

Shrewsbury wins Highly Distinguished Delegation Award at Royal Russell International MUN Conference

Wednesday 6 November 2019

The Royal Russell is one of the largest and most prestigious MUN conferences in the UK, attracting delegates from all over the world. Ella Biggs (M 5) gives a fascinating insight into what it's like taking part.

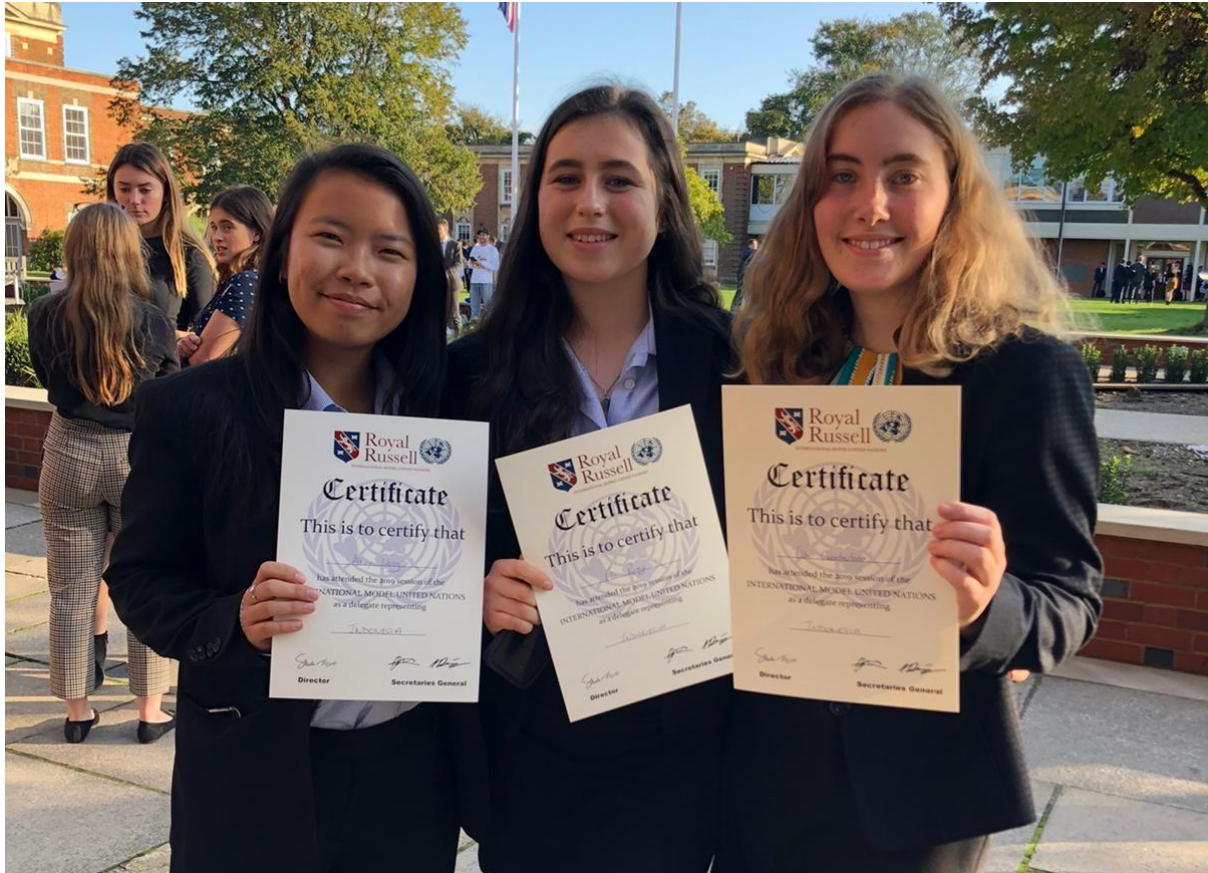


During the first day of the October half-term holiday, a small group of Shrewsbury School students travelled to Croydon, South London, to attend the Royal Russell School International Model United Nations Conference for four tough days of debating with students from all around the globe.

This conference was an opportunity for members of the MUN team to gain experience and to make connections with people from all over the world that can last a lifetime. Having met many great people at the conference myself, who I have stayed in contact with over the holiday, it is safe to say that this conference has been a tremendous networking experience and the perfect way to make long-lasting links with new friends from every corner of the world.

After an early start on Saturday morning and a long journey from Shrewsbury to Croydon, everyone got stuck in to the mix by lobbying their resolutions, talking with the other delegates in their committee and forming alliances with the delegates who would most benefit their agendas. Unlike at MUN conferences I have attended before, at Royal Russell delegates are encouraged to merge resolutions with others to give them the best chance of passing through the approval panel. I thought that this was a great way of encouraging delegates to work together and to allow

more experienced delegates to help those who have less experience. And for me especially it allowed me to strengthen my resolution and add some much-needed clauses that helped to improve upon and clarify many of the points I had made.



Ella Biggs (centre) with Abi Wong and Ella Chamberlain

Once lobbying was over, each delegate in turn stood and made a one-minute policy statement to the room. Listening to everyone's policy statements was a really good way of seeing which delegates were prepared and which delegates had a similar political standing and policies to your own delegation. In my committee in particular, there were many first-time delegates, so it was really interesting to see how many of them had really well-prepared speeches. It gave me a real insight into aspects of topics that I hadn't thought to research before.



General Assembly at RRIMUN was a really immersive experience that effectively mimicked how General Assembly would be at an actual United Nations conference. It was one of the most well-coordinated events I had seen at any conference, as it really showed both the potential of many of the younger delegates in the room as well as the prowess of the more weathered delegates. I found that by listening to how many of the more experienced delegates during GA phrased and communicated their points and their overall speaking style really helped me improve my own performance as a delegate. Seeing so many eager and enthusiastic debaters really encouraged me to get more involved with the debate by contributing as much as possible.



Thomas Jackson speaking in General Assembly

Each evening there was a social, which was a great way to relax and get to know other delegates from your committee after a long day of debating. The experience was improved by the music from the incredible DJ and the spirited students from Royal Russell School who kept the dance floor alive throughout the evening. It was a great way to consolidate friendships with other delegates in a more relaxed environment and really ended the day on a good note.

Throughout the conference, Shrewsbury School's MUN team did a brilliant job in both their committees and in General Assembly. And this did not go unnoticed by Chairs at Royal Russell School, with Alex Sparks claiming the seat of power in the Security Council by day two of the conference and receiving a Distinguished Delegate Award for his efforts at the end of the conference.

As well Ella Chamberlain, Sophia Bureau and Thomas Jackson all received Distinguished Delegate Awards in their committees. The knowledge and enthusiasm of the team as a whole during General Assembly led to our delegation receiving a Highly Commended Delegation Award at the end of the conference which overall was a positive end to a conference.



Tiring yet rewarding, Royal Russell School International Model United Nations conference was an MUN experience like no other, and it would not have been possible without Mr Peach and Miss Pritchard.

Northern Progress

Thursday 7 November 2019

In what is becoming something of a tradition

The Director accompanied by the Head of Higher Education, Toby Percival, set off through the floods in Sheffield and Doncaster to reach Edinburgh on 7th Nov on the first stop of the Northern Progress. Here the Wally Dug in Northumberland Street is a popular watering-hole for the residents of Edinburgh New Town but particularly for Salopians in the city, as it has the added advantage of being owned by Murray Campbell (O 92-97). To the accompaniment of the pianist (Glenalmond, I'm afraid...) Salopians, ably co-ordinated by Archie Thomason (Rt 12-17), were able to enjoy the local brew. Was it fanciful to have heard the strains of "Will ye no come back again?"

