

Fourth Form Geographers take to the Shropshire Hills

Thursday 1 October 2015

In a perfect setting - Carding Mill Valley, Church Stretton - students from this year's Fourth Form Geography iGCSE set spent last Friday collecting data for their coursework project.



The project was designed to see how a river's volume of flow changes in a short distance and how the river channel itself is modified by this change in flow.









Shrewsbury cricketers selected for Academy programmes

Thursday 1 October 2015

Congratulations to the following players who have been selected for County Academy programmes in 2015/16.

Warwickshire CCC Emerging Player Programme George Garrett (Ch V)

Worcestershire CCC Academy Oliver Westbury (S 2013-15) Dan Lloyd (PH UVI) George Newton (SH LVI)

Worcestershire/Shropshire Satellite Academy Peter Clark (Rb 3)



Chapel Choir sing Evensong at The Queen's College, Oxford

Thursday 1 October 2015

Shrewsbury School Chapel Choir travelled to Oxford on Wednesday 30th September to sing Evensong in the beautiful chapel of The Queen's College.

The 70-strong choir was in very fine voice and the unaccompanied *Bogoroditsye Dyevo* by Rachmaninov provided a wonderfully atmospheric start to the service. The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by the 17th century English composer Adrian Batten showcased several of the School's finest singers who took the solo parts, and when the congregation joined the choir in the final hymn, the body of sound was stunning.

The service was attended by over 120 of the wider Shrewsbury School community who filled the chapel, and a dozen of the Old Salopians who are currently studying at Oxford University enjoyed meeting their former teachers who had accompanied the choir to Oxford.

After the service, the choir enjoyed a well-deserved meal in the college dining hall, while the Headmaster and senior staff hosted a reception in the college. The fine early autumn evening meant that guests could enjoy their refreshments in The Queen's College Fellows' Garden.

It is hoped that the wider Shrewsbury community, to include Old Salopians, parents and friends of the School, will

wish to support other forthcoming musical events, and the presence of a large audience or congregation really heightens the experience for the pupils taking part.

The Choir will sing Evensong at Manchester Cathedral at 5.30pm on Friday 29th January with a reception afterwards, and there will be a Chamber concert in the Holywell Music Rooms in Oxford at 7.30pm on Friday 12th February, with a reception beforehand. *MC*



Team of the Week is back!

Thursday 1 October 2015

This week, Giles Bell turns his wit and spotlight on the Chapel Choir.

With my Admissions cape billowing in the breeze, I found myself on board a rather smart Longmynd bus on Wednesday, heading off to support the Chapel Choir as they sang Evensong at The Queen's College, Oxford. There was to be a reception at Queen's afterwards, organised by one of the college's most eminent alumni, Martin Cropper.



Among those attending were some of Britain's leading prep school headmasters, many of whom had travelled a long way to be there. The Headmaster of S. Anselm's in Bakewell arrived just in time to watch the Choir processing out of the chapel. Many people might have been rather upset at having driven for three hours and missed the seeing their daughter singing in The Queen's College chapel, but luckily Peter Phillips is not one of them. He is very keen on watching choirs processing and thought that it was a most professional processional. "I enjoyed the professional processional," he told me.

The Choir travelled down on an earlier bus as choirmaster Alex Mason likes the choir to get used to the acoustics of the building they are to sing in. "Acoustics are quite important for choirs," he observed. Upon their arrival at the chapel, the Choir were confronted by the Tallis Scholars just finishing off a practice. As many of you will know, the Tallis Scholars are probably the world's best choral group and amongst this august bunch of angelic songsters was Patrick Craig OS, who was very supportive of the Chapel Choir's forthcoming venture. His nephew Henry left last year and was a Choir stalwart.



Buoyed by mixing with choral royalty and finding an OS amongst the angelic host, the Choir got down to some serious note-bashing accompanied by John Godwin, a Classic organist and recently of this parish.



In rehearsal

I then felt it important to leave and experience some Oxford culture. I found myself strangely drawn to the Oldest Established Coffee House in England which is called The Queen's Lane Coffee House. Martin Cropper was already in there with his wife Carey, rolling back the years and once again sipping a steaming brew whilst nibbling on a fine-looking scone. I plumped for three baklavas and a cappuccino and I was certainly not disappointed.





