

Rigg's News: November/December 2011

Tuesday 3 January 2012

Fireworks

An alarming sub-title to begin with this month I know, but this is not in reference to any indoor fireworks experiments a la Mario Balotelli of Manchester City FC. No, the Rigg's Hall Bonfire Night celebrations were a much more sophisticated affair, as one would expect from such upstanding Gentlemen of Salopia! Indeed, the entire house decamped on the evening of Saturday 5th November to Mytton Hall, the country residence of 'Mrs B', who is not only my secretary but also relief matron to the boys in Rigg's. Every other year we are invited for an evening of fine food and explosions (no different to any other Saturday perhaps), and it is an event that the boys all really look forward to. In fact, this year the fireworks clashed with the Sixth Form Fashion Show, but such is the lure of Mytton Hall that every single member of the House made the short trip down the road, with the Sixth Formers to a man declining the invitation to sit in Quod ogling scantily-clad girls strutting down the cat-walk. As I say, these are gentlemanly sorts, the Rigg's boys!



Nick Douglas, Olik Afanasiev and Alex Norman toasting marshmallows

After a sumptuous barbeque feast and the toasting of marshmallows, the firework display ensued in the field below the lawn. A vast armoury of explosions that day had been placed in my care by Matron, who had been sent on a covert munitions mission to source enough fireworks as to pose a sufficient threat to national security. She succeeded. With much whooping, oohs and aahs, the evening came to a close with a firework that was rather unambiguously named 'The Beast'. I must say I was rather tentative about lighting that particular explosive, but fortunately all my limbs are still intact and any singed hair has regrown. We all had a fantastic evening, and are enormously grateful to Joan and Anthony Bovill for hosting such a terrific event.

House Table-Tennis Championships

Undoubtedly the event of the term, however, was the table-tennis final played on the evening of the last Sunday of term. Every member of the house (and indeed the tutor team) was entered into the knockout competition put together by Bosco Ho. In the weeks leading up to the end of term, some thrilling matches were seen in the hall at Rigg's, with many members of the house taking the competition very seriously (including Alex Norman, whose evening bicep curl routine seemed to intensify significantly, and even matron was alleged to have been heard practising her backhand smash in the confines of her flat). 3rd Former Jake Carter was wise to 'throw' his First Round match against his new Housemaster (this will of course be taken into account when selecting Head of House in four years time), although similar mercy was not shown by Freddie Aitken who dispatched Mrs Middleton unceremoniously, though Guy Leslie did (allegedly) concede 19 points to Mrs Bovill, who had somehow managed to get a bye not only into the second round but also into the third round!



The final itself was a suitably extravagant and dramatic affair as the whole house relocated for the evening to the atmospheric pantheon that is the Ashton Theatre. Our table-tennis table was wheeled over to take centre stage, and the lifeguard's chair from the swimming pool was borrowed so that Freddie Aitken would have suitable vantage in his role as Umpire (not really needed given that Freddie is approximately eight foot tall). Under lights, Nick Douglas provided music in his role as DJ, and the two finalists entered through the centre aisle in dressing gown and hooded top respectively a la Rocky Bilboa. They were preceded in their entrance by the four ball-boys carrying the Rigg's flags (one of whom managed to knock off and decapitate the impressively tacky trophy of 'Strong Man with Globe on Shoulders' as he swung the flag pole past the plinth). There ensued introductory speeches from the two competitors' 'Team Managers' Paddy Lynch-Staunton and Josh Mason. These speeches proved particularly entertaining, even if they did appear to be largely borrowed from various Hollywood blockbusters, ranging from Gladiator to Any Given Sunday.

The three-set encounter between Alex Norman and Guy Leslie was a thrilling affair, though Mr Leslie's investment in very small white shorts and sweatbands seemed to pay off and in the end he was able to dispatch the younger Mr Norman in a 3-0 victory. Perhaps Alex was distracted in between sets by the glamorous high-heeled figure of Matron strutting across stage with placards indicating which round we were now entering. Nevertheless, he will be keen next year to take the title and hold aloft himself the now-decapitated trophy.



L-R: Matron provides glamour to the event; Finalists Guy Leslie and Alex Norman in action; Umpire Freddie Aitken

Rigg's Sport

Of course, as yet, table-tennis is not one of the recognised major sports at Shrewsbury School, and it is doubtful that Guy's herculean efforts in the Ashton arena will be recognised by the Headmaster at the end of term assembly. However, notable success in one of the major sports did occur in the final week of term with Rigg's taking home the overall trophy in the Hope Simpson Ergo Championships for the third year in succession. In the Top Squad individual event, Sam Lapage was on impressive form and in taking the individual gold medal was only a matter of seconds away from taking the school record for the 2000m distance. Out of the top eight competitors, in fact four came from Rigg's, with Fred Day in 2nd, Rob Morgan in in 5th and Judah Rand in 6th. As a result of the competition, Rigg's now extends its lead in the overall Leadbitter Cup standings, and with a 20-point margin over second-placed School House, the boys have once again demonstrated the significant rowing talent that continues to thrive in the house.



In house football, we concluded the term in a respectable 4th place in 1st Leagues, 6th in 2nd Leagues, and were just one point away from winning B Leagues where the majority of our 3rd and 4th formers play their House football. The emerging talent from our new intake has been clear to see, and it has been a real pleasure to watch the two lower yeargroups playing so cohesively as a team and establishing good relationships amongst themselves in so doing. No trophies, then, for our footballers, but in many respects that is not what is important about the various House leagues. It is about taking a pride in representing your house; it is about building strong bonds with your fellow housemates; it is about participation and the involvement of as many boys from the house as possible. This was seen most clearly in the knockout 1st House competition, where the top footballers from Rigg's came together and demonstrated tremendous spirit and camaraderie in taking on a very strong School House outfit in the first round. Whilst we were knocked out in extra-time, the attitude and commitment of our boys was first-rate, and at least we can say that we had better musical support from the sidelines, with Tom Fitzpatrick's bagpipes fairly silencing the School House on the other side of the pitch!

We are looking forward to next term's sport with the various Fives leagues, further cross-country races, and a busy rugby season for many of our boys. I am delighted that the school 1st XV captain for rugby next term is Rigg's Hall deputy head of house Paddy Lynch-Staunton, and I have no doubt that he will do a sterling job in that regard.



L-R: Tom Fitzpatrick provides inspiration at 1st House football with his bagpipes; The Rigg's Hall 1st House Football Squad

Christmas

In the busyness of the final week of term, and with most of the boys utterly exhausted after the long twelve-week term, everyone was looking forward to a number of traditional Christmas events that take place in the final week of term. With the christmas tree having been put up and decorated by matron and the 3rd form (miraculously, it maintained upright status without being knocked over once!), on the final Tuesday break-time we were treated to Matron's Coffee Morning, with Helen laying on a veritable feast of goodies. Cakes, biscuits and assorted treats provided a blanket of confectionary across tables more normally accustomed to the 3rd formers' textbooks and Top Schools. The event provided an opportunity for the boys to thank not only matron for her tireless work in the house, but also cleaners Wendy, Gill and Katie, relief matron Mrs Bovill, and indeed Jenna and Isla as the first female members of house for some time!

The following evening we enjoyed a Christmas Curry evening, with bucket-loads of curry (literally) being delivered from a local take-away, and a special visitor making a surprise appearance in the guise of Father Christmas. Each of the boys received a 'Secret Santa' gift, expertly selected by Santa's anonymous helper, although some of the boys were slightly tentative



in approaching Santa, largely due to the fact that when he sat down on his seat a very large and unfortunately-placed rip appeared in his red fur trousers! Rather cynically, there were those who did not believe this was the real Father Christmas and the comment was made that he did bear a striking resemblance to a certain upper sixth form rower. However, there was still a hope that the younger members of the house may have been taken in by the bearded one. As Upper Sixth former James Aston queried, "Do you think any of the 3rd Form thought it was really Santa?".



L-R: Matron's Coffee Morning - Paddy Lynch-Staunton is first to queue up for cakes!; Santa comes to visit, much to the delight of Isla (and Jenna!); The Upper Sixth entertain with some impromptu carol singing, with 3rd Former Arthur Douglas accompanying on piano



KH stretched at the seams for the 2011 Christmas dinner

Thursday 5 January 2012

On Friday 9th December we sat down almost 850 staff and students for a traditional Christmas dinner in Kingsland Hall, where every inch of room was needed and all the usual servery equipment had been removed.

Each house decorated their own areas with crackers and balloons, creating a lovely Christmasy atmosphere in the dining room.

In the kitchens, the chefs were busy slicing over 250kg of turkey, preparing over 80kg of fresh sprouts and 90kg of carrots, not to mention the 1,000 pigs in blankets and 1,000 stuffing balls. The meal was served at the tables by forty waiting staff, after which the Christmas raffle was drawn.

The washing up took us in to the small hours and had to be finished on Saturday - a huge task, but one we always look forward to. Only 48 weeks to go till the next one!

Happy new year.

Team KH





What You Will in London

Monday 9 January 2012



After receiving a hat-trick of five-star reviews (see below) at the Edinburgh Festival this August, the latest School Musical 'What You Will' was performed at the Royal College of Music on 7th January.

After two days of rehearsals back at school before the start of term, our actors, musicians and technical crew relocated to London to put on two outstanding performances at the RCM's Britten Theatre, playing to a capacity audience of almost 300 in the evening.

