



Sports results w/e 21st October 2012

Thursday 1 November 2012

Week7: Beginning 15th October 2012

Date	Sport	Team	Opposition	H/A	Result	Score
Monday 15 th Oct	Football	1 st XI	Idsall School (ESFA Cup Rd 3)	H	W	4-0
		U15a XI	Whitworth High School	H	L	3-4
		U14a XI			W	5-1
Tuesday 16 th Oct	Netball	U18 VII (G)	Harper Adams 2nds	A	W	35-6
			Shifnal		W	35-23
Wednesday 17 th Oct	Football	1 st XI	Bolton School	H	W	6-2
		2 nd XI		H	W	7-3
		3 rd XI		H	D	1-1
		4 th XI		H	W	7-3
		U15a XI		A	L	3-0
		U14a XI		A	L	1-8
		U15b XI	Charlton School	H	W	4-0
		U14b XI	Charlton School	H	W	3-1
		1 st XI (G)	Moreton Hall School	A	L	0-3
	Hockey					
	Basketball	U18s	Ellesmere College	H	W	58-56
Thursday 18 th Oct	Basketball	U18s	William Brooks School	H	W	49-43



Classics: First prize in national essay competition

Thursday 1 November 2012



We were delighted to hear that Rosie Parr (EDH UVI), was awarded first prize in the national Omnibus Gladstone Competition - the UK's premier essay prize in Classics - for her essay 'Country life versus urban living in ancient Rome'. This follows on from Rosie's Certificate of Commendation last term from Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, for her essay on 'Women in the Ancient World'.

This is the third consecutive year that a Salopian pupil has won the first prize in the Gladstone Competition, and in each of the last six years one of our pupils has managed either to win the first prize or the runner-up position (last year, we won both the **first and second prizes**).

Rosie will receive £200 prize money, and her winning essay will be published in the next edition of Omnibus.

OS in National Decathlon Finals

Monday 5 November 2012

Old Salopian Howard Stringer (PH 2010-2012) competed in the English Schools' National Decathlon Championship Finals in September at Bedford International Athletics Stadium (Paula Radcliffe's home track). He was very successful, competing against the countries best, young men all-rounders, many of whom aspire to compete regularly (and have already) at an international level.

Howard achieved many new personal best achievements and came 23rd out of 34 athletes after two hard days of competition. Despite having 100m and 400m as his most predominant events in the decathlon, other events he also had to compete in over the two days were Long Jump, Shot Putt, High Jump, 110m High Hurdles ('they were very high!'), Discus, Pole Vault (an alien event to most of the competitors, however a few managed to make it over 4m), Javelin, and to round off the weekend: 1500m.

Howard is currently studying Medicine at Birmingham University.



Henry Thomas (Ch IV) performs in the Diamond Kids Royal Gala

Monday 5 November 2012

On Sunday 4th November, Henry Thomas (Ch IV) performed as one of just 6 trumpets with the National Children's Orchestra in front of HRH Princess Beatrice of York (and her entourage...) at the 'Diamond Kids Royal Gala' in the Savoy Theatre, London.

The Gala was organised by the children's newspaper First News in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, with all profits going to the NSPCC charity ChildLine. The Princess met all the performers before the concert and was apparently very charming. Most of the acts had won regional competitions to perform in the Gala, but the organisers had also invited 4 guest acts, one of which was the National Children's Orchestra. (The National Youth Ballet of Great Britain also performed). The evening was hosted by Jason Donovan and Anna Williamson (Kids TV presenter and ITV Daybreak reporter).



The National Children's Orchestra opened the show with a rendition of the National Anthem, and then performed a piece called "Olympic Flame", which was specially written for them earlier this year by Matthew Curtis. After the performance, Henry was one of two NCO members interviewed on stage by Jason Donovan and Anna Williamson while the set was prepared for the next act, which was probably the most nerve wracking part of the whole day for Henry (although he didn't show it!).

Henry's final NCO performance will be on Sunday 9th December at 7.30pm at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London (tickets available from the Southbank Centre - www.southbankcentre.co.uk or 0844 847 9910).





Royal Russell Model United Nations Conference: 20th-23rd October 2012

Tuesday 6 November 2012

Winners of the top prize Distinguished Delegation award, the Best Opening Speech, a Highly Commended Delegation award, 9 Distinguished Delegate awards – and the winning X-Factor entry thrown in.



L-R: Alfie Rius, Sam Ansloos (MUN Vice-President), Hugo Wright, Henry Dashwood, Toby Harvey-Scholes, Alex Moore, Dan Edwards, Ben Gould (MUN President), Azimah Jaafar, Ed Elcock, Jonty Small, Guy Cabral, James Humpish, Theo Simmons and Stephen Chandler

On the first day of half term, Miss Burge and Mr Peach, 5 Azerbaijanis, 5 Israelis, 5 North Koreans, and one budding journalist, Hugo Wright, set off to Croydon for the 31st Royal Russell Model United Nations conference.

Perhaps carried by the momentum of the Tucks, or lifted by the vertiginous highs of the House Singing Competition – or was it that bacon butty at breakfast from KH? – the team got ‘stuck in’ in true Salopian style from the outset and returned 4 days later with a brace of awards.

As always, it was an intense, dramatic, emotionally-charged, fun and exhausting few days of internationalism, idealism, Machiavellianism, and intelligent debate and oratory, with the odd reference to Harry Potter or Korean YouTube hits thrown in.

What makes the Royal Russell conference stand out is the friendly and welcoming atmosphere of the school’s staff and pupils, the high standard of the debates, the international feel (with schools from Ireland, the USA, Japan, Germany, Italy, Greece and Turkey) and the sheer range and breadth of the other features of the weekend like the MUN Press Corps (this year with a Salopian journalist working in it), MUN-TV, the MUN chapel service, the fancy-dress discos and this year’s remarkably ambitious, big-screen, outdoor X-Factor (of which more anon).



James Humpish, the Israeli ambassador, made the first big impression. His opening address to the General Assembly, which was loosely based on Blake's Jerusalem, was chosen as the best opening speech. And he certainly got the ball rolling for the team; on the following morning Salopians were in the thick of the debates in committees, and – as usual – showed their staying power, as the debate moved to the General Assembly on the last two days. North Korean ambassador, Daniel Edwards, stood out in GA, taking the podium more than any other Salopian, and delivering some excellent speeches. Kim Jong-Un will be delighted that – in rhetoric at least – his ambassador served him well and imperialists were well and truly smashed!

At the end of the conference, our Azerbaijan team were awarded the top prize, the Distinguished Delegation Award (alongside Haberdashers' Askes', Herts and Terenure College, Dublin) and I was delighted that our Israeli team picked up a Highly Commended Delegation Award, too. In addition, the following won Distinguished Delegate awards for their work in their committees: Ben Gould, Sam Ansloos, Ed Elcock, Alfie Rius, Rory Fraser, Toby Harvey-Scholes and Guy Cabral (an extraordinary achievement for a 4th Former). Following on from his success on the first day James Humpish won 2 Distinguished Delegate awards; one for his work in the Human Rights committee and one for his contribution to a special Crisis Committee, which was set up on the second day of the conference to resolve the fallout of a fictitious terrorist attack on the UN.

In addition, Shrewsbury had 3 of the 16 entries for the MUN X-Factor. Alex Moore sang and played guitar on a complex and moody Ben Howard number 'Everything'. Sam Ansloos then delivered a soaring rendition of Tom Petty's 'Free Falling'. However, it was Shrewsbury's very own waist-coated boy band, 'Ed and the Other People', who somehow danced and beat-boxed their way to victory with an original and hilarious, if wobbly, mash-up of Gotye's 'Somebody That I Used To Know' and 'Gangnam Style'. Speaking to the MUN Press afterwards, Ed Elcock announced that his band were donating the £250 X-Factor prize money to the 'Shewsy' youth club in Everton.

Overall, it was a great experience for all, and we are very much looking forward to the Paris MUN in December.

AZERBAIJAN

Ben Gould –HUMAN RIGHTS 1 –Ambassador

Sam Ansloos –SECURITY COUNCIL

Henry Dashwood –ECOFIN

Alex Moore –ENVIRONMENT

Ed Elcock - POLITICAL 2

ISRAEL

James Humpish – HUMAN RIGHTS 1 Ambassador

Rory Fraser –DISARMAMENT 1

Toby Harvey-Scholes –POLITICAL 1

Guy Cabral –DISEC 2

Theo Simmons –ENVIRONMENT

NORTH KOREA

Dan Edwards DISARMAMENT 1 –Ambassador

Jonty Small – DISARMAMENT 2

Alfie Rius – POLITICAL 2

Azimah Jaafar – HUMAN RIGHTS 2
Stephen Chandler – HUMAN RIGHTS 1

HRWP



Anna Peak, housemistress of MSH, reflects on her first experience of 'The Tucks'

Tuesday 6 November 2012

"The Tucks": This historic race is apparently one of the oldest cross country races in the world. As someone viewing it for the first time the race is quite a spectacle. The entire school becomes a ghost town as pupil and teacher alike walk the mile up to Meole Brace and the start of the race.

Matrons' cars stacked with drink, chocolate and ice packs for the return of the runners from the 3.5 mile course. The houses line up in 3 waves. The "A" string runners first, the "B" wave 2 minutes after, and then a further 2 minutes on everyone else.

The first 2 waves are relative calm, as 10 runners from each house run across the starting field and then filter through a gap in the fence about 3 m wide. The last wave is tremendous as the rest of the school start with a cry to war and then the spectacle for the viewer of 400+ students heading for the same 3m wide gap. Wonderful stuff. The event itself is what tradition is made of.

I watched the start and the finish and felt that my own children were in the race as I eagerly anticipated the first girl back. Alice Sykes Waller for MSH was the first girl home and 3rd overall. However, the other MSH girls were not far behind and we won the "A" wave race. I felt very proud of them but also felt I had let them down by not running with them as many of the other housemasters had. So next year I too will run the famous Tucks, and hope to god I survive our own Beechers Brook; that first gap in the hedge, because I can tell you all now I will definitely run in the 3rd wave!

MS Peak



BBC films our resident Olympic running coach in action

Wednesday 7 November 2012

Thanks to the generosity of an Old Salopian, Sentayehu Eshetu has come over from Ethiopia to be our Coach in Residence for the RSSH squad this week.



Sentayehu (who likes to be known as ‘Coach’) is regarded as running royalty, having coached over a dozen Olympic medallists and world record holders – all from the small village of Bekoji, which has only 16,000 inhabitants. His impressive coaching CV includes Derarta Tulu, who was the first ever African female to win Olympic gold in 1992, the Bekele brothers (3 Olympic golds and a bronze between them) and Tiruness Dibaba (3 Olympic golds from Beijing and London).

Last year, the RSSH amassed their best haul of trophies ever when they won four county events and came second in the prestigious national Coventry Relays in February. This year, one of our Third Form entrants came fourth in the whole-school Tucks race, with a time that would have won the entire race just three years ago. With such a wealth of talent and determination in our ranks, we are confident that this once-in-a-lifetime coaching opportunity will make a real difference.



Coach’s presence at Shrewsbury has created quite a media frenzy; the BBC screened some of the interviews and footage that they took of the coach in action here on the Midlands Today programme at 6.30pm on Wednesday 7th November, and the story was also taken up by the BBC News Channel and BBC World. The specialist running shop in Shrewsbury ‘Up and Running’ is also donating some kit and spikes for

Coach to take back to Ethiopia with him.



The Guardian featured Coach in an [article earlier this year](#), and the documentary ‘[Town of Runners](#)’ had a global release last year and features Coach and two young girls from the Bekoji as they attempt to 'make it' as athletes. Although it is predominately a film about running, it also gives an interesting and inspiring insight into Ethiopian life.

We screened BBC Midlands Today live in Quod at 6.30pm on 7th November, followed by the screening of 'Town of Runners' and then a Q&A with Coach.

Other articles about Coach's visit to Shrewsbury:

BBC Midlands Today on BBC iPlayer : www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006mj57 - move the slider across 19m30s, when the clip starts. Available until 6.30pm on Thursday 8th November.

BBC Shropshire : www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-shropshire-20236470

Town of Runners : http://www.townofrunners.com/run-with-us/Education/Shrewsbury_School



D of E Gold training expedition over half term: the walkers

Thursday 8 November 2012



During the first week of the half-term holidays, two Duke of Edinburgh Gold groups set off to Bala, Wales to attend the first 5-day training session. These two groups divided themselves into kayakers and walkers, who were each going to practise vital expedition skills and develop their current orientation knowledge. Luckily, each group had a set of 3 kind, enthusiastic and very helpful expedition leaders, who supported the group and gave useful advice from their experience.

After arriving at a cosy hostel, we all enjoyed a welcoming meal and started to gather ideas on what we expected the following days to be like. Then the next day, the walking group set off, rested and motivated, to an area of rather flat land. Here, we carried out our first day of training, where we mainly focused on establishing a team spirit and evolving a sense for a reasonable walking pace. When improving our orientation skills, I personally was astonished to recognise how technical the process was and how much thought it involved. Following that day, we also went through several emergency scenarios, to freshen up our ideas on First Aid. Soon, we all returned to the hostel, slightly tired, and shared our experiences with the other group over dinner. Near bedtime, the walking group spent some time planning the route for the next day and preparing the packed lunches.



After an energising breakfast consisting of egg and bacon bread rolls, the walking group set off on their long, hilly day travel. For this, we started our track on a steep hill near the Bala Lake and steadily worked ourselves up several steep slopes, hoping to eventually reach the top of an enormous mountain, where we planned to set up tents and camp for the night. This would be our first night camping out in the wild landscapes of Wales. Throughout the course of the day we developed a good standard of teamwork and practised sending out individuals into the mist and fog for certain distances, in order to ensure that we followed the bearings of our route. Occasionally, the odd plunge into small hidden pools of icy water (known as “bogs”) occurred, as members of the group underestimated the weight capacity of the thick moss mats that covered the ground. Yet this simply added to the excitement of the event and provided us with the small laughs along our trail.

Later that day, we arrived at our planned camp area, feeling exhausted and hungry. We all quickly had dinner and soon fell into a deep sleep, knowing what challenges we would encounter the next day. As we finally reached the hostel again in the afternoon of the following day, we treated ourselves to a delicious cup of silky hot chocolate. We were happy to say that we could proudly look back at our successful expedition trial and conclude that even though we faced some difficulties with regards to the weather, we had managed to overcome small obstacles well.