I was joined by the supporters of James Gibbon and Edward Brown. Both choristers are currently at Shrewsbury High Prep and I wondered how they had been preparing for the day. Apparently James had asked if Oxford's Town Centre was as good as Shrewsbury's. He had also wondered if it would be a bit like the Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe, full of magical buildings and gates. Ed's father thought that he was looking forward to the coach ride down and two hours of uninterrupted iPad usage. All agreed that they were very lucky to be singing in such an amazing setting at such a young age.

At this point I was joined by Colonel Jenkins (Director of the Salopian Club) and I was a little worried that the standard of conversation might take a dip. I needn't have worried, as in walked two more distinguished Old Salopians, Brian Fawcett, who is a nuclear physicist, and opera star Robin Leggett. Having discovered on the coach on the way down that Kylie Minogue is going out with an Old Salopian, I was left wondering if there is a quiet Salopian revolution taking place, where every facet of society is permeated with Salopian brilliance!

Having disposed of my coffee and cake, it was time to head off for Evensong. I bumped into Mr and Mrs Worthington, whose daughter Stephanie is in MSH. Stephanie has sung Evensong at St Chad's before so she had an inkling of what was in store but was greatly looking forward to singing at an eminent Oxford College. I then saw Mr and Mrs Lo, whose son Dan is just about to start at St Hilda's College and had come along to sing with his old choir, along with Carys Virgo (St Hughe's) and Ed Carroll (Oriel). Dan Lo's sister Jasmine is also in the Choir, and the evening must have been quite a high for the Los as a family.

It was lovely to see Old Salopians of every vintage. Seren Kell was trying to persuade sister Loren that Wadham College was where it is at. David Kell was non-committal and Loren told me she was not feeling the pressure of both older siblings going to Oxford at all! Suddenly the Chaplain appeared and it was time for us all to take a pew.

I am sure that someone more suitable will write a review of the service. (They have. See <u>Chapel Choir sing Evensong at The Queen's College, Oxford</u>. - Ed) I will not therefore spend too long on the standard of the music, other than to say that the Introit 'Bogoroditsye Dyevo' by Rachmaninov was just stunning and set the right note for the entire evening. The Choir is big by most standards and yet such was their teamwork and musicianship, that the sound they made was more than harmonious.

After the service, I caught up with a few choristers and asked them for their thoughts on the evening. Maddie Phillips was concerned that she might lose a few hours of sleep because of the lengthy return journey. She also mentioned that she was a little disappointed at the lack of parental support during the service, although it was good to see that her granny had driven fast enough to make the whole service rather than the tail-end of the procession out of the chapel.

Angus Kincaid, one of the soloists, told me that he felt he had sung his part right for the first time ever. Angus is a Scottish Laird and future Chieftain; he is also a keen rugby player. I asked him if it was scarier singing in front of a packed chapel congregation or playing rugby. He replied that you have to be a real man to sing in a choir. Anna Cowan told me that she liked everything about the day and especially "the twiddly bits and the painting on the roof". Alfred Mitchell and Anna Jones both told me they felt an inner calm and contentment after the service.





The Queen's Garden before the Salopian hordes descended

The Choir were then whisked off for supper and we went to celebrate all things Salopian in The Queen's Garden, although she wasn't there.

I would like to thank the Choir for giving up a chunk of their precious time to provide us all with a most harmonious evening, which will live long in the memory for all who were there. It was truly Magnificat! *GJFB*



Churchill's Football

Sunday 4 October 2015



Smirks all round. 2nd leagues win against School House



B leagues jubilation: the 2013 0-15 defeat by Severn Hill is avenged.



Cheadle Hulme MUN Conference

Monday 5 October 2015

A young team of ten Salopians represented Kenya at the Cheadle Hulme Model United Nations Conference last weekend and between them picked up some significant awards.



Ed Donovan (R LVI) won two awards, being named Best Junior Delegate in his committee and, alongside Tom Hughes (Ch V), receiving a Special Mention in their Joint Committee.

Kitty Cook (MSH IV) also picked up two awards. She won a Commended Delegate award in her committee and shared the Best Delegation in the Human Rights Council award with Koby Ferdinand-Okpala (SH IV).

Rhys Trevor (PH LVI) won a Commended Delegate award in the Historical Committee, which re-enacted the debates during the Uprising in Egypt in 1952.