Many of our 2011 Leavers made themselves available to take up their original roles in this stunning show. Rob Collins, now a music scholar at Berklee College in Boston, returned to the UK to take the lead role of Count Orsino, and Hebe Dickins, who plays Maria, took a break from a hectic first year's training at Bristol Old Vic Drama School in order to take part.

We asked one of Gus Haynes, who played the part of Antonio, to write up his account of the experience: A Week in the Life of Gus Haynes.

'Shrewsbury School lives up to its gleaming reputation with a technically flawless production... a real triumph.'
****** Broadway Baby 2011

'A magnificent reworking of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night... a sheer delight.' ***** British Theatre Guide 2011

'Top marks to Shrewsbury's ensemble.' **** The Stage 2011

For full reviews from Edinburgh, please see **Edinburgh Reviews - What You Will**.



A Week in the Life of Gus Haynes (O UVI)

Wednesday 11 January 2012

Gus Haynes played the role of Antonio in the School's production of *What You Will* – which was staged for a full and enthusiastic audience at the Britten Theatre at the Royal College of Music in London last weekend.

Gus had received some excellent press during the Edinburgh run. 'Gus Haynes as Antonio is sincere and faultless, and his vocal performance is possibly the best of the piece,' wrote one reviewer. Whilst another described his performance 'emotionally charged.... for once it didn't seem oddly under-developed. Gus Haynes's solo brought shivers to my spine.'

Here he describes what it was like to be on the road again.



Day One: 3rd January 2012

It was a year and a half ago that we first began rehearsing for What You Will, another Fanning and Moore musical, and their last collaboration, and it amazes me that even though it took virtually a whole term to get the first performances up to scratch, it only took three hectic days in Shrewsbury to do the same last week. It was particularly exciting to resume work on the musical after our successful (and stressful) stint at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August, especially as I hadn't seen much of the cast (those in last year's Upper Sixth) since then. I travelled up from home in the morning through driving rain and gale force winds and was greeted

by the familiar sight of Messrs Fanning and Moore directing practices that were already in full swing. It was wonderful to catch up and have a chat before Mr Fanning launched us into another round of singing and choreography, although I could tell that the director sensed a definite lack of focus - which there certainly was!

Day Two: 4th January 2012

Despite the fact that the first day of practice was beset by seemingly endless waves of giggles and tomfoolery, progress was being made, as we had all had the songs ingrained into our memories the previous summer before the Fringe; for most of us it was like riding a bike. However, there were a few new faces in the chorus and band, as well as the absences of others. Nevertheless, it was a joy to revisit the various shanties, sword-fights and heart-rending duets that What You Will brings. Having gained several five-star reviews from the Fringe, the solid professionalism of the production was bound to show up eventually, for fits of laughter still seemed to be somewhat



prevalent; we were all striving to stave off the giggles every time the line "I exposed myself" came along! Fortunately a semblance of maturity began to form as we realised just how much pressure we were under. After all, this was the last Fanning and Moore production ever, and so we would need to dig deep in order to do those reviews justice.

Day Three: 5th January 2012

More giggles. They simply kept coming, an issue that was particularly serious as a camera crew had arrived to film a DVD of the musical. Fortunately Will [Hunter] had kept himself in remarkably good order, as it had been his 18th birthday celebration the night before, an event which, sadly but also sensibly, we were forbidden from attending - Mr Fanning's orders! Although there were several different takes for various scenes, I hope that Moore's music will be captured on the screen (if you'll pardon the cliché) in as magical a way as it deserved to be, and we retired to Churchill's, with instructions to take rest and be punctual for the coach to London at 11:30 the next morning.



Day Four: 6th January 2012

The realisation that we would be performing in just over 24 hours' time dawned on us as we stepped onto the coach bound for London, and after several rather uncomfortable hours, we arrived in Kensington at Baden-Powell House, where we would spend that night. After dropping our bags off at the hostel, we performed a rapid turnaround and marched straight to the Britten Theatre at the Royal College of Music, where we were finally greeted with our venue. Despite getting lost several times in the labyrinthine depths of the Royal

College of Music, and being daunted at first, several practices allowed us to become acquainted with the theatre and its new dimensions, and as the seemingly tireless technical crew had arrived there earlier, there was no need for another of the exhausting get-ins that had faced us daily in Edinburgh. We were set for our final dress rehearsal, which went altogether smoothly (although those mischievous giggles did make a brief appearance). With strict orders to comport ourselves with restraint that night, we retired to the hostel to get some much-needed rest.

Day Five: 7th January 2012

The big day had arrived, and after a breakfast of astronomical proportions I felt as ready as I would ever be for what lay ahead, and after evacuating the hostel by 10am we hastened to the theatre for some last-minute practice. After endless sound and lighting checks we were set to perform, and so after an emotionally-charged pep talk from Mr Fanning (although he probably wouldn't want me to mention the tears that were shed) and an explosive warm-up from Mr Moore, we took to the wings and steeled ourselves for the matinée. The audience of 80 was smaller than those we had played to at the Fringe, but nevertheless it had to be one of, if not the best performance of What You Will we had done. Despite much applause and congratulations the trial was not over yet, and after a quick meal with the family (still with my make-up on so I caught a few odd looks), I returned to the theatre for round two. The adrenaline was now truly pumping. We knew that we were performing in front of a capacity audience, and nerves began to shred as the auditorium filled. With baited breath we huddled in the wings, the lights came down, the band began playing and we strode on for the first scene.

The performance was, from our perspective at least, flawless. I hope Messrs Fanning and Moore thought so too, as it was their last hurrah, the stunning conclusion to their tenure that has



spanned almost twenty years! The comments after the show were utterly praising of Mr Moore's composition and Mr Fanning's direction, varying from wishes for a recorded album to a tour of the USA! As members of the cast, we felt enormously privileged at having been selected for the Fanning-Moore Hail Mary, and especially to have been able to perform in such a distinguished and exclusive venue. The 18 months we have spent on this masterpiece have certainly been an adventure, with friendships made experiences shared, and although he isn't gone yet, we all wish Mr Fanning a very happy retirement! After he's helped with the house play of course - his work is never done!





Rory Champion (PH 3) trains with French slalom champion

Wednesday 11 January 2012

On skiing holidays, Rory's family have become used to him getting back to base a good 10 minutes earlier than anyone else when they're on the last run of the day, so they felt it was time - for the safety of himself as well as others - to book him in for some race training.

Over the Christmas holidays, Rory trained with Francois Simon in the art of Slalom and Giant Slalom racing on the Stade in Flaine. After 6 solid days of race training, Rory was delighted to be placed 50th out of about 125 in the final race - a tremendous first effort from one of the youngest in the competition.

Rory is determined to return next December and improve his rating!

CHAMPION MEETS CHAMPION



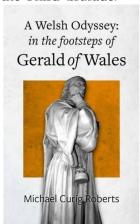


'A Welsh Odyssey: in the footsteps of Gerald of Wales': a book about the Third Crusade by Old Salopian, Michael Curig Roberts

Wednesday 11 January 2012

The latest book by **Michael Curig Roberts** (R 1952-56) concerns the intriguing Gerald of Wales, who in 1198 travelled around the Principality with the Archbishop of Canterbury trying to persuade Welshmen to join the Third Crusade.





The author, using Sir Richard Colt Hoare's 1806 translation of Gerald's account, examine some of Gerald's comments about the landscape, culture and personalities of Wales at that time and also travels to see what remains of some of the places Gerald visited.

Bibliographic information

Title Welsh Odyssey, A - in the Footsteps of Gerald of Wales

Author Michael Curig Roberts

Publisher Gwasg Carreg Gwalch, 2011 **ISBN** 1845273540, 9781845273545



Sunday 15th January: An evening of Chamber Music for violin, cello, clarinet and piano

Wednesday 11 January 2012

This concert will be given on Sunday 15th January at 7.30pm in The Maidment Auditorium by Richard Freidman, Jake Pople (SH UVI), Ross Pople (Jake's father) and John Moore, who will be performing works by Brahms and others.

The concert will be a wonderful evening of Chamber Music for Violin, Cello, Clarinet and Piano performed by Shrewsbury School student, Jake Pople and his Father Ross Pople who will be joined by Richard Friedman and John Moore.

Ross Pople is the Principal conductor of the London Festival Orchestra and is an outstanding cellist, he has toured throughout Europe and the Far East, his musicianship truly is a must see experience.

Tickets are £5 (free to pupils and staff) from Darren Wood dkwood@shrewsbury.org.uk
Darren Wood
Events Manager
Shrewsbury School
01743 280810



RSSBC: Update on the new boathouse...

Thursday 12 January 2012

On the last day of the Michaelmas term, a number of pupils volunteered (the lure of hot chocolate and mince pies may have helped!) to help strip all the boats from our old Victorian boathouse, in preparation for its demolition.

The contractors were hoping to have the old boathouse demolished and off site before return to School. As can be seen



from the photo (on the right) we are on track. As of yesterday there was another 20 centemetres of earth to remove, before a hardcore back is applied. New foundations will be next.... and the 'photo' below shows what it should end up looking like when it's finished.

If there are any other tearful Old Salopians who would like a couple of bricks for bookends, we have a limited supply!

Rowing continues despite the upheaval, and despite the recent heavy rains, the river is behaving at present.

Paul Manser



Old Salopians take Blue Chairs for an epic journey across Central Asia

Thursday 12 January 2012



TWO former Shrewsbury School students who took two blue chairs on an epic adventure across central Asia, have helped to raise more than £4,000 for the Blue Chair charity.

