



Settling into Mary Sidney Hall

Monday 1 October 2012

As a new student, I was inevitably slightly apprehensive of starting at Shrewsbury, however shortly after arriving I realised these nerves were unnecessary. Everybody was very friendly and the MSH staff went out of their way to ensure everybody felt very at home; after only a week or so I felt as if I'd been here a long while. Having come from a fully coeducational school prior to Shrewsbury, I found that some of the boys' behaviour was juvenile at first, after not having had girls in their year at school, but the Upper Sixth students were all very welcoming and helpful when it came to getting used to the new, hectic school routine and helped when it came to any queries or concerns.

My sister, Katy, had previously studied at Shrewsbury so I had an idea of what to expect, however the other girls who have had a completely new experience have all settled in and are getting used to the new school environment – it's been very helpful to have all started as new pupils as there has been no struggle to break in to formed friendship groups.

As clichéd as it may sound, I can tell we're all going to be very happy in MSH.

Lizzie Mason Jones L6th



Show jumping: NSEA win qualifies team for the National Final

Monday 1 October 2012

At a qualifying event for the [The National Schools Equestrian Association](#) (NSEA) Championships on Sunday 30th September at Southview in Cheshire, the Shrewsbury School team of Hugh Davies (Rt 3), Thomas Tulloch (Rt 3) and Sam Ecroyd (Rt 5) won in the 1 metre Open class. They beat 50 other riders in this event, and finished fourth out of 80 riders in the 90cm class.

The Shrewsbury team now go through to the NSEA finals at Addington on October 19th - 21st 2012.

WAH



Sam, Tom & Hugh, grinning widely after qualifying for the National Finals of the NSEA Championships



Football: 24th - 30th September

Monday 1 October 2012

1ST XI

The 1st XI march on into the third round of the ESFA Cup after a resounding victory (5-1) over St Thomas Moore School. This adds to an impressive start to the ESFA Cup having already beaten Highgate the previous week.

Our U15A and U16A teams fought out very close home games against Charlton School on Tuesday, both ending in 1-1 draws. Meanwhile, on the same day the U15B's narrowly lost to a Mary Webb A team (2-0). In addition to the 1sts Cup win their were numerous fixtures played on Wednesday. These were not, however, quite so successful with our 3rds and U16A's losing to Shropshire U16's and U15's respectively. Difficult fixtures were also had for the 5th and 6th teams losing to Shrewsbury Sixth Form College in close fought matches. Packwood Haugh provided stiff competition for the U14C and U14D teams whilst the 2nd XI lost a high scoring (4-2) match against New College Telford. Shrewsbury managed 4 wins out of 4 fixtures away at Idsall School with the 4th team, U16B's and U15B's all wining in emphatic style (all 3-0), the U14B's completing the set with a close fought 4-2 victory.



Swimming: success at Thomas Telford gala

Monday 1 October 2012

This Wednesday, the swim team competed in their first away gala of the year at Thomas Telford.

They followed the success of two weeks ago by winning the event 82-62. Despite being short of a few team members, the lads were highly determined and swam very well indeed. They produced some fantastic times and many personal bests were beaten.

Junior 'swimmer of the gala' = Kwaku Antwi.

Senior 'swimmer of the gala' = Koden Lam.

Basketball: 24th - 30th September

Monday 1 October 2012

After a number of promising training sessions the U18 basketball squad had their first competitive outing against Wrekin School. After a particularly well fought game the final score was against Shrewsbury by just two points (46-44).

This was closely followed just a day later by a triangular fixture; a convincing victory against William Brooks (28-20) was followed by a tough match against the highly rated Concord College (21-28).



Sports results w/e 30th September 2012

Tuesday 2 October 2012

Week 4: Monday 24th – Sunday 30th September

Date	Sport	Team	Opposition	H/A	Result	Score	
Tuesday 25th Sept	Football	U16a XI	Charlton School	H	D	1-1	
		U15a XI		H	D	1-1	
		U15b XI	Mary Webb School (U15A)	H	L	0-2	
Wednesday 26th Sept	Football	1 st XI	St Thomas Moore (ESFA Rd 2)	H	W	5-1	
		5 th XI	Shrewsbury Sixth Form College	H	L	4-1	
		6 th XI		H	L	1-2	
		U14c XI	Packwood Haugh	H	L	0-7	
		U14d XI		H	D	3-0	
		2 nd XI	New College, Telford	A	L	2-4	
		4 th XI	Idsall School	A	W	3-0	
		U16b XI		A	W	3-0	
		U15b XI		A	W	3-0	
		U14b XI		A	W	4-3	
		3 rd XI	Shropshire U16s	H	L	2-4	
		U16a XI	Shropshire U15s	H	L	0-6	
		U15a XI	Shropshire U14s	H	W	3-2	
		Girls Hockey	1 st VII	Wrekin College 7's Tournament:		A	
				Denstone		D	2-2
				WGS		W	1-0
				Bablake		L	1-3
				Wrekin		D	0-0
				Ludlow		W	3-0
		Swimming	Gala	Thomas Telford	A	W	82-62
	Basketball	U18	Wrekin College	H	L	44-46	
Thursday 29th Sept	Basketball	U18	William Brookes	A	W	28-20	
		U18	Concord College	A	L	28-21	

First ever History of Eton Fives is now published

Tuesday 2 October 2012

'A History of Eton Fives' by Dale Vargas and Peter Knowles is now available.

Richard Barber (SH 1955-60), President of the Eton Fives Association and immediate Past President of the Salopian Club has written the foreword and he reports:

'As President of the Eton Fives Association I have been a tremendous advocate of the history of this remarkable game being written, because its origins are of great interest and known to few and today it has grown into a major sport in schools all over the country and indeed around the world.'

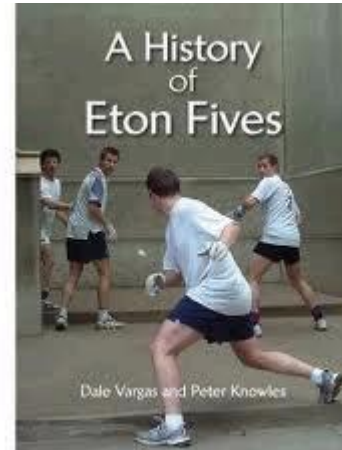
"The [flyer](#) shows that this has finally been done - and by two of the most knowledgeable and literary fives players in the land, Dale Vargas being a former President of the EFA and Second Master at Harrow for many years. It's a handsomely produced volume with masses of photographs, and of course an eloquent Foreword to the book has been written by the current President!!"

Richard has no doubt that masses of Salopian fives players down the years would be interested to know of its existence and would like to have one for themselves.

ISBN 978-1-899163-98-4

Casebound 270 x 195 mm 192 pages

Price £30 (£25 + £5 p+p)



Young Engineers win 'wild card' place in the National Greenpower Final at Goodwood

Tuesday 2 October 2012

Despite not quite achieving the requisite number of miles when racing at in the North West Heat at Aintree recently in our Greenpower car, and being unable to take part in the next qualifying round at Castle Combe last weekend due to our coach weekend, our team of Young Engineers have been offered a place in the National Finals of the Greenwood Formula 24 Competiton at Goodwood later in October.

The Director of Greenpower, Jeremy Way wrote "Having won the award for Best Engineered car at Aintree, and having witnessed the inspiring enthusiasm of your team of young engineers, we have great pleasure in inviting you to attend the National Finals as one of three wild card entries."



L-R: Edward Jones (M), George Whitehead (Rb), Mischa Manser (Rb), Hector Kaye (Rb) in car, and Johnny Jones (Rb) all 4th Form



Finn's blog: 'My face'

Wednesday 3 October 2012



In terms of photography, I must say the Churchill's "News and Photos" page is very well done. From the beautifully Photoshopped image of the house itself, with all its strangely placed but effective shadows, and the Big Brother-style bird's eye view of the most recent house barbecue (I honestly had no idea someone was halfway up the fire escape watching me tuck into my rather delicious hot dog) to the amusing pictures of the third form posing in their sports kits before the front door, there is always something photogenic and entertaining to feast my eyes on when I visit the page. But one day, to my mortified horror, I found the first *bad* picture I'd ever seen lurking around on the website-and the worst shock that hit my eyes was that the subject was my face. I've been in photos for school websites before, especially at my old school, and I never once thought that something this distasteful could ever be produced of my own features. Someone had taken my precious visage and ripped it apart, without even using Photoshop. One feature which annoyed me most was the demonic squint produced by the wind; it just had to be taken in the middle of a storm, didn't it? My once ordinary smile was contorted into a grimace, and my hair was styled specially by the wind so it appeared as a bundle of greasy locks. And my neck, let me add, is slouched in a way that echoes the dinosaurs from which we evidently evolved. Simply put, my most disliked features have been taken and amplified to create this monstrosity that Churchill's fans have to put up with (or laugh at). And do you want to hear the worst part? The photo which has caused me so much distress is probably sitting happily beside this paragraph. What a great joke.

Meanwhile, a recent Churchill's and Ridgemount trip to see and hear Tchaikovsky's 5th Symphony provided many with a great night out on the last Thursday before coach weekend. Once again my face was in a shambles, but this time it was from the CCF face camouflage lesson in which we had to disguise ourselves, rather unconvincingly, as trees and bushes with face paint. After spending forty-five minutes painfully scrubbing the overdone, Schwarzenegger style mask of black and brown off, I had no choice but to attend the concert looking somewhat like an emo, with two darkened patches around my eyes.

At the interval of the concert I was startled and confused to have Mr. Greatham come up to me and ask me if I was in the school play, as he wasn't on the coach and I'd completely forgotten about my mascara disaster. However, he gladly helped me regain my growing sense of self-consciousness which was fuelled by the elderly members of the audience glaring at me as if I'd coughed at their favourite bit.

While the first half was dominated by two long pieces, the second part of the concert contained a run of the actual symphony. The opening notes were striking, but what struck me most was the way one of the Ridgemount third form almost simultaneously fell asleep. His slumber was abruptly concluded by a light slap on the back of the head from Henry Thomas's program.

The journey home was fairly long, but was occupied by my head being filled with all sorts of unexpected trivia, including Charles Gillow's worryingly realistic and rather "interesting" dream about an unnamed pupil being beaten up by an unnamed tutor, with Matron saving the day as always. After listening to his stories, I hit him back with some relativity theory. Even I fell asleep quickly that night; it was so confusing just thinking about it.

MSH: A few photos from the first weeks of term

Wednesday 3 October 2012



House ergo rowing competition



Hockey v EDH



Preparing a BBQ with The Grove - the boys made some wonderful banoffee pie and Eton mess; on the river



A Week in the Life of George Fowler (LVI SH)

Wednesday 3 October 2012

As it is for every student, I will write about 'This' week in my life, as I have found every week at Shrewsbury to be different. I now begin my fourth year here, although so far, in places, it could be my first. The introduction to sixth form is indeed a step up, but one I have been looking forward to since I began revising for GCSEs. I start with Tuesday,

September 25th:



Double English, French, History, Music Performance. My free periods before lunch were spent discussing plans for my EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) with my supervisor, Mrs. Kirk. That evening, I attended a careers talk given by a lecturer from Lancaster, about reading English at university. It was informative and animated and after he had spoken I asked him whether he thought that the written word was mankind's greatest achievement, and then we were discussing what literature the children of my generation would be studying, apparently "Not Harry Potter, or 50 shades of Grey".

Talking to him, I was struck immediately by his passion for his subject and also his vast knowledge of works of all styles. I therefore found

myself running back to the house and still a few minutes late for a Part-Song rehearsal that I had called.

Wednesday saw three music lessons and an orchestra rehearsal. After lessons had finished, I learned my lines [for the 2012 School Play 'The Arsonist'] in the lunch queue before swim squad training at 3:00pm. Whilst a half day, Wednesday has always been my busiest of the week. The fact that there are fewer lessons means that I can fill the time with other things: usually time spent in the theatre or the music department, until a Symphony Orchestra Rehearsal at 7:00pm for a couple of hours. Wednesday is always a late one, but also the day where I think I'm getting the most out of the extra-curriculum activities that Shrewsbury offers me.

