

House Music

Tuesday 1 November 2016

Well done to all the boys for their excellent efforts in contributing to the House Music Competition this year. The unison performance of Leonard Cohen's 'Hallelujah' earned the House two awards: Best Unison Song and Most Improved House!



A huge thank you to Felix Mason-Hornby for his efforts in pulling this all off and coordinating our part song with Mr Mason. The elite singers came to the stage and sang 'In the Jungle.' This was a fantastic performance, but unfortunately there were no prizes for Rigg's in this part of the competition. However, after 25 years(!) in the musical wilderness, Rigg's Hall were successful and nearly pipped the overall winners, MSH, who also picked up two awards on the day!

Well done everyone and let's try and do even better next year!
Hugo Compston and MWDB

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



The news this week 100 years ago: 28th October - 3rd November 1916

Tuesday 1 November 2016

This week we remember:

Second Lieutenant Andrew Leslie Aitchison, 1st Bn. King's Own Scottish Borderers.

Pickering's (now Churchill's), left in 1915 for Sandhurst; he received his commission on 19th July 1916. Died of wounds received near the Somme, 3rd November 1916, aged 20.

Buried at Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt-L'Abbé, France. Grave V. A. 13.



Hattie Bramwell is selected for GB U19 Rifle Team tour to South Africa

Tuesday 1 November 2016

Following an intensive training weekend with the GB Under-19 Rifle Squad at the National Shooting Centre, Bisley from 13th – 16th October, Hattie Bramwell (EDH LVI) has now been informed that she has been selected for the GB team who will compete in South Africa next Easter. Many congratulations.



At the age of just 16, Hattie is the youngest member of the GB U19 team.

Over the summer, Hattie competed with the UK Cadet Rifle Team on their Channel Islands tour. She finished as the second placed U18 in the Grand Aggregate (the combined total of all the shooting scores from across the week) and as winner of the Gallican Trophy, the top U18 shooter at 500 yards.

In this year's Ashburton Shield (the national schools shooting competition staged at Bisley each July), where Hattie competed as part of Sedbergh School's team, she was not only the top Under-16 for the whole week of the competition but also the top individual shooter.

Hattie is delighted that Shrewsbury School's shooting coach, Tom Rylands (Ch 1973-77) will also be in South Africa while she is there next Easter, competing as part of the main GB Team.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Training Expeditions

Wednesday 2 November 2016

Eight Lower Sixth pupils took part in a challenging few days of sea kayak training during half term and a further six undertook equally rigorous hill walking training near Llanberis, Wales.



The weather was moderately kind with some sunshine breaking up the very heavy showers, although the wind did hamper the sea kayakers somewhat. Nevertheless, it was a tough week for everyone concerned.

Exhausted after a busy first half of term, the groups suddenly found themselves having to be on almost constant high alert. With the combination of early morning starts and theory lessons late into the evening, it was definitely not an easy few days and the teams definitely earned themselves some proper 'down time' afterwards.

The trip started with a morning of kit issues and inspections, followed by some theory training on weather forecasting. By 2pm the team were all out on activities: some up in the hills revising navigation; others on the water learning the basics of capsizing drills.

The next two days were spent refining navigation and boat-handling skills with lots of 'scenarios' thrown in, from dealing with an injured walker to assisting with an incapacitated paddler. Then came route-planning and rucksack-/boat-packing. The final two days were spent on expedition.

It was a tough week for everyone, but a great achievement to get through it relatively unscathed.

Well done to all.

Maj. J. Billington



House Singing Competition 2016

Wednesday 2 November 2016

On the final evening before the start of the half term exeat, packed audiences in both the Alington Hall and the Ashton Theatre enjoyed a wonderful evening of music and entertainment at the annual House Singing Competition.

A huge amount of time, work and imagination had gone into each of the House performances, and it was generally agreed that 2016 was a 'vintage year' for this hotly contested competition.

We were honoured to welcome three nationally recognised professional musicians to judge the competition: Ula Weber, choral conductor, professional singer and workshop leader, who currently conducts the CBSO Community Choir and is very involved in Ex Cathedra's singing project work in schools; James Broxton, Director of musical theatre company Get Your Wiggle On; and Becki Biggins, Grammy-nominated jazz vocalist, composer and arranger, who will be performing in the Maidment Auditorium on 5th November 2016. We are very grateful to them for their adjudication and thoughtful comments.

The results were:

Unison Cup

1st - Rigg's Hall

2nd - Oldham's Hall

3rd - The Grove

4th - Emma Darwin Hall

5th - Moser's Hall



Rigg's Hall - winners of the Unison Cup and Most Improved House



Part Song Cup

1st - School House

2nd - Mary Sidney Hall

3rd - Radbrook

4th - Churchill's Hall

5th - Emma Darwin Hall



School House - winners of the Part Song Cup

Overall Trophy

1st - Mary Sidney Hall

2nd - School House

3rd - Oldham's Hall

4th - Churchill's Hall

5th - Severn Hill



Mary Sidney Hall - winners of the Overall Trophy and Best Arrangement

Best Arrangement

1st - Mary Sidney Hall

2nd - Ingram's Hall

3rd - Churchill's Hall

Most Improved House

Rigg's Hall



Churchill's Part Song - 'Best Individual Performer' Henry Davies is fourth from the left

Best Individual Performance

Henry Davies (Ch III)

Best Entertainment Cup

Oldham's Hall



Oldham's Hall - winners of the Best Entertainment Cup



Rowing Training Camp

Wednesday 2 November 2016

Members of the Boat Club enjoyed a fantastic seven-day training camp in Laias, Spain during half-term. The squad of 33 J16 and senior rowers were treated to ideal training conditions for the full week.

The venue provided first-class land training facilities, along with very comfortable rooms and excellent food. The Castrelo de Miño Reservoir offered over nine kilometres of flat water to train on, with barely a breath of wind all week.

The squad covered a significant amount of mileage during the course of the week and they were delighted to have access to the hotel's spa facilities in their downtime to recover. The services of the School's physiotherapist were a tremendous asset in both teaching and treating the pupils to ensure that their training time off the water was used wisely.

Each evening after dinner, the pupils were given a short talk by one of the coaches. The aim was to share knowledge that would help the pupils take an active role in their personal development both on and off the water. The wealth of expertise imparted by the coaching team and the strong Club spirit were great to be part of.

On our return, sore limbs and blistered hands were a sign of a tough week of training. But after a few days' rest, the skills, memories and photos will have the most lasting impact.

Thank you to Mr Wilson, Mr Grant, Mr O'Dell, Mr Clark and Mr Higgs for making the trip so successful.

Athol Hundermark, Director of Rowing



The Tucks 2016

Thursday 3 November 2016

The Tucks is one of the oldest cross-country races in the world, having been run every year at Shrewsbury School since the early 1830s. It provides an exhilarating sporting climax to the first half of term, with every pupil and many of the staff tackling the tricky three-mile course.



In the days and weeks leading up to the annual Tucks race, we waited anxiously for the traditional downpour that would make running through Tucks field its usual muddy, sticky mess. This year it was not to be, and conditions greeting the runners as they assembled in Meole Brace playing fields were nigh on perfect for cross-country: cool temperatures, no real wind to speak of, dry overhead and underfoot.

A lot of uncertainties were going through the mind of the runners as they gathered in their pens: would Freddie Fielding – Huntsman and strong favourite for the Hector Rose Bowl – get away cleanly through the narrow gap? Would Severn Hill manage to hold off Rigg's in their fight to claim the Mallett Cup? Would Chessy Harris break a course record for the girls and become the first Third Former ever to claim victory?

In the event, the race got away cleanly with the first wave of runners getting through onto Church Road without incident. Harry Remnant made a very strong charge and was in the lead out of the field, but most of the Hunt favourites seemed to have managed a decent start and were not too far down the pack. Second, third and fourth wave were then loosed at two-minute intervals. As the fourth wave got underway, Colonel David's dog could contain his excitement no longer and escaped his handler's clutches to embark on a mad, suicidal dash, charging into the fray as it veered round the gap in the fence. That he made it out the other side still alive is nothing short of miraculous.

There was a nervous, quiet few minutes after this fourth and final wave disappeared down Church Road, as we waited for the first finisher to round the gap in the hedge and dash for the

finish line. George Mallett's record time of 17:20 came and went, though this is perhaps best explained by the course being probably slightly longer this year. The main path through Tucks field has got straighter and straighter over the last few years and in order to take it back to its original distance of 3.1 miles, groundsmen were asked to place the gates closer to the Rea Brook, which made the course perhaps close to a minute longer than last year's.

Nevertheless, as the clock ticked past 18 minutes, Freddie Huxley-Fielding (R) rounded the field and claimed a fully deserved (and widely predicted) victory in a time of 18:16. Given the slight variance of course length, this perhaps represents something close to a record-breaking performance. Freddie has been in lightning form recently despite a slight niggle in his knee, and it was great to see him go one better than his 2nd place in last year's race, and take the Hector Rose Bowl for 2016.



L-R: Freddie Huxley-Fielding with the Hector Rose Bowl, Will Hayward, Charlie Tait-Harris

Not far behind Freddie was fellow Riggite Will Hayward, who crossed the line in 18:33, wearing his trademark expression of grit and pain. Next across the line was the 2014 winner, Charlie Tait-Harris. In many ways, this year's run was even more impressive from him than that victory, since he had suffered a bad injury in a 1st XI football match only the day before. That he ran at all is testament to his bravery and determination, but his performance (18:46) under these circumstances shows what a huge talent he is in this sport.



L-R: Harry Remnant, Scott Hatton, Cameron Annyl, Sam Western

Fourth place was taken by Fifth Former Harry Remnant (Ch) in 18:53, someone who is currently dividing his time very successfully between running and rugby, and definitely one to look out for in the next couple of years in both sports. Scott Hatton (S) came through in 19:16, which he'll be pleased about given that he's only quite recently got back into full training. Sixth place was taken by Cameron Anwyll, also of Severn Hill, in 19:36, while 7th position, in arguably the performance of the day, was claimed by Port Hill's Sam Western, a Fourth Former, in 19:57.



L-R: Francesca Harris, Lilian Wilcox receiving her medal, Immie Evans

Among the girls, it was no surprise to see Francesca Harris (EDH) cross the line first. (Even though she is only a Third Former, she has already broken the girls' all-time Benjy record.) But what perhaps was surprising was just how far up the field of boys she finished, taking 26th position overall. Her time of 21:04 is frankly remarkable and shows how much promise she has as a runner. One to watch!

In second in 23:54 came Lilian Wilcox (EDH), herself only a Fourth Former, while Huntswoman Immie Evans of The Grove was not far behind, taking third in 24:12. India Eaton

(EDH LVI) finished a cracking run in 24:36 to claim 4th, while just behind her, Georgie Nicholas (MSH), another Third Former, took 5th place in 24:40.



The results of the team competition had to wait until all the times and positions were collated, but with Severn Hill and Rigg's getting so many of their boys (five and four, respectively) inside the top 20 positions, it was fairly obvious that it would be between these two.

Once the results were in, Rigg's were announced as the overall victors, taking the Mallett Cup from last year's winners Severn Hill by just 19 points. The strength in depth of Rigg's just made the difference in the end, with their 7th and 8th counters coming through in 26th and 31st place, while Severn Hill's came through in 38th and 39th. A great battle though, and with several of Severn Hill's best runners in the Lower Sixth or below, this rivalry is set to continue into next year.

Among the girls' Houses the race also close, with Emma Darwin claiming victory over Mary Sidney by only 18 points. Having runners claim the first two spots was hugely important in this, because Mary Sidney arguably had more strength in depth further down the field. The Grove took third position with 137 points.

Overall, this was a great way to end the first half term of the year (the House Singing Competition that evening notwithstanding). The competitive atmosphere at the front of the race was balanced nicely by a real sense of fun and enthusiasm further down the pack, and there were some terrific individual achievements right through the field. Well done to all who competed; now to set yourself a target for next year's race!

The full set of team and individual results may be viewed here: [Tucks Results 2016](#)

Mr Haworth

Master i/c The Hunt



Awards for Shrewsbury School delegates at Royal Russell Model United Nations Conference

Friday 4 November 2016

A small but formidable group of Shrewsbury School delegates representing Ukraine spent four intensive days during half term at the Royal Russell School Model United Nations Conference.

Mr Peach reports:

“The team acquitted themselves brilliantly and punched well above their weight, putting Ukraine at the heart of the debates and repeatedly holding the Russian Federation team to account for their aggression in Ukraine.

As a result of their energetic and dynamic performance, the Ukraine team won a Highly Commended Delegation award and four of them won Distinguished Delegate awards in their respective committees: Ed Plaut (Security Council), Rhys Trevor, Max Yale and Thomas Jackson.

