



## D of E: Gold Training Camp in North Wales over half term

Tuesday 2 November 2010

The October Exeat sees the start of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme, starting with the Gold Training Camp.

The camp follows a generic programme initially, with training sessions on first aid, incident management, kit and equipment, food and nutrition, camp craft to name but a few. As the week progresses the programme disperses into three quite different disciplines: canoeing, hill walking and sea kayaking. Being based in a North Wales hostel, the group are well placed for all three activities.

The three teams had the perfect weather for training, from strong winds and heavy rain and hail, to bright cold crisp sunny days with freezing temperatures and heavy frosts.

The progression for all three groups culminates in an overnight trip. The sea kayakers had a beautiful if a little chilly paddle down to the mouth of the straits to camp on Abermenai Point – a sandy spit with plenty of drift wood for fire-making. It was the perfect setting, made even more perfect after the boys collected a bag each of flotsam and jetsam, 'leave no trace' being our motto.

All in all, it was a fantastic week, leaving us all a little wind blown and red faced but very, very happy.

### **Future expedition practices and training:**

Expedition practices will be next Easter break from 2nd to 7th April 2011 for the walkers and canoeists, and from 21st to 26th April for the Sea Kayakers. Kayak rolling, training and rescue skills will be in Societies hour every Monday until the expedition, and extra canoe training is every Wednesday afternoon.

*Major Johanna Billington*



## D of E: Silver walking expeditions over half term

Wednesday 3 November 2010

Two groups of Silver Award walkers headed for the Peak District for their Practice walk in the first four days of half term under the supervision of VLK & MFW. The first morning was spent on theory training, before driving off to a Bunkhouse near Hathersage in the Peak District. That evening the two groups planned their routes, assisted in the preparation of dinner (Cajun chicken followed by strudels & cream) and were introduced to the game of Munchkin, which proved to be a great hit.

Over the next three days the two groups walked through the beautiful White Peak. Day 1 started in farmland and then went through three of the classic steep-sided limestone valleys of the area, ending in the village of Monyash. Day 2 started with a long walk down Lathkilldale, then into Bakewell, where everyone tried the famous Bakewell Pudding, past Chatsworth House in the rain and onto a rather basic campsite near Baslow. Day 3 started very cold but with beautifully clear skies as the boys walked along the tops of the Gritstone edges above Curbar & Froggatt, before finishing with a snack at the Grindleford Station Cafe.

The two groups were both excellent and should definitely be ready for their qualifying expeditions in 2011.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



# Football: 1st XI win Round 4 of ESFA Cup

Wednesday 3 November 2010

The 1st XI team travelled to Thomas Alleyne's School to play in the 4th round of the ESFA Under 18 Cup on Tuesday 2nd November.

The conditions did not favour the Shrewsbury boys but they did play some excellent football. Thomas Alleyne's worked very hard as a team and they twice drew level with a deflected shot and a re-taken penalty after Jack Hudson-Williams and Charlie Pilkington had put Shrewsbury ahead. It was left to the dependable Roy Chatterjee to score the winner in the second minute of injury time to seal a 3-2 win.

## Badminton: w/c 1st November 2010

Monday 8 November 2010

Samson Yick (3rd, G) goes from strength to strength representing Shropshire U15's once again on Sunday. The (young) team lost 11-9 to Northamptonshire, but Samson (seeded No. 1) won all his games (singles, doubles, mixed doubles), and impressed all with his talent and attitude. Well done Samson!



## Golf at Little Aston - Sunday 7th November

Monday 8 November 2010

Four of our students had the great privilege of playing 18 holes (and meeting a former Captain of the R and A!) last Sunday afternoon at Little Aston Golf Club, one of the top 50 course in England. The course was in superb condition for the time of year, and every shot posed an intellectual golfing problem ‘.....should I lay up short? Or should I go for the pin and risk being in that huge bunker or in the water?!’ In many cases fortune did not favour the brave (ask Freddie Letchmere(R)!).

