

# Futures & Higher Education Bulletin

Tuesday 4 February 2020

*To mark National Apprenticeship Week (3rd - 7th February), this week's Bulletin focuses on Apprenticeships - particularly Degree Apprenticeships - and Higher Education.*

Please follow the link to download the Bulletin as a pdf: [Futures Bulletin, Edition 9, Lent Term 2020](#)

# Classical Society Lecture

Tuesday 4 February 2020

*On Friday 31st January, the Classical Society hosted a talk on 'Skin Colour in the Ancient World', given by Professor Tim Whitmarsh from Cambridge University.*



Pupils studying Latin or Greek or Classical Civilisation – and in some cases a combination of these – learned about what the attitude of Greeks was towards non-Greeks and how skin colour was portrayed in artefacts such as ancient Greek pots; a stark white face essentially denoted a woman, whereas the chromatic opposite - pitch black - indicated a male form, and these differences did not indicate race *per se*.

Professor Whitmarsh spoke about there being little evidence of racism as we know the term today. Greeks were, however, prejudiced against other races, but this was not based on skin colour; Greeks, in short, regarded themselves as being superior in intellect and culture to all others!

The talk provided real food for thought for the audience and posed some pertinent questions to our pupils who live in a multi-ethnic society.

Many thanks to Professor Whitmarsh for braving the A14 and M6 on a Friday afternoon.

*Paul Fitzgerald*  
*Head of Classics*

# Salopian Drivers' Club

Tuesday 4 February 2020

*In the eighteen months that the Salopian Drivers' Club has been in existence, we have had several really enjoyable gatherings and we now have eighty members.*

The latest of these was our first winter dinner which was held at the Turf Club in Carlton House Terrace, just off Pall Mall in London on Friday, the 24th January.



Twenty-two people attended, including our guest speakers Richard Tait-Harris and Tom Chilton (who we are all hoping will win the British Touring Championships this year).



The Turf Club made a great venue for the party; grand surroundings but really friendly and efficient service.

We were lucky to be able to take over the principal dining room. Sitting at one long table created a friendly and inclusive setting, which is just what our club stands for.

Richard Tait-Harris, although not an Old Salopian himself, has a son, Charles, who was at Shrewsbury (S 2012-17) and, as such is eligible to become a member of the Club. I am so pleased that, following the dinner, he has accepted our invitation to become a member. We are honoured that he has agreed to join us.



The Chateau Impney meeting at which we had hoped to have a meeting in July has been cancelled so we are now investigating the possibility of having a meeting at Silverstone at about the same time. You will be emailed about this when we have more news.

If you haven't already done so, please put the 19th and 20th September in your diary. This is the weekend of OS Day and our AGM and weekend meeting at Shrewsbury.

Our membership continues to grow steadily. If you know any Old Salopians or the parents of Old Salopians who might be interested in joining, please either speak to them and get them to email me or let me have their details and I will get in touch with them myself.

The days are already getting longer. It won't be long before spring arrives and happy motoring can begin again!

Miles Preston

Chairman SDC



# Sixth Former Jude becomes the first current pupil to give a Darwin Society Lecture

Tuesday 4 February 2020

*A talk that enthralled pupils and staff alike, on venoms, poison dart frogs and crocodile blood...*

## Venoms in Nature



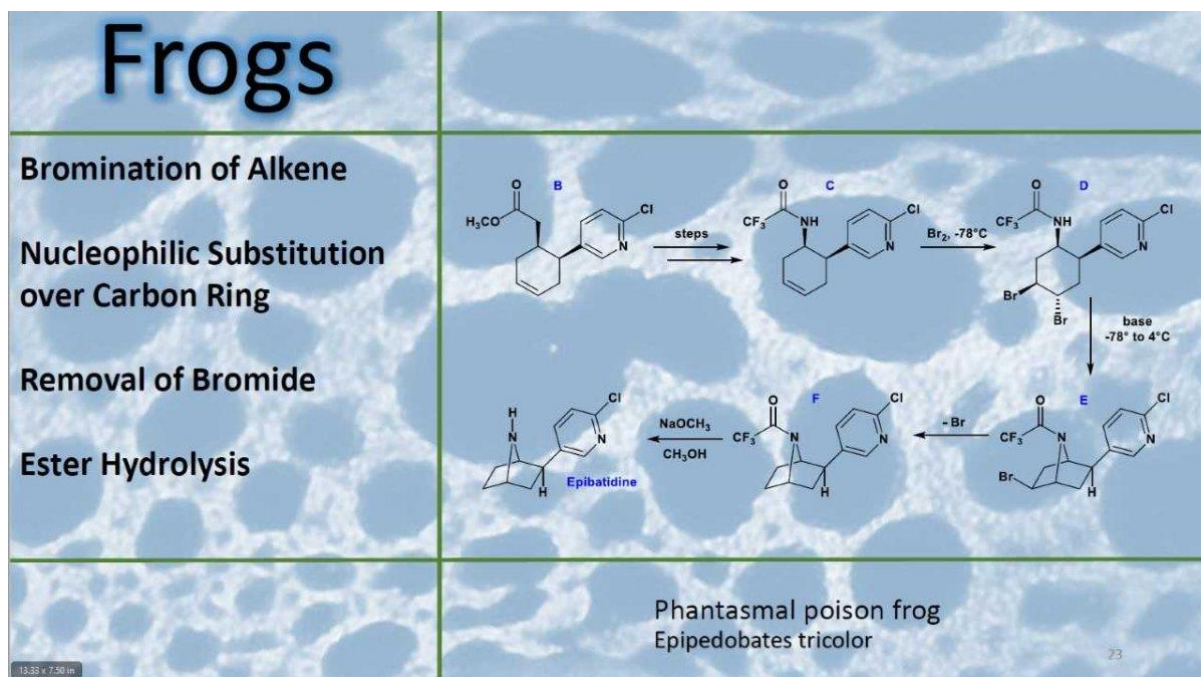
Jude Huffer U6

Darwin society lecture  
Science lecture theatre



Jude Huffer (Rb U6) has been a keen scientist, and a keen biologist in particular, since joining the School in 2015. Currently one of the Sixth Form Darwin Society Presidents, he would normally be introducing guest lecturers for Darwin Society talks, but instead found himself centre-stage last week.

He gave a frankly fascinating talk for 30 minutes on the types of snake venom and their potential uses in medicine, as well as digressing into the exceptional immune system of crocodiles and the neurotoxins of poison dart frogs!



Teachers and pupils alike listened intently to what was a highly professional and engaging lecture, before asking challenging questions of Jude, who responded with aplomb.



Having been applying to Cambridge to read Veterinary Medicine in the Michaelmas Term, Jude began a more in-depth study into this subject area and put together a short presentation in preparation for his interviews. It was a natural progression to slightly extend his talk and make it available for the enjoyment of a wider School audience, and we look forward to more like it in the future.