The other three were similarly active in their committees, and Ebrahim Jamshid was very unlucky to miss out an award in his committee.

One of the highlights of the four days was seeing MUN novice, Sam Evans, taking the floor of the General Assembly, speaking to and taking questions from 400-500 other delegates. This will be excellent preparation for the Paris MUN later this month, where he and many of the other members of the team will again be in action.”

The delegates were:

Sam Evans (R III)

Thomas Jackson (R IV)

Ebrahim Jamshid (SH V)

Ed Plaut (S UVI)

Rhys Trevor (PH UVI)

Max Yale (S UVI)

Benson Zhou (SH LVI)



The news this week 100 years ago: 4th - 10th November 1916

Friday 4 November 2016

This week we remember:

Captain Archibald H. Hamilton, Royal Irish Rifles.

Hall's (now Rigg's), left in 1893. He left to join the engineering works of Harland and Wolff at Belfast, and, after serving his apprenticeship, started in business himself. At the outbreak of the War he received his commission, was promoted Lieutenant in 1914 and Captain in 1915.

Invalided home from the Front, he died in Northern Ireland of an illness aggravated by his work on the trenches, 4th November 1916, aged 39.

Buried at Belfast City Cemetery, Northern Ireland. Grave C. 617.

During half term, the names of five other Old Salopians killed during the First World War were published on the School website:

- [21st - 27th October 1916](#)
- [28th October - 3rd November 1916](#)



Football news round-up

Monday 7 November 2016

News from the block fixture against Millfield School – always a keenly anticipated event in our Football calendar – and from the third round of ESFA Cup matches.

After a positive training match against our 2nd XI on Wednesday, the 1st XI were back in fully competitive action on Saturday 5th November versus Millfield.

Such is the confidence of the team that they gave Millfield a two-goal start! A goal from George Newton (SH) and an own-goal brought us back into the game, before Millfield scored their third. A final goal from Josiah Chilaka (SH) secured a well deserved draw – and Millfield's goal-keeper was Man of the Match.

To come back from two goals down against arguably the most revered team in the ISFA competition this year shows great character. It also demonstrates the fact that Shrewsbury's 1st XI can respond under pressure. This will give a boost to their confidence, as this is undoubtedly something they will need to continue to do as the ISFA competition progresses.

Apart from the 1st XI's result, the other home matches against Millfield (2nd XI and 3rd XI) both returned 0-4 losses. In the away matches at Millfield, both the U15As and U16As felt the effects of their cup matches the previous day and lost 0-2.

However, both B-teams won. The U15Bs (coached by Mr Harding) continued their incredible run of 12 straight wins with a 4-1 victory, with birthday boy Euan Cooper (SH) scoring a hat-trick. The U16Bs, however, had the result of the day, winning 5-1 with goals from Archie Mobbs (O), Jacob Jefferis (SH), Pun VatayanontaIn x2 (S) and a superb free-kick from Man of the Match Frank Morris (O).

The previous day, the U15A had a superb win in the third round of the ESFA Cup versus Idsall School, overturning a 0-9 loss from the same fixture earlier in the season to a 4-0 win and highlighting the improvement they have made with Miss Walker.

The U16As did not fare so well in their ESFA Cup third round match, losing 1-2 away at Belvidere School.



Inaugural Prep School Choral Day

Monday 7 November 2016

On Friday 4th November we hosted our first ever Prep School Choral Day at Shrewsbury and welcomed over 100 pupils from Birchfield, Packwood Haugh, Prestfelde, Shrewsbury High Prep School and Yarlet to sing with our Chapel Choir



The day culminated in an informal concert where a combined choir of almost 200 voices sang a varied programme of works by Fauré, John Rutter, Verdi, Bob Chilcott, Howard Goodall, Bruckner and Mendelssohn. There was even some audience participation in Fauré's 'Libera me', which has become something of a tradition at Shrewsbury at this time of year.

The concert began with just prep school voices singing Bob Chilcott's 'Street seller' in confident style and relishing the syncopated rhythms. By contrast, it was amazing to hear the young voices pick up the Latin of Bruckner's 'Locus iste' and the Italian of Verdi's 'Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves' in such a short time-span.

The whole event was an extremely enjoyable one, judging by the reaction of both performers and audience, and looks set to become a firm feature of the Shrewsbury calendar in future years.

Given the evident talent on display, I very much hope that some of the young choristers will apply for one of our [Choral Scholarships](#). (Full details of all our Scholarships are on the Admissions pages of the website.)

Alex Mason



Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - America Decides

Monday 7 November 2016

This week's edition of 'SparkPoint', the micro-magazine produced by Deputy Head (Academic) Maurice Walters, was published on the eve of the American Election.

Please click on the image below to open the magazine as a pdf file:

The image shows the cover of a digital magazine titled 'SHREWSBURY SCHOOL | SPARKPOINT'. The cover is dark blue with white and light blue text. It features several articles related to the American election:

- Elections and Ideals**: A text-based article discussing the history of democracy and the current state of the American election system.
- How Does the Election Work?**: A text-based article explaining the electoral college process.
- SP16 – Gettysburg Address – Abraham Lincoln 1863**: A video article (5 minutes) featuring a portrait of Abraham Lincoln and text about his famous speech.
- SP17 – Secret Societies – JFK 1961**: A video article (5 minutes) featuring a portrait of John F. Kennedy and text about his address to the Society of American News Publishers.
- SP18 – Watergate – Richard Nixon 1974**: A video article (5 minutes) featuring a portrait of Richard Nixon and text about his resignation and the Watergate scandal.

At the bottom left, it says 'Mr Walters | Deputy Head (Academic)' and 'November 2016'. At the bottom right, there is a '5 Minutes' indicator.



News from KH

Wednesday 9 November 2016



We hope that pupils and staff are all enjoying the new menus we've introduced in KH this term. We are also delighted to welcome our new Executive Head Chef, Matthew Warburton to our talented team – he can be spotted hosting the Chef Theatre Bar at lunchtime.

Our Theme Nights were such a hit last year, we decided to have one each night. The American Diner with 'Sloppy Joes' and Millionaire Milkshakes have gone down a treat, as have the Taste of Japan and Mexican Feast nights.

Our breakfast menus are now designed to start pupils' day off with an even bigger boost and include a daily Smoothie Bar and Hydration Station – with different flavours each day! The good old full English breakfast is still a firm favourite, but those with less sturdy appetites first thing in the morning can enjoy a hot bowl of creamy porridge with toppings, fruit-topped yoghurts, a selection of freshly chopped fruit or a freshly baked croissant or pain au chocolat. Even our hot drinks have enjoyed something of a renaissance, with brand new 'bean to cup' and hot chocolate machines.



Later on in the term, we will be inviting one of our suppliers, Vegetarian Express, to come and chat about the food that they supply to us and allow us to try some samples. This will coincide with our Vegetarian Awareness theme, so we hope lots of people will come and visit their stand in the dining hall. We will also be putting on a German Market theme, which will put us in the mood for Christmas. And we're all very much looking forward to a Cupcake Demonstration hosted by one of our visiting guest chefs.

Pupils and staff will have noticed that our daily printed menus now contain vital information regarding the allergens in our food. When applicable, our dishes are now clearly marked Gluten Free, Dairy Free and Vegetarian. If anyone ever has any questions about what is in our food, then please feel free to chat to any of our friendly 'Allergy Champion' trained KH team.

And for days when pupils are taking parts in any sports events or training, we even have a suggested 'Pre-Match Meal' to prepare their bodies with the correct nutrients, as well as a 'Recovery Meal' for afterwards.

We always welcome any suggestions people have regarding our menu. So love it? – tell us. Want to see something on the menu in the future? – then please let us know.

Carrie Zeiler



Understanding the law - with the help of Old Salopians

Wednesday 9 November 2016

Over the last year, the Careers Fellow, Mrs Dry, has been working with a group of pupils with an interest in law, to establish a programme of activities that will broaden and deepen their knowledge of the profession. In doing so, they have been very grateful for the support of a number of Old Salopians in the legal profession.

There has never been a shortage of Shrewsbury pupils with ambitions to study law or pursue a career in legal services. But the profession has never before faced such a period of profound change, the drivers of which are political, economic and technological. Competition for placements and jobs is increasingly fierce. Advice for any young person planning a career in this sector needs, more than ever, to be current, realistic and relevant.

We are lucky at Shrewsbury School, to have the support and guidance of many Old Salopians with distinguished legal careers. In addition to this, we have also established a partnership with a local law firm who are energetic in their efforts to offer valuable and structured insight event to pupils interested in the law.

Over the past year, the insights our pupils have benefitted from include: a trip to Chester Crown Court to observe the final day of a trial being prosecuted by an Old Salopian barrister, a law practice workshop for pupils in the offices of Lanyon Bowdler, work experience placements and several preparation sessions for the Bar Mock Trial.

The School's Law Society is now captained by Darcy Smith (MSH). With the support and encouragement of the Careers Fellow, she has worked closely with Holly Edwards, Trainee Solicitor at LB Law, to organise a Bar Mock Trial competition for the Sixth Form, the final of which will take place in the Moser Library on Saturday 26th November at 2pm. Spectators are welcome, but please let the Mrs Dry (Careers Fellow) know if you would like to attend so that seating can be arranged.

Following the Chester Crown Court visit, Mark Connor (PH 1982-87) kindly invited students interested in joining him for a mini-pupillage to get in touch. Darcy writes about her experience of this below:

This summer, I took part in a two-week mini-pupillage with Mark Connor, who is a criminal law specialist and a Grade 4 Prosecutor on the Wales and the Northern circuit panels for serious crime and sexual offences. Mini-pupillages are not usually offered until a student is at university, but Mark was only too pleased to accommodate a young Salopian.

Although initially my placement was only for a week, Mark was more than happy to extend my time, when I communicated to him my enjoyment of the experience. My first week involved shadowing him whilst he prosecuted a rape case in Warrington Crown Court. I met with the Judge in his chambers and worked closely alongside the CPS, which was an intense learning experience.



Darcy (2nd from right) with members of the Law Society on their Chester Crown Court visit

During my first week I also accompanied Mark on a client meeting that took place in Liverpool Prison. This provided an interesting twist to what I had been observing during the previous few days, as I was able to gain an insight into how barristers prepare defence cases.

The second week of my mini-pupillage involved a case in Chester Crown Court in which Mark was defending. This, too, was very enlightening.

I attended St John's Buildings, Mark's chambers in Chester, where I was introduced to other legal professionals in his team. The experience was tremendously beneficial and I am extremely appreciative of the fact I was given the opportunity by Mark. I feel the link between old and current Salopians is fundamental to the success at Shrewsbury and one I am so grateful to have experienced first-hand.



'The School will not forget' - Remembrance Day 2016

Thursday 10 November 2016

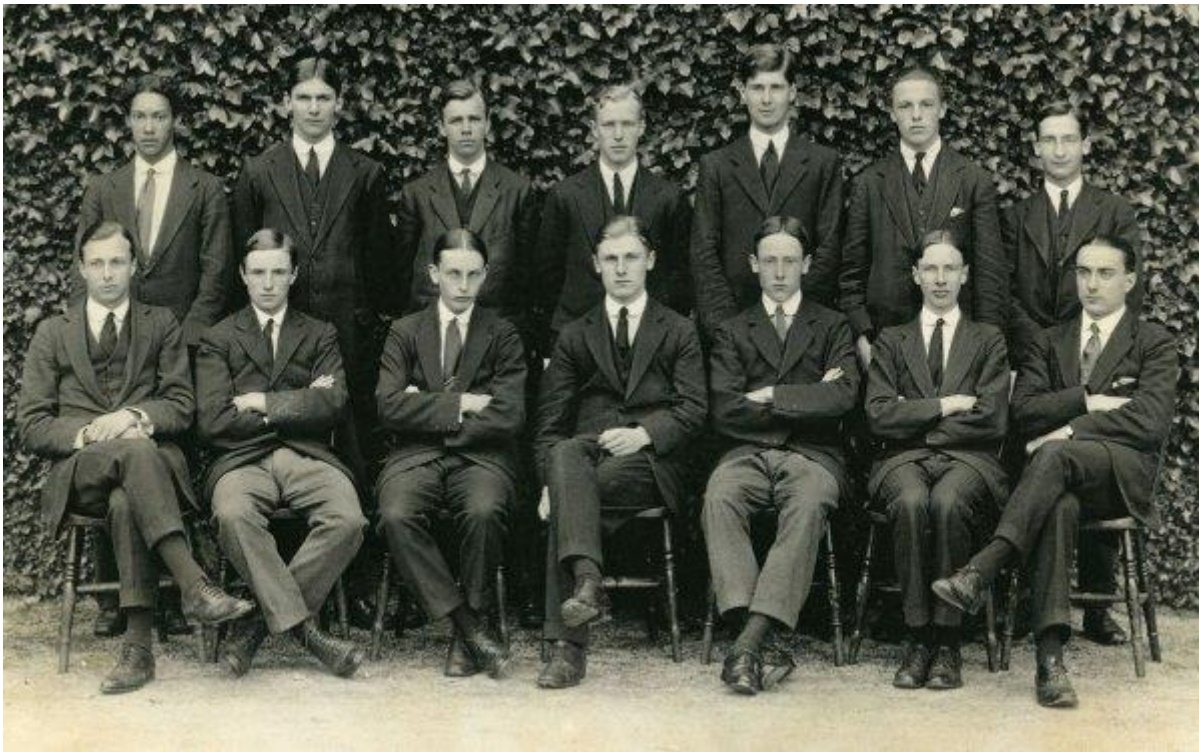
This Remembrance Sunday, as is customary, the entire School will gather around the Sir Philip Sidney War Memorial for the annual Act of Remembrance to honour the Salopians who were killed in the two World Wars.