The following evening saw Salopians from Durham and Newcastle, at the prompting of James Plaut (S 10-15), descend on the Swan and Three Cygnets which boasts some of the most reasonably priced ale in the land. This was just as well, as Salopians of both universities applied themselves with alacrity to contribute to the barman's strained shoulder. After a lengthy evening, the intrepid travelling duo eschewed the temptations of the local night-spots, Klute's and Jimmy's, just as various Salopians (not to be named) were getting into their stride.



Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Thursday 7 November 2019

This week, the Art Department, the Three Amigos and The Big Draw...

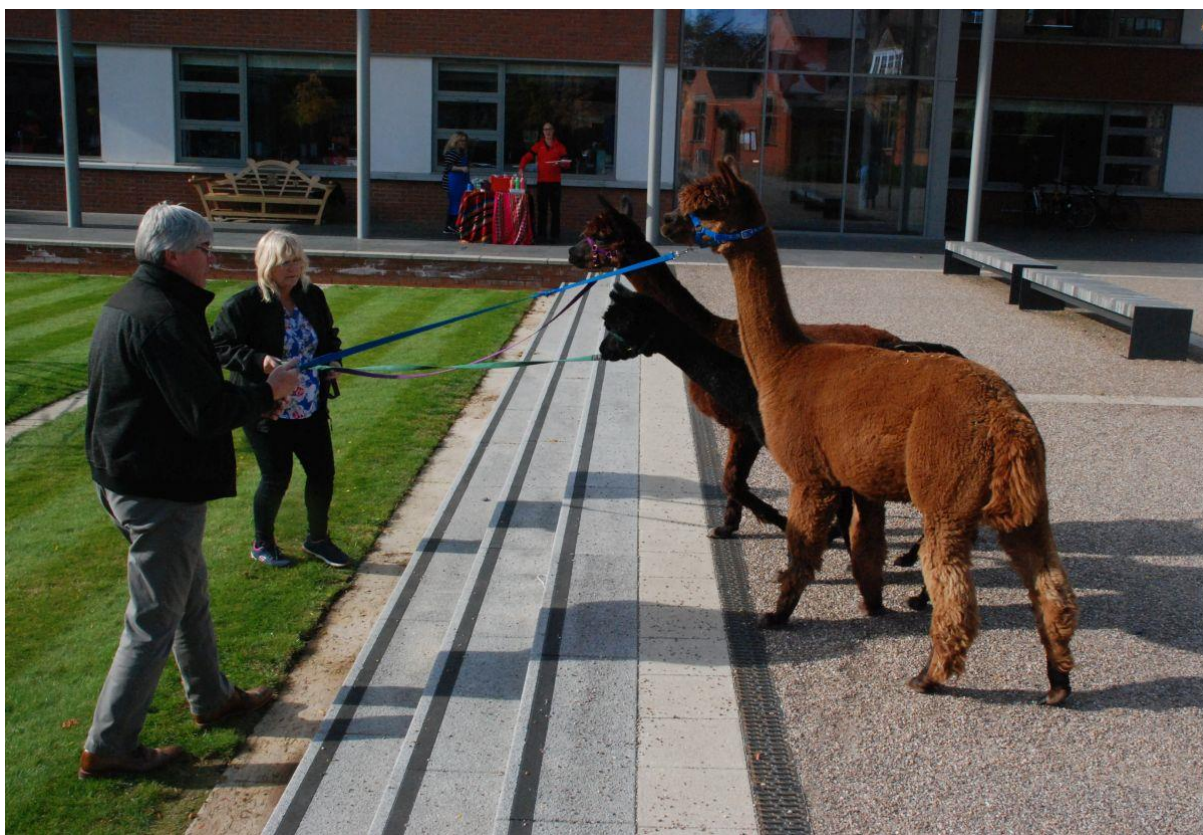
Just before half term I looked out of my office window – a rare occurrence, as I am so dedicated to my work that I seldom have time for such distractions. I spotted three alpacas being led to the lawn outside the Design Centre. I re-examined my cup but concluded it really was ‘just’ coffee and left the room to investigate.



I bumped into a slightly relieved-looking Head of Art Lucy Caddel, who had been worrying that the alpacas might not make it through the traffic. Lucy spent two years in Peru and has an in-depth love and knowledge of all things Peruvian, including alpacas. “I love alpacas,” she told me. She had decided that as the theme for this year’s ‘Big Draw’ is ‘Drawn to Life’, she’d use alpacas as the live models for a House Art Competition one day and an art event for lots of primary school children the next. “Exciting, isn’t it?” she enthused. I said nothing, though I did notice that there seemed to be a certain reluctance on the part of at least one of the Three Amigos to join in with her plan...



But happily, he eventually agreed to get into position...



Athough he took a little while to strike as good a pose as Amigos One and Two....



In case you are wondering what The Big Draw is, it's actually the world's largest drawing festival and it takes place annually in about 25 countries all over the world - though not yet in Peru, hence the fact that alpacas have to come to Shrewsbury to join in. Susan Coles (The Big Draw Associate, Cultural Educational Consultant, Artist, school governor, former President of NSEAD) sums it up:

"The Big Draw is a superb focus for any school - allowing all subjects areas to appreciate the value of drawing and visual literacy and to support the use of transferable skills and knowledge. Drawing is a language that resonates with all subject areas. Drawing is communication that breaks through barriers. And, it helps us speak when words are not enough." (There's lots of inspiring stuff on their website: <https://thebigdraw.org/>)

As the arts continue to be squeezed and cut back in the educational world, The Big Draw attempts to turn the spotlight on creativity. Happily, the arts are thriving at Shrewsbury School, but the talented folk of the Art Department are always keen to encourage the rest of us to release our inner Van Goghs and Tracey Emins, so they'd laid on a whole series of artistic events and challenges for us over the week. And Lucy explained to me that she had invited some of the local primary schools to come and enjoy doing some art during Field Day, using our beautiful site and facilities.

The weather, and the alpacas were able to be stabled outside rather than in the Art School, which could have raised 'issues. So all was set for two days of artistic endeavour and alpaca appreciation.



The Alpaca Appreciation Society is formed...



The House competition involved each House providing a tutor and student who would compete to produce the best alpaca-inspired picture within an afternoon.

The artists settled down, paint brushes in hand, the alpacas posed, and it was time to have a chat with Caroline and Ian Oakes, who had kindly provided the alpacas for the afternoon. If you want

to see what they get up to, I can heartily recommend a look at their website <https://www.clivewoodfarm.co.uk/>.

Caroline and Ian have been great supporters of the School. Ian is an Old Salopian and their son Nick was Head of School House. Nick now sports a healthy beard and I wondered if that had been inspired by living in the vicinity of 40 hairy alpacas. "I live in Manchester," Nick told me.

The alpacas are called Eusebio, Ronaldo and Olaf. Ian apparently gets to name the boys and tends to use his knowledge of great footballers, although he could not quite remember how Olaf got in. Caroline thought maybe one of her grandchildren had been involved! Caroline gets to name the girls, and they tend to be named after powerful females. I was thinking Fatima Whitbread, but apparently Beyoncé is more on the right lines.





Churchill's team looking good

I have a strong affinity with animals and was inspired by Dr Doolittle (not a surprise to some) to learn their language. I approached Eusebio and asked him how he was enjoying life over here. He immediately questioned my stereotypical view that he was not British and told me he was born and bred in Shropshire. Ronaldo chipped in (as he frequently does) and informed me that they were part of a 60,000-strong population of British alpacas. “We are the best genetic herd in Europe,” Olaf told me.