Jude joins a pantheon of distinguished Darwin Society speakers that includes Professor Lord Rees (Astronomer Royal, Master of Trinity College), Professor Sir (Revd) John Polkinghorne (Theoretical Physics, Cambridge) and Professor Andrew Berry (Harvard Evolutionary Biology), to name a few. He was recently offered a place at Cambridge.

# Friends of Shrewsbury School Hong Kong AGM

Wednesday 5 February 2020

*The AGM of the Friends of Shrewsbury School Hong Kong was held at the Chinese Banks' Association on 30th November 2019.*

A summary of the meeting can be found here: [FSSHK AGM, November 2019.](#)





# Shropshire Schools County Cross-Country Championships

Wednesday 5 February 2020

*The Royal Shrewsbury School Hunt enjoyed an excellent day at the County Championships on 1st February, with 37 runners competing and amassing between them three team trophies and two individual wins.*

We had bright and breezy conditions for our annual trip up to Oswestry. Having won all three boys' team trophies last year, we were hoping to build on this and we were able to take a strong group of senior girls up as well as having some real quality in all three boys' categories.

The Junior Boys were slightly depleted as both Brad Keay (R) and Tim Stebel (I) – arguably the two strongest runners in the Third Form – actually qualify as of Intermediate age, so were ineligible for this race. We still had some very strong runners to compete though, such as Hamish Griffiths (PH) who managed 5th, Massimo Wyatt (PH) who came 9th, Archie Tulloch (Rt) in 10th, Luke Williams (SH) in 20th and Jenson Kong (SH) making his debut in 41st. This gave us a very respectable team score of 44, but we sadly missed out on the winners' trophy for the first time in a few years as Thomas Telford managed a superb team score of 29 to take the overall win. We'll be back for it next year!



*Hamish Griffiths*

In the Intermediate Boys, we fielded a very strong team indeed (bolstered by Brad and Tim) Shrewsbury dominated with seven runners in the top ten. The individual win went to Will Singleton (R), with Harrison Cutler (R) in 3rd, Brad in 4th, Jonny Price (I) in 6th, Tim Strebel in 8th, Ben Weston (R) in 9th, and Archie Collings (Rb) in 10th.





*Harrison Cutler ahead of Brad Keay*

It was really nice to see Ben Weston (pictured below) racing again after a frustrating injury that has seen him side-lined for several months. It won't be long before he is back to his best.





George Hankins (O), Arthur Hope Barton (I) and Damian Jelev (R) also ran well to complete a really strong team performance. Perhaps the best performance came from Jonny, who lost both shoes in the opening few hundred yards and ran the remainder of the race in his socks!



*Senior Boys starting well as a pack*

We were also able to command the race in the Senior Boys' category, as we managed to claim five of the top ten positions and eight of the top 13. Sam Western (S) (pictured below) came 2nd, in a maturely judged performance, ahead of Tom Jackson in 3rd, also getting his tactics spot-on.





Max Green (I), Will Owen (Ch) and Paddy Barlow (R) claimed 5th, 6th and 7th, and Arthur Bramwell (R) ran an excellent 11th. Cosmo Waddell (Ch) finished 12th just ahead of Will Cowper (Rb) in 13th. There were also fine performances from Louis Street (15th), Tetsuyoshi Yamada (20th) and Charles Ko (22nd).



*Paddy Barlow ahead of Max Green and Will Owen*



*Will Cowper*



While we didn't manage a team in the Intermediate Girls, Eva Hall (G) ran really well for a top-ten spot, and managed 17th overall, including the Senior Girls (these two age groups ran as a merged race).



In the Seniors, Francesca Harris (pictured above) claimed an excellent win, while there were also really good performances from Lillian Wilcox (EDH) in 5th, Laura Elliott (G) in 6th, Anna Cowan (MSH) in 7th, Nora Hecker (M) on her Hunt debut in 8th, Charlotte Russell (G) in 9th, Sophia Bureau (G) in 14th and Ella Fox-Davies (G), also making her debut having only joined the Hunt this term, placing 15th. Their performance was enough to earn us the Senior Girls' trophy for the first time in several years, a real return to form for girls' running.





Overall to claim three team trophies and two individual wins, it was an excellent day of cross-country running, and with 37 pupils competing in all, we showed plenty of depth as well as quality at the top.



*Mr Haworth  
Teacher in Charge of the Hunt*

# String Prizes 2020

Wednesday 5 February 2020

*The String Prizes on Sunday 2nd February were a great success...*



Overseen by David Joyce, Head of Strings, the classes were adjudicated by Sally Minchin, professional violin and viola player, specialising in many styles of string-playing.

The Junior class was won by Sapna Chudasama (G) on the cello.

The Intermediate class was won by Henry Griffiths (PH), also on the cello, with Charles Ko (violin, Rt) as runner-up. Louis Graham (double bass, Rt) got an unofficial third place.



*Adjudicator Sally Minchin with Henry Griffiths and Charles Ko*

"The Senior Prize was a fabulous competition and of a particularly high standard this year," said David Joyce. "I expected the cello players to be very much in the running, which is often the case when you ask a violinist/viola player to be the adjudicator."

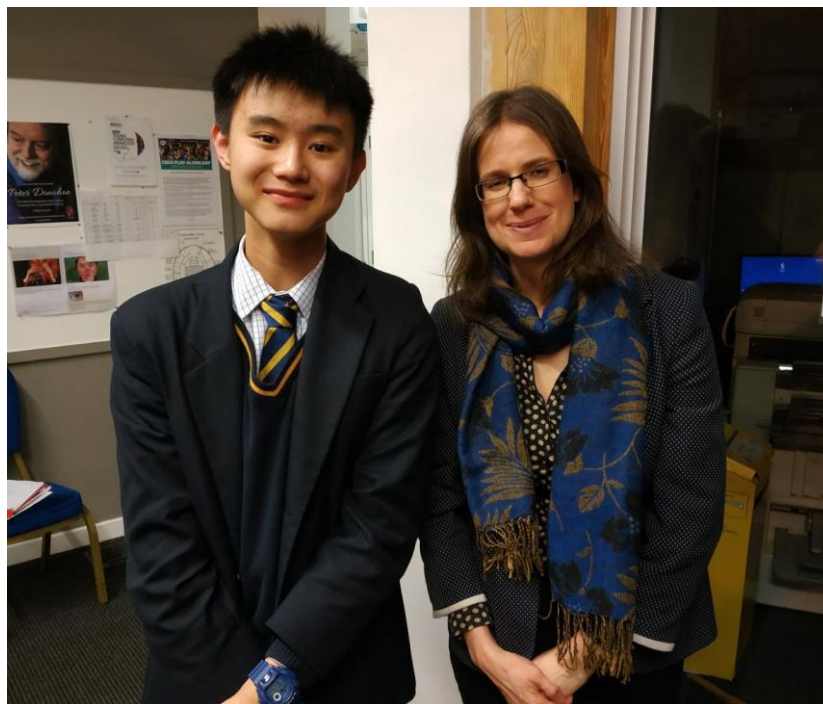


"In the end the class had two commended competitors: Max Wheeler, (violin, Ch); and highly commended Ethan Poon (violin, I).