As the cadets of the CCF stand smartly to attention and a bush falls over the assembled throng, the Heads of School will read out one fifth of the names on the War Memorial. Over the course of their five years at the School, each pupil will hear the names of all 321 Salopians killed in World War I and the 259 killed in World War II.

Since September 2014, the School has been focusing its commemorations in particular on the Salopians who died in the First World War. During the week marking the 100th anniversary of their deaths, their names and obituaries are published on the school website and they are included in the weekly Services of Remembrance held at St Chad's Church in Shrewsbury.

The 321 Salopians killed represent around one-fifth of those who served; a further 336 were wounded, 42 of them twice, 15 three times and 5 four times. The losses among many other Public Schools were similarly heavy. Having all had some basic military training in the School OTC, most of the young volunteers were quickly made junior officers, whose job was to lead the way over the top and expose themselves to the greatest danger as an example to their men. The casualty figures among junior officers were higher than in any other rank.

The photo below is typical of many in the School Archive and shows the Praepostors (School Prefects) in 1914. The details that follow are, sadly, also typical.



*Back row L-R: C.A. Stuart (killed 1915), F.S.H. Ward, C.H. Dwyer (killed 1916), J.R. Hinners (MC, Croix de Guerre, wounded 3 times), W.S.H. Russell, F.G. Nalder (killed 1918), T.K. Twist (MC, mentioned in despatches twice);
Front row L-R: E. Pitcairn-Jones (killed 1916), B.H. Ellis (killed 1915), H.St.L.B Moss, F.J. Kitchin-Smith (wounded, POW), D.D. La Touche (killed 1915), H.B. Stones (mentioned in despatches), D.C. Goolden (killed 1916)*

Back row:

Cyril Adolphus Stuart (Rt) A 'keen' Salopian with a talent for running. He was Senior Whip and won 48 cups during his time at Shrewsbury, an abundance of medals and he 'killed' (won) in the main cross-country race against Aldershot. He entered the medical profession but enlisted in the King's Shropshire Light Infantry with other Salopians. A 'favourite' of the Colonel, other privates and men, he was promoted to Lance-Corporal just prior to leaving England.

One Salopian remarked, "He was a man whom we admired very much... chiefly, I think, because he was one of those few who can be an important person in the place, and still be decent and nice to everyone great or small". A letter from Mr Woodroffe describes one of several occasions on which he encountered Stuart after he left Shrewsbury: "I said: 'Well, Stuart, how are you getting on?' and he answered, 'Awfully well. It's hard work, but I'm thoroughly enjoying it.' This was after a severe winter, roughing it in the ranks." Woodroffe recalls that on their third meeting, after ten days in the trenches with a long march before them and having not slept for 24 hours, he was met with exactly the same response, before having "a few minutes talk about Shrewsbury".

He died of wounds in France, 11th August 1915, aged 20, and is buried at Le Treport Military Cemetery, France. Plot 1. Row H. Grave 1A.

F.S.H. Ward Did not serve. He returned to Shrewsbury as a Master 1916-19.



C.H. Dwyer (I) Despite his diminutive size (according to *The Salopian*, he was known as ‘The Midget’ among his friends), he was a fearless hitter in cricket, Captain of the Gymnasium (representing the School for two years at Aldershot), in the Football XI, and a Gentleman of the Runs. He left Shrewsbury intending to qualify for the Army as a profession, but was unable to pass, owing to weak eyesight. He therefore accepted a temporary commission in the 5th (Service) Battalion. K.S.L.I., but was shortly afterwards transferred to the 10th Worcesters. He eventually went back to his old Battalion as Captain and Adjutant. He was killed in France by a sniper while on very difficult reconnaissance work, 17th November 1916, aged 21. He is remembered on the Thiépval Memorial, France, Pier and Face 5 A and 6 C.

John Hinners (M) Major, King’s Shropshire Light Infantry. Wounded three times; awarded the MC and the Croix de Guerre.

William Sydney Kemp Russell (I) Captain, Royal Sussex Regiment and K.R.R.C. Staff. Mentioned in despatches; awarded an OBE.

Frank Shirley Nalder (O) Oldham’s first Head of House, Choregus of the Chapel Choir. Shunning Christ Church, Oxford, for the King’s Shropshire Light Infantry, he went from France to Salonika, returning to England with malaria for an 18-month recovery. He returned to Greece in June 1918. On 18th September 1918, in the last week of the Salonika operations, he was killed while leading his company in an attack. He was 23. He is buried at Doiran Military Cemetery, Greece. Grave IV. C. 2.

Thomas Kenyon Twist (M) Flight Group Commander, RAF. Mentioned in despatches twice, MC.

Front row:

Edward Pitcairn-Jones (SH) 2nd Lieutenant, Rifle Brigade. He was Head of School House and won an Exhibition to Oriel College, Oxford. He died of wounds in France, 13th May 1916, aged 20.

From his obituary in *The Salopian*: “Initially he showed talent as a rower but this was swiftly cut short for medical reasons; he narrowly missed out getting his School Colours for football which was a shame due to his ‘natural activity’. ...He was entirely fearless and unselfish and there was no one whose respect he did not win... He died of a very painful wound, but he found time to think of everyone but himself, making light of his own sufferings and facing death with perfect readiness and absolute faith.” He is buried at Avesnes-Le-Comte Communal Cemetery Extension, France. Grave I. A. 19.

Basil Ellis (SH) Scholar, Head of House, Cricket XI for two years, 2nd XI Football, and Captain of his House Boat. He won a scholarship to Wadham College Oxford, which he evidently did not take up. Instead he enlisted in the King’s Shropshire Light Infantry and was almost immediately made a 2nd Lieutenant, based on his O.T.C. experience at school. He was promoted Lieutenant on 1st October. He was killed by a shell in Belgium with two others who went to his assistance while lying wounded, 16th June 15, aged 20.

The Salopian adds “We took the time to send his last greeting to the other Shrewsbury fellows in the Battalion. He had a ‘reserved manner’ but most knew beneath that he had the warmest of hearts, a love of literature and a good sense of humour.” He is buried at Perth Cemetery (China Wall), Belgium. Grave II. A. 17.

H.St.L.B Moss Did not serve.

Francis Kitchin-Smith (M) Wounded and prisoner of war.

Denis La Touche (I) Captain of the Shooting VIII for three years, contributing greatly to the increase in the standard of shooting at the School over the following years, a Gentleman of the Runs and subsequently Huntsman and good cross-country runner. He won a Scholarship to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, where he received an ‘Oswald Smith’ Exhibition. He enlisted



as a Private in the 5th King's Shropshire Light Infantry, in which he was promoted 2nd Lieutenant. He was soon transferred to the 8th Welsh, promoted Captain in February 1915, and sailed for the Dardanelles in the summer. He was killed in action after the landing at Anavarta on 8th August 1915: he was reported missing after the attack on Chanok Bair but his body was found by an Officer of the East Lancs., who himself was wounded while burying him. He was aged 20.

The Salopian remarks that he was "unselfish and unassuming in a marked degree, - in spite of the distinctions gained in several fields – he won the affection of all with whom he came into contact; and with his simplicity of character was joined unswerving loyalty to the School and to the House – one of the best of Salopia's sons."

He is remembered on Helles Memorial, Turkey. Panel 140 to 144.

Hubert Stones (SH) Captain, Royal Lancaster Regiment. Mentioned in despatches.

Donald Goolden (R) Head of House. He enlisted at a Private in the Public Schools Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers, being gazetted to a commission in the 6th Battalion, 14th April 1915. He was killed by a shell while going up to the trenches near Guillemont, France, 14th August 1916 aged 21. He had won the respect of all ranks and "he lived a good and happy life" – *The Salopian*. He is buried at Peronne Road Cemetery, Maricourt, France. Grave IV. G. 7.

"*The School will not forget*" is a line from a poem written by Revd C.A. Alington, Headmaster of Shrewsbury School from 1906-1916, which was published in *The Times*: [To the School at War](#)

Running in the 'blue remembered hills'

Friday 11 November 2016

With temperatures plummeting and brown leaves barely clinging to the trees, winter definitely seemed to have set in on Wednesday as members of the Hunt arrived at Acton Scott on the edge of the Shropshire Hills, ready for their second 'Hash' run of the term.



We were treated to stunning scenery on the 10km course, though, and some pretty steep inclines meant that we didn't feel the cold for long! A particular highlight was seeing the late-afternoon sun peek through the clouds on top of the Ragleth, with views right across the Long Mynd as well as north to the Wrekin.

We took a relatively young group on this occasion, many of whom needed to be 'blooded' (don't worry, mum!) after the run in the traditional style. It was really lovely to see the next generation of Hunt runners coming through and enjoying what an afternoon out in the Shropshire countryside can offer (answer: just about everything you could hope for). They braved the conditions without a single audible complaint, and were terrific company throughout.

A wonderful tea was laid on for us by Alison Acton and Gemma Hughes on our return (thank you!), and we were able to warm ourselves by the fire surrounded by hot dogs and cakes.

Not a bad way to spend an afternoon!

Classical Reading Competition

Friday 11 November 2016

Or Strictly Come Speaking (Classically).

Type 'John Taylor' into Google, and the top two hits show the former bass guitar player of the 1980s New Romantic heart-throbs 'Duran Duran' (who can ever forget his magnificent mullet?) and Jon (sic) Taylor, an English footballer who plays on the wing for Rotherham.

For hordes of Shrewsbury Classicists however, the name John Taylor is synonymous with the author of a number of Classical textbooks, many of whose titles include '.....to GCSE'. Over the last decade and more, scores of Salopians have learned Ancient Greek and Latin with the help of John Taylor, in paper form, holding their hand and guiding the way.

So it was with great pleasure and not a little anticipation that 20 pupils from every year group who are currently studying Latin or Greek - or both - welcomed Dr John Taylor of Manchester University to adjudicate the 5th annual Classical Reading Competition, organised by Mr Sheppe and held in the Haining Family Theatre in Hodgson Hall on Thursday evening (10th November).



The event was divided into three categories of Junior (Third Formers), Intermediate (Fourth and Fifth Formers), and Senior (Sixth Form).

How the ancients actually spoke is a matter that has never been resolved, let alone agreed upon; under this intriguing cloud of doubt and debate, pupils recited works from no fewer than 11 ancient writers, including Homer, Mimnermus, Aesop, Propertius and Ovid.

In his summing up, Dr. Taylor congratulated the competitors on their pace, projection and the sheer variety of the pieces chosen; it made, he said, his job easier. He stressed that he was not 'a purist', who demanded each syllable be stressed precisely, but judged performances based on general accuracy and dramatic delivery. He raised the point that given the sheer size of the Roman Empire, it seemed unlikely that people living on the Palatine and other swanky areas of

Rome would have spoken in the same way as, say, a legionary on the borders of Northern England (just think of the accents in ‘Made in Chelsea’ and ‘Coronation Street’).

Many thanks to Dr Taylor and to Mr Sheppe, who first conceived this annual event and is the valiant driving force behind it, making it such a success.

The laurels were dispersed as follows:

Junior:

1st prize – Krim Sizov (I); Catullus 101 ave atque vale

2nd prize – Bertie Shepherd-Cross (O); Archilochos’ elegiacs

Intermediate:

1st prize – Frank Mansell (PH); Plato Protagoras 321c-322a2

2nd prize – Cosmo Adair (Rt); Horace Odes 1.9 vides ut alta

Senior:

1st prize – Angus Moore (S); Propertius 3.8 1-22

2nd prize – David Schofield (O); Ovid Metamorphoses 6.349-381



L-R: Bertie Shepherd-Cross (O), Krim Sizov (I), Frank Mansell (PH), Dr John Taylor (Adjudicator), Cosmo Adair (Rt), Angus Moore (S), David Schofield (O)

Paul Fitzgerald, Head of Classics



The news this week 100 years ago: 11th - 17th November 1916

Saturday 12 November 2016

This week we remember:

Captain Gerald Henry Sullivan, 1st R.M. Bn. R.N. Div. Royal Marine Light Infantry.

