

Gliding Camp

Thursday 1 September 2016

The annual Gliding Camp, held in July and open to members of the RAF Section of the CCF, was a resounding success.



Three of the Fourth Form (Ali Davies, Ben Holehouse and Jack Li) attended, aiming to learn the basics of aviation and develop their gliding skills further. They were joined by seasoned gliders from the Fifth Form and Upper Sixth (Tom Brennan and Mil Luangamornlert, Ed Jones and Alfie Yeoward).

Ed, having just left school, now has a regular place on the duty rota for winch-launching gliders at the Midlands Gliding Club on the Long Mynd, where the Camp was based. He stayed on after the Camp to winch for a high-profile competition. Alfie will be continuing his gliding training during his gap year, with a view to achieving his Bronze Award by the end of the summer.



Alfie about to fly solo

The group proved to have a perfect mix of prior experiences, and training was therefore carried out in two groups to suit the pace to the individuals. All pilots made excellent progress through the week, thanks to the careful tutelage of Paul Fowler, our main instructor.



To illustrate this, Tom wrote:

Having gone solo in October, but deprived of flying since due to poor weather and School commitments, I came to the camp with two aims: to re-solo and to convert to one of the Club's single seat gliders.

Monday and Tuesday primarily consisted of blowing away the cobwebs and polishing up on my flying. Wednesday morning brought emergency situations to practise dealing with and by lunchtime that day Mr Fowler was happy to allow me to fly the two-seater alone. Other than having to quickly reconsider where I would land due to an errant Land Rover, all went smoothly.

I soon found myself waiting at the launch point (not without nerves, I should add!) for what would be my sixth solo flight and my first in a single seater. The take-off was rather lively as it took me a while to get to grips with the lighter and more responsive aircraft but soon I was looking down on the airfield from a little over 1000ft, increasing to 1500ft as I found a thermal. Minutes of peaceful soaring passed, but eventually I felt it was time to return to Earth. After an excellent landing, which all pilots will claim if nobody saw it, I was surprised to find I had been aloft for over 30 minutes, unintentionally completing one of the requirements for my Bronze Award! It was a fantastic flight and will stick with me as the most memorable moment of the Camp.



The hangar

The success of each individual could not have happened without the rest of the group; gliding is a team effort, as each launch requires about five ground crew to get one pilot into the air! Early flyers reciprocate later in the day; and in the morning, aspiring aviators run the airfield with high hopes for the afternoon!

Ben wrote:

Sitting down was rarely an option – there was a fair amount of pushing gliders about on the ground to be done, and Mr Wray was regularly needed in the Land Rover to collect the winch cable or a landing glider. Typically, after lunch we had to shoo sheep off the airfield. Of all the jobs, Jack enjoyed using the retrieve winch in particular, although speculation as to his involvement in its breaking has arisen.

Due to the age of the equipment and the stresses they face, break-downs are not all that rare. Thanks in no small part to the help of Ed, the winch drivers did complete two services on the winches to return them to full operation by the end of the week.



Mil, Jack and Mr Fowler doing a Daily Inspection

The main team job was packing and un-packing the jig-saw of gliders in the hangar. Whilst unpacking seems to whizz by (helped by the prospect of imminent flying), packing is a tough end to an already long day and requires all hands on deck. Each day, the gliders needed inspecting before they could fly, which is a competence the boys all learned throughout the week. Other theoretical knowledge was learned through briefings rather than hands on, following Mr Fowler's syllabus of principles of flight, flying circuits, landing, using thermals and so on.

Ali Davies described the 'après-fly' activities:

The food over the week was excellent, with three hot meals a day – thank you to all of the club staff! We also had an all-you-can-eat Indian buffet and a final night barbeque; it was a delicious week! We regularly played frisbee in the evenings, taught by Mr Wray.



The group's model glider

When the weather was bad, we decided to build a model glider using cardboard and clingfilm. With the help of a few club members' knowledge of balancing and our new knowledge from briefings, we were able to make our two-foot wingspan glider actually fly!

The camp was an entirely enjoyable and worthwhile one.



The news this week 100 years ago: 2nd - 8th September 1916

Thursday 1 September 2016

This week we remember:

Second Lieutenant Leslie Shorland-Ball, 3rd Bn. attd. 8th Bn. Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Hall's (now Rigg's), left in 1899.

Killed in action by a shell in France 6th September 1916, aged 33.

Remembered on Thiepval Memorial, France. Pier and Face 15 A.

Lieutenant Richard Edward Deane Oliver, 74th Field Coy. Royal Engineers.

Churchill's. *The Salopian* describes his early years at Shrewsbury as 'handicapped by uncertain health'. He left in 1907 for Trinity College, Dublin and was gazetted Temp. 2nd Lieut. R.E. 4th August 1915, and Temp. Lieut. 23rd June 1916.

Killed in action in France after he had been some months at the front, on 7th September 1916 aged 26.

Buried at Becourt Military Cemetery, Becordel-Becourt, France. Grave I. W. 6.

Shrewsbury are finalists in U17 National Schools Cricket Cup

Friday 2 September 2016

Having won through four round matches of the School Sport Magazine U17 National Schools Cricket Cup last term and beaten Sedbergh in the semi-final last week, our U17 XI travelled to Cumnor CC on Wednesday 7th September to face a strong Millfield side in the final.



In their match against Sedbergh on 2nd September, which took place in Kendal, the Shrewsbury team performed as well as they had done in the four previous round matches.

Sedbergh batted first and found our open bowling attack (George Garrett & George Newton) both accurate and menacing. The introduction of spin was the beginning of the end for Sedbergh, who did not cope with the combined bowling of Patrick Jacob and Tom Brunskill. The U14 pair of Arthur Garrett & Peter Clark then continued to apply the pressure and Sedbergh were dismissed in the 36th over. The excellent bowling was backed up with a strong fielding performance.

Batting was clearly a big challenge on a used pitch that was turning. Despite losing George Newton early on, George Hargrave and George Garrett built a steady partnership that was to break the opposition's resistance. The loss of Garrett did not slow our response and when Jamie Crawley joined Hargrave, the hard work was done as the final 30 runs came quickly enough.

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This was a great team performance, particularly given the time that had elapsed since beating Bromsgrove by 83 runs in the quarter-final on 22nd June.

In the final against Millfield on Wednesday, Shrewsbury lost the toss and Millfield elected to bat, but were swiftly reduced to 22-3 in the face of some probing early bowling from George Newton and George Garrett. The game was turned on its head, however, by a sparkling knock of 127 from only 80 balls from Sam Young.

The Millfield total of 228 was always likely to be too much on a tricky pitch, and Shrewsbury fell away to 138 all out.

While the result was disappointing, the boys enjoyed a superb run in reaching the final, and there is much to look forward to in the coming years.

Adam Shantry & Andy Barnard

Historic moment for co-education at Shrewsbury

Monday 5 September 2016

It has been exciting to see co-education at Shrewsbury grow and flourish year on year since we welcomed our first girls into the Sixth Form in 2008. At the beginning of this new academic year, we reach another in a series of co-education 'landmark moments' at the School, as we celebrate having a full cohort of girls in every year group.



The move to full co-education in 2014 has been very successful. As our first ever cohort of Third Form girls now enter the Fifth Form, all three of our girls' houses are full to capacity. Over the summer, it was good to see work begin on a year-long refurbishment of Moser's Hall to convert it into our fourth girls' house. We are looking forward to welcoming our first contingent of Moserite girls next September.



It is interesting to note that with over 60 girls in the Lower Sixth and a combined total of over 120 girls in the Sixth Form, we are now the biggest independent centre for girls' Sixth Form education in the county.

There is a raging national debate about the exam advantages of single-sex or co-educational education. It is very good to demonstrate from our own experience that the Shrewsbury girls are performing at an exceptional level. At A2 and Pre-U level, an A*-B rate of 89% puts them on a

par with some leading London selective day schools and demonstrates that they are certainly well out in front when it comes to the performance of girls in the North West. Contributing to these strong results has been a very good record of involvement and success both in mathematics and the sciences, giving the lie to any notion that 'girls won't do sums in a co-ed school'.

Our brand new AstroTurf pitches have already been christened with the first of this season's hockey training sessions. We are also very much looking forward to the official opening on 19th September by GB hockey player Simon Mantell, fresh from the Rio Olympics. As well as powering ahead in the classroom, our girls are already gathering their own sporting accolades and making a very significant contribution in supporting Shrewsbury's great sporting heritage.

Mark Turner
Headmaster





Foundation Fortnight

Tuesday 6 September 2016

Our new Third Formers looking smart and ready for action on Day 1...





Foundation Fortnight...

Tuesday 6 September 2016

... First hockey practice for our new Third Formers



Shrewsbury Polo Team players compete in national event

Wednesday 7 September 2016

Four members of the Shrewsbury School Polo Team represented North Shropshire Hunt Pony Club in a series of qualifying events, culminating in the finals at Cowdray Park in August.

Esther McLaughlin (EDH) and Moserites Scott Walker, Freddie Blanchard-Butter and Will Blanchard-Butter competed against teams from England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.



L-R: Esther, Freddie, Will, Glyn Henderson (Shrewsbury School Polo coach), Scott



Another excellent year for exam results

Thursday 8 September 2016

Our largest ever Upper Sixth group achieved an excellent set of A level and Pre-U results this year, and our Fifth Formers achieved one of the School's best ever set of GCSE results and a record-breaking number of A grades.*



L-R: Charlie Wade, Ursule Taujanskaite, Tom Breese, Sally Joyce

A total of 79.1% of the **A level and Pre-U exams** were awarded the top A*, A or B grades and Pre-U equivalents.

As ever there were many individual success stories in this year's results, in particular for the 53 pupils who gained at least 3 A grades, 12 of whom gained 3 A* grades or more.

Last year's Head of School Tom Breese achieved 3 A* results in Chemistry, French and Latin with an A grade in Maths. Impressive too was the performance of Ursule Taujanskaite who secured 5 A* grades in Maths, Further Maths, Biology, Chemistry and French to secure her place at Cambridge University where she has also won a Choral Scholarship. Nat Chumbala, Loren Kell and Martha Pownall also secured A* results in all of their subjects.



For many of those sitting **AS modules** in the Lower Sixth year, there was also cause for celebration with an impressive 61% achieving A or B grade in their subjects. Top grade performers in all their subjects included Harris Huntsman (in Classical Civilisation, Geography and Maths), Max Morris (in Latin, Maths, Philosophy & Theology and Global Perspectives) and Caroline Reid (Extended Project, Geography and Philosophy & Theology). The performance of the Lower Sixth bodes well for the year ahead.

A near record 70.8% of the **GCSE exams** were awarded an A* or A grade and a record-breaking 43.8% of results achieving the top A* grade. Nine pupils – Sam Bayliss, Thomas Brennan, Oliver Bureau, Imogen Evans, Elias Harrison, Oliver Hodges, Henry Mayhew, Angus Moore, Lucien Whitworth – each gained 10 straight A*, and 31 pupils gained either A* or A grades in all their subjects.

At the first School Assembly of the new academic year, 40 members of the new Lower Sixth were awarded given Honorary Awards and Prizes for achieving outstanding scores in their GCSEs.



Moserites row for GB and Wales

Thursday 8 September 2016

Many congratulations to Paddy George (M 2011-16), who successfully made it through five days of trials held at Nottingham at the start of the holiday to be selected to row for Great Britain, and to Gavin O'Dwyer (M 2014-16), who was selected to represent Wales.