Apparently, they like the weather. “We like the weather in the UK as we can cope with minus 40 due to the 41 inches of coat that we wear,” Eusebio said. Ronaldo tried to eat my pen before telling me that they are part of the camelid family and are basically camels without the hump. “So we don’t get as angry as camels,” Olaf added.

The alpacas are very happy at Clivewood Farm. “We can go trekking and we provide the community with wool to weave and make into clothes.” they all said at once.

I looked at some of the art work that was being created around me. Henry Farmer had forgotten how good he was at art. “I don’t think I utilise enough colour in my life, although I do follow the reds,” Henry commented.



He continued to tell me that he liked the smell of the alpacas – although not that much, as he had to leave with his picture half completed. Luckily Andy Barnard was on hand to finish it off. “I have always been a good finisher,” he told me.



Helen Brown’s painting was very dramatic, as one would expect from the Head of Drama. I asked her where her inspiration came from and after much thought she told me, “It’s from their fluffiness”.



Morgan Bird and Archie Taylor were making it quite clear which house they were from by their frequent daubing of pink.



Mr Smiter was also keen to show his allegiance to green, as was Casper Hamilton whose ghostly green alpacas were quite halloweenesque!



Mrs Kirk, Miss Hankin and Mrs Matthews created paintings that should have been in an art gallery, and it has to be said that standard in general was incredibly high.



I asked the alpacas what they thought of the paintings and they all agreed they looked so good you could eat them.

I have concluded that I am strangely drawn to alpacas but if I had a camel with no humps I would call it Humphrey!

GJFB

The sun continued to shine the next day too, and the Three Amigos made even more amigos among all the junior school children who came to Shrewsbury to paint them in The Big Draw Part 2: Field Day. Have a look at the article: [Field Day, Michaelmas 2019.](#)



Highlights from the Tucks

Friday 8 November 2019

Film Fellow David Clifford and Teacher in Charge of Cross-Country Ian Haworth have captured in words and in film some of the tremendous atmosphere of competition and house spirit of this historic whole-school race.

Click on the arrow below to enjoy the two-minute film:

And follow the link for a full report of the race by Ian Haworth: [The Tucks 2019](#)

'The School will not forget' - Remembrance Sunday 2019

Saturday 9 November 2019

This Remembrance Sunday, as is customary, the entire School will gather around the Sir Philip Sidney War Memorial for the annual Act of Remembrance to honour the Salopians who were killed in the two World Wars.



As the cadets of the CCF stand smartly to attention and a hush falls over the assembled throng, the Heads of School will read out one fifth of the names on the War Memorial. Over the course of their five years at the School, each pupil will hear the names of all 321 Salopians killed in World War I and the 259 killed in World War II.



"The School will not forget" is a line from a poem written by Revd C.A. Alington, Headmaster of Shrewsbury School from 1906-1916, which was published in *The Times*: [To the School at War](#)

To the School at War.

We don't forget—while in this dark December
We sit in Schoolrooms that you know so well,
And hear the sounds that you so well remem-
ber,

The clock, the hurrying feet, the Chapel bell;
Others are sitting in the seats you sat in,
There's nothing else seems altered here—and
yet

Through all of it, the same old Greek and
Latin,

Be sure we don't forget.

We don't forget you—in the wintry weather
You man the trench or tramp the frozen snow,
We play the games we used to play together
In days of peace that seem so long ago.
But through it all, the shouting and the cheer-
ing,

Those other hosts in graver conflict met,
Those other sadder sounds your ears are hear-
ing,

Be sure we don't forget.

And you, our brothers, who for all our pray-
ing

To this dear School of ours come back no more,
Who lie, our country's debt of honour paying
—And not in vain—upon the Belgian shore,
Till that great day when at the Throne in
Heaven

The books are opened and the Judgment set,
Your lives for honour and for England given

The School will not forget.

C.A.A.

Shrewsbury House (The Shewsy) - a view from the Chairman's desk...

Monday 11 November 2019

"It has been a year of tremendous performance for Shrewsbury House. I do feel that our Founding Fathers would be pleased with how their successors have delivered their mission in 2018-19."

... The opening words from John Hutchison, Chair of the Shrewsbury House Board of Management, in his report for the Shewsy's recent Annual General Meeting.

Over the course of the year we have continued to deliver a first-class face-to-face service to our children and young people. In a world where so many organisations get caught up in proclaiming their success and delivering almost nothing, we take the opposite stance and deliver our mission to the maximum, with few resources expended in self-publicity!



Our core business is delivering support to children and young people and we have been busy:

- Extending the "reach" of our catchment area to right across the city of Liverpool
- Piloting a programme of intensive work with young people on the edge of serious crime and reporting our results back to the Home Office
- Providing our core After-School and Senior Club activities on four afternoons and evenings each week, for members aged 5-18 years old



- Running our **out-of-school Easter and Summer holiday programmes**
- **Running residential weeks and weekends.** This has included the **Causeway Exchange Programme** with groups from Belfast and Dublin and **our second trip to Malawi, alongside pupils from Shrewsbury School**
 - Delivering the **annual programme of five three-day Social Studies visits from the Shrewsbury School Sixth Form**, aligning the subjects with the National Curriculum, complementing their volunteering time at the club
 - Supporting the work of the **Archive Group** on their project: "Shrewsbury House - 'The Football Story'"
 - Building on our best annual **Summer Fair** for many years, with record numbers.



We have:

- Rebuilt after the reduction from two to one full-time staff in July 2017. This has been largely due to the exemplary efforts of our superb team leader, John Dumbell. However, we have also made welcome additions to our part-time staff team. We have had bigger attendances over the course of the past year than at any time since the late 1980s, with as many as 80 members in Senior Club and 40 in Junior Club on some days. This is really quite extraordinary and illustrates our attraction across a wider catchment area, and the continuing need for the Shewsy's service.
- Continued to do all we can to diversify our funding base, strengthen the breadth of the voluntary support we receive already and cut our costs.



- Continued to lobby in order to tell our story of the influence we have on many young lives. This produces immense (though difficult to quantify) savings to the public purse. Without any doubt in our long experience, this includes savings from:

- 1) Those deterred from habitual drug use
- 2) Those retained in school
- 3) Those prevented from entering the Youth Justice and prison system
- 4) Those who avoid the very common experience of family breakdown and violence.

If any service is worthy of the badge of "Invest to Save" it is the Youth Service, and Shrewsbury House is proud to fly the flag for that service in Everton - one of the poorest neighbourhoods in the country.

- Debated and resolved the serious matter of our 50-year-old building's future. We have commissioned a Stock Survey and debated the respective merits of a full rebuild of the premises versus a full refurbishment. We have concluded that the refurbishment option is the wiser path. We estimate that this may cost us in the region of £1 million over a five-year period and we are setting out our fundraising strategy as we speak.

