Salopian Drivers' Club

Thursday 1 July 2021

Report on the Surrey Hills Tour 19 June 2021

What do you get if you combine an 88 year old movie star, a 68 year old grey lady, a 54 year old whippet, a 27 year old upstart, ten gallons of petrol, a load of hills, six Old Salopian and a pub? A jolly good day out, that's what. Seldom has the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty seen such an eclectic mix of vehicles take on her vertiginous inclines and punishing hairpins.

We followed a route inspired by road cycling and so narrow, steep, and tight was the order of the day. The challenge was met in style and we conquered the famous climbs of Box Hill, Whitedown Lane, Green Dene, Crocknorth and more before repairing to The Volunteer in Sutton Abinger for refreshment and revelry. The weather was kind, and a great day out was had by all.

Miles & Jane's view from the imperious Rolls: Climbing and descending steep lanes with an endless stream of aspiring Olympic cyclists, negotiating parked farm trucks with three inches on each side was a most memorable experience! I enjoy the challenges that driving an old machine like that present. It was rather like taking a stroll without the effort of having to walk! Thank you very much for a great day!

Alan's view from the oh-so-elegant Alvis: Apart from a moment of sheer panic, as we descended a very steep hill and I wondered when I had last checked the brake fluid level, the trip was very enjoyable and superbly organised with charming company. As my 68 year old car was put through its paces I could only recall the words of the 1950s 'Motor' magazine review of the Alvis Grey Lady: 'This is the way to go motoring'.

John & Charmian's view from the young gun MX5: Such great company...people and cars...and some spectacular views on the Surrey Hills. We were the babies of the group though, with our MX5 at a mere 27 years old and with the benefit of power steering we felt we had it easy on the winding roads up and down the hills. Such a very enjoyable day and so well planned by Stephen. So good to be out enjoying our cars.

Steve's view from the impatient Lotus: The sight in my rear-view mirror of our proud miniconvoy effortless negotiating the hairpin on Whitedown (25+% incline) was one to behold. Lucas the Lord of Darkness paid a fleeting visit to the Elan's ignition system, but it was quickly fixed at lunchtime and the Lotus was back to her punchy best.

Attending:

- · Stephen Heath (SH 1986-91) 1967 Lotus Elan S3 SE dhc
- · Miles & Jane Preston (DB 1963-68) 1933 Rolls Royce 20/25 Sedan a de Ville, bodywork by H J Mulliner
- · Alan Mills (I 1963) 1953 Alvis TC100 dhc "Grey Lady"
- · John & Charmian Gilbert (R 1956) 1994 Mazda MX5 Eunos

It was an absolute pleasure and a privilege to share Surrey's secret backroads and lanes with such a great group of likeminded Old Salopians and their beautiful cars. Can't wait for the next one!

Stephen Heath

A chance to enjoy Shrewsbury School's Summer Concert

Friday 2 July 2021

Shrewsbury School hosted its Summer Concert on Friday, June 25th to a live audience.

The concert included performances from 11 different ensembles including the Chamber Choir, string quartets, a piano concerto, and much more.

Assistant Director of Music, Maria McKenzie, said: "It was fantastic to be able to host the Summer Concert to a live audience and being able to offer performances from 11 different ensembles.

"After the year that we have had, the concert was testimony to the enthusiasm that has been shown by all of our students and teachers throughout the past 9 months. The quality of music-making was, as normal, exceptional and the variety of styles and genres was very diverse indeed.

"Highlights include a superb performance of the Rachmaninov 3rd Piano Concerto by U6th Kanei N (Ch), alongside the beautiful choral timbres of the Chamber Choir lead by Benedict Wilson, culminating with the lively set given by the Jazz Band under the direction of Katy Landon.

"All in all, a very enjoyable concert, well done to all that performed and I hope you appreciate watching it as much as the audience did on Friday!"