James Sutcliffe (SH 2003-08) and Stephen Johanson (Rb 2003-08) took pictures of the chairs throughout their journey for the charity calendar which raises money for the Shrewsbury Blood Trust Fund, Cure Leukaemia and Mind. During their journey James and Stephen, who are

now in their third year at the University of Leeds studying medicine, took the chairs to the Arctic Circle, Red Square in Moscow and St Petersburg. They also travelled on the Pamir Highway, which is the second highest road in the world (see photo).

The Blue Chair calender, which is now in its sixth year, is produced by the Blue Chair Movement at Shrewsbury School. Giles Bell, a housemaster at Shrewsbury School said: "Six years ago I was searching for a way to support a student in my care, Artem Bocharov, who was suffering from leukaemia. Around that time all the staff received an e-mail from a colleague asking for the safe return of two blue chairs that had disappeared from his classroom. I then sent an e-mail around depicting the blue chairs. The response I received led to the start of the Blue Chair Movement. But the best news is that Artem Bocharov has made a full recovery."



Classics: Prizewinning essay is published

Friday 13 January 2012

Shrewsbury has an extraordinary record of success in the national Omnibus Gladstone Competition - the UK's premier essay prize in Classics - but this year was our best ever as Salopian classicists were awarded both the First and Second prize.

Ellie Moodey (MSH UVI) took first prize with her essay "Ovid's *Metamorphoses* - pornography or morality lesson?", and Angus Thompson's (G UVI) essay "How good a storyteller is Homer?" was awarded second prize.

Ellie has now had her winning entry published in the magazine 'Omnibus', the magazine for students of the Classical world, which is read by sixth-formers and undergraduates throughout the UK and beyond.

Last year, George Ellis's essay "Courting controversy: Shakespeare's use of Ovid in *Venus and Adonis*" was awarded 1st prize in the Gladstone competition, and in each of the three previous years Salopians have been runners-up.

We are delighted that three Salopian classicists have been successful with their Oxbridge applications this year, including both Ellie and Angus..



Two Salopian finalists in Shropshire Concerto Competition

Friday 13 January 2012

Four of the eight Shropshire pupils who made it through to the second round of the Shrophsire Concerto Competition were from Shrewsbury School: Galin Ganchev (M IV), Dorit Hasselberg (EDH LVI), Mark Li (SH UVI) and Jacob Owen (Ch V).

The second round took place at Concord College on Wednesday 11th January, and we were all delighted when Galin Ganchev (Piano) and Dorit Hasselberg (Clarinet) were given places in the Final.



All four finalists will be performing on Wednesday 28th March in the Theatre Severn with The Shropshire Sinfonia. Galin will be performing the Grieg Piano Concerto in A minor and Dorit Weber's Clarinet Concerto No.1 in F minor Op. 73.



Severn Hill activities - Lent Term 2012

Monday 16 January 2012

SEVERN HILL HOUSE ACTIVITIES

Lent Term 2012

Sunday 22nd January Karting

Saturday 4th February Six Nations Hog Roast

Friday 10th February House Soiree and Play

Friday 24th February Sale v Wasps

Sunday 26th February Karting: PRV v The Upper Sixth

Saturday 3rd March Sixth Form House Dance

Tuesday 6th March Shrewsbury Town v Oxford United

PRV Jan'l 2



An outstanding weekend of sport for the girls

Monday 16 January 2012



34-2 respectively. More details to follow.

Our girls entered the gruelling Knole Run at Sevenoaks for the first time ever on Saturday, and we were delighted with the team's overall sixth place out of 19 teams. Our star performer was Amy Stockdale, who came in 19th out of a total of 155 runners. More news and timings on our Knole Run 2012 news page.

In Netball, our girls 1st and 2nd VIIs defeated Bedstone College 55-8 and

On Sunday, eight of our LVI girls also travelled to Eton to take part in the Ladies Fives (EFA) Championships - their first Fives tournament. They didn't win - they couldn't possibly have been expected to - but they all gained great experience from the occasion, and they played better and better as the day went by.



Fives: U14s & U15s v Uppingham and Oakham

Tuesday 17 January 2012

Sunday 15th January 2012, at Uppingham

Our U14s and U15s travelled to Uppingham on Sunday to play the Rutland schools and came away with excellent results. Vs Uppingham in the morning our U14s performed strongly, George Panayi and Tom Breese winning 3-0 at first pair and Max Parsonage and Charlie Cooke inflicting the same result at second pair.

In the afternoon, Oakham came across. George Lewis and Nick Peace beat their top senior pair 3-0 in a very good battle, Jamie Humes and Dan Delikatniy beat their U16 pair and the U14s (now Panayi & Parsonage, Cooke and Ben Sansom) repeated their morning's dominance. Ollie Nolan and Tom Breese followed up by breezing past the U16 pair too. Indeed the only game dropped in the day was when Humes and Delikatniy took on Oakham's top pair and lost 13-14 in a nailbiter.



L: Tom Breese; R: George Lewis and Nick Pearce



Sports results: w/c 9th January 2012

Tuesday 17 January 2012

Week Beginning 9th January 2012

Date	Sport	Opposition	Team	H/ A	Result	Score (Shrewsbury's score is first)
Tue 10 th January	Netball	Harper Adams League	2 nd VII	Α	L	19-21
Wed II [®] January	Boys Hockey	Wrekin College	I _R XI	Α		Cancelled
			UI6XI	Н		Cancelled
	Netball	Shrewsbury Sixth Form College	I "VII	Н	L	10-15
		400	2 nd VII	Н	L	8-10
	Football	Shrewsbury Sixth Form College	1"XI	Н	D	1-1
		Thomas Telford	2 nd XI	Α	L	2-7
	Rugby	Shrewsbury College of Art and Technology	AXV	Н	L	16-21
	Squash	Bromsgrove School	Top Squad	Α	L	2-3
	Swimming	Cheadle Hulme School	Squad	Α		Cancelled
Sat 14 th January	Netball	Bedstone College	1º VII	Α	w	55-8
			2 nd VII	Α	W	34-2
	RSSH	The National Knole Run, Kent	Squad Girls and Boys	Α		See Bulletin
	Rugby	Rydal Penrhos	I _R XV	Α	L	10-36
			2 nd XV	Α		Cancelled
Sun 15th January	Fives	Oakham School & Uppingham School	Juniors	Α		See Bulletin
	Polo	Marlborough School/ Cheltenham College	Squad			See Bulletin



Fives: Ladies EFA Open Championship at Eton College

Tuesday 17 January 2012



Eight LVI girls travelled to Eton College to take part in their first fives competition. Playing against vastly more experienced school, university and club players, our girls did well. All pairs played a total of at least 6 sets, and all the girls played better and better as the day went by.

Alice Paul & Elen Murphy Becky Home & Libby Naylor Hannah Pritchard & Rosie Parr Holly Free & Cressida Adams



Fives: Season starts well with a 1st pair win in the fixture against the Monday Club

Tuesday 17 January 2012

The 1st pair of Jack Hudson-Williams (PH) and Henry Lewis (I) got their season of to a good start on Saturday with a confidence-boosting victory against a strong Monday Club pairing.

In the first full fixture of the season, the Seniors took on 7 pairs of adults from the Monday Club on Saturday and despite playing well lost the match 7-2. Two matches were very close and went to the 5th set.

H-Williams & Lewis Won 3-1 Welti & Williams Lost 0-3 B-Davenport & Christie Lost 0-3 Jones & Mucklow Won 3-2 Blofield & White Lost 1-3 Chirayus & Richards Lost 2-3 Ho & Iba Lost 0-3

In addition the remaining senior pairs played a further 6 play off/seeding matches.



Oxbridge Offers 2012

Tuesday 17 January 2012

The past few years have seen particular success in Salopian Oxbridge applications, with 17 offers in 2010 and 11 offers in 2011. 2012 follows on from this strength, with 11 pupils

who have been offered places.



In addition, there are a couple of other more unusual Oxbridge success stories this year for former Salopian students, Karun Sandal and Alex Chamolly (further details below).

Shrewsbury's 2012 Oxbridge offers:

Oliver Antcliff (M)	Oxford	Pembroke	Chemistry
Imola Atkins (MSH)	Oxford	Keble	Theology and Philosophy
Henry Brereton* (Rt)	Cambridge	Robinson	Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic
Jack Flowers (I)	Oxford	Brasenose	French
Mark Li (SH)	Cambridge	Caius	Natural Sciences
Stephen Li (Rt)	Oxford	Open	Biochemistry
Ellie Moodey (MSH)	Oxford	New	Classics
Alasdair Pollock (I)	Cambridge	St John's	Geography
Tabitha Price (MSH)	Oxford	Exeter	French and Spanish
Angus Thompson (G)	Oxford	Merton	Classics
Nick Thompson* (G)*	Oxford	Trinity	Classics

^{*} Henry and Nick both have confirmed places, having taken their A Levels in 2011.



In addition to these 11 Oxbridge offers/places, we were delighted to hear that Karun Sandal (PH 2004-2008) and Alex Chamolly (Rt 2009-2010) were also successful in their applications.

Karun's story is a particularly unusual one. He left Shrewsbury in 2008 at the end of the Lower Sixth, after receiving what he felt were disappointing results in his AS Levels in Maths, Spanish and Economics. However, over 2 years later - at the start of 2011 - Karun decided to return to his A Levels, pursuing his real passion which was English. Studying on his own, with the help of tutors, he was awarded an A* in Religious Studies A Level last summer, and for his AS Levels in History and Religious Studies he received A grades.