Paddy George and Barney Fox (PH UVI) were both selected to race in the GB men's eight at the Coupe de la Jeunesse, which was held in Poznan, Poland at the end of July. In a thrilling weekend of competition, the crew won double gold.

Their win contributed to an outstanding team performance by the GB Rowing Team Juniors, who claimed overall victory in the Coupe de la Jeunesse and recorded the biggest winning margin ever. A full report on the competition is published on the British Rowing website: [Coupe de la Jeunesse 2016 report](#)



Matthew Rowe (SH UVI) was selected for the GB Rowing Team men's pair at the World Junior Rowing Championships in Rotterdam at the end of August. He and his racing partner Adam Teece from Abingdon School rowed together in GB colours at the Munich Regatta in May and were both in the pair and coxless four that came 4th and 1st respectively.

We were also delighted that three further pupils from the Boat Club were selected to represent Wales at the Home Countries Regatta in Cardiff Bay on 23rd July. Gavin O'Dwyer (M 2014-16)

and Tomas Shiels (SH LVI) were selected for the boys' coxed four and eight, and Alys Howells (MSH UVI) was selected for the girls' quad.



Gavin, Alys and Tomas

5-star reviews for 'Great Expectations' at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival

Thursday 8 September 2016

Shrewsbury home-grown musical 'Great Expectations' wowed the audiences and won five-star reviews from theatre critics at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.



The Edinburgh Fringe Festival is Europe's biggest arts event; every August, thousands of performers descend upon the city, transforming every pub, coffee shop and street corner into a theatre. It is the most extraordinarily vibrant, exciting, diverse cultural experience – at any point of the day or night you can be watching a stand-up comic, an a capella group, a production of Shakespeare or a juggling unicyclist.



Early morning get-in for the crew

Shrewsbury has been taking shows up to the Fringe for 25 years: this year's production of *Great Expectations* was the latest offering from the award-winning writing partnership of John Moore and Peter Fanning.

We first performed the show in November at the Ashton, but we knew that it would need a radical rewrite to transform it into a touring production. In Shrewsbury, we had the luxuries of a complex set, multiple costume changes and a permanent sound and lighting rig. In Edinburgh, we had 15 minutes before the show to get into the theatre, build our set and perform all the necessary sound checks before opening the doors to a paying audience. It was frenetic, terrifying – and the greatest buzz imaginable.

The fact that the whole thing was possible is tribute to the amazing professionalism and talent of the cast, crew and band, all of whom had given up three weeks of their holiday to rehearse and perform the show.

The cast came from every year group of the School and nine different Houses, but as soon as they moved into The Grove to start rehearsals, they became a tight-knit and incredibly supportive family. Many of the memories that will stay with me have little to do with what happened on stage: Angus and James' expressions of genuine wonder when they learned how to use a washing machine; Alfie's incredible mashed potato; the power summit in the kitchen at 6am on the morning of A level results. I have rarely worked with a company who cared so much for each other: it was a pleasure and a privilege to direct them.



A Level Results Day

I think that their sense of camaraderie spilled off the stage: although critics singled out “Antonia Wordie’s soaring bell-like soprano” and Luke Lloyd Jones’ “hauntingly Byronic portrayal of Pip”, for me, the greatest strength of the production was the ensemble. All of the actors were on stage all of the time, with the principals sinking back into the chorus between scenes. Whether delivering Sian Archer’s “inventive choreography”, belting out four-part harmonies or simply watching the story unfold, they were totally committed and focused to the success of the piece as a whole.

The band are the unsung heroes of every musical. Hidden away in the balcony, they get all of the stress and little of the glory. During the hottest week on record, they battled soaring temperatures, technical mishaps and rogue key changes to play on – and to persuade Dougie Major to remain at least partially clad. Vicky Kirk, Henry Newbould, Andrew Chan, Steffan Williams, Harry Sargent, Dougie Major and Jonty Robinson – under the direction, of course, of John Moore – made up what the British Theatre Guide called “a splendid orchestra, which performed with skill and immense proficiency”.

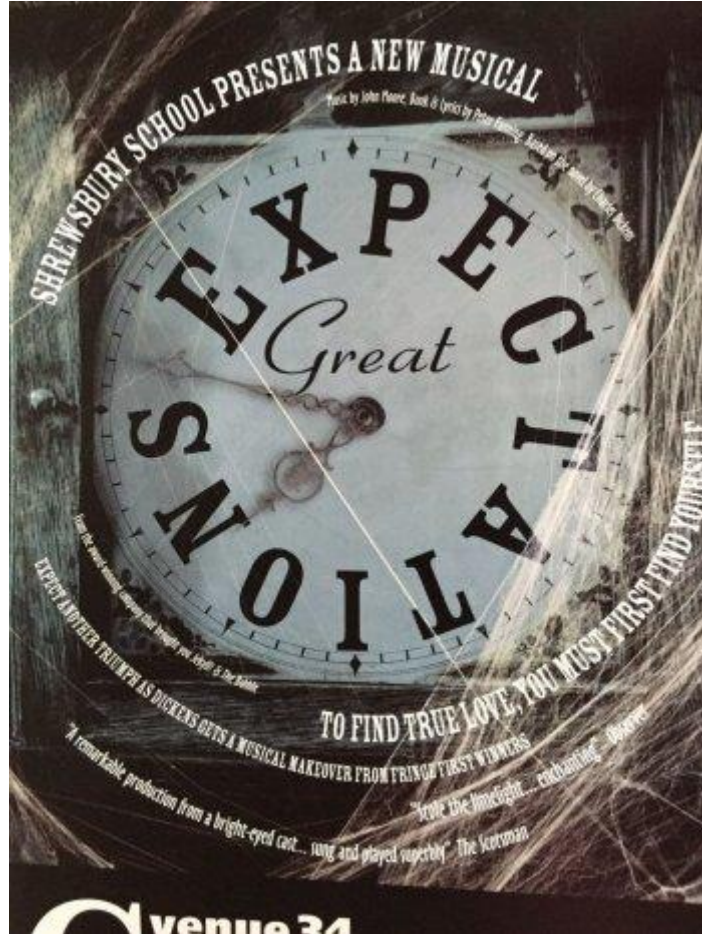
The technical crew, too, deserve their moment in the limelight. In the troglodyte world of techies, Alex Davies, Will James, James Brown and Will Allott are giants: no matter what is asked of them, at what volume or with what little notice, it will be delivered. The sight of Alex running through the streets of Edinburgh, quite literally carrying the set on his back, is a beautiful thing.

Finally, enormous thanks are due to Toby Percival and Lauren Temple, who kept us all fed, safe and happy, providing the cast with nutella and the director with gin. Without them, we would never have made it up the M6.

Helen Brown, Director of Drama



From the reviews:



The British Theatre Guide - review by Robin Strapp

Rating: *****

"...a superb production....Once again, John Moore and Peter Fanning have triumphed in writing this musical with excellent orchestrations. It features a large highly talented cast and a splendid orchestra which performs live with skill and immense proficiency.....Grab a ticket while you can as I'm sure it's bound to sell out"

See full review: <http://www.britishtheatreguide.info/reviews/great-expectati-c-chambers-stre-13243>

The Upcoming - review by Daisy McConnell

Rating: *****

"....An indisputable synergy from the cast is apparent from the initial fiery number, and the weaving polyphonies from John Moore's score enrich the rabbit-warren of a plot that we are to expect....What was an ambitious project has indeed fulfilled the greatest of expectations after the success of previous years, as a highly accomplished musical arrangement is met with the talented faces who we must watch in the future.

See full review: <http://www.theupcoming.co.uk/2016/08/22/ed-fringe-2016-great-expectations-review/>

Theatre Eddys

...Taking one of the most beloved novels of all times and its two-dozen-plus major characters – several now iconic

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in their own rights – and turning that classic into a new musical with soaring music and a comprehensible book is quite a daunting task. When the impressive world premiere has been written by faculty and produced by the students of a secondary school and then presented for the world to judge at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, then the accomplishment is even more impressive. But for England's Shrewsbury School, this is just the next in a long stream of Fringe appearances and premieres going back to 1993; and their latest musical, Great Expectations (Peter Fanning, book, and John Moore, music) takes the Charles Dickens treasured tome and breathes new light and insight into its well-known, much-read story...

See full review: <http://theatreddys.blogspot.co.uk/2016/08/day-seven-2016-edinburgh-fringe-festival.html?m=1>



Day 2 - cricket!

Thursday 8 September 2016





GCSE Honorary Awards and Prizes

Thursday 8 September 2016

Following the GCSE exams, 40 pupils have been awarded Honorary Scholarships, Exhibitions and Examination Prizes for achieving outstanding scores.



The Headmaster with the Honorary Scholars and Honorary Exhibitioners

Honorary Scholars

Imogen Evans (G)
Tamara Fox (MSH)*
Elias Harrison (SH)
Naomi Potts (MSH)*
Lucien Whitworth (R)

Honorary Exhibitioners

Betty Chau (G)
Max Craik (PH)
Henry Graham (O)
Boris Kwok (Ch)
Sophie Li (G)
Nateewat Ruechuseth (Ch)
Linda Zhao (G)



Examination Prizewinners

Edward Acton (Ch)

Dominic Ainslie (S)

Niklas Amthor (R)

Sam Bayliss (Rt)

Hattie Bramwell (EDH)*

Tom Brennan (I)

Oliver Bureau (Ch)

Jamie Channon (PH)

Magnus Chaplin (Rt)

Stephanie Christenson (G)*

James Cowburn (O)*

Ben Ford (S)*

Alastair Harris (R)

Charlie Johns (I)

William Manley (PH)*

Amelia Marriott (EDH)*

Henry Mayhew (Ch)

Angus Moore (S)

Susan Munday (EDH)*

Veronica Parr (EDH)*

Sophia Price (EDH)*

David Schofield (O)

Artem Stopnevich (R)

Rowan Walker (MSH)

Angus Warburg (PH)

Eleanor Wycherley (MSH)*

* *Sixth Form Entrant*



Examination Prizewinners



The news this week 100 years ago: 9th - 15th September 1916

Thursday 8 September 2016

Each week on the School website we publish the names and short biographies of the Old Salopians killed 100 years ago during the First World War. This is part of a four-year project in collaboration with St Chad's Church in Shrewsbury, which began in September 2014: [This week 100 years ago - Old Salopians in WW1](#)

The final eNewsletter of last term coincided with the first day of the Battle of the Somme and included the names of 11 OS killed during the first week. Among them was Malcolm White, a Master at Shrewsbury, whose letters and other writings were published in 1919 with those of his colleague and friend Evelyn Southwell. Extracts from the book, read by Rory Fraser (Ch 2009-14) and Ralph Wade (Rb 2009-14), are included in the BBC 'World War at Home' national online archive: [Shrewsbury School: The Teachers Who Went to War](#).

Poignantly, the 100th anniversary of Southwell's death falls this week, on 15th September.

During the summer, a further 27 OS names were published on the School website and included in the weekly Services of Remembrance in St Chad's; most of them were killed at the Somme.

This week we remember:

Captain John Johnstone, 7th Bn. Leinster Regiment.

Churchill's, left in 1906. He enlisted in the Norfolk Regiment in August 1914, was given a commission in the Leinsters in October 1915, and was promoted Captain in April 1916. His devotion to duty and great gallantry on 26th June 1916 was ordered to be entered in the records of the Irish Division.