"Third place went to Rosa Li, (violin, M) performing a near-flawless rendition of Brahms Hungarian Dance no. 2; and second place was awarded to Janet Li, (cello, M) playing the outrageous *Tarantella* by Popper.



"The winner of the Senior Class was Jacky Chan (violin, Rt), playing the first movement of Mozart Concerto no.3 in G in a truly adrenaline-charged rendition! Harry Chan, the orchestra leader, acquitted himself very well.



"All the competitors got a lot out of the day and the convivial atmosphere of the day made for a top Salopian event."

# Letters from Shrewsbury No. 2: 'Dear Gerald'

Thursday 6 February 2020

*The second in the new series of occasional 'Letters from Shrewsbury' written by the Headmaster, Leo Winkley...*

On being an ever-there.

Please follow the link to enjoy reading it:

<https://leowinkley.wordpress.com/2020/02/02/dear-gerald/>



# RSSBC: Wins for all squads in the Wycliffe Big Head

Thursday 6 February 2020

*The Senior and J16 crews began a new term of racing in fine style at the Wycliffe Big Head on the Gloucester Berkeley Canal on Saturday 1st February.*

It was the first opportunity for the crews to show the progress they have made over the winter months and they all relished the chance to get racing.

All the squads produced some fantastic results and recorded wins in their categories. A Senior Boys' VIII won the first division overall and were the fastest crew out of seventeen J18 and Senior Men's eights, including some strong competition from schools including Abingdon, Radley, St Edward's and Shiplake.





The three Senior Girls's quads and one Senior Girls' four also put in a strong set of results. The fastest quad in the first division won the Women's Coxless Quad event.

In the afternoon all the crews took to the water for the second division, along with the J16 VIII. The pick of the results from that division came from the J16 Boys winning their event with a very impressive row (pictured below).



A full list of results can be found at <http://www.wycliffehead.co.uk/docs/WBH20-Results.pdf>

*Athol Hundermark*  
*Director of Rowing*

# Chemistry meets Poetry...

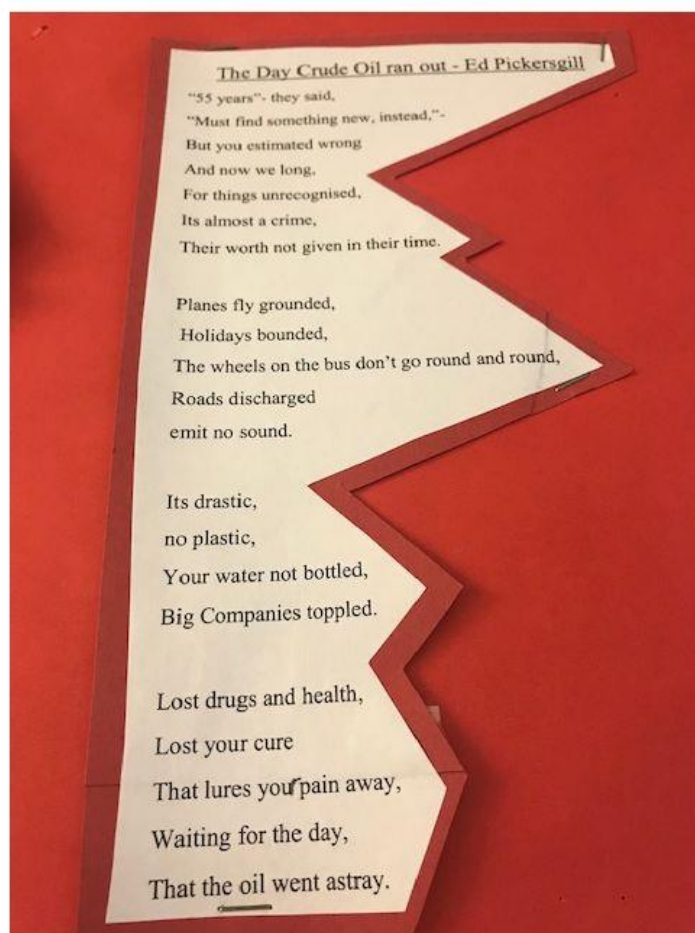
Thursday 6 February 2020

*As part of their introduction to their Organic Chemistry course, Miss Woo's Fourth Form set were given the task of writing a poem entitled 'The Day Crude Oil Ran Out'.*

Miss Woo was thrilled with her pupils' response to their co-curricular assignment: "This shows the amazing talent of these pupils - well rounded in science and in writing poems!"

With the help of Chemistry Technicians Kathryn Davidson and Sam Embrey, all the poems are now displayed along the corridor in the Science Building.

Top poems were written by Will Singleton (R), Edward Pickersgill (R), William Corbett (O) and Eva Garavini (G).





## The Day Crude Oil Ran Out

The year is 2070, and the time is dawn.  
The newspaper says that crude oil is gone.  
33% of all of our energy needs,  
No longer here, how can we succeed?  
We never transferred to electric vehicles,  
Now one of those would seem like a miracle.  
It had been predicted to happen for years,  
And everyone's stressing now that it's here.  
But what will happen to the human race?  
And how will crude oil be replaced?  
What will I do to get transported?  
All of my hopes and dreams have been thwarted.  
I realise I need to put my phone on charge,  
But it won't work! This problem has just been enlarged.  
I turn on the TV, but that won't work either.  
I go walk outside for a breather.  
In all of my anger, I grow a bad hunger.  
But the stove won't power, so I eat some cucumber.  
All of my luxuries are taken a way,  
So now I dread the start of each day.  
Hopefully soon, the power will be back,  
But for now, my life will be really bad.

## The day crude oil ran out

Oil, Oil gone from our planes  
Oil, Oil gone from our trains  
Oil, Oil please come back  
Oil, Oil get us back on track

Oil, Oil where are our roads  
Oil, Oil I have huge work loads  
Oil, Oil please come back  
Oil, Oil get us back on track

Oil, Oil I want to play Fifa  
Oil, Oil I want to go on my insta  
Oil, Oil please come back  
Oil, Oil get us back on track

Oil, Oil We are all getting cold  
Oil, Oil my grandma is very old  
Oil, Oil please come back  
Oil, Oil get us back on track



The day crude oil ran out

On the day crude oil ran out everything began to change,  
Normal things stopped existing the world would never be the same.  
No one even realises the impact it will have  
The list of items we can no longer buy  
Seems longer than what we can.

Starting with the morning,  
The very first part of the day  
Soap and toothpaste begins to go  
Even deodorant is being saved by each spray.

If your feeling ill,  
Or have a bit of hay fever  
Aspirin is unavailable and anti-histamines aren't either.

If you want to buy a dress today,  
then you'll have to think twice  
Because they are made with crude oil  
Along with dice.

Driving in a car will be a challenge to say the least,  
Assuming it's a nice day of course because you can't use antifreeze.  
With diesel fuel supplies declining  
You'll have to go back home  
And find a way to wash your clothes  
Because detergent is a no no.