I also spent the first part of my Thursday afternoon in the Music Department, at a lecture given by Mike Hurst, a successful modern music producer. It was fascinating to hear his anecdotes, featuring some big names. But what I found more entertaining were his ardent opinions and furious rants about what has 'destroyed music for your generation', notably 'One Direction'. He is experienced and extremely knowledgeable, and it was clear that he spoke of matters close to his heart. I didn't catch him afterwards, as he was in a rush to meet up with the 'Beach Boys', and I had a play rehearsal to get to. The senior play this year is a Des Hann production of 'The Arsonists'. Rehearsals are going well; we are all deep in the 'line-learning' stage.

Coach-Weekend: Well-advised, well deserved, well spent... and then back to school on Monday morning for an assembly about the Medic-Malawi Expedition. I made many friends while we were out there, not only at the orphanage but also in the group we went with. Shrewsbury is such a colossal school that I had never met many of the people that I was going with. It was funny to see our photographs on the big projector in front of the whole school. It seemed quite surreal to relive those memories, and although the assembly was spirited and informative, I think you really have to have been there, or indeed sign up for 2014, in order to really experience the adventure.



My week was not dampened by the volatile weather conditions, most probably because I had not had a second to ponder them. I find life at Shrewsbury to be wonderfully relentless, but I wouldn't have it any other way, so if you'll excuse me...



Report from Alex Wilson Memorial Match 23 September

Friday 5 October 2012

Despite the chilly conditions, a large crowd of 180 supporters enjoyed an enthralling Alex Wilson Memorial match, which ended in a 3-1 win for the Old Salopian XI. Despite many of the players having played the previous day in the annual OS Day fixtures and a few nursing hangovers after a heavy night in Shrewsbury, the standard of play was exceptionally good. The action was thick and fast with both sides creating scoring chances. It was perhaps fitting that Henry Wilson scored the first goal of match towards the end of the first half.

Somehow the OS XI managed to get back into the game and against the run of play scored 2 goals in quick succession. The Alex Wilson XI pressed hard for most of the second half, dominating possession and very nearly getting the equalising goal. A late goal, just before the final whistle, by Jack Brydon (O 1999-04) sealed the result for the OS side and the second Alex Wilson Memorial Match was over for another year.



Afterwards a drinks reception was held in the Alington Hall, supported by Shrewsbury School Foundation, during which Henry Wilson announced that the Alex Wilson Scholarship Fund had reached the £60,000 milestone, which will allow a local Shropshire boy to attend Shrewsbury School.

Squads for Alex Wilson Memorial Match:

Alex Wilson Squad: George Barker, Michael Barnard, Mike Williams, Ben Williams, James Franklin, Mark Tomley, Matt McKeever, Toyin Mustapha, Tom Kelly, Henry Wilson, Adam Parker, Ed Taylor, Raul Alexis, Rhys Bevan, James Tucker, George Wade-Smith, Steve Johanson, Ali Lloyd, Freddie Pragnell.

OS Squad: Rich McGarry, Oli Harrison, Ben Freeman, Harry Fildes, Rob Hawkin, George Blakemore, Ben Alderson, Olly Heywood, Hamish McKenzie, Jack Brydon, Ben Cooke, Sam Roberston, Dave Cookson.

Old Salopian Day 22 September, 2012

Friday 5 October 2012

Club Director, Alex Baxter, writes:

'Glorious sunshine greeted the 300+ Old Salopians and guests that participated in this year's memorable OS Day. Proceedings started with a thanksgiving service in the Chapel for the life of Richard Raven (M 1945-50), featuring a moving and often humorous eulogy to RNER by his son Hugh (S1985-90).



Following the service a sandwich lunch was served in the Alington Hall during which the School awarded two Sidney Gold Medals to Old Salopians Philipp Legner (O 2007-09) and Hugh Williams (Rb 2003-08). The citations were read out by Mr Martin Cropper, Director of Studies and the medals were awarded by Mr Peter Worth (M 1965-70), President of the Salopian Club. The medals were instituted in 1838 and are awarded to the top academic student in a given year.



There was just time to squeeze in the Club's AGM before a full sports programme got underway. OS sportsmen were in action on football pitches, the fives courts and on a "benjy" circuit. It was a fantastic day for OS footballers who were undefeated in all five fixtures. The Old Salopian 1st XI won a thrilling contest 4-2, the 2nds overcame their opponents by a huge 12-1 margin and the 3rd XI drew 1-1.

A big draw for those with a penchant for rowing was the opening of the Yale Boathouse, which took place at 3pm. Mark Turner's opening remarks reflected on the proud rowing tradition at Shrewsbury and of its new and very modern facilities that grace perhaps biggest School Boat Club in world. Mark Yale (S 1976-81) responded by addressing the current School pupils.

He set out a challenge and a promise. The challenge was to those who were prepared to work hard on the water showing character and determination when training in wet, miserable dark conditions in the winter months, there was a chance of emulating some of the great crews of yesteryear. The promise was that those self same characteristics, of hard toil and teamwork, would stand individuals in good stead in later life and throughout their working careers. The opening ceremony was also attended by rowing Olympic medallist Matt Langridge, who generously spent time with some of the pupils talking about training and competing at the top level.

Away from the sports theme, the School opened its doors to all Old Salopians affording them the opportunity to visit Houses, tour the Ancient Library and visit the Arts Centre. “ It seemed to be a day with something for everyone and a thoroughly good time has been had by all” as one Old Salopian put it.'





RSSBC: Runcorn Head, Saturday October 6th

Monday 8 October 2012

Three category wins: J18 4+, J18 2- and J15 4+



Winning J15 4+, L-R: Harry Lane-Fox, Joe Davies, Alfie Grocott, Nick Watkins, Cox, Ed Chamberlain

So to a new season for the RSSBC and the first head race of the year! Runcorn Head, on the river Weaver, is a venue that we have not attended for some years, this was to be a light opener for top squad, J16, J15 and girls squads. Most crews were unpractised in their line ups. As it transpired, the weather and conditions were pretty much perfect for the event. A pleasing 3 category wins were achieved in J18 4+, J18 2- and J15 4+.

Two girls' crews raced in matched crews at this first event, in coxless quadruple sculls, finishing 3/5 and 4/5 respectively. A first for RSSBC Girls marking the start of a sculling campaign. Whilst both crews rowed well exhibiting strength and determination, they suffered at the hands of slicker club crews who were better drilled. However the two boats learned much from the experience and will return to the river to continue their training in the build up for the 4's head in November.



The top squad took to the water in eleven different boats between the two divisions. All crews competed well with the most notable performances coming from the winning pair of William Hayes and Robert Homden and the winning J18 Coxed Four of William Dodson-Wells, Judah Rand, James Kynaston, Henry Rassmuss and guest cox James Eardley.

The J16 squad entered in 5 unselected coxed fours in order to get some racing experience under their belts at the start of the new season. Racing against 2 strong crews from King's Chester was always going to be tough. The aim now is to prepare two eights to race at Wallingford Head in December.

The 3 J15 coxed fours raced the shorter 2500 metre course at Runcorn, the crews came 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the division, however honours (in fact medals!) go to the winning crew of Harry Lane-Fox, Jo Davies, Alfie Grocott and Nick Watkins, with cox Ed Chamberlain. A great effort from these boys, on the first rungs of their sweep rowing careers.

The large J15 squad will now not race until December, where they will be in 8's at Wallingford Head and possibly Wycliffe Head.

PADM



RSSBC J15 4's on the course at Runcorn



Sports results w/e 7th October 2012

Monday 8 October 2012

Week 5: 1st – 7th October 2012

Date	Sport	Team	Opposition	H/A	Result	Score	
Tuesday 2 nd Oct	Football	U16b XI	Lakelands School	H	L	1-3	
		U15c XI		H	L	0-4	
		U14b XI		H	L	1-4	
Wednesday 3 rd Oct	Football	2 nd XI	Ludlow College	A	D	2-2	
		4 th XI		A	W	7-0	
		5 th XI	Adams Grammar (2 nd XI)	A	L	1-5	
		U14c XI	Prestfelde School	A	W	11-9	
		U14d XI		A	W	8-0	
		3 rd XI	The Royal Wolverhampton School	A	D	3-3	
		U16d XI		H	W	5-0	
		U15b XI	(U15a)	H	W	5-0	
		U16a XI	The Marches School, Oswestry	H	L	2-3	
		U15a XI		H	W	10-1	
		U14a XI		H	L	3-5	
		Hockey	1 st XI (G)	Wrekin College	A	L	0-7
			2 nd XI (G)		A	W	4-3
		Rugby	A XV	King's School, Chester	A	L	17-20
Saturday 6 th Oct	Football	1 st XI	Bradfield School	A	L	0-4	
		2 nd XI		H	L	5-2	
		3 rd XI		A	L	0-4	
		4 th XI		H	D	0-0	
		5 th XI		A	D	1-1	
		U16a XI		A	L	0-5	
		U16b XI		A	D	3-3	
		U15a XI		H	W	6-5	
		U15b XI		H	W	4-1	
		U15c XI		H	L	2-3	
		U14a XI		A	L	2-4	
		U14b XI		A	L	1-9	
		U14c XI		H	L	3-4	
		U14d XI		H	D	4-	
		Hockey	1 st XI	Bedstone College	A	W	5-1
		Fencing		Wrekin Sword	H	L	5-7



A sell-out performance of All the King's Men

Tuesday 9 October 2012

Established in September 2009 at King's College London, All the King's Men has always been more than just a student group. After two sell-out Edinburgh Fringe Festival appearances and two sensational USA tours to the West and East Coast, All the King's Men have been crowned Voice Festival UK Winners (officially becoming the UK's best collegiate a cappella group) and were awarded Third Place at the ICCA Finals in New York this year.

This multi-award winning group have quickly conquered the UK a cappella scene with their tight vocal harmonies and original arrangements. A diverse selection of music and entertaining choreography, seasoned with humour and mischief, creates a regal performance fit for a king! The group consistently dazzle audiences at concerts, private functions and high-profile corporate events, at venues such as the Barbican, IndigO2 Arena, Royal Festival Hall, Park Lane's Marriott and Hilton Hotels, the BT Tower and New York's Time Square, to name but a few. We were delighted to welcome this amazing group for a one off performance on Friday 5 October 2012.



'A Cappella at its very finest' was how it was billed, and they did not disappoint. *All the King's Men* performed a sell-out concert of the very finest A cappella music in the Maidment Auditorium on Friday evening. The concert was full of high energy, fun and fine musicianship performed by twelve hugely talented individuals who really know how to entertain an audience.

For the members of the Shrewsbury School Musical Activities Club the evening started with a fine Champagne and Canapé reception followed by a wonderful two course dinner in Kingsland House, but the main course really was the stand out performance by the group who hail from King's College in London.



The post-Edinburgh Fringe performance here at Shrewsbury was a slick operation, with tight vocal performances and a cohesive visual appearance; they effortlessly went from song to song keeping the audience, both young and old, entertained throughout with their amazing vocal repertoire, wit and boundless energy.

The concert had a very special meaning for two members of the group. Henry Southern who is the Musical Director and founder of *All the King's Men* is an Old Salopian, Henry used to be in The Grove between 2003 and 2008. His fellow Groveite Chris Jamieson (2004-2009) made a special guest appearance. In the programme notes, Henry commented on his time here at Shrewsbury.

"Whilst studying at Shrewsbury School I was fortunate enough to be immersed in several areas of the music department. I will always have very fond memories of my time here, from singing in regular services with the Chapel Choir, to performing the infamous Peter Fanning and John Moore musicals at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

"I was also given the opportunity to lead several ensembles, including being musical director of the school Big Band, a highlight of which was going on tour to Prague in 2007, and gaining invaluable experience guiding the Grove to success in the house singing competition. These fantastic opportunities – for which I am hugely grateful to the teaching staff at Shrewsbury School – stood me in good stead for the challenges that arose when establishing All the King's Men at university"

During the afternoon the group held several workshops with the students from Shrewsbury School, assisting them with their forthcoming part songs for House Singing and also working on a piece of music that the students then performed at the concert to rapturous applause.