- Achieved the remarkable success of securing, through the Old Salopians, **a fully paid scholarship at Shrewsbury School for one of our club members.**

- Again, through the good auspices of the Old Salopians, we have **established a three-month internship at the club for a school leaver from Shrewsbury.**



Standing behind the bar (left) and seated (far right) is Chad Usher, one of last year's Upper Sixth Form leavers, who is currently working at the Shemys on a three-month Gap Year placement, funded by the Salopian Club

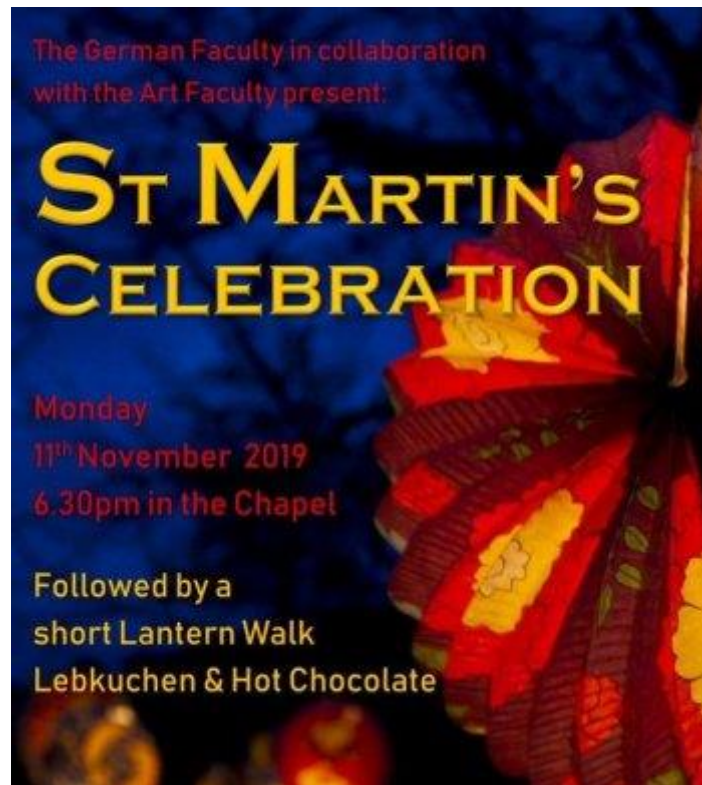
In conclusion, it has been another exceptional year. It remains a pleasure and privilege to be involved.

John Hutchison, Chair, Board of Management Sept 2019

St Martin's Day Celebration

Wednesday 13 November 2019

Monday 11th November saw the German Faculty's inaugural St Martin's Day celebration, which traditionally marks the beginning of the Christmas period in Germany.



Third Formers Natalia Toms (EDH), Janice Wong (G), Georgia Dhaliwal (EDH), Clodagh Prentis (M), Massimo Wyatt (PH), Susanna Pearce (G), Kate Kong (M) and Angus Xu (R) acted out the story of Saint Martin of Tours in fluent German, setting the scene of events that unfolded in 334 AD. The talented students have only been learning German for two months but they did it all beautifully.

Revd Andy Keulemans gave a poignant address, informing the congregation that was full of German students and Christmas enthusiasts, young and old, about the life of Saint Martin, who is known for his compassion and kindness.

After the last notes of the traditional "St Martin, St Martin" song faded, accompanied by Luke Williams (SH), everyone gathered outside the Chapel for a candle-lit lantern walk, with lanterns made in Art in the weeks prior.

We were led by our very own St Martin on a blow-up horse around the top of the School Site. The 150-strong group was accompanied by music from School House Upper Sixth Formers, Louis Street (trumpet) and Jonty Gould (saxophone).

To conclude the event, everyone enjoyed hot chocolate, *Lebkuchen und Weckmänner*, made by KH according to a traditional German recipe.

Ein wunderbarer Abend, which hopefully will become part of the School's annual events.

Fran Russell



The story of St Martin in rehearsal...

Futures Bulletin

Thursday 14 November 2019

This week's Bulletin from the Futures (Careers) Department includes links to some of the many Degree Apprenticeships available, as well as useful advice on structuring CVs and cover letters.

Please follow the link to read this week's Bulletin: [**Futures Bulletin Edition 5, Michaelmas 2019**](#)

RSSBC: Small Boats Rowing Camp - photo gallery

Thursday 14 November 2019

A gallery of photos from the Boat Club's very productive week of training on Lac du Causse near Brive-la-Gaillarde, France.



The trip provided the crews with plenty of time out in the water in small boats. The opportunity to fit in multiple sessions a day, along with video analysis and technical work, meant that all who attended made significant progress.

It was also a great chance for our GB-hopefuls to spend some time in singles before the GB trials.

Athol Hundermark

Director of Rowing

The squad returned with some stunning photos. Have a scroll through by clicking the large image below:





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Schools' Challenge Quiz Regional Finals

Thursday 14 November 2019

Two Shrewsbury School Quizzing teams demonstrated their impressive wealth of general knowledge as they competed in the Regional Finals of the Schools' Challenge Quiz.

The event took place in King Edward's School, Birmingham on Wednesday 13th November. Our A team comprising Alex Sparkes (I U6), Charlotte Hancock (M U6), Giles Holliday (I 3), James Gibbon (Rb 3) chalked up an impressive victory against Solihull and held off KEHS B to reach the semi-finals.

They had a tight encounter with KES B in the semis but emerged victorious (550-530) after the final set of bonuses.

The Final versus KES A was close for the first 28 minutes and Shrewsbury had several opportunities to take the lead. But the final 120 seconds all went the way of KES, and they finished with the victory with the score on 640 – 440.

Jonny Snell (Ch U6), Ranulf Prentis (Ch 5), Tim Antelo (Rb 5) and Freddie Wells (I 4) competed as the B team but came up against KES A in the first round and did very well against KE Camp Hill B in a dead rubber.

Jolly Hockey Sticks

Thursday 14 November 2019

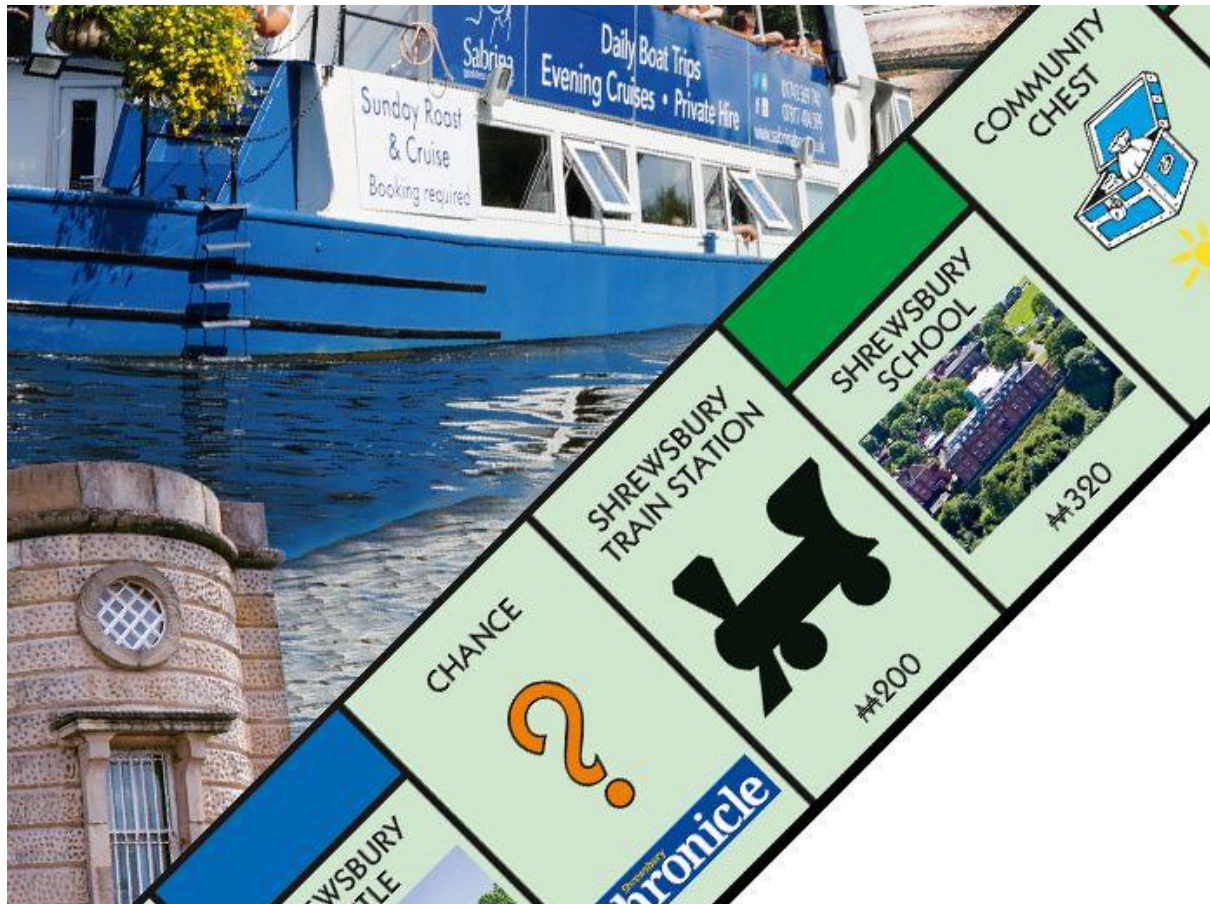
As you can see in our video highlights, the teams joining us from Birchfield, Old Hall, Packwood, Prestfelde and Terra Nova for our annual U11 Girls' Hockey Festival thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon...

