edinburgh University where there were more mountains to be climbed and an exceptionally strong university Fell Running team. In fact, had he not taken up a geology scholarship to India, he would have been competing in the World Fell Running Championships, and this was a runner who only took the Hunt up in the Fifth Form.

Tragically, the day after breaking the record on the Cader Idris Fell Race, Will Ramsbotham was killed in a climbing accident on the same mountain. Yet, in this award, his memory stays alive, and it is our hope that the considerable achievements and ambitious spirit of this brilliant young man will both influence and inspire future runners through the School and beyond.



Charlie has been awarded a trophy (pictured) and a medal to keep, but the most important aspect of this award is in the individual support that he will be given to make that leap to the next level. Through the considerable generosity of Mr Brown, and alongside the mentoring, guidance, coaching and training that the Hunt offers to all its athletes, Charlie will be provided with a week-long Residential Training Camp this summer 2016, key Sports Psychologist sessions and a Garmin GPS watch, allowing him to train more accurately and effectively.

Congratulations Charlie!



Matt Rowe wins Sixth Form Entrant Sportsman of the Year Award

Monday 29 May 2017

Matt Rowe was presented with one of the School's top Sports Awards at a special ceremony celebrating the sporting achievements of the Upper Sixth, which was held in the Ashton Theatre during the week before half-term.

Matthew quickly established himself as one of the top performers in the RSSBC squad and is Captain of Boats this year. His outstanding work ethic is a significant contributing factor in him gaining selection to represent Great Britain for the third time in two years. He won a gold medal for Great Britain at the Munich Regatta in 2016 and 2017 and was selected to race in the coxed four at the Junior World Championships in Rotterdam.

Not only is he a great rower, he is an all-round top athlete. In the last two years, he has contributed to running, football, cricket, swimming and was the MVP recently in the Inter-House Basketball Competition in which he scored most of the points in the tournament and helped School House to victory.



Severn Hill triumphant in Senior Quiz Final

Monday 29 May 2017

Severn Hill's A team beat Churchill's Hall in an exciting final of the Senior Quiz Competition, held in the Ashton Theatre on Thursday 25th May.





L-R: Adam Pattenden, Max Morris, Ed Plaut, Angus Moore