All in all this truly was an amazing evening of the finest A cappella music, performed to a full house by a simply inspirational group of young men.

As one reviewer from the Edinburgh Fringe wrote *"I thought their blend was so good it reminded me of their British counterparts, The King's Singers."* Now that is a great testimony to the talent that is 'All the King's Men'.

For more details of the 'Friends of Shrewsbury School Musical Activities' please contact myself on 01743 280812.

The 56th Season of Music & Arts is kindly sponsored by Shukers Land Rover.

Darren Wood

Medic Malawi presentation to Prestfelde pupils

Tuesday 9 October 2012

Three of our students who took part in the Medic Malawi expedition over the summer holidays, gave a presentation to the Years 3-8 pupils at Prestfelde last week, accompanied by Steve Fox and Lesley Drew.

Please see www.prestfelde.co.uk/news/medic-malawi-presentation for more information.

Oldham's: Karting at the weekend

Tuesday 9 October 2012

MDBJ well beaten into second place during Sunday's karting trip by Charlie Clarke (LVI).



Churchill's Third Form trip to Tally: 6th - 7th October

Tuesday 9 October 2012



Fourteen new Churchillian third formers (the fifteenth, George Holder was away competing in the Horse of the Year show) enjoyed a weekend at Tally earlier this month in freak - sunny! – weather conditions.

For the third year running we breakfasted on the terrace, and suitably fortified, climbed into the Tryfan massif. This year we parked at Ogwen Cottage and walked up the Devil's Kitchen. On the way down seven boys (modestly not pictured!) took the opportunity for a swim in the chilly waters of Llyn Idwal. Josh Himsworth (pictured above) chose discretion over valour.



Fashion Show raises over £2,000 for Teenage Cancer Trust

Tuesday 9 October 2012

Our annual fashion show on Saturday night proved to be a stylish success, raising over £2,000 for charity.



Hosted by TV personality Carol Smillie, this year's Quod Fashion Show was held in the Alington Hall. A group of our Sixth Form girls organised the event - contacting the boutiques to ask if they would be willing to participate, working with the boutiques to select a collection of clothes, arranging tickets, publicity, models (both girls and boys), and planning the show itself.

Ali Webb and a group of talented musicians helped to entertain the 300 guests, and the raffle helped to boost the sum raised for the Teenage Cancer Trust.



Models included Carol's daughter Christie Knight, who commented: "We were very pleased with the way the show went and are extremely grateful to all the shops who allowed us to model their clothes.

"The evening was very well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy it. Most importantly we raised a really good amount for the Teenage Cancer Trust."

Shrewsbury boutiques who participated included Wysteria Lane, Hayley J, Carol Grant, Monsoon, Chequers and Rackhams, as well as Mansers and The Looking Glass - a vintage shop in Bridgnorth.

Football: 1st - 7th October

Wednesday 10 October 2012

Week five included the highly competitive and anticipated fixtures against Bradfield School. Always a tough opponent for Shrewsbury, this year proved to be as challenging as ever. The 1st XI competed well against a very well organised and skilful Bradfield. We did not help our cause by giving away two penalties in the first half and giving ourselves a real test in the second half. We did produce a more workmanlike performance and were unlucky on two occasions not to reduce the deficit - Ed Lloyd unfortunate to hit the post with the goalkeeper well beaten. 4-0 the final score, but perhaps not an accurate reflection of the game.

Overall, the Saturday fixtures against Bradfield proved to be stern test for all the Shrewsbury teams involved. The U15A and U15B teams were alone in achieving a victory against tough rivals in what proved to be entertaining and high scoring games (6-5 and 4-1 respectively). There were draws for the 4th team, 5th team and U14D's with the remaining fixtures going Bradfield's way. The Bradfield fixture has proven to be a stern test for all teams involved and whilst Shrewsbury might have come 2nd best in some of the results, the benefits to such tough fixtures are aplenty.

Earlier in the week the U16B, U15C and U14B all had tough fixtures at home against Lakelands School A XI's, with each of the three teams losing out to skilful opponents. On Wednesday there was a win and a draw against Ludlow College for the 4ths and 2nds respectively whilst the 5th XI lost out to Adams Grammar 2nds. Meanwhile both the U14C and D teams won high scoring matches against Prestfelde School (11-9 and 8-0 respectively). There was a draw and two wins against The Royal Wolverhampton School for the 3rds, U16D and U15B teams whilst the U16A and U14A teams lost out to The Marches School Oswestry in close fought fixtures (3-2 and 5-3 respectively). Against the same opposition, the U15A's achieved a thumping 10-1 victory.



Pringle Trophy 2012: Full report

Wednesday 10 October 2012

Cpl. Will Heyes RM (Ch UVI) has written here a full and fascinating account of the competition; any young boys reading it are likely either to be inspired to join the CCF RM section, or to avoid it altogether....



All the training we do in our section over the year is working towards The Pringle Trophy, the competition for Royal Marine Cadets of the Combined Cadet Force. The competition takes place at the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines (CTCRM) down in Lympstone, and all the 19 schools with CCFRM sections turn up to compete, including Strathallen School (13 hours away in Scotland), the notorious Pangbourne Naval College, and King's College Taunton from only 5 miles down the road.

Wheels up was at 1130 (after packing the trailer at 0800) the minibus journey took approximately 5 hours, plenty of time to finish polishing our ammo boots for parade, learn our core knowledge questions and realise that a certain Lance Corporal had forgotten to bring his half lovat. After a few panics and phone calls, a pair was found and began its journey south towards CTCRM.

Meanwhile the Shrewsbury School Pringle Squad arrived in Lympstone, for six of our team it was their first ever visit to the birthplace of their corps and they were overwhelmed and very excited, Sgt Young (who competed in last year's competition) was busy planning section attack formations and inspecting boots using his experienced Corporals, Cpl. Wilson and myself (this year being our third Pringle Competition), to aid in his leading roles of teaching the fifth form cadets and looking after the sanity of Sgt. Young. After parking the minibus with the trailer on the parade square, we unloaded the mountains of kit that we needed for the weekend and set up our strip in the sacred Gymnasium of the royal marines, under close supervision of the RM PTI's (physical training instructors) who train recruits there every day.

A briefing was held in the Falklands room about the workings (or 'sync matrix') of the weekend's activities. This is when we were informed of something that our experience couldn't prepare us for. This year the Colonel decided that we would not do the endurance course and sheep dip that



we were familiar with, but instead we would embark on a different part of the commando challenge, the RM assault course and re-gain. Everyone became very excited about their first real encounter with Lympstone's Bottom Field that all marines had encountered many times on the road to achieving their green berets and commando status.

Lights out at 2300, the gym was quiet as all cadets were sleeping (... ..) in preparation for the stances that would win them the Pringle Trophy....

While most Shrewsbury School students were still tucked up in bed, the Pringle teams woke at 0530 for breakfast in the Galley at 0600 and after a mad rush to gather webbing, bergens, bag rations, magazines and rifles we were deployed onto Woodbury common by 0700 as the sun was rising. Our first stance of the day was relaxed as it was simple weapons handling tests; thanks to Lt. Corbett's intensive weapons training on the previous Thursday, we quickly showed off our ammunition loading skills and our well-tuned stoppage and loading drills. An easy start to warm up the day.

Having speed marched down, the battle exercise (Battle-Ex) gave us our first stance of blank firing, and we were ready to make some noise. Our mission was to find and secure a fallen RAF jet pilot with a leg injury and bring him out of enemy territory. After the briefing and loading up we patrolled off into the common. Within a few minutes, a white smoke grenade went off as we were briefed the fallen captain would do when he spotted our patrol. Unfortunately this spooked one L Cpl. who started to fire on the casualty, but after a very loud call of 'CEASE FIRE!' the extraction was begun. While 'Charlie' section prepared the casualty, myself and 'Delta' section came under fire from a hidden enemy waiting in ambush. When he gave his position away thunderous rounds went down as we covered Cpl. Wilson carrying the pilot on his shoulders back to the extraction point. Mission completed and successful.

By 0930 we had started the First Aid stance. Run by Naval medics (who will not stance for errors!) there was no room for mistakes. Patrolling up through an area that 45 commando troop had cleared of enemies it was our detachment's job to search for and collect the casualties of the recent ambush. Quickly we found a man with a chest wound lying in the gorse, and hastily got to work securing his wounds, when from behind us shouting from a bund line was another marine in a state of shock calling for help. Sgt. Young and I and 'Delta' section met this call, only to find the restless marine going mad in shock, after removing his shirt to try and extract his friend with a head injury; Sgt. Young could only get him in a head lock and force him to calm down. His friend had a large gash to his head and was very quickly fading into unconsciousness. I found myself desperately trying to keep him talking by having a conversation with him about his favourite kind of cake (it did the job) and after all marines' wounds were patched up, they were carried to the ambulance and extracted for the hospital. We had high hopes after that stance, and it was a major boost to moral!

Camouflage and concealment was next on the sync matrix. We were given ten minutes to cut down the local vegetation and shove it down webbing pouches, in loops in hats and elastics on arms and webbing, then we tried to break our human figures and blend into the surrounding area. None of us were spotted during this stance, either because of our amazing hiding abilities or our rubbish spotting abilities as it was our own team looking for our hidden comrades.



The next stance was the stalk; still in head to toe camouflage we were given one single round to take a sniper shot at an enemy OP (observation point) without being spotted. Ten seconds to get into a starting position, we split up suddenly into the gorse foliage. I cannot give any account of the stalk apart from my own. I ran as far forward as I could to get the best head start. It went very quickly and I think I recall pushing one of our lance corporals over during the start in my obsessive sprint to the front line. Finding paths through the gorse I crawled for ten minutes, eyes fixed on the trees that labelled the enemy territory. Conscious of telegraphing (the act of wobbling the base of plants so they shake massively at the top and hence the main reason snipers would get spotted) I moved forward as quickly as I could. By the time I reached enemy territory I was not in any position to be able to fire a shot at the OP as the gorse was about 3 foot off the ground, so I crawled further in. When I heard the five minute call go I felt it was my only chance to score point for my team especially when I hadn't heard any other shots from my friends. I plucked up the courage to kneel up, slowly so as not to shake the grass on my jungle hat too much, and spotted the OP through the gauze bushes and fired a single shot. My job was done and all I could do was stay absolutely still and hope I wouldn't get spotted. The radio of the YO (young officer) went mad as the OP tried to direct him to find try and find my figure, they failed, and a gladly they stopped looking when three other shots went off during the last minute as my friends took their shots at the enemy. Myself and L Cpl. Plaut both scored points for our team during the stalk but it was not enough to secure first place.



After a half a day of hard work cadets start to get tired and make a few mistakes. On the way to the Leadership stance, I became navigationally challenged. I led the team speed marching into a wood. We recognised it as being part of the RM endurance course... so we weren't in the right place at all. We speed marched for the whole half hour of the changeover time and arrived just in time for the stance. And with our training of leadership tasks, we set to work and completed as much as we could to the best of our abilities, despite our exhausted state after yomping the last half hour.