Finally, we spent the last day climbing up and down a 900m mountain in 5.5 hours, merely “for fun”. Yet, as we all sat in the minibus on our way back to school, the group was happy and thankful for this trip. This training included the most challenging terrain that we would encounter on our Gold DofE expedition scheme. Therefore it was a wonderful, inspiring trip that certainly left a mark in our minds. I reckon that we shall be very grateful for all the tips and tricks we learned from the coaching team, when we go and carry out our real expedition in Summer. A big thank you to all, who participated and helped us train adequately for this upcoming extraordinary expedition!

Vicky Horbach (EDH LVI)



Golf: HMC Foursomes vs Birkenhead

Friday 9 November 2012

HMC Foursomes matches off scratch handicaps, Wednesday November 7th lost to Birkenhead 3-0 at Caldycote GC.

Ben Oswald and Alex Haspel went off first and were all square around the turn but ended up 3 and 2 losers against 2 experienced Birkenhead players, without doing much wrong in the match. James Warburg and Daniel Legge were up against a tough experienced pair and ended up shaking hands on the 13th. The highlight for them was the clubhouse's toasted sandwiches! Charlie Adams and Harry Boutflower fought well on an unfamiliar course to stand on the 18th tee all square. However, they lost the match.

This was a good match against seasoned opposition in Birkenhead, who are recent past winners of the HMC Foursomes competition. Overhearing the good natured banter coming from the back of the minibus on our return journey you might have thought we had won, such was the enthusiasm and sense of togetherness witnessed. The experience of this competition will be valuable in the future.

Most of these boys will be playing for the School versus Shrewsbury Golf Club, at Condover, on Sunday 11th Nov in 'The Prior Cup'.

MS

A new housemaster is appointed for School House

Friday 9 November 2012

Hugo Besterman is appointed Housemaster of School House, to succeed Giles Bell when he steps down as Housemaster in September 2013.

Hugo is currently Director of Sixth Form and a member of the Senior Leadership Team at The Red Maids' School in Bristol. Before that, he gained experience of boarding and as a Head of Faculty at both Clifton College and Abingdon School.

Hugo gained a First in Biological Anthropology at Downing College, Cambridge, and he also represented the university at football and was president of the university surf club. He is a keen musician and plays the cello, piano (Grade 8 Distinction), piano accordion and percussion, and is a published author in the public understanding of science.

Hugo is married to Caroline, herself a Cambridge Classics graduate, and they have three young daughters: Francia (7), Poppy (5) and Jasmine (1).



On his appointment, Hugo wrote *“I am delighted to be joining Shrewsbury School and feel extremely privileged to be taking up the post of Housemaster in such a great boarding house. My family and I are very excited about the move to Shrewsbury and are thoroughly looking forward to meeting more of the staff, students and parents over the coming months.”*

Hugo will be joining our Biology Faculty when he starts here in September.

Please also see the [Headmaster's letter to School House parents](#) about Hugo's appointment.



RSSH: Juniors storm to victory in their first team race

Sunday 11 November 2012

'An astonishing team performance ... amounted to a domination of this race.'



Saturday saw our Junior Hunt's first team performance of the year, at the regional round of the ESAA Cross Country Cup, held in Walton Lea Gardens in Warrington. We had high expectations for this talented young group, not least because of the excellent preparation they've been given this week by Sentayehu Eshetu, our coach in residence, who came to see the race on his last day with us.

A cool, bright autumn day provided excellent cross-country conditions, though the rain from the night before had made the going fairly heavy in places, made worse by the three other races before our team were called to the start, which churned up the course in several sections to make it very muddy indeed. Coach Eshetu gave some excellent tactical advice while we walked the course in preparation, and there was a look of real confidence and determination about the team as they stared down towards the first corner.

The boys' performances in the Tuck's before Exeat - all of them posting top-40 positions, against much older boys - suggested that they had the ability and form to achieve something special here in Warrington. A fast start among the sixty-odd runners meant that it was essential to get to the first corner amongst the leaders, and this was duly achieved with Oscar Dickins and Freddie Fielding among the first four or five runners as they reached the bottleneck. By halfway round the first lap Freddie had taken the lead, looking extremely comfortable. Further down the field, the boys followed Coach's advice about helping each other out during the race, and as the first of three laps drew to a close, two distinct pairs had formed in Ben Remnant and Charlie Tait-Harris, and Oscar Dickins (who rallied after a difficult first lap) and Will Hayward. Gene Ratanaadaros was engaging in his own battles a little further down the field.

The second lap saw Freddie extend his lead at the front to a significant distance, though he was put under pressure from second place throughout. The two pairs further back were working hard together, and picking off boys in front one by one. On the final lap, as Freddie headed into the woods with less than 500m to go, he'd built up a lead of forty metres or so. He re-emerged with a noticeably longer gap behind him, and charged for the line to take a comfortable but extremely satisfying victory. This was a team event though, and if we were to progress to the national finals in December, we'd need excellent performances from the two pairs still battling away in the woods as Freddie crossed the line. They didn't disappoint; five of our six runners finished in the top ten. Ben and Charlie, having worked together throughout, finished 4th and 5th respectively, while Oscar and Will put on an excellent defence to take positions 8 and 9. Gene managed a terrific finish to take 21st, in a race much longer than his preferred 800m!

This really was an astonishing team performance, and amounted to a domination of this race, with a total of just 18 points; far fewer than our nearest rivals. Coach Eshetu was beaming as he

congratulated each muddy, exhausted boy on the finish line. We now have a little less than a month to prepare these boys for the much sterner test that awaits them in Bolton in early December for the national finals. With such a strong performance as this, however, they will go into that race with a huge amount of confidence, and must be considered one of the most formidable teams in the country in their age category. Congratulations to every member of this team for a superb race - one of the best I've had the pleasure of watching as a Hunt coach.

IPH



Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Swimming: Bromsgrove School Gala

Sunday 11 November 2012

On Wednesday our swimmers travelled to Bromsgrove School for what is always a tough gala against very capable opposition. Previous galas against the same opposition have proved very tough with Shrewsbury often on the wrong side of the score sheet. This makes the 64-64 draw a very good achievement for our young swimmers, an achievement that is all the more impressive when you consider the team were missing some key individuals.

Special mentions are thoroughly deserved for the swimmers of the gala: Nat Chumbala and Stanley Hau.

RSSBC: Fours Head of the River on the Tideway

Monday 12 November 2012



The Boat Club took three crews to race at the Fours Head of the River on the Tideway over the weekend. With close to 500 crews racing over the 4.25mile stretch of the Thames, the race always provides its fair share of drama with collisions and overtaking. Not wanting to miss out the first crew down the track got to experience both, coming off second best with a run into eventual Junior fours winners Hampton. The crew struggled a bit to regain their composure and were disappointed to come in tenth out of nineteen in their event.



The other two crews fared better, and gained valuable race experience in the process. It was the first for the girls crew to race at the event and they handled themselves very well managing the tricky course in a coxless boat. The boys IM2 4+ came in 35th out of 61 and the girls came in 40th out of 44.



All involved are fully aware of the challenge that lies ahead and the work required through the winter months before the next Tideway Head on the 7th March.



Clare Wilson appointed Housemistress of The Grove from September 2014

Monday 12 November 2012



Clare Wilson is appointed Housemistress of The Grove, where she will take up residence in September 2014.

Clare was born and raised in Yorkshire, before reading Education, Sociology and Sport at the University of Durham. Whilst at Durham, she rowed for the University Boat Club and won countless events, including the British Universities' Championship and Henley Women's Regatta – twice.

After university Clare spent a year working as a resident tutor at Bryanston School, before returning to Durham as a full time rowing coach in charge of identifying talented freshers – including the odd future Olympian!

Since 2008, Clare has taught Religious Studies and PSHE, as well as being Head of Girls' Rowing at Shrewsbury. She has been Assistant Housemistress of our second girls' house, Emma Darwin Hall, since it opened in 2011. She is also in charge of Quod (the Sixth Form common room), and

regularly judges house debating. Outside of the classroom Clare is an avid baker – her cupcake obsession is well known by the girls of EDH!

Clare is married to Rob (a maths teacher and rowing coach at Shrewsbury), and they will share The Grove with their hyperactive Hungarian Vizsla, Aggie.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Rugby: w/e 11th November 2012

Monday 12 November 2012

Two wins for the A XV.

The A XV made a winning return to the field after the half term break. Two fixtures were arranged for the week. The first proved the harder of the two with Shrewsbury coming out on top 14-0 against a hardy Solihull 6th Form College 1st XV.

An emphatic victory was completed on the Saturday with an impressive score line of 54-10: the Shrewsbury XV were simply too strong in all facets for Denstone College 2nd XV.

Fencing: another victory

Monday 12 November 2012

In the match vs Harper Adams & Newport GHS on Saturday, Shrewsbury won the foil 9-7 and drew the epee 10-10 to take a 1-0 victory overall.

Congratulations to Charlie Godman who has been selected to represent the West Midlands at Epee in the Cadet Winton Cup at Millfield School.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



The Christmas Raffle

Tuesday 13 November 2012

The 2012 Christmas Raffle will be raising funds for The Shewsy, and the Mayor of Shrewsbury's Charities, which this year are Hope House Children's Hospice and Cystic Fibrosis Research.

As well as being on sale through House Charity Reps and the Common Room, tickets (50p each) may also be purchased from Dawn Dunn in Reception (tel: 01743 280500) either in person, or by post (£5 minimum, by cheque to 'Shrewsbury School' please). Any prizes won by parents will be collected by their son/daughter at the Christmas Dinner on the last day of term, when the draw is made.

We would really appreciate any offers of prizes from parents, please.

To give you some ideas for prizes, our new student-led [Charities Committee](#) has come up with a list of prizes that they would most like to win, which revolved around food (hampers, pizza vouchers, meals out), sports (equipment, memorabilia, match tickets) and signed CDs, so anything along these lines will be likely to appeal to pupils!



A Week in the Life of Ed Mallett, Huntsman (S UVI)

Tuesday 13 November 2012

Ed writes about his extraordinary week which includes training with an Olympic running coach, being interviewed and filmed by the BBC, radio and local press, and having to make a mid-week dash to London for a rather different interview at Imperial College.



Monday:

Monday morning was, as ever, a struggle. Fresh back from a wonderful holiday in Cornwall, I was unaware what 7am felt like... The alarm goes, I crawl out of bed and stumble into the shower. Ten minutes later I emerge and drag my trousers on. A few moments later and we're outside and heading to breakfast on our bikes. Once at breakfast I noticed a small figure walking towards KH with Mr Middleton. It clicks into my head that this is our coach for the next week, who goes, unsurprisingly, by the name 'Coach'. I was introduced to him by Mr Middleton and had a short conversation with him before leaving KH to prepare for the day ahead.

The school day started with an assembly in the morning before school started. I was perched on the front row, ready to collect the Hector Rosebowl, which is awarded for the winner of the Tucks race (*Ed is pictured here, on his way to Tucks victory*). The House Singing prizes were also awarded at the same time.

Lessons sped by and after Lunch it was almost time for Coach's first training session. Just enough time beforehand though, during Societies Hour, to pop into chemistry and ask a few questions in preparation for an interview on Wednesday.

We turned up to Benjies fresh and ready to sprint around the 2.3 km course. Mr Middleton introduced Coach to the Hunt before handing over to him and we were all raring to impress. We were taken aback, however, when the warm-up started and Coach had us walking then jogging and swinging our arms. This lasted for over fifteen minutes. He was also insistent that training happened in silence, which was a shock to the system of many of the Hunt runners who see running as a social event. But even the Blue Baron eventually learnt to stay quiet.

But when we lined up alongside the Darwin statue ready to set off we were all feeling fresh. After starting the run with the Huntsman's cry, we set off and it seemed that Coach's warm-up had worked a treat, with Seb Blake and I tapping out an easy 7.44. But instead of taking a break afterwards it was straight into the warm down and another ten minutes of walking and jogging ensured that the muscles stayed relaxed.

It was then back to the House for a quick shower before afternoon lessons which flew past as I was still excited for what tomorrow's training held...

Work followed a bite to eat before heading off to bed. Assuring myself I could manage another 7.00 wake up tomorrow, I set the alarm.



Tuesday:

7 o'clock came and went and I remained in bed. After being woken by one of my peers, I did eventually get up and head towards the dining hall for my first meal of the day.

At 8.30 am I left Severn Hill for the second time, today in search of a biochemist to help me with the concept of Cyanide inhibition. I found Mrs Matthews in Biology and arranged a meeting for lunchtime. The first three lessons passed and at 11.10 it was time to head over to the Alington Hall for the Senior Maths Challenge.

As always, the first few questions build an air of confidence and a bubble of invincibility and belief that the maths is possible before this is burst by the later questions...

Oh well. By one o'clock the worst was behind me and I had just a meeting with Mrs Matthews and a postor meeting before Coach's second session. But on arrival at KH I was told that BBC Midland had arrived early and I would have to cut short my first meeting and excuse myself from the second completely. I was introduced to the presenter then rushed off to Severn Hill to change before Seb and I headed over to the Stott Pavilion for a few cheesy shots before running.

Coach took us down to the river bank to warm up in the same way as yesterday before starting the session, which involved running up the hill from the boathouse towards chapel. We concentrated on getting our knees high and our heels also high on different reps. This lead to a very technical session devised to improve technique rather than endurance and stamina. I was called over afterwards by Mr Middleton and Seb and I were both interviewed by the BBC Midlands team for the show tomorrow night.

The session ended and I ran off back to Severn Hill for a quick shower before my train down to London, where I stayed the night before my interview.

Wednesday:

I woke up naturally about two hours before my alarm, which I will blame on the pre-interview nerves. I was, however comforted by the fact that I wasn't the only one up. The rest of the Hunt runners were involved in an early morning training session before school, sprinting around a football pitch at 6am, another method that Coach introduced from Bekoji. After catching the train from Slough to South Kensington I found myself situated in the main chemistry building at Imperial College for the remainder of the day, with tours and talks filling the time before my interview at 2.30.