School House, left in 1901. He left for London University, where he took his B.Sc., and was subsequently Science Master at Sedbegh School. In July 1915, he was gazetted temp. 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Marines and promoted Captain on 30th May 1916. He went out to Salonica in December 1915 but was transferred to the Western Front in the following May. Killed in action in France, 13th November 1916, aged 34.

His Colonel wrote to his wife "Your Husband was always so beloved by us all. He was always ready to do anything that came to his turn and in fact did a great deal more than he need have done. His men were devoted to him and he was a great leader. He and the men under him advanced further than anybody. Unhappily at the moment of his triumph he was struck down...(but) we held on to what we had got."

Remembered on Thiepval Memorial, France. Pier and Face 1 A.

Second Lieutenant Cyril Claude H Tripp, 3rd Bn. attd. 7th Bn. The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment.

Chance's (now Severn Hill), left in 1913. He enlisted soon after the outbreak of war and was wounded in June 1915. In the following August, he was gazetted to the Special Reserve of the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment and left for the Front again in June 1916. He was killed in action in France, 13th November 1916, aged 20.

Buried at Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, France. Grave C. 93.

Captain Charles Henry Dwyer, 10th Bn. Worcestershire Regiment.

Ingram's, Praepostor, left in 1914. Despite his diminutive size (according to *The Salopian*, he was known as 'The Midget' among his friends), he was a fearless hitter in cricket, Captain of the Gymnasium (representing the School for two years at Aldershot), in the Football XI, and a Gentleman of the Runs. He left Shrewsbury intending to qualify for the Army as a profession, but was unable to pass, owing to weak eyesight. He therefore accepted a temporary commission in the 5th (Service) Battalion. K.S.L.I., but was shortly afterwards transferred to the 10th Worcesters. He eventually went back to his old Battalion as Captain and Adjutant. He was killed in France by a sniper while on very difficult reconnaissance work, 17th November 1916, aged 21.

Remembered on Thiepval Memorial, France, Pier and Face 5 A and 6 C.

Junior Hunt squad are ESAA Cross-Country Regional Champions

Monday 14 November 2016

Many congratulations to the junior Hunt squad, who have won through - in impressive style - to the national finals of the ESAA (English Schools' Athletics Association) Cross-Country Championships.



L-R: Louis Nares, Sam Western, Tom Jackson, Sam Watts, Jonny Snell, Paddy Barlow

Back in 2012, we came second nationally in the ESAA Cross Country Cup, but it's a feat we've found it difficult to emulate since. We got through to the national final the following year, but performances didn't really go our way and we struggled badly, coming 23rd overall. Since then, we haven't qualified past the regional round. This year, though, with arguably more strength in depth than we've ever had at Third and Fourth Form level, we felt much more confident that we would be able to put together a strong team capable of 'going all the way', as football managers might term it.

It says something about the quality of this Fourth Form year group that despite some very strong runners among the Third Form, in the likes of Oscar Hamilton-Russell and Timothy Clarkson Webb among others, none of them was able to break into the six selected for the regional round, held on Saturday 12th November in Warrington. For the first time, we selected a purely Fourth Form team (though technically Tom Jackson is a year young, so he'll be able to compete again next year!).



As seems to be the case every year at this venue, the weather had been very wet in the days leading up to the race and by the time our race started, the track around the 'golf course' section had been churned up into something more closely resembling the Western Front. 15mm spikes were very much the order of the day.

A confident start from Tom Jackson (R) and Sam Western (PH) saw them claim positions near the front of the pack at the first bend, and as the pace settled down in the middle part of the course (this particular age group were doing three full laps, amounting to 4.2km in total) they both held their ground well. Further back, we were 'packing in' strongly, with Sam Watts (Ch) and Paddy Barlow (R) working together, a little ahead of Louis Nares (Rb) and Jonny Snell (Ch). At the end of the first lap, we had all our runners through in the top 20 positions, in a field of over 40. This put us in an excellent position to progress through to the next round, but there was still work to be done.

Tom battled away determinedly with the boy from Marling School at the head of the race, tucking just behind him and hanging on. This was a good tactic from him, and it represents a real development in how he approaches races – he's racing in a calmer, cleverer way than last year and it's paying dividends. Further back, Sam Western had faded a little but was able to rejoin Sam Watts and Paddy Barlow in the second lap, who all ran together for a while. Louis wasn't having one of his best races but he was battling away hard, with Jonny not much further back.

With 200m to go, Tom threw everything he had at the Marling runner and came close to pipping him near the line. But the Marling lad probably had the measure of Tom in this, and ran a great race from the front. Sam Watts managed to overtake Sam Western to take 5th and 6th respectively, both of them just missing out on overtaking the boy in 4th place who had looked beatable for a while but finished very strongly. Paddy was unfortunate to lose a couple of places in the last few hundred metres to finish 9th, though this itself represents a quite astonishing rise over the past weeks and months, and it was arguably his best race to date in a Hunt vest. Definitely one to watch! As our last counter, Paddy ensured all our four were inside the top ten, with a team total of 22.

Louis put his raw speed to good use in the final stages to pick up a place or two, coming 13th in the end, with Jonny perhaps 50m behind in 16th. Jonny is another boy who has come a long way since the start of term. He is growing in confidence with every week and I am sure that he will be central to our Hunt teams over the next few years. Both boys managed to place ahead of our competitor schools' counting runners, and thus played an important role in the end result.

Victory was ours then – fairly comfortably in the end – and a place at the national final in Formby, Lancashire, awaits on 3rd December. This is a tremendous achievement in itself, but I know the boys will not see this as a goal achieved. They want to go on and place as highly as they can now. Formby will provide a much sterner test, certainly, but the performances at Warrington suggest we have an excellent chance of placing highly and, who knows, maybe getting close matching that 2012 team.

Mr Haworth, Teacher in Charge of the Hunt

Dinner in Honour of the late Lieutenant General Sir Christopher Wallace

Monday 14 November 2016



No fewer than 50 Salopians and guests attended a dinner held at the East India Club on Thursday 27th October in memory of the late Lieutenant General Sir Christopher Wallace (Rt 1956-60). The Guest of Honour was Christopher's wife, Delicia, and Christopher's remarkable life as a soldier, historian, sportsman, and Salopian as well as devoted family man was recounted by his fellow Salopian and Green Jacket, Colonel Johnny Schute (M 1974-78), supported by contributions from two of Christopher's Salopian contemporaries, Roger Musson (Rt 1955-60) and Richard Barber (SH 1955-60). A memorable evening of dinner and speeches was rounded off by a raffle organised by Tony Blacoe (Rt 1956-61) in aid of the UCL Amyloidosis Research Fund (combating the disease which Christopher endured so courageously) and Shrewsbury House, Liverpool, and thereafter by a hearty rendition of the Carmen. Christopher would have

been delighted that a dinner, of which he had been one of the originators, had finally come to fruition.

The text of Colonel [Johnny Schute's speech can be viewed on this link.](#)





Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - 'Heroes'

Monday 14 November 2016

This week's edition of 'SparkPoint', the micro-magazine produced by Deputy Head (Academic) Maurice Walters, is on the theme of 'Heroes'.

Please click on the image below to open the magazine as a pdf file:

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL | SPARKPOINT

Heroes

I like to think you can tell an awful lot about a society from the figures whom it reveres as it's heroic those whom it perceives to be paragons of every sort of virtue. It's fascinating to note that the qualities of heroism in literature have altered enormously over the centuries from the great warrior-kings of Homeric Epic through to the Harry Potters and Katniss Everdeens of the modern children's novel. We tend to associate heroism with war – not least because any person willing to put their life on the line in defence of their country and their belief must be considered brave in a manner well beyond the usual experience. Reading accounts of Old Salopians who fought in the World Wars is an experience every bit as harrowing as it is inspiring.

But what do we look for in a hero in our modern age? Do we expect them to be faultless in everything they do? Does physicality still play a part? Must they be especially skilled in certain areas? In a sense, I think we are keener nowadays not to look for superheroes – but to find ordinary people who have done extraordinary things – people just like us!

SP19 – William Manley – Crimean War (1854)

Not a familiar household name, William Manley is the only student in history to have received both the British Victoria Cross and the German Iron Cross for bravery. During the Crimean War (about which you can find out a little more by clicking [here](#)) he served as a surgeon and showed extraordinary valour in rescuing troops who were wounded while striking a key enemy outpost.



5 Minutes

SP20 – Mary Edwards Walker – American Civil War

During the American Civil War (about which you can find out more by clicking [here](#)) this remarkable woman showed extraordinary valour. Having been refused a commission on the grounds that she was not a man, she went to the front-line anyway and worked as a surgeon, finally receiving the congressional medal of honour.



5 Minutes

SP21 – Nancy Wake – WW2 (1941)

Nicknamed 'White Mouse' by the Nazis on account of her amazing ability to evade capture, Nancy Wake, a New Zealander by birth, travelled to France at the outbreak of the war – deliberately putting her own life at risk to protect strangers with whom she had no ties. She was soon recognised for her skills and bravery and recruited into the British Secret Service. Click [here](#) for details.



5 Minutes

War and Creativity

Given the chaos of emotion surrounding warfare, it is no surprise to find that it is in this sphere that so many poets have given voice to poignant sentiments and have come very close indeed to getting right at the truth of human experience.

The short poem opposite offers one such cultural artefact – it is very short, but its message is a deep and powerful one.

*Here dead we lie
Because we did not choose
To live and shame the land
From which we sprung.
Life, to be sure,
Is nothing much to lose,
But young men think it is,
And we were young.*

A. E. Housman

Mr Walters | Deputy Head (Academic)

November 2016

RSSBC: Fours Head of the River

Wednesday 16 November 2016

Six RSSBC crews competed at the Fours Head of the River at Hammersmith on Saturday 12th November, which saw 465 crews racing in different events.



The crews recorded the following results:

IM1 4- - 17th of 36

Jun 4+ - 8th of 20

IM2 4+s - 13th, 24th & 38th of 41

W Jun 4x - 5th of 27





Sixty years of computing in a day

Wednesday 16 November 2016

The Fourth Form Computer Scientists spent an interesting day at the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park on 2nd November, exploring the history of computing from the very first programmable computers to the present day.



The museum houses the largest collection of functional historic computers in the world, including a Tunny machine and the Colossus (the world's first electronic computer) from World War II, the Harwell Dekatron (a.k.a. the WITCH - the world's oldest working digital computer), Elliott and ICL computers from the 1970s.

The pupils had hands-on sessions programming BBC Micros and fun with retro games consoles from the '80s and '90s. They also saw how data used to be stored on paper tape, punched cards and hard disks as big as a coffee table!

It was a great day out and showed vividly how far technology has developed over the past 60 years.

Mr Kaye



Shrewsbury School Law Society discusses landmark Brexit ruling

Wednesday 16 November 2016

In the third meeting of the newly-formed Law Society, Churchill's Housemaster and barrister Richard Hudson explained the recent High Court decision in R (Gina Miller) v The Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union which is to be appealed to the Supreme Court on 5th December.

The talk centred on Parliamentary Sovereignty and Crown Prerogative. It was established law that only a new Act of Parliament can repeal a previous Act of Parliament. In a long line of cases going back to the Civil War this principle had been repeatedly re-affirmed. The Government could not do this by decree, which, the High Court argued, is effectively what would be happening if the Article 50 notice was sent without legislative authority. This was because the effect of such a notice would be to repeal the European Communities Act 1972, which was enacted by our own Parliament to make European Union Law part of our domestic law after we joined what is now termed the European Union.

To allow the Government to achieve this result by decree would be to give the Government power to take away rights conferred on the people by a statute, and it is long established law that only Parliament can do this through legislation. This is a protection afforded by Parliamentary Sovereignty. This constitutional principle has been used on numerous occasions over hundreds of years to protect the people against arbitrary decisions of the monarch, 'represented' in the modern era by the Government of the day.

The referendum decision was, in the terms of the Referendum Act itself, only advisory. It conferred no authority on the Government to act without being given Parliamentary approval through legislation. For the press to attack the judges, in one case labelling them 'Enemies of the People' was therefore the greatest irony and based on a complete misunderstanding of the judges' vital role as upholders of the rule of law to which everyone in our Parliamentary democracy, including the Queen, is subject.

A lively discussion followed the talk.