Notable for golfing prowess on the day were Stefan Hindmarsh (Ch) our school golfing Captain – who played well below his (15) handicap, and Matthew Davies (M) who didn’t but still beat me by 2 shots! It was also good to see Charlie Adams (S) only in the 3rd form and yet taking on the mighty Himalayas (hole 14) like a seasoned pro.

We all wish to acknowledge our thanks and gratefulness to the OS club who make these adventures at Little Aston possible, and on the back of these we hope to beat them at the next School v OS golf match!

*TRF*



## Girls' sports: w/c 1st November 2010

Monday 8 November 2010

### **HOCKEY**

Saturday 6th November vs Malvern College

On Saturday we travelled to Malvern College for the first time – hopefully a good fixture to establish for the future. We were due to play Malvern 2nd's, but due to a mix up we were up against their 1st team. This was always going to be a challenge, but it was important Shrewsbury pushed until the final whistle. We started well and although a lot of the play was in our half we kept Malvern at bay initially. After 15 minutes, they broke through and unfortunately a second goal came quickly. Just on the half time whistle, Malvern got their third. The second half brought much of the same, with Malvern very strong on the attack and Shrewsbury continually working hard to deny them a goal. It was a fantastic team effort under difficult circumstances and one that we can learn from. Final score 7-0.

### **NETBALL**

Wednesday 3rd November - U19 County Tournament

Ten teams entered the county tournament this year. Our first game was against Thomas Telford, and neither side were at their best. Shrewsbury played well and were getting stronger by the end of the match, but unfortunately due to a slow start lost 3-7. Our second game was against Moreton Hall and having now warmed up in the first game, Shrewsbury started well. A solid performance produced a convincing 12-3 win. The third game was against Shrewsbury 6th Form College, who were a strong team. It was an even game, with both teams scoring well leaving just one goal in it at half time. Unfortunately, 6th Form College just pulled ahead towards the end and the game finished 9-12. Our final group match was against Shrewsbury High School. It had been a good competition with 6th Form College definitely through to the semi finals, but all to play for to qualify second. We had to beat the High School by four goals if we were to qualify. Shrewsbury started well with determination and excellent shooting. At half time it was 6-6, but going into the second half, we found another gear and won 14-7. Shrewsbury were through to the semi finals for the very first time! Unfortunately we came up against an unbeaten Wrekin College, who have won this competition for the past five years, but Shrewsbury put in their best performance to date and should be proud of their efforts.

Mrs N J Bradburne



## Football: w/c 1st November 2010

Monday 8 November 2010

Well done to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and U14A XI's, who all scored three times on their way to victories over Bolton School on Sunday. Bolton's U14A were crowned the U13 ISFA winners last season, so a 3-1 win for our U14A's is a superb result.

The 1st XI's match was played at Bolton, and they eventually won a hard fought contest 3-1. They did have several good chances to score but conceded a goal mid-way through the first half through some casual defending. We equalized early in the second half through a John Cameron goal but only scored our second and third goals right at the end of the game. Max Pragnell finished smartly when 1v1 with the goalkeeper and Charlie Plikington hit a 25yd free kick into the top corner.

The 1st XI remain unbeaten so far this season, and continue the defence of the U18 ISFA Cup this Thursday against Leeds Grammar School, at home.



## CCF: Flying visit to RAF Section

Friday 12 November 2010

On Thursday 11th November 2011 the cadets of the RAF section were given a real treat; the visit of a Squirrel HT1 training aircraft from the nearby Defence helicopter Flying School at RAF Shawbury.

Helicopters from the Defence Helicopter Flying School at RAF Shawbury drop into the school during CCF time fairly regularly and occasionally the RAF cadets get the chance to fly in them. The Defence Helicopter Flying School trains pilots for all three armed services with Princes William and Harry as former students.

On this visit, Sqn. Ldr Paul Davis (father of Tom formerly of Riggs and Lois currently in MSH) demonstrated the workings of a Squirrel helicopter to members of the CCF RAF section. Despite the strong winds, the aircraft was able to land for a 30-minute visit to enable the RAF cadets to have a really close look at these amazing aircraft. The cadets are currently studying for their proficiency courses, and the visit really brings the theory to life. Max Hulse (I) and Tom Rowe (M) are also pictured above, sitting at the controls.