Killed in action in France on 9th September 1916, aged 28.

Remembered on Thiepval Memorial, France. Pier and Face 16 C.

Captain Evelyn Herbert Lightfoot Southwell, 13th Bn. Rifle Brigade.

Master. He was educated at Eton. From there he went to Oxford, and won an open demyship at Magdalen College and took a First Class in the Classical Schools. He stroked his college boat to the Head of the River, and rowed twice for his university at Putney.

After leaving Oxford he held a classical Mastership at Shrewsbury, where he took charge of the school rowing and helped to turn out some fine crews. Before he went to the front, he was master of Form V.B., and under his tuition the boys of the Form broke out into poetry, and published a volume to which he wrote a preface.



He offered himself for active service at the beginning of the war, and had served abroad with his battalion for a year from September 1915, being in the trenches for practically the whole of the time. He was twice appointed, as Captain, to the command of a company, but was suspended on both occasions by the return of a senior officer to active service.

A brother officer wrote: "The battalion advanced, and did splendidly. Southwell was in the front of them, with one sergeant, and another officer was close to him. They were, in fact, the furthest advanced of anybody, and they got into a shell hole for cover. He was shortly afterwards hit by a sniper's bullet, and died immediately."

He died on 15th September 1916 and is remembered on Thiepval Memorial, France. Pier and Face 16 B and 16 C.

The Salopian comments: "He 'identified himself with the life of the place'...He was always original, and unexpectedly finding pleasure not only in the great but trivial things of life, and endowing with his great gifts of unselfish affection and wonderful humour all the things that he touched. His letters from the Front were characteristic in that they did not include any of the pain or suffering of warfare; rather he was jovial and brave." A letter from him to the Headmaster, Revd Alington, reads:

"I have for all these months seen everything in terms of Shrewsbury. I have seen a hill, perhaps; and I reflect that it would not do for the folk around the Wrekin even though it did have a Roman Camp at the top. Or a path from the bed of the Avon, up towards Lidbury, and I remember that track from the Boathouse to the schools had a better curve upon it, and the feet of more adorable people."



Southwell and White

Two Men, a memoir with letters written by Southwell and by his friend and colleague, Lieutenant Malcolm G. White, who had been killed six weeks earlier on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, was published posthumously by the Oxford University Press. Extracts from the book, read by Rory Fraser (Ch 2009-14) and Ralph Wade (Rb 2009-14), are included in the BBC 'World War at Home' national online archive: [Shrewsbury School: The Teachers Who Went to War](#)

The following poem was written about Evelyn Southwell after he died by another member of staff, R.A. Knox. It was published in *The Salopian* in October 1916.

Laudatori Optimo

Players before an empty house
 October's pageants go,
That now no plaudits can arouse
 From you, who loved them so.
By you unheeded, as of old
 The tyrant autumn breeze
Will strew our pavements with the gold
 It plunders from the trees:
Unmarked by you the swallows' flights,
 Cloud-shapes, and chimney-tunes
And friendly blaze of schoolroom lights
 On mist-wreathed afternoons.
There is no light on hill or plain,
 No sigh of wind or wood,
But seems as if it watched in vain
 To hear your 'Man, that's good!'
But where on some uncharted shore
 Fearless you look down,
A nearer pilgrim than before
 To that Eternal Town.
How you must cry aloud, in praise!
 God send one echo through,
To cheer the dull and dusty days
 That sunder us from you.



Foundation Fortnight

Saturday 10 September 2016

A few photos from our new Third Formers' first week...



Ready for Day 1 - and looking sharp!



Introduction to Fives



Quick trip into town between lessons and sports



Bowling trip and meal out at the end of a packed first week

Lifetime Achievement Award for Nick Owen

Sunday 11 September 2016



Many congratulations to Nick Owen (R 61-66), who won the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Birmingham Awards on Saturday 10th September. The awards, which are held in conjunction with Birmingham University, describe themselves as "Celebrating the achievements of the city's people - the beating heart of Birmingham..."

Nick has presented 'Midlands Today' since 1997.

Third Form Race

Sunday 11 September 2016



Before...



... and after



Welcome to our new Third Formers!

Sunday 11 September 2016

We are delighted to introduce the next generation of School House. Here they are at the end of their first week pledging their allegiance to their House, before the Third Form race!

They are a friendly and talented bunch of all-rounders with a bright five years ahead of them at Shrewsbury. A warm welcome to all!





Third Form Race - a new record is set for girls' running at Shrewsbury

Monday 12 September 2016

Saturday gave our new Third Form their first ever opportunity to represent their House in sport as they lined up for the annual Third Form Race around the historic 'Benjy' route, a one-and-a-half mile figure-of-eight course around the School site. As they darted off across Central on an overcast but pleasantly mild afternoon, they joined the ranks of thousands of Salopians who have trodden this path in years gone by.



Not only was it a first for them, but it was a first for me too, as Master in Charge of the Hunt, having taken over the mantle this year following the end of the Hunt's dauntingly successful period under Mr Middleton. The prospect of seeing what sort of talent we've got coming into the School this year was a tremendous source of excitement to me, and the race certainly did not disappoint in bringing to my attention some individuals of tremendous potential.



Huntsman Freddie Huxley-Fielding with Huntswoman Immie Evans and Deputies Will Hayward and Scott Hatton

Given that it comes near the end of a terrifically busy first week at the School – the Third Form barely get to pause to draw breath in the opening fortnight of this term – the energy and enthusiasm on display in this race was a fantastic sight to behold. As the runners darted out of view down Oldham's Gap just before the halfway point in the race, the pace was being impressively set by Riggite Oscar Hamilton-Russell (behind our hare, our Huntsman Freddie Huxley-Fielding, who was having to work rather harder than he had perhaps anticipated) who had built up a small gap ahead of three runners – Orlando Williams (Rt), Fred Jones (Rb) and leading girl, Francesca Harris (EDH). Around a kilometre in at this point, just about the whole field was still managing to keep up a decent pace and the combination of crowd support and the prospect of a descent to the River Severn may have helped to buoy spirits here.

The next time the runners came into view for most of us was at the home straight, as the course pops out from behind the Moser Library and Art building to come round the front of Chapel and snake round to the finish at Main School Building. At this point, it was clear that Oscar had extended his lead somewhat, and he crossed the finish line in an impressive 8:16 (interestingly, this was exactly the same winning time as both last year's winner, Sam Western, and the 2011 winner, Oscar Dickins).



Oscar Hamilton-Russell and Francesca Harris

The next runner to come into view was quite a surprise to many, and was undoubtedly the story of the day – Francesca Harris had managed to pull away from the other boys in that trailing pack and she crossed the line in an astonishing 8:25. Not only does this smash the previous girls' record set by Lilian Wilcox last year, but it is also the fastest time ever run by a girl of any age over this course - even beating the record set by last year's Huntswoman, Olivia Papaioannou.

Fred Jones managed to hold off the opposition to cross the line next, in a good time of 8:36, just ahead of Timothy Clarkson-Webb (O) in 8:43 who took bronze in the boys' race. Second in the girls' race was Lucy Lees (EDH), in a strong time of 10:02. The strength in depth of both boys' and girls' races was really exciting, with some excellent performances right down the field. The House team gold was won confidently by Emma Darwin Hall in the girls' race, 12 points ahead of Mary Sidney Hall in second and The Grove in third. The boys' House race was won by Severn Hill, ahead of last year's winners Rigg's in 2nd, with Radbrook taking third position.

A great effort from all, then, but they were barely given a chance to catch their breath before being whisked off for football trials and then the House quiz. Such is life!

Mr Haworth



Emma Darwin Hall team



Severn Hill team



Third Form Sunday afternoon walk in the Clee Hills

Monday 12 September 2016

The new Churchill's Third Form spent a happy first Sunday afternoon climbing Brown Clee, the highest point in Shropshire, followed by a wonderful tea at the kind invitation of Mrs Rothwell-Hurley.





Severn Hill team win the Third Form Race

Monday 12 September 2016

Our new Third Formers got their Shrewsbury School sporting careers off to a fine start on Saturday by winning the boys' house team trophy in the Third Form Race.





Riggite wins Third Form Race

Monday 12 September 2016

Many congratulations to Oscar Hamilton-Russell, winner of the Third Form Race.

The Third Form Race - held on the first Saturday of the academic year - is run on a one-and-a-half mile figure-of-eight course around the School site: a route known to generations of Salopians as a 'Benjy'.

Oscar won it in fine style, in a time of 8:16.

Please see the full race report on the Latest Hunt News page: [Third Form Race 2016](#)



Proud Riggites - Huntsman Freddie Huxley-Fielding, Oscar Hamilton-Russell and Housemaster Matthew Barrett

Stunning performances from EDH in the Third Form Race

Monday 12 September 2016

The Third Form Race - held on the first Saturday of the academic year - is run on a one-and-a-half mile figure-of-eight course around the School site: a route known to generations of Salopians as a 'Benjy'. It is always an exciting event, with crowds of supporters cheering the runners on as they compete for the very first time on behalf of their House.

This year's race proved to be an especially exciting and indeed historic one, as Francesca Harris (EDH) smashed the previous girls' record set by Lilian Wilcox (EDH) last year by a minute. She crossed the line in an astonishing 8:25, finishing just nine seconds behind the winner, Oscar Hamilton-Russell (R), and in 2nd place overall.

Not only does this set a new Third Form Girls record that is likely to stand for many years to come, but it is also the fastest time ever run by a girl of any age over this course - even beating the record set by last year's Huntswoman, Olivia Papaioannou.

EDH also celebrated being named the winning girls' house.

Please see the full race report on the Latest Hunt News page: [Third Form Race 2016](#)



Ingram's Hall fundraising for Plan International UK

Monday 12 September 2016

Ingram's Hall on-going fundraising campaign for Plan International UK was given an extra boost during the summer when Housemaster Mike Wright completed a four-day trek to Machu Picchu in Peru.



“Ingram’s Hall regularly supports and contributes to Plan International UK and this challenge was a way to get the pupils more engaged in the issues that Plan International UK addresses,” Mike explains.

“I travelled through Latin America and saw the devastating effects that poverty can have on children. Education really is the most important factor when it comes to children’s progress – the key to helping communities evolve, and is quite often a child’s only way out of

poverty.

Last term, Ingramites James Fearn, Jack Lock, Guy Nicholson and Henry Lai successfully took on the Three Peaks Challenge, one of the most iconic endurance events in the UK, climbing Ben Nevis (1,345m), Scafell Pike (978m) and Snowdon (1,085m) in under 24 hours.

Later this month, Upper Sixth Formers Thomas Scott Bell and Cosmo Barratt will be doing a sponsored sky dive.

The combined fundraising total currently stands at well over £6,000.



Foundation Fortnight...

Tuesday 13 September 2016

... is going very well!



Our new Third Form Ridgemountaineers on the eve of their first full day at Shrewsbury



Football Trials

Third Form Race

Tuesday 13 September 2016

Team photo by the Darwin Statue!



The start of the Third Form race, with School House in the background.



Shrewsbury staff members are double World Rowing Champions

Wednesday 14 September 2016

Many congratulations to Rose Manger and Annabel Foulger, who competed with Pengwern Boat Club at the World Masters Rowing Championships in Copenhagen last week and won gold in both the Women's E Coxed 4 and the Women's E Pairs.