In addition, Sasha Arridge (Rb UVI) gained some invaluable experience over the weekend chairing the Middle East Committee.

HRWP



RSSBC: A great start to the season

Monday 5 October 2015

Two RSSBC senior crews ventured north in coxed fours for their first sortie of the year on Saturday 3rd October.



In extremely benign conditions, both crews racing at J17 level performed well. However, special credit must go to the A boat, who came 5th overall in their division and were beaten by only one coxed four on the day, from Manchester University. They came home with medals for winning their event.



The B boat came in front of several senior coxed fours.

Credit to all and an encouraging start to the season.

P Manser

A Boat B Boat
M Farrow J Elliott
A King B Jones

A Lyster-Binns C Cowan-Taylor

H Marshall M Yale G Whitehead (C) E Jones (C)

On Sunday, the 1st VIII went to Lake Vyrnwy to get some preparation done in the lead up to the Head of the Charles Regatta held in Boston, USA next weekend.



Shrewsbury Royal Marines win the Pringle Trophy

Monday 5 October 2015

The Shrewsbury School Royal Marines section, led by Ben Remnant (Ch UVI), has won the Sir Steuart Pringle Trophy. This is the third time in 15 years they have won this highly prestigious competition - last year they came second by just a few points.

The two-day competition is held each year at the Royal Marines Commando Training Centre in Lympstone, Devon, and aims to bring together all the Royal Marine Detachments in the country from 18 schools, including Charterhouse, Harrow, Rugby, Winchester College, Pangbourne and Canford. The teams are treated as if they are in their 28th week of recruit training and are assessed across 12 stances. These include Battle Exercises, Section Attacks, Battle First Aid, Endurance, Drill and more.



The Shrewsbury team had worked very hard in preparation for this and had put in many hours of early morning and late night work, such is their motivation to come back holding the famous Commando Dagger trophy. The photo shows a happy Shrewsbury team with this trophy outside the Commando Training Centre drill hall.

Lt Tom Corbett and Captain Jonny Longfellow as OC and 2IC respectively were delighted at the news of the win. It is worth pointing out that much of the training is delivered by the senior cadets themselves, with CCF officers in an oversight role. However, both staff and pupils put a



huge amount into this competition and fully deserve the outstanding recognition that winning a national title provides.

Team members:

Max Craik

Monty Hardcastle

Guy Morris

Robert Hartwell

Will Hayward

Henry Bambridge

George Lechmere

Bertie Gilliat Smith

Ben Remnant (Senior NCO and team leader)

NPD



Lily Freeman-Attwood to compete in the Horse of the Year Show

Tuesday 6 October 2015

Lily Freeman-Attwood (EDH III) will be competing this weekend in the Horse of the Year Show, the climax event of the British showjumping year.



Riding her pony 'My Bugsy Malone' in The Stable Company 138cm Championship, Lily will be competing against 23 of the other top young riders in the country.

Lily has performed consistently well throughout the Horse of the Year Show qualifiers, winning one competition on My Bugsy Malone and just missing out (by one point) on qualifying with her second pony, Mr Jack Sparrow, in three others. Last month she also won the title of National Champion at the Alexanders Horseboxes/Scope Festival Supreme Championships.

Having been off games at school this term because of an ankle injury, Lily has been spending the last few weeks riding without stirrups. She says this has been a good discipline, however, and is confident that her ankle will cause her no trouble on Saturday. She also has great confidence in My Bugsy Malone, who has already won the Horse of the Year Show twice.



Old Salopian Day 2015

Tuesday 6 October 2015



As most of you will know, Saturday 3rd October was our annual Old Salopian Day - an opportunity for all of our OS and their families to visit the School, meet up with friends, catch up with new developments and revisit old haunts. This year's event was another great success, with around 150 Salopian Club members and guests coming along to enjoy the programme of events and take a stroll around the site on what turned into a beautiful autumn day.



The main focus of this year's event was the opening of Hodgson Hall, the new academic block. Champagne and canapes were served and speeches were made by the Headmaster, Mark Turner and by Howie Hodgson, whose generous donation made the building possible. Mr Hodgson's warm and amusing speech not surprisingly centred on the wonderful time his daughter Eliza had whilst she was here (EDH 11-13). A number of the classrooms are sponsored by Old Salopians in honour of some of the most inspiring teachers in the School's recent history, many of whom were present. Whilst the building divided opinion on the outside, the guests all welcomed the opportunity to explore the inside, which is bright and airy and deceptively spacious.