On the basis of these promising results, Karun decided to apply to Oxbridge to study English, and asked his former Fourth Form tutor here, Mike Schutzer-Weissman, for help in preparing him for the 'dreaded' entrance exam (ELAT). Karun has now been offered a place to read English as Somverville College, Oxford.

Alex Chomolly followed a path that a number of Salopian German students have taken, and joined our Lower Sixth for just one year, in September 2009. He then returned to his school in Germany to complete his education. Alex has a place to read Maths at Trinity College, Cambridge.



'Pople and Son' concert receives a footstamping ovation

Wednesday 18 January 2012

An exceptional chamber music concert took place in the Maidment Building on Sunday 15th January - Upper Sixth pupil Jake Pople (SH) performed alongside his father Ross Pople, joined by the violinist Robert Gibbs and our Director of Music, John Moore. Ross Pople is and outstanding cellist, as well as the Principal Conductor of the London Festival Orchestra; Robert Gibbs is a truly amazing violinist who is also the Leader of the London Festival Orchestra.

The committed concert-goers who ventured out on a bitterly cold evening were rewarded with an event which served at least to warm the heart. "Pople and Son" might have been the sub-title of the programme, for the cellist in all three items. Ross Pople, was joined by his son, Jake (SH UVI), in Beethoven's clarinet trio, op 11, thus bringing a special intimacy to the music-making. The other parts were taken by our own John Moore, piano, and Robert Gibbs, violin, who, like Pople senior, is a distinguished London professional.

Wisely, the advertised order was changed and the concert began with a Haydn trio for the usual forces of violin, cello, and piano, the chronological sequence making sense, even though there is only a two-year gap in composition. From the contemplative andante to the spirited "Gypsy Rondo", the trio played as one, the beauty of the string tone fully brought out by the superb acoustic properties of the Maidment.

Hardly a week goes by without a chance to hear one of the School's excellent clarinettists, and Jake Pople, replacing the violinist in the Beethoven, made a confident and mellifluous contribution. Father and son left the stage in the glow of mutual pride.

In both works, one is always aware that, unlike symphonies and concertos, this is music for the players, private music to be played among family and friends. By the time Mendelssohn came to write the trio in D minor, things had changed, and particularly in the piano part, there is a sense that it was destined for the platform. The climax of the first movement was a raging torrent of sound, John Moore in his element, unfazed by some very demanding passages, his two colleagues matching him with awe-inspiring power. At the conclusion, the exhilaration of the participants was plain to see, even before a grateful audience weighed in with a cheering, foot-stamping ovation.

Outside, it didn't seem cold any more.

Martin Knox

Please also see Jake Pople's Week in Life article.



Ali Webb (S LVI) and Becki Biggins release iTunes single

Thursday 19 January 2012

Ali Webb and Grammy nominated singer/songwriter Becki Biggins have recently collaborated to record and release the song 'Always On Your Side'.

Becki is the daughter of our very own football coach Steve Biggins and has a strong association with Shrewsbury School. She spent a year working in the music department as a student in 2004, has performed at a number of our concerts and has run master-class jazz workshops here.

The song was written by Sheryl Crow in 2005 and recorded as a duet with Sting in 2006. It is available via iTunes at: http://itunes.apple.com/gb/album/always-on-vour.eida.air.gla/id480324403. Cover design/graphics.arg



your-side-single/id489324492. Cover design/graphics are by Tash Davy (EDH LVI).



DofE: Miles Pattison-Appleton (Ch UVI) completes Gold, Silver and Bronze awards

Thursday 19 January 2012

It is very unusual for pupils to complete Gold DofE whilst still at school - and Miles Pattison-Appleton (Ch U) has done just that.

Miles is also the first Salopian to have successfully gained Bronze, Silver AND Gold Duke of Edinburgh awards whilst still at school.

NPD



A Week in the Life of Jake Pople (SH UVI)

Thursday 19 January 2012

We asked Jake only yesterday if he could fill the 'Week in the Life' slot for the website. To make it easier for him, we had suggested that he could just focus on his experiences of the concert that he performed on Sunday with the renowned Ross Pople (his father). Jake has done this and much, much more.



Monday [16th January], got back to school after a stressful yet intensly satisfying week of 'What You Will'ing. Humph... four days then I've got 3 exams, not to forget Sunday. The day I play with the big Papa Pople... Finally got him to clean off those mothballs from his Cello.

Before I get stuck in to the first week back I'd like to take you back a few days to tell you not only of the life I have at Shrewsbury School, but of what happens at my London pad and what I was doing for the school, before even going back to school... Having a house in London is great, especially when you've got your own studios to do some practice in! (downstairs and hang a left). So my dad and I were practicing away on the good old Beethoven Clarinet Trio, and of course I was mucking up notes left, right and centre. We stop and

my dad says 'could have been worse?' (We got a lot of work to do...). Which then leads on to two maybe three days of practice in the holidays, and of course I am a really busy guy, especially in the holidays when there's lots of friends around etc. Wednesday [11th January] I finally make it to school just in time for some rehearsals of 'What You Will', meet Mr Moore and Prof. Fanning, and we're underway without as much as a quick breath before beginning. And I am thinking why did I have to say yes to this. The music was hard. Especially when the music was being played at full speed and I was pretty much the only person who hasn't played it before. Of course Mr Moore has written the piece with 7 double sharps with about 3 bars rest in total and of course I'm switching between clarinet and alto saxophone, did I metion that bit already? Being serious though, I am truly glad that I did it in the end because it was definitely a memorable sight to see an almost full Britten theatre of roughly 300 people on the Saturday night. So that was my version of the 'What You Will' experience, felt like quite a ride.

The Sunday after, my dad and I dragged Mr Moore and Robbie Gibbs (Violinist) over to get some proper jamming sessions in. To be honest it sounded a lot better than I thought it would, because when we all started to play, we seemed to have a pretty good feel of where we were in the music in relation to one another. Which, if you ask me, is kinda the most important bit of group music, but at least we had that much going for us (us being me, my dad and Mr Moore). Robbie, my dad and Mr Moore did their own separate Mendelsohn and Haydn trios, which sounded pretty amazing.



Got to back to school on the Monday, which is a huge relief to be able to miss Monday morning lessons, but instead we had Assembly on the Tuesday morning... fun. Had my good old triple PR from 3-5 on the Tuesday, which can always be a bit of a stress reliever. In which I managed to do some music practice, not only for the Beethoven concert but also some practice for my diploma which I plan to either take this term or the next. Not to forget that next term I have my A2 exams.

Wednesday and Thursday were a breeze in comparison to rest of my week having a few pieces of work to hand in only, and again being able to get some practice in. I was also revising for my 3 exams on Friday. Two maths and a Chemistry exam. By the way, all of this IS quite normal for a Shrewsbury lad and can happen on the first week back at school, as I am proving.



Friday came along and I'll be honest when I say that all the revision I did felt like it paid off. I felt tired, yet very happy and relieved after the exams were over. I had a bit of free time in the afternoon followed by clarinet quartet in the evening at 6.30 to rehearse for the competition; Procorda.

Saturday morning was quite relaxed, and I got a very useful rehearsal in with Mr Moore, in which we finally figured out what needed to be at what speed. I found out that Mr Moore had what people might call a 'solid' (very hard) part, so we eventually slowed down the music just a little bit. Saturday evening was fun, but who needs to go into detail about their Saturday nights...

Then along came Sunday, the big day of the concert. The exams on Friday pretty much felt like nothing in comparison to the nerves I had on Sunday. The day started out with me saying 'Hello' to my mum and grandma who came all the way from London and Edinburgh (respectively). This 'Hello' consisted of me going all the way to Hereford to load a stove into my mum's car. After this we had a quickish run through of the Beethoven, which sounded alright, but I seemed to have quite a bit of time to kill afterwards, so I went back School House and did my classic cool-off rountine of gaming. I'm not proud of it, but I did it. I was fully prepared and ready for the concert to start, and when it did start it felt great from the get go. The concert itself was really quite moving for me, because it was the first time I've ever played a piece of music publicly with my dad, and it was also the biggest concert I've ever done at Shrewsbury School. In other words this felt pretty big to me. The best part was that I felt so proud to have my dad play the Cello in a concert like that with me, and I thought that he sounded pretty darn amazing.

Please also see Martin Knox's review of the 'Pople & Son' concert, and its foot-stamping ovation.



Alumni Knots - striking and unusual 'links' to Shrewsbury School

Thursday 19 January 2012



Enterprising young Salopian and recent leaver, Rupert Harvey-Scholes (R 2006-11), has come up with an enterprising scheme - silk knot cufflinks in House colours! Rupert says:

'Since leaving Shrewsbury last summer and after two years of careful research, I had the perfect opportunity to launch my latest business venture.



Whilst I was at Shrewshury I thought it would be novel to have a pair of silk knots in the Riggs colours. I could never find any in the high street shops, hard as I tried. I thought if I wanted a pair then there were bound to be other Salopians and Old Salopians who desired a pair. Hence Alumni Links was created.

Finally I have found the correct supplier who can actually deliver the correct colours of all the eleven boy's houses and the Old Salopian Colours.

Having had such a positive response I would love to be able to supply other clubs and societies in the future throughout the United Kingdom who like the idea.

Get in contact!"

Click here to contact Rupert about Alumni Links.



Success in Young Writers' Competition

Thursday 19 January 2012



L-R: Oliver Pearn, Henry Peat, Lesley Drew, James Pollard, Nick Pearce

Could you write a complete story in a few lines? Or in exactly 50 words, no more, no less? The 3rd and 4th form took on the challenge, entered their 'mini-sagas' in a national competition, and 40 of them have been rewarded with the chance to see their stories in print. With 40 successful stories, as a school, we are well placed for the 'Best School' prize – worth £1,000 – which is to be announced at the end of April.