## Girls' rowing: Northwich

Monday 15 November 2010

The RSSBC Girls Squad took two coxed fours to race at Northwich. An U6 4+ of Rebeckah Pritchard, Molly Derbyshire, Becky Haynes, Eila Purvis and Aislinn Currie Jordan were revisiting their first race course from last year. It was a commanding race, resulting in a 2nd place finish out of 8 crews. A positive result.

The L6 crew of Ellie Moodey, Janet Wong, Alice Matthews, Georgia Leece-Drinkwater, Sarah Lim, approached their first race with maturity. The goal: simply to experience a race situation and apply the last 8 weeks of technique over the course. What they lacked in experience was more than made up with control and technique, yet again an encouraging start for the L6 year group.

The next race will be for the First VIII at Wallingford on the 5th December.

### **RESULTS:**

W Nov 4+ Time 11.10 2/7

W Nov 4X 14.09 7/7

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



## Badminton: Wednesday 10th November - Shrewsbury v Wrekin College

Tuesday 16 November 2010

The school played Wrekin College in a match of mixed doubles. It was played in the usual good spirit, with the team consisting of several players who have been excellent ambassadors for the school in the last couple of years. The pairings of Nikhil and Mercury, and Pao and Ann-Christin, proved to be highly effective and indeed unbeatable, and the two other pairs of Ban (captain) and Fon, and Awin and Aqilah, also were strong combinations, so that Shrewsbury finished as comfortable 11-5 winners.

After this main event, in a more casual arrangement, the boys played singles very successfully, and the girls played some enjoyable doubles matches. As ever, it was a fine afternoon of sport at a school that we always enjoy playing against.

Mr A Dalton

# Basketball: U19 County Competition - Shrewsbury v Concord College

Tuesday 16 November 2010

*Wednesday 10th November – Lost 52-73*

A tough game against a well-drilled Concord side who are coached by a 6ft 10 former Harlem Globetrotter. Some encouraging signs and, when the squad are able to practice more regularly, then we will start to improve.

Mr W A Hughes

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



# Fencing: Wednesday 10th November: Shrewsbury v Wrekin College

Tuesday 16 November 2010

*Foil: Shrewsbury Won 8-4*

*Epee: Shrewsbury Won 5-4*

*Sabre: Shrewsbury Won 7-2*

Good performances from our younger fencers: Oliver Marshall (Rb), Henry Kennedy (I), Jon Trenchard (S), Charlie Godman (M), Dominic Dootson (M).

Mr J A Gabbitas



## Football: w/c 8th November 2010

Tuesday 16 November 2010

The 1st XI lost their ISFA Boodles Rd 3 Cup match against Grammar School at Leeds 1-2 on Wednesday. The wind played a big factor in the match and it did not help us play our neat attractive passing game. We were 0-1 down at half time but played better in the second half and equalised through John Cameron. The winning goal was a 40 yard hit and hope wind assisted effort which flew over the top of George Thomason and into the net. It was a disappointing end to our Boodles campaign for this season.

The 1st XI did return to winning ways on Saturday by beating Grange Grammar 5-0. Goals from Max Pragnell (2), Jamie Board, Henry Lewis and Alex Styles sealed the win.

Charlie Pilkington and Roy Chatterjee were busy players at the weekend. Both were involved in ESFA and ISFA trials and practice matches on Saturday and Sunday respectively. Alex Styles and Max Pragnell joined them at Repton on Sunday to play in an ISFA Under 16 practice match.

The 2nd XI beat King's School Chester 1-0 on Wednesday and Grange Grammar 4-1 on Wednesday.