Rose (*above left*) is a Learning Support teacher at Shrewsbury and Annabel is wife of Geography Master Dr Tim Foulger. They are coached by Nathan Williams (M 1990-95), who is also part of the coaching team at the School.

“Annabel and I are especially delighted to have won the Pairs event,” said Rose, “as we hadn’t raced the pair before, having only had a few weeks in it over the summer.”

In June, their coxed 4 won gold at the British Rowing Masters Championships for the third successive year. The crew includes Jane King, Jinny Price-Owen and Beth Grech (cox).

Joint Shrewsbury School and Shewsy expedition to Medic Malawi

Wednesday 14 September 2016

During the summer, a team of 24 Shrewsbury School pupils, staff members and young people from 'the Shewsy' travelled to Mtunthama in Malawi, where they worked together as volunteers for the Shropshire-based charity Medic Malawi.



This was the third trip from Shrewsbury to the Medic Malawi project, which includes a hospital, an orphanage, a nutrition centre and the Shrewsbury School Eye Clinic, which was opened in 2014. It was the first joint trip with the Shewsy – the School's long-established youth club in inner-city Liverpool. It proved to be the most successful one yet, as Mrs Drew describes:

“There was a positive, ‘can do’ attitude from all the young people. They only needed to be told something once – important when an elephant is approaching at close range – and looked for ways that they could actively help each other, the staff, and those they met.

We never know what jobs will be most helpful until we arrive at the Medic Malawi project. This time, it was painting the Pharmacy extension walls, ready for the official opening at the end of the same week; all the school textbooks from the old stock room needed moving to the new library, and the eye surgery patients were each to be interviewed before their operations.



Those who were planning careers in medicine were offered a precious invitation, by the hospital clinicians, to shadow them in their busy working day.

As ever, we worked in teams to help wash, change and feed babies; weighed and fed malnourished children, unloaded and logged all 25 suitcases of medical donations that we'd brought, took on football (and Fives) teams, and hosted a British children's party to finish the week.



In doing these activities, alongside Malawian teenagers of their own age, friendships were formed and experiences exchanged. A deeper understanding of those who have few things, and fewer choices, but who have a strong sense of the importance of community, has resulted. This year, that meeting of cultures continued 'out of hours' too, and it was fascinating to watch friendships, (and sparring partners!) emerge naturally from a group of young people from Liverpool, Shrewsbury and beyond.

The 24 who went had raised a phenomenal amount of money beforehand – £25,000 – and some media interest; and it was fun to be able to collect a shopping list from the Orphanage and go to the local market to see just how far 100,000 Kwacha (£100) would go. It covered 11 pairs of boys' trousers, 18 pairs of shoes and much more. We were there to see the food shopping arrive too: six months' worth of the staple food, maize flour, bought with our money before the prices go up.



It was a great privilege to sit on the floor of the Shrewsbury School Eye Clinic while 20 patients had their eye patches removed. In the words of that day's official diarist, Julie Fitzpatrick, Youth Worker at the Shewsy:

"Early start – breakfast at 7am – so we could see a group of patients being led into the Shrewsbury Eye Clinic. Some had two eye patches; most had one. A definite highlight of the whole trip was to see these patients have their bandages removed. Some patients just smiled, some appeared confused, one elderly man got up and started to dance, another yelled 'I can see!' I noticed a few misty eyes (including my own), when all the patients broke out into a celebratory gospel song to give thanks and praise. Smiles all round when all the patients received a pair of sunglasses – donated by the 'Spirit of Shankly' Liverpool Supporters' Club. We asked what the words of the song meant and were told, by the nurse who couldn't resist dancing along while she gave out the eye drops, that someone had made it up on the spot, and it went 'This is what we wanted, this is indeed what we wanted'."

Please read the rest of our Group Diary: [Our trip to Medic Malawi](#)

LJD

Sponsored Walk for the Shewsy - why our support is needed

Thursday 15 September 2016

This article includes a short film about the Shewsy, which was made last year by Sebastian Hervas-Jones (S UVI).

Shrewsbury House, a youth and community centre attached to St Peter's Church in Everton, Liverpool, has been a part of Shrewsbury School life for 113 years. Founded in 1903 by masters from Shrewsbury School, it employs two full-time trained youth workers and a team of part-time staff and offers young people in the local area an excellent range of facilities and sporting and recreational opportunities. 'The Shewsy' runs Junior Clubs for children aged 5 - 11 and Senior Clubs for those aged 12 - 20 throughout the week, as well as a variety of weekend activities, including residential trips and exchange visits.

Although Liverpool City Council was once able to fund about 50% of the Club's funds, it is now able to contribute only about 10% of the annual costs of the Club. The Shewsy is therefore heavily reliant on other funds it raises and donations from Salopians; many other clubs have had to close because they simply can't afford to pay workers' salaries.



Junior Club children with Huda Hussein (MSH 2013-15)

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



The Shewsy provides a valuable service in the community of Everton which, although much changed, remains one of the poorest wards in the UK. Life expectancy is still six years below the national average, 32% of families have no one in work, cancer rates are double those of the UK as a whole and 48% of children in Everton are classified as 'living in poverty'.

The aim of the Shewsy is to provide a warm and safe environment for young people to meet, socialise and have fun, where - in the words of its motto - "people matter more than things". Our support can help break the cycle of low expectations: children who have had the worst start in life can find a welcome, a role model and new opportunities at the Club.

We hope that our whole-school Sponsored Walk on 22nd September will raise £70,000.

Donations can be made in any currency online by following this

link: <https://mydonate.bt.com/teams/shrewsburywalkforshewsy> and can also be sent by cheque. Please see our website page for full details: [Sponsored Walk for the Shewsy](#)

If you have any questions, please email Lesley Drew, Charity Fundraising

Coordinator: ljd@shrewsbury.org.uk.



Salopians win First Class university honours

Thursday 15 September 2016

Over the course of the last few weeks, we have been delighted to receive notification of several Old Salopians who have recently graduated with First Class honours and won academic prizes at Oxford, Cambridge and Durham Universities .

Angus Thompson (G 2007-12) has just graduated from Merton College, Oxford with a First in Classics.

Fellow Classicist **Ellie Moodey (MSH 2010-12)**, who went to New College, Oxford, has also graduated with a First in Classics and won the Comparative Philology Prize for the highest mark in the Philology and Linguistics papers.

Jack Flowers (I 2007-12) has graduated from Brasenose College, Oxford with a First in French. In his final year at Shrewsbury, he achieved the distinction of securing the top mark in the country in the French Pre-U exam (an achievement equalled last year by Esmé O'Keeffe (MSH 2013-15), who is now studying French and Italian at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge). Jack was presented with the School's top academic award, the Sidney Gold Medal, in 2014.



Oxbridge Offers 2012 (L-R): Angus Thompson, Alasdair Pollock, Imola Atkins, Jack Flowers, Tabitha Price, Oliver Antcliff, Ellie Moodey, Mark Li, Stephen Li

Mark Lawley (S 2008-13) has graduated with First Class honours from Jesus College, Oxford in Psychology and Linguistics.

Arthur Kung (R 2012-14) has just completed his second year at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he is reading Mathematics with Physics. In recognition of his First Class performance in his recent exams, he has been awarded a Braithwaite Batty Senior Scholarship for Mathematics for his final year and also a College Prize.



Arthur Kung with Astronomer Royal and Old Salopian Lord Rees (S 1956-60) at the Royal Society in 2013 when he was awarded a prize as one of the top five students in the country in the AS Physics Challenge set by the British Physics Olympiad organisers.

In 2014, Arthur captained the Shrewsbury team that represented the UK in the International Young Physicists' Tournament, which was held that year at Shrewsbury School.

Sam Morris (G 2009-14) has just completed his first year at Durham University, where he achieved the top mark in his year in Arabic and the highest overall mark in the Modern Languages Faculty.



The Great Escape

Thursday 15 September 2016

After a busy first week, we took the new Third Form out with the Fourth Form for our traditional paintballing and team-building at the Great Escape near Bishop's Castle.

It was a fun-filled day; the boys especially appreciated the opportunity to shoot Mr Besterman, Mr Bird and Mr Cooley with paintballs!



Tobi (centre) trying to claim that he had not been shot (despite being covered in paint), much to Ben (L) and Dong's (R) amusement.



Mr Cooley sharing some questionable tactics with his team...



How many School House boys does it take to build a bridge between two tyres?



A task successfully completed – excellent teamwork!



The news this week 100 years ago: 16th - 22nd September 1916

Thursday 15 September 2016

This week we remember:

Second Lieutenant Thomas Ruby Fawsitt, 3rd Bn. attd. 9th Bn. York and Lancaster Regiment.

Chance's (now Severn Hill), left in 1903. Leaving school he went up to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he coxed his College Boat and one of the Trial Eights. He obtained his commission in the 3rd York and Lancs. on 2nd June 1915, having previously served in the ranks of the Public Schools Bn., Royal Fusiliers.

He was killed in action in France, 16th September 1916, aged 30 and is remembered on Thiepval Memorial, France. Pier and Face 14 A and 14 B.

In letters received from his regiment he was described as "cheerful, brave and devoted" and one of his men wrote, "I dug his grave and erected a little cross bearing his name. We miss him much for he is a terrible loss to us all."



Our new B Leagues Football squad

Friday 16 September 2016



The new School House B Leagues football squad, which is made up of boys from the Third and Fourth Forms. We have a strong team; as defending champions, we have high hopes of retaining the trophy this season!



First time on the river for the new boys...

Saturday 17 September 2016

In the words of Kenneth Grahame: “There is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats.”



Third Form 6-a-side House Football Tournament

Sunday 18 September 2016



In the Third Form House 6-a-side Football Tournament, Oldham's boys beat School House, Rigg's and Port Hill, with a draw against Churchill's to put them top of the group.

In the semi-final against Ingram's, a 5-0 half-time score line seemed likely to afford a place in the final. At full time 6-2 was sufficient.

In a competitive final against Port Hill, Oldham's came second, 2-0. Well played all Houses, and very well played all 12 Oldham's men.

MDBJ

New Entrants' Concert

Monday 19 September 2016



Andrew Chan performing at the New Entrants' Concert

At the end of Foundation Fortnight, we were treated to a showcase of the new entrants' musical talent. It was great to see that School House was so well represented, with several of our Third Form boys putting on excellent solo performances across a range of genres. I can confidently say that our strong musical reputation is in safe hands with the next generation!

The five School House performances were:



Jonty – a star in the making!



Douglas Kennedy (Cello): The Swan by Saint-Saëns
Andrew Chan (Piano): Story of My Life by One Direction
Amos Cheung (Cello): Concerto in C Major (movt 1) by Haydn
Jonty Gould (Saxophone): Sonata (movt 1) by Woods
Oscar Bourke (Piano): Sonata in C Major (movt 1) by Mozart

In his review of the concert, Mr Middleton wrote the following about Jonty's performance:

“Whilst one hesitates to pick out an individual, I am going to do so anyway, though do bear in mind I have a dangerous bias towards Jazz. Jonty Gould (SH) on saxophone provided one of the most memorable musical moments I have experienced in a number of years as he blew us away with the first movement of Phil Woods's Sonata for Saxophone. Performed close to a year after the death of jazz legend Wood, Gould's faultless performance of the piece was quite extraordinary, not least due to the ease with which he tackled the considerable complexity of the music, but also for the way in which he communicated the very essence and soul of the piece. It was a performance well beyond his years, and if you want a measure of just how difficult a piece this is, I'd encourage you to listen to the piece online.