LJD

The Top Eight entries The City

The mighty walls towered high above the dusty surface, as did the other buildings inside. The magnificent cathedral sat behind the protection of the large walls. The thick, powerful gate guarded the entrance of the city. The architect stepped back and smiled; his model of ancient Rome had been completed.

Nicholas Pearce (I IV)

9/11

To jump, or not to jump, that is the question. The building is falling down. I may have to suffer the planes of the hijacking terrorists. Or to take arms against a sea of stairs; by opposing them, to die? To jump? The heartache and one thousand natural shocks of jumping? Charlie Duckworth (O IV)

The Football's Story

The loud whistle blew; I was tapped on my side. The other man smacked me with his foot to reach the defender's feet. Another man slide tackled him, got up and kicked me to the goal. I hit the bar, the crowd went 'Ahhh!' very loudly, and so did I. Henry Peat (Ch IV)

Villain versus Victim

In view, the hunter saw a vision of his humble vaudevillian prey. He viciously climbed the tree, violating its bark. He cast his vast arrow as both victim and villain, by the vicissitudes of fate,



were vowed together.... He shot. He hit, therefore vanquishing these venal and virulent vermin forever.

Guy Hunter (O IV)

The Scene

- I'm going to kill you! You murdered my mother and you will die for that!
- She was my mother too, and I did not kill her! I loved her and you know that I would never do that!
- Go to hell!

"Stop! Stop! That acting was terrible!" said the director.

Dmitry Lesnevskiy (O IV)

The Meeting

He stood there. The rain splashing down around him, the pitter-patter of the raindrops hit the ground around him, as he waited. Nothing else moved, and, as he stood there, he thought of the message he'd received earlier. He was wrong. He turned and left. The rain swallowed his emotions.

Charlie Steele (O IV)

World War 3: the place not to be.

The year is 2018. The world is at war. WWIII has commenced. It's the whole world versus Russia. I, Private 'JP', am with a group of elite soldiers, called the Navy Seals. We are armed and ready. Suddenly, 3 mushroom clouds rise into the sky. Can this be the end? *James Pollard (PH IV)*

Final Journey

The formidable jail gates in front of me shone like a beacon in the Arizona Desert. The metal gates slowly creaked open. The bus ground to a stop with only one building in sight. The jail guards violently shunted me out of the bus; they had 'Welcomed me to Hell!' Oliver Pearn (S IV)



Kayak Club: Two pupils gain qualification to coach

Friday 20 January 2012

Congratulations to Andrew Spicer and Alastair Wager for successful completion of their UK Coaching Certificate Training Level 1, completed for both Canoe and Kayak. The two Kayak Club members are committed to paddlesports and are the first two students in the school to accrue sufficient quantity, quality and breadth of experience to be able to go on to instruct in both vessels.



Andrew Spicer and Alastair Wager

The training happened over the Christmas break on the rivers of Shropshire during a particularly cold spell. The students undertook training in coaching processes, leadership, target setting, hazard awareness etc., and are now allowed to officially coach fellow students in paddlesports in both the pool and on the rivers!

Well done to both for braving the icy cold water.

Major Billington



RSSBC Umbrellas

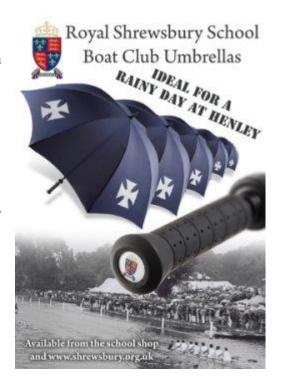
Friday 20 January 2012

The RSSBC have produced some wonderful Maltese Cross umbrellas, which are now on sale in our School Shop (see details below). They are plain navy, with a white Maltese Cross on each quadrant, and a full colour Shrewsbury School Crest on a button on the handle.

The picture in the background of our umbrella poster is of the 1st V111 wining the final at Henley in 1980 beating Radley College by 2½ lengths (on a rainy day), coached by Nick Bevan and stroked by Mark Yale. Another member of the crew was John Garret who later competed in a number of Boat races and in the Olympic Games on three occasions.

Background to the Maltese Cross

The eight-point cross of the Knights Hospitallers became known as the Maltese Cross when Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor, gave the Knights Hospitallers the island of Malta in the 1550s, after they had been kicked out of Cyprus by the Ottoman Turks.



The eight points of the cross are said to symbolise the eight points of courage: Loyalty; Piety; Generosity; Bravery; Glory and honour; Contempt of death; Helpfulness towards the poor and the sick; Respect for the church.

The Maltese Cross is now used by a number of institutions and establishments, perhaps most notably in this country by St John Ambulance, and it is also on the crown of Shrewsbury School's crest.

In 1866 the Royal Shrewsbury School Boat Club (RSSBC) was founded as a club, run by the boys, for rowing at Shrewsbury. In the original constitution, it stated that the dress rule was, "a straw hat with a dark blue ribbon and a white jersey trimmed with dark blue with a blue Maltese Cross on the front of the jersey."

Around the 1870's when the newly formed football clubs were being established around England, many of the first uniform kits to appear were those of the Public Schools and sports clubs with which the game was originally associated. Blackburn Rovers first wore white jerseys adorned with the blue Maltese Cross of Shrewsbury School, as several of their founders had been educated here.

The Boat Club has continued to use the Maltese Cross and although the white lycra trimmed with dark blue with a blue Maltese Cross on the front is now the preserve of the 1st VIII only, the Maltese Cross itself is used in a variety of ways by the boat club.

The umbrellas are available to buy for £30 (+ £5 P&P) from the School Shop 01743 280868 / mhignett@shrewsbury.org.uk, or direct from Paul Manser, Master in Charge of the Boat Club, pmanser@shrewsbury.org.uk.



RSSH: Victory in the Adams' Dash

Friday 20 January 2012

Wednesday 18th January saw a terrific performance by some of the Hunt's less regular runners, as they stormed to victory in the Adams Dash, defeating Adams' Grammar and Wrekin College while our top squad were training separately for the upcoming Coventry Relays.

This 4-mile cross country route was a chance for some new talent to emerge, and they took that opportunity brilliantly. Angus Hayward finished 4th in an excellent return to Hunt racing, followed by Henry Dashwood in 5th. Tim Atkins, Theo Clarke and Jake Samuel also had strong races, making our team points total up to a very impressive 30.

The best run of the day belonged to Will Spencer Jones, however, who finished 2nd in his best performance of the season to date.

Well done to all who competed.

IPH



Megan Cherrington (EDH UVI) wins highly coveted place with KPMG

Friday 20 January 2012

Despite having four offers from top Russell Group universities, one of our Sixth Formers has chosen to start her career straight after A Levels.

Megan Cherrington (EDH UVI) has gone through a highly competitive application process, and heard recently that she has been accepted onto **KPMG's School Leavers' Programme**. The five stages of the assessment took 3 months to complete, but Megan eventually received the good news when she was out at a restaurant, celebrating her father's birthday!

Megan's training with KPMG will start as soon as she joins. The six year programme offers trainees the opportunity to gain work

experience as well as a university degree and a professional accounting qualification - all entirely funded by KPMG. This is a powerful combination which allows trainees to start earning and building their career as soon as they finish school or college. Megan says she's "very excited about starting a new career path with something a little different from taking the normal route to university!"

Mrs. Weston has already asked Megan to come back next year to talk to the Sixth Form about the programme and how to apply for it!



RSSH: Senior and Colts win in Midlands League

Sunday 22 January 2012

Our Colts had an 8-point victory over Rugby (2nd) and Uppingham (3rd); the Senior race saw Salopians in all top three places, helping Shrewsbury to a staggering 91 point win over Wellingborough (2nd) and Oundle (3rd).

On Saturday the Hunt travelled to Uppingham with two elite squads, one in the Colts race and one in the Senior. This was the first of the four Midlands League races, which includes some of the best schools of the region. Among the competition were Oundle, Worksop, Wellbeck, Rugby, Wrekin College and the hosts Uppingham. Both teams performed superbly, winning both the Junior and Senior team races.

The Junior team started their 2.4-mile race conservatively, with Rory Fraser among the leading pack and Otto Clarke tucking in behind, with our other five runners spread through the field. However, their fitness told in the late stages and several places were made up in a fast finish. Rory Fraser, Otto Clarke and Toby Lansdell had particularly strong races, finishing 3rd, 5th and 6th respectively, as did a fast-improving Angus Hayward - making a welcome return to Hunt racing - in an impressive 14th. This was enough to win the team race by 8 points.

It was in the Senior race that our dominance really told, however, with the Mallett brothers finishing the 3.6-mile course in a serene and imperious 1st and 2nd, and Seb Blake not far behind in 3rd. With superb efforts from Tom Cousins (6th), George Nugee (8th) and Will Spencer-Jones (14th), this team demolished the field and beat the second-place team by 81 points. Well done to all who ran on what proved to be a fantastic day for the Hunt.

IPH



Continued musical success at Churchill's

Monday 23 January 2012

Jacob Owen (5th Form) heard recently that his 'contract' with the National Youth Orchestra of Wales, in which he plays the Cello, has been renewed for a further year.

In September, we are looking forward to Josh Himsworth joining Churchill's in the Third Form from Shrewsbury High Prep. Josh has already achieved Grade 8 in both piano and double bass, and he also has a place in the National Youth Orchestra of Wales.