Once the interview finished, an experience I would like to forget about, I had one sole aim left for the day. I knew that the TV piece shot yesterday would be on at 6.30 and so would aim to get back at that time. I rushed across London and jumped aboard the 15.44 to Birmingham. At Birmingham I then caught my connection, which was due to arrive at 18.20 into Shrewsbury. It didn't... At 18.27 I burst onto Platform 3 and sprinted through town and to Quod in time for 18.33. The piece, however, was not on until 18.50 and I gladly saw the whole of the article. The news was followed by a showing of 'Town of Runners', which is based on Bekoji, the town where Coach is usually based. The film follows two young athletes in their pursuit of stardom. It showed the difficult challenges facing young athletes including the poor facilities in certain areas. There was also time for a question and answer session with Coach before heading off to bed.



Thursday:

Thursdays are always my relaxing day of the week with only two lessons and an easy run in the afternoon. Coach was doing hill-reps with the juniors and girls and so the Hunt returned to its usual self and headed out for a slow run around the town. The pace was nice and I've always been fond of running in the dark and so the end product was an enjoyable run. After the run it was down to the mundane task of Top Schools before heading off to bed.

Friday:

Lessons sped by as always and I soon found myself facing up to my only double sport session of the week, a mix of football and running. I pulled on my house shirt, joined my team-mates and prepared for another tricky first leagues match, this time against Oldham's. Our team on paper was probably one of the best in the league. However our form failed to prove this, with just one win so far all season we were dangerously close to the bottom of the table, a position Severn Hill are not used to. And so we battled away against second place Oldham's and for the first time all season we seemed to be passing the ball as we all knew we were capable of doing. Mitchell to Carver, Carver to Cross, Cross to Holroyd with a Barcelona-esque style the team clicked. The goals began to fly in, and soon we were home and dry. It ended with a 4-2 victory for the Hill.

Celebrations were cut short as I ran off to join the Hunt for my second hour of sport. I changed out of the football kit and pulled on my vest. Coach was back with the seniors and teaching us about the importance of flexibility in cross country races, something we had previously not considered working on. He had asked Mr Middleton to find a place on school site similar to what he would have trained on in Ethiopia. We ended up swerving in and out of trees near Emma Darwin Hall. The training was tiring and the muscles ached. The training was longer than we expected meaning we finished at 4.15 leaving just half an hour to get to lessons.

After lessons it was over to the back of KH to catch a minibus to the Tucks slay, this is the annual meal to which the first ten students in the Tucks are invited. The meal as ever was amazing, with the steak and chips quenching the appetite built up by Coach's hard work earlier. There was just enough time to thank Coach for the week's activity before he heads off to Ethiopia tomorrow. Malcolm was also present, without whom the Hunt would have not been able to bring over such a talented coach; it was through Malcolm's charity "Running across Borders" that the link was created. If my interview on Wednesday did go as badly as I thought it did, I will happily take a gap year and travel to Ethiopia for a few weeks to train with the athletes over there.

The experience of having a coach of this calibre over for a week has shown me the passion that many athletes around the world have for this sport and has given me an insight into what it is

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possible to do if you do give your life to something. The Hunt has experienced a week that shall live long in the memory and we are so grateful that this opportunity has been given to us. Mr Middleton and Mr Haworth have no doubt taken on the tips that Coach was giving and I'm sure we will see changes in the way we train in the future. I would very much like to visit Coach in Bekoji in a few years' time and train as an Ethiopian would. Having experienced his training for just a week it is easy to see how he has produced so many Olympic stars, and I'm sure there will be many more to come.



Football: w/e 11th November

Tuesday 13 November 2012

The 1st, 2nd and 4th teams all had home fixtures against King's Chester on Wednesday. All three proved to be close affairs with the 1sts narrowly losing (1-0), the 2nds drawing 3-3 and the 4ths just missing out on the victory (3-2).

On the same day the Shrewsbury U14, U15 and U16 teams all completed home fixtures against Codsall Community High School with wins for the U16's and U14's (2-1 and 3-2 respectively) and a narrow loss (2-1) for the U15's.

The 3rd team completed an emphatic victory against Oswestry School 1sts (5-3), the 6th team lost to the same opposition, and the 5ths drew (2-2) in a very close fought match against Wrekin College 1st team. Meanwhile, the U14B and U15B teams completed victories against Oswestry School's respective A teams.

Saturday brought victories for the U16A's against Abbeygate College 3rds, further victories for the U15B and U16B teams against Cheadle Hulme and a loss for the U14B team against the same opposition.



RSSH: Coach in Residence Week

Wednesday 14 November 2012

Peter Middleton looks back on a frantic week with an Olympian coach in residence, juggling training sessions with photo shoots and TV and radio interviews. This article will also be in the next issue of The Salopian.



Writing this report summarising our very first Coach in Residence week, it doesn't quite seem real that we have just experienced the inspiring coaching and training from one of the world's leading coaches – Ethiopia's Sentayehu Eshetu – who has discovered and developed multiple Olympic champions and world record holders. 'Coach' as he likes to be known, made the long journey from East Africa, widely regarded as the 'home' of distance running, to Shropshire and to The Hunt, whose history dates back to 1831, and can therefore also lay claim to being the 'home' of running. The union seemed fitting, and as we welcomed Coach just hours after touching down from Addis Ababa, we already sensed that we were in for a very special week.



Having only ever been out of his native Ethiopia once before, no doubt the bracing cold winds of Shropshire will have been a shock to Coach, but having had a good look around the school during his first day here, he felt more than at home once the afternoon Benjies session got underway on the first Monday and he was given charge of the sixty or so boys signed up for the run. As we walked down Central, the heads turned as the boys waited by the Darwin Statue curious to catch a glimpse of the great man, resplendent in his yellow, green and red Ethiopian national tracksuit top. I can't say such reverence and awe is afforded to us normally as coaches when we make our way towards the Benjies sessions, but then we haven't coached any Olympians (yet!). After a brief introduction, Coach took charge of the warm-up routine, where he spent 15 minutes preparing the boys in exactly the same way as he would his own athletes in the small town of Bekoji. The routine was certainly different, but a very interesting insight into the great man's methods. Indeed, much of the week saw such innovative coaching techniques, not least the unforgettable 'tree' session on the Friday afternoon (a session that four days on I for one am still aching from!) and the highly technical hill work undertaken on the school bank midweek. There



was the unique experience of early morning training, with a brave handful rising at 5.30am to undertake a speedwork session as the sun gently crept over horizon, tough track sessions, and individual guidance and encouragement to all of our runners. All of this was invaluable in terms of experience, and we are hugely grateful to the Old Salopian former Huntsman who financed the trip and made it possible.



It was certainly a hectic schedule for Coach, who worked alongside over a hundred runners including Prep school athletes from Packwood and Birchfield, and some of our talented female athletes. There was also something of a media frenzy surrounding Coach's visit, with a BBC crew hastily making their way to the school to produce a piece about the Hunt's experience with Coach, interviews with Radio Shropshire, press releases in the local papers and running magazines, and countless photo shoots. No wonder, of course, given Coach's credentials; amongst his former charges, he can include the great

Bekele brothers, triple Olympic medallist Tirunesh Dibaba, and of course his protégé Derartu Tulu would become the very first African female athlete to win Olympic gold. We really were in the midst of a legend of the sport, and I have no doubt that his visit will have a lasting impact on all who were a part of the week. We as coaches have learned a huge amount, and certainly count ourselves extremely fortunate to have been a part of this once in a lifetime opportunity. We very much hope that this won't be the end of the relationship, however, and indeed, Coach returns to Bekoji with a suitcase full of running spikes and kit, partly donated by the Hunt and the running store Up & Running in Shrewsbury, all of which will benefit Coach's next generation of athletes, some of whom may go on to be future Olympians. And who knows, perhaps the boys and girls who experienced the coaching of Sentayehu here last week may end up in Bekoji one day for the return visit...

PJM





A Week in the Life of Rob Treasure (I LVI)

Wednesday 14 November 2012

*Rob and a group of Lower Sixth boys spent part of last week at **'The Shewsy'** - a youth and community centre in West Everton, Liverpool that Shrewsbury School set up over 100 years ago and has been supporting ever since. The boys are all interested in studying Law, and this particular visit gave them a lot of opportunity to see and learn more about the legal profession. And then, of course, there was the rugby, football, play rehearsals and the occasional lesson and study period to fit in.*



Monday

Under normal conditions arriving back from a two week half term should have been a relaxing and reasonably easy task, but my Monday – and the rest of the week – was anything but ordinary. It began with a reasonably early wake up to make it to the Alington Hall for an 8:30am assembly given by the Headmaster. Once this was over I had to try to survive my first five lessons of the day. But all was well, due to the fact that I knew that I had societies' hour free. This dream was quickly shattered when I realised that I had a meeting to talk about **The Shewsy** - a youth club in Everton, Liverpool, that the school donates a large amount of money to each year. I would be leaving the next day for a visit to Liverpool and there were many arrangements to be made. After this meeting, a briefing on the trip, I had my first rugby session for two weeks. It is fair to say that I didn't realise that I could become that unfit over just one half term break; but

somehow I had! Having just about survived the ordeal, I finished my academic day with my final two lessons. At around 6:15pm I headed down for supper early, so that I could make it to the Ashton theatre for 6:30pm for a play rehearsal. The senior school play this year is 'The Arsonists', directed by Mr Hann. The whole cast has been rehearsing consistently throughout the term, with our first performance only a couple of weeks away. Finally, at 9:30pm, I was released for the final time that day only to arrive back to Ingram's to hear about the usual chaotic fireworks that I had missed out on.

Tuesday

Tuesday was the day that I left for The Shewsy. After having three lessons in the morning I was relieved to discover I had a double free period. So, after a quick visit to Quod, I managed to get some of my work sorted and then packed, before heading down to KH for lunch. This was ruined as I was stupid enough to accept the challenge of eating a green chilli - that I had been assured wasn't hot. Well....it was! At 3 o'clock, my mouth still on fire, we departed for Liverpool. Each visit (of which there are a number) is different, and this particular one was given the title of 'The Young Offender'. We arrived after an hour and a half in the bus, driven by Mr Percival, who had volunteered to take us. The fact that he had been the only teacher willing/able to accompany us, combined with the title of the visit, did make me slightly nervous. However, it



turned out that all of the other teachers we actually just unavailable! We were ushered into the club by the chaplain, Henry Corbett. He gave us all something to eat and drink and then briefed us on what to expect during the next two days. We then had a chance to unpack in the two rooms that the ten of us were sharing, before enjoying a supper of mashed potatoes, sausages and home made apple pie, cooked by the two ladies who cater for everyone at the club. Following this we were thrown into our first 'senior club' of the visit. This is basically a chance for anyone from the age of ten to nineteen to come in the evenings and make use of the gym, pool, billiards tables and the music rooms. On this occasion, before we were allowed to use the facilities, we had a meeting with a local judge, Sir Mark Hedley, who had been invited to come to answer any questions that we had. This was fascinating as questions such as 'what is the funniest thing in court you have ever heard?' were asked and greeted with some really bizarre and surprising answers! Later, we got the chance to meet some of the people that go to the club regularly and also the staff that supervise them. Personally, I was amazed at the number of people that go to The Shewsy - they reckon on average they have around 60-80 young people visiting each day. Some of these visitors are amazingly talented and The Shewsy is really supportive of each of its members. One club member – a fifteen year old named Joe Madox – stood up with a guitar and sang a variety of Ed Sheeran songs which was loudly supported by everyone listening. So far so good.

Wednesday

This was our only full day at the Shewsy – we would have like to have had more days like this, not just because we were missing a whole day of lessons, but mainly because we really enjoyed our time there! Our day began with breakfast cooked by Harry Tompkinson and James Aitken - bacon and eggs. We did notice Michael Leatherbarrow seemed to have to make a particular effort to eat it all, later explained when he admitted that he was actually allergic to eggs and that he only ate them out of politeness! At 9:20am we left the club to visit the Crown Courts in Derby Square. This was definitely a highlight of the trip as we were able to sit in the court and watch the trials and convictions. The first of the two cases that we saw was a woman who was sentenced to six years in jail for hitting her boyfriend with a hammer. Her defence that she did this because he would not give her a pound for a taxi obviously didn't hold much weight with the judge! The second case was a murder trial, where we sat for a few hours listening to the defendant give evidence. Though the time flew, we were all surprised at the level of detail the lawyers went into. After a hasty retreat during a gap in proceedings (well, the judge stopped the trial so we could leave!), it was time for lunch and we walked to a restaurant in Liverpool that had a variety of foods from several countries on offer. After spending a decent amount of time eating we were released into Liverpool for an hour. Naturally, we all found ourselves heading straight to the first Starbucks that we could find, though later I found myself in the Liverpool museum. After this we all met up again and returned to 'The Shewsy'. That evening would be our first ever 'junior club' and it is fair to say that it was manic! It begins at 3:30pm every day and is an opportunity for children between six and ten years old to come after school and visit the club. What most surprised us was the fact that not a single kid stopped moving for more than a minute in the two hours we were with them! After the chaos had ended we had a chance to eat and then returned to the main club for our final 'senior club', which included a football tournament in the gym. The Shewsy motto is 'Where people matter more than things', and this was definitely demonstrated by the total devotion from the staff there.

Thursday

Our last day at The Shewsy started with a rushed breakfast cooked by Jamie Elderton and me.



This was so that we could be on time to meet Henry again and have a mini bus tour around Liverpool, visiting sites such as the Hillsborough memorial. Afterwards we visited the community justice centre and spoke to the judge there about his career and were able to watch a number of cases revolving around crimes such as cannabis growth, alcoholism and drink driving. When the court had finished and we got back to 'The Shewsy, we were given lunch and then talked with some of the staff. We were given a number of tasks to complete and a presentation to prepare. After this we had our last 'junior club' during which we re-enacted a court case. Finally, we had supper and after saying goodbye, left The Shewsy. Unfortunately, as soon as I got back to school I had to go straight into another rehearsal for the play!

Friday

At last I was back to normal routines, with four lessons in the morning and lunch at one o'clock. After a flu jab in the San, I got changed and went to play first leagues (a football tournament), in which Ingram's beat Ridgemount 3-2. Straight after that I had a rugby training session in preparation for the match the next day. Quickly back to the house afterwards to reach period six and seven on time and then supper with a Biology lecture to follow. Another quiet day at Shrewsbury!

Saturday

Due to playing Denstone away, I had to leave lessons at 11:15am, making myself even more popular with the teachers that I had barely seen all week! But after a long journey we arrived and warmed up. The game went well enough in the first half, putting Shrewsbury ahead by 10-5 with Denstone managing to get a yellow card for slide tackling (feet first) one of our players! During the second half we played a lot better winning the game 54-10. We got back on the bus and I returned to school in time to get changed and go into town to an Indian restaurant to celebrate a friend's birthday.