Inspirational words came from Cpl. Wilson's tongue on the way to section attacks. It had been the section attack demonstration, from that year's winning Pringle team, during the Fourth Form recruits' nitex, which had inspired Willow and myself to join the Marines section. It was the

most important stance to us and we had to win it. Bombing up two mags each, we were briefed by Sgt. Young: we had trained on many occasions for section attacks and for our marines they are now second nature. Patrolling forward through the thickest Woodbury gorse, Cpl. Wilson at the point of our arrow head formation, it all happened very quickly;

Cpl. Wilson – *"CONTACT FRONT!!"* (everyone hits the deck and starts to fire)

Sgt. Young – *"SECTION, TEN METRES TO YOUR FRONT, TWO TIMES ENEMY GUNNERS, RAPID FIRE!!"* (the fire increases massively)

Sgt. Young – *"THREE I/C TAKE OVER, TWO I/C ON ME!!"* (I leap to my feet and hurdle over to Henry in the gorse; he briefs me on the battle plan and I sprint back to my section)

Cpl. Heyes – *"DELTA SECTION, PREPARE FOR RIGHT FLANKING MANOEUVRE UNDER COVER OF SMOKE!!"*

And with that the plan of attack began, 'Charlie' section giving covering fire while 'Delta' moved forward, pivoted and assaulted the enemy position through the smoke. Struggling with magazine changes and stoppages the section fought through the enemy dig out and reformed a bound away, where L Cpl. Dempsey and I were sent to check the dead bodies. Jumping into the ditch the enemy had concealed themselves in, John face planted into a gorse bush, with his head in the game he shock it off and covered my descent into the ditch in an equally uncomfortable manner. Bodies checked, we checked our men for ammunition and wounds. The end of a very successful exercise.

The day in the field ended much more relaxed with easy going Observation stance and map reading stance. Back at CTCRM we quickly cleaned the rifles and squared them away in the armoury, got some scoff from the galley, and some last minute drill practice before getting our heads down to clear our head for the final day of Pringle.

0530 the lights in the gymnasium came on and all the teams started to wake up. Madly dashing to get the front of the breakfast queue, we had to put all feelings of aching bones, itchy legs and sleep deprivation aside as we were timed to be the first team in the drill hut at 0645. Getting into our half lovats, that we had swapped with each other and other schools so we could field a smart looking section, we marched to the drill shed just to find another mix up in the sync matrix. The drill instructors had been told the reverse timings to the cadets, so we were meant to be last up. It turned into first come first serve, so we were first in the queue.



Standing in open order, motionless and emotionless, as the Corporal Marine checks every detail of your uniform, while another tries to distract you and make you laugh, is harder than it looks. Training for the drill routine involved the cadets meeting at 0630 every morning at school for training and then 1815 in the evening to do the same, but a team needs to practise that much to make it perfect; the drill staff see every mistake because drill is their mantra. There are some schools in the competition that live off drill, but then they fall down in the field skills, we are the opposite; we have good field skills but there is nothing special about our drill work. End of story.



In the late afternoon, after packing the trailer ready for our swift get away, we had our encounter with Bottom Field. The marine assault course is major part of commando training and it is a hard task for most cadets. The obstacles are as follows; the tank trap, the six foot wall, the fallen gate, the monkey bars, the zig zag walls, the chasm, the five foot wall, the high gate, the tunnels, the twelve foot wall and after your time is recorded, the regain. The regain is a rope that you crawl along (like the chasm) about 15 feet above a freezing pool of water. A marine must travel halfway across it, fall down and lock his arms straight, then regain the position back onto the rope by swinging his legs onto the rope pulling his shoulders up, arms over the rope and twisting up onto it. Many cadets failed to the laughter of the PTT's and the Colonel, but many congratulations to Cpl. Wilson and L Cpl. T. Thomas perfectly executed their regains and hence shaved valuable time off the assault course time. What a way to finish our Pringle

weekend with two of our cadets completing one of the most difficult manoeuvres in the commando training. For those who were cold and wet after the regain, we dried off and changed back into our suits for the results ceremony and prizes.

This year the Shrewsbury School Pringle Team came sixth overall, bringing home the trophy for the Leadership stance (that myself and Cpl. Wilson won in 2009) and first place in the Section Attacks stance (which, strangely, there is no trophy for). The best result we've for many years. (P.S. Charterhouse won this year, not that anyone really cares).

The minibus on the road back was both loud and full of laughter as we joked about accidentally shooting casualties and reminiscing about the weekend and it was silent as all cadets slept to get back the energy they spent on a terrific weekend before they resume their busy lives back at school. Bring on field day's nitex!!

Cpl. Will Heyes RM (Cb UVI)



CCF Pringle Competition: Marines win Section Attack and Leadership trophy

Wednesday 10 October 2012

The Pringle Trophy competition is a two-day, gruelling event in which teams from the 19 schools across the UK with Royal Marines CCF Detachments compete at the infamous Commando Training Centre RM (CTCRM) at Lympstone. The competition pushes the cadets' stamina, determination and teamwork to the limit, but it is a unique opportunity for them to experience what commando training entails.



Directed by a team of Royal Marine Instructors, who set a ruthless pace and look for similar levels of proficiency and purpose to those of regular Commandos, the first day is spent being assessed on different military skills including navigation, weapon handling, camouflage and concealment, sniper stalk, battle skills and combat medicine. The second day starts with tests on turnout, drill and knowledge of the history and traditions of the Royal Marines.

The final and most demanding challenge is the infamous Commando assault course. This test of physical fitness, strength and sheer grit involves a punishing combination of ropes, ditches, walls and tunnels. It also includes the notorious 'regain ropes' suspended high above an icy tank of water – an ultimate test of strength and tenacity.



The 2012 Pringle Trophy competition took place over the weekend of 6th and 7th October, and our team did extremely well in winning two of the stances - Leadership and Section Attack. Overall they came a highly creditable sixth in the competition.

Cpl. Will Heyes RM (Ch UVI) has written a full and fascinating account of the 2012 Pringle Trophy Competition; any young boys reading it are likely either to be inspired to join the CCF RM section, or to avoid it altogether.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Fencing: Largest turnout ever of Salopian fencers take on Wrekin Sword

Wednesday 10 October 2012

On the Saturday, our fencers took on Wrekin Sword in a very close fought 7-5 loss. Wrekin turned out very strong teams for this event fielding two former British Cadet sabreurs. Overall, an excellent day's fencing with forty four fencers (twenty two per team) taking part in the biggest school turn out ever in the history of Shrewsbury School Fencing Club. Well done to all those taking part in a very close fought contest.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Rugby: 1st to 7th October

Thursday 11 October 2012

A close fought and very tight game, and a good start to the season

The 1st XV got the season off to a solid start in a close fixture against rivals King's Chester. Tries from Will Bridges Webb and Ed Wilson were not enough to overcome the much bigger King's pack. Although on the wrong side of the scoreboard (20-17) this was a close fought and very tight game and a good start to the season.



Girls' Sport at Shrewsbury from 2014

Thursday 11 October 2012

Building on the success of sport at Shrewsbury over many years, and the introduction of girls' sport at Sixth Form level since 2008, the School is delighted to announce a full programme of sport, exercise and extra-curricular activity for girls from September 2014.

The School is committed to introducing (or reinforcing), encouraging, and resourcing girls' sport with the same vigour and passion that it has done for boys over many years.

Shrewsbury looks forward to reinforcing and enhancing its sporting provision for girls from 2014, by employing the highest quality full time staff and visiting coaches, and also financing improved facility provision for both indoor and outdoor sports. Our Sixth Form girls have already established themselves as serious competitors on our fixture list for hockey and netball. We look forward to more of our girls going on to representative honours in both sports.

In addition, we are very excited to announce the introduction of **lacrosse** and **cricket** to our provision for girls from 2014. We are already working with local and regional development officers in both sports in order to ensure that our programme exceeds expectations, and that a competitive fixture programme is established. Within a relatively short timeframe we are aiming to become a centre of excellence regionally, and in time nationally, for lacrosse and cricket, as well as hockey, netball and tennis.

To give parity to the boys, girls will be asked to opt into a sport and/or exercise programme at the start of each term. For example, the 'ball games' option in the Michaelmas term will be hockey and lacrosse, in the Lent term, netball and lacrosse, and in the Summer term, cricket and tennis. A full range of alternatives will be available throughout the year to complement the 'ball games' including the following activities: *rowing, swimming, Eton fives, cross country, fencing, squash, variety of gym classes, badminton, yoga, trampolining, rounders, archery, shooting, polo (school fixtures only, no training on site).*

All new entrants at Third Form will enjoy a varied, timetabled core PE and curriculum games programme in addition to afternoon sport. House competitions and tournaments will be an important feature of the girls' programme (as it is now at Sixth Form level) to ensure girls experience intramural competition and rivalry! Girls will also be most welcome to opt for Physical Education as a GCSE option.

Parents of talented girls are most welcome to explore the possibility of a Sport Scholarship award by contacting Director of Sport, Paul Greetham (01743 280697, pg@shrewsbury.org.uk) or Head of Admissions, Kathy Campbell (01743 280553). Scholarship assessments for sport and all-rounders take place in October 2013 for September 2014 entry.

Paul Greetham

Director of Sport

pg@shrewsbury.org.uk

A Week in the Life of Rebecca Home (MSH UVI)

Thursday 11 October 2012

I have just begun my second year at Shrewsbury School and I am loving every minute of it! Being Head of Mary Sidney Hall adds to my hectic schedule, but I enjoy this position of responsibility.

Monday is a pretty busy day for me; I start the morning with Spanish and then two study periods. After these I head to double biology, where I had a test on respiration. Not the best way to start the week but sadly it has to be done! Then into the afternoon where I had Chemistry and Spanish, as you can see I take quite a strange mix of subjects but I enjoy the different aspects they all can offer, meaning I'm never bored. After lessons on a Monday we have inter house sport between Mary Sidney Hall and Emma Darwin, which let's just say becomes very heated and the rivalry is at its peak. This week we played hockey where I played for the 1st team.



Tuesday is chemistry-fuelled since I have triple chemistry in the morning. After this I went to speak to Mr Conway about university and course choices in my study period which actually led me to think about different science based courses universities offer. In the afternoon I had Spanish in which we are currently going over the quite controversial topic of racism. This week was a bit different to the others in the fact that I got to go to the University of Birmingham to a chemistry lecture on fireworks followed by a curry, so it isn't all work there is some play!

Wednesday I started the day by having a driving lesson in the morning since I had two study periods, followed by biology and chemistry lessons. In the afternoon, I had a hockey match against Wrekin where I was captain for the 2nd team and led my team to victory 4-3, with us scoring the winning goal in the last thirty seconds; it is safe to say everyone's adrenaline was very high!

Thursday for me involves a full set of five lessons plus chapel; double biology, chemistry, double Spanish. After this I had a Spanish oral on the topic of racism which certainly broadens your view on the theme. On Thursday afternoon I don't have any activities so instead catch up on my work and also play fives at five. I had never played fives before coming to Shrewsbury so it was certainly a new experience, but I have really enjoyed it, and reached the semi-finals with my partner Tilly in the beginner's competition at nationals last year, which was definitely a highlight.

Friday starts off with double Spanish and the double biology. After lessons I had a driving lesson since I had the afternoon off. Friday afternoon I actually went home since on Saturday I went to Manchester University open day, which was very useful and helped my decision on what course to study at university. After my open day I came back to school to watch the charity fashion show which my friends had organised and I was impressed since it was very professional. Sunday I went to chapel and then went home for the day where took my horse round a farm ride.

So that is a typical week for me, as you can see I love sport and being active and try to never have a moment spare!

RSSH: Sports Lab Testing for Elite Hunt Runners and International Coaching to come!

Sunday 14 October 2012

This week saw the first set of tests for six of the top Hunt runners in the school, conducted by The Sports Lab, an initiative led by the Director of Sports to further enhance our sporting provision for the very best sportsmen and women in the school.

The tests took place in the Hunt training room in the Stott Pavilion and involved a number of different tests including maximal inspiratory muscle tests, body fat tests, and Vo2 Max testing on the treadmills. The latter provides data breaking down maximum heartrate, work rate economy, training zones, and oxygen intake. The data from these tests will provide us as coaches with crucial information that can be applied when looking towards developing individual athletes. The athletes will be tested again next term. We are also extremely lucky to be able to expand this testing into our juniors with the generous financial support of a former Huntsman who has offered to pay for three more juniors to be tested in this way.