Mr S J Biggins

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



# Girls' hockey: Shrewsbury 1st XI v Ellesmere College

Tuesday 16 November 2010

*Wednesday 10th November: Won 2-1*

We played Ellesmere for the second time this term on Wednesday, having narrowly lost 2-1 in the county cup a couple of weeks earlier. We knew it would be a tough, but even game. Unfortunately it took a while for Shrewsbury to get going and we conceded a goal after just 4 minutes. We then stepped up a gear and continued to apply pressure for the rest of the half, but at the midway stage we were still one goal down. In the 2nd half Shrewsbury played some fantastic hockey – the best we've seen all season and were rewarded by 2 goals from Katy Mason-Jones. A great result after the loss 2 weeks previously and some very encouraging play.

Mrs N J Bradburne



## The annual Service of Remembrance

Tuesday 16 November 2010

The annual Service of Remembrance took place last Sunday, led by the Chaplain. The speaker was Brigadier Tim Radford, late Rifles. Brigadier Radford has recently seen service in Afghanistan, where he was the commanding officer during the celebrated Panther's Claw operation, and he spoke movingly of the sacrifice of the lives of young men during this first campaign.

As is customary, the entire School, together with staff and parents, gathered around the Sidney Memorial, whilst one fifth of the names of Salopians who had died during the two World Wars were read out by the Head of School, after which wreaths were laid on behalf of the School, old members of staff, the Old Salopian community, and The Rifles. Following this, poppies were planted around the Sidney Oak on Central.

The Remembrance Day Service is one of the highlights of the School year, and proved as ever to be a moving and poignant experience for all those present, both young and old.

# Press coverage: OS Michael Palin's love of Geography started at school

Friday 19 November 2010

Old Salopian Michael Palin, president of the [Royal Geographical Society](#), writes for the education union ATL about his love of geography and the outstanding teaching that he received at Shrewsbury.





## Old Salopian Day - October 2010

Saturday 20 November 2010

### OLD SALOPIANS WELCOME THE NEW HEADMASTER

On a dry but cloudy day – fairly typical of the traditional Old Salopian Gathering day in October – over 130 Old Salopians came to Kingsland to add their welcome to the 27th Headmaster and his wife, Mark and Elizabeth Turner. With 20 ex-members of staff, and wives, partners and guests, over 230 visitors enjoyed a day full of activities, or memories, and of celebration.

We gathered first in Chapel – a very different Chapel to that remembered by most, painted in its striking claret and blue, adorned with icons and other works of art, but still that every special place. And we were meeting essentially to remember a very special schoolmaster, Arnold Ellis. The lovely singing of Anthea Ma (UVI) and the haunting oboe of Robert Collins (UVI) added greatly to a memorable service.

Then across to Oliver's Egg where, armed with pre-lunch drinks served in the Quod (known to most as the oldest school swimming pool, now floored over and housing the splendid Sixth Form Centre) we all gathered round the Art School for the official opening of the Old Salopian Art Exhibition. The President, Hugh Ramsbotham, in declaring the Exhibition open, pointed out that officially the event marked the 80th Birthday of Art Master John Alford; but in fact it honoured the inspiring teaching of Arthur Broadbent, John Alford and Philip Woolley and all the art teachers who had planted so many exciting creative seeds in the past 50 years. The Exhibition is described elsewhere – and meanwhile the growing crowd marched on to Kingsland House for the main event of the day...

Remarkably we found our places for lunch – designated as Artists, as Ellis family supporters, as Fives players or simply as members of Houses, and the Kingsland House staff then served a magnificent buffet lunch in the very short time allotted. Once again the President then addressed the troops, giving the official welcome of the Old Salopian community to Mark and Elizabeth Turner. He described the Old Salopian Community to the new Headmaster as a broad and strong one – made up not just of former pupils but also former members of both academic and non-academic staff, governors, former parents and others who had served the School in some way; and this whole community pledges itself to support the Headmaster in any way he planned to continue the growth and success of the School.

In his reply Mark Turner said how much he and his wife were thrilled with their arrival, how he had enjoyed reading about the history and traditions of the School, and how much they had been struck by this superb site. He promised to spend some time absorbing all the great things that went on in the School, and then to suggest how in the next decade the achievements of his predecessors could be carried on and added to. In coming to those suggestions he would meet and talk with Old Salopians of all interests – and he would learn to play Eton fives.