*Darcy Smith (MSH UVI)
President of the Law Society*



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*Darcy Smith (MSH UV1)
President of the Law Society*



Physics in Action

Wednesday 16 November 2016

Over the last week, Sixth Form Physicists have enjoyed an Engineering Conference at Oswestry School and a 'Physics in Action' event in Manchester.

Eleven Lower Sixth Physicists took part in the Engineering Conference at Oswestry School on 10th November. There were several workshops on a range of engineering disciplines, including motorsports, geology/hydrogeology and RAF aircraft risk management.

The students learned a lot about the different careers in Engineering and how Physics and Mathematics are applied.



On 14th November, five Upper Sixth Physicists travelled to Manchester for a Physics in Action event. They attended five lectures on a range of topics including the physics of rock music, the Big Bang and robotics. The lectures were very informative and a great day was had by all.

Mr Kirk, Head of Physics



Football: 1st XI win through to ISFA Boodles quarter-finals in dramatic style

Thursday 17 November 2016

After a dramatic 3-2 victory against City of London School yesterday, the 1st XI have made it into the quarter-finals of the ISFA Boodles Under-18 National Cup for the first time since 2012-13.

On an immaculate pitch and with a healthy crowd to cheer us on, we took the lead after dominating the early stages. Great work from Josiah Chilaka on the left saw Jamie Whelan sweep in the cross to give us a well-deserved lead. This goal, however, seemed to ignite the opposition as we were also guilty of talking our foot off the gas. Nevertheless, we went into half-time with a 1-0 lead.

But we were to witness dramatic scenes in the second half. City of London equalised after 20 minutes and then took the lead after a swift counter-attack eight minutes later. We had 12 minutes to stay in the competition as we piled on the pressure.

George Newton had a curling effort terrifically saved by the keeper, before another chance from Charlie Tait-Harris came back off the foot of the left post. You had the feeling that it might not be our day.

However, James Nelson came to our rescue to get us back on level terms with a terrific header. We continued to press forward to get the winner and with two minutes remaining we were awarded a free kick on the edge of the box. Jamie Whelan stepped up to whip it into the top corner, to set off jubilant scenes of celebration in front of the home dugout. We saw out the final minutes to send us into the final eight.

Mr Wilderspin, Head of Football



RSSBC: Northwich Autumn Head

Thursday 17 November 2016

Twenty-one RSSBC crews entered the Northwich Autumn Head on Sunday 13th November. Six of them were the new Third Form pupils racing in their first ever race.



In the WJ14 quads' event, the girls finished 5th and 7th out of the 11 crews. Given that most of the girls have only been sculling for about eight weeks, this was a tremendous achievement that augurs very well indeed for the future.



In the J14 quads' event, the boys had four crews entered and came 2nd, 6th, 9th and 11th of the 11 crews in the event. Well done in particular to the crew of Sam Evans, Bertie and Angus Shepherd-Cross, Ed Tarling and Hugo Compston that came second.



The J15 boys and girls produced the best results of the day with excellent results in all the events entered including winning both the boys' and the girls' quads events.

The J15 boys' squad raced in a coxed four and two quads. The coxed four of Nicholas Yale, Connor Hickey, James Weir, James Martin and Archie Duckworth raced in the novice coxed fours category against three crews from King's Chester and one from The Grange School. They raced well and placed second in their event, two seconds behind a King's Chester crew. There was some excellent avoidance steering by Archie Duckworth in the process.

In the afternoon division they raced two coxed quads and came home first and second in the J15 quads event, ahead of crews from other local clubs. The winning crew was Louis Nares, Archie McKirdy, Frank Kelly, George Bramwell and Thomas Jackson, which maintains our 100% record in the J15 quads events so far this term. The attention now turns to the bigger boat of the eight to prepare for our final event of the term on Liverpool Docks in December.



Winning J15 4X+

The J15 girls also raced over both divisions, racing in two quads in the WJ15 4X+ event against a field of 13 crews. The crews came 1st and 3rd, which was a fantastic achievement given the strength of the field. The crew then split into doubles, coming in 3rd, 6th, 11th and 19th out of 22 crews. The winning quad was made up of Olivia Moir, Lauren Bermingham, Lara Gabbitas, Hattie Haynes and Thomas Jackson.



Winning WJ15 4X+

The girls' 2nd quad raced in WJ18 4x- and performed well coming 5th. Tessa Scott Bell and Lucy Price raced in the WJ18 2X, coming in a tremendous 2nd.



WJ18 2X



'Art, Propaganda and War'

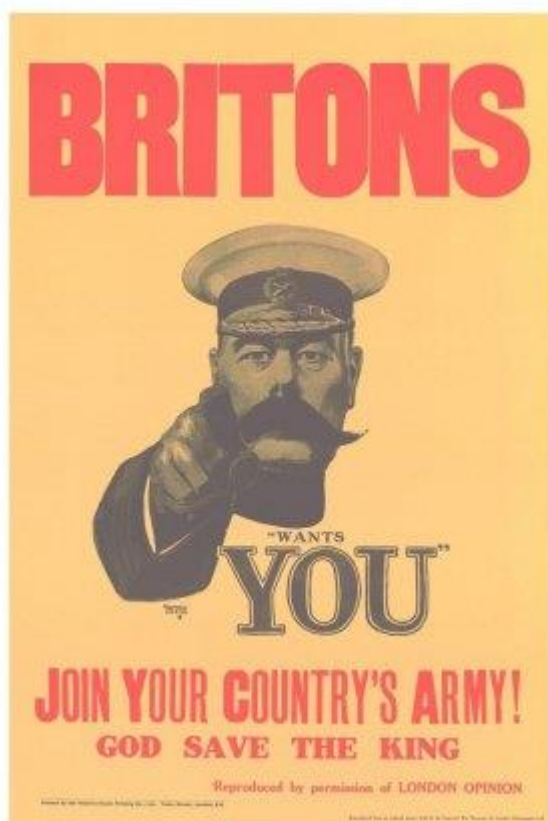
Thursday 17 November 2016

David Boyd Haycock, an acclaimed author, curator, lecturer and researcher, delivered a lecture on propagandistic art during both World War 1 and World War 2 as part of this term's Academic Extension lecture series on the theme of 'Persuasion'. Report by Imogen Luczyn-Wybowska (G UVI).

Mr Boyd Haycock's field of knowledge, when regarding British art, lies in the movements of the early 20th century. His book *A Crisis of Brilliance: Five Young British Artists and the Great War* was nominated in the 'Best Non-Fiction Book' category at the 2010 Writers' Guild of Great Britain awards. An exhibition based on the book opened at Dulwich Picture Gallery in June 2013.

It was particularly fitting that his lecture took place on the anniversary of the end of the hostilities of World War 1 in 1918, Remembrance Day. The Great War had a huge influence on art, examples being the creation of Vorticism and Futurism. These two movements have become two of the largest influences for 20th century art, as well as modern art leading up to the current day.

Mr Boyd Haycock particularly focused on Army posters in Europe and America and how influential their propagandistic images were. These two images below signify the influence of a male figure pointing directly at the viewer. Originally an English idea, the Americans copied this iconic pose.





The whole lecture was a lovely event with lots of fascinating ideological and political theories behind the art work. I was particularly fascinated by the Chapman brothers, who vandalised and copied the work of Francisco Goya's War etchings. They portrayed the true horrors of war through painting, sculpture and model installations.





Fives: Shrewsbury are semi-finalists in the Ladies' Open Teams Cup

Friday 18 November 2016

Shrewsbury School played with real fight and determination to gain a fantastic semi-final place in the Black Cup, the Ladies Team Open event on 13th November.

After losing 0 – 3 in their opening match to North Oxford, the school team went on to register 2 – 1 wins over Cambridge University, Westminster, Highgate 2, Berkhamsted and St Olaves.

Given the relative lack of experience of our team and the minimum amount of preparation, gaining a top four position was simply outstanding.

1st Pair: G. Davies & Issy Wong

2nd Pair: Lara Ockleston & Annabel Naylor

3rd Pair: Libby Hedges & Ella Windle

Mr Barnard



St Cecilia Concerts

Friday 18 November 2016

School House Sixth Former Arthur Yu's dazzling performance of Liszt's 1st Piano Concerto with the School's Symphony Orchestra was one of the major highlights in this year's St Cecilia Concerts - as Mr Fraser-Andrews describes in his review. He also singles out the performance of Frank Coughlan (IV) in the opening work of the concert.



'What passion cannot Music raise and quell?' asked John Dryden in his *Song for St Cecilia* in 1687. This week, Shrewsbury's Music Department posed the same question with artfulness, musicality, energy, and evident delight.

In what is surely just one of the musical highlights of the term, this year's St Cecilia's Concerts engaged with a programme full of ambition, impact and intriguing echoes across centuries of music-making. Rabble-rousing between Shakespeare's Falstaff and Prince Hal made good boisterous company with Henry VIII's own chart-busting song; Gabrieli's agile brass polyphony of the High Renaissance supplied even greater lustre to the well-drilled glow of Poulenc's by-turns salacious and ferocious *Gloria*; two giants of the Austro-Hungarian Empire struck us back into our seats as Haydn's London Symphony stepped sumptuously into the wake of Liszt's first piano concerto, so dazzlingly negotiated through the artistry of pianist Arthur Yu (SH UVI).

The thread to all this was fluent and thoughtful musicianship, the hallmark of Salopian performances. No more so than in the evening's opener, Cai Isfryn's arrangement of *Branwen*, a



sensuous meditation on the Welsh goddess of love. With its slow-moving cascade of ruminative colours, soloist Frank Coughlan (SH IV) (*pictured below*) captured its beguiling essence with a tuneful maturity beyond his young years; Gabrieli's *Canzon Duodecimi Toni*, which followed, admitted no let-up in tight, confident ensemble playing – and none was given.



Liszt's concerto is a complex piece with islands of chamber-like intimacy existing alongside imposing cathedrals of sound within its broad sweep. John Moore's baton coaxed performances of impressive dexterity from his young performers to bring out these contrasting textures in moments of real connection with the piano. Impressive poise and technique at the keyboard won Arthur Yu deserving acclaim. His bravura octaves which closed the finale's concluding firework display brought the audience to its feet, but his duet with Henry Mayhew (PH LVI) on clarinet in the lush opening of the second movement was just as musically achieved, and one of the night's unforgettable moments.



Arthur Yu



This authentic feel for elegance was never far from the surface of the London Symphony in a conception that fizzed with fervour and impishness: whenever John Moore gave full throttle to some accomplished string playing, ably led by Marvin Hui (M UVI), it was never breathless but remained in touch and in keeping with its overall stately design.

Dympna Nightingale's Chamber Choir provided a deliciously smooth a capella entrée to the choral part of the evening, with inviting tone and diction held in fine balance. The elegiac cadences of *Autumn Leaves* were particularly well-judged and fitting for a performance on Remembrance Sunday.

Amid the exciting extremities of Poulenc's sound world in the *Gloria*, Old Salopian Lauren Kell (EDH 20114-16) provided a still point in the eye of a well-controlled storm – as the Agnus Dei demonstrated, hers is a voice that embraces an affecting fragility without ever allowing its core strength to sag; how wonderful to hear her again. Behind Miss Kell, the combined forces of Shrewsbury School Chapel Choir and the School's Community Choir provided all the melodic muscle and vivacious, unerring sense of rhythm that the piece demands.

The evening closed with *Gallimaufry*, a musical exploration of Shakespeare's Henry IV Parts 1 and 2, by Guy Woolfenden, who died this year. At the end of such a tumultuous evening, it was testament to the youthful energies of the musicians of the Wind Orchestra (and those of conductor Maria McKenzie) that they injected such freshness and vigour into this quirky and inventive mini-opera of a suite - there was even a spot for Mr Besterman's refereeing whistle.

Now *that's* co-curricular.

JRFA



The Moser Library is 100 years old!

Friday 18 November 2016

In 2016, Shrewsbury School's Moser Library marks its centenary year.

The current building – which was built specifically to house the School's growing lending stock, ancient library and collection of watercolours – was designed by architect W. A. Forsythe, who also designed Oldham's Hall.

King George V officially marked the laying of the Library's Foundation Stone in a ceremony in Shrewsbury's Market Square in 1914. The event is described in *The Salopian*:

"The proceedings in the Square were short but full of interest. Lord Barnard thanked His Majesty on behalf of the Governing Body for having consented to lay the Foundation Stone, and the King in reply expressed his regret that time had not permitted of his visiting the School, to which he referred in very complimentary language. Lord Barnard then presented the Headmaster who carried a model of the completed building, and the head boy holding a model of the actual Foundation Stone and its apparatus. The King was handed an electric switch and on his pressing it the miniature foundation stone dropped into its place. Lord Barnard said a word of thanks, and the proceedings were over.