Some superb hockey was played, with plenty of goal scoring, by a wonderfully enthusiastic group of players.

Shrewsbury Monopoly is launched

Friday 15 November 2019

After months of eager anticipation around the town, the official Shrewsbury edition of Monopoly was launched on Friday 15th November – and Shrewsbury School is proud to be included on the board.



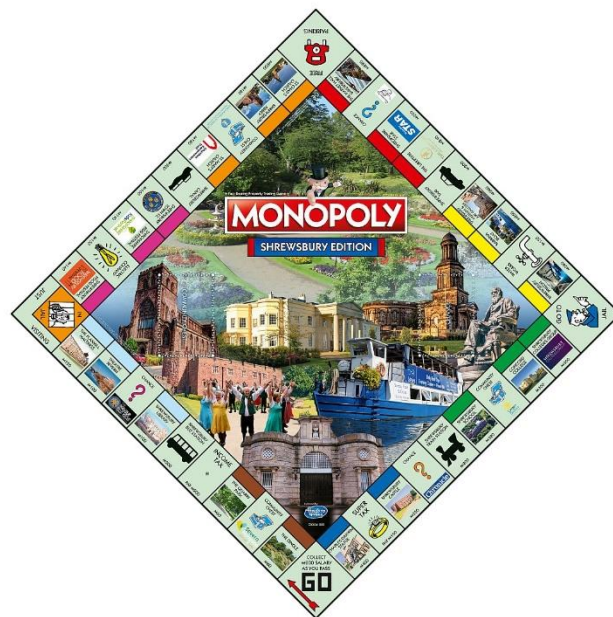
With the Charles Darwin Statue taking pride of place on the 'Mayfair' square and Shrewsbury Castle next door as 'Park Lane', we are delighted to have been given the 'Bond Street' position.

Stuart Cowper (Head of Partnership and Community Engagement), Glyn Ferriday (Director of Marketing and Communications) and Hollie Lister (Marketing Assistant) joined Shrewsbury's Mayor and Town Crier and representatives of all the other local landmarks and organisations featured on the board for the official launch party, held at Shrewsbury Prison.



“We are proud to feature in the new Shrewsbury edition of Monopoly, celebrating the wondrous town we have been a part of since 1552,” said Mr Cowper. “Shrewsbury is full of heritage and to appear alongside other historical landmarks, as well as our most well-known Old Salopian Charles Darwin, is a great privilege. We hope all players have serious fun playing the Shrewsbury edition of Monopoly.”

The game is on sale in bookshops in the town including Waterstones and WH Smith, and available online. We also hope to sell copies in the Shrewsbury School Shop.



Top Geography mark in the UK

Friday 15 November 2019

Huge congratulations to Veronica Munday (EDH 2017-19) who scored the highest mark in the country in the Cambridge Pre-U Geography examinations and has been given a Cambridge Outstanding Learner Award.



The Head of Geography, Olly Russell, was delighted to receive the news and warm in his praise of Veronica's exceptional achievement. "Veronica is an outstanding academic. She worked tirelessly throughout the course of her two years in the Sixth Form, followed advice and added huge amounts to the classroom and to the Geography Faculty. The fact that she has achieved the distinction of being the top Pre-U Geographer in the country is a testament to her dedication and ability for academic work. The Pre-U course is tough and rigorous. Many excellent schools also take this qualification, so this award is particularly special."

Deputy Head (Academic) Maurice Walters added, "This award is also testament to the strength of teaching in the Faculty and the high aspirations that the School sets for its pupils."

Veronica was awarded the Robert-Eustace Prize for Upper Sixth Geography at Speech Day in June. She also scored the top grade for all her subjects.

She is currently studying Biomedical Sciences at the University of Oxford (Oriol College). We wish her well in her studies there.

'Doctor Faustus'

Tuesday 19 November 2019

What does heaven look like? Or hell? The Butler Room in the Moser Library isn't the first place that comes to mind, but was a crazily successful setting for the U6 Theatre Studies production of 'Doctor Faustus'.

The students had chosen to adapt the original play by Christopher Marlowe in the style of Kneehigh, a theatre group who re-tell traditional plots using comedy, puppetry, song and dance. Faustus sells his soul to the devil, in return for living it up while he remains on earth. In this show, 'living it up' involved dancing to Justin Bieber, rapping a recitation of the Seven Deadly Sins, and Anya Tonks elegantly doing the splits on the top of the library study desks.



The high-energy cast were costumed as archetypal American High School pupils, led by Freddie Lawson as a surprisingly convincing sports 'Jock' and Grace Anderson as a rather threatening cheerleader, with costume designer Ella Inglis-Jones appearing as a devil when they least expected to conjure one.



Book-loving Faustus, played by Mollie Matthews, had plenty of gravitas, with her earnest 16th century verse lines delivered amidst the madness of a *passiagiata* to 'Bat out of Hell', followed by a moment when everyone else in the room was wearing Giles Bell full-face masks. Her depiction of Faustus' growing doubts was moving, and then hilarious, when faced with Emily Hartland's cutely squeaky Angel hand puppet, and Freddie Lawson's cheeky impersonation of M. Portier, red devil puppet held aloft.



Sound effects were crucial to the success of the show, and Archie Tulloch, in his first term, served the cast well from behind the desk.

There were so many laugh-out-loud transpositions from the original, Ford Fiesta jokes and all, and, satisfyingly, it was just as 'bonkers' as Director of Drama Helen Brown had promised.

Mrs Drew

St Cecilia Concerts: "an orchestral and choral feast"

Thursday 21 November 2019

Capacity audiences at our St Cecilia Concerts were treated to performances of exceptional quality and musicianship.

In the bulging annals of top-quality Salopian music-making, it was, to quote Daft Punk, a case of one Moore time. This year's St Cecilia's concert saw our resident maestro (Director of Music John Moore) bow out with an orchestral and choral feast of ravishing variety and impact that showcased astonishing talents from pupils – and the attentive care and enthusiasm of his whole department.