Later on in the afternoon the lecture theatre at Hodgson Hall was put to excellent use for a talk on 'Rowing the Atlantic' by Alex Bland (Rt 00-05). Alex, was half of a duo who spent 50 days rowing across the Atlantic, from Gran Canaria to Barbados, completing the challenge on 1st February 2014. They raised over £100,000 for the Charity JDRF, which supports research into curing Leukaemia and type 1 diabetes. A number of OS described his illustrated talk as the highlight of the day.

There was a wonderful atmosphere over lunch in KH, where everyone enjoyed a carvery buffet. The Chairman of the Salopian Club, Peter Stewart, gave the welcome speech and introduced The President of the Salopian Club, Sir Eldryd Parry. Sir Eldryd treated the gathered guests to one of his inspiring and heartfelt speeches, thanking the Club staff for their work over the year and also taking an amusing look at an old rule book and some of the punishments given out in the past. How things have changed!



The buzz of chatter dispersed slowly as people walked out into what had turned into a glorious Shrewsbury afternoon. The houses were open for visits, as was the ancient library and the art department and there was also a great turnout for the OS football matches. (You can follow this link to read Giles Bell's 'Team of the Week' report, which covers the OS Football matches from the weekend.) Dr Gee was signing copies of his book 'City on a Hill' in the library.

The OS girls played a 9 a-side hockey match, followed by a netball match. It was nice to see more girls back as they are starting to finish university so more able to attend. The hockey was a close game, with some flowing hockey. OS's just came out on top, but there were a few controversial umpiring decisions!! The netball was won by the OS team who were solid from defence through to attack.





We were fortunate that the world renowned choir Tenebrae were performing that same evening in the Chapel. Tenebrae are managed by Henry Southern (G 03-08) and the event was sponsored by Richard Baker (DB 53-58). A number of OS stayed on to watch the performance, which was truly sublime and was set off perfectly by the Chapel's candelit and atmospheric backdrop. Anyone leaving early to watch a certain sporting fixture, about which least said soonest mended, missed a wonderful treat!

For some Old Salopians this had been their first visit to the School since leaving and for others this is an event they look forward to year on year and it's easy to see why. We love having the opportunity to entertain so many of the School's alumni at one time and the smiling faces, the obvious affection between friends and the glimpses into new associations and connections being made make the event so very worthwhile. We also welcome ideas and constructive feedback if anyone would like to offer any for next year's planning.



Riggites help bring home the Pringle Trophy

Tuesday 6 October 2015

The Shrewsbury School Royal Marines section has won the Sir Steuart Pringle Trophy, only the third time in 15 years they have won this highly prestigious competition - last year they came second by just a few points. Amongst the team were two Riggites - Lower Sixth Formers Rob Hartwell and Will Hayward - who were taking part for the second year in a row. Both had been praised for their determined efforts the previous year and it was no surprise that their expertise was sought after this year.

The two-day competition is held each year at the Royal Marines Commando Training Centre in Lympstone, Devon, and aims to bring together all the Royal Marine Detachments in the country from 18 schools, including Charterhouse, Harrow, Rugby, Winchester College, Pangbourne and Canford. The teams are treated as if they are in their 28th week of recruit training and are assessed across 12 stances. These include Battle Exercises, Section Attacks, Battle First Aid, Endurance, Drill and more.

The Shrewsbury team had worked very hard in preparation for this and had put in many hours of early morning and late night work, such is their motivation to come back holding the famous Commando Dagger trophy.

Lt Tom Corbett and Captain Jonny Longfellow as OC and 2IC respectively were delighted at the news of the win. It is worth pointing out that much of the training is delivered by the senior cadets themselves, with CCF officers in an oversight role. However, both staff and pupils put a huge amount into this competition and fully deserve the outstanding recognition that winning a national title provides.





Sixth Form Charity Fashion Show is a glittering triumph

Wednesday 7 October 2015

This year's annual charity fashion show 'A Century of British Fashion', held on Saturday 3rd October 2015, was a success! So far £,1800 has been raised to support BEAT, the UK's number one charity for eating disorders, and the School's youth centre in Everton, the Shewsy. And we're still counting.