On the Show Ground His Majesty was graciously pleased to ask the Headmaster that a week should be added to the Summer holidays in honour of his visit."

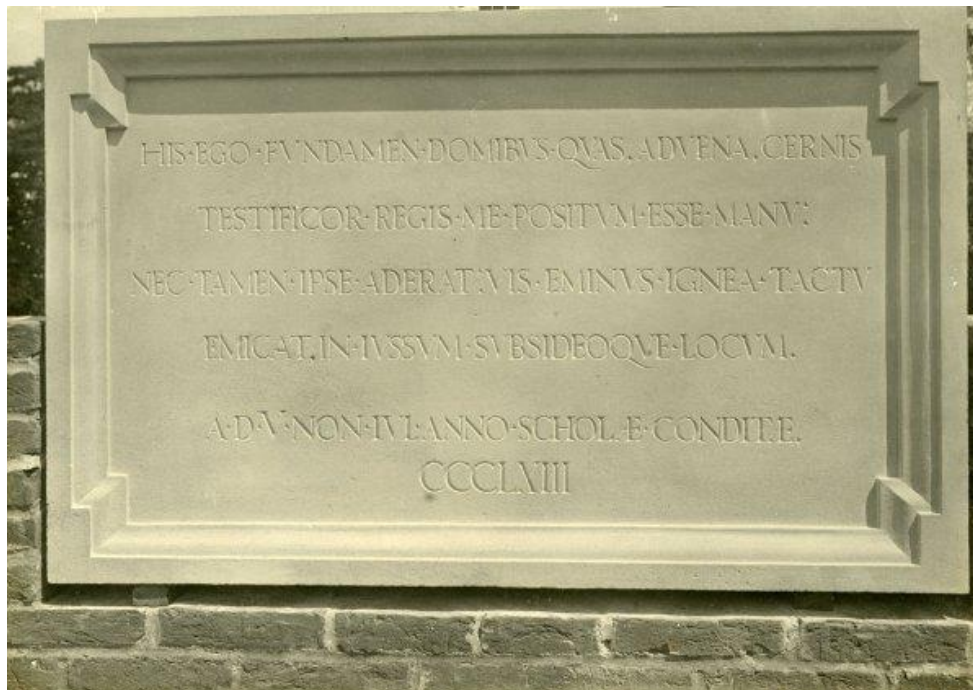


King George V triggers the laying of the Moser Library foundation stone, 3rd July 1914 (Photo from Shrewsbury School archive)



The Headmaster, Revd Cyril Alington, presenting the architect's model of the Moser Library to King George V. Just behind the Headmaster stands the Head Boy holding a model of the Foundation Stone waiting to be dropped into position.

The Foundation Stone records both its royal connection and the electrical feat involved in its laying.



HIS EGO FUNDAMEN DOMIBUS QVAS ADVENA CERNIS
TESTIFICOR REGIS ME POSITUM ESSE MANV
NEC TAMEN IPSE ADERAT VIS EMINVS IGNEA TACTV
EMIGAT IN IVSSVM SVBSIDEOQVE LOCVM
A D V NON IV L ANNO SCHOL E CONDITE
CCCLXIII

The inscription translates as:

“Stranger, I am the foundation stone of this building which you see, and I assert that I was laid by the hand of a King. Yet he was not present. A power as of fire shed forth from a distance at his touch and I drop into my appointed place. The third day of June in the 363rd year since the School was founded.”

The original architect’s model of the Library, which was shown to King George during the ceremony, is currently on display in the Library for the centenary celebrations.



The School were fortunate that they still had books to store in their brand new Library. When the School moved to Kingsland in 1882, the Library occupied rooms in the Main School Building. In 1905 a fire destroyed the entire top storey of the building, along with the clock tower. Although the fire never actually reached the room in which the books were kept, a human chain was formed to save the books and some were dropped from the windows. Thankfully, bar minor damage during the evacuation, the books survived their ordeal.



Lord Milner officially opens the Moser Library, 1916 (Photo from Shrewsbury School archive)

The building of the Moser Library was finished in 1916 and officially opened during Speech Day celebrations by Lord Milner. Its elegant design, generous proportions and fabulous location, which provide glorious views over the river and the Quarry, have enabled it to serve the School well over the past 100 years. The School are now in the advanced planning stages for a large refurbishment of the Library to ensure it continues to serve the needs of staff and students in the future.

The Library's 100th anniversary – which the School will be celebrating during the week beginning 21st November – will be marked with a display of photographs and artefacts relating to the Library's history. There will also be a book sale, competitions and birthday cake.

Jo Elliot, Head Librarian



Head Librarian Jo Elliot (right) with Assitant Librarian Alison McKeever



The news this week 100 years ago: 18th - 24th November 1916

Friday 18 November 2016

This week we remember:

Lieutenant Edward Campbell, 3rd Bn. North Staffordshire Regiment.

Bennett's (now Severn Hill), left in 1914 for Sandhurst. It is reported that "On 18th November 1916, to meet an emergency, he volunteered to act as Bombing Officer of his Company. Two enemy trenches were taken and among many casualties he was stated to be missing. The War Office now report that he was killed in the action". He was 19 years old.

He is buried at Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, France. Grave C. 90.



Shrewsbury Quiz Team win through to National Schools' Challenge Finals

Friday 18 November 2016

Many congratulations to the Quiz Team of Caspian Cowan Taylor (Ch LVI), Oliver Bureau (Ch LVI), Alex Sparkes (I IV) and Tom Allen (Ch III), who were crowned Schools' Challenge South Midlands Regional Champions on Wednesday 16th November. Having beaten a very strong King Edward's Birmingham in the tense final round, they became the first Shrewsbury team since 2002 to qualify for the National Finals, to be held next term.

Shrewsbury's 'B' team also gave a very strong performance, as 'Team Coach' Dr Oakley (who is himself a former winner of BBC TV's 'University Challenge' and also a former question-setter) describes:

The format of the game is very similar to University Challenge. There are four members of a team (two seniors and two juniors). Starter Questions are asked to all contestants. If a starter is answered correctly then the team receives ten points and is then asked three 'bonus' questions. These bonuses are all worth ten further points and are passed across the other team if answered incorrectly. A team answering the starter and three subsequent bonuses correctly gains a ten point bonus; thus a 50-point lead can be eroded in a matter of seconds.

Shrewsbury A team were drawn against Solihull B. They started very confidently, taking the first six starters and opening up a 200 -10 lead after ten minutes. However, Solihull got some easy bonuses on James Bond and closed the gap. Some inspired work from Tom Allen led to a bonus on Advertising Slogans and a 230-point cushion was evident at the half-way stage. Excellent knowledge of the Monopoly board and the tales of Scheherazade saw Shrewsbury win 630-290, with Ollie Bureau and Alex Sparkes getting six starters each.

In another room, Shrewsbury B (Mill Luangamornlert (SH LVI), Jamie Channon (PH LVI), Tom Hughes (Ch LVI) and Nick Yale (S IV)) were playing Edgbaston High School. It was a low-scoring affair but they managed to win 290 – 240 and then faced King Edward's School, Birmingham (KES) who had racked up an eye-watering 940 points in their opening match, trouncing their opponents by an 800-point margin. I was unable to witness this encounter, but Shrewsbury restricted KES to a 270-point margin of victory which was a commendable effort for any team.

Shrewsbury A were in quarter-final action against KES 2. The opening exchanges all went the way of KES 2 down to some unlucky anticipations from Ollie. After 7 minutes of the 25-minute match, KES were 50 points up. Knowledge on Alaska (when did it become a US state?) proved vital, as Shrewsbury drew level at 120-120. The teams then threw 50-point punches at each other but some inspirational interceptions and a perfect round on 'poisons' saw a 140-point lead for Shrewsbury open up with five minutes to play. KES fought back to within 70, but Shrewsbury emerged victorious with the scores at 490 – 410.

The whole squad then gathered to witness the semi-final. We faced King Edward's Camp Hill School (KECHS) who won last year. The match started well and Shrewsbury led 120 – 90 after the first five minutes. Knowledge of the NUT leader and the kukri and the valency of aluminium proved valuable as a 100-point gap opened up. Everybody was buzzing in but a slip of the



tongue (Tibris for Tiber) allowed KECHS back in. The gap stayed at around 100 points until 5 minutes to go, when the team hammered home. Impressive knowledge of political leaders (who is the leader of the DUP?) gave Shrewsbury an imperious 630 – 390 victory.

The stage was now set to face KES 1, our nemesis in previous years. They were the highest scorers of the evening and scored 740 on the same question packet in their semi-final. The early questions all seemed to go KES's way and they had built up a 100-point lead at the half-way stage. But just when it seemed that the writing might be on the wall, Shrewsbury stepped up a gear; gettable marks on vegetables, Grand Slam winners in tennis and some crafty bonus stealing saw them cut the deficit to 10. Inspired interruptions from Alex and Tom with bonuses on Brighton and the Great British Bake Off (it's not all academic knowledge!) turned the tables to a 10-point lead with 7 minutes to play. 570 – 570 with 2:22 left on the clock. Knowledge of F1 drivers from Ollie put us in the driving seat and some well-engineered time management from Caspian, the captain, diminished the chance of a KES comeback. An exasperated 'Ragnarok' from Caspian put the result beyond doubt and a perfect round on 'Holy Islands' rounded off the competition in style. 690 – 570 was the final score.

The team now advances to the National Final Rounds where we face 14 other schools from the UK. This is the first time we have advanced to this stage since 2002. It is an outstanding achievement and all involved should be congratulated on keeping their minds alert under pressure.

RSSBC: GB Early Identification Trials

Monday 21 November 2016

Six Shrewsbury rowers raced in the Great Britain Early Identification Trials held in Boston last weekend. The trials saw over 200 boys and girls tackle the 5,000m course of the River Witham.

Barney Fox (PH UVI) and Matthew Rowe (SH UVI) both put in excellent performances in the single scull, coming in 16th and 21st respectively of 116 scullers.



L-R: Barney and Matthew

Rory McKirdy (PH UVI) and Sam Branford (I LVI) came in 9th of 13 in the coxless pair.



Rory and Sam

Alys Howells (MSH UVI) and Jennifer Hallsworth (EDH LVI) came in 35th and 47th respectively out of the 74 girls eligible to attend the trials.



L-R: Alys and Jennifer

RSSBC 150th Anniversary Dinner on the Thames

Tuesday 22 November 2016



For those who haven't caught sight of the excellent anniversary brochure, put together earlier this year by Nick Randall, Philip Lapage, Annabel Warburg and David Gee, the Royal Shrewsbury School Boat Club was formally structured with its first Committee in 1866, although there is evidence of a significant amount of rowing activity at the School before then. The Club very quickly rose to national and international prominence and has proudly flown the Salopian flag around the world ever since.



RSSBC members have gone on to compete at the very highest level, including a quite a number of Olympians and two Olympic gold medallists (J G H Lander, SH, in 1928 and J H T Wilson WDH in 1948), as well as many who have (and currently do) row for GB, rowed in the Oxford Cambridge Boat race and at Henley. The Sabrina Club, our Old Salopian rowing Club, has some of our most loyal and committed Salopian Club members, who readily involve themselves in events, as well as fund raising for School projects.



So the 150th Anniversary Dinner on board arguably the most luxurious private charter yacht on the Thames was a much anticipated event. And it lived up to its billing, with over 160 members of Sabrina, the Boat Club and assembled guests enjoying a memorable evening. Indeed the dinner itself proved enjoyable enough that despite the fact that it took place on bonfire night, with fireworks going off up and down the Thames, most people missed them!



The boat was decorated with blue RSSBC balloons and banners and guests were seated at tables named after famous Henley trophies. The food was wonderful and the service excellent. There were speeches by the Headmaster and by Miles Preston, the President of the Sabrina Club and then guests were able to take part in a fund raising auction, with prizes including a £3000 Boodles jewellery voucher, a week in an apartment in Venice and some beautiful Tustings holdalls. The winning prize in the raffle was an oil painting of an RSSBC crew in front of the Temple at Henley, painted by Miles' daughter Georgina. All this as the lights of the London waterside scenery passed by.



In typical Salopian style, some guests seemed reluctant to leave and emerge into the reality of the damp London night, with chatter continuing for some time after the Silver Sturgeon had docked at the Savoy Pier. There have been requests to make this an annual or bi-annual event. Due to the work involved, and huge thanks are due to the Sabrina Committee and their families for all of their effort in pulling the event together, this is tempting but unlikely. It was a night to remember and will no doubt continue to be for some time.





Golf news

Tuesday 22 November 2016

Our golfers have been busy over the last couple of weeks and are through to the next rounds of HMC and ISGA competitions.