Musical standards were set high from the outset. Beethoven's Egmont Overture combined controlled sense of imperium with masterful dynamic colour – and we were whirled along in its closing dramatic urgency.

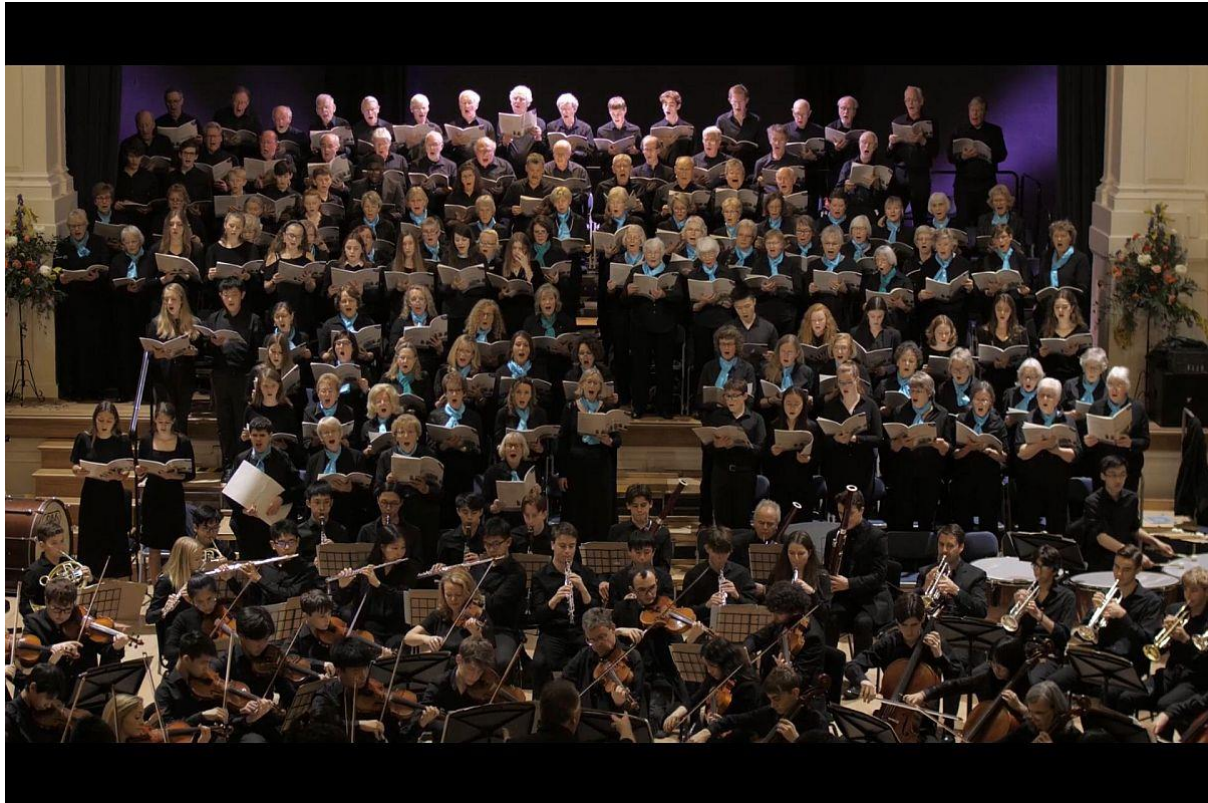
Then up stepped Frank Coughlan for a performance of Arutunian's Trumpet Concerto of indelible and possibly unsurpassable quality. This School House *wunderkind* demonstrated exactly why he is a contender for the BBC Young Musician of the Year and principal trumpet for the National Youth Orchestra. His natural musicianship sparkled in articulate, virtuosic passage play alongside romantic smokiness in the muted palettes of the *meno mosso* section. His closing cadenza was a masterclass in technical accomplishment - bravo!



There was no let-up in the dramatic tension as the orchestra resumed its explorations of Dvorak's New World Symphony, with rhythmic syncopations and strident brass expertly balanced against the mercurial folksiness of its translucent melodies. But as our resident maestro led the charge, it was an evening where the strength-in-depth of the Music Department was

given ample exposure too. David Joyce, Head of Strings, conducted a selection of the *Holberg Suite* by Grieg that elegantly stirred its undercurrents of melancholia with delicate touch; Amos Cheung delivered a soulful solo on cello.

In the second half, another JFM lieutenant, the new Head of Choral Benedict Wilson, corralled the choral talent of the Chamber Choir in folksong *Ca The Yowes* (with a lovely, sweet solo from Georgina Cooper) and a Billy Joel Lullaby. Both these miniatures embraced kaleidoscopic colour and dove-tailing, swooping energies that were just exquisite – and masterfully done.



The main choral work came as the Shrewsbury School Community and Chapel Choirs combined forces for the Chilcott Requiem. This is a work that channels the polychromatic influence of Duruflé and Fauré, jazz and Gospel into an unmistakably English choral tradition. The result – thanks to intensely focused performance from all – was a work of endlessly fascinating texture and depth. Soloists Saffron Milner and Tabitha Winkley expertly matched the professional standing of Dan Norman (OS) with superb performances of great courage and panache as the wall of sound loomed behind them. *Bravi* for a show of wonderful musicality and feeling that had the audience utterly transfixed.

It was left to Maria McKenzie's Wind Orchestra to close the evening with inimitable style, zip and a final fling of star-dust theatricality with *Symphonic Dances from West Side Story*. This was Bernstein tight and neat and with plenty of bang. It was toe-tappingly good. Mambo!

Mr Fraser-Andrews

Football: 1st XI reach ISFA quarter-finals

Thursday 21 November 2019

The 1st XI put out an assured performance in the round of 16 match against Kimbolton School in the Boodles ISFA Cup last week. They now look forward to the quarter-finals on 4th December....

A buoyant crowd – the ‘Salop Army’ – were in fine voice to push the team on; Salopian spirit at its finest! The team responded in kind, our possession stat was over 70% which highlighted the dominance and control the 1st XI had against a well-drilled and committed opposition.

An impressive hat-trick from Harry Cooke (PH) – with all three coming from long-range shots – secured the match, followed by a goal each for Nathan Day and Guy Gower (S) – the latter a confident penalty firing into the top corner.

The quarter-final draw sees us go to Brentwood on Wednesday 4th December – a tough, but realistic, draw.

This fixture represents our third visit to the last eight of the national ISFA Boodles competition in the past five years. Well done team!

*Mr Murfin
Director of Sport*

Novelist Melvin Burgess visits Shrewsbury School

Thursday 21 November 2019

One of the UK's leading writers for young adults visited Shrewsbury on Monday.

Winner of both the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize and the Carnegie Medal, Melvin Burgess' novels are highly acclaimed, complex and powerful.

As Head Librarian Jo Elliot explains in this short film clip, his audiences of Fourth Formers and pupils from Meole Brace and Priory Secondary Schools were gripped:

Christmas Fair raises £4,000 for Shrewsbury FoodbankPLUS

Friday 22 November 2019

Pupils from the Global Social Leaders group, the Shrewsbury School Parents' Association, staff of Shrewsbury FoodbankPLUS and local businesses joined together on Sunday for a wonderfully successful Christmas Fair.

This is part of an ever-strengthening partnership between the School and Shrewsbury FoodbankPLUS. Karen Williams, Director of the FoodbankPLUS paid tribute to everyone involved:

“Thank you to Shrewsbury School and the SSPA for their support of the Christmas Fair for FoodbankPLUS in Shrewsbury. This also couldn't have happened without the hard work of the Global Leaders and parents who work with the School to enable the Christmas Fair to happen and run so well. Raising over £4,000 that will be used across the whole of FoodbankPLUS means that those people we work with are closer to seeing and experiencing transformation in their lives.”