Sunday

A lie in at last! Having to wake up at nine o'clock to get ready for the Remembrance Service seemed like something of a luxury! After the service we I headed down to KH for brunch. As soon as I had finished eating, however, I had to drag myself to the theatre for a five and a half hour play rehearsal. Then finally get back to house to relax...

Two events raise almost £3,500 for The Teenage Cancer Trust

Wednesday 14 November 2012

Two recent fundraising events raised a combined total of £3,480, which was handed over to The Teenage Cancer Trust on Tuesday of this week.

Despite the atrocious weather at the end of last term, our Open Air Concert managed to raise £1,000, and this year's Quod Fashion Show, hosted by Carol Smillie, raised £2,480 for The Teenage Cancer Trust.

Participants and organisers of both events are pictured here handing over the cheques to Adam Johnson, from The Teenage Cancer Trust, when he came to give a talk to our Lower Sixth pupils on Teenage Cancer.



L-R: Tom Lloyd, Ed Shawe-Taylor, Christie Knight, Sam Morris, Adam Johnson (from the Teenage Cancer Trust), Cressida Adams

Other fundraising efforts this term include £2,000 for The Shewsy from House Singing and the non-uniform day, and over £6,000 for Medic Malawi from last week's African-themed ball. There is also an alarming number of grisly moustaches appearing on masters' faces this month, which we hope will be shaved off on 1st December.

John Moore conducts Last Night of the Proms - in Bangkok

Wednesday 14 November 2012

Once again, our Director of Music John Moore travelled out to Shrewsbury International School in Bangkok over the half-term exeat, and took up the baton for their renowned annual concert that was presented in association with Rolls Royce and British Airways. John shared the platform with Jonathan Ling, Director of Music at Shrewsbury International School, and other guest musicians. Jonathan is an Old Salopian and one of John Moore's music scholars.



The concert programme included delights such as the themes from The Magnificent Seven, Forrest Gump and Gladiator, and the Hallelujah Chorus and excerpts from Les Miserables, where Shrewsbury International School's Symphony Orchestra was joined by a 90-strong choir.

The packed audience included several of our own governors and our Headmaster, who enjoyed a spectacular fireworks display overlooking the Chao Phraya river after the concert.

More photos and information are available on the Shrewsbury International School website: www.shrewsbury.ac.th.



Sports results w/e 11th November 2012

Wednesday 14 November 2012

5th–11th November 2012

Date	Sport	Team	Opposition	H/A	Result	Score
Tuesday 6 th Nov	Netball	U18s	Returners	A	L	19-24
			Harper	A	W	41-9
Wednesday 7 th Nov	Football	1 st XI	King's School, Chester	H	L	0-1
		2 nd XI		H	D	3-3
		4 th XI		H	L	2-3
		5 th XI	Wrekin College 1 st XI	A	D	2-2
		U16a XI	Codsall Community High School	H	W	2-1
		U15a XI		H	L	1-2
		U14a XI		H	W	3-2
		3 rd XI	Oswestry School 1 st XI	A	W	5-3
		6 th XI	2 nd XI	A	L	0-5
		U15b XI	U15a XI	A	W	4-1
	U14b XI	U14a XI	A	W	2-0	
	Netball	1 st VII	County Tournament	A	Placed 3 rd in the Trophy Round	
		2 nd VII		A	Placed 1 st in the Plate Round	
Swimming	Gala	Bromsgrove School	A	D	64-64	
Rugby	A XV	Solihull 6 th Form	A	W	14-0	
Saturday 10 th Nov	Football	U16a XI	Abbeygate College 3 rd XI	H	W	4-1
		U15b XI		H	W	6-5
		U16b XI	Cheadle Hulme	H	W	7-0
		U14b XI		H	I	0-4
		U14d XI	Birchfield School	H	D	3-3
		Hunt	Juniors	English Schools' Cross Country Cup Regional Round	A	Team placed 1 st overall. The 6 boys positioned at 1 st , 4 th , 6 th , 8 th , 9 th , 21 st .
Rugby	A XV	Denstone College	A	W	54-10	
Fencing	1 st Team	Harper Adams University and Newport Girls' High	Foil	H	W	9-7
			Epee	H	D	10-10
						Overall win 1-0

Football: ISFA Boodles U18 Cup - 3-2 win on penalties takes 1st XI through to Quarter Finals

Wednesday 14 November 2012

The 1st XI travelled to Hammersmith on Wednesday 14th November to play Latymer Upper School in the 3rd Round of the ISFA Boodles U18 Cup.

It was a tough game against a big, fit and strong team who made life very difficult for our players. With just 3 minutes left to play, Shrewsbury were 2-1 down. Ben Gould, our goalie, scored the equaliser from a corner, and at the end of extra time it was still 2-2.

In a tense penalty shoot-out, Ben saved 3 penalties, and Shrewsbury eventually won the match 3-2.

Our 1st XI now go through to the Quarter Finals - the draw will be made later this week.

The story in pictures (by WAH) of the final few minutes:

Picture 1 & 2:

Shrewsbury celebrate as Ben Gould equalises in the last minute of extra time

Picture 3:

The dreaded penalties - the tension is palpable

Picture 4:

Alex Styles scores Shrewsbury's first penalty

Picture 5:

Elliot Christie scores Shrewsbury's second penalty

Picture 6:

Ed Lloyd scores the third penalty

Picture 7:

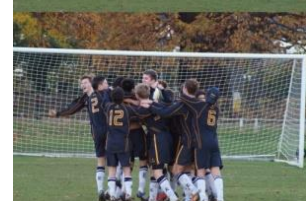
Ben Gould saves, to give Shrewsbury victory

Picture 8:

Ben Gould gets mobbed!

Picture 9:

Shrewsbury celebrate



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Please also see the match report on ISFA's website:

www.isfa.org.uk/boys/37-boys/boodles-isfa-cup/

Joe Allan (R 2005-2010) made a college scholar at University College, Oxford

Wednesday 14 November 2012



Joseph Allan (Riggs 2005-2010) was made a college scholar at University College, Oxford after achieving a distinction at the end of his first year exams in English.

Acting has occupied much of his time at Oxford, and he went with the OUDS production of 'Machinal' to the Edinburgh Fringe in the summer. He has also appeared in a number of other productions during his first year, including 2 at the Oxford Playhouse.

Joe is pictured on the left in the 2010 School Play 'Racing Demon' (which went on to play in

Edinburgh), and on the right in Edinburgh, where he went with the OUDS production of 'Machinal' in August of this year.



Girls' quiz evening

Thursday 15 November 2012



On Sunday 11th Nov MSH hosted a girls' quiz evening, with mixed teams from MSH and EDH. The emphasis was very much on fun rather than intellect! Rounds included blind folded food tastes, music and “weird stuff in the news” to name but a few.

The prize were a coveted “breakfast in house” for the lower sixth (a big deal on a rainy November morning), or a take away for the upper sixth.

Congratulations to the Upper Sixth team who came first. It was great to have the EDH girls over, but I can only apologise for the standard of the chips cooked as a half time snack! Blame the broken oven thermostat. “Don’t worry miss”, I was told, “some people like soggy chips”!



Music: 'A Scholar's Life'

Friday 16 November 2012

The November issue of the specialist magazine 'Music Teacher' included a Scholarship supplement, which Shrewsbury's music department was given much coverage. Director of Music John Moore is quoted several times, as are both Ali Webb (S UVI) Henry Thomas (Ch IV).

We were also delighted to see that the supplement included three photos from our concert last March at Birmingham Town Hall.

The 2-page article is reproduced here, by kind permission of Rhinegold Publishing Ltd www.rhinegold.co.uk.

THE MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP SUPPLEMENT

A scholar's life

How many people really know what the life of a music scholar is really like? Laurence King gives an insight into the facts

What is a music scholar? The word is often used to describe a young person who has been awarded a music scholarship to attend a boarding school. It is a title of honour and a privilege, and one that is often associated with a high level of academic and musical achievement. The life of a music scholar is a unique and demanding one, one that is often misunderstood by those who do not know what it is really like.

For many people, the idea of a music scholar is a romantic one, one of a young person who is gifted with a prodigious talent for music and who is able to devote their entire life to the pursuit of their art. In reality, however, the life of a music scholar is a far more complex and challenging one. It is a life of discipline, hard work, and sacrifice, one that is often filled with the pressures of academic excellence and the demands of a rigorous musical curriculum.

At Shrewsbury School, the music department has a long and distinguished history, and it is a privilege to be part of it. The school's music programme is one of the finest in the country, and it is a pleasure to see the achievements of our music scholars. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, and to the support and encouragement of our staff.

For many music scholars, the life of a scholar is a life of passion and purpose, one that is filled with the joy of making music and the satisfaction of achieving excellence. It is a life that is often filled with the challenges of a demanding curriculum and the pressures of academic excellence, but it is also a life that is filled with the rewards of a rich and rewarding musical education.

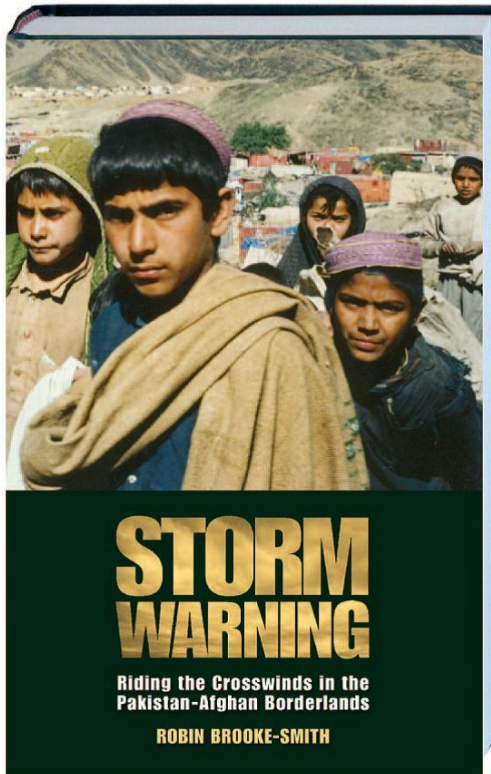
"Many music scholars play a significant role in leading and inspiring the school choir"

in
and



New book about Pakistan-Afghanistan by Robin Brooke-Smith can now be pre-ordered

Friday 16 November 2012



Storm Warning - Riding the Crosswinds in the Pakistan-Afghan Borderlands

by Robin Brooke-Smith (S 1961-66),

Preface by Khalid Aziz, Former Chief Secretary of NWFP Government

The Afghan-Pakistan Borderlands are pivotal to international security. They are often dangerous, strategically crucial and little explored by outsiders. Robin Brooke-Smith provides a new perspective on Northwest Pakistan in this first-hand account of his years in this troubled region. Tracing the build-up to 9/11 and the upheaval that has followed, this is a captivating behind-the-scenes look into the regional fulcrum of global jihad. Recounting his experiences as Principal of the prestigious Edwardes College in Peshawar, the author explores the creation and growing influence of the Taliban, and provides a unique and close-up view into this fascinating area.

This book is illuminating reading for all those interested in Pakistan, Afghanistan and the turbulent

recent history of the borderlands of the 'AfPak' region.

'An invaluable account of life among the people of the region by someone who knows and understands the subject at first hand.' – **Michael Palin**

'Represents a great insight into the everyday life and the challenges in this tumultuous region.' – **Lord Ahmed of Rotherham.**

Robin Brooke-Smith completed his PhD at the University of Birmingham in International Education Leadership. He was Principal of Edwardes College, University of Peshawar in Pakistan, Principal of the University of Toronto Schools and a Holgate Fellow at Grey College Durham University. He has taught at Shrewsbury School and Backwell School in Bristol, and was Assistant Director of the British Council in Tanzania. Most recently, he was Director of Consultancy Services at the National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth at the University of Warwick. He is currently a writer and international educational consultant. New from I.B.Tauris.

Ordering information:

Available to order on the [I.B.Tauris website](http://www.ibtauris.com) after release (Mid-December) or pre-order now on [Amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk). Please quote discount code 7NR.



Three Salopians into the next round of the Shropshire Young Musician of the Year Concerto Competition

Friday 16 November 2012

Organised by Shropshire Music Service, the annual Shropshire Concerto Competition sees the county's most able young musicians performing a concerto from the professional repertoire.

Nine of our musicians competed in the first round of the competition last week, and the following three have got through to the next round to be held at Concord College on Wednesday 16th January:

Henry Kennedy (I LVI - Saxophone)

Dorit Hasselberg (EDH UVI - Clarinet) - who was one of the Finalists last year

Jacob Owen (Ch LVI - Cello).

Last year's competition, recorded in full on BBC Radio Shropshire, was eventually won by Galin Ganchev (M V), who is therefore barred from entering again this time round.



Record numbers attend our Sixth Form Assessment Weekend

Monday 19 November 2012

We have been delighted by the record number of candidates who are interested in joining our Sixth Form in September 2013.

Around 150 candidates in total are taking part in our assessments, the majority of whom attended our Sixth Form Assessment Weekend last Friday and Saturday.

This year we had considerable interest in the new [Alex Wilson Dayboy Scholarship](#), a means-tested scholarship for sporting and academic excellence offering up to 100% of the day fees.

During the Assessment Weekend, all candidates sit 4 academic exams, and have an academic as well as a pastoral interview. A number of candidates are also tested for specialist scholarships in sport, art, music and drama. Despite their hectic schedules, the candidates do also have a chance to get to know one another and some of our current Sixth Form pupils, and all are invited to a social gathering on the Friday evening. Potential boarders are also offered accommodation for the Friday night.



Schools Challenge Quiz – KES

Birmingham 14th November 2012

Monday 19 November 2012

Charlie Oakley, a former University Challenge champion, gives a quick-fire review of our teams' superb performances in last week's Schools Challenge Quiz.

Two teams from Shrewsbury were entered into the South Midlands Regional Round of the Schools' Challenge Quiz competition. The format is very similar to that of 'University Challenge' with 4 members to each team, but with slightly different scoring where both starters and each of three bonuses are worth ten points. If a team successfully answers all four correctly then they are awarded a further ten points.