Unfortunately there are some beauty products you'll have to go without  
There isn't any hair dye, hand cream or nail varnish  
Even if you shout!  
You won't be able to use shampoo  
Or buy your dream pair of shoes.  
Instead you'll have to find another way of enjoying the things you used to.

Now that crude oil is gone the world will be very different.  
We used to take things for granted  
And now we really miss them.  
Maybe in the future something new will be discovered  
And we will no longer have an issue with our favourite household products.



# Shrewsbury Model United Nations teams in action in Manchester

Thursday 6 February 2020

*Twenty-three talented pupils spent last weekend debating key global issues with fellow delegates from across the UK at the Manchester High School for Girls MUN Conference.*

“Representing Russia, Ireland and the Central African Republic, Shrewsbury MUN-ers were, of course, in the thick of the debates, and all developed massively as debaters in the course of the weekend because the level was so high,” said Teacher in Charge of MUN, Huw Peach, who accompanied the group to Manchester with Bordeaux Fellow Jeanne Fournis.

In each committee of between 20 and 30 delegates, there was one Outstanding Delegate, one Highly Commended Delegate, one Commended Delegate and three or four Honourable Mentions:

Highly Commended: James Leaver

Highly Commended: Joseph Meisner

Special Mention: Milton Tai

Special Mention: Ranulf Prentis

Special Mention: Ria Phullar

Special Mention: Oscar Rink

Two Committee Chairs: Alex Sparkes and Rhys Woodward



The Shrewsbury School delegates attending the Conference were:

## **RUSSIA**

Security Council – Jonny Snell (Ambassador)

Human Rights Council – Archie Saint

Human Rights Committee – James Leaver

Environment and Science Committee – Lucia Bowers-Martinez

Health Committee – Abby Wong  
Future Committee – Oscar Rink  
Youth Committee – Sam Freeman  
Disarmament and International Security Committee – Bertie Shepherd-Cross  
Political Committee – Milton Tai  
United Nations Industrial Development Committee – Lenka Hozzova

### **IRELAND**

Security Council – George Collings (Ambassador)  
Human Rights Committee – Ed Bayliss  
Environment and Science Committee – Ryan Hsieh  
Health Committee – Ria Phullar  
Future Committee – Joseph Meisner  
Youth Committee – Seb Vanhoonacker  
Disarmament and International Security Committee – Ranulf Prentis  
Political Committee – Max Mckenzie

### **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

Human Rights Committee – Karina Edwards (Ambassador)  
Future Committee – Candela Villalba  
Health Committee – Ellie Datnow



# Brass Prizes 2020

Thursday 6 February 2020

*The Brass Prizes were held on Sunday 2nd February and were adjudicated by Richard Blake, trumpet with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and teacher at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire.*

There were some fantastic performances in both the Junior and Senior classes and prizes were awarded to the following pupils:

## Junior Prize

- 1st – Rose Farquharson (French Horn)
- 2nd – James Mackinnon (Trombone)
- 3rd – Henriette Seiger (French Horn)

## Senior Prize

- 1st – Henry Hui (French Horn)
- 2nd – Archie Eyre (Trumpet)
- 3rd – Edward Pryce (French Horn)





The Junior Prize was more of a gentle masterclass providing the opportunity for the students to become confident on the performance platform, whilst the Senior Prize was a serious competition of major brass repertoire. Well done to all involved!

*Maria McKenzie*  
*Deputy Head of Music*

# RSSH: King Henry VIII Relays 2020

Friday 7 February 2020

*The annual King Henry VIII Coventry Relays are always the biggest event of the RSSH season, essentially the Nationals as far as school running is concerned.*

With 52 of the country's top schools, from Kent to Cumbria, entering teams into the 6x (boys) and 4x (girls) 2.3-mile race around the beautiful War Memorial Park.

In what was a high-tension environment, accentuated by a filming drone, the girls' A and B 'Four' started proceedings. Liv Elliott (15.22) and Laura Elliott (15.42) managed to put all sisterly love aside as they gave RSSH a solid start in what were near perfect running conditions. Anna Cowan (16.18) and Eva Hall (16.56) maintained a strong opening from RSSH before the A team handed over to the experienced Chessie Harris (13.52) who returned in the tenth fastest time of the day and the B team to enthusiastic debutant, Nora Hecker (17.12).



*Laura Elliott*

The anchor legs were taken on by Lillian Wilcox (15.27), in her final relay for the School, and Charlotte Russell (17.05), who ensured a very respectable 14th and 30th place respectively for the girls. With strong numbers starting to come through this term for the girls, this is a strong foundation from which to build next year.





*Lillian Wilcox*

The boys' teams were hampered by injury to three key runners, yet the B 'Six' came 19th and the A 'Six' managed to come 5th, posting an impressive 74.08, not much slower than last year's record-breaking time of 73.12. Harrison Cutler (12.12) ran superbly for a Fifth Former and handed on the baton to slightly ill, but very brave, Max Green (12.39), who was making his debut in this event despite being in the Upper Sixth.



*Harrison Cutler*

Tom Jackson (12.39), an old Hunt hand did his usual Emil Zatopek impression as he battled round one final time for the famous old club. Paddy Barlow (12.50), another hugely loyal servant, was equally impressive, before handing on to yet another Riggite, Fourth Former (!), Will Singleton (12.06), who gracefully glided round in order to set up a grand finale for



Huntsman, Sam Western (11.41), who blew the opposition away with the eighth fastest time of the day.



*Will Singleton*



*Tom Jackson*





*Paddy George*

The B team saw Lower Sixth debutant Sam Freeman (12.59) hand over to our long-striding Cumbrian, Arthur Bramwell (13.41), who held his own before handing on to track specialist, Fifth Former Jonny Price (12.57). The final two legs were filled with two freshly promoted Third Formers, the Swiss-Kenyan, Tim Strebel (14.04) and Norfolk-based Scotsman, Brad Keay (13.09). This young team show that the future remains bright for our historic club.



*Arthur Bramwell*





*Brad Keay*

Although the Hunt's two major competitions are now over, we have much to look forward to in the shape of Midlands League fixtures, the Inter-Counties, the much-loved Hash Run and of course, the long-awaited Hunt Club Champs up the Lawley. Meanwhile the summer will see six intrepid Hunt members try to defend their crown in the extraordinary event that is the Scottish Islands Peaks Race. So, keep running hard... and well.