The even more remarkable coincidence is that both Jacob and Josh live in the small village of Berriew, Powys.





Governors endorse move to full coeducation from 2014

Monday 23 January 2012

In September 2011, the Governors endorsed Shrewsbury School's Development Plan '2020 Vision'.

One of the central pillars of this plan is a gradual move to full co-education, building on the outstanding success of the introduction of girls into the Sixth Form in 2008. Girls will be admitted to the school at Third Form level from 2014.

Please see our leaflet **Co-education at 13+** for more information.

The initial announcement and Questions and Answers is also on our website: www.shrewsbury.org.uk/news/2020-vision



Football: 1st XI vs Shrewsbury Town FC

Wednesday 25 January 2012

Shrewsbury Town FC were far too strong, fit and well organised and we ended up on the end of a 0-6 defeat. It was an excellent workout for our players who did a lot of hard work out of possession.

Playing against boys of the same age who train every day in an attempt to make a career from the game, was an invaluable experience for our boys. The increased tempo of play and extra pace that was evident throughout the Shrewsbury Town players gives our boys a target to aim for. Only positive lessons can be extracted from this game, despite the heavy scoreline.

SJB



Rugby: w/c 16th January 2012

Wednesday 25 January 2012

1st XV vs King Edwards School, Birmingham

The 1st XV lost to an organised and speedy KES Birmingham team on Saturday. After going four tries down quite quickly in the first half, Shrewsbury fought back with two early penalties (Will Mason) in the second half and some spirited try line pressure. Max Mason was particularly aggressive and effective around the park. Unfortunately KES possessed a terrifically powerful and quick wing who is an U18 GB Rugby league international, and when given space, he was too hot to handle. Final score 50-6 but there were positives and a fantastic spirit shown.

Other results

The U15 A's had a convincing win against a poor Ludlow side earlier in the week, however they were then on the end of a heavy defeat themselves against KES losing 0-43.

The U14 age group got their Shrewsbury rugby career off to a flying start, recording a crushing 83-5 victory over Ludlow, followed up by both the U14 A and B's beating KES 24-12 and 50-17 respectively. Well done to all involved.

DK



Fives: w/c 16th January 2012

Wednesday 25 January 2012

Fives vs Wolverhampton Grammar School – Home

Wolverhampton Grammar were the visitors to Shrewsbury on Thursday, providing matches for senior boys, girls and junior boys. The senior pair of Bromley Davenport and Styles got the team of to a great start recording a 2-0 victory. The other senior pair of Sansom and Chirayus didn't fare so well, coming away defeated 0-3. All three of the senior girls pairs of Parr and Pritchard; Home and Naylor and Free and Adams recorded victories against their Wolverhampton counterparts, 2-1, 2-0, 1-0 respectively.

Mixed results were had from the U14 boys with both Lechmere and Parsonage and Webber and Champion coming away with draws, whilst Iles and Arridge lost 0-2. More encouraging news was had by Pope and Harris who defeated the Wolverhampton pair 2-0. Overall results were, won 5, drew 2 and lost 2.

Fives vs Highgate

A busy weekend of fives kicked off against Highgate on Saturday. Results emanating from the seniors were very impressive, with all four pairs claiming victory. Other results were mixed, with the U16 pairs coming away with two victories and two defeats, mirroring that of the U15s who also picked up two wins against two defeats. The U14 pairs didn't fare so well, with all six pairs losing out against their Highgate counterparts.

Fives vs Eton

The busy weekend continued as Shrewsbury visited Eton. The senior pairs again demonstrated their superb skills and tactics, winning all four games. The U16s didn't fare so well, losing three out of the four matches, whilst the U15s reversed these results, recording three victories to only one defeat from four pairs. The U14 pairs came away with two victories against four defeats, to complete a very competitive weekend of fives. *ASB*



Badminton vs. Wrekin College

Wednesday 25 January 2012

The school team enjoyed a well contested match against Wrekin College, with honours being shared. The boys trio of Pao (captain), Taylor and Awin won all of their games, in doubles and singles, playing some excellent and consistent badminton. The trio of girls, Amanda, Nurun, Azimah all played well and positively, but were unable to make much of an impact against a stronger Wrekin group.

Special mention to Pao who again lead the team in a responsible and very Salopian like way.

AD



Fencing v Rugby School

Wednesday 25 January 2012

The foil team of Chris Williams, Stephen Li and Marco Lee defeated Rugby School 7-2 on Saturday, whilst the epée team of Jack Viljoen, Charlie Godman and Arthur Cheng won 4-2.

Some excellent fencing was produced by both teams and provided a fantastic way to start the term.

Mr K. Holding



Wonderful Evening of 'Cello and Piano Music - 7.30 pm on Friday 27 January in the Maidment Building

Wednesday 25 January 2012



On Friday 27th January at 7.30pm, Shrewsbury School will be hosting a sparkling 'Cello & Piano recital performed by seventeen year old Shrewsbury High School Cellist, **Lucy Arch** and Shrewsbury School Director of Music and pianist, **John Moore**.

Lucy has been a member of the National Youth Orchestra for the last two years and is currently the co-principal of the CBSO Youth Orchestra where she is held in very high regard.

Darren Wood, Events Manager at Shrewsbury School, says:

"John Moore and Lucy are very much looking forward to the recital which will showcase some very fine music indeed in the fantastic acoustic environment of the Maidment Auditorium"

The recital, which starts at 7.30pm in the Maidment

Auditorium, is FREE to attend with tickets available on the door.

Please email <u>Darren</u> or phone him on 01743 280810 if you require further information on the event or any other forthcoming events.



Project Harar Ethiopa (PHE) Celebrates its 10th birthday with a Medical Mission to Ethiopia

Wednesday 25 January 2012



In 2002, Jonathan Crown (M 1978-82) founded a charity called **Project Harar Ethiopia**.

Jonathan says, 'It only seems like yesterday that I came across two boys in the desert town of Harar in Eastern Ethiopia, both of whom had suffered dreadful injuries to their faces. One from Noma, a facial gangrene, the other had been attacked by Hyenas.

It was an epiphany for me, and I decided to do what I could to help them.

Over the ensuing year, I managed to get them complex facial rebuilding surgery on a hospital ship the other side of Africa in the Gambia."

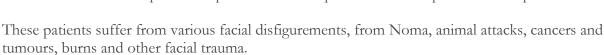
PHE was founded, and I have been building up ever since, we celebrated treating our 2,000th patient recently!'

Jonathan will shortly be leading PHE's latest venture: a major two-week medical mission to Ethiopia.

This will comprise an expert team of 6, 2 surgeons, 2 anesthetists and 2 nurses, mainly from Guys Hospital in London who will be travelling to Addis Ababa in mid April. Head

of surgery is Professor Mark McGurk www.salivary-

gland.co.uk/ and http://www.baoms.org.uk/page.asp?id=503 who will be performing between 30 and 50 complex facial procedures on impoverished Ethiopians in mid April.



All costs will be covered by PHE.

Support Project Harar Ethiopia: visit http://www.projectharar.org and see how you can help change the lives of children in the poorest parts of rural Ethiopia.





Last weekend's Piano and Singing prizes

Wednesday 25 January 2012

Large numbers competed for the prizes, which were held in the Maidment Building and the Alington Hall last Sunday, all day. The standard of competition this year was high in both the singing and piano departments, and was tribute to both the accomplishments of those taking part, and of course their teachers. All prizewinners' names are below.

The adjudicators were:

Singing - Peter Davies, Director of Music at Oakham School, and Helen Williams, Principal singing teacher at Oakham, and a very distinguished soprano soloist in her own right.

Piano - Clare Hammond, who is a rising young star in the world of professional pianists, and who in addition to being a finalist in the BBC Young Musician of the Year Piano Finlas several years ago, has also recently made her Radio 3 debut, and is busy with recordings and an extensive concert career as well as teaching.

The performances from those who were placed in the top three of each session were of an extremeley impressive standard, and there will be the chance to hear them all at various times in the future of course.

We have already also had competitions this year from our string players, won by Jacob Owen, and Woodwind and Brass competitions will be taking place next term. They are an excellent way of giving a large number of pupils the chance to shine and take part in what are very friendly but competitive occasions and to have constructive comments from external adjudicators of National standing, all of whom did a brilliant job this year in their adjudications, and to whom we are very grateful for giving up their time to be at Shrewsbury with us.