And so after lunch, on to the next engagement – the official opening of the refurbished fives courts. The Old Salopian Fives Club, led by Richard Barber (SH 1955-60 and Chairman of the Eton Fives Association) had spearheaded the drive to renovate the courts, with the crucial support of the Foundation, and he was delighted to ask Peter Worth (M 1965-70) who with his father and son had all played for the School, to open the new Worth Courts (also reported elsewhere in this edition).



And so the day drew to a close – as Old Salopians visited their old houses, watched the matches against Bradfield, visited the River and the Annual General Meeting of the Sabrina Club, or just wandered round the now sunlit site before a cup of tea, one last reminisce, and the journey home. The tireless and stalwarts crossed to the Ashton Theatre for the Annual General Meeting of the Old Salopian Club (the first attended by a Headmaster for very many years) where tributes were paid to the retiring Chairman, Hugh Raven, healthy accounts were presented by the Treasurer Johnny Arthur, new Committee members elected, and Richard Barber was hailed as the 2011 President.

Finally a dozen Salopians who had joined the school 50 years before gathered with their wives and a few old brushers for a delightful dinner. The rest drifted quietly away from Kingsland with the warmth of their welcome to the Turners resonant in their minds, and the warmth of their welcome from the School and the site resonant in their hearts. What a splendid day; we must come back again!

*Hugh Ramsbotham*

## Football: 1st XI defeat Charterhouse 1-0

Saturday 20 November 2010

Well done to the 1st XI yesterday who managed a tight 1-0 win against a strong Charterhouse side who had only lost once prior to yesterday's game. Sam Welti headed home from a superb Charlie Pilkington cross field ball.



## House Football matches are underway!

Tuesday 23 November 2010

The House Football matches have started a bit earlier than usual this year, due to the cricket tour that leaves on 9th December. These are always lively and fun events, and great fun to watch!

The boys in the 1st House matches are the best 11 in the Fifth and Sixth Forms; the 2nd House teams comprise Fifth and Sixth Form boys who are not in the 1st House, and the Under 15 matches are between boys in the Third and Fourth Forms - a great opportunity to see any emerging talent within each house.

The 1st House matches have already started, with the semi-finals being played at 2.50pm on Monday 29th November between Radbrook and Ridgemount, and Moser's and The Grove. The finals of the 1st and 2nd House matches will both be played on Monday 6th December, starting at 2.50pm. The Under 15 House matches start this Friday, culminating with their Final at 2pm on Wednesday 8th December.

Trophies will be presented at the Christmas Dinner at the end of term.



## CCF: Fifth Form courses

Wednesday 24 November 2010

During the first part of the Fifth Form, so a cadet's second year of Service, the skills of leadership and command are more of a focus. The training starts with the Cadet Methods of Instruction and Leadership Cadre; 'Cadre' for short. The cadets start the course with lessons on Leadership and the opportunity to demonstrate their own qualities with a range of Leader 'led' and Leader 'less' problem solving activities like the one featured in the picture. Here cadets have 20 minutes, using all the equipment provided, to make a platform sufficiently strong to elevate all the cadets in the team at least 50cms off the ground.

The course continues with lessons on problem solving, problem appreciation skills and how to teach. The cadets are taught the basic skills of planning a lesson and its delivery, and then all have the opportunity to demonstrate the skills they have learnt by delivering a lesson to other cadets in the contingent.

The course closes some five weeks later with a series of problem solving tasks which are assessed by our own instructors, and a NITEX where each cadets is given a command appointment. It's a great course with many useful lifeskills learnt, developed and refined.



## Help for Heroes reception

Thursday 25 November 2010

The Help for Heroes team in Shropshire held a very successful champagne reception in the Maidment Building on the evening of 23rd November, to which over 200 people were invited. Highlights of the evening included the auction of a teddy bear in full combat kit, who would be flying out to join the Royal Irish Regiment in Afghanistan, and from there would send email reports to his new owners.

A short address was given by Old Salopian Captain William Hignett M.C. (SH 1997-2002) who responded on behalf of the wounded and thanked all those present for contributing so much towards the care of the wounded, which included a number of his own soldiers.