*Mr Griffiths*







# Junior School Play - 'Murder in the Cathedral'

Friday 7 February 2020

*Preview video and photo gallery of Shrewsbury School Drama Department's stunning, powerful and atmospheric production of T.S. Eliot's verse-drama 'Murder in the Cathedral', marking the 850th anniversary of the death of Thomas Becket.*

In the build-up to the first night's performance, pupils taking part in 'Murder in the Cathedral' talk about the play and the experience of staging it in the School Chapel:

Please click on the large image below to open and scroll through a gallery of photos. (Courtesy of Barry Phillips Photography)



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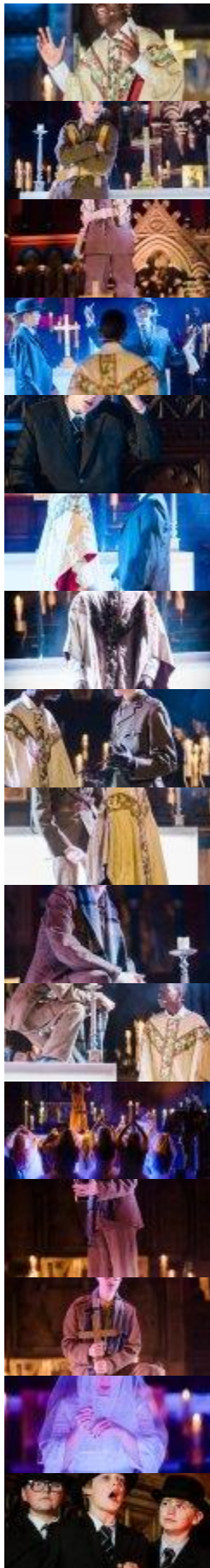
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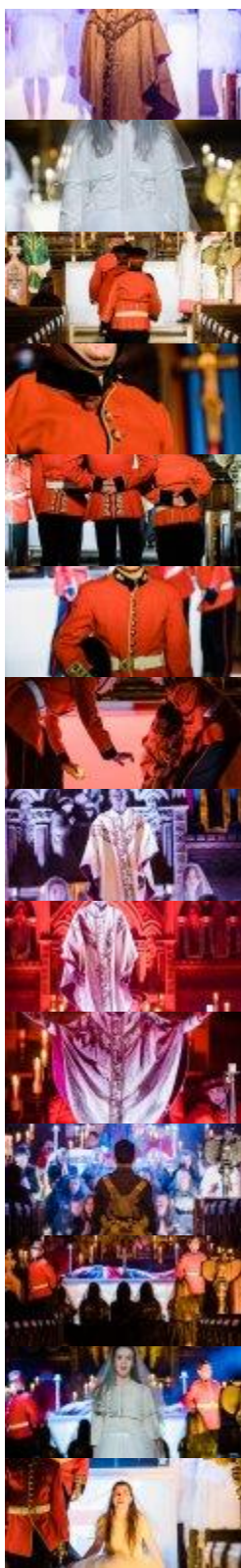
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# McEachran Prize 2020

Tuesday 11 February 2020

*What do Donald Trump, Spike Milligan and Ludwig Wittgenstein have in common?*

The answer is that they all provided inspiration for some of the 13 'Spells' chosen by the competitors in this year's McEachran Prize, the School's most eccentric competition, held annually in honour of the legendary Frank McEachran, or 'Kek' as he was known to generations of his disciples, amongst them the writer of this piece.

This year's inspirational judge was Peter Broad OS, who taught in the English Faculty under Peter Fanning and was subsequently Head of Drama and a Housemaster for 13 years at Eton College, his gracious and generous adjudication as spellbinding as the best of the talks themselves.



*'Kek'*

Seven boys and six girls ranging from the Third Form to the Upper Sixth showed off their erudition and imagination – this is unashamedly a competition for the intellectually courageous – delivering free-style talks on a rainbow of chosen texts: Bronte, Maya Angelou, Spike Milligan, Oscar Wilde, Margaret Atwood, James Taylor (OS), Burns, Stevie Smith, Anthony Burgess, Orwell, Shakespeare, Donald Trump and Wittgenstein.

Wittgenstein won the day, with Shakespeare following hard on his heels. Jonny Snell (Ch U6) chose as his text 'The limits of my language are the limits of my world' from Wittgenstein's *Tractatus-Logico-Philosophus*, delivering a lucid talk on this most difficult of philosophers in a way that had the audience rapt. Jonny has a conditional place to read Philosophy at Robinson College, Cambridge University.

Highly commended was Milton Tai (SH L6) with an analysis of sound and sense in the opening lines of *Antony and Cleopatra*, unconsciously choosing the Shakespeare played loved above all others by McEachran.



In the junior category, awards were made to Theo Parsons (Rb 5) for explaining the psychological truth underlying Stevie Smith's *Not Waving but Drowning*, and to Sapna Chudasama (G 4) for a personal and highly engaging talk on Maya Angelou's *Phenomenal Woman*.

*Richard Hudson*



# RSSBC: J15 King's Chester Match

Wednesday 12 February 2020

*On Saturday 9th February, the J15s travelled to Chester to take on King's School Chester on the River Dee.*



The fixture saw each of the rowers race twice over 2,000 metres in eights and octuples.

The girls shared honours with King's by winning the octuple by 1.4 seconds and losing in the eight by 1.9 seconds.





The boys took wins in the matched eights event and in the second octuple event.

It was a great to get some competitive racing and for a team contribution to win the RSSBC V KSCRC Annual Challenge Trophy. A big thank you to King's for hosting us.

*Athol Hundermark*  
*Director of Rowing*









# Bastille Society Lecture: 'Watchfulness in 18th Century Aristocracy'

Wednesday 12 February 2020

*On Friday 7th February, the Bastille Society had the pleasure of welcoming Dr Matthew Neal from Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, to lecture on 'Watchfulness in 18th Century Aristocracy'.*



*Dr Neal and Lara Gabbittas*

Dr Neal gave an engrossing lecture which immersed the audience into the minds of 18th century aristocracy. Through an examination of multiple, often amusing, primary sources, Dr Neal demonstrated the paranoia and constant observation that the aristocracy subjected themselves to. Dr Neal argued that this intent awareness was part of a culture of watchfulness that developed within the 18th century.

The talk was extremely well-received, and Dr Neal answered multiple questions concerning the nature of 18th century watchfulness and its impact on the rest of society. There was also the opportunity to ask Dr Neal about the process of applying to Cambridge, which many students took advantage of.

The Society would once again like to extend its thanks to Dr Neal for taking the time to travel to Shrewsbury and give such a fascinating lecture.

*Lara Gabbittas (EDH U6)*

# Huge home crowd cheers on the 1st XI in Boodles Cup Semi-Final

Thursday 13 February 2020

*The 1st XI took on Queen Ethelburga's, York in the semi-final of ISFA's Boodles National Cup – a great occasion for the School, with the game being played in front of vocal home support.*



In a cagey first half that saw few chances, the occasion was having an impact on both sides, but it was Shrewsbury who had the better of the chances – captain Finn Sansom bought a good save from 20 yards and another half-chance from Nathan Day flew over the bar. The Queen Ethelburga (QE) winger was proving a danger down the right side, but a largely uneventful first half drew to a close with the game finely-poised at 0-0.

In the second half, QE started to dominate possession and it wasn't long before they took the lead – an in-swinging free-kick fell to their danger man, who smashed it into the bottom corner (1-0).

Semi-finals are nervy occasions and the first goal can often prove vital – and so it proved to be. The second goal came on 57 minutes from an uncharacteristic Owen Jones error, who unfortunately under-hit a back pass which was intercepted by the QE centre forward, arguably the player of the match, who rounded the onrushing Ben Lees to double the lead (0-2).