The first round comprises three teams in an all play all triad. Shrewsbury 1 (James Brent, Oliver Hope, Sasha Arridge and Tom Dodd) were to face King Edwards High School 2 and the favourites, King Edwards School Birmingham. Having sat through as spectators a comprehensive victory of KES over KEHS, it was time to do battle over the buzzer system with KEHS. It did not start well; we were 100-0 down within 3 minutes. The girdle of Hippolyta gave us hope, actually it was the other way around. A perfect set of bonuses on Cyprus followed by another 50 points saw us draw level in no time. The Shrewsbury train started to move, Sasha recalled it took 8 seconds for the Sun's light to reach Earth, James identified the last line of 'Away in a Manger' and Tom quickly calculated the square of the cube of the square root of 1. We were 300 points clear of KEHS and kept them at bay after their brief rally at the end. The score after 25 minutes was 610 – 340; the highest score by a Shrewsbury team for several years.

The team were then set for a quick fire round with KES; could the 1000pt aggregate be broken?

The phonetic alphabet question went the way of KES but honours were even after 4 minutes. KES then showed their superior buzzing skills and stretched to a commanding lead. However, a mis-signal from KES opened the door for James to convert 3.262 light years to 1 parsec and Shrewsbury won the next 4 minutes thanks to a question that needed them to identify the English county to which 'Salop' pertained! With the scores poised at 470 – 390 in favour of KES, the Birmingham side were looking clearly rattled; no team had pushed them this hard in a regional fixture for a while. KES started firing again but Sasha held them up with a superior knowledge of rugby.

A good set of bonuses on medical prefixes kept us in the hunt but KES were proving too quick on the buzzers even though Shrewsbury were exhibiting an equally broad spectrum of knowledge. The gong went with Shrewsbury trailing 470 – 610. KES therefore advanced to the semi finals and won the regional title convincingly racking up 900 points against Solihull in the final.

Down the corridor in room 158, the 2nd team (James Humpish, Tilly Whittingham, Sonny Koh and Robert Hartwell) were having a close match with KEHS 1. It was decided on the final starter. KEHS got it to win by a score of 370 – 300.

The timings allowed the 1st team to watch the 2nd team attempt the same question packet against Solihull 2 as they faced with KES. Robert remembered the opening lines to 'Charlotte's Web', Sonny remarkably recognised Ymir as an ice giant, Tilly dipped in with the primary ingredient of houmous and James showed his knowledge of the French quarters of Canada. The

Shrewsbury

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match, shortened to 20 minutes as it was sadly a dead rubber, came to climactic end; 210-200 in Shrewsbury's favour, just over a minute remaining; could they hold their nerve? Yes, the last points all went the way of Shrewsbury for a 320-210 victory.

Both teams ended as runners up in their respective groups and one could argue that any other draw could have seen the 1st team progress to the knockout stages and had one more question gone their way, the 2nd team would have joined them.

Congratulations to all involved and thanks to CHLW for her continued support of this competition. It was the best performance by both teams in my seven years here, even if on paper the results may not reflect this. I hope that this inspires them to lead their houses to finals night of the house competition later in the year.

CWO

The Friends of Shrewsbury School (Hong Kong) Association

Monday 19 November 2012



Over the last few years, current and past Shrewsbury families and Old Salopians living in Hong Kong have come together in conjunction with Robin Case, our recently retired Registrar, to form *The Friends of Shrewsbury School (Hong Kong) Association*. Many will already have read the recent letter from the Headmaster in which he mentioned his recent visit to Hong Kong and the strength of our relationship with families in that part of the world.

At a formal dinner with 115 guests, the Headmaster and Willie Cheng, who has two sons in Ingram's, and who was recently chosen as the new Chairman of the Association, signed the Articles of Association, setting out the aims and objectives and providing for a new structure and membership in the years ahead.

A guiding committee is already working to enhance the relationship between Hong Kong and Shrewsbury, and all families attending the dinner became formal members.

In order to extend the scope of the Association, all members of the Salopian family in Hong Kong are invited to apply for membership and find out more about the Association by contacting Mr Robin Case (robinedcase@gmail.com) and Mr Willie Cheng (wilcheng@netvigator.com).



Salopian team wins regional round of UK Senior Team Maths Challenge

Thursday 22 November 2012

The regional heat of the UK Senior Team Maths Challenge took place in Keele on Wednesday 21st November. Four pupils in the 6th Form were selected to represent the school:

Non Suemanothom (U6, G)

Ed Elcock (U6, Rb)

Arthur Kung (L6, R)

Daniel Hart (L6, Rt)

Dr Oakley accompanied them on what proved to be a very successful trip: they finished first among the 15 teams taking part, qualifying for the national final to be held in London in February.

All four boys have also recently obtained gold certificates in the individual Senior Maths Challenge, and qualified for this year's British Maths Olympiad.

JCA



Shrewsbury's Big Band awarded a Gold in the National Concert Band Festival

Thursday 22 November 2012

The Shrewsbury School Big Band performed on Sunday 18th November at Altringham Grammar School for Boys in the National Concert Band Festival.



They were entered in the School Big Band Class at Level 5 (above School and County level) and their performance earned them a Gold Award.

The adjudicators on the day, Paul Brown and Simon Platford, gave us some really positive feedback that included the following:

*'A lively start with a sense of style and showmanship'
'...a complex chart played with enthusiasm and a good*

range of dynamics'

..'some impressive ensemble playing from each section with a good balance achieved'

We now have to wait and see if we have got through to the final in April.

The Medic Malawi Ball

Thursday 22 November 2012



Malawi is known as the ‘warm heart of Africa’, and that warmth was evident at the Medic Malawi Charity Ball earlier this month. As the guests arrived, their way was lit by charcoal stoves, burning brightly. The sound of African drumming filled the air, and the student waiters and waitresses, dressed in bright printed cloth skirts

and waistcoats, drifted past offering cocktails with enticing names such as ‘African Sunset.’ The Ball was in aid of the project that students and staff had visited for themselves in the summer. Medic Malawi supports a rural hospital, malnutrition centre, an orphanage two schools. Miss Jenny Burge, of the maths department, was the driving force behind the evening, and spoke movingly about the impact visit had made on her as one of the 18 students 6 staff who helped to paint, wash, build and play Malawi. It is an unusual charity, in that every penny raised goes directly to the project.



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We were lucky to have a professional auctioneer to encourage bidding, and generous lots had been provided, including the chance to eat a meal cooked and served by the Headmaster.



Quintessential L-R: Ali Webb, Meredith Lloyd, Laurence Jeffcoate, Sienna Holmes and Jonty Binns



The highlight of the evening was the musicianship of *'Quintessential'*, a student a cappella group, led by Ali Webb (S UVI), who also contributed to the atmosphere by playing beautifully during the meal. The singers, Ali, Sienna Holmes, Jonty Binns, Meredith Lloyd and Laurence Jeffcoate



performed to a professional level, and, as well as enthusiastic comments at the time, we have since had letters from several guests expressing their admiration and appreciation. A spectacular £6,000 was raised, which, as the volunteer Director of Medic Malawi, Stephen Drew, explained in a witty and thought-provoking way, will be spent on the day-to-day essentials for the hospital, and will also

contribute to the building of the 'Shrewsbury Eye Clinic', which will transform the everyday lives of so many.

LJD

Review of the 2012 Senior School Play 'The Arsonists'

Thursday 22 November 2012

Review by Brian Parsons, our new Director of Drama, photos by Dana Parsons.

The apocryphal saying states that 'all that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing'. This is certainly true in Des Hann's multi-media, expressionistic production of Max Frisch's 1958 dark and disturbing social satire. But is the central character – Biedermann - a good man? In German his name means 'worthy' or 'conservative' man. This phrase is also used pejoratively to describe the bourgeois middle-classes. Might this provide an insight into the play's central message?

Frisch's play serves as a firebomb, torching Biedermann's desire to live a life of impeccable, complacent decency. As Alistair Beaton, the translator of this 2007 Royal Court version states, 'the play itself is an extended metaphor about the weakness of personal ethics in the face of evil'. But what is the evil represented by the play's firestarters? Nazism? Fascism? Or for a modern audience; Al-Qaeda? Perhaps the undefined nature of the threat portrayed is what allows the production team to update this modern classic into its barren, contemporary landscape.



This dazzling complex and technically ambitious production has at its heart a simple tale. In an unnamed city, arsonists are tricking their way into middle-class houses, disguised as hawkers, and burning them down. Not only does Biedermann invite in the very people that will destroy his family and home, he happily assists them when he believes his home will be spared. A tough and unsentimental businessman in the bar and office, Biedermann (brilliantly and deftly played by George Fowler) is defenceless at home. As the arsonists, (played with physical and sensual menace by Will Heyes and Amy Stockdale) infiltrate their way into the heart and hearth of the family, it is only Biedermann's long suffering wife Babette (played with humanity and ease by the talented Sienna Holmes) and the family maid (portrayed with steely reserve by Gaby Bryne) who offer any form of resistance to these controlling and conniving cuckoos in the nest. These main characters are well complemented by a talented and versatile supporting cast. Ralph Wade impresses as the Professor of Philosophy cum arsonist, whose intellectual conviction as to the necessity of attacking the bourgeoisie starts to waver, much to the disgust of his co-conspirators.



But it is the selfless work of the chorus that provides the main attraction in this ensemble performance. This Greek chorus of firefighters, dressed as ghoulish townsfolk, enhances the atmosphere of dread and threat. Menacingly led by Ali Webb and Rob Cross, the chorus observes and mirrors the central characters, commenting on the action and holding up their shield-like screens to receive the expressionistic and haunting video projections so expertly created by the production team. Their choreographed scenic transitions, underscored by the sumptuous music of Bjork and The XX, and the ensemble physical choreography must have taken many hours of rehearsal, but this work really pays off, especially when it provides focus to the main action and much-needed theatrical dynamism.

The strength of this production lies in the cast and crew's inventive and ambitious staging. Although the human drama is sometimes drowned out by the overly busy and self-conscious production elements, this exciting production is anything but your typical school play. Aply assisted by Alex Davies, Grace Woo and Will Allott as stage manager, Mr Hann has created a slick, detailed and theatrically innovative modern classic combining physical theatre, mutli-media effects and non-naturalistic acting techniques. He must be very proud, as should we all, of this brave and exciting company of young theatre makers.

BDP



RSSBC: Three Oldham's boys in GB sculling trials

Thursday 22 November 2012

The first of the many hoops to be jumped through to attain the coveted GB lycra next summer arrived on Saturday 17th November.



Three boys, all from Oldham's, made the long journey to Boston, Lincs for the day's sculling trials. Although all three will be trying to gain a place in the GB sweep oared team, all athletes are encouraged to participate in this first sculling trial. The results from the sweep oared athletes are not held against them later in the process!

Pictured L to R: Max Kimpton-Smith (UVI), Harry Lonergan (UVI), Niall Barrow (LVI)

Harry Lonergan joined the School in the Sixth Form and is now a veteran in the junior GB team! This being his third year of trials, his place of 5th from the 135 starters puts him in the right place to challenge as one of the country's top junior oarsmen.

Niall Barrow has just joined us from King's School Chester, his position of 80th was in line with expectations and his first GB outing. Max Kimpton-Smith came in 118, again, where expected - Max has done little sculling over his time at Shrewsbury and I'm sure he would agree, not his favourite discipline in the sport!

Harry's 5th place from the 135 entrants made him the highest placed sweep rower (non-sculling specialist), as is Niall's 80th place for a L6th former.

Paul Manser



A Week in the Life of Greg Bunting (Rb V)

Thursday 22 November 2012

Greg is one of the technical crew for the 2012 Senior School Play 'The Arsonists'. As this is the most technically challenging production that we have ever staged, we asked Greg for his 'Week in the Life' in order to get some insight into the behind-the-scenes work of this play - and to find out what else he'd been up to in the final week of rehearsals.



Monday

Urgh...Monday morning...I awoke violently to the rhythmic pulsation of water that we're all too used to in this country. Rain- that's all I need! Do I really need to get up? After a weekend consisting of a Remembrance service and a six hour play rehearsal; the thought of lessons, more long rehearsals and the "you think English summer's bad, try English winter" weather, encouraged me to return to my lethargic trance rather than face the day. Ten minutes later I reawaken. This time the rain has stopped though and now the day seems just about bearable to my pseudo-comatose mind. After a quick shower and a slice of haute cuisine which goes by the name of "Cheerios", I am on my way to school, raring to go (well...almost).

So I arrive, just about on time and obviously suitably dressed in accordance with the infamous Mr Vicars regulation...dare I not be in accordance with it. And so after the customary swift day boy call-over, preparation starts for my morning lessons: Biology, double English and double Geography. Biology starts the day...well...interestingly. It's safe to say that the topic of Excretion isn't the most glamorous way to start the day, nor the best when you had your breakfast not too long ago. Still, with a combination of Salopian good humour and appropriate levels of maturity, the lesson flies by. English next! As Mr Middleton jogs into the classroom we are immediately awe-inspired by his running ability, but more so by his fantastic, somewhat Scottish twanged rhetoric and unreachable heights of humour. Or so he would like us to think! Instead, we release a communal groan as he springs upon us yet another GCSE coursework piece to do this week. Into the second period we venture to the deep depths of I.T. where after driving out my housemaster and his set who'd taken illegal asylum there, we started on our coursework- writing to Boris Johnson. Geography flies by too, coral reefs provide an interesting alternative to the "colouring-in" which is what GCSE Geography is generally perceived as being. Actually we saved the colouring-in for the next lesson!



The afternoon too passes in a haze, firstly with my sport, rowing, where we went out in singles, and then an hour later after successfully not capsizing, with the last two lessons. Now evening lessons aren't exactly known for being loved by Salopians, as the infamous winter timetable burrows its odd timings into our minds, yet, with Chemistry and then an even more so infamous Mr Bell RS lesson, it doesn't seem too bad. Chemistry fires off the trans-Atlantic rift that is the "aluminium" v "aluminum" argument. Simply due to the overwhelming majority of non-Americans, "aluminium" won! RS brought with it some gentle note-taking, with a little educational video watching that Mr Bell is all too famous for, to "reinforce our understanding of the topic".