A selection of models from the Sixth Form displayed a variety of styles from the 1920s to modern day, with a range of casual to evening wear. This wouldn't have been possible without the help from the boutiques and their kind donations. We'd like to thank Vintro, Violet Rose and Maggie Mae's from Shrewsbury, and Mooshy La La's and Pop Boutique in Liverpool.



On top of this, our guest range this year was online fashion house Captain Tortue, styling a range of modern ladies' clothes. The event would not have run as smoothly without them! The clothes looked elegant and reflected the eras well, giving an impression of the fashion trends of the time.





For the first time this year, we used the School's own talented musicians to play songs from each era. A huge thank you to all involved for learning and performing the songs. The music created a wonderful atmosphere for models to walk to and for the audience to engage with.

Overall, fun was had by all. Final messages of thanks need to go to all the local stores for supplying us with goody-bag samples, Royston Blythe for the girls' hair, all the backstage pupil volunteers and the members of staff for giving up their time to help make the night a special one!

A large thank you goes to Monsieur Portier for being an excellent compère.

Abi, Leo, Meg and Sally



Girls' Hockey: 1st XI win through to Midlands Regionals

Wednesday 7 October 2015

Congratulations to the 1st XI Hockey team, who played outstandingly well against some strong opposition at the County Hockey Tournament on Wednesday 7th October. They have now progressed through to the Midland Regionals stage. Meanwhile, the U14s have also had an excellent start to the season and are unbeaten so far.

Emma Davis, 1st XI Coach, reports on the County Hockey Tournament:

Nell Kirkby had a storm up front, especially in the opening game when she scored a hat-trick against Shrewsbury Sixth Form College.

We faced tough opposition who tested our defence. Emily Skelton was a solid force as Goalkeeper and worked well with Jemima Price and Sarah Jackman to defend the D.

Amy Mobley, Jess Moeran and Poppy Holbrook connected very well in the mid-field to put pressure on the opposition's defence on a number of occasions.

We had some very close matches where we had numerous strikes on goal yet failed to convert them.

Yesterday's tournament showed that from a defensive and attacking point, the 1st XI have made tremendous progress. Their work rate was exceptional and they were solid as a team. The squad have really started to understand and apply the formation and tactics we've been working on, which resulted in some great hockey yesterday. It was a pleasure to watch. Well done ladies!



Nicola Bradburne, Head of Girls' Games, reports on the U14s' season so far:



After the success of the U14 hockey team in their first year at Shrewsbury last year, it was going to be difficult to emulate their achievements, but the current U14s have started the season with as much drive and determination and thus still remain unbeaten.

Their first match was away to King's Chester, and after less than two weeks in school with only two training sessions completed as a full squad, it was a tall order. However, Shrewsbury came out fighting and were clearly the more attacking side in the first half. They were rewarded for their efforts with a goal from captain Amelie Davies to go 1-0 at half time. King's Chester started the second half much more positively and it needed Shrewsbury to stay strong in defence to deny them the equaliser. A great break-away led to Shrewsbury's second goal, giving a full time score of 2-0. A great result for their first game.

From here Shrewsbury have continued to play well and played a great attacking game against Wrekin College, beating them 3-1.

A slightly easier game against Bedstone College followed, with Shrewsbury securing a solid 8-0 victory before they came up against their toughest opposition to date in Denstone College. Denstone are a strong hockey school, who have done well in national competitions in recent years. The first ten minutes of the match were very even, with both teams displaying great attacking skills. Shrewsbury managed to break the opposition defence first to go into half-time 1-0 up. Denstone came out for the second half strongly and Shrewsbury had to defend fiercely for the first ten minutes. Some good play resulted in a couple of short corners, but we couldn't convert them. With five minutes to go, Denstone equalised and the game finished in a 1-1 draw. A fair result and a great game.

The U14s are now hoping to continue their good performances at the Independent Schools National 6s Tournament at Cheltenham College this Sunday.





Victory for Koby at the Cheadle Hulme MUN Conference.

Wednesday 7 October 2015



Koby with his trophy

A team of ten Salopians represented Kenya at the Cheadle Hulme Model United Nations Conference last weekend and between them picked up some significant awards.

Amongst them was School House's Koby Ferdinand-Okpala (IV), who won Best Delegation in the Human Rights Council.