Indeed, we are extremely grateful not only for this funding, but also the exciting new initiative of a Coach in Residence, where **Sentayehu Eshetu** will spend a week with our Hunt runners providing a valuable and unique insight into coaching methods at the elite end of African running. Coach Eshetu is one of the leading Ethiopian coaches, and amongst the many athletes he has worked with include multiple Olympic medalists such as Tirunesh Dibaba who this year defended her title as Olympic gold medalist in the women's 10,000m. He has also coached another double Olympic champion Derartu Tulu, the very first black African female Olympic gold medalist. His coaching credentials, in short, are impressive! With the financial support of our former Huntsman and in partnership with the charity 'Running Across Borders', we are flying Coach Eshetu over from Ethiopia and accommodating him for a full week of coaching masterclasses. During that week we will be screening in Quod the award-winning documentary 'Town of Runners' which features Coach Eshetu, which will be followed by a Q&A session.

If you are interested in attending the event on Wednesday 7th November, please e-mail pjm@shrewsbury.org.uk. More information on the film can be found at www.townofrunners.com.





'Mayor for the Day' by Alex Penman (Rb 3)

Monday 15 October 2012

The Headmaster was approached by the Mayor's office in March, when the new Mayor and Mayoress, Cllr Keith and Mrs Catherine Roberts were appointed. They asked for two Third Form pupils to become Junior Mayors for the day, and Alex Penman (Rb) and Ralph Assheton (SH) were the first to volunteer after it was announced at a Third Form assembly.

Ralph Assheton and I were picked up by the Mayor's official car at the Darwin statue, and spent the journey discussing with the driver the Mayor's roles and responsibilities. We learned that he is Shrewsbury's representative in the Shropshire Council, and he became Mayor because he had been a councillor for the longest time.



We met the Mayor at his parlour in the Council building at Frankwell, and were formally greeted and given medals. The Mayor is very warm and friendly, and very smart in his formal gown. We were then driven to our first Macmillan coffee morning at Pengwern Court, which was very exciting as we were greeted by many friendly faces. We exchanged pleasantries for a while, before heading off to our second coffee morning on Riverdale

Road. It was a local charity get together, and I was impressed at how important it is to us to fundraise.

We were then taken back to the Mayor's parlour where we had lunch and the Mayor signed bills and official documents. Meanwhile, Ralph and I talked about how our day had gone so far. After this, we journeyed to Salop Leisure for the grand opening of the Caravan and Motorhome show. We saw the Mayor cutting the ribbon for the opening, which was exciting. We then had a look around the caravans and tried to judge which ones we would most like to live in. After this, we had a final photo taken in front of a giant bronze eagle and the day came to a close.

I thoroughly enjoyed the trip, the most interesting part was finding out what the Mayor does each day, and what his responsibilities are.

Alex Penman



Jack Travers' marathon cycle ride/run in aid of Alex Wilson Memorial Fund

Monday 15 October 2012



Jack Travers (I 2000-05) and his friend, James MacFee, recently completed the Berlin Marathon after cycling to Berlin from Amsterdam - all in a week!

Jack says: 'On the face of it - a big challenge. In reality it was exactly that although it was far more enjoyable than could have been imagined.'

It was wonderful to complete personally but more important was to raise money for the Alex Wilson Appeal which is such a wonderful cause. If anyone takes on a challenge soon then it is a very worthwhile charity and with such obvious links to Shrewsbury it made the whole experience that much greater. Read the full report [here](#).

To support:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserPage.action?userUrl=JackTravers&pageUrl=2>
<http://breakthrough.tributefunds.com/JackTravers>

What's next for Jack? Watch this space...!'



The Sidney Gold Medal - Shrewsbury's top academic prize

Monday 15 October 2012

In recent weeks three Old Salopian winners of the prestigious Sidney Gold Medal – the top academic prize Shrewsbury has to offer – have returned to the School to receive their awards.



The Gold Medal is given to the most outstanding academic pupil in the view of the School's Heads of Faculties. It is not unusual for there to be no recipient of the award in some years, while in others the prize has been shared. The most recent recipients include: Hugh Williams (Rb 2003-08) for Physics, Philipp Legner (O 2007-09) for Mathematics and Max Emmerich (Rt 2008-10) for Biology. Philipp and Hugh received their awards on the recent OS Day, while Max was presented with his medal by Mark Turner during the rededication of the Queen's Terrace on Saturday 13th October.

As well as being a multiple prize winner in mathematics and science when he was at Shrewsbury, Hugh also led the Salopian team to the national final of the Particle Physics competition at Birmingham University, where the team successfully explained how the Large Hadron Collider works to young school pupils. Hugh went on to read Engineering at Magdalene College, Cambridge.

Philipp Legner is currently studying mathematics at St John's College Cambridge. Whilst at School he won numerous prizes in science and mathematics and captained the UK International Young Physicists' Team, leading them to a bronze medal place in the 2009 tournament in China – the UK's highest ever position.



Max arrived in Shrewsbury in 2008 and in his two years at The Schools, he won a host of top science and mathematics prizes. In 2011 he won a place at Trinity College Cambridge to read Medicine. In part 1A of his Tripos Max was ranked in the top 5% of his year and in part 1B in the top 2%. He has won a variety of prizes whilst at university and is now a Senior Scholar of Trinity College. He is currently researching stem cell technology.

It is noteworthy that collectively all three of these outstanding academics have been praised for their modesty, quest for knowledge and pursuit of excellence in their chosen subjects.

Short History of the Sidney Gold Medal

The Sidney Gold Medal was instituted in 1838 and was awarded to the best Classical Scholar going to either Oxford or Cambridge. The Medal originally came with a purse of 50 sovereigns, but the latter payment only lasted for 5 years! The prize was paid for by Trustees and individual



subscriptions. The Trustees commissioned Sir Edward Thomason to cut the original die and the image was based on a miniature painted by George Perfect Harding and owned by Dr Kennedy (now in the School collection). After Thomason's death, the business was continued by G R Collis of Birmingham who supplied all medals after 1845. The medal was discontinued in 1855 when the stocks were exhausted, but was revived again in 1899. In 1980 the Salopian Club decided that the Medal should be open to all disciplines and not purely the Classics. Since that time the majority of recipients have excelled in the sciences.

The winner of the 2012 Sidney Gold Medal will be presented with their award at Speech Day on Saturday 29th June 2013.





Henry Kennedy (I LVI) wins place in National Youth Wind Orchestra

Monday 15 October 2012

Henry Kennedy auditioned on Sunday 14th October at the Birmingham Conservatoire for the National Youth Wind Orchestra of Great Britain, and has been awarded a place to play saxophone for this coming year.



The National Youth Wind Orchestra is a large concert band with approximately 75 members aged between 15 and 20 years old and are of Grade VIII and above standard.

The orchestra configuration means that the whole range of clarinets takes the places of the violins and violas in a symphony orchestra. The result is a wonderfully rich sound which is quite unlike the one-to-one reedy sound made by smaller ensembles.

NYWO has been recorded many times on Radio Three and Classic FM, and since 1986 there have been nearly 4,500 young players through its ranks, many of whom are now working in orchestras, ensembles, bands and music related organisations throughout the world.

The Main Orchestra meets twice a year at Easter and in the Summer for residential courses lasting 9 days each. Directed by renowned national and international conductors and accompanied by professional tutors, a full range of concerts are given each year in venues throughout the country and abroad.



Football: 1st XI making good progress through their cup tournaments

Tuesday 16 October 2012

Shrewsbury School 1st XI Football team are through to the 4th Round of the ESFA Cup after a comfortable 3-0 victory over near neighbours Idsall School from Shifnal. They progressed to this stage by beating St Thomas More RC School 6-1 in the previous round. Goals from Max Pragnell(2) and Elliott Christie ensured the win. The next round of this competition has yet to be drawn.

The 1st XI are also through to the 3rd Round of the ISFA Boodles Cup by beating Highgate 1-0 and Royal Russell 4-0. They now have to travel to Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith in the next round; this match is to be played on Wednesday 14th November, 2.00pm kick-off.



The Prep Schools' Cross-Country Championships 2012 - another star performance!

Tuesday 16 October 2012

Following the inaugural event last year, this year Shrewsbury hosted the 2nd Annual Prep Schools' Cross-Country Championships in glorious sunshine, and with a field that almost doubled in numbers from the previous year. The event expanded to include girls this year, and with Shrewsbury looking forward to embracing full co-education in 2014, it was terrific to see such enthusiasm from the girls that competed. In fact, the U11 girls category was the largest on the day!

Maidwell Hall were the standout school taking home three out of the four team trophies, including the U11 'Huntsman's Cup' and the U13 'Bob Parker Cup' (presented by former RSSH coach Bob Parker himself!) Old Hall School broke in to prevent a clean-sweep, however, with their girls taking home the U11 girls trophy, with impressive performances from their first three home in 1st (Jessica Humphreys), 5th (Georgina Rowlinson), and 6th (Sophia Malpass). Individual silver medalist in the U11s was Esme Hughes from Moreton Hall, with Lillian Wilcox from Birchfield completing the podium in 3rd.



The girls U13 event saw a Maidwell individual victory from Mimi Cleverly, closely followed behind by her team-mate Abby McCagney. Felicity Hayward from St Richard's (whose older brother William, now at Shrewsbury School, came 2nd in last year's U13 boys race) took bronze.



In the U11 boys, the individual victory came from William Lewin of Prestfelde, with Alexander Veitch of Old Hall School in 2nd and Maidwell's Monty Fenwicke-Clelland in 3rd. We were delighted to hear later that William Lewin's grandfather, Michael Hope (Ch 1941-1946), was Huntsman in 1945/46.

The U13 race was a particularly hotly contested race with a number of very strong runners featuring. However, the eventual margin of victory for Cundall Manor's Jake Doyle was nearly 30 seconds ahead of Shrewsbury High Prep's Henry Crow and Jack Soulsby from Terra Nova. Jake's victory was all the more impressive as he has only this year moved up from the U11 category (which he won last year), and was therefore one of the youngest in the field. One to look out for in

the future!

A great day of racing, and we look forward to next year's event and more mud, sweat, and possibly some blood!

PJM



Field Day October 2012: An opportunity for Salopians to take part in a whole range of activities

Tuesday 16 October 2012

On Thursday Afternoons pupils take part in a huge variety of activities - which are neither entirely sporting, nor academic. The emphasis for the fourth form is on physical skills such as CCF, Outward Bound or Leadership Skills; in the upper years, there is a wide range of choice from Mountain Biking and Gliding to cookery, Community Service or bird watching. Field Day offers pupils and staff an opportunity to spend an entire day on this activity, which in most cases means going off site.

Cookery

A group of Fifth Form boys have been doing cookery with the KH staff on Thursday afternoons this term, where they have been learning some basic cookery skills.

On Field Day, the boys were split up into small groups with a chef allocated to each team. Under the watchful eye of the professionals, they then set about helping to prepare and create the evening meal for the school. Beans on toast it was not! The kitchen is a busy and noisy place in the middle of the creation of supper for up to 700 people, and it was interesting to see how the boys coped with it all. We think that they now have a pretty good idea of the amount of work that goes into the production of the evening "Nose Bag"!

The end result? Frazzled boys, fabulous food cooked to perfection within the allocated time, but best of all, a fresh appreciation of all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes in our dedicated kitchen.

Carrie Zeiler



Third Form - First Aid skills and anti-bullying workshop

Our Third Form boys spent their first Field Day on site, spending half their day (in house groups) taking part in a very hands-on First Aid session, and the other half of the day in a workshop run by professional actors about the subject of Bullying.

In the First Aid sessions with St Johns Ambulance staff, the boys learned about what to do when faced with a casualty, how to use

DR ABC in their primary survey, how to put a casualty into the recovery position, how to deal with bleeding, shock and choking, and they used resuscitation dolls to practise resuscitation and

chest compressions. A great day with lots of useful hints and tips, and all the boys are now qualified Young First Aiders.



The workshop on bullying was led by a team from 'Actorshop' Theatre Company in London, and took place in the Ashton Theatre. The pupils spent an enjoyable and stimulating session helping the actors to create (with their own advice and suggestions) an imaginative scenario that happens in some schools. As this short play developed, points were highlighted about the nature and impact of bullying, and most importantly, how to react to and deal with bullying in a school context. The session was stimulating, informative, highly memorable and

entertaining, and above all, practical and realistic.