QE's third goal followed: another terrific strike from their winger curled into the bottom corner gave GK Lees no chance.



Despite the 0-3 score line, we continued to push forward and, from the first genuine bit of quality delivered into the box, Owen Jones powerfully headed in at the back post. Although we had another couple of half-chances, QE managed the final ten minutes to claim the victory and a place in the ISFA final (against Millfield) at the MK Dons' Stadium in March.

Despite the disappointment of the defeat, our 1st XI can look back on a terrific Boodles Cup run and on improving upon last year's Quarter-Final. Getting to the last four of this highly competitive tournament is a wonderful platform to build on for next year's squad.



The support pitch-side and online from the Salopian community – staff, parents and pupils (especially the ‘Salop Army’ led by Louis Street) – was appreciated by both teams and highlighted the power of sport to bring the community together.

Thanks to our Film Fellow Dave Clifford for putting together a video of some of the match highlights:

# Fives news update

Thursday 13 February 2020

*Our top year-group Fives pairs defied Storm Ciara and travelled the well-trodden path down to the south-east for a weekend of Fives against Highgate, Eton and Harrow, while three U14 pairs headed to Uppingham.*

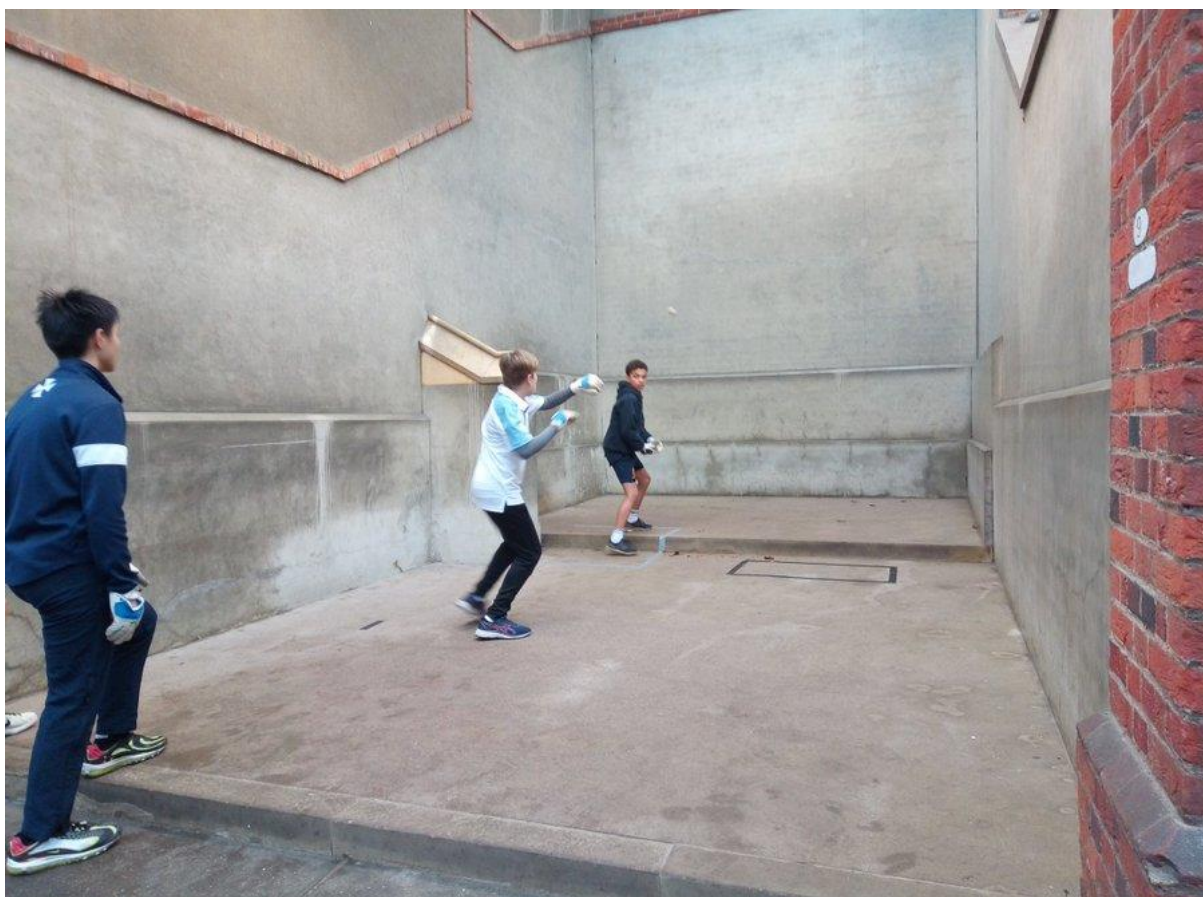
The U16s won all four of their matches on Saturday against Highgate (4-0), but lost to Eton (1-3) on Sunday. The seniors also beat Highgate (3-1) but lost to Eton (1-3).



In the Junior ranks, the U14s had a tough day (1-6) against Eton but did get to see the original Fives court at the Eton Chapel (pictured above), and the U15s lost to both Highgate and Harrow in the Hughes Cup.

All in all, a good weekend with much gained as preparation continues towards the Nationals at the end of the Lent Term.





Meanwhile three U14 pairs travelled to Uppingham to play in a Beginners' Festival with Oakham, Stamford, Ipswich and Uppingham. A lot of Fives was played over four hours where, after an all-Shrewsbury semi-final (Max Darke & Samuel Jones vs Anton Mayatskiy & Giles Holliday), our winning pair went on to beat Stamford's 1st pair convincingly to become the first holders of the Thring Trophy. Well done to Anton and Giles!

# 'The Greatest Threat to Humanity' - Philip Sidney Essay Competition Workshop

Friday 14 February 2020

*On Thursday 13th February, we welcomed an enthusiastic and talented group of young creative writers from schools all over the UK, who had been selected as finalists in our annual Essay Competition, for a fun and inspiring day of micro-lectures and workshop activities.*

This year's title for their essays was 'The Greatest Threat to Humanity'.

This short film captures the spirit of the day and the enthusiasm of the young writers:



# Sports All-Nighter for Medic Malawi set to raise over £9,000...

Friday 14 February 2020

*A big thank you to pupils and staff who are giving up their Valentine's Night to support Medic Malawi.*

This Friday 14th February, 35 pupils and ten members of staff will be playing sports, all night, 9.00pm - 7.00am, in the Shrewsbury School gym. Thanks to their magnificent fundraising efforts and the generosity of their sponsors, they have already doubled their original target of £4,000 and have currently raised £8,300.

Their sporting endeavours will include a dance-off, a mountain bike obstacle course, basketball, badminton and five-a-side football.

They are driven by a desire to help the 24/7 work that St Andrew's Hospital does in Malawi, one of the seven poorest countries in the world, from emergency delivery of babies, to dealing with burns and restoring sight (cataract operations can be performed for £30 each) at the Shrewsbury School Eye Clinic.