This is an impressive achievement, especially given that Koby was one of the younger members of the Conference, which included Sixth Formers from across the country.



Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Wednesday 7 October 2015

This week, the 4th XI.

The 4th XI have had a good start to the season. Indeed like Manchester City (a team of comparable ability), they won their first four games. Sadly, unless you are Brighton and Hove Albion, all unbeaten runs come to an end. (In case you did not know, the only side in the Football League not to have lost this season are the mighty Seagulls. And yes, I am smug because Brighton fans do not often have a smug smile on their faces - or at least not a football-related one). The 4th XI losing run now extends to three matches in a row and questions are being asked of manager Colm Kealy. "I am being asked a lot of questions," Mr Kealy told me.



4th XI in action against Adams' Grammar

So why this sudden dip in form? I wondered if after recent events at Anfield the team were concerned about rumours that Colm Kealy has been linked with the Liverpool job. Central defensive maestro 'Mad' Max Morris told me that he suspected that Mr Kealy had been in secret talks at Anfield. "I suspect Mr Kealy has been in secret talks at Anfield," 'Mad' Max told me. Mr Kealy admitted he had been to Liverpool recently but claimed it was to go to The Shewsy.

"It is interesting that the national press seem to think that Liverpool's new manager will be a man whose name is five letters long and starts with a K," said midfield stalwart Luke Lloyd-Jones.

"Mr Kealy's tactical awareness and deep-rooted knowledge of the game would really suit Liverpool's style," said Everton fan Ladi Okusanya.





Tactically aware as ever, Mr Kealy spots a gap that needs filling

Captain Dan Lloyd felt that the promotion of three players to the 3rd XI and the fact that half the team train with the 3rd XI has meant a lack of coherence in the squad. Dan told me, "I feel sorry for Mr Kealy; he brings on a player and then someone else reaps the benefit of his hard work".

Last Saturday, the 4th XI faced the mighty Old Salopian Vets. These are not a team of animal doctors, just players unwilling to acknowledge that they are past their prime. They are quite a tough proposition to play against, as having lost yet another yard of pace, their challenges can be even later than yours truly trying to make it on time to an 8:30am lesson! That said, they are an amiable bunch and clearly enjoy their football.



Salopian footballers past... and future?



Indeed, such is the love of football that Shrewsbury imprints on its ex-players, not just one Old Salopian team but two turned up on Saturday, eager to take on the might of the current crop of 4th XI stars. This caused a slight conundrum for the Shrewsbury coaching staff, but new Master in Charge of Football Steve 'Weatherspoon's' Wilderspin quickly demonstrated his footballing acumen by suggesting that each team play two halves each.

Thus the OS Vets played the 4th XI for a half and then stayed on before their knees seized up to play the other slightly more youthful but less well-maintained OS side for a half. They then retreated to the comfort of the showers whilst the other OS side played the 4th XI.



What's a tasty challenge between old friends?

The Vets rolled back the years to win their half against the 4th XI 2-1 and then conceded a late goal against the generally locally-sourced OS team.



The referee (your own correspondent) makes no friends



This team then turned its attention to the 4th XI, but their unkempt beards and impressive physical stature was not enough to see off the challenge of youth as they had to settle for a 1-1 draw.



'Mad' Max Morris scares Chris Jones

The weekend became something of a football feast with the annual Alex Wilson Memorial match taking place on Sunday morning. Many of the competitors had played for the Old Salopians against the School the day before and apparently discussed tactics late into the night at various venues around town. It would be invidious to mention individual names and all I will say is that all the players are a credit to the School and to the memory of Alex, who I am sure would have loved to have been part of what is a colourful and vibrant celebration of the beautiful game.





It was lovely to welcome so many Old Salopians back to their *alma mater*. It was slightly upsetting to find one of my ex-tutees playing for the Vets, as that made me feel quite mature – a feeling I try to suppress whenever possible!

Well done to the 4th XI for maintaining a high quality of football at all times and for treating their elders with such deference and respect. The quality and spirit of the football played over the weekend does much to enhance the reputation of the School with the oldest copy of the football rules. I think it is safe to say that football is embedded deeply in the heart of Salopia.