Vicky Kirk and Andrew Dalton



Mountain biking

On Field Day 9 senior boys, 2 recent Old Salopians and a guest rider from Moreton Hall (aspiring professional) all took part in a training day using a notorious track nick-named 'The Wobbler' at Crogen, near Bala.

We were taken through various features of the track with demonstrations and advice from world-ranked professional racers Matt Simmonds and Joe Smith. After lunch we were transported repeatedly to the top of the hill for timed runs using the specialised equipment provided. All the boys dealt with the muddy, challenging conditions very well indeed. Prizes were awarded by Matt at the end of the day before we recharged our energy reserves with a hearty meal at the Berwyn Arms on the way home.

A special thanks to land-owner Henry Robertson for all his assistance on the day.

Paul Kaye

Public Nose



On Field Day eight Public Nose writers spent the morning and the first part of the afternoon writing up their second issue of the Public Nose. Articles were on subjects as wide ranging as Mr Bell stepping down from School House at the end of the academic year, an interview with Mr Vicars, reviews of Frankie Boyle and the recent Kit and McConnel concert, how to prepare for The Tucks and the first few weeks at MSH. The two editors, Molly Venner (EDH) and Ed Harrison (I) spent the entire morning putting the edition together.

All in all the team worked very hard, and were rewarded with an outing to Pizza Express for lunch!

Laura Whittle

Wheelchair Basketball Experience



Field Day saw 38 of the 4th Form and 6 lower 6 pupils take part in a paralympic themed day, in order to raise awareness of disability sport.

Activities involved in the day included impaired obstacle courses and Boccia, but without a doubt the highlight was wheelchair basketball. We were extremely fortunate to be able to invite into school an ex-GB basketball player who ran a wheelchair workshop for us. All pupils involved were able to attempt playing wheelchair basketball and fun was had by all. An invaluable experience for all involved, with many pupils wishing they could have extra time to play. Well done to all those involved in this fantastic day.

Steve Clancy

Since Field Day, some of the staff have decided to join a club and continue doing wheelchair basketball, and we intend to run similar sessions here for our pupils in the future.

Golf

Despite a wet start to the day our golf Field Day was another resounding success. After a warm up of 80 balls at the Shrewsbury driving range we headed for the home turf of the Legges, Bridgnorth, to re-create the Ryder Cup. Bacon bapped-up, we tee-ed off. The match was

Boarders v the Dayboys. The first 9 holes were scored on Stapleford and the back 9, fourball matchplay. This led to some unbelievable scores.... Of the final cards submitted Charlie Bibby (SH) came out on the top of the Staplefords, but the Dayboys won the match 3 to 1.

The course played extremely well despite the damp conditions, and is certainly one we'd recommend for those golfers who like long par 5's! In conclusion then, in sporting parlance, at the end of the day a good time was had by all, and we extend our grateful thanks to Mr Legge for his brave invitation for us to play at his home course, and to Bridgnorth Golf Club for allowing us to enjoy their splendid course.

We certainly feel that our golfing society is really beginning to build on the foundations laid over the past few years, and that the Thursday afternoon golfing session is becoming ever more a beacon for what being a Salopian is all about.

Tim Foulger

CCF Field Day

The 100 or so cadets in the CCF travelled to Nesscliff Training Area for an action packed overnight exercise and day full of activity. The 60 newest cadets (our valiant band of 'Recruits') including three Year 10 girls from nearby Adcote School slept under the stars in 'Basha Wood', played a 'flag game' - and were then woken at dawn by the sound of gunfire (the senior cadets had located their position). After that it was compo breakfast and into the day's activities.

Meanwhile the senior cadets had also had a nitex involving a downed aircraft scenario. The next morning the Fifth and Sixth Form cadets organised three excellent large scale demonstrations that were given to the Recruits to illustrate the differing roles of the Royal Marine, Army and RAF sections at Shrewsbury. A section attack, building recce and clearance illustrated what the first two sections do - and a survival cooking activity showed what the RAF section (now known as the RFC - or Royal Cooking Corps) might do!

Nick David



*Left: Jack Nelson and Tiger Vechamamontien enjoying a 'field cooked' potato
Right: Jonathon Trenchard (RAF) is not sure of his ingredients*



A Week in the Life of James Halliday (G UVI)

Wednesday 17 October 2012

James's week at Shrewsbury was cut short due to family reasons, but he has written a detailed account of his first four days, that includes his Community Service visit on Field Day.



Monday 8th October

The day began with a free period first lesson; a godsend considering the toll that school life had taken on the majority of the house, so a lie in was very much in order. After the much needed lie in I headed off to lessons, a double double of Chemistry and Biology. Lunch unfortunately had to wait as I headed to the gym for a rugby strength and conditioning session then, with packed lunch in hand, to the Medical Society. The Medical Society is a meeting every week where boys and girls in the Upper 6th, who are applying to medical school, come to talk with Dr Morgan, our trusted leader, about different parts of our application; this week we began to talk about interviews. The topic of conversation was the news, and in particular anything medically related in the news. Our discussions swayed from the use of black mamba venom as a powerful analgesic ranging to the use of electrodes and stem cells to aid the recovery

of stroke victims. After the hour long arguing session we headed off to lessons. Final lesson of the day – Physics .

After lessons were over, I went to watch the last 20 minutes of the 1st XI ISFA cup match on Senior. By this point we were already winning 3-0 so the end result was never really in doubt at any point, but the supporters continued to blast away the chants in the cold, wet and windy conditions. The final result: 4-0 and Shrewsbury safely into the 3rd round. Back to the house and change for rugby; a handling session to start with and then a full contact game in the rain – what joy. After the most intense amount of exercise all term, I had a quick tea before house singing practice. Practice done, and down to work, then headed to bed early after a very tiring day.

Tuesday 9th October

The early rise again to get ready for the day, beginning with a double lesson of Physics, then a few free periods, then onto Chemistry – a fairly routine affair. After lunch another free period for some work and then finish the day off with Biology. A fairly sedate afternoon of work and finishing off my UCAS and sending it off a day late, something I should have avoided, and then

off to tea. After tea another house music rehearsal to run, followed by a part song rehearsal and then an evening of relaxation in front of the television.

Wednesday 10th October

A change in routine for Wednesday as Mrs Boville comes in to give our regular matron a day off. The piercing sound of Miss B, as she is known around the house, was a lot less soothing than matron and the addition of opening curtains made it impossible to stay in bed. Wednesday is the only day during my week when I have lessons during all periods, so today was going to feel like my longest day; after a double lesson of Chemistry came a Biology test then a Physics practical.

Straight after lunch I headed to the music building for my oboe lesson and oboe trio group. The group had a mixed bag of results; the piece, Beethoven's oboe trio, is on the difficult side and the majority of us found it quite hard. After that a lesson with my teacher in which she introduced me to 'postmodern' music, which was 'different' compared to the majority of my other music and to be honest didn't sound great. After that a dash back to the house to change for 2nd leagues; a heated affair against Ingram's, the former house of my current housemaster Mr Cowper. It is fair to say that it was a heated affair in which Mr Cowper almost had a stroke at the side line, but after a very physical game of football, The Grove came away as the victors, much to the delight to Mr Cowper.

Another quick change and off to MUN. In preparation for a conference that the school is attending, we debated small resolutions on the subjects of Somali pirates and illegal bush meat. Although the thought of MUN makes most people wince, it is something that Shrewsbury is quite good at, and we manage to make people laugh at the same time, so Wednesday meetings never fail to disappoint. After tea I had an orchestra rehearsal in preparation for concerts in the Abbey, and the St Cecilia concerts after half term. After a long rehearsal I headed back to the house in time for another house singing practice, both unison and part song, and then a bit of TV to finish the day off.

Thursday 11th October

Today was nice as I had a lie in, albeit until 8:15, but nonetheless it was a lie in. I was able to have the 'huge' portion of time in bed as it was Field Day. As I'm in the Upper Sixth we don't usually have Thursday afternoon activities, but I have continued to do mine and will do so until the end of my time at Shrewsbury. Before I headed off to my normal placement I had a Biology practical revision session and put some finishing touches on a few bits of work.

During the afternoon every Thursday, including this one, I go to the Uplands Care home in Oxen, Shrewsbury as part of the community service programme run by the school; having been going there for over a year now it is something that I still look forward to. The care home is quite large, with nearly 100 residents having around-the-clock care. When we visit the home we do a variety of different jobs; we could be sitting and talking to people on the different wards, with ailments ranging from Parkinson's to simple arthritis, handing out cups of tea or helping residents turn the pages of a hymn book during a song of praise with a visiting vicar. This week we were helping with a communion service in one of the ward lounges. Our job is not too difficult, but it is time consuming, and it helps out the nurses and the other staff in the care home, and by the end of the placement you do feel that you have helped people even though it may have only been to wheel them to and from the church service. The service was short and simple but faith is a very big part of some of the patients and so a church service, no matter what length, is always packed to the rafters. It may have only been a couple of hours but the work is rather labour intensive so when our time to go arrived we were tired but satisfied that we had

Shrewsbury

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done our small bit to help out in a community outside the privilege and well-being of Shrewsbury School.

After I got back I got ready for another rugby session after which it was a chapel choir rehearsal and then another house singing rehearsal with a very tired bunch of Lower Sixth, back from their various Field Day activities. At about 8:45 The Grove emptied as we embarked on our weekly trip to the Shrewsbury Town power leagues. Despite being in the rain it was something that we all enjoy and I'm sure, despite house singing and tucks being the next day, that next week's trip will go ahead as normal.

After a day that I had thought would be relaxing, but turned out to be extremely exhausting, bed was a very welcome relief.

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Shrewsbury School's 'Independent Adults'

Wednesday 17 October 2012

As part of our [Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#), we have a team of three 'Independent Adults' who have volunteered to be a point of contact for any pupils with concerns or complaints that they do not wish to raise with a member of our staff.

On Monday, the Common Room bade farewell to Daphne Capps, who has been on our team of Independent Adults for 23 years. Daphne's sons were both here, and she has enjoyed the continued link that she has had with the School through her role.

Mary Clapworthy is Daphne's successor. Also the mother of two Old Salopians, Mary is a retired dental surgeon who lives locally.



Sports results w/e 14th October 2012

Wednesday 17 October 2012

Week 6: 8th October – 14th October

Date	Sport	Team	Opposition	H/A	Result	Score
Monday 8 th	Football	1 st XI	Royal Russell School, Croydon (ISFA Cup Rd 3)	H	W	4-0
Tuesday 9 th	Football	U15a XI	Wolverhampton Grammar School (ISFA Cup Rd 2)	A	W	3-0
		U16c XI	Wakeman School	H	L	0-2
		U16b XI	Thomas Telford School	H	L	0-5
		U15b XI		H	L	0-2
		U14b XI		H	L	0-7
	Netball	U18 VII	Turbo (Harper Adams League)	A	W	19-18
Wednesday 10 th	Football	6 th XI	Wrekin College	H		
		U14c XI	Terra Nova Prep School	A	D	2-2
		U14d XI		A	W	6-0
		U16d XI	Priory School, Shrewsbury	H	L	2-3
		U15d XI		H	W	3-2
		U15d XI		H	W	5-2
	Hockey	1 st XI (G)	County Hockey Tournament, Newport	A		
			Ludlow		W	4-0
			Thomas Adams		D	0-0
			Ellesmere		L	0-1
Swimming	Mixed	Wrekin College	H	W	77-60	
Saturday 13 th	Football	1 st XI	Millfield School	H	L	0-4
		2 nd XI		H	W	2-1
		3 rd XI		H	L	0-4
	Rugby	A XV	Bedstone College	A	W	26-22



CCF: Military Skills Competition 2012

Thursday 18 October 2012

Seven boys from Shrewsbury School CCF recently took part in the Cadet Military Skills/March and Shoot Competition that was held at Swynnerton Training Camp on Saturday the 13th October. This is an important competition and it saw 22 teams from CCF and ACF units competing in a series of seven stands.