This short film captures some of the festive cheer of the Fair and gives an insight into some of the work that went on behind the scenes:

Shrewsbury School shortlisted for two TES Independent School Awards

Friday 22 November 2019

Shrewsbury School is delighted to be shortlisted for two prestigious 2020 TES Independent School Awards: the Boarding School of the Year Award and the Creativity Award.

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

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

Headmaster Leo Winkley said:

“We are thrilled to be shortlisted for two TES Independent Schools Awards 2020. As a thriving full-boarding school, we believe in serious fun. Each seven-day working week is packed with opportunity in an environment that is both challenging and kind. The community spirit enjoyed and created by all our girls and boys, whether boarders or day pupils, is really special.

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

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

TES editor Ann Mroz said:

“The Independent schools in this country are truly exceptional. And those that have earned a place on the TES Independent School Awards shortlist are a cut above the rest. We received an unparalleled number of entries this year, all of which were first rate. The schools that have been shortlisted should be proud - it's a remarkable achievement.”

The winners of the TES Awards will be announced at a Gala Awards Evening in London on 7th February 2020.



Physics Live

Wednesday 27 November 2019

Lower Sixth Form physicists enjoyed a fascinating day in Manchester, listening to some of the UK's leading scientists give an insight into their specialist fields of study.

On Tuesday 12th November, a group of 26 Lower Sixth Form physicists travelled to the Whitworth Hall in Manchester.

The building, part of Manchester University, is as tall, tasteful and sophisticated as its name suggests it should be, which was edifying. As a number of the speakers pointed out, it is but a stone's throw from the lab where Ernest Rutherford performed his famous experiment to investigate the structure of the atom.

The day started with a useful presentation from an examiner, then got interesting, with top class academics giving us an insight into their specialist fields:

- Professor Frank Close: An Introduction to Nuclear Physics
- Dr Suzie Sheehy: The Secret Life of Particle Accelerators
- Dr Michael Brooks: Gravity
- Professor Jim Al-Khalili: Quantum Biology
- Dr Jessica Wade: Plastic Electronics.

Through quite different styles, all approachable and with simple graphical aids, we were led into some mysteries and complexities of the physical world and how our knowledge is used in technology. And some delightful little snippets of knowledge were handed out along the way.

Here are three of the Lower Sixth explaining why they enjoyed particular talks:

"My favourite lectures were 'An Introduction to Nuclear Physics' and 'Plastic Electronics'. The first one was very interesting and it left us with an ambiguous question on a theory that links electrons with quarks and also supports a stable proton. The second one was innovative and links to another subject I study - Computer Science. Dr Wade talked about OLED screens and explained how different type of polarisation can affect the material she studies."

Jasper Yip

"My favourite lecture was the one by Dr Michael Brooks about gravity because I find the universe and the physics connected with it very compelling and interesting. There is so much that we don't know yet. Also the way he talked about Einstein's General Theory of Relativity and the Black Hole Information Paradox was well delivered to us, who just do our A-Levels."

Nora Hecker

"I thoroughly enjoyed the day at Manchester University. In particular, I enjoyed the lectures on the ideas behind gravity and the lecture about quantum biology. Both lectures presented me with ideas and theories I had never considered. For example, could the reason we are living be behind the fact that our cells may behave the way particles do at 0°K? Similarly, I had never considered that the exploration of black holes may help us to understand gravity and other aspects of quantum mechanics."

Lenka Hozzova

And all returned cheerful to Shrewsbury, minds enriched and nourished with the wonders of physics.
Mr Cooley



UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge 2019

Thursday 28 November 2019

Shrewsbury School Third and Fourth Form pupils are among the top achievers in a national computing challenge.

The Bebras Computing Challenge is organised in over 40 countries and is designed to introduce computational thinking to students all over the world and get them excited about computing.

The University of Oxford, in partnership with the Raspberry Pi Foundation, is the National Organising Body of the UK Bebras Challenge. The University's support for the UK section of this international competition includes hosting events for the top achieving students.

A total of 260,814 children took part in the 2019 challenge. Nationally, the top achievers are invited to take part in the Oxford Computing Challenge in March, with the prospect of making it through to the finals held at Hertford College.

Congratulations to the Third and Fourth Form Shrewsbury School pupils who took part in the Intermediate and Senior Challenges respectively. Six Third Formers and four Fourth Formers have now been invited to take part in the Oxford Computing Challenge (OCC) next term.

Mr Roberts



Intermediate Challenge Certificate Winners

Intermediate Challenge (Age 12 – 14)

Best in School & Invitation to OCC

Hal Hatton (Ch)

Distinction & Invitation to OCC

Tom Williams (Rt)

Imogen Voelcker (G)

Tony Gao (R)

Jack Home (Rb)

Archie Tulloch (Rt)

Distinction

Toby Jagger (PH)

Merit

Oliver Cool (Rb) Merit

Georgia Dhaliwal (EDH Merit

Felix Kershaw (S) Merit

Sandy Brownsmith (Rb) Merit

Austin Carroll (Ch) Merit

Tom Brown (PH) Merit

Senior Challenge (Age 14 – 16)

Best in School & Invitation to OCC

Toby Graham (PH)

Distinction & Invitation to OCC

Giles Berry (Rb)

Ethan Poon (I)

William Singleton (R)

Distinction

Daniel Stockley (PH)

Merit

Harry Marshall (Rb)

Jacky Chan (Rt)

Grace Luy (M)

Abigail Wong (M)

Vanessa Wu (EDH)



Senior Challenge Certificate Winners

RSSBC: Fours Head of the River

Thursday 28 November 2019

On Saturday, six Shrewsbury crews took to the water at the annual Fours Head of the River on the Tideway course in London.

The event was reduced slightly in size from the original 450 crews in the draw, due to the expected weather conditions.

Fortunately, the weather held out for a great afternoon of racing, with all six RSSBC crews putting in strong performances.

The Senior boys' crews came 3rd and 6th in the Junior Fours category. A Senior boys' quad came 13th in a strong field.

The Senior girls came 9th, 12th and 15th of 24.

Mr Hundermark

Director of Rowing

Please click on the large image below to open and scroll through a gallery of photos:



Boys Coxed Four (3rd)





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'Peter Pan' Photo Gallery

Friday 29 November 2019

"Past the second star to the right and straight on til morning..." - A few photos from the Drama Department's sparkling production of JM Barrie's 'Peter Pan'.

Please click on the large image below to open and scroll through the photo gallery.



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Our Best Reads of 2019

Friday 29 November 2019

The publication of book recommendations by staff and pupils has become an eagerly anticipated annual event...



**"In the winter she curls up
around a good book
and dreams away the cold"**

From *Broken Homes* by Ben Aaronovitch

**Our best
reads of
2019**

Every year we appeal to staff and students for details of the books which they have most enjoyed reading over the past 12 months. The enthusiasm of staff and students to share their favourite books is a shining testament to the growing community of readers we have in the School.

As always, the choices listed in these pages reflect a diverse and exciting range of styles, genres and reading tastes. In the centre pages you will find details of six of the very best Young Adult novels published in the last 18 months which have been shortlisted for our Shrewsbury School Book Award.

Printed copies of 'Our Best Reads of 2019' are available in the Library and you can download it as a pdf here: [Our Best Reads of 2019](#)

Happy Reading!