If you would like to sponsor them, please go to <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/MedicMalawiTarget2020>



A message of support and thanks from Tom Hunt, Director of Medic Malawi:

*"In 2018 I spent a very long night driving off-road through the bush to reach St Andrew's Hospital with a serious ill baby in the truck who desperately needed to reach medical attention. When we arrived at St Andrew's, at 3.30 in the morning, we were met by the fantastically dedicated staff, many of whom have dedicated their whole working lives to the work of St Andrew's Hospital."*

*“The incredible efforts you are all putting in to play sports all night tonight reminds me of the dedication I saw that night in 2018. Without your efforts to help raise funds for Medic Malawi, the help Sally desperately needed that night in 2018 simply would not have been possible. Please keep going and dig deep to last all night. I can’t thank you enough for all you are doing - you really are changing lives in Malawi.”*

*Lesley Drew*

*Charity Fundraising Co-ordinator*





# Prep School Big Band Day

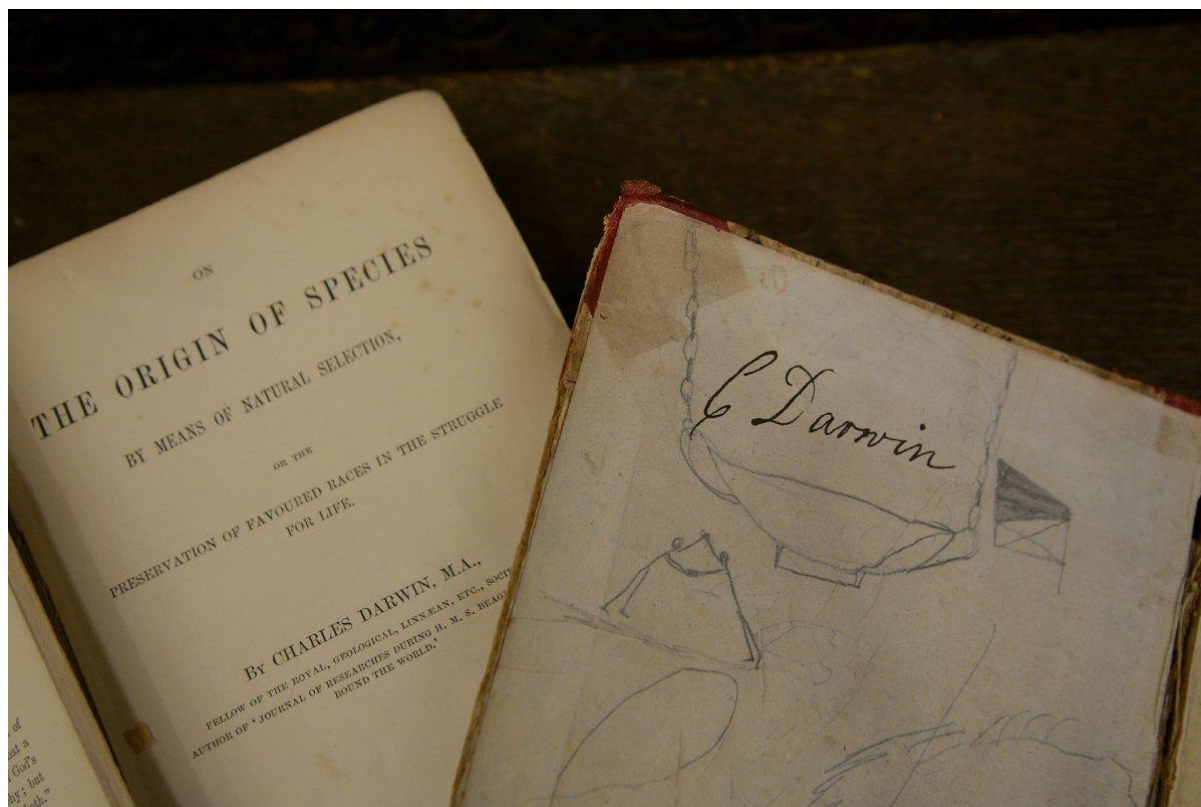
Friday 14 February 2020

*Staff and pupils from the Music Faculty thoroughly enjoyed welcoming lots of keen and talented young musicians for a loud and fun-filled day of quality music-making at our Prep School Big Band Day on Friday 7th February.*

# Darwin Festival Exhibition at Shrewsbury School

Friday 14 February 2020

*We were delighted to give members of the public special guided tours of our wonderful treasure trove of Charles Darwin's books, letters and artefacts this week as part of the town's DarwIN Shrewsbury Festival 2020.*



School Archivist Robin Brooke-Smith and Assistant Archivist Naomi Nicholas had put together a splendid exhibition of the School's 'Darwiniana' in the Moser Gallery, and had also linked up with the Biology Faculty to include in the display some of the intriguing exhibits from the School's Biology Museum.

Visitors were also welcomed into the Taylor (Ancient) Library, founded in 1606, which houses the School's extensive and important collection of medieval manuscripts and historic tomes.

Tickets for the Darwin tours (which took place on Darwin's birthday, 12th February) were snapped up within just a few days of them being advertised. This short video gives a flavour of some of the treasures on display and captures some of the excitement and enthusiasm of the visitors:

The exhibition will remain on display in the Moser Gallery until at least the end of the Lent Term.

For a full programme of the extensive series of DarwIN Shrewsbury Festival events taking place across the town, please visit <https://originalshrewsbury.co.uk/darwin-shrewsbury-festival>



# Shrewsbury School receives TES Boarding School of the Year ‘Highly Commended’ Award

Friday 14 February 2020

*We are thrilled that Shrewsbury School was given special recognition at the Times Educational Supplement (TES) Independent School Awards 2020 Ceremony.*



The TES (The Times Educational Supplement) Awards recognise the most outstanding independent schools from across the country.

Headmaster Leo Winkley said:

“We were delighted to be shortlisted for Boarding School of the Year, which is one of the three ‘headline’ awards, and also to be shortlisted for the Creativity Award. Whilst we didn’t come away from the TES Awards ceremony with a winner’s medal, we did get a ‘silver’ in the Boarding School of the Year category. The worthy winner in this category was a small residential school for children with autism and other learning disabilities. Listed alongside schools such as Rugby and Wellington College, the judges gave Shrewsbury School a special mention as ‘highly commended’. This was the only additional award of the evening - so, a tremendous achievement in itself and a real source of collective pride, as well as an inspiration to keep working together to deliver the best possible experience for the children in our care.

“As a thriving full-boarding school, we believe in serious fun. Each seven-day working week is packed with opportunity in an environment that is both challenging and kind. The community spirit enjoyed and created by all our girls and boys, whether boarders or day pupils, is really special.

“To be recognised as a school of creativity is testimony to the long heritage of innovation and independent thinking that inspired the creators of *Private Eye* and the work of Charles Darwin and many other former pupils of the school who have led lives of purpose and spirit.