Our team of boys led by Oliver Pattison-Appleton performed strongly, and although they did not win they had a tremendously enjoyable time and all agreed it had been a worthwhile experience.

Stands that the boys competed in included; map reading a forced march, first aid, a patrol lane, 25 meter range, dismounted close combat training (DCCT), weapons skills and a command task.

Will Simper





RSSCS: The Cheese Society is born in Churchill's Hall

Thursday 18 October 2012

It has long been my view that each of the different houses have their own type of boy. Churchill's is seen by many as a musical and academic house. However, it must be said that we band of brothers have quite a few eccentrics enclosed within our ranks and I, as one of my peers was so kind as to point out, am one of them.

So when an eccentric wants something to fill part of his Sunday, what does he do? I'll tell you: he sets up a cheese society. After hunting about for some like minded people and doing a bit of legal research, the Royal Shrewsbury School Cheese Society began its illustrious life. (The legal work consisted of looking around the ancient library for proof that we could have a royal charter and thanks to a clever bit of deduction by archivist Dr Morrogh, we now have one.)

The first proper meeting of the RSSCS took place on a fine October day when the breeze was minimal and the sun warm. We gathered around the dining room table in the Churchill's Hall private side and I, in my place as president, gave the opening speech, introducing the cheeses and officially entering every one into the society archives. The society then took their seat around the table and the first cheese was sampled.

Unfortunately its name had been forgotten so it was simply called the Italian one. "Pray silence for the First Taster" I intoned, and as silence descended across the table the First Taster (Charles Wade) sniffed the cheese and then delicately placed it in his mouth. When the pomp and circumstance of the actual tasting was finished, Charles gave his judgement. I quote from the Royal Cheese Book: "Tastes ... tastes like parmesan, quite strong not too mild. ...Tastes like the aftermath of being sick." I quickly interrupt him before our pallets were curdled.

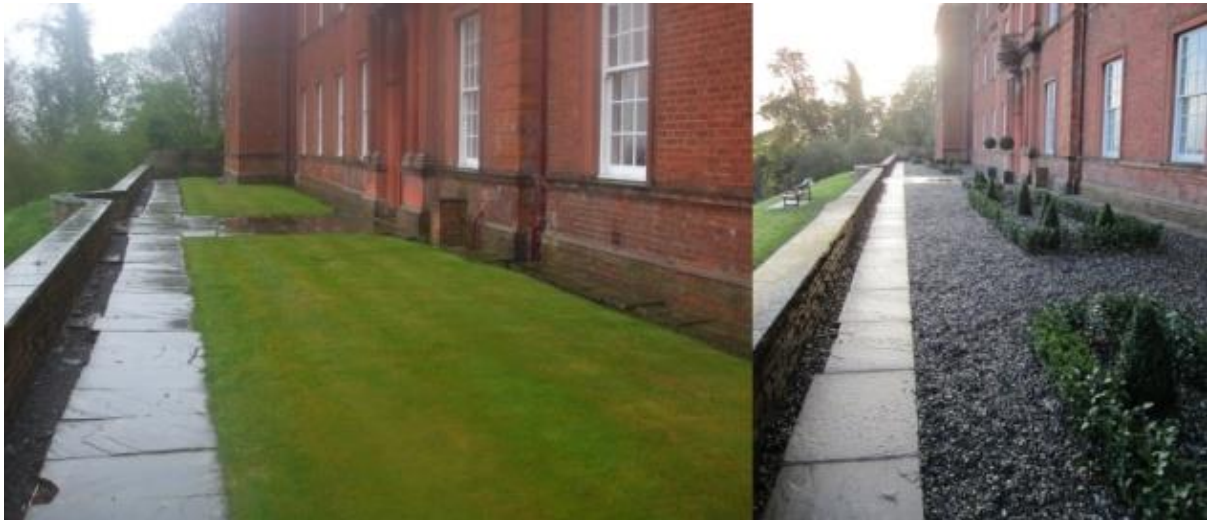
Suddenly the Keeper of the Royal Cheese Books (Rory Fraser) appeared in the door way. The paternal member of Rory's family was soon followed by other members of his clan. Then followed a period of greeting and conversation with the new arrivals, which ended when it was felt that things must resume so Rory's family tootled off to the kitchen to have a cup of something and we resumed our laborious work. Before anyone else could try the cheese I had to taste it first, and so a slice was handed to me by the society's Secretary and Keeper of the Royal Cheese Knife (Ralph Wade). I, with good deal of élan, placed the cheese in my mouth. When I had gauged the taste, I gave my consent for everyone to taste the cheese and add condiments of their choosing.

By the time we got to deciding what went with the cheese the best, an air of bonhomie had been generated around the company. As the official minutes record, the House was divided and so I was given the casting vote. Ginger and Whisky compote and a cracker was what I chose to be the winning condiment selection. This process of tasting and judging happened with a ewe's cheese, a cheddar cheese and a Waterloo, respectively. Finally we chose an overall winner. Rising to my feet (followed by the other members) I mustered my gravitas and announced the Ewe's cheese with ginger with whisky and cracker to be the best. The meeting was then closed and the other members drifted out. Then came the clean up.

Floreat Churchilliana and the RSSCS - Guy Cabral (4th Form, Ch)

The re-opening of The Queen's Terrace

Thursday 18 October 2012



We were delighted to welcome back a number of our former members of staff for the official re-opening of the Queen's Terrace on Saturday. The north facing lawn had always been a bit of a challenge, and has now been replaced with local Shropshire stone and some formal planting. At the same time, the original paving stones were taken up and re-laid.

In slight drizzle, the Headmaster spoke by the plaque (high up above the Severn, mentions of Risk Assessment caused much amusement) to around 100 guests gathered on the newly refurbished terrace, and was followed by Stephen Caney. Our guest of honour at the event, Stephen will shortly be retiring from his position as Governor, having been in the post since 2006 when he was elected by the Headmaster and Assistant Masters of the School. Just as the speeches were coming to an end, a double rainbow appeared behind the speakers.

Two of our guests had attended the original opening by the young Queen Elizabeth in 1952 – Old Salopian, Robin Mouldsdales (I 1942-46) taught English here from 1951 to 1981 and was Housemaster of Moser's; Adrian Struvé was in the Modern Languages faculty from 1950 to 1986, and was Housemaster of Churchill's and Headroom (when it was half of School House) during this time.

Unsurprisingly, the Common Room was buzzing with anecdotes and memories as old friends were reunited.



The plaque records the original inauguration:

HANC GESTATIONEM ANNO SCHOLAE FUNDATAE QUADRINGENTESIMO
EXTRACTAM PRIMA INGRESSA EST ELIZABETH II REGINA
A D IX KAL NOV MCMLII

(Queen Elizabeth was the first to walk upon this terrace constructed in the 400th year since the foundation of the school on 24 October 1952).

There then follows a verse written by D.S.Colman (OS and Master), as also the translation:

UNDE TRAHAM NOMEN MOLES RUDIS, ADVENA, QUAERIS.
DISCE OLIM DOMINAE ME TETIGISSE PEDES.
TUM VERA INCESSU PATUIT REGINA.

QUIS UMQUAM. CONTEMNET TITULOS ABSTULERITUE MEOS?

(Stranger, you ask whence I, a mere mass of earth derive my name. Learn that once my mistress' foot and I met. Then she walked as a true queen. Who will ever despise or steal away my claim to honour?)

For further details of the Royal Visit to Shrewsbury School in 1952, and more photos, please see [The Queen's Visit 1952](#).





House Swimming Championships

Thursday 18 October 2012

The Junior and Senior House Swimming Championships took place the week before half term. The atmosphere on poolside was immense and every student got behind their houses and supported their team to swim fantastically well.

Congratulations to School House who firmly won the Junior Championship, scoring 157 points, for the third year running. Porthill secured second place, with 124 points, and Severn Hill came third, with 96.

Ingram's securely won the Senior Championships, with 130 points, again for the third year running. School House scored 116 points, placing them second and Porthill came third with 111 points. The Grove won the Sixth Form cup by 11 points.

Rigg's won the Senior Cannon relay, with a brilliant time of 1:30.39 and Radbrook secured the top spot in the Junior Cannon relay, with a time of 1:43.60."

REP



‘Bugs & Butterflies’ Tea Party for prospective Third Form girls and their parents

Thursday 18 October 2012

We were overwhelmed by the interest in our inaugural ‘Bugs & Butterflies’ Tea Party in Quod last Sunday - quite literally when it came to numbers wanting to come, some of whom we had had to disappoint. However, the enthusiasm and interest from our staff ensured that the day was a tremendous success, and another ‘Bugs & Butterflies’ party is now planned for the Lent Term.

Over 50 intrigued girls aged between 9 and 11 were given badges which assigned them to their butterfly group: Red Admirals, Peacocks, Orange Tips or Holly Blues. Sixth Form girls from Emma Darwin and Mary Sidney became ‘Big Sisters’ for the day and were in charge of chaperoning the girls to and from their activities and filling them in on life at Shrewsbury.

Each group of girls took part in two activities, designed to give them a real taste of being a pupil here. Colleagues embraced the theme with huge enthusiasm and pulled out all the stops when it came to preparing their sessions with the girls in mind.

The Biology labs and the school’s own Natural History museum offered up a smorgasbord of bugs and butterflies for the girls to see up close and personal. Pond-dipping in the school pond provided a plethora of invertebrates including leeches, flatworms, hoglice and water boatman to be viewed under binocular zoom microscopes. The video link to a projector and screen meant that organisms less than a tenth of a millimetre long appeared to be over a metre. Head of Biology Mr Allott overheard ‘wow’ and ‘how cool is that?’ many times!

The girls were also shown our collection of live animals including snakes, tarantulas, and an artificial coral reef with live coral, and were finally invited to have a chat with Fitzroy, our African Grey parrot.

To commemorate this inaugural event, Director of Music John Moore wrote a ‘Bugs & Butterflies’ song. The musical sessions, held in the impressive Maidment Building Auditorium, saw the groups learn and perform the never before heard tune to a delighted Mr Moore, who is now planning a Ring Cycle of Darwinian songs.

Director of Drama, Brian Parsons took the girls on a creative adventure in his drama workshop. The girls had to invent a whole new creepy crawly. Letting their imaginations run wild they had to decide how the creature moved, what shape it was and how it sounded, what it ate and how it slept, before performing using nothing but their bodies, voices and fertile imaginations. Each creature was given a cod-Latin name, such as ‘Scratchius Fungus’ or ‘Crawlius Bugi’.

There are not many young girls who have a starting knowledge of the Chaos Theory, the Butterfly Effect, Fractals and Mandelbrot patterns, but thanks to Giles Bell nearly 30 girls were riveted and enthralled by the subject and were overheard chattering happily about what they had learnt to their rather bemused looking parents!

Using visual examples, girls saw for instance, how the Fibonacci sequence of numbers occurs widely in nature such as branching in trees, the arrangement of leaves on a stem, the flowering of artichoke, or an uncurling fern.



Whilst the girls were off enjoying their activities, the parents were given a presentation about Shrewsbury, showing them how we will be ensuring that girls who join our School at the age of 13 are happy, settled and confident. After this, there were opportunities to talk to a number of our members of staff and for parents to have any of their questions answered.

With the day drawing to a close, families were reunited for tea in the Quod – also Bug & Butterfly themed! The kitchen staff had

excelled themselves with a sandwich tea, butterfly decorated cupcakes and a beautiful centre piece cake which was a perfect ladybird with eyelashes and antennae, settled on banana leaves.

The pièce de résistance for the children and adults was a Willy Wonka style display of creepy crawlies, sweets, treats and chocolates. Each child (mostly) resisted temptation and was rewarded with a bag of sweets to take home with their Shrewsbury School goody bag.

And so to goodbyes...with the hope that it won't be the last time we see many of these girls enjoying their days at Shrewsbury.

P.S. A late addition from Victoria Horbach (EDH LVI):

As a "big sister" from Sixth Form, I had the pleasure of showing the prospective girls entering at 2014 around the school site, introducing them to life at Shrewsbury School. We attended different activities, one of these being an introduction to the significance of the Fibonacci sequence with Mr. Bell.