"Speaking to Jonty after the concert, I was astonished to learn that he had only been playing the saxophone for three years. His meteoric rise to this level suggests that he is a performer to watch out for in the future and the inheritor of that proud tradition of Salopian saxophone, whose cairn Gould adds another stone to.”



From Aristotle to Trump: the rhetoric of persuasion

Tuesday 20 September 2016

Sam Russell (Ch UVI) reports on the first of this term's Classical Society lectures, given by Dr Niall Livingstone.

Aristotle, Donald Trump, Plato, Mandy Rice-Davies, Odysseus, and Barack Obama; very few lectures I have attended at Shrewsbury have quoted quite such an eclectic mix of personalities from the annals of history; yet much of the school was fortunate enough to hear these characters' thoughts and words, when they attended the first in a series of lectures on the concept of Persuasion.

This opening talk in the Ashton Theatre was concerned with the relationship between ancient and modern rhetoric, and was given by Dr Niall Livingstone, Senior Lecturer in Classics at the University of Birmingham.

The lecture started with a short speech by Mr Fitzgerald, commenting on how full the theatre was with an audience persuaded to attend, and about our guest, Dr Livingstone. Then we got under way.

Dr Livingstone explained to us the views ancient Greeks had on persuasion and the great importance attached to being good with words, as Achilles says in the Iliad, "to be a speaker of words and a doer of deeds". Persuasion, we were told, can be used in a variety of contexts; the poet Sappho asking Aphrodite to help her persuade a woman she was in love with to love her back; Odysseus, persuading Polyphemus the cyclops to drink wine, in order to make him drunk and then kill him. The speaker brought in analogies and other examples from the 20th and 21st centuries, too, on the subject of various types – direct and indirect – of persuasion; 'Speak softly and carry a big stick', as President Theodore Roosevelt said.



The goddess Persuasion (far left figure) on an Athenian red-figure amphoriskos, Heimarmene Painter, c. 430 BC



We then had a whistle stop explanation of the importance of persuasion in Plato and Greek tragedy, all of which was delivered with obvious passion and no little emotion from an expert on the subject.

For those who were not classicists, there was no need to despair, as we briskly moved on to more current affairs, looking at Brexit speeches from both sides and comparing the styles from whichever camp you favoured. It was interesting to see how both sides used some good leading Rhetoric in the style of the great Pericles and both also appealed to people's worst natures and what Aristotle described as 'the many headed beast inside man'.

We were then given an insight into some of Donald Trump's language which was not dealt with in quite such an unbiased fashion! After some challenging questions which were answered thoughtfully and fully, it was time to wrap up a very enjoyable evening. Max Morris rounded it off by showing he had learnt at least one thing from the evening by keeping his vote of thanks nice and brief!

Geography Field Trip: glaciation in North Wales

Tuesday 20 September 2016

For its first ever Pre-U trip, the Geography Faculty took their budding Lower Sixth Geographers to the Nant Ffrancon Valley this week.



The newly branded minibuses headed for North Wales to admire some of the best glacial scenery this side of the Alps. Concerned as ever with our carbon footprint, Head of Faculty Mr Russell found a true "3 for the price of 1", allowing the students to admire not only a U-shaped Valley (Nant Ffrancon) but a Ribbon Lake (Llyn Ogwen) and a Corrie (Llyn Idwal).

The scenery was spectacular and the weather reminiscent of a Welsh summer's day. Whilst some visitors admitted to searching for jellyfish in the Corrie, our students undertook field sketches, answered questions and prepared detailed notes for their Pre-U case studies.

The icing on the cake for the staff at least was a detour to a Roche Moutonnée - the walnut on a coffee cake maybe?

With not a McDonalds or KFC in sight, the trip concluded with a visit to the Rhug Estate Farm Shop, where those who stayed awake enjoyed a Bison burger, or three!

Miss Rule





Our 'Shewsy Ambassadors' welcome visitors from St Peter's Church, Everton

Tuesday 20 September 2016

Twenty-five visitors from St Peter's Church, Everton, including five ex-Shewsy boys (now retired), enjoyed a day trip to Shrewsbury School on Saturday. They were hosted by our newest 'Shewsy Ambassadors'!



The group was led by Revd Henry Corbett, vicar of St Peter's Church, and spanned a wide age-range, including several grannies and grandchildren. Hanae Soma, Fearne Nicholas and Dora Tian (all Lower Sixth Former Entrants in Emma Darwin Hall) took them on a tour of the school they only joined themselves a few weeks ago!



Hanae writes, "I really enjoyed taking the grown-up group, Sam, Harry, George, Lesley and Marj, over to the Art building and also to Chapel. We were lucky enough to listen to a Fourth Form girl practise the organ. Sam, an artist himself, told me the different techniques used in the drawings that were up on the walls. The gentlemen and I talked a lot about photography as well."



Thanks, too, to Mary Sidney Hall, who hosted the group for tea in the September sunshine.



(Photos by Hanae Soma)



New Entrants' Concert - review by Mr Middleton

Tuesday 20 September 2016

There wasn't a spare seat to be found in the Alington Hall for this year's New Entrants' Concert where, once again, the audience were treated to a wonderful evening of music from a quite exceptional array of talent.



Kanei Nishii performing Liszt's Liebestraum No 3 in A flat major

It doesn't seem that long ago that many of us were sitting in the same hall listening in wonder (nay, disbelief) as Galin Ganchev (M 2010-15) performed Rachmaninov's 3rd Piano Concerto, perhaps one of the most exceptional musicians to have been mentored and nurtured here at Shrewsbury School. Amongst their number we could count recent leavers Henry Thomas (Ch 2011-16) George Panayi (Ch 2011-16) and Henry Newbould (Ch 2011-16) who took brass to new levels at Shrewsbury, with Loren Kell (EDH 2011-16), Ursule Taujanskaite (MSH 2011-16) and Henrike Legner (MSH 2010-15) doing the same for choral music at the School.

It has ever been thus. I remember arriving as a new teacher at Shrewsbury back in 2008 and being immediately gripped by the sheer quality and depth of musical talent at the School. Pianist Lilly Grosse-Buening (MSH 2008-10) played to a standard I had never heard



before from a school pupil, and the Part Song arrangements at the annual House Singing contest were, at the top level, of genuine professional quality.

It was clear that Shrewsbury School was a hotbed of talent, and this became most apparent for me when one of the GCSE pupils I was teaching waited behind at the end of the lesson to apologise for missing the next day's lesson due to a music exam. He was 16 and, knowing that he was a decent musician, I enquired as to which grade he was sitting (thinking perhaps grade 7 or 8). Alas I was far off the mark, for it turned out he had in fact achieved his grade 8 already and was now sitting his Diploma, in essence a professional qualification. Saxophonist Henry Kennedy (I 2009-14) would later not only earn his place in the National Youth Wind Orchestra but moreover progress to win a place at the esteemed Royal Academy of Music.

Musical talent at Shrewsbury is legion and the likes of Ganchev, Grosse-Buening and Kennedy come through the Moss Gates thick and fast; rest assured, the new entrants of 2016 look set to follow in their wake if Saturday night's concert is anything to go by.

Sophia Price (EDH) set the bar high with a beautiful rendition of Puccini's *O Mio Babbino Caro*, the first of a number of Sixth Form entrants to perform on the evening including Harry Lawrence (O) playing the third movement of Mozart's Horn Concerto, flute solos from Ella Johnson (MSH), Crystal Lee (G) and Stephanie Christenson (G), and the exquisite voice of Amelia Marriott (EDH) singing *Les Roses d'Isphahan* by Gabriel Fauré.

Quite clearly these Sixth Form entrants were all experienced performers. Their younger counterparts were not to be outdone, however, with an impressive number taking to the stage to perform solo pieces (24 to be precise). Each of the new Third Form demonstrated a high standard of musicianship and performance and each is deserving of mention. However, to limit the word count of this review, allow me to mention a small handful that perhaps gives a flavour for the incredible variety and quality of performance.

Rohan McCourt's (Rt) confident tackling of Frank Bridge's *Canzonetto* gives you an idea of the level these musicians are playing at. To put it into context, I remember many an evening of tortuous practice during my final year at school trying to master the chromatic complexity of Bridge as I prepared for my Grade 8 piano exam aged 18. McCourt is but 13 years old and rolled off the *Canzonetto* with ease. I stand humbled!

Just to add further injury to my shattered ego, Kanei Nishii (Ch) then stepped up to the piano to play Liszt's *Liebestraum No 3 in A flat major*, a piece so difficult that one practically needs a licence even to attempt it. Amos Cheung (SH) used bow like brandished sword to attack the first movement of Haydn's *Concerto for Cello in C Major*, whilst Phoebe Morris (EDH) not only gave us a beautiful soprano rendition from *Die Fledermaus* but threw in Finzi's *Fughetta* on clarinet for good measure, too.

As Assistant Director of Music and Director of the Chapel Choir, Mr Mason (stepping in for Mr Moore who was away in Hong Kong on a marketing visit) will have been delighted with the number of strong singers amongst this cohort. Amongst their number were Emily Cornes (G) whose soulful *This is Gospel* was quite superb, likewise Meredith Powell-Turner (G) whose Double Bass/Voice performance of *Fever* was the epitome of cool.

Comic relief came from Orlando Williams (Rt) whose *Sick Note* by The Dubliners was entertaining and confidently delivered with skilled comic timing. Like Williams, Harry Davies (Ch) sang *a capella* and his version of *Hymne a l'Amour* was certainly one of the highlights of the evening. A simple song in one respect, but unaccompanied and performed with such poise and clarity, it was real hairs on the back of your neck stuff.



Whilst one hesitates to pick out an individual, I am going to do so anyway, though do bear in mind I have a dangerous bias towards Jazz. Jonty Gould (SH) on saxophone provided one of the most memorable musical moments I have experienced in a number of years as he blew us away with the first movement of Phil Woods's Sonata for Saxophone. Performed close to a year after the death of jazz legend Wood, Gould's faultless performance of the piece was quite extraordinary, not least due to the ease with which he tackled the considerable complexity of the music, but also for the way in which he communicated the very essence and soul of the piece. It was a performance well beyond his years, and if you want a measure of just how difficult a piece this is, I'd encourage you to listen to the piece online.

Speaking to Jonty after the concert, I was astonished to learn that he had only been playing the saxophone for three years. His meteoric rise to this level suggests that he is a performer to watch out for in the future and the inheritor of that proud tradition of Salopian saxophone, whose cairn Gould adds another stone to.

A wonderful evening of music was concluded with a rousing rendition of *Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man* from the 1927 musical *Show Boat* by Sixth Form entrant Amber Wilkinson (EDH), a fitting conclusion to the evening. Well done to Mr Mason, Mrs Nightingale and all within the Music Department for putting the programme together, and of course to the performers whose talents we will no doubt see much more of in future years.

Can't help lovin' Shrewsbury music!

Peter Middleton

Deputy Head Co-Curricular

GB Hockey player opens Shrewsbury School's Astro pitches

Tuesday 20 September 2016

GB hockey player and double Olympian Simon Mantell officially opened Shrewsbury School's impressive new Astro pitches on Monday 19th September.



Newly returned from the Rio Olympics and addressing a large crowd that included many young hockey players from Shrewsbury School as well as visiting teams from a number of other schools, Simon spoke of the vital role school sport and top-level facilities play in the national game.