“We will continue to pursue our unique model of whole person education, working to make these life-enhancing opportunities available to a wider range of pupils through our transformative bursaries programme.”

These short videos give an insight, through the words of pupils, into some of the reasons why Shrewsbury School has been shortlisted for the two awards:

# Lord Hague's 'Reasons to be Optimistic'

Friday 14 February 2020

*At the invitation of Sixth Former Sophia Bureau, Lord Hague kindly visited Shrewsbury School on Friday 7th February to deliver a talk to pupils from Shrewsbury and other local schools as part of our Academic Extension Lecture Series.*

His lecture was entitled 'Reasons to be Optimistic' and was warmly received by his audience, who plied him with searching and wide-ranging questions afterwards.



# 'Murder in the Cathedral' - review by Mr Hudson

Friday 14 February 2020

*"...A haunting and challenging play, demanding and receiving total commitment from this young cast of 40, all of whom clearly sensed they were part of something very special..."*

Last year I wrote that *Under Milk Wood* had set a new standard for junior school plays at Shrewsbury School. That standard has been equalled or exceeded by Heather May's latest production, *Murder in the Cathedral*. It is perhaps difficult to conceive of a more different setting - from the distinctly unspiritual gossipy cosiness of *Llaregyb*, modelled in miniature in the Ashton Theatre, to the transcendent vastness of Canterbury Cathedral, for which the School Chapel did noble duty.



Eliot's rarely performed verse play charts the events leading up to the murder of Thomas à Becket in 1170 at the instigation of Henry II. A reflection of Eliot's own journey to faith from the dissatisfied agnostic poet of *The Waste Land*, written in the immediate aftermath of World War 1, to his conversion to Anglicanism in 1935 - to the dismay and ridicule of his fashionably agnostic modernist friends - *Murder in the Cathedral* is an intensely personal play about spiritual courage in the face of worldly temptation.

Heather May chose to view the play through the lens of its creator, interweaving haunting, nihilistic lines from *The Waste Land* ("I will show you fear in a handful of dust") with Becket's

unflinching faith, a reflection perhaps of his later self at the culmination of his spiritual journey. Laurie Morgan (Rb 4) created a wonderful persona for anguished and neurotic post-WW1 Eliot, struggling to make sense of the devastation of Europe and its values.



The action of the play proper is, on a superficial level at any rate, relatively straightforward, as various groups – priests of the cathedral, women of Canterbury, knights, tempters and eventually the Death Bringers – in turn address the Archbishop, played with clarity, presence and poise throughout by Ryan Mupesa (SH 4).



The priests and women of the town worry for Becket's safety; four tempters appear and one by one attempt to persuade Becket of the folly of letting himself be murdered; Becket delivers a sermon hinting at his forthcoming death; four knights appear and threaten to kill him; the knights leave, giving Becket one last chance to flee; he does not, and is murdered.

In a throwback to the world of *The Waste Land*, both Rufus Thornhill (Ch 4) as a squaddie and Edward Pickersgill (R 4) as a general gave compelling performances as tempters, who in various ways attempt to pull Becket away to a sensuous and materialistic world.





Notable amongst the Women of Canterbury, commenting on events like the Chorus of a Greek Tragedy, were Kate Woodman (M 4), whose glorious singing of 'I Vow to Thee My Country' was a leitmotif throughout, her voice simultaneously expressing foreboding and fatalism.



In contrast, Third Form Drama Scholar Alice Lewis (MSH 3), in another compelling performance, was often a voice of hope, searching the skies for birdsong and the hope that Spring will bring regeneration and avert danger. Another Third Form Drama Scholar, Hattie Atwood (G 3), who opened and closed the show articulating the fear of the women of Canterbury, speculating over why they can't tear their eyes away from witnessing the impending disaster with the portentous opening line “Are we drawn by danger?”, produced another of many haunting performances.



Lighting and sound by our resident technicians Adam Wall and Brad Fenton combined with original music composed and played by Ivo Winkley (Rb 4) to produce a constantly changing series of often chilling and eerie tableaux hovering between this world and the next, so that one often felt one was looking at a series of gorgeously lit medieval paintings.

This was a haunting and challenging play, demanding and receiving total commitment from this young cast of 40, all of whom clearly sensed they were part of something very special.

*Richard Hudson*

*More photos of the play and interviews with some of the cast can be viewed here: [Junior School Play - 'Murder in the Cathedral'](#)*



# Shaking off the winter blues in Oxford

Saturday 15 February 2020

*Over 30 Salopians at Oxford and Oxford Brookes Universities crowded into the King's Arms in Oxford on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February for a most convivial gathering sponsored by the Salopian Club.*

From the Shrewsbury staff they were joined by Paul and Jane Pattenden, Toby Percival and Nick Jenkins who, aided by Storm Dennis, all arrived in double-quick time! Considerable thanks are due to Barney Fox (PH 12-17) and Angus Moore (S 13-18) for rallying the troops at their respective universities. Same time next year.

# EFA Trophy Champions

Sunday 23 February 2020

*The Old Salopian Fives Club have continued their success in recent years by securing the Eton Fives Association (EFA) trophy on 23 February 2020, ending a drought of six years in the competition.*

The format of the competition is similar to the Williams team cup for school boys and the Alan Barber cup for leavers where each club puts forward three pairs. The EFA trophy is the '2<sup>nd</sup> division' of the Alan Barber cup. The qualifying stage of the competition took place back in November 2019 with the finals day (semi-final and final in February). Shrewsbury met with the Old Ipswichians in the semi-final before beating North Oxford 2-1 in a highly competitive final. Elsewhere in old boy fives, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> division sides are on course to topping both their respective divisions. This will carry on from last year where the Old Salopians won both division 1 and division 2. A remarkable display indeed and shows what great health the old boys fives club is in. In the picture from left to right are Mike Hughes (SH), Grant Williams (Honouree Salopian having coached at the school), Henry Blofield (PH), Guy Williams (RB), Sam Mccloughlin (RB) and Will Sissons (RT)



# Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral

Wednesday 26 February 2020

*Over 30 Salopians gathered for an uplifting Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February.*

Equally uplifting was a masterful tour of the cathedral after the service, conducted by Patrick Craig (Ch 82-87), covering its inspiring architecture and fascinating history. Those in need of further spiritual refreshment subsequently repaired to the nearby Paternoster bar where Shrewsbury talk continued for some time!

# Swinging South West

Friday 28 February 2020

*Salopians from Cardiff, Bath, Birmingham and Exeter all converged on Bristol for the Salopian Club South West student drinks.*

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February in the stylish setting of Browns Bar they were joined by the Shrewsbury team of Toby Percival, Head of Higher Education, Oliver Jackson-Hutt, Development Director, and Nick Jenkins, Director of the Salopian Club, who had all fought their way through the floods to reach the uplands of Clifton. Sincere thanks are due to the organisers, that redoubtable team of Ed Acton and James Snell (both Ch 2013-2018) who, like Lars Porsena of Clusium, from east and west and south and north summoned their array. Same time, same place next year, we hope.

**Nick Jenkins**  
Director