On Sunday 6th November, the team beat Repton 2-1 in the first round of the HMC Foursomes competition at Little Aston GC. The captain, Ben Oswald (S UVI) and Ted Williams (R V) won (4 and 3), Bryan Lo (SH LVI) and James Powell (I LVI) won (3 and 2), and Tom James (PH UVI) and James Cowburn (O LVI) lost (4 and 3).

The following weekend, the team won their ISGA regional semi-final against Rydal Penrhos at North Wales GC in Llandudno. Ben Oswald lost (1 down) on the last hole, Ted Williams won (4 and 3) and Bryan Lo won on the last hole.

Next term they will face Birkenhead School in round 2 of the HMC competition and either Denstone or Birkdale in the ISGA regional final.

City Drinks at the Travellers Club, London

Wednesday 23 November 2016



2016 saw another fantastic turn-out for this event, which has grown in popularity year upon year. Around 220 Old Salopians of all ages came along to The Travellers Club, Pall Mall, to join us for drinks and canapes - some were 2016 leavers and the oldest was 88!

Prior to the gathering, the AGM of the Salopian Club took place in the Old Still Room at the Club and this also saw a good turnout of some 25-30 OS. The meeting was productive and lively, with most present engaging in the various discussion points and some of this continued on to the drinks party upstairs.



The Headmaster, Mark Turner, thanked the assembled OS for all the support given to the School and summarised some of the recent and future developments back in Shrewsbury.

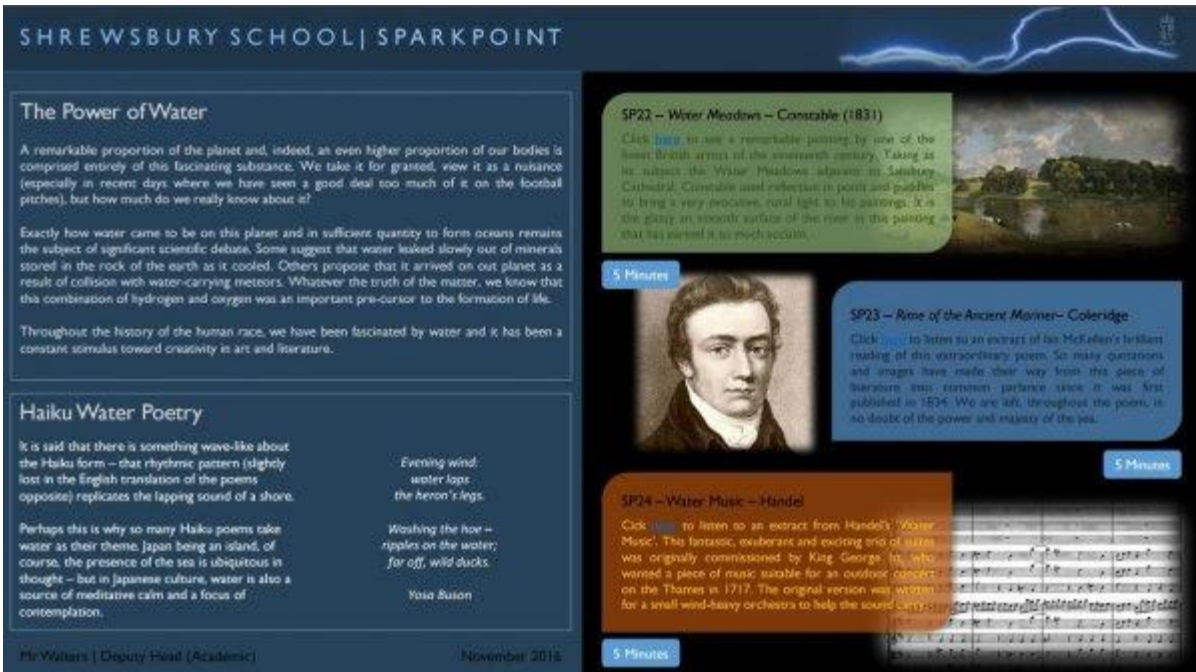
There was a wonderful and positive atmosphere throughout the evening and we would urge anyone who has not attended before to try and make time to join us next year.

Shrewsbury School SparkPoint - 'Water, water everywhere'

Wednesday 23 November 2016

"Throughout the history of the human race, we have been fascinated by water and it has been a constant stimulus toward creativity in art and literature." After the recent deluge of rain, this week's edition of 'SparkPoint' focuses on the power of water and includes links to some of the poetry, art and music it has inspired.

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



SHREWSBURY SCHOOL | SPARKPOINT

The Power of Water

A remarkable proportion of the planet and, indeed, an even higher proportion of our bodies is comprised entirely of this fascinating substance. We take it for granted, view it as a nuisance (especially in recent days where we have seen a good deal too much of it on the football pitches), but how much do we really know about it?

Exactly how water came to be on this planet and in sufficient quantity to form oceans remains the subject of significant scientific debate. Some suggest that water leaked slowly out of minerals stored in the rock of the earth as it cooled. Others propose that it arrived on our planet as a result of collision with water-carrying meteors. Whatever the truth of the matter, we know that this combination of hydrogen and oxygen was an important pre-cursor to the formation of life.

Throughout the history of the human race, we have been fascinated by water and it has been a constant stimulus toward creativity in art and literature.

Haiku Water Poetry

It is said that there is something wave-like about the Haiku form – that rhythmic pattern (slightly lost in the English translation of the poems opposite) replicates the lapping sound of a shore.

Perhaps this is why so many Haiku poems take water as their theme. Japan being an island, of course, the presence of the sea is ubiquitous in thought – but in Japanese culture, water is also a source of meditative calm and a focus of contemplation.

Evening wind:
water lapt
the heron's legs.

Washing the floor –
ripples on the water;
far off, wild ducks.

Yosa Buson

Mr Walters | Deputy Head (Academic) | November 2016

SP22 – Water Meadows – Constable (1831)

Click [here](#) to see a remarkable painting by one of the finest British artists of the nineteenth century. Taking as his subject the Water Meadows adjacent to Salisbury Cathedral, Constable used reflection in pools and puddles to bring a very peaceful, rural light to his palette. It is the gleam on smooth surface of the river in the painting that has earned it its evocative title.

5 Minutes

SP23 – Rime of the Ancient Mariner – Coleridge

Click [here](#) to listen to an extract of Ian McKellen's brilliant reading of this extraordinary poem. So many questions and images have made their way from this piece of literature into common parlance since it was first published in 1834. We are left, throughout the poem, in no doubt of the power and majesty of the sea.

5 Minutes

SP24 – Water Music – Handel

Click [here](#) to listen to an extract from Handel's 'Water Music'. This fantastic, exuberant and exciting trio of suites was originally commissioned by King George III, who wanted a piece of music suitable for an outdoor concert on the Thames in 1717. The original version was written for a small wind-heavy orchestra to help the sound carry.

5 Minutes

Our best reads of 2016...

Thursday 24 November 2016

Recommendations from Shrewsbury School pupils and staff.



This year, once again, I asked staff and students to let me know titles of the books they had most enjoyed reading over the last 12 months.

I was thrilled to receive more responses than ever before – a wonderful testament to the growing community of readers we have at the School.

I was particularly pleased this year to receive recommendations from across the School community – teachers, students and support staff – and as a result the list contains a diverse range of titles including most fictional genres as well as non-fiction titles.

Jo Elliot, Head Librarian

Senior Team Maths Challenge National Finalists

Thursday 24 November 2016

Congratulations to David Gao (I UVI), Linda Zhao (G LVI), Angela Liang (MSH LVI) and Isaac Dai (S LVI), who have won through to the National Final of the Senior Team Maths Challenge.

After a very tense battle at the Regional Final event in Keele University on Wednesday 23rd November, the team finished as joint winners with a very impressive score of 168/177.

The competition is a test not only of mathematical ability but also of teamwork and communication skills. In the first round, teams have 40 minutes to solve a series of ten questions and must decide on the best strategy – whether to work in pairs, as a group or individually. The second round is called ‘Crossnumber’ and is similar to a crossword puzzle but with numerical answers. Teams work in pairs, one with the across clues and the other with the down clues, and must complete the grid using logic and deduction but without communicating directly with the other pair.

The final round is a ‘shuttle’ against the clock. Teams are divided into two pairs, one of whom is given Questions 1 and 3, while the other is given Questions 2 and 4. Question 1 can be solved independently of the others, but the answer to each subsequent question is dependent on the previous answer.

The Shrewsbury team now eagerly await the National Final, which will be held at the Royal Horticultural Halls in London on 7th February.

The four members of the team were also among 30 Shrewsbury School mathematicians from across all year groups who were recently awarded Gold Certificates in the Senior Maths Challenge paper. A total of 145 of our pupils sat the paper on 8th November, together with thousands of others nationwide. In addition to the 30 pupils who were awarded Gold Certificates, a further 51 won Silver Certificates and 37 won Bronze.

Isaac Dai scored an outstanding full marks and Angela Liang scored a very impressive 120/125. Both have now been invited to take part in the British Mathematical Olympiad.



24 of the 30 Senior Maths Challenge Gold Certificate winners



Salopians take centre stage at Paris Model United Nations Conference

Friday 25 November 2016

"For us 'MUN-ers', the Paris Model United Nations Conference (PAMUN) is the culmination of all the Wednesday evening MUN sessions that we go to. With delegations from across the world stretching from Dubai to California and even a delegation from Cameroon, it is imperative that in order to be successful at this conference, we must be at the top of our game." - Mill Luangamornlert (SH LVI) gives a fascinating insight into what it's like to join more than 900 delegates in this most prestigious of MUN conferences.



This isn't a conference where you can just show up and go with the flow, but one where you have to do plenty of work beforehand, from reading on the topics and writing up your clauses, among other things. For me this began in September where I applied to become a member of the International Court of Justice. I ended up getting selected for this exclusive committee of 11 'judges', where we had to weigh the evidence and give an advisory opinion on "the Legal consequences of the Israeli-Palestinian wall".

Soon, the weekend came and we departed from school early on Friday morning with Ms Burge and Mr Portier, excited about the weekend ahead. We travelled on the Eurostar train without hiccoughs (thankfully!) and got into Paris safe and sound. However, it wouldn't be an MUN trip without an outward-bound journey mishap and it happened, when on the metro to the hotel, the line got shut down due to security concerns and we ended up having to walk 30 minutes across Paris to reach our regular hotel, the Ibis Cambronne, which was full of MUN-ers from other schools.



With the UNESCO building undergoing major renovations, for the second time in a row the conference was held at the impressive Maison de la Mutualité in the Latin Quarter. During the opening ceremony, we were entertained by wonderful speeches from the Director of Governing Bodies at UNESCO, Jacques Rao, who shared tips he had learnt with delegates, and from the Secretary General Sara Kamboj, a senior pupil from the American School in Paris, who gave us the questions to think about, “Who am I? What am I going to fight for?”

Then we had a lecture given by Professor Nathan Furr, who changed the way we think of the term INNOVATION and gave us a new way to look at it.

Soon we were sitting in our committee rooms, ready to argue our clauses. Except for the odd break for lunch, the two days went by with lots of intensive debates and arguments as well as a press team event every so often.

By Sunday evening, many of us had been able to successfully push through our clauses in our committees, some of them passing by a large majority.





Monday morning was the General Assembly involving most delegates at the conference, except the Security Council and the International Court of Justice (my committee), who were both still in session. For the third year in a row, Shrewsbury was up first proposing a resolution to the entire General Assembly. After much lobbying from many of us, Max Yale (S UVI) gave a powerful opening speech, which set the tone of the debate afterwards. After much fruitful debate, where many other schools tried and failed to amend our resolution, the resolution passed by 71 to 66 votes. This was the third year in a row where we passed a resolution in General Assembly.

Soon the closing ceremony was sadly upon us. There, awards for commended delegates were given out to: Rhys Trevor (PH UVI) (DR Congo - Human Rights Panel), Max Yale (S UVI) (DR Congo - ECOSOC) and Sam Evans (R III) (Croatia - Environment). It was especially impressive for Sam as he is only just in Third Form; he clearly has a long and successful MUN career ahead of him.

Thereafter, we went to get our bags, said our goodbyes and set off for our return journey to school with lots of fond experiences and memories, as well as lots of new friends and ties made over the weekend. All too soon, we were back at school on Monday evening after what was a very exhausting but memorable experience that many of us will cherish for years to come.

I would like to thank the organising team of PAMUN and Mr Ouriel Reshef, who worked so tirelessly on the conference to make this trip so great for everybody. Special thanks to Ms Burge and Mr Portier for giving up their weekend to take us on this trip to France, and to Mr Peach who despite not being able to make it, had made it all possible by organising this trip in the first place. But most importantly, I would like to thank all the delegates not just from Shrewsbury, but from all the schools who made the journey to Paris this weekend, and made this conference even more worthwhile than I had ever expected it to be, because what is an MUN conference if it is not for the delegates who give it life.