Jo Elliot, Head Librarian

RSSH East African Tour's Wrekin Charity Challenge

Friday 29 November 2019

On Sunday 17th November, a group of 20 Hunt runners attempted collectively to gain ten vertical miles of altitude ascent (16,090m) by climbing up and down the Wrekin as many times as possible...

They set this challenge in order to raise money for Restart Africa, an orphanage in Gilgil, Kenya with whom the RSSH have had close links for several years. In total, they would need to make at least 68 ascents of the Wrekin to achieve their aim (the 1.5-mile track from the car park at the bottom to the summit gains 237m in altitude), meaning many of the group would need to climb it four times!



We agreed that we would all stick together on the first ascent, and after that we would do things at our own pace, knowing that this would really test us and that some would manage a quicker pace than others.

For most of the climb we could see only a few metres ahead of us, such was the thickness of the fog that enveloped the hill. With no views to greet us at the top, we had a quick photo and set off back down again, knowing we had only managed a fraction of the total amount we would need to climb to achieve our goal.



After the second ascent, the legs really started to burn and it was tough putting one foot in front of the other. Many felt at the end of three ascents that they could do no more, but a hardy few snaffled a couple of biscuits and some jelly babies before managing to push on for a fourth climb, bravely battling the lactic acid in their calves.



In a quite Herculean effort, the total ascent managed was 16,827m (about 10.5 miles), with 71 climbs completed in all. By doing so, the club smashed their target of £2,000 raised for Restart Africa, with some donations still to come in. It will be great to visit the orphanage next month (18 pupils and three staff set off on the RSSH East Africa Tour on 9th December) to see where that money will be spent, and meet some of the people who keep this wonderful charity going.

Well done to everyone who completed the challenge, and thank you to the many people who donated money for such an excellent cause.

Mr Haworth
Teacher in Charge of the Hunt

RSSBC: Launching the Girls' School Cup

Friday 29 November 2019

On Wednesday afternoon, we hosted girls from The Grange School in the first ever fixture of the inaugural Girls' School Cup.



The Cup competition will see match racing between girls' crews from around the country, culminating in a final event in the summer.

It was great to be able to get out on the river after a challenging few weeks and test whether all the land training has been productive.



Crews raced numerous times, with the Sixth Form girls racing in two coxless quads, the J16s in two coxed quads and the J15s in an octuple.

The results saw Shrewsbury narrowly win 3:2 in what was a fun afternoon for all involved.

Thank you to The Grange for joining us on the Severn.

Mr Hundermark

Director of Rowing

Please click on the large image below to open and scroll through a gallery of photos:



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Senior 4X-



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Futures Bulletin

Friday 29 November 2019

This week's Bulletin from the Futures (Careers) Department includes information for parents and Lower Sixth Formers about 'Unifrog', a useful resource to support post-school planning.

Please follow the link to read this week's Bulletin: [**Futures Bulletin Edition 6, Michaelmas 2019**](#)

Annual Run of the OSH v the RSSH on OSH Day

Saturday 30 November 2019

The Old Salopian Hunt have enjoyed running with The RSSH for most years since 1953.

The OSH was created by three Salopians, Ian Fraser, Nigel Miller and Adrian Struvé, the Master-in-Charge of The Hunt at that time. This friendly competition, held at the end of each Michaelmas Term, has become part of what we refer to as “OSH Day”, which was recently held again on Saturday 30th November, 2019.



First, we meet and greet, before taking photos. This time, there were 2 Huntswomen and 6 Huntsmen in 'The Captain's picture, showing, from left, this season's Huntswoman, Lillian Wilcox (EDH.), Alex Mott (Rb. 2003-08), Oli Mott (Rb. 98-03), Ed Mallett (S. 08-13), Liv Papioannou (EDH. 14-16), this season's Huntsman, Sam Western (S.), Will Painter (R. 67-71), Peter Birch (Db. 66-71). Then it was time to line up, beneath Mr. Darwin's Lizard, a group of six winners of 'The Tucks Run, being James Franklin (PH. 02-07), Francesca Harris (EDH.) – 4 times!, Oli Mott, Ed Mallett, Liv Papaioannou, and Sam Western – 2 times.



By 2.30 pm on this bright afternoon, The Hunt had mustered 24 Boys and 3 Girls to stand on the Start Line, alongside 12 Men and 3 Ladies of The OSH, with two Staff members running independently. The course is similar to Paperchases, including a reasonably refreshing crossing of The Rad Brook, which was not too deep after recent flooding and grassy parts were fairly damp, but tracks were firm. This year there was a return to the repaired Ridgemount Drive and near the top was a surprise scramble up behind the Cricket School building, which added an extra test for some ! Counting the first six of each team, there was some concentrated effort from The Hunt to make up the points. The Huntsman, Sam Western, chased Ed Mallett home, just 30 seconds behind. Sam's top team were on form, even though our secret weapons, Peter Middleton (4th place) and Mattie Thevathasan (PH. 14-19), (10th) tried to interrupt the scoring Hunt runners. Tom Hughes (Ch. 14-19) (18th), Liv P. (22nd) and James Franklin (23rd), made up our score of 78, but after three years of OSH Team success, we had to concede to The Hunt's superior talent, scoring the winning 31 points. There was great running from the supporting competitors : James Adney (Rb. 91-96) (25th), Will Manley (PH. 14-19) (28th), James Humpish (SH. 08-13) (29th), Julian Smout (Rb. 84-88) (35th), Suzy Watts (MSH. 14-16) (37th), Passy Goddard (G. 14-16) (38th) and our esteemed trio of "whipper-ins", Richard Hudson (M. 67-72) (41st), Cliff Simpkin (ex-Staff) (42nd) and Anthony Hickson (I. 48-53) (43rd). Thanks are due to Ian Haworth (Master-in-Charge of The RSSH) and all helpers, who stood out in the cold air for us and also the Groundsmen, who always do a great job of marking the course.



As the light of the day dipped away to the west beyond the lower common, we followed to the Hunt Gym, in the Stott Pavilion, where a good spread of tea and afternoon treats took our attention, as we enjoyed chatting with our young hosts and many friends. Before long, the results were produced and presentations were made. The Will Ramsbotham Trophy was awarded to Ed Mallet and The Peter Middleton Cup went to Chessie Harris, as first Girl, then Sam Western came up to hold The David Loake Trophy for The Hunt as Winning Team.



By 4.30pm, 14 Committee Members were assembled in The Hardy Room of Kingsland House, to carry out the Annual General Meeting and Committee Meeting, where we were pleased to have the company of The Huntsman, Sam and The Huntswoman, Lil, to witness and participate in proceedings, which included the elections, where Liv became our new Honorary Secretary of The OSH Committee.



Later, at 7.30pm, Members and friends started arriving for The Annual Dinner. There were 20 Diners that sat down at 8.00 pm, in The Peterson Room, for an excellent meal. Not only were The Huntsman & Huntswoman amongst us, but also all of The Whips, Tom Jackson (R.) Paddy Barlow (R.) and Anna Cowan (MSH.), making welcome addition and diversity of age groups as well. The 2019 OSH Day had been enjoyed by all that were brought back together at School for another meeting of friends, new and old. We will, of course, do it all again next Michaelmas. For complete Results of The Run, please click [here](#).

Do go to The OSH facebook page to see all of the photographs, as well as some here below.

Peter Birch. OSH Chairman.

Committee from left, standing, Peter Birch, Tim Bedell, Liv Papaioannou, Anthony Hickson, Lillian Wilcox, Peter Middleton, Olly Russell, Sam Western, Ed Mallett, Seated, David Thomas, Cliff Simpkin, Ian Haworth, Bob Parker.