Concert Programme

Friday 25th June 2021

Extra Performances Thursday 24th June 2021

Student Futures Department shortlisted for distinguished national award

Wednesday 7 July 2021

Shrewsbury School is delighted to announce that it has been shortlisted for an award in the Student Careers category of the Independent School of the Year 2021 awards.

This follows the national success of being named the Independent School of the Year at the 2020 awards, where we were also the joint recipient of the Community Outreach Award, as well as being shortlisted for the Boarding School of the Year Award in the national TES Independent School Awards in April 2021.

The Student Careers category seeks schools which help its students with on-going advice and support for their future. Shrewsbury School provides all pupils with support from its Futures Department, where our focus is to develop our pupils' skills and knowledge to ensure they are competent in a wide range of professions.

The change to remote learning during the pandemic provided an opportunity for our Futures Department to work with over 200 parents and Old Salopians, from our global network of alumni, to provide exceptional advice and guidance through our new ShrewsburyU programme which was offered to all Upper Sixth pupils supporting their progression to university and beyond. The Futures Department also provided all Upper Sixth pupils with an opportunity to study the Institute of Leadership and Management Young Leaders Award a first at Independent Schools across the Midlands. Both programmes were offered during the Summer Term 2020 and have been continued this Summer.

Leo Winkley, Headmaster of Shrewsbury School, said: "I am thrilled for the pupils and staff of Shrewsbury School, particularly those in our Futures Department, as we have been shortlisted for a national award in the Student Careers category. As far as we are aware, we are the only independent school to be delivering this qualification in full."

"We have implemented two new initiatives in the past year; a university mentoring system where pupils have received advice and guidance from over 200 alumni regarding their university experiences, and the ILM Young Leaders Award, of which we are one of only a handful of independent schools in the country to deliver. This internationally recognised qualification allows pupils to increase their experience of leadership and mentoring skills."

"Given the new challenges we have faced in the last year, our pupils' futures have always been at the forefront of our priorities, preparing them for any walk of life. This shortlisting is testament to the work of our Futures Department."

Chris Wain, Head of Futures added: "I was delighted to hear the news about the Futures Department being shortlisted for this award. I am fortunate to work alongside some amazing colleagues who have been absolutely instrumental in achieving this recognition, as well as incredibly grateful for the support we have enjoyed from our fantastic parent and alumni body during my time in post. I look forward to hearing the outcome!"

Independent School of the Year finalists will be revealed on September 7, with winners announced at an awards ceremony in October.

Success in Cambridge Chemistry Challenge 2021

Friday 16 July 2021

A group of Lower Sixth Form students took part in Cambridge Chemistry Challenge 2021 after their AS examinations. The students performed remarkably well after their busy AS exam schedule and this challenging academic year.

The students were awarded 3 Gold, 5 Silver and 9 Copper Medals - an excellent achievement.

Gold Medals were awarded to:

Yuhan W (MSH), Rosa L (M), Hannah H (EDH)

Silver Medals were awarded to:

Ellie L (M), Gordon S (S), Marco C (O), Ella H (MSH), Kate R (EDH)

Copper Medals were awarded to:

Janet L (M), Cynthia Z (G), Helena S (MSH), Jerry W (SH), Fred B (Ch), Steven B (I), Alex G (R), Harry C (Ch), Yin Sum W (MSH)

This competition aims to stretch and challenge students interested in chemistry and will provide an excellent experience for anyone considering taking their studies further. Set by an experienced team of teachers and university chemists, it is designed to be accessible to Lower Sixth students but will take them significantly beyond the syllabus and encourage them to think about science in the way they would at university. It is endorsed and sponsored by St Catharine's College at the University of Cambridge.

The paper itself is based on the core of the chemistry A-level specifications, so that students taking any of the different exam board A-levels can compete fairly. The exam lasts 1.5 hours and is composed of a series of structured questions designed to stretch able students by making them apply the principles they have learnt to new and often more complex situations than they would meet in their A-level course. Thus, in order to score marks, it is essential to have a very sound base of knowledge and understanding, but also have the ability to think and reason - often "outside the box" - at a high level.