The evening presented the main subject of my week, the School Play. Well...not the play itself, but a rehearsal (for the play starting next week)! After a quick KH tea, I rush up to the Ashton Theatre to discover that not everyone had rushed quite as much as I; still, 15 minutes later and we were underway. Now to introduce my role before you congratulate me on my acting, I'm not an actor. Instead I am working on the Technical Crew of this play, more specifically, doing A/V (audio/visual to the average person), which on this play mostly entails projection. Now, I don't wish to ruin it for you if you have yet to see the play, but it is quite a technical one, and so I, along with William Allot, Andrew Humpish and Alex Davies, have certainly been kept busy. Coincidentally, the play is being directed by my housemaster, Mr Hann and so it is made just about impossible for me to get away from it (not him...why would I want to do that?) All goes well and by 10pm I am back home, ready for everything to start again, tomorrow.

Tuesday

Firstly, I must write less today, otherwise I will spend more time writing about my week than I spend doing anything! The same routine starts all over again, apart from the added rush as I rush from call-over, straight to the Lyle Building, for my Tutor Meeting with Mr Dalton. Prepared for a religious insight from the head of the RS faculty, I along with my fellow tutees are overwhelmed by the news that not only will we have the normal weekly Pub Quiz in our meeting, but another "pre-Pub Quiz quiz". After successfully failing to know very much about Korean culture we moved on to the traditional Pub Quiz...from about 20 years ago. Still we aren't complaining and after one half of the group clearly scoring more correct answers than the other, we call it a draw, as every other week has resulted in too.

Double Biology then English provides as much "educational entertainment" as yesterday. After break, French with Mr Whitehead brings the usual spectrum of hilarity that we come to expect from him; before tying off the morning with the amicable Mr Lucas, in Maths.

Lunch is followed by a weights session in rowing, building up our strength and then a quick outing in an eight. Next, Chemistry, where we have resolved the "aluminum argument", by simply moving on to a new topic. Finally Geography where the much awaited colouring-in lesson, is finally within our grasps, though we do have to make it into an informational poster!



The evening is rehearsal-free and so provides an opportunity to catch up on any work as well as return home at a fairly normal time (8:30pm), to relax and also catch up on some sleep.

Wednesday

Today I wake up abounding with excitement at the thought of a Rev. Dobbie morning chapel service. As I came into school I saw that this feeling was mutual between the rest of my year group too. In fact, they felt it necessary to look grumpy and sigh at regular intervals in order to express their extreme joy. Or maybe that was just my perception? In reality though, what could be very dull indeed is certainly made into something that's "fine" thanks to the Reverend. The combination of his "banter", religious themed (well...slightly religious) jokes and then our house Part-Song from the house singing competition, made for an even quite relaxing experience.

Double Chemistry, Maths and History all went swimmingly, and being a Wednesday we had no afternoon lessons. Instead, I go down to the Boathouse (that being the School Boathouse and not the local Boathouse Inn, all too often confused within the Staff Common Room), for a 2 hour rowing session. Actually we were a bit shorter on time today, so whilst we managed to make it up-stream, we soon had to turn and make our way swiftly back for a Nutrition talk. Urged on by the new Director of Rowing, Mr Hundermark, we just about make it through the doors on time, just ready to claim the last chairs. Unfortunately not all were so fortunate and the tables were ultimately used to harbour the last individuals. And so after the snappy 1.5 hour talk on the use of performance enhancing substances and general training and race diet, I headed back to house, late for topschools. Alas though, I was given an opportunity to start upon my all-important English coursework. After jogging up to I.T. in a manner I can only hope Mr Middleton would approve of, I started upon my essay which I hoped would too meet his approval. Next tea, and then the theatre!

Monday evening v.2 occurs. All seems to be going well, whilst the nerves are starting to ascend as we start to approach the opening night (one week to go), all else seems to be going well. The technical crew are still making changes and tailoring the play to Mr Hann's rigid specification, but we can really start to see what the finished play will look like, and we like what we see! Another 10pm finish leaves me tired and hoping for the play to be over sooner.



Thursday

The week's routine is in full swing now and I appear to reach school before fully being aware of anything that I had done that morning. I finish the awakening process during call-over, as my name is barked out to my obvious shock (despite happening two times a day, every school day), I let out a satisfactory noise slightly resembling "yes sir" and realise just how tired I am. Still, the show must go on (both literally and figuratively)! I make it through a past paper in double Maths and then a test in Physics before Oral exam preparation in French. Now at this point (1pm), I



would usually rush back to house to get changed and then rush over to KH to go Mountain Biking (my Thursday afternoon activity) - but this week was different. Instead I enjoyed a relaxed walk to lunch and then time to have a quick game upon the world-wide renowned Radbrook Table Tennis Table (Mr Hann's legacy in the form of several tonnes of cast concrete). Then, up to the theatre for a "Paper Tech" rehearsal. (i.e. just the Technical crew and the Director going through the cues from the script). Only a few hours later I emerge again and make my way back to house where my arrival causes a flurry of excitement, or so I thought before realisation of the classic third form v. toaster = fire alarm situation having occurred, almost a Salopian tradition these days.

At 5pm, my earliest finish this week by far, I return home to a family I just about remember having. Feeling more like a Boarder than a Dayboy, I recommence my English coursework and eventually finish it. I have tea at home...yes, very strange feeling, and then laze about before deciding that I'm too tired to even watch TV, so instead I go to sleep.

Friday

Somewhat re-energised from a reasonably early finish the day before, I manage to complete the call-over ritual without fault; after letting out a sigh of relief I prepare for double Physics. After quite a fun lesson making transformers (the electrical type, rather than the "robots in disguise"), I move on to Maths. Having finished an iGCSE past paper, I then proceed to a double RS lesson with Mr Bell. Several shockingly bad jokes later, with a little "educational video" on the side, we break for lunch.

Rowing again at 2pm! We complete a weights session and then an ergo as I try to find every last bit of energy in my body in the attempt to get a respectable score. After the ergo has finished and my energy levels are in fact in the minus numbers...back to lessons! Thankfully English and Biology fly by as it would appear that no-one in the school is still very much awake. Down to tea, and then up to the theatre again.



It's our last rehearsal before the performance week and we are doing a full technical run through. I believe it may have also been the first time that we've been through the play in full too, therefore acting as a pre-dress rehearsal, rehearsal (that's not a technical name)! All goes surprisingly well, certainly on the technical side of the play. Whilst we see a few faults to iron out and a few cues to change, everything else appears to work. The acting is not too bad either! It certainly proved a valuable experience and was particularly advantageous to the actors and director alike, to see the play in full, in succession. A return home shortly before 11pm marks the end of the day, and the last rehearsal of the week; I would be lying if I said I wasn't slightly relieved!



Saturday

I attended some lessons, French, History, Physics, English and Geography to be more precise. Whilst I'm sure that I should say that was challenging my uppermost intellectual limits, ravenous to learn more and simply in top academic form; in reality, I was looking forward to the coach weekend. Finishing at lunch, no sport, no play rehearsals, just time to sleep...and catch up on work. Seeing that I have too much free time on my hands, Mr Middleton has also set me a redraft of English coursework, just to keep me busy!

Four days to go till the opening night! Hopefully I can get some rest before then.

Sunday

And on the seventh day, I rest!



Sports results w/e 18th November 2012

Friday 23 November 2012

Week 9: 12th-19th November 2012

Date	Sport	Team	Opposition	H/A	Result	Score
Mon 12 th Nov	Football	1 st XI	Bishop Challoner (ESFA Cup)	H	W	8-1
Tue 13 th Nov	Netball	2 nd VII	Harper Adams League, Tornados	A	W	20-19
Wed 14 th Nov	Football	1 st XI	Latymer Upper School (ISFA)	A	W	3-2
		2 nd XI	Manchester Grammar School	A	W	4-1
		3 rd XI		H	W	5-3
		U15a XI		H	L	4-5
		U14aXI		A	L	3-4
		U16b XI	Codsall Community High School (U16A)	A	L	1-5
		U15b XI		A	L	1-3
		U14b XI		A	L	2-5
		U16d XI		A	D	6-6
		U14c XI	Wrekin College	A	W	3-2
		U14d XI	(U13a)	A	W	4-1
	Fencing		Wrekin College		W	2-1
Thu 15 th Nov	Girls Hockey	1 st XI	Shrewsbury High School	A	W	5-0



Football: w/e 18th November

Friday 23 November 2012

The 1st XI progressed to the ¼ Finals of the U18 ISFA Cup last Wednesday in a nail-biter vs Latymer Upper School.

With the score at 1-1 going into extra-time, Shrewsbury conceded with 4 minutes of added time remaining. With Shrewsbury's final attack of the match, we were awarded a corner kick, which goalkeeper Ben Gould decided to run the full length of the pitch to contest. When the ball landed at his feet, he calmly placed the ball past the Latymer keeper into the back of the net – 2-2!

Following a disastrous start to the penalty shoot out, Ben then went on to save three Latymer penalty kicks, meaning a 3-2 penalty win to the 1st XI. Shrewsbury play Bolton School in the ¼ Final at home between now and the end of term. Earlier in the week, the 1st XI also progressed in the ESFA Cup with a resounding 8-1 win over Bishop Challoner School.

In additional fixtures, the 2nd and 3rd teams beat Manchester Grammar School (4-1 and 5-3 respectively) and the U15A and U14A squads losing out in close fought matches against the same opposition (5-4 and 4-3 respectively). There were three losses and a draw in tough fixtures against Codsall Community High School and Concord College for the U16B, U15B, U14B and U16D teams, the latter of the aforementioned teams completing a ridiculously high scoring 6-6 draw. In other fixtures, there were victories for the U14C and D teams against Wrekin College (3-2 and 4-1 respectively).

Fencing: another victory

Friday 23 November 2012

In the match vs Wrekin College last Wednesday, Shrewsbury continued their fine start to the season with a 2-1 victory. Wrekin came out on top 6-3 in the foil, however Shrewsbury were dominant in the epee and sabre matches, winning 9-3 and 13-3 respectively.

Congratulations to captain Harry Cox and the rest of the team.



Girls' sport: w/e 18th November

Friday 23 November 2012

HOCKEY

Shrewsbury 1st XI vs Shrewsbury High School

Won 5-0

Scorers: Perkins x 2, Sykes-Waller, Mason-Jones, Free

On a cold Thursday evening, Shrewsbury 1st XI put in a fiery display against Shrewsbury High. The midfield built up some early pressure, with excellent switch play by Rosie Parr releasing Captain Libby Naylor down the wing. This was converted into early goals with a brilliant finish from Alice Sykes-Waller and then Holly Free. When Naylor had to go off with a serious injury, the team picked themselves up and continued to dominate possession. Finishing strongly through good pass and move play, and putting away three more goals. A fabulous win for the Girls 1st XI.

NETBALL

The 2nds had a tight match on Tuesday evening in the Harper Adams League with an exciting finishing victory of 20-19. Poppy Beckett played particularly strongly as circle defence showing fantastic predictive positioning and multiple interceptions.

Shrewsbury

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Swimming: Two golds at the Hereford Open Meeting

Friday 23 November 2012

Three Shrewsbury swimmers took part in the Hereford Open Meeting on Saturday evening – Stanley Hau, Daniel Schwenkert and Koden Lam.

Stanley came away with two golds, and he made the result of the night winning the 100m breaststroke in 1:07:40. Stanley (SH) joined our Sixth Form this term, and is already the Shropshire breaststroke champion.



Focus on Basketball at Shrewsbury

Friday 23 November 2012

Shrewsbury's sporting reputation is well known, but is perhaps based upon regional and national success in cricket, rowing, cross country, football and Eton Fives. This article from Will Hughes on Basketball is, we hope, the first of many such pieces that highlight the important growth of many other sports at Shrewsbury in recent times.



Shrewsbury School has a thriving community of basketball players who train three times a week and normally play one match per week against local schools in both knockout cup and league competitions. Training takes place on a Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and is available to boys in all year groups. There is a strong core of overseas students who perform very well in basketball and have often acquired the skills at their previous schools in clubs and schools in Hong Kong. The players work with a committed external coach under the guidance of Mr Hughes, Housemaster of Ridgemount, who also arranges the fixtures. There is an U19 and U16 team

who play in the county league and knockout and this year we have entered English Schools' Basketball League where we play five other schools in the West Midlands area. We have won two of our three fixtures to date and have a tough away fixture in Stoke next Friday.

Along with the training sessions there are opportunities for boys to go and watch the Shropshire Warriors play in Telford and the coach also organises a Sunday training camp once per term, which is always popular as it gives boys a chance to really work at their skills in an intense period of time.

It is hoped at some stage to consider a basketball tour, perhaps even to Shrewsbury International School Bangkok and basketball will undoubtedly receive a huge boost if we are to build a new indoor sports hall.

The players are excited about the opportunity they now have to design their new Kukri kit.

City and Banking Careers Talk – 8th November

Monday 26 November 2012

On 8 November the, Salopian Club held another careers talk and dinner as part of its on-going support for the Shrewsbury School careers programme. The Moser Library was the setting for 3 separate presentations by Old Salopians and parents involved in the City.

Jason Smallwood (DB 1981-83), an experienced City head hunter gave a comprehensive presentation about recruiting process, imparting very useful knowledge on how to prepare for and access opportunities in the City.

Pictured (right): Jason Smallwood (DB 1981-83) during his presentation



Jonathan Young (parent), delivered a very entertaining talk on "What is investment banking and why get into it?" His illustration of how the City works using the scenario of an international football TV match, watched by hungry Salopians with a taste for curry will long be remembered.

Simon Shepherd (O 1977-82) – wrapped up the programme with reflections on his time in the City addressing the question "Why a career in the City and how to go about it". Pupils were interested in how he used this experience to create a unique technology business selling services to the banking sector.

Other guests included OS Richard Norval (Ch 1979-84), with experience of raising liquidity for banks and two bankers from Handels Bank (Swedish Company), Peter Hyde and Andrew Edwards. Following the presentations, a meal was held in the Peterson Room in Kingsland House. Here the 20 or so pupils were able to "pick the brains" of speakers and guests, in more relaxed confines, gleaned further useful tips and insights. Future talks are planned for 2013 with a Careers Fair on 14th March kicking-off proceedings.



Report on South West Dinner - Friday 23 November

Tuesday 27 November 2012



Alex Baxter reports: 'Despite flooding in the Somerset levels, 37 Old Salopians and guests braved the conditions for a gathering in Wells on Fri 23rd Nov. The evening began with a tour of Wells Cathedral, under the expert guidance of Father Ewan Macpherson (M 57-60). Ewan took his audience back to the early history of the Somerset levels, the importance of the landscape to the peoples that initially populated the area and the sacred significance of the three bodies of water that give modern day Wells its

name. There was sufficient time for an abbreviated tour of the fabulous interior of the building before a sung evensong, which accentuated the spiritual feel of the ancient surroundings that form the Cathedral Church of St Andrew.