“These sorts of pitches are where all the training goes in to create future Olympians.”

“Maybe some of the players here today will be among them,” he added.

Headmaster Mark Turner spoke of the huge benefits the new pitches will bring to hockey at Shrewsbury School. “With a large increase in the numbers of girls at the School and a rise in their skill-levels, we now have the first-class facilities to match our top-level coaching, which will allow those talents to develop. This is also a wonderful facility that we look forward to sharing with the wider community.”

Ist XI Hockey Coach Emma Kelly agreed that hockey at Shrewsbury is entering a very exciting time. “This year sees the implementation of an ‘Elite Development Squad’, which allows players identified with potential to pursue their Hockey to a higher level via a structured Strength and Conditioning Programme and Elite Coaching Sessions. We have also been working closely with the Shropshire Hockey Association and England Hockey to ensure that the hockey family

benefits from this fantastic new facility. It has been wonderful to see so many students enjoying the new astro, not just those involved in teams but a number of students having a go at hockey for the first time."

Following the official opening of the pitches, Simon Mantell stayed on at the School to watch the inaugural Invitational Sevens' Tournament. It was won by Repton's 1st XI, with Shrewsbury's A team finishing in second place and their B team coming third. Oswestry, Ellesmere and Leicester Grammar School also took part.



Polo-X Competition

Wednesday 21 September 2016

Jac Evans (O IV) recently enjoyed a polo-x (that's 'polo cross') tournament at the Celyn Club at Backford.



The competition featured teams from all over the North West and Shropshire, with several senior Home International players involved.

Although a novice, Jac and his horse Calvin played five 6-minute chukkas, winning two as part of a 'barbarians' team.





Sponsored Walk for the Shewsy

Wednesday 21 September 2016

The whole Shrewsbury School community spent Thursday 22nd September in the Shropshire Hills on a 30-kilometre sponsored walk to raise much-needed funds for Shrewsbury House, a Youth and Community Centre in Everton, Liverpool that was set up by teachers from the School in 1903.

113 years on, Everton is still one of the poorest wards in the UK. Life expectancy is six years below the national average, 32% of families have no one in work, and 48% of children are classified as 'living in poverty'.

'The Shewsy' provides a life-line for many children and young people in the area, running youth clubs throughout the week, weekend activities and residential trips. Its Council funding has been cut drastically recent years, so it is more reliant than ever on donations. Shrewsbury School raises funds for the Shewsy all the time, but the Whole School Sponsored Walk takes place once every five years to try and give a major boost to the coffers.

With more than 900 walkers taking part – including all the pupils, teachers, many support staff, a number of parents and governors and members of the Shewsy itself – the School is hoping to raise at least £70,000.

Links between Shrewsbury School and the Shewsy are strong, and the Headmaster and three members of staff sit on its committee.

There are regular visits to the Shewsy by Shrewsbury Sixth Form students, who spend a couple of days at the club, working with the young people and learning about life in the inner city, social care, crime and justice.

Every May, a large group from the Shewsy spends the weekend at the School, and over the years good friendships have been fostered.

This summer, the links were strengthened still further with a joint trip to Malawi. Nineteen young people from Shrewsbury School and the Shewsy spent two weeks working together at a project run by the Shropshire-based charity Medic Malawi, which includes a hospital, two orphanages and the Shrewsbury School Eye Clinic.





“Should we abolish the Jury System?”

Thursday 22 September 2016

The newly formed and pupil-led Law Society met last Monday in order to discuss the controversial argument posed by some that our legal system would be better off without a jury system.

The Law Society was set up to expand the intellectual curiosity of those who wish to study Law or subjects related at university, with the aim to meet informally and openly to discuss current legal topics that spark division in opinion. Throughout the year, the Society will also enjoy speeches from various legal professionals in order to learn more about the possibilities following a Law degree.

The 11 students who attended last Monday took part in a very interesting open floor discussion, with some in favour of the abolition, some in favour of the jury remaining and some in favour of reforming the jury. The discussion took various interesting angles and had everyone fully engrossed.

It was decided that next week we will discuss whether a victim should have any say in the punishment of the defendant. I look forward to seeing more people in attendance for another engaging discussion.

Darcy Smith (MSH UVI)



Giles Bell's Team of the Week: The whole school community

Thursday 22 September 2016

Giles Bell - teacher of Philosophy and Theology, Admissions Tutor, Housemaster of School House for 14 years, Football and Cricket coach, Brighton FC fan and general sports enthusiast – regularly turns both his spotlight and his wit on a 'Team of the Week' piece for the eNewsletter. This week his chosen team is the whole school community, who have just completed the Sponsored Walk for the Shewsy.



'Walking with the Little and Lane'

On Thursday morning I drew back the curtains to see for certain what I thought was true. Yes, it was a sunny start to the first day of autumn. Good weather is very important sometimes - no wonder it is such a frequent topic of conversation in our green and pleasant land!

I like walking. I find it useful. It frequently helps me to get to an agreeable destination like bed or a comfy armchair. I also like walking in the countryside at this time of year as I can find edible autumnal fruits. My dog Ted likes a good walk. Although I have never had a particularly coherent conversation with him, I think he likes smelly things to eat, roll in or sniff and despite having no eyes he still seems to believe he could catch rabbits, squirrels and other small furry animals.

As I was leaving the house my wife turned to me and enquired if I would be taking Ted on the Sponsored Walk. She admitted he might be a blind but also mentioned how much he would love it. I countered with the argument that 20 miles might be a bit much for an eight-year-old blind dog whose regular routine involves sleeping on my side of the bed throughout the day before going for a 20-minute amble when Emily comes back from work. Ted wagged his tail and his mistress gave a heart-rending appeal on his behalf.

So it was that after a hearty KH breakfast I joined the throngs of happy walkers waiting to board the buses for a little known destination in the heart of Shropshire, accompanied by my trusty hound. The trusty hound was in good form having snaffled a sausage in what must be a new record for Working Cocker Spaniels, although I am unable to confirm that is the case.

A slight feeling of trepidation arose in my stomach as I looked at the well prepared and athletic folk surrounding me. I had believed the forecast and was not expecting rain; others looked as if Arctic conditions might be coming our way at any moment. We hopped on a coach and sat right at the front. I managed to withstand the temptation to give everyone a pep talk on the microphone and settled for an in-depth chat about Shrewsbury Town and Manchester United with our youthful bus driver.



Mr Percival cheerily sending us on our way

Having arrived at our destination, we strode off up the hill with Mr Percival's words of encouragement ringing in our ears. I had loitered at the back thinking it might be best for the blind dog to avoid tripping people up too early in proceedings. With my length of stride and natural fitness I assumed I would catch wilting walkers up quite quickly. This was not to be the case. It took around 15 minutes to find any signs of life. Yet the sun was up, the sky was blue and not too much mud was on my shoe. Yes, I was feeling poetic!



Some early company came in the shape of Andrew Maxwell and Laurence Goddard who had slowed to pick blackberries. I powered up a very steep hill and found myself on top of the Long Mynd. (My spell checker suggests Long Mend and this is probably what was required after that climb!) I had been asked if I would take a few pictures as I proceeded; presumably because people felt I would walk past most of the other strollers with my incredible speed and fitness. This was not to be the case, as for me each picture is a work of art, a thing of beauty to be carefully crafted; hence my progress was slowed somewhat.

I sense that this article would become far too long if I was to relate each conversation I had. Suffice to say, it is amazing how many people one can end up having a really good chat to on a 20-mile walk!

One or two students by the time I had caught up with them at the top of the hill were questioning their human rights! There were also questions about why we were raising money for Shrewsbury House. My answer to this was that Shrewsbury School was walking as a community to show solidarity and support for another very different community – The Shewsy. A little further on I bumped into John Hutchinson who has been involved with the Shewsy management board for a long time. I asked him what he felt were the reasons for supporting the Shewsy. He was just about to answer when a group of young walkers told me they thought they had seen my dog about half a mile back. Yes, I had become so engrossed in talking to John I had forgotten to keep an eye on blind Ted! John promised to give me an answer when I caught him up later. I then retreated my steps to find the errant canine. I spotted him quite quickly as I saw that Mr Hudson was moving much faster than one might have imagined and I realised he was being pulled along by Ted who he had kindly put on a lead to bring back to me. Mr Hudson released my four-footed friend who came panting over to me and we continued on our merry way.



Ted and friends

I then fell in with the ‘little and the lame’, as Isabelle Halfpenny-Edwards described her band of travellers. With the help of lollies and the continual belief that the finishing line was just round the corner, we managed to make it to the end.



Pausing for a breather

We were further slowed by Alex Esculier's insistence on climbing to the top of the Devil's Chair with Amos Cheung, Liza Alekseevar and Adam from the Shewsy.



On top of the Devil's Chair

Once at the end I had a chance to catch up with John and hear his answer. His view was that the main job of the Shewsy involves prevention. Many of society's ills are prevalent in the area around the Shewsy. If the Shewsy can help vulnerable young people stay on an even keel they are doing the whole of society a favour. The cost of prison, drug addiction, benefits and health care are such that anything to help keep people from needing that type of support has to be to everybody's advantage. It made me think that perhaps the Government should be investing more into the youth education and youth work. That is probably a discussion for another day.

A big thank you to all those who entertained me on the way to Pontesbury yesterday and to Nick David and his team for organising a fantastic day out! Above all well done to the whole school for being so positive and raising so much money for a great cause.



*The Shewsy Team
GJFB*



Oldhamite appointed Captain of Rugby

Thursday 22 September 2016

We are delighted that an Oldhamite has been appointed Captain of Rugby for the second year running. Oliver Dixon takes over from the outgoing Bertie Gilliat-Smith.



Oliver is to be congratulated on being selected for the training squad for the North Midlands Colts at hooker. He performed very well in a recent trial having returned from a serious wrist injury, metronomically hitting his jumpers in the line-out and working as an effective 'second 7' in the loose.

We wish him well as he aims for selection in the Midlands XV.



The news this week 100 years ago: 23rd - 29th September 1916

Thursday 22 September 2016

The Old Salopians whose 100th anniversary of death falls this week include Henry Palin, great-uncle of Michael Palin (R 1957-61), who was killed in France on the last day of the Somme, 27th September 1916.

This week we remember:

Captain Eustace Counsellor Longworth, 9th Bn. Lancashire Fusiliers.

Moser's, left in 1908. He was a Praepostor and rowed Bow of the School crew. He took his degree from King's College, Cambridge and then entered his father's business as a Cotton Manufacture.

Enlisting in the P.S. Bn. Royal Fusiliers, he received his 2nd Lieutenancy in the 13th Lancs. Fusiliers in Oct., 1914, being promoted full Lieut. in February 1915. In September 1915 he went out to Gallipoli attached to the 9th Bn., and was present at all the actions at Suvla Bay till the evacuation. He was promoted Captain 6th September 1915, and went to France in July 1916.

He was killed instantaneously in the capture of a German trench at Thiepval, France, 26th September 1916, aged 27.

“Though singularly modest and retiring he was a boy of excellent ability: beginning life in the Remove he passed after one term into the VIa. Our sympathy goes out to his family and most particularly to his father who loses him as his only son destined to have carried on an honourable name and a successful business.” – *The Salopian*.

He is remembered on Thiepval Memorial, France. Pier and Face 3 C and 3 D.