JFM			
PIANO	Senior	Intermediate	
1st	Galin Ganchev (M 4)	Fiona Lau (MSH L)	
2nd	Henry Thomas (Ch 3)	Jonathan Cheng (I 4	
3rd	Allen Yu (M 5)	Kevin Jim (I 3)	
SINGING	Senior	Intermediate	Junior
1st	Laurence Jeffcoate (Ch 5)	Ed Carroll (Ch 4)	Alfred Mitchell (SH 3)
2nd	James McGeorge (Ch U)	Rory Dootson (M 4)	Rob Shone (Ch 3)
3rd	Teresa Fawcett Wood (EDH L)	Will Hargreaves (SH 4)	Henry Craig (M 4)
Highly	Sienna Holmes (EDH L)	Leonard Ma (Rt L)	Nick Entwisle (SH 3)
Commended	Gus Haynes (O U)	George Nugee (G U)	Conrad Morson (R 3)
Commended	Will Heyes (Ch L) Sam Ansloos (G L)	Andrew Spicer (M 5) Rory Fraser (Ch 5)	Tom Lloyd (Rt 5) Guy Cabral (Ch 3)

Most entertaining performance: female performer Most entertaining performance: male performer

Teresa Fawcett Wood Will Heyes



A Week in the Life of a Housemaster: Giles Bell, School House

Wednesday 25 January 2012



Monday 16th January

Hurray, it is Week A, which means I only teach 5 lessons on a Monday and not 7. The inmates of School House might notice that stress levels get slightly higher on the Sunday night before Week B when time is at a premium. Still this Monday I am very chirpy. Young Reggie is deposited at nursery with the usual bribe of a marshmallow to help sweeten the bitter pill that is a morning at one of the loveliest nurseries in the world, where the cuddles with the beautiful toddler tamers are prolific, affectionate and I get slightly jealous. The reason I am chirpy is that I have completed my fifth form Mock GCSE marking despite organising a play rehearsal on Sunday night and I have plenty to talk about in my double lessons. A quick bite for lunch; once again the culinary geniuses at KH have foiled my plans to shed pounds after the festive period and then straight into a Housemasters' meeting



where matters of high level security are discussed and I could not possibly divulge any of our secrets for fear of immediate execution! All I can say that one of the topics of conversation was whether Christmas Dinner should continue in its present form. The general consensus was that it should and I was able to report that Father Christmas certainly enjoyed himself. Then it is back to the House to extricate the non-sporty for various nefarious activities and time to quickly walk the blind dog (Ted) and my two ankle biters. A lesson on Miracles finishes the afternoon, the miracle being no-one goes to sleep despite it being Period 7 and just after 6.00 pm. A leisurely walk back to the House means my poor wife has accomplished most of the bath time chores and I appear as 'Fun Dad' for stories and romping! "No you can't have another story Reggie because it is time for Dix", where I urge my troops to greater heights of brilliance and lead them into top schools. Then it is a play rehearsal at 8.30pm, we are wrestling with the Diary of Adrian Mole. The cast and I enjoyed watching a clip of the 80s TV show on YouTube to put us in the mood and we all decide we are not going to attempt the Leicestershire accent. Then it



is time to send everyone to bed and eventually I too wend my weary way away from my final game of Solitaire to the Land of Nod.

Tuesday 17th January

An early start as both Reggie and Edie seem to think the day should begin just before 6.00am. The advantage of this is that I am able to finish my Fourth Form marking courtesy of my saintly wife dressing the infants. Edie, my 14 month old daughter, is very keen to wake up all the boys and is particularly chatty this morning which is always good as it means I have to say less when I walk into the bedrooms. We stop and admire a picture of cows grazing in a meadow and I detect her first efforts to formulate a 'moo'. Have I remembered to remind all those on AD to go? No. Luckily they all remember anyway. It is into lessons; going through papers is always tedious as the poor fourth formers find out. Then my efficient and wondrous secretary Jane comes in to ensure that the Swiss Clock otherwise known as School House is as well-oiled and as efficient as ever. In the afternoon I sauntered past the Fives leagues to see School House valiantly and courageously challenging the might of Ingrams. I return to the classroom again for a late session of going through past papers and attempting to keep people awake, and once again it is back to bath time and story reading. The disappointment of the evening was that the big FA cup game, Wrexham v. Brighton, was cancelled due to a frozen pitch. I had managed to obtain a ticket despite the massive draw of the mighty Seagulls but unfortunately I know I will not be able to go tomorrow night as Mrs Bell is out, there is a play rehearsal booked and I am not sure I can build myself up again for an evening of such excitement.

Wednesday 18th January

It is 'Whittle' Wednesday in School House. My fantastic deputy Housemistress marches round waking the boys up on my behalf and I get a lie in until 7.00am. Wednesday is a good morning, there is little in the way of teaching to be done and there is time to take Reggie to and from nursery. Upon his return he admires the new painting I have purchased. It is a large 'Purser' called 'Monsoon' and looks fantastic on our dining room wall. Mrs Bell questioned the sense of the purchase as she considers the size of the house we will be moving into in the future unlikely to have walls big enough to do it justice. But she does confess to liking it. Reggie too is impressed and is keen for his artwork to be hung alongside the new master. You can now see an A4 brown splodge on our wall which of course is entitled 'Muddy Puddle'. I think Reggie would cite Peppa Pig as a major influence. The afternoon is spent dealing with minor irritants, dishing out money and permission to venture into Shropshire's capital city. The Brighton/Wrexham kick off is a 7.15 one which conflicts with Dix. I am more concise than usual and get to see the majority of the first half on ESPN, the excellent Wrexham goal which sends shivers down my spine. Adrian Mole continues apace, pace being the operative word and I am back in front of the TV for extra time, Brighton having managed to equalise against the run of play. My co-director, James Humpish comes to discuss the play's progress but it soon becomes clear he will get no sense from his Housemaster until after the penalty shoot-out. The elation of the 5-4 victory to the South coast supremoes means that James gives up and accepts the inevitable postponement of the meeting until another day as it is time for the bedtime march round and the attempt to prevent tired eyes from staying open to watch films they have already seen about 50 times already.





Early morning rounds with Edie

Thursday 19th January

Another early start and an attempt to kick tired boys out of bed and down to breakfast. It is sixth form chapel and one or two of the ungodly are hoping not to go as they have AS retakes, the things people will do to get out of chapel! This week the chaplain has rented out his talk spot to Dr Elliot who is trying to convince us that Christianity and happiness can be linked. A couple more miraculous lessons with my delightful lower sixth set who provide me with great entertainment courteousy of their presentations on miracles, and then it is lunch. The evening highlight is the presentation to prospective parents in the Ashton Theatre. I arrive late having found myself besieged by boys who have been saving up their problems for an inconvenient moment. I trudge wearily down the avenue of trees feeling very much vesterday's man as I know few will be attracted to a House where the present incumbent has already completed nearly thirteen years for the sands of time are fast moving. I cheer up when a glass

of wine is thrust my way by a helpful sixth former (in the Ashton theatre I hasten to add!). I am surprised by several old university faces and nearly remember their names – not bad as we have not seen each other for over twenty years! Mr Case and the Headmaster are on fine form and despite the lack of sleep and glass of wine I find myself awake throughout the talks, I am almost convinced to put my son down for the school until I remember he is already here! Then it is back to the House and time to pop round irritating the inhabitants, (after my glass of wine I believe myself to be on good form - a belief not universally shared).

Friday 20th January

I wish my kids would sleep in until 6:30am. Edie and I wake everyone up again, her mooing continues to improve! Nothing very exciting happens in the morning aside from taking Reggie to nursery. Jane my secretary is in to sort everything out and keep accounts happy! I hear that we may have a new boy starting with us on Sunday. He likes cricket so he must be civilised. Friday evening and at Dix I mention that 'Fraping' (altering facebook accounts that do not belong to you) people is illegal. I feel that my gravitas is having the desired effect until my deputy head of House reminds us all that I 'fraped' him last term and laughter ensues! (I only wrote in 'I love my Housemaster'). Wondrous Whittle is back on duty and I go the Lion and Pheasant to celebrate a friend's birthday. Scallops! Fantastic!

Saturday 21st January

A sting in the tail of the week - I teach four lessons. I then go for a walk in the wind and watch hockey, football and rugby. There are School House representatives on every pitch and I wait until they notice I was there! (I even watched the Ist XV Ricardo!). Despite the fact that there are three XVs playing it is only the one broken finger for matron to visit casualty with! The footballers are learning about the gulf in class between professional and amateur football as they leak in a few goals to Shrewsbury Town's under 17s and the hockey lads are having a successful afternoon against Ellesmere.

Then it is back for a cup of tea and a check on the results. An away victory for Brighton and Shrewsbury town beat the division leaders. On top of that my Telegraph Fantasy league team are back up to 70th as Dempsey scores three! I entertain an American lady and her son for tea. Jack



is a most impressive young man I hope he comes to Shrewsbury. I escort them back to the excellent Hambrook House B and B and then it is time to go and celebrate at a 40th birthday party and once again leave all the work to Miss Whittle. Before I go I have to admonish some sixth formers for their lack of judgement. They have been caught watching Liverpool play Bolton....enough said!!!

I am back to check that no one had as good a time as I did and I am relieved to find that is the case!

Sunday 22nd January

The day of rest!!! Granny has had the nippers for a sleep over but I could not enjoy the lie in as my body clock kicks in and I wake up at 7am. It is chapel out so it is time to cook croissant for 80 boys from 9:30 until 10:30am. The fire alarm decides to play up and we have to call in Ron to sort it out, always a popular Sunday phone call!

After we have cleared up the Hall it is nearly time for lunch! Haggis and the traditional Scottish fare! Robbie Burns would have been proud! Eldest son Joe returns from Ingrams for a moment of family life. Reggie is having a 'toddler tantrum day' I don't know where he gets it from! Then it is over to the music school to watch numerous School House songsters take part in the Junior School Singing competition. It is won by a School House chorister! I cannot see the intermediates as I have to meet up with my latest recruit to school House. He arrives at 4:30pm and we have a cup of tea and sort out the few questions the family have. They leave around 6pm and give me a home-made curry which was a very welcome present. Then it is bath time for the 'tinker bells' and story time followed by a play rehearsal. It seems to be going well and we make good progress. Dix is lacking in inspiration but everyone is there. Then it is bed time and a lengthy wander round. At 11:30 I notice no one has done lock ups so I do it myself as it ultimately saves time. Then I have a quick think about what to teach in my horror Monday of 7 lessons. It is lucky I did so much preparation over the holidays! That takes me until quite late! Still time for a quick solitaire fix and thence to bed!