The 4th XI Squad:

Mike 'the Big Cat' Cheung
Tom 'No way past' Edwards
'Mad' Max Morris
Ross 'Scorcher' Orchard
Steph 'Monsieur' Cotty
Will 'Dead end' Street
Dan 'Skipper' Lloyd
Tod 'Super on the ball' Supornpaibal
'Cool hand' Luke Lloyd-Jones
Ladi 'Catch me if you can' Okusanya
Dan Iles 'Flottantes'
Ed 'Give me' Moore



School House music, models and managers help to make the Sixth Form Charity Fashion Show a "glittering triumph".

Wednesday 7 October 2015

Head of House Leo Sartain not only took to the catwalk in a dapper dinner jacket, but he also co-directed the show. A selection of models from the Sixth Form displayed a variety of styles from the 1920s to modern day, with a range of casual to evening wear. Several of the School House boys modelled on the night, including our other Head of House Ladi Okusanya (UVI) and new entrant James Nelson (LVI), who were particular hits with the audience.



James Nelson (1) and Leo Sartain (r)

For the first time this year, the School's own talented musicians were used to play songs from each era, including School House's Hugo Richardson (UVI), who featured alongside Emily Skelton (UVI, MSH). The music created a wonderful atmosphere for the event.





Huto Richardson and Emily Skelton

At the last count, £1800 had been raised to support BEAT, the UK's number one charity for eating disorders, and the School's youth centre in Everton, the Shewsy. It was a great effort by all those involved, including Deputy Head of House, Alfred Mitchell (UVI), who was helping with the fundraising.



The news 100 years ago: 8th - 14th October 1915

Wednesday 7 October 2015

This is the latest weekly instalment in our 'Old Salopians in WW1' project, which commemorates all former boys and masters of Shrewsbury School who were killed in the First World War. It is linked with a wider project run by St Chad's Church in Shrewsbury: www.stchadschurchshrewsbury.com/ww1

A weekly service of remembrance takes place every Wednesday at 5pm in St Chad's to commemorate those from Shropshire - including those from the School - who died this week 100 years ago.

This week we remember:

Able Seaman Robert Arthur Demuth, London Z/1547, Hawke Bn. R.N. Div. RNVR.

Bennet's (now Severn Hill), left in 1893. He went for five years to the Offices of a London Merchant, but abandoned that for a life of leisure in the Pyrenees. When war broke out he joined the Public Schools Battalion. Twice refused a commission, he went to the Dardanelles and was at Sulva Bay for three weeks before being invalided home; he died in Haslar. The Salopian records that "for a man of his advanced years, it was a plucky thing to volunteer and undergo the additional hardships of a private of marines. He died as an English Gentleman and a Salopian should, absolutely uncomplaining, and thankful that he has done his duty. *Dulce et decorum est pro patria morî*" on 9th October 1915, aged 40.

Buried at Felpham (St Mary's) Churchyard, England.

Private Jack Reginalde Kershaw, Manchester Regiment.

Chances (now Severn Hill), left 1912. Cricket colours, member of 2nd XI.

Reported killed in the 9th October 1915 edition of The Salopian.

(Nowhere else recorded except in The Salopian, no record on Commonwealth War Graves Commission, nor in Shrewsbury School Roll of Service.)

Lieutenant John William Bennett, 3rd Bn. Royal Munster Fusiliers.

School House, left in 1908 for business with his father in Ballinacurra, Co. Cork. Gazetted to the 3rd Munsters November 1914 and promoted Lieutenant May 1915. The Salopian comments "[he was] a quiet fellow, who gained the respect of all with whom he was brought in contact and gained considerable success alike in his work and on the River. He had none of the aggressive fighting instincts".

Killed in action in France 13th October 1915, aged 28.

Buried at Dud Corner Cemetery, Loos, France. Grave III. B. 3.

Lieutenant Oswald William Boddington, 5th Bn. North Staffordshire Regiment.

Moser's. The Salopian records that "he did five years yeoman service for his house and steered the first boat to the Head of the River. He is remembered for his liveliness and good humour and he was respected for his being a thoroughly honest and straightforward boy". Left in 1907 for Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He enlisted as private as war was declared and got his commission in December 1914. He was killed in action near Hulluch in the great advance, France on 13th October 1915, aged 26.

Buried at Vermelles British Cemetery, France. Grave I. F. 14.

Events this week in the war:

Battle of Loos ends.

Severe airship raid 13th October.



Design & Technology: Sixth