Lance Corporal Henry William Bourne Palin, 6/319, 1st Bn. Canterbury Regiment, N.Z.E.F.

School House, left in 1901. He went out to India as Assistant Traffic Superintendent of the Great Indian Peninsular railway Co., afterwards joining the firm of Finlay, Muir & Co., of Calcutta.

He was killed in action in France on the last day of the Battle of the Somme, 27th September 1916, aged 32.

He is remembered on Caterpillar Valley (New Zealand) Memorial, France.

Shrewsbury School Cricketers - national success stories

Sunday 25 September 2016

Over the summer, a number of Salopians have achieved significant success on the national cricketing stage, including former pupils Joe Leach, Ollie Westbury and George Panayi, current pupils Issy Wong and Jamie Crawley, and cricket coach Adam Shantry.

Joe Leach (M 2004-09) has just been made Captain of Worcestershire CCC. In making the announcement, Director of Cricket Steve Rhodes said, "In Joe we have a player who has shown he can have a really big impact on games. He was 10th in the Most Valuable Player rankings in 2015 and was fourth this season."

Joe has been the country's leading wicket-taker in this season's County Championship Division Two, with 65 victims, as well as hitting almost 600 runs.



Ollie Westbury (S 2013-15) has had a very successful year with Worcestershire Academy and made a stunning debut with the England U19s in July. In an eight-hour knock, he made 196 in their first 'Test' against Sri Lanka at Fenner's.

He has now been offered his first full-time professional contract with the County. "Make no mistake, his run-scoring is the reason he was offered this deal," said Worcestershire Director of Cricket Steve Rhodes. "If he keeps doing that, he is going to go a long way. There are a lot of the modern day players, all they see and are interested in are the T20 campaigns. To see people like Ollie who enjoy the longer format, and the real game of chess, and have the satisfaction of batting a long period of time, that is really nice to see."



George Panayi (Ch 2011-16) has had a very successful summer with Warwickshire CCC and has recently been selected for the England Young Lions programme. This will consist of a couple of training camps during the autumn, culminating in a three-week training camp in Dubai in December, following which players will be selected for a series of two Tests and three ODI matches in India playing against India U19s in February 2017.





Jamie Crawley (Rt V) was selected for the ESCA U16 XI in their 50-over match against MCC Schools U17 XIs, which was played at Lord's on 6th September. The team enjoyed the full Lord's experience, including an all-expenses-paid hotel stay the night before, training session in the nets, use of the changing rooms and a celebratory meal with their parents in the Long Room

Jamie batted very positively and was unlucky to be caught at cover having made 8 runs. He also took a good catch. "It was an unforgettable experience which I'll treasure forever," he said later. "I hope I might be back to play again there before too long!"





After a very successful 2016 season with Warwickshire U15 girls, scoring her first ever 50 and 100 in a matter of weeks and also producing very good spells with the ball consistently, **Issy Wong (G IV)** had been recognised for her efforts by being invited to the Loughborough Lightning Development Squad trials at the National Cricket Performance Centre (NCPC), located within Loughborough University.

Having had a very impressive trial, Issy has now been selected for the Loughborough Lightning Development Squad where she will be attending training camps once a month at the NCPC. She was also invited to attend an England Development Fast Bowling day, where she was assessed on her bowling technique, her tactical awareness and mental strength.

This proved to be another successful trial for Issy, as she has now been invited to an observation day this Sunday (2nd Oct) as part of the England Women's Development Programme held at the NCPC in Loughborough University. This time Issy will be assessed in all areas of her game – bowling, batting, fielding, tactical awareness, physical and mental strength.

“We have every faith that Issy will impress in all areas and are excited to see the outcome, said Gwenan Davies, Cricket Coach at Shrewsbury School. “This is a really exciting time for Issy and we as a school are looking forward to what the year ahead holds for her and wish her all the very best for the coming weekend.”



After a lengthy process, Shrewsbury Cricket Coach **Adam Shantry** has been selected for the latest intake of the ECB Level 4 coaching qualification. The course is a 26-month post graduate diploma, taking place at the University of Gloucester. Modules are delivered by a variety of lecturers and elite coaches, including several of the current England backroom staff.

The highly competitive selection process initially consisted of a detailed written application, completed by all Level 4 applicants nationwide. A limited number were invited to give a presentation and undergo an interview with a panel of coaches and administrators, from which only 18 applicants were successful in gaining a place on the course.

It is the highest available cricket coaching qualification, and involves in depth work in the fields of sports psychology, advanced coaching skills, and biomechanics, as well as batting, bowling, fielding and wicket keeping.

Sponsored Walk

Sunday 25 September 2016

It was a beautiful late summer's day when the entire school (pupils and staff) took to the hills of Shropshire to complete a 30km sponsored walk.

The event happens every five years in aid of The Shewsy. The Shewsy is a youth club in a very deprived area of Everton, which we have been supporting for many years. It is a thoroughly worthwhile cause for which the boys of School House managed to raise more than £7,000 through the walk. Well done to everyone who took part.



Louis, Frank and Kogi half way through the walk



As if walking 30km up and down the hills of Shropshire wasn't challenging enough, Mark Pangin (V) decided to run the whole way!



Victoria, Sabrina and Williams Sculls

Monday 26 September 2016

The annual Victoria, Sabrina and Williams Sculls took place on Saturday 17th September - an exciting start to a new season at the Boat Club.



Matt Rowe



Jennifer Hallsworth



The Victoria Sculls (J18) were hotly contested with a number of new entrants threatening to shake up the established order. The boys' division was won by Upper Sixth Former Matthew Rowe (SH) ahead of a trio of Port Hill boys. Matthew recently returned from the Junior World Championships.

The girls' division was won by Lower Sixth new entrant Jennifer Hallsworth (EDH) who has joined us from Trentham Rowing Club where she won a bronze medal in WJ16 1x at the British Rowing Championships over the summer.



Adam Pattenden



Tessa Scott-Bell

The Sabrina Sculls (J16) were both won by last year's J15 winners: Adam Pattenden (S) and Tessa Scott-Bell (MSH).

The Williams Sculls (J15) were won by Louis Nares (Rb) and Lara Gabbitas (EDH).



Louis Nares



Lara Gabbitas

The Senior Challenge Sculls are awarded to the Houses with the fastest aggregate time from four scullers. They are won this year by Port Hill (who finished with all four boys in the top eight) and Emma Darwin Hall.



Matthew Rowe (UVI) wins the Victoria Sculls

Monday 26 September 2016

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Matt Rowe

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Matthew recently returned from the Junior World Championships.



Football news round-up

Wednesday 28 September 2016

1st XI

Congratulations to Josh Malyon (Rt), George Pierce (S), Jamie Whelan (PH), Josiah Chilaka (SH) and Charlie Tait-Harris (S), who have been selected to represent ISFA North.

The 1st XI produced their best performance of the season thus far in their ISFA Boodles Cup match against University College School, Hampstead on Wednesday 21st September. The visitors couldn't cope with our high pressing and possession game plan, resulting in a dominant performance – winning 5-0 with goals from Josiah Chilaka (an early 'goal of the season' candidate), Josh Malyon (Rt; penalty), George Newton (SH), George Pierce and James Nelson (SH).

The **U15s** lost in their ISFA Investec match on Monday 19th September (1-4) to a strong and physical team from The Grange School, Cheshire.

On Wednesday we welcomed the U16/U15/14A-teams from Ludlow School to play our respective B-teams. The **U14Bs** and **U16Bs** both lost, but the **U15Bs** had a very exciting game. With five minutes remaining, the score was 1-2 (our goal from Arthur Garrett - Ch) before Euan Cooper (SH) scored twice (a penalty and a screamer from the top of the box) to win the game 3-2.



RSSBC welcomes Olympic gold medallist to the annual Boat Club Dinner

Wednesday 28 September 2016

The Boat Club celebrated its annual Dinner on Thursday 22nd September, following the whole-school Sponsored Walk for the Shewsy. The rowers were treated to a fantastic and well-deserved meal by the Holyroyd Howe catering team before hearing speeches by last year's Captain of Boats, Paddy George, the Director of Rowing, Athol Hundermark and Rio Olympic Gold Medallist, Matthew Langridge.



The tremendous atmosphere was complemented by the inspiring story of Matthew Langridge's journey from junior rower (starting out not far from Shrewsbury) to four-time Olympian in his successful quest for Gold.

Old Salopian Nick Randall received a standing ovation from the coaches and pupils when awarded with a presentation oar for his continued and valued support to the Boat Club. Nick has done a significant amount behind the scenes in raising funds and bringing the history of the Club together with the pictures and boards that can be viewed in the Boathouse. It was truly fitting that those who benefit the most by his work showed their appreciation.

Matthew Langridge was called upon to present the trophies to the winning rowers from the recent Victoria, Sabrina and Williams sculling races (see [report](#)).



Matthew Langridge with Barney and Eleanor Fox





The news this week 100 years ago: 30th September - 6th October 1916

Wednesday 28 September 2016

This week we remember:

Second Lieutenant Donald Campbell Hair, 6th Bn. King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

School House, Gentleman of the Runs, left in 1915. Gazetted 2nd Lieut. on probation, 7th July 1916.

He was killed by a shell on his first day in the trenches in France, 3rd October 1916, aged 19.

“He chose to join the Shropshires largely out of love for his friend Dick Lutener (died 6th April 1916). He had in him a real strain of poetry and a very deep feeling for religion which would have made him a blessing to very many if he had been spared, especially if he had been able to carry out his plan as going out as a Missionary.” – *The Salopian*

He is remembered on Thiepval Memorial, France. Pier and Face 12 A and 12 D.

Upon his death, his friends composed an ode to him:

*Oh would that we had been with you,
Dear Dolly, when you died,
And crossed the flood and seen with you
What lies the other side!
But since you needs must tread alone
The path that you have trod
We'll think of you not dead alone
But living unto God.
Though He has other ends for you,
Yet you will surely find
He has no truer friends for you
Than those you leave behind.
No longer may we walk with you
The path you used to shew,
Nor laugh with you nor talk with you
As two short months ago.
But though we cannot go to you
Nor cross the sundering river,
The thought of all we owe to you
Lives on in us for ever.*

Lance Corporal Eustace Addison Holt, 4569, 10th Bn. The King's (Liverpool Regiment).

Dayboys, left in 1902. On leaving school, he served for four years as a pupil with a Liverpool shipping firm, by whom he was afterwards appointed to a post which took him to Spain for the next five years of his life. He then received an appointment under the Pacific Steam Navigation Co., in whose service he was employed until May 1915, when he enlisted as a private in the Liverpool (Scottish) Regt.

He died of his wounds in France, 4th October 1916, aged 31

He was buried at St Sever Cemetery, Rouen, France. Grave B. 20. 7.

Shrewsbury equestrian teams qualify in style for the National Championships

Wednesday 28 September 2016

Shrewsbury had a very successful weekend at the National Schools Equestrian Association qualifiers for the National Championships, held at the South View Arena in Cheshire on 24th/25th September.



Mimi Ashworth and Paddy Barlow receiving their first rosette of the weekend

The School's Jumping with Style 90cm team won their event - a particularly impressive achievement, as they only had three in their team (most others had four): Tristan Lywood (Rt UVI), Paddy Barlow (R IV) and Mimi Ashworth (EDH V). Tristan came 2nd and achieved an individual qualification, and Paddy came 3rd.