Mill Luangamornlert (SH LVI)



Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Friday 25 November 2016

Team of the Week is back! This week Mr Bell turns his spotlight and his wit on the Girls' Under-14 and Under-16 Hockey teams.

The weather has been inclement this week and while the footballers were being bussed to Power Leagues in an effort to find a surface that did not require wellies or a wetsuit, the wonderful new astro specifically designed to aid hockey players find their friends with an inch-perfect pass was offering the chance to hone skills without the aid of a bus pass.

The coaches and players are unanimous in their love of the new pitch. Mrs Kelly refers to it as the snazzy new 'Kelly' Stadium and certainly there seems to be a protective attitude to the bright new green space. Mrs Bradburne finds it difficult to leave the pitch after practices and has admitted she is thinking of carpeting her House in the same material, especially after she saw how nice it looked in Mrs Kelly's home.



With this fabulous new facility, perhaps we shall soon be seeing a new generation of Olympic hockey players from Shrewsbury. I asked the assembled ladies' teams if they had been inspired by the Olympic gold medal winners in the ladies hockey competition in Rio. Sophia Breese was quick to admit she thought of little else and that she likes to be the first to arrive at practice and the last to leave. This was disputed by some others, but I could find no evidence to refute Sophia's claims.

Clemmie Baynes told me that she would like to be a chef. Ist XI captain Nell Kirkby admitted that since her injury she has had withdrawal issues from missing practices and this had affected her academic progress (at least that was what she was telling her parents). Certainly Nell still drags herself to practices on her crutches just to watch and encourage her teammates. She limps onto the hallowed synthetic lawn hoping its healing powers will restore her to full fitness.



I sense that after whetting your appetite with an upbeat description of our new facility, you will be itching to know if results have been improving.

I talked to Mrs Kelly about progress in general. Those of you who have met Mrs Kelly will know that it is usually difficult to elicit anything positive from her. If I am honest (and you know you can trust me), she tends to haunt the darker recesses of the Common Room, seldom popping out other than to harangue some poor innocent bystander. She told me: "Things have been progressing exceptionally well on the hockey field. I absolutely love the new astro and it has done wonders for us all. I have never been happier in my life. I have even stopped haunting the darker recesses of the Common Room and haranguing innocent bystanders..."

"The 1st XI have gone from strength to strength. We took a little time to find our stride and having our 1st XI Captain out for the remainder of the season due to injury did put a spanner in the works; but the girls have persevered and rolled up their sleeves. This has culminated in a wonderful 1-0 win this week v King's Chester – a team we lost 4-1 to at the start of the season. I haven't stopped smiling since! They are such a lovely bunch of girls; my biggest challenge with

these superstars has been getting them to stop being so polite when trying to score. We have worked on being more aggressive and competitive when in the attacking D. This has been a difficult project because they are constantly smiling owing to the joy of playing on such an amazing new surface.”

Lizzie Ware told me she finds it hard not to show her joy on the new pitch. “I find it hard not to show my joy on the pitch,” she said. Mrs Kelly went on to enthuse about the junior teams. We have not got room to print her positive oration in full, other than to say that both the U14s and U16s progressed to the Midlands Regional Finals for the first time in Shrewsbury’s history. They were close to making it to the National Finals; indeed the under-14s only lost out by one goal on goal difference.



The U14s smiling just after getting through to the County Finals



The U16s smiling just after getting through to the County Finals

The newly transformed, effervescent Mrs Kelly went on to state that: “The 1st XI are a young squad but this will only go in their favour over the next two years as they continue to train together. The girls have been attending the Strength and Conditioning Session at 7am on a Thursday morning which is having a positive impact on their sport, along with the Elite Development Squad on Tuesday and Fridays which allows the girls to harness higher level skills and continue their development.”

I do something similar to this in terms of training and I can confirm it does work, as you will notice when you next see me. (Please don't comment. I just get a little embarrassed by all the complimentary remarks.). The irascible Mrs Kelly finished off by telling me that, “It has been a pleasure coaching the 1st XI and I am very excited about what the future holds for this very talented squad. Well done, girls!”

I should just add that I thought Mrs Kelly had started eating a lot of Ready Brek of late, but she puts her halo down to regular contact with the new Astro. This astro really is having an amazing effect on us all. Emma Graham told me that she thought it had transformed her.



“I feel like a princess every time I walk on to the pitch,” she told me. Araminta Plumptre was quick to remind me that it is not just about the facilities. “It is not just about the facilities,” she told me. Amelia Binns agreed: “It is also about the standard of coaching and Katie Marriot, John Turford, Gwen Davies and Jeremy Lucas have all been instrumental in helping us to appreciate the joy of hockey on a lovely new astro. I used to hide away in goal, an invisible cloak of armour protecting me from the eyes of the world, but now I want to embrace the freedom and tread every stitch of synthetic sunshine”.

It is clear that the new Astro has had quite an impact on girls’ hockey which is now in a very exciting and positive place here at Shrewsbury. In fact it seems we are going Astral!



The new 100 years ago: 25th November - 1st December 1916

Friday 25 November 2016

No Old Salopians were killed this week 100 years ago.



Thanksgiving Dinner

Monday 28 November 2016





Senior School Musical 'Cabaret' - "a spellbinding spectacular"

Wednesday 30 November 2016

Review by Maurice Walters.



Cabaret is one of the more challenging works in the musical theatre canon – charting, as it does, the inexorable decline of Berlin into a world of Nazi ideology, prejudice and intolerance. Far from the conventional fripperies associated with the genre, its themes are dark and its messages are profound and it would be easy to assume that to mount any production of this complex play would be a challenge too great for a group of Salopians at an intensely busy time of year. This was a challenge, however, to which Helen Brown's cast and crew rose magnificently.

From the moment the house opened, the audience were welcomed into the world of the seedy Kit-Kat club in a grimy corner of 1930s Berlin. Red lampshades dangling from the ceiling, bistro tables and chairs with their characteristic telephones and enthusiastic greetings from cast members transported us immediately to that other time and place. The club was presided over, of course, by The M.C., played with expert humour by the witty and expressive Ben Higgins. Acting as a bridge between the action of the play and the audience, he epitomised the ethic of the epoch and skilfully embodied an attitude of wilful political ignorance and obsession with the pursuit of pleasure.



As John Moore's band dazzled the audience with a wonderfully professional sound (managed with precision by Willem James), the cast of *Kit-Kat Girls and Boys* assembled in set-piece after set-piece – luring the audience into a world of hedonistic decadence. Sian Archer's ingenious choreography – rehearsed to perfection by dance captain Niamh Thomas, whose own dance solo towards the end of the production was astonishing for its technical accuracy and poignancy – allowed the cast to exude energy and enthusiasm.

Outside of the club, however, life was a very different story. The unfolding romance between Clifford – an aspiring, but failing novelist played with real gravity and sensitivity by James Fearn – and one-time *Kit-Kat* dancer and serial man-eater Sally (brought to life on stage by Jessie Inglis-Jones) – was presented as touchingly and tragically naïve. These compelling performances were further enhanced by wonderfully mature vocals from both and Jessie's heart-rending version of the well-known *Maybe This Time* will remain with me for some time.

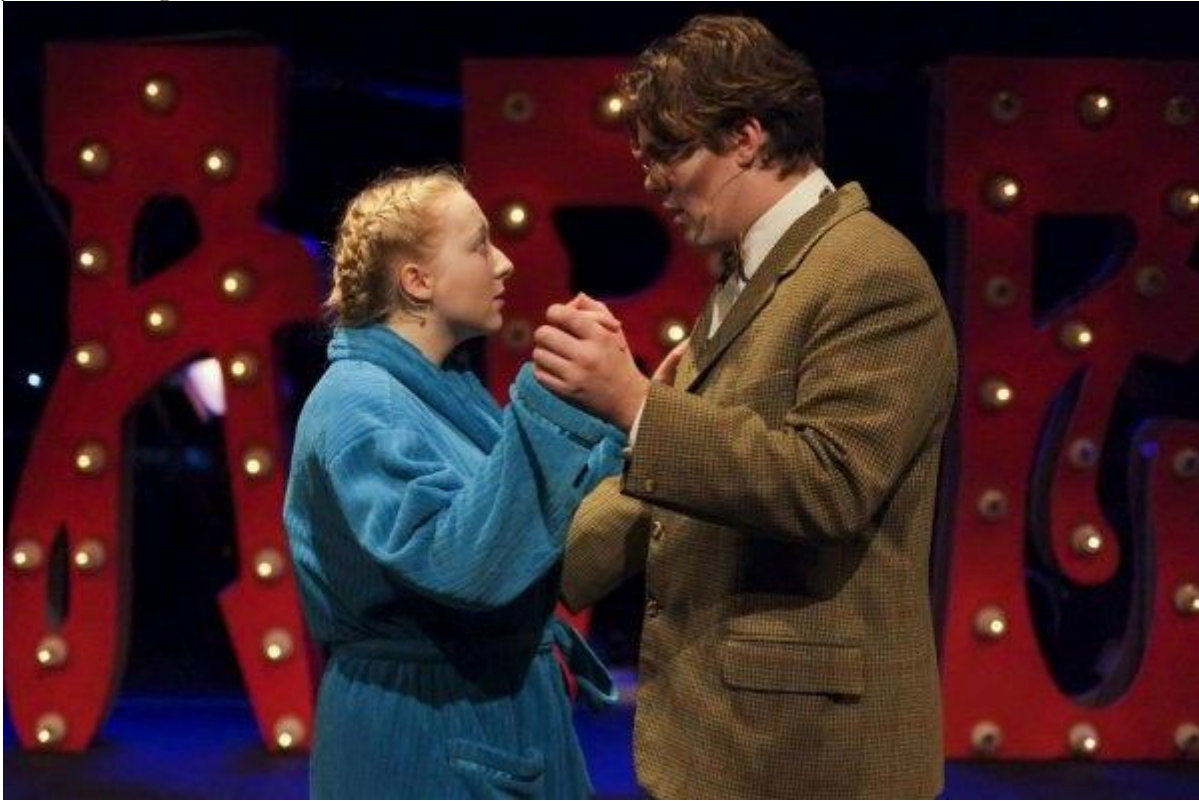


As the play unfolds, the characters respond to the growth of radicalism and racism in various ways – from the ruthless pragmatism of Nina Churchill’s Fräulein Kost (whose shady business practices brought well-timed comic lightness in the play’s bleaker moments) to the blind subservience of Toby Pattinson’s Ernst Ludvig whose ironic and symbolic bow at the play’s final denouement would have sent a chill down anyone’s spine.



Wonderful tenderness and deep sadness characterised the hugely intelligent performances of Robin Huber and Angus Kincaid (Fräulein Schneider and Herr Shultz) whose ill-fated passion

was kindled beautifully and then brought to its conclusion with despairing finality. Robin's performance of *So What?* was a remarkable feat – conveying all at once the vulnerability of her character's widowhood and the feistiness and strength she had been forced to develop through years of living alone.



While individual performances were mesmerising, the true strength of the piece lay in its ensemble work. Wonderful movement, slick set-changes and fantastic singing held the audience captivated from start to finish. The musicians of the band also deserve a very special mention – the music was not only technically accurate, but also delivered with enormous expression and pathos. The standard of the instrumental performances was all the more astonishing for the youth of some of the players in the band – Jonty Gould and Phoebe Morris making their musical theatre debut while only in the Third Form, and Archie Eyres single-handedly negotiating the challenges of the lead trumpet line whilst still only a Fourth Former. Also worthy of particular note was the quality of percussion provided by the very talented Joe Dodd on the kit – so many of Cabaret's numbers demand that strongly pronounced beat to drive them along and he provided it with absolute panache.

The set, designed and constructed by Willem James and Alex Davies, bore out the message of the play superbly well, enhanced by the skilful use of lighting effects controlled by Michelle Lam, Tom Brennan, Max Wilkie and Freddy Lawson. As bricks hurtled through windows and lovers were torn apart, the giant grotesque letters of the word Cabaret, illuminated by dozens of individual bulbs, were a visual reinforcement of Sally Bowles' defiant question 'What's politics got to do with us?' As the world deteriorated around them the performers of the Kit-Kat club danced on in denial of the truth until, horrifically, it was too late.

This was certainly a production which will live on long in the Shrewsbury memory – a spellbinding spectacular with a pertinent message for all who live in interesting times.

Maurice Walters, Deputy Head (Academic)



Cast and crew after the final performance, Saturday 26th November