GJFB ran to join the Head Boy in what was meant to be a serious photo



Hockey: w/c 16th January 2012

Wednesday 25 January 2012

1st XI vs Wrekin College

The 1st XI finally managed to play their first match of the term against Wrekin College, following a previous postponement. It was an opportunity to 'blood' many of the new members of the squad, with continuous substitutions throughout the game.

Shrewsbury immediately put the opposition under pressure, and within ten minutes had been awarded three short corners, the third of which gave Will Phillips his first goal of the season. The restart was rapidly repossessed by Shrewsbury and, after some quick interplay in the midfield, the forwards were given a chance to attack the 'D' yet again. This time no short corner was required, and a neat pass from Will P to Tim Bird gave the latter a direct shot at goal, which he took with aplomb.

Unfortunately Shrewsbury could not sustain a renewed attack in the second half, and after fifteen minutes had conceded two goals after some aberrations in defence. Nevertheless, the team managed to change the momentum of the game back in their favour and after a series of continued attacks, were given another short corner, which Will Leigh-Bramwell converted. A fourth goal followed, giving Shrewsbury a satisfying 4-2 victory in their first outing this term.

vs Ellesmere

Many changes were apparent from the first game of the season resulting in little continuity within the Shrewsbury performance. Despite this, Shrewsbury found themselves up 4-0 at the interval, after an easy first half, and added two more during the second. The goals, in order, went to Joe Mason, Will Leigh-Bramwell, Ali Bird, Will Milligan-Mamby, Will Phillips and Will Nolan. The Ellesmere conciliation goal came from a short corner, which was badly defended in the dying embers of the game.

JVL

U16 vs Ellesmere

Ellesmere were the visitors to Shrewsbury, but with strong players in central defence, the midfield and at centre-forward we didn't feel in too much danger of losing. However goals were slow in coming and we were only 1-0 up at half time. Will Speed scored his second goal in the middle of the second half and another from Dan Legge before the final whistle gave us a comfortable 3-0 win in the end.

MFW



Netball: w/c 16th January 2012

Wednesday 25 January 2012

Moreton Hall

On Wednesday the 1st VII started well against Moreton and demonstrated clean, sharp passing that flowed down the court form the centre players to the shooters. The defence were very tight and zoned off excellently when Moreton were on the attack. The Shrewsbury girls kept a good lead throughout all four quarters to finish with a 24-9 win. Woman of the match was awarded to Lucy Emms (GS).

Our 2nd team started strong and kept a steady lead right from the 1st quarter to the last. It was a very competitive match however Shrewsbury demonstrated their superior skill and ability as the match proceeded to win 25-6. An excellent win for Shrewsbury and woman of the match was given to Libby Naylor (WA).

Concord College

The 2nd VII played extremely well and demonstrated their maturity and level of skill against a Concord College side that at times were quite aggressive. Shrewsbury started strong in the 1st quarter and continued on into the 4th quarter despite some unfair decisions from the umpires. In spite of this, the Shrewsbury girls kept their heads, demonstrating immaculate passing to the shooter which was beautiful to watch. Shrewsbury really pulled together as a team and communicated well, to finish the match with a win of 26-14. The woman of the match was awarded to Till Whittingham (GD) who directed the team from the back.

ARH



Cricket: Third Former selected for the Warwickshire U14 squad

Thursday 26 January 2012

George Panayi (Ch 3) has represented Hertfordshire Cricket Board up to the U13 age group, and in moving to Shrewsbury and the Midlands, wanted to pursue age group cricket with a major first class county.



George trialed at Edgbaston last summer and again in November, and has been successful in being selected for the U14 Warwickshire winter training group. He will take part in the Warwickshire District Festival in May, and hopes to gain selection for the summer squad which takes part in the ECB National U14 County Competition.

PG

His housemaster writes, 'George is also making a name for himself as a talented a school rugby and fives player, the latter a new sport for him, but which he sees as very useful for his development as a cricketer. As if this weren't enough to juggle, he is also a music exhibitioner, playing the double bass, piano and singing. But perhaps more important than any of these qualities, he is as pleasant a young man as you could possibly hope

to meet, and has been a terrific addition to the Churchill's community.'



The Salopian Club - overview of recent and planned activities

Thursday 26 January 2012

The new committee of the Salopian Club met earlier this month to continue implementing the reforms agreed at the 2011 AGM. The meeting also received progress reports from the various OS sports clubs and the 'Young Old Salopian' committee, and discussed plans for regional and overseas events and the formation of an OS Arts & Activities Society.

Some of the planned forthcoming events included an OS Women's event in the summer and a joint OS/School careers presentation and dinner, involving a number of Old Salopians in the medical profession.

One recent highlight from the OS sports clubs was from the OS Football Club who are now through to the quarter finals of the Arthur Dunn Cup, having won against Radley (4-1) and Malvern (4-0). They will be up against Haileybury, and the match will be played at The Schools on 4th February - the same day that the OS Fives Club will be here taking part in the Northern Championships.

More details of the Salopian Club's activities are available from the Salopian Office oldsalopian@shrewsbury.org.uk or the website www.osclub.org.uk.



Fencing: U16s qualify for West Midlands British Youth Championships

Monday 30 January 2012

On Sunday 29th January, Arthur Cheng (SH IV) and Charlie Godman (M IV) came 1st and 2nd respectively in the Under 16 Boys Epée in West Midlands British Yourth Championships Qualifiers at Packwood.

Both boys now go forward to represent the West Midlands in the National Age Group Finals (Sheffield) in May.

Ken Holding



Sports results: w/c 16th January 2012

Monday 30 January 2012

Week Beginning 16th January 2012

Date	Sport	Opposition	Team	H/A	Result	Score (Shrewsbury's score is first)
Tue 17th January	Netball	Harper Adams League	is All	Α		Cancelled
Wed 18th January	Boys Hockey	Sir John Talbot School, Whitchurch	UI6A XI	Α	D	1-1
		Wrekin College	[× X]	н	W	4-2
	Netball	Moreton Hall	# V	н	W	24-9
			2nd VII	Н	w	26-6
	Rugby	Ludlow School	Is XA	Н	w	40-0
	Rugby	Ludlow College	UI6A XV	Н		See Bulletin
			UISA XV	н		See Bulletin
			UI4A XV	н	W	83-5
	Badminton	Wrekin College	Top Squad	Α		See Bulletin
Thurs 19th January	Fives	Wolverhampton Grammar School	Juniors & Girls	н		See Bulletin
Sat 21st January	Netball	Concord College	2nd VII	Α	w	26-14
	RSSH	Midlands League, Uppingham	Squad Girls and Boys	A		See Bulletin
	Rugby	King Edward VI School, Birmingham	I= XV	Α	L	6-50
			2nd XV	Α	w	34-7
			3⊲ XV	Α	L	5-37
			UI5A XV	н	L	0-43
			UI5B XV	н		See Bulletin
			UI4A XV	Н	W	24-12



New booklet available from the School Shop

Tuesday 31 January 2012

The School Shop has produced a new booklet of merchandise. This includes many items of interest to Old Salopians such as ties, scarves, cufflinks etc.

The booklet is available to view **here**.

Shop contact details:

Email: Michele Hignett
Tel: 01743 280868.
Fax: 01743 243107



Moser's in combat

Tuesday 31 January 2012

A trip to the paintballing arena at Rednall provided a good opportunity to decide whether being in the School CCF or playing 'Call of Duty' on the computer provided the best preparation for this test of nerve and skill. Photo: "pull your best 'call of duty' face".

YouTube video available soon.



Moser's: Pull your best 'Call of Duty' face



Fives: First schoolboys to become National U21s Champions

Tuesday 31 January 2012

At the EFA National U21s Tournament at Eton on Sunday 29th January 2012, Henry Lewis and Jack Hudson-Williams became the first schoolboy pair ever to win the National U21 title - after an all-Salopian final!

Please also see http://www.fivesonline.net/etonfives/433-under-21s-shrewsbury-show-the-way.html for a gripping report on the tournament.



Seven Salopians (five present two past), played in the U21s tournament at Eton On Sunday 29th January 2012. Five reached their respective finals.

GROUP STAGES

Henry Lewis (I) & Jack Hudson-Williams (PH) came an untroubled top of their group. Sam Welti (I) & Tom Welti (OS) did the same. Guy Williams (Rb) & Jack Flowers (I) came top after a good 12-5 victory over Highgate's top senior pair.

QUARTER FINALS

In the quarter finals, Guy Williams and Jack Flowers drew Highgate's top U16 pair and lost very narrowly:

13-11 in the deciding game.

SEMI FINALS & FINAL

Both the other pairs made it through to the final, Sam Welti and Tom Welti having been in a very close-fought semi 13-12, 13-15, 12-6. This left them without the reserves they would have needed to challenge Lewis & Hudson-Williams in the final, so the latter triumphed 12-5, 12-6 to take the U21's title

Jack Hudson-Williams & Henry Lewis therefore become the first school boy pair to win the National U21 title.

Old Salopian Girl into Final

Congratulations also Hannah Blofield (OS) reached the final of the Ladies' competition with her Bath University partner Emily Scoones.

SKPC





Samson Yick (G IV) wins Silver medal in U17 Badminton tournament

Tuesday 31 January 2012



Samson Yick (G IV) came away with a silver medal from the Badminton England U17 Bronze tournament in Worcester over the weekend. Samson was the only representative from Shropshire in the tournament, and he was drawn against players with English rankings varying from 819 to 293.

This is only the second badminton tournament that Samson has ever entered, so is a really remarkable achievement.