The following day, the 90cm Showjumping team of Oscar Hamilton-Russell (R IV), Mimi Ashworth and Paddy Barlow won again; and the 1m Team of Mimi Ashworth, Paddy Barlow, Scott Walker (SH LVI) and Lily Freeman-Attwood (EDH IV) came 2nd (qualifying for the National Championships), with Lily finishing 4th and Thomas Tulloch (Rt UVI) finishing 5th individually.

With three teams qualifying for the Nationals and everyone contributing to this success - including the younger riders - Shrewsbury riding is very much on the up.

The National Championships will be held at Addington Manor in October.



Chapel Choir sing evensong at Jesus College, Cambridge

Thursday 29 September 2016

The Chapel Choir has become accustomed to singing evensong in inspiring places – recent venues have included St George’s Chapel, Windsor and The Queen’s College, Oxford. This week it was the turn of the ‘other place’ as 65 Salopians processed into the magnificent and intimate perpendicular choir of Jesus College, Cambridge, the College that Thomas Cranmer, author of the 16th century Service of Evensong itself, attended, investing the occasion with special significance.

Director of Chapel Music Alex Mason had confessed to me on the eve of the trip that with many of the top line having only recently joined the School, it was uncomfortable early in the term to be showing off the Choir in such a prestigious venue. But his apprehensions proved unfounded as, aided by the extraordinarily limpid acoustic of the chapel, the choristers sung their hearts out in a selection of music which included the Noble A minor canticles and an anthem composed by Alex Mason himself, which has rapidly become a choir favourite.

Such is the architecture of the chapel that the congregation sit in the main nave, separated from the choir by a sumptuously carved screen, the contemplation of which makes a suitable visual accompaniment to the music, lessons and prayers which form part of this quintessentially English service. But one fellow of the College, apart from the Chaplain himself, was in the Fellows’ stalls: Anthony Bowen, former Head of Classics at Shrewsbury and this writer’s Greek teacher, providing a suitable Salopian link to the College.

Duty has its reward - sometimes on earth as well as in heaven, and, choir robes somewhat unceremoniously abandoned...



... the deserving choristers finished their evening with a nourishing dinner in the College Hall, under the approving gaze of Thomas Cranmer himself.

Richard Hudson

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



'Everest Files' author visit

Thursday 29 September 2016

We were delighted to welcome film-maker, mountaineer and author Matt Dickinson to the School on 26th September.



Many of his books – including his latest 'Everest Files' series for young adults - are influenced by his experiences climbing Everest. Matt's inspirational talks to Third and Fourth formers included film footage from his trips to Antarctica and Everest – including a gory image of his frostbitten fingers which had the students rapt!

Issy Wong (G IV) who also attended Matt's workshop for creative writing students, summed up his visit.

"I really found both the lecture and the workshop very interesting. I found the lecture particularly useful not just in terms of my creative writing but the lessons he taught us on how to live our lives. His story for one is both exciting and extremely interesting, including experiences that not many people in the world could talk about. He very strongly gave us the message that he lives his life for the enjoyment and experience as opposed to the money. It was also very different from what else we are taught. He told us about taking risks and gambles and that given all the dangers (29% chance of death) he would climb K2 again if he got the chance. This was extremely eye-opening and very inspiring.

"In the workshop, we practised writing quickly to a deadline. We learnt that this is very important in most jobs that involve writing, such as journalism, and it is generally a very good skill to have. Throughout the course of the lecture, we wrote three short passages of about half a page, each in five minutes. In these passages, we wrote about what we would miss most about home whilst climbing Everest; who we would take as a tent buddy on "Everest and a piece with the title, "I'm stuck in a snow storm on Everest. Overall I, personally, feel that I gained a lot throughout the day about life and writing."

Jo Elliot, Head Librarian



Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Thursday 29 September 2016

In a special double edition this week, the 1st XI and the U14C XI football teams.

In a week where football has not been in the public eye for the right reasons, I am going to attempt to restore the national game to its rightful place at the pinnacle of the sporting pantheon.

First team coach Steve Wilderspin has condemned the actions of some prominent football managers who should know better. He refused my offer of £50,000 to come and address a group of agents based in Shrewsbury and seemed to see through my disguise of being a prominent business man. I asked him if he had any thoughts on the next England manager. "It's all a bit of a lottery and I am not a gambling man; if I 'ad a dice I would not roll it at present," he told me.

He is pleased with his recent summer signings and feels that the team has a good spirit which is being borne out in early season results. The summer signings Josiah Chilaka and Jamie Whelan have a good footballing pedigree and their arrivals have given the team a lift. There is a quiet confidence emanating from the new Shrewsbury dug-outs.

I caught up with central defensive power house Kwaku Antwi to find out his thoughts on the season ahead. He told me his ambitions were to score a goal and to get to at least the quarter-finals of a cup competition. He has entered the School House pool competition and thinks the draw has opened up nicely for him. "I think I can make the quarter-finals," he told me.

The 1st XI have already progressed through the first round of the ISFA cup competition, defeating University College School 5-0 in a very impressive display.



Goalie Pat Jacob waiting for some action

They have now been drawn away at Canford School, who dispatched Malvern 4-0 in the first round. George Newton was also up-beat after The Marches School conceded in the first round of the ESFA Cup. George would not be drawn on whether our reputation is such that most schools don't think there is much point playing us. "Let's take it one game at time," he told me.



Newton soars

Whilst the 1st XI were knocking the goals in against University College School, the under-14Cs were able to pick up some pointers for their game against Ludlow School under-14B team. The later kick-off time of 4:15pm enabled TV coverage of both games, should the TV companies have wished to cover them. Seb Vanhoonacker was delighted to be able to have a chat with 1st team sensation Josiah Chilaka.

"It was great to have a chat with Josiah and wish him well. I thought he had a good game and as we are both playing wide on the left, it was good to swap a few ideas. He really liked some of the ideas that my coach has given me of late and he will feed them into his team. In fact if the 1st XI start to do really well I think my coach can take a lot of credit". It is good to hear that Seb is listening to his coach, who I know has some original and thought-provoking ideas on how football should be played the Brighton way.



1st XI hero Josiah with some of his fans

Malyon, Pearce, Newton, Chilaka and Nelson were on the sheet for the 1st XI and certainly the under-14Cs were inspired by their seniors. Having been told they would probably lose by their manager (in a carefully crafted team talk to inspire the team to prove him wrong), they found themselves 2-1 up at half-time.



Deep concentration from the U14Cs on the deep words of wisdom from their coach



This led to another carefully crafted team talk resulting in a 7-3 victory. Midfield maestro Dan Schofield, playing very much in the number 10 role that Jamie Whelan plays so adroitly for the 1st team, scored twice. Seb Vanhoonacker was also on the score sheet twice as he emulated his first team friend Josiah Chilaka and Charlie Chauveau also added a brace as he twisted and turned in the opposition penalty box rather like 1st team striker James Nelson, who is on fire at present.



James Nelson

The crowd enjoyed the feast of football put on for them by the first team...



... and Mrs Schofield and her dog enjoyed the first half of the under-14C match.



LATER.....

A week is a long time in football... Just days after their stunning victory against Ludlow, the U14Cs lost to Thomas Telford 9-0.

Bell-inio was keen not to make excuses for his side's defeat. "I am keen not to make excuses for my sides defeat. I will not mention that the opposition seemed too good for a C team and that there were rumours that some A-teamers were playing. I am not going to dwell on the fact that we had three matches in three days and that I had told the lads to save some energy for the Repton game. Nor will I suggest that it can be difficult coming straight out of lessons and into a football match. Some of the lads were still wrestling with their quadratic equations from 20 minutes earlier. As for referee Giles Bell (no relation), he was never up with play or all their goals would have been given off-side."

Centre-forward Will Maunder was typically upbeat after the match. "Although I enjoyed testing myself against a top team, pushing my fitness to the limit and stretching my mental toughness to the extremities of mental toughness, please can we play someone not quite so good next time?"

The smiles were back on their face the next day as a 1-1 draw played against Repton in Hurricane Matthew's warm-up phase saw a much improved performance played in a very good spirit. Will Gardiner was pleased with his goal after some good approach play by Dan Schofield and although Shrewsbury had chances to win, Bell-inio was philosophical about the result. "I have reason to believe we had chances to win the game but I couldn't really see as the rain was in my eyes!" He went on to deny rumours that he was moved to tears by the sheer poetry of the Shrewsbury play.



The U14Cs back in confident mood

Meanwhile the 1st XI were defeating a very strong Old Salopian side 2-1. Veteran OS midfield player Tom Kelly told me. “We were a very strong side. I have been working out all year for this year. I am beginning to wonder if some of my fellow players were not as strong as me.” Roy Chatterjee told me, “I am afraid I was not as strong as some players as I have been waiting for my weights.”

Angus Drummond told me that he did not think the Old Salopians were that strong. “The opposition were not that strong, several of them were struggling to pick up their water bottles. Perhaps that was just their age. I have heard when you get a bit older you can get back trouble.”

Manager Steve Wilderspin was delighted with the result and, without trying to get too excited, was quite excited. “That was a satisfying result because we played well,” he told me as he jumped up and down punching the air.

Assistant manger Will Hughes was an important factor in the team’s preparations. “I like to think that my knowledge of what it is like to be an old boy gave the lads an insight into the type of performance they could expect to be up against. None of the old boys were as strong as they like to think they are.”

Talking of Old Boys, the Director of the Salopian Club has been doing the rounds of the media this week. One hundred years ago today, Leigh Richmond Roose was killed in the Battle of the Somme. He was the Welsh goalkeeper and the great-uncle of Nick Jenkins. If you want to know more about Nick’s uncle there is a book about him by Spencer Vignes called 'Leigh Richmond Roose: football’s first playboy'.

GJFB



GB U19 Rifle Squad selection

Friday 30 September 2016

Many congratulations to Hattie Bramwell (EDH LVI), who has been selected for the GB U19 Rifle Squad.



Hattie with the Gallican Trophy she won on the UK Cadet Rifle Team Tour in August

She is one of four girls and eight boys who have been chosen from across the UK and - at the age of just 16 - she is the youngest member of the squad. She is looking forward to a squad training weekend later this month at Bisley, the National Shooting Centre, after which a team of eight will be selected for a tour to South Africa next Easter.

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

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

These competitions use a full-bore target rifle (7.62mm calibre) and Hattie shoots targets at a distance of 300-1,000 yards.

Having now moved to Shrewsbury for the Sixth Form, Hattie is keen to help raise the profile of shooting at Shrewsbury. “One of the really fantastic things about shooting is that it is a completely gender-neutral sport. It is one of the only sports at Shrewsbury where girls and boys can compete on a level playing field.”

“Some people don’t even realise there is a shooting range here at school,” she says. “There are training sessions each Wednesday evening and during Societies Hour on a Monday. And our coach, Tom Rylands – who is an Old Salopian (Ch 1973-77) – is coach to the GB Under-25s Team. He’ll also be travelling out to South Africa next Easter at the same time as the GB U19 tour, to compete as part of the main GB Team. We’re really lucky that he brings with him a Scatt training machine for the Shrewsbury Shooting Team to use each week, which is an Olympic-standard piece of equipment.”

Numbers taking part in the sport are increasing at the School and include Hattie’s two younger brothers, Arthur and George. Having entered a team of four for the national schools competition in previous years, Shrewsbury’s Shooting Club hope to enter a full team of eight next July.