The success of the evening was considerably added to by some very smartly turned-out cadets from the School's CCF contingent and some of the Sixth Form girls, who were handing out canapés and running the merchandise stand.

Lt. Col. Ian Sawers

Volunteer co-ordinator of the Shropshire Help for Heroes team



## Badminton: w/c 22nd November 2010

Monday 29 November 2010

The school team played against Bedstone College on Wednesday 24th, and recorded a hugely satisfying clean sweep of victories in both the boys' and girls' doubles. As first pair, Pao and Samson (in his first match for the school) won their first two games convincingly, but then had to really fight in their third game against a new pairing (Bedstone's number 1 had 'risen from his sick-bed' after seeing his team in trouble...!). This victory of 25-23 was narrow but well-deserved. As second pair, Ban and Nikhil played some excellent doubles badminton, complementing each other well, and won their three games with never conceding more than 9 points. Kieran and Awin improved after a slightly 'rusty' (or cold?) yet successful start (21-18), to record two more notable victories against opponents who pushed them all the way. Not to be outdone, a weary but enthusiastic Ann-Christin and 'first-timer' Amanda won both of their doubles games, by 21-11 and 21-3.

The afternoon finished with some casual yet meaningful mixed doubles and boys' singles matches, the best of which was an impressive and narrow victory by our captain, Ban, over his opponent (who had international interest??). Another fine afternoon of Badminton, as always enlivened by the good spirit and nature of the players, over a team that only a few years ago beat us regularly and convincingly.

Mr A Dalton



## Fencing: v Stone Fencing Club

Monday 29 November 2010

We had a last minute match against Stone Fencing Club this weekend, as the planned match against Wrekin had to be cancelled due to illness etc. Overall, it was a 2-1 win to Stone who fielded a very strong team (mainly over twenty years of age). This was a tough match but the boys acquitted themselves well, with many thanks to coach Ken Holding.

### **Sabre - Win to Shrewsbury 8 victories to 4.**

Stephen Lilico and Harry Cox in excellent form each winning three fights against strong opposition (adults). Christian Faringo and David Vaughan Jones each won one fight.

### **Foil - Win to Stone 11 victories to 1.**

A very strong adult Foil team against relatively inexperienced Shrewsbury boys (Stephen Li, Henry Kennedy and Dominic Dootson). The absence of the more experienced Ali Web, Chris Williams and Ross Viljeon (rowing) meant this was going to be tough from the word go.

### **Epee - Win to Stone 6 victories to 3.**

Jack Viljoen showing excellent form by winning all his three fights. Oliver Marsh and Charlie Godman gaining valuable experience.



## Football: w/c 22nd November 2010

Monday 29 November 2010

The 1st XI football team beat QEGS Blackburn 2-0. Goals from Charlie Pilkington and Mark Prescott secured the win in a game where Shrewsbury had the majority of the play. The 2nd XI also won 3-0. Against the same opposition, our under 15's drew 3-3 and our under 14's lost 1-2.

Other results can be found in our [results section](#).

Mr S J Biggins



## School Musical: What You Will

Monday 29 November 2010

Wednesday 24th November to Saturday 27th November 2010, 8pm in the Ashton Theatre  
Monday 15th August to Saturday 20th August 2011 at the Edinburgh Festival, C Venue

A journey, a storm and a shipwreck. A loving sister and brother separated on a hostile shore. A dead father - a melancholy Duke - lost love, unrequited love - ambitious servants - lost illusions - joy and hope restored. Shakespeare's most romantic comedy 'Twelfth Night' or '**What You Will**' is transformed into a new piece of music theatre by **John Moore**, in this adaptation by **Peter Fanning**.

Shrewsbury School's home-grown musicals have been a highlight in the Ashton Theatre for two decades, during which time the school has gained a reputation for shows of professionalism, variety and colour both in London and at the Edinburgh Fringe. Please see Peter Fanning's 'Director's note' below that was included in the back of the programme for What You Will, to get a bit of an insight into the making of a School Musical.