Afterwards the party repaired to the Swan Hotel, in Sadlers Street, just behind the Cathedral close. There was time for pre-dinner drinks in the Oak Room bar before repairing to the Garden Room for a splendid candle-lit meal with wine. Afterwards the host for the event, Michael Peacock (Ch 50-55) gave a short address during which he asked for volunteers to help set-up future events. This was followed by an rousing speech from the Headmaster, Mark Turner, informing the gathering of some of the sporting and academic highlights that have



occurred during his tenure. To round the evening off, Alex Baxter, Director of the Salopian Club, gave a short report on Club matters. By the end of the evening, several OS had expressed an interest in working with Michael Peacock, to establish future events in the region. Despite the relatively modest turnout, all agreed it was a hugely successful event and looked forward to the next gathering in the South West.'

Pictured, left - right: Henry Hine (Ch 52-55), Sir Richard Curtis (I 46-52) and Michael Peacock (Ch 50-55).



Shrewsbury School's full Cricket report for 2012 season

Tuesday 27 November 2012

Andy Barnard, Master i/c Cricket, and all of our cricket coaches, reflect on the 2012 season.

Despite the worst summer weather on record, Shrewsbury School cricket flourished throughout the spring and summer months, right up to the U15 ESCA T20 finals at Arundel and the U17 National 40 over final in Oxfordshire in September. In another outstanding year of achievement Shrewsbury School continues to provide the sternest opposition for all domestic and overseas teams. The reputation of our cricket continues to grow, but will be severely challenged in the season to come following the departure of our recent 1st XI, the most successful ever. Reputations take a long time to be established, but can be easily eroded and undermined. Therefore it goes without saying that our developing players and teams have a huge challenge ahead in 2013. The forthcoming tour to South Africa this December marks the exciting beginning of a new cricket era at school and a great opportunity for all involved.

The 1st XI squad, containing many of the team that won the U15 ESCA/ECB T20 in 2009 and the U18 HMC T20 in 2011, played with positive intent & maturity throughout the season, but were eventually frustrated as their time at school drew to a close. Another T20 semi-final defeat at the hands of Millfield School and a washed-out Silk Trophy was scant reward for a team that has provided the school with outstanding success, a great number of role models, excellent standards of play and at least two more professional cricketers. As an example of the dominance of this departing squad, here is their playing record since December 2010:

Played 56 Won 51 Lost 4 Drew 1 Abandoned 8

In addition our newly formed U17's worked well with their coach Mr Hughes in progressing to the National Final, but eventually lost narrowly to an excellent Gillingham School. The exposure and experience gained by this squad, containing a greater number of U16 & U15 boys, will hopefully underpin a similar run in 2013.

Mr Greatham ensured that the U15 XI again played well above expectations. They lost, narrowly and early, in the Lord's Taverners Competition to the eventual winners, Denstone College, but gained revenge in the later rounds of the T20 as they went on to reach the ESCA/ECB T20 finals day. Here they came unstuck against the eventual winners, Bolton School, despite an outstanding 1st innings batting display.



Salopian fencers to represent West Midlands in the Winton Cup at Millfield

Tuesday 27 November 2012

Arthur Cheng (SH V) and Charlie Godman (M V) have both been selected to represent the West Midlands region at épée in the forthcoming Winton Cup to be held at Millfield School 15th - 16th December, where they will be competing against teams from all of the regions in Great Britain.

The Winton Cup (Senior and Cadet) was the brainchild of Bobby Winton, brother of Sir Nicholas Winton. They were both prolific fencers during the 1950 - 60 era.

Arthur and Charlie came 3rd and 5th respectively in the national Leon Paul Junior Series Epée recently, having unfortunately (for Charlie) been drawn against each other in the last eight.

Ken Holding



The inaugural Clay Pigeon Shooting Club's coaching session

Tuesday 27 November 2012

On Sunday a group of 10 boys from Shrewsbury School went to Ellesmere College with Will Simper for an introductory clay shooting session run by the school's shooting coach, Tom Rylands. Tom regularly competes in national championships, and has been a member of the Great Britain Rifle Team since 1988.

The boys started with two difficult 5 clay stands shooting 20 bore 12 bore and .410 shotguns. Although some did not manage to hit these challenging clays, it was clear that there were two or three good shots amongst the group. We then shot a flurry and there was much excitement as we competed to see who could hit the most clays with their 20 cartridges. Ben Remnant was the top gun hitting eight clays.

There will be another (fully subscribed) session on 9th December, and the plan is that we will shoot at Ellesmere on a regular basis next term; in time, we hope to start competing against Ellesmere and other schools.

Senior House Debating Semi-Finals: "This house believes that the BBC no longer deserves the licence fee"

Tuesday 27 November 2012

This Monday's semi finals saw some of the finest debating so far this term. The motion was: "This house believes that the BBC no longer deserves the licence fee."

Both matches were extremely close, with Severn Hill narrowly beating School House. James Humpish of School House was recognised as having made an outstanding speech, but the judges felt that overall Severn Hill had the more coherent argument.

Grove A vs Grove B was a very entertaining and competitive debate, with a vocal and supportive audience. In the end, Grove A (pictured on the right below) just pipped Grove B to the post, but the latter team were commended on their passionate and well researched speeches.



Grove A now go forward to meet Severn Hill in the Finals next Monday. Held in the Ashton Theatre at 7.30pm, this is always a fun and lively event - all parents, staff, friends and pupils are welcome to come along and support.



Fencing: two matches over the weekend

Wednesday 28 November 2012

Saturday

Abbotsholme failed to field a full team with only two of their fencers able to compete, one at sabre and one at foil.

We combined these fencers with our own to form team matches and had a very competitive and enjoyable afternoons fencing.

Eight fencers at sabre.

Six fencers at foil.

Five fencers at épée.

Sunday

Arthur Cheng (SH V), Charlie Godman (M V) and Elvis Mak (Rt 3) travelled to Packwood to compete in the Leon Paul Junior Series Épée competition.

Arthur Cheng turned in some very impressive fencing coming away with a bronze medal in the under seventeen event. Charlie Godman finished in fifth place having unfortunately drawn Arthur in the last eight and losing 15 hits to 12 hits in a very tense match.

Ken Holding

A Week in the Life of Libby Naylor (EDH UVI)

Wednesday 28 November 2012

Tuesday 21st November

7am feels an almost deathly early time to be waking after an extended coach weekend to get to school for an 8.30 call over, and the subsequent lessons of double history, RS and English pass in a blur of catching up on people's coach weekend and the gradual realisation that all the work I meant to do over the weekend is still not done, as the weekend commitments were seemingly so much more pressing at the time.

After lessons we have a hockey practice and then get ready for the joys of winter timetable and afternoon lessons. As I'm walking back to EDH in the dark and the rain a teacher happily cycles past and reminds my friends and me that it's all "character building"... We suspect he may have had two frees that afternoon.

My evening was spent waitressing at the SSDPA (Shrewsbury School Day Parents Association) drinks with Rosie and Holly, which was held in Emma Darwin Darwin. It was really nice to meet and chat to the day parents, as being in a mixed day-boarding house and spending so much time at school, it's easy to forget sometimes that I actually still live at home! I realise how ideal it is to live so close to such a unique school and how great it is being in a house with both boarders and day girls as we all get so involved in everything going on. The evening seems to be a huge success for the organisers and guests and indeed for Rosie, Holly and me, as we all managed to get through the evening without dropping or breaking anything. However, as the parents become increasingly involved in the vodka tasting, and Grant Williams steps up on a chair dressed in full Cossack dress and begins a speech in Russian, my friends and I decide it may be time to retire back to our rooms for some top schools before I head home.

Wednesday 22nd November

This morning we have an early part-song rehearsal for our performance in lower school chapel. With the exception of a few notes and awkward dance moves that had slipped our minds since the House Singing competition, it was (almost!) note perfect. It's possibly even more fun to perform now as the initial nerves of the competition are gone and performing in front of the rows of bleary eyed 3rd, 4th and 5th form first thing on a Wednesday morning feels a great deal less daunting than the eager and critical sea of parents, teachers and judges assembled in the Alington Hall on the actual night. From the point of view those of us performing it went really well and our collaboration of "Bitter Sweet Symphony" and "Riding Solo" was a tuneful and inspiring start to the day...however, the lower school boys (our audience) seemed possibly a little less impressed and more preoccupied by dozing off in a state of deep contemplation of their looming day of lessons and sports fixtures.

After lessons on a Wednesday we would usually have a 1st XI hockey match, but this week we have a training session instead (we can't help but wonder if the prospective opposition have been





scared off by our recent success against Shrewsbury High...). We spend the majority of the session working on shooting, leaving us optimistic about Saturday's match against Bedstone College. After hockey training I have an athletics session with my club in town, and return to school thoroughly exhausted but determined to get some top schools done. After this I go home at 8 for a meal and to catch up with my parents before an early night.

Thursday 22nd November

This morning I woke to the huge promise of an email from UCAS. Having seen a number of friends recently receiving seemingly endless offers from their prospective universities I opened it with a great deal of excitement and nervous anticipation...only to discover that it is merely UCL inviting me to yet another open day. Excitement over. Oh well, I hear they always save the best 'till last, a statement I choose to firmly believe in, having still not heard back from anywhere yet! Thursday morning begins with an early call over before sixth form chapel, with Moser's performing their part song and Reverend Dobbie attempting to explain to us the supposedly philosophical meaning behind a diamond encrusted skull... After this I head off to a morning lessons.

On Thursday afternoons, while the rest of the school embark upon their vast range of 'Thursday afternoon activities', the upper sixth are given the opportunity to work or rest, whichever seems more important at the time. Whilst I confess to having spent some of these afternoons watching 'Come dine with me' on repeat, this afternoon history coursework seems more important... Thank goodness for 4OD. After spending all afternoon in the library with some friends (minus the occasional trip to grot) supper serves a well deserved break before top schools and when 9 o'clock arrives I'm well ready to return home and go to bed.

Friday 23rd November

The alarm clock takes less of a hit this morning than usual as Friday is a relaxing day for me in general, with a double PR in the morning and a set of my favorite lessons. My parents are obviously also feeling unusually relaxed as they agree to let me drive to school. Despite a few 'near misses', and ignored red lights, I arrive at school in one piece and personally think I drove perfectly, though the faces of my parents would seem to tell a different story. Friday morning lessons of photography and English pass quickly, and after lunch we have another hockey practice despite the inclement weather conditions. After hockey I would usually have double RS but I'm excused for the afternoon to visit the hospital and have the stitches removed from a rather dramatic head injury playing hockey last week. (All worth it though as we won the game 5-0). As I sit in the waiting room I suspect my nerves may be similar to those felt by my parents felt when I was in the driving seat this morning, but 20 minutes later the stitches are all gone and I'm left with only a tiny Harry Potter like scar to show as battle wounds. It feels strange to be at home so early on a weekday and I actually miss the atmosphere of the house in the evening, but manage to catch up on some sleep...and Thursday's 'Come dine with me'.

Saturday 24th November

One of the things I convinced myself I would never get used to at Shrewsbury was the prospect of lessons on a Saturday. Having always been at a local day school, the idea of sacrificing a day of the precious weekend for lessons seemed simply preposterous. Whilst it is nowhere near as bad as I was anticipating, it still feels unnatural to be waking at 7 on the weekend. Maybe my body clock will have just about caught up by the time I leave... Despite being a half day, Saturday is very busy with a full set of 5 lessons followed by fixtures. After having been tormented by the predictable Harry Potter comments in callover, I head over to MSB for the first of my lessons. Before I know it, it's Period 5, although the works of Milton and Shakespeare seem somehow

Shrewsbury

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marginally less inspiring (despite the valiant efforts of Doc Law) just before lunch on a Saturday, and the 1 pm bell comes as a welcome end to the week.

This afternoon we have a 1st XI hockey match against Bedstone College, and we are determined to continue our recent winning streak. Despite the horrendous weather conditions, we played an excellent game, although at times it must have resembled more a rugby match than a game of hockey due to the number of impressively bloody injuries we managed to pick up. Despite this minor hitch the game went very much to plan - winning 6-4. It's great to be heading to end of the season having won our last few matches, and hockey's definitely one of the many things I'll miss the most about Shrewsbury come July.



Report on OSH race against RSSH on 24 November 2012

Wednesday 28 November 2012

Saturday 24th November was a wet day that created ideal conditions for a cross country run. In other words, there were wet slippery muddy paths and a swollen Rea Brook to wade through too. Probably the muddiest bit was behind the Pengwern Boat House, where it tries to pull your shoes off! 34 Runners enjoyed our Annual get-together, which put our impressive team up against the best of The RSSH and The Staff – including The Headmaster.

Our very own Olly Laws (SH 1993-98) returned this year to kill and this season's talented Huntsman, Ed Mallett, was close on his heels, at just 23 seconds behind. Ian Haworth is returning to good form (after injury), coming in 3rd, running for the Staff. Overall, The Old Salopian Hunt came 2nd, with 59 points, getting closer to the RSSH with 43 points. The full list of runners can be found [here](#).



This year, there were five Huntsmen present, who gathered for a photo in front of The School Building. Andrew Skinner (2003-04), Olly Laws (1997-98), Ed Mallett, (2012-13), Tim Bedell (1977-78), Peter Birch (1970-71). We're hoping to double that number next year to beat a record!

There was a fairly unique running group present, formed by four of The Blake Family. David brought his sons Alex and Kris to give The Senior Whip, Seb, a bit of competition! Ed Bolland and Andy Skinner gave good performances, as did brothers James and Simon Adney. Tim Bedell and David Thomas followed soon after and then Ewen Robertson, on his first visit to an OSH event. Ian Young and I kept the clock going to 30 minutes and our stalwart runners, Anthony Hickson and Cliff Simpkin, brought the run to a close.

After a much needed hot shower, we welcomed the excellent spread of rolls and cake and tea in The New Hunt Gym, amongst the growing display of Hunt memorabilia. By 5.30pm, it was time for the OSH AGM & Committee Meeting, which is held in the Moser Library, and as usual,

Shrewsbury

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we started the proceedings with a “Toast to Mort” , who many of you will remember with fondness, as he and Willie Jones were our Hunt Coaches for many years.