Here, the girls got to know what the Fibonacci sequence was and how it is present in many quotidian matters. We also recognised that even the human body is related to the Golden Ratio, as it demonstrates a perfect proportion between certain body parts.

Consequently, the girls could test their own proportionality with regards to the Golden Ratio and experiment around with the Fibonacci sequence. To finish off the interesting and enjoyable lesson, the group of girls watched short videos concerning Pi and the history of Fibonacci's sequence.

The afternoon was a great delight for members of all ages. It certainly seemed to me that the Bugs and Butterflies event was a full success!

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A Day Girl's view point, by Izzy Tension Collins (MSH LVI)

Friday 19 October 2012

The best thing about being in a boarding house for me is getting to know boarders, whereas the separate day boy houses creates a divide between the boarders and day boys that just doesn't exist with the girls.

Before starting I imagined it would be a lot more difficult to get to know everyone, but I found everyone really friendly and as we were all starting at the same time there weren't established friendship groups to fit into. I also worried that I would have a huge problem getting used to being at school so late, 9pm most nights, compared to my previous school but I honestly don't notice. I find staying late means I have the structure of top schools (homework time) to motivate me to do my work, and once it's over I can go home and relax.

Overall, I've really enjoyed my time at Shrewsbury School so far and would recommend it to anybody with the opportunity to experience it.



Old Salopian Yacht Club: Good performance in the Arrow Trophy on 7 October

Tuesday 23 October 2012



David Richards says 'Despite the frustrations of low wind conditions, all on board enjoyed a great weekend. Whilst the Shrewsbury White crew did not quite have last year's striking success, our Blue crew upheld the Club's honour by once again winning the Charterhouse Bowl in the fleet racing. Once more being the only school to enter two crews, we were able to offer places to sailors of all abilities and ages and were delighted to have had three 18-year-old crewmembers on board.

A full report will appear in the next edition of The Salopian magazine, due out in early December.

Next year's event will be held on the weekend of 12/13 October 2013 and we are keen to hear from any Salopian sailors who would like to join us, especially more recent leavers. Email david.richards@trinity.oxon.org for more details or to register interest.

Pictured: Shrewsbury Blue Chases Shrewsbury White

More information on the Arrow Trophy can be found at: <http://www.arrows trophy.org.uk/>

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Richard Parkin (DB 1967-71) 24.6.1953 - 19.10.2012

Wednesday 24 October 2012

The Salopian Club is sad to announce the death of Richard Parkin (DB 1967-71). His funeral will take place on Friday 9th November at 2.30pm at Shrewsbury Crematorium.

The Parkin family would welcome attendance by any Old Salopians and School staff who knew Richard.

House Singing 2012

Thursday 25 October 2012

Charlie Oakley reviews the House Singing Competition that took place just before the half term break. Photos by Kate Bronner.



Severn Hill: The Overall Winner

The audition stages, the boot camps, the trips to their mentors' houses are in the past. Now just two performances remain: the Part Song and the Unison. Who would be crowned winner of Shrewsbury School's House Singing Competition 2012?

There was of course much interest in the contests for best Part Song, best Unison, Most Entertaining and Most Improved.

The Part Song was hotly contested, so much so, Rigg's ran with 'Fever'. Picking the top five was not an easy decision. The Dayboys were adventurous in their choices, Port Hill went for 'Bangarang' by Skrillex which they managed to make easier on the ear than the original. Cruciverbalists may have seen Radbrook's entry, an arrangement of Gotye by Rob Homden as 'thy bygone boredom' but it was anything but. 'Somebody I used to Know' is one of the best selling singles of this year and having a wealth of treble voices gave this composition greater depth and ensured it was a memorable part of the evening. Although their performance did not make the judges' top five, Radbrook were awarded most improved and Rob was rewarded for his effort with best arrangement.

Fifth place went to Emma Darwin Hall with a combination of Verve's Bittersweet Symphony, (controversially based on the Rolling Stones song, 'The Last Time'), Jason Derulo's 'Ridin' Solo' and a notable display of synchronous thigh slapping. Given there are no medals, fourth was not as bad a place for Severn Hill and their triple combo of Abba, Take That and Coldplay, 'Does your Mother know how to fix your shine' was very entertaining with an array of coloured waistcoats and crafty choreographing. Third place went to Moser's who were rewarded for their simplicity, just one song, Billy Joel's 'And so it goes'; close part harmony performed very well. Just missing out on the top spot was School House with a high tempo tongue twister of 'They

might be Giants', 'Istanbul not Constantinople' and an impressive collection of fezzes. Back from their Hawaiian training camp, Churchill's produced a well-nigh impeccable rendition of the Beach Boys' 'Get Around' and claimed the Part Song trophy, neatly reversing with Severn Hill last year's Overall/Part Song result.



Churchill's Hall: Part Song Winners

Choosing a Unison song is not easy, it has to be within the range of every member of the house and it requires every member of the house to commit to learning every word, that or mask the ones who haven't put in the hours on the back row. Ridgemount took the relaxed approach with Bob Marley's 'Three Little Birds'. Oldham's reminded me of 15 weeks of my 15th year when Wet Wet Wet were number one with 'Love is All around'. Clearly not tired after running 150 miles between them in the Tucks, Rigg's proclaimed that they would walk 500 more. Ingram's took to the stage with a Guy's and Dolls medley but not one of these were to make the judges' top five. 'Proud' Mary Sidney Hall put on the sparkling tops for their take on Tina Turner's classic and claimed fifth spot. School House threw a curveball with the much anticipated 'Hallelujah Chorus' turning out to be Ken Dodd's 'Happiness' with a plethora of tickle dusters and the customary goofy teeth; not only did this give them 4th place in the Unison but earned the coveted Entertainment prize. A fitting final song of the night was 'Hey Jude' by the Grove but they were not going to have the last say on proceedings. Emma Darwin Hall was awarded the Unison ahead of Severn Hill with their energetic homage to the late Amy Winehouse. 'Valerie' had the entire house bopping to an on stage band, ordered so no member could hide and dilute the enthusiasm. The symmetry of two sisters at either end of the front line was the icing on the (Jaafar) cake.



Emma Darwin Hall: Winners of the Unison

Those who have followed the commentary closely will realise that three houses, Emma Darwin, School House and Severn Hill had been placed in both Part Song and Unison with a combined place total of six. Severn Hill, with their reprise of 'Deep in the Dark' from the school musical, The Bubble and the part song mentioned earlier were awarded the overall title. Congratulations to Ali Webb and Rob Cross for their hard work.

A great many hours were put in to these performances, not only by the pupils themselves but housemasters, tutors, and the music department. A special mention must be made for Alex Davies and the technical team putting on the light displays and sound checks, John Harvey and the caretaker staff and of course Karen Wilding and Darren Wood for the ticket allocation. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening and an excellent way as ever to round off the first half of the Michaelmas Term.

CWO



School House: 'Most Entertaining' winners

The Tucks 2012 - another record-breaker!

Thursday 25 October 2012

Ian Haworth gives a full account of this whole-school cross-country race.

On the last Friday before Exeat, several hundred Salopians made their annual trip down to the playing fields of Meole Brace for the traditional Tuck's race, a whole-school event which we believe to be the longest-running cross-country race in the world. A very wet spell earlier in the month had made the going soft, which drastically lengthened the odds on any records being broken, but enthusiasm was undimmed among the competitors and this year saw our highest participation for many years.

The weather on the day itself was an improvement on last year, when it rained heavily just before the start, and this year's runners were noticeably drier as they lined up in their House pens, awaiting the Huntsman's cry - 'All hounds who wish to run, run hard, run well, and may the devil take the hindmost!' It duly sounded, and the first wave of 130 runners charged for the narrow gap in the corner of the field and out onto Church Road, with only a handful of minor knocks and not a single fatality!

Tension built as the next wave lined up, waiting for their two-minute interval to elapse, and then they too sprinted for the corner and out, in hot pursuit of the first wave. The third wave - much larger - could not contain their excitement and a shout of 'Joe!' from Mr Morris, in an effort to call one boy back from in front of the line, was enough to set off around 400 eager runners in an unstoppable (despite Mr Haworth's best efforts) surge for the gap.

Out along Church Road, across the Rea Brook, and out on to Pulley Lane, the mile-long hill where most of the positions are settled and where the fitness of the participants is put to its sternest test. Then down towards Red Hill, and across into Tuck's field, where the mud provided a further test of strength and stamina to already-tired legs. With no Mr Harding to race against this year, the boys would have to pick their own battles, and defending positions at this point was a grimly fought affair. Past the log, down across Rea Brook again and back onto Church Road for the finishing sprint towards the finish and glory. And possibly a Mars bar.

Ed Mallett, our Huntsman and the odds-on favourite (also younger brother to George, winner in 2010 and 2011), duly took the honours, in 18:08. Though this time was rather



Start of the first wave



No. 1: Ed Mallett



No. 2: Seb Blake



Nos. 3 & 4: Rory Fraser and Freddie Huxley-Fielding (Third Former)
- with Peter Middleton in hot pursuit!



slower than he would have liked, this really is a remarkable achievement in those conditions, leading from the front the entire way. Not far behind was his Severn Hill rival, Seb Blake, in 18:20. Rory Fraser of Churchill's took a hard-fought third. Only a couple of seconds behind him, astonishingly, was Freddie Huxley-Fielding, a 3rd Former who has shown huge promise already and in finishing 4th has, we believe, broken a record in this race's 180-year history. It's interesting to note that his time of 18:33 would have won the entire race just three years ago. Behind him was his own Housemaster, Mr Middleton, who contrived to look both proud and miserably shame-faced all at once. The first girl home was Amy Stockdale of Emma Darwin Hall in an impressive time of 24:48, and placing 109th overall.

Severn Hill stormed to victory in the team competition, with just 115 points, ahead of Churchill's with 196, and Rigg's took third with 308. The girls' houses were extremely close, but Mary Sidney Hall just pipped Emma Darwin with less than 20 points separating them.

Overall this was a hugely successful event, enjoyed by just about everyone (although some were certainly suffering towards the end) and congratulations to all those who took part and gave their all. It's a real privilege to keep this tradition going and many thanks go out to all the staff who helped in all sorts of different ways - including those who participated themselves - to ensure its smooth running.

IPH



Exhibition of Paintings and Book Launch by Brian Horton - 13 November 12 - 8 pm

Tuesday 30 October 2012



There will be an exhibition of paintings by Old Salopian landscape painter, **Brian Horton (1947-52)** and also a book launch of 'Brian Horton - Blue Remembered Hills' by Andrew Lambirth (Art Critic and Journalist) at Messum's, 9 Cork Street, London W1

More details at Old Salopian Events - click on the events lift on the top-left of your screen.

The Four Seasons, a set of four, full colour prints in an edition of 150 all of which

are signed and numbered by the artist, will be available at the launch along with Brian Horton - Blue Remembered Hills' by Andrew Lambirth. -

To book: For further information and images please contact Jessica Lowes, Telephone: 0207 437 5545 / Email: jessica@messums.com. Messum's, 8 Cork Street, London W1S 3LJ

Report on Yorkshire Lunch - Sunday 28 October

Tuesday 30 October 2012



A modestly-sized but very sociable party of Yorkshire Old Salopians, parents and guests gathered at The Bridge Inn at Walshford, near Wetherby for lunch on 28 October.

The Bridge was originally a 17th Century coaching inn, much altered and modernised but the Salopian party was accommodated in one of the oldest parts of the inn, the Byron Room (named for Lord Byron who spent his honeymoon at the hall from which the fixtures were acquired). This proved to be a very grand setting - all 18th century plaster work and chandeliers - but the party proved equal to it.

After an excellent buffet lunch, Nick Randall (O 1972-76 and immediate past Chairman) updated the party with news of the School and the Club and two attendees - Malcolm Davies (R 1951-56) and Matthew Wilkes (I 1974-79) have agreed to form the informal nucleus of the OS Yorkshire Branch from now on.

Pictured above: The Byron Room