The unanimous view of those who saw the show was that this has been the best one yet!

---

### Director's note - What You Will

*Peter Fanning included the following note in the programme for What You Will. It gives such a wonderful insight into the makings of School musicals, that it seemed worth reproducing here. It was obviously written before either he or John Moore were quite aware that their show would be such a tremendous success.*

#### **Twenty Years On - Music Theatre at Shrewsbury**

Just twenty years ago, this month, the eighteen year old Salopian Anthony Merryweather saw his opera 'Troy' through its first performance in the Ashton Theatre – a show, which in the words of its youthful director Robin Case, was 'a cross between Lloyd Webber and the Ring Cycle.'

But it was in 1993, on the back of a five-star trip to the Edinburgh Fringe with Guys and Dolls, that Alex Went, John Moore and I hit on the idea of creating our own original musicals, with a show based on Stevenson's 'Jekyll and Hyde'. 'Jekyll!', to our amazement, won a coveted Fringe First when it was staged in Edinburgh. Since then, John Moore and I, along with a host of loyal Salopians, (of whom Sara Hankin, Richard Hudson, Christine Samworth, Dympna Nightingale, Dimitri Porter and Toby Percival all feature as survivors) have travelled the dangerous highway of creating new productions roughly every other year.

Old Salopians (and girls), many of whom are married now, will treasure particular memories. The spectacular set of the 'The Time Machine', innocent youth in 'The Lost Domain'; the coruscating energy of 'The Bubble', the gothic thunder of 'Frankenstein' or the zany zip and nightmare of 'Harry'; every one of these pieces has presented different challenges.

Creating these shows is a daunting experience for any wannabe actor or singer; and our rehearsals follow a curious pattern. We usually cast before much of the music is written, so that John can write music specially suited to the voice of every soloist.

Nor does the director always know what the music sounds like much before the first rehearsal. John will often arrive armed with a manuscript warm from the photocopier, then proceed to drill



the cast for twenty glorious minutes, before turning to me with a charming smile and the encouraging words: ‘Well, enough of that. Let’s stage it.’

We tend to rehearse at breakneck speed. The cast learn lines and notes and the improvised moves in one fell swoop. It’s an interesting educational experience. And it’s very scary. We have to trust each other – and hope that our judgement doesn’t let us down. And it isn’t until a show is almost ready for performance that one has any clear idea about its quality. I’m afraid that *What You Will* is no exception.

Over the years, we have encountered the heartache and hazard which comes post paid with every brand new show. But though we have the scars to prove it, I do not think we could have wished for a more exhilarating way to spend our time away from class. The talent of our musical director, matched with the exuberance of an eternally youthful cast makes for a heady recipe. What writer or director could ever wish for more?

*Peter Fanning*  
*November 2010*

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



## Netball: w/c 22nd November 2010

Monday 29 November 2010

*1st VII vs QEGS Blackburn - Won 40-20*

This week Shrewsbury swapped the hockey stick for a netball to accommodate QEGS who were bringing football teams along for the afternoon. We started steadily, but didn't quite get going until the 2nd quarter, when we pulled away to go into half time 21-8 up. Shrewsbury continued to play well, changing a few positions along the way and came out with a strong performance to win 40-20.

Mrs N J Bradburne



## Donation to Shrewsbury School: Grecian Urn from Third Century BC

Tuesday 30 November 2010

The school has recently been donated a Greek pottery urn and cover from the Third Century BC. It was bought in 2007 by an anonymous benefactor who has presented it to the school in appreciation of Professor Colin Leach, formerly of Pembroke College, Oxford (O.S. 1945-51). It was acquired in 1809 – quite how is uncertain – by Sir Francis Sacheverel Darwin (1786-1859), uncle of Charles, and continued in the Darwin family until 2007. Inside the urn is a contemporary label: ‘Grecian Urn with bones and ashes etc. Taken by Sir F. Darwin from a Tomb at the Temple of Bacchus near Athens.’

It is a most handsome object, painted with a meandering vine motif, and at the moment rests in its splendour in the Ancient Library.