The evening was rounded off with the Annual Dinner, where 16 of us enjoyed company which included OSH Honorary Member, Dr. David Gee, who, this September completed his 53rd Tucks Run. So, it gave me great pleasure to present him with an original Old Salopian Hunt Tie. The Huntsman and The Senior Whip also came along to enjoy the food and drink.

It doesn't really matter what the weather throws at us, as we always enjoy the whole day, which I hope some of you will want to do next year on Saturday 30th November, 2013.

Peter Birch



RSSH: Report on the annual race against the Old Salopian Hunt

Wednesday 28 November 2012

In Saturday's Old Salopian Race held at The Schools, Old Salopian (and former GB Universities runner) Oli Laws (SH 1993-1998) came home in front, with Huntsman Ed Mallett (S UVI) second. RSSH won the race overall, but a strong Old Salopian contingent pushed them all the way!



and although the Hunt retained the trophy, the gap was only 16 points, and looks to be very tight in future years!

In the early stages of the race, a lead pack was formed with current Huntsman Ed Mallett (S UVI) at the helm, with Senior Whip Seb Blake (S UVI), Rory Fraser (Ch LVI), IPH, PJM, and Old Salopian Oli Laws (SH 1993-1998) all grouping together and keeping the pace relatively steady. It was only with the more technical elements of the course coming into play (particularly the crossing of the waist-high Rea Brook river!) that the field began to string out and Mallett and IPH pushed the pace on. Oli Laws looked to be struggling on the slippery downhills, but in the closing stages gave an impressive kick going up the hilly Ridgemount Lane, demonstrating some fine form that this year has seen him run the Great North Run half-marathon in 69 minutes. Laws - who has in the past represented GB at cross-country - killed in the race, the first time he has taken the trophy since 2002. Current Huntsman Ed Mallett was third, with RSSH coach and last year's winner IPH in third, impressive given he is returning from injury.



The staff just managed to field a team again this year with help from the Headmaster who again showed fine form in running neck and neck with Severn Hill's DAGN, who whilst an Old Salopian himself, was claimed as a member of the staff team this year to make up the numbers. Slightly more dubious was our claim to David Blake as a staff team member. In reality, David came to take part in a unique day with four members of the Blake family taking part. David brought his sons Alex (S 2007-2009) and Kris (S 2009-2011) to give their Senior Whip

younger brother some competition. The four Blakes all looked strong with the three Blake sons all posting top ten placings, and their father David not far behind in 17th.

The presentations were held after the race in the Stott Pavilion where there was an opportunity amidst the Hunt regalia and memorabilia to reminisce about past glories and fond memories. Those with stamina stayed on into the evening for the OS Dinner (following a gin-soaked Committee meeting!), where Dr David Gee was named as an honorary member of the OS Hunt and presented with his tie to go along with the 1st VIII tie he was presented two years ago to become an honorary member of The Hunt. David this year completed the Tucks for the 53rd year - an astonishing achievement!

As ever, this was a terrific occasion, and one we always look forward to. This year didn't disappoint, and we already look ahead to next year's race with eager anticipation!

PJM



Sports results w/e 25th November 2012

Wednesday 28 November 2012

Week 10 Beginning 19th November 2012

Date	Sport	Team	Opposition	H/A	Result	Score
Wed 21 st Nov	Football	4 th XI	Cardinal Griffin Catholic H.S.	A	L	4-6
	Fives	U15 & U14 pairs	King Edward VI School, Birmingham	A	W	2.5-1.5
	Netball	1 st VII	Queen Elizabeth G.S (Blackburn)	A	W	28-17
	Rugby	A XV	Christ College Brecon	A	W	27-0
	Basketball	U18	Wrekin College	A	L	49-51
Thu 24 th Nov	Basketball	U18	Concord College	H	L	25-80
Fri 23 rd Nov	Football	1 st XI	Charterhouse School	H	D	1-1
		U16b XI	Darland School, Wrexham	H	L	1-2
Sat 24 th Nov	Football	U14b XI	West Bromwich Albion Academy	H	L	2-5
		U14c XI	Yarlet School	H	W	5-2
	Girls Hockey	1 st XI	Bedstone College	H	W	6-4
	Rugby	A XV	Wrekin College	A	W	13-8

Grove 1st & 2nd League Football teams 2012

Wednesday 28 November 2012



House debating: Grove A and B teams meet in the semi final

Wednesday 28 November 2012

Grove A and Grove B debating (met in semi final, chaired by Head of House Alex Moore, and judged by Miss Whittle) in a fine debate on whether the BBC deserved to receive the licence fee - Grove A (pictured on the right) just winning!





Last week's concert by our Music Scholars

Thursday 29 November 2012

The highlights from a 'thoroughly enjoyable evening' are reviewed by Martin Knox.

Perhaps it was the wet weather; perhaps it was the rather dry-sounding title; perhaps there was too much else on. Whatever the reason, the attendance in the Maidment last Friday evening was as meagre as the fare on offer was not. Abundant in quantity, rich in quality, there was so much for those present to enjoy that this review must of necessity be selective. Apologies to those not mentioned by name; they share in the collective congratulations.

The opening number was a quintet for wind and piano by Rimsky-Korsakov, a composer not usually associated with chamber music. The group was given a fiery lead by Joshua Wong at the keyboard and the piece was rounded off in style, the final flourish indicative of the close understanding between the players.

One item, a Fantasiestück by Schumann, appeared twice, but on very different instruments. Cellist Kevin Jim proved equal to the technical demands of the work, as did the versatile Henry Kennedy in a version for clarinet. One can see why he has auditioned successfully for the CBSO Youth Orchestra.

Another who has made it into ensembles beyond school is virtuoso trumpeter Henry Thomas, who thrives on the kind of challenges presented by *The Debutante*, by Henry Clark. The title is inexplicable, for it is certainly not music for beginners. The performance was dazzling.

Having, with permission, missed his slot in the first half to attend a lecture, Ed Carroll led off after the interval with a sublime example of how to communicate in song. In "The Erie Canal" he seemed to be telling his own story, his warm tone and impeccable diction ensuring that the simple ballad came across as one of the highlights of the evening.

Goodness knows how many are learning the saxophone just now; they crop up at every concert. The pick of those on show was Henry Newbould, who brought exceptional delicacy to his playing of what can be a rather brash instrument. Poised in demeanour and capable of unleashing a fierce sound, he gave a polished account of three *Danses Exotiques*.

There was some fine string playing, too, notably by Michael Cheng in *Praeludium* and *Allegro* by Fritz Kreisler, who, as the leading violinist of his time, never composed for the faint-hearted. Jacob Owen featured in a trio early in the concert and his cello was to be heard again in a *Tarantella* full of life and intensity.

Galin Ganchev rounded off the evening with a Rachmaninov Prelude, delivered with awe-inspiring authority. It was a reminder, if such be needed, of what a remarkable artist we have in residence. Galin is already half-way through his school career, so if you care about live music, you should catch him while you can.

So there it is, a selection – admittedly a personal one – of highlights from a thoroughly enjoyable evening. The show goes on, regularly on Fridays at lunchtime and on a much larger scale in the St Cecilia concerts this weekend. More treats in store.

MWK

Basketball: w/e 25th November 2012

Thursday 29 November 2012

A week of tough fixtures for the U18 Basketball team. A narrow loss to Wrekin (51-49) was followed by a comprehensive defeat by a very impressive Concord College side.

Rugby: w/e 29th November 2012

Thursday 29 November 2012

An excellent week for the A XV Rugby squad with two more victories.

On Wednesday, coaches and players were absolutely delighted with a 27-0 victory over Christ College Brecon 2nd XV. This was followed up with a 13-8 win over Wrekin College 1st XV in extremely wet and muddy conditions.

Fives: w/e 25th November 2012

Thursday 29 November 2012

Some of our young Fives players took part in their first competitive fixture this week against King Edward's Birmingham. The U15 and U14 teams both performed very well with Shrewsbury coming out on top overall with a 2.5-1.5 victory.

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Football: w/e 25th November

Thursday 29 November 2012

A frustrating week for weather and pitch conditions with many fixtures falling foul.

The 1st XI drew 1-1 with Charterhouse on Friday afternoon on Senior in the annual fixture between the two schools. The U14C's won against Yarlet School 1st XI (5-2), but the U16B's lost against Darland School (1-2).

Meanwhile the U14B's completed a tough fixture against the West Bromwich Albion Satellite Academy, losing out to strong opposition (5-2).



Sausage making in KH

Thursday 29 November 2012



Last week KH hosted an unusual Food File with our butcher Birtwistles, in the dining room at lunchtime.

As we are always keen to make the Food Files as interesting and interactive as possible (“interactive” meaning that the students get to actively nibble on tasty treats!) we threw down a challenge to Birtwistles. All of the Houses were given the opportunity to invent new flavours for sausages which the butcher duly made up. The flavours ranged from the sublime lamb & mint and toffee apple to the more extreme chocolate & chilli. Soon KH was filled with the savoury smell of sizzling sausages, and everyone was delighted with the brand new spin on the humble “banger”.

The students and staff were then treated to a sausage linking display, which is not as easy as it looks! Students were invited to have a go at linking and even some of the teaching staff joined in, much to the merriment of onlookers! And just to prove that they did indeed have a go, we took some pictures!

Our Food Files are always popular at lunchtime and we think that everyone would agree that this particular one went with a “bang”!

Carrie Zeiler



Focus on Golf at Shrewsbury

Friday 30 November 2012

Our sports headlines tend to feature our major successes in cricket, rowing, cross country, football and Eton fives. However, there is a host of other sporting activities taking place throughout the year, and in this article Mark Schofield, Master i/c of Golf, has written about the growing number of golf enthusiasts in the School and the opportunities that are open to them.

Golf is offered on three separate week days with fixtures played on Wednesdays or Sundays, although our younger students are introduced to the sport in Curriculum Games. Mr Schofield (Master i/c of Golf) is assisted by Mr Joyce and Dr Foulger, and the number of pupils wanting to start or develop their game playing for the School is growing.

The 2012-13 Captain of Golf is Harry Boutflower (S UVI) and we already have a sprinkling of good new and developing golfers to represent the School for the future - Ben Oswald (S 3) enthusiastically playing off 11; James Walker (Rt IV) is one to watch for the future; Alex Haspel (Rb V) is already regularly scoring single figure rounds and has a club championship to his name; Charlie Adams (S V) will only get better over the next few months and both Daniel Legge (SH LVI) and James Warburg (PH LVI) have great hand/eye coordination. I am confident that the experience gained this year will enable these boys to push for success in competitions next year.

On Mondays, up to ten students, from across the age range, have a group lesson with a qualified PGA professional at a local golf club such as Arscott (Glyn Sadd); Shrewsbury (John Richards) or at the Shrewsbury golf driving range (Phil Toomer). This is usually a six to eight week course to introduce students to the game and develop their skills and enthusiasm enough to spend the last few weeks of term playing on the golf course at Arscott or Meole Brace. For those Salopian golfers with a main sporting commitment midweek, it is a good way for us to spot talent for future matches! The golf activity is subsidised but carries a termly charge (£30), added to the School bill, with golf equipment available for those starting out.

On Wednesdays, those with their own golf equipment have the opportunity to play on local Shropshire golf courses and there are about six to eight regular players. Obviously, this is weather and light dependent, but we are blessed with a variety of good and varied golf courses in the county. For example, Hawkstone Park, Bridgnorth, Shifnal, The Shropshire and the infamous Church Stretton golf clubs to name a few, and there is no charge for participation. Thursdays are similar to Wednesdays but form part of the Sixth Form Activity option and charged for accordingly - Dr Foulger always has a full minibus!

On occasional Sundays throughout the year we head to Little Aston Golf Club – about an hour away from School. A venue for many major amateur and professional tournaments, Little Aston is a fantastic golf course and very welcoming to Salopians. Also this year on the Michaelmas field day, Dr Foulger arranged a great golf day at Bridgnorth Golf Club for about eighteen enthusiastic and grateful Salopians courtesy of Mr Legge, father of Daniel Legge (SH).

The School enters a number of national golf tournaments each year. The HMC Foursomes involves six players in a pairs matchplay competition, played off scratch handicaps. This year past champions, Birkenhead, were just too strong for us over the 18 holes, at an impressive Caldry Golf Course. The team comprised Ben Oswald (S), Alex Haspel (Rb), Daniel Legge (SH), (c)



Harry Boutflower (S), James Warburg (PH) and Charlie Adams (S).

The ISGA Schools Matchplay competition involves three singles matches, again off scratch handicaps. This year we were narrowly defeated by The Grange A team. Our team was Ben Oswald (S), Charlie Adams (S) and (c)Harry Boutflower (S).

Other golf matches include the annual Prior Cup at Shrewsbury Golf Club, Condover, played between members of the club, and the School. This event was first played back in 1920 and our team partners Schoolmaster with senior Salopian. This year the School lost by a single point over six pairs matches and the team included: Sam Roberts (Rb), James Warburg (PH), Alex Haspel (Rb), Harry Boutflower (S) and Tudor Sartain (SH) as well as Dr Foulger, Mr Schofield, Mr Conway and Mr Warburg. Alex Haspel shot an impressive gross of 8 over par. The ISGA Shire Trophy is played in June, at the only Seve Ballesteros designed golf course in the UK – The Shire golf club in Barnet, near London. This year, Harry Boutflower (S), Max Hulse (G) and Ulrik Cappelen (Rt) represented the school, and this proved to be invaluable experience.

The School is also represented at various ‘Old Salopian Golf Club’ meetings, for example at Trentham and Royal Liverpool Golf Clubs, and we look forward to the OSGS versus The Schools annual golf event in May, at Hawkstone Park Golf Club.

The School fortunately has a tradition of manning The British Open score boards. This is a great ‘paid’ work experience opportunity, especially for golf fans. Those involved in Royal Lytham, July 2012 were Harry Flowers (I V), Jack Hodges (G V), Ed Harrison (I V), Ed Holroyd (S V) and Nick Douglas (R LVI). We look forward to the international event returning to Royal Liverpool, in 2014, where there are strong Salopian connections.

For the near future, I look forward to the return of the School Golf Championship; a House golf competition and the first girl golfer to represent the School. Also, sandwiched between British Opens, we will hopefully be introducing a golf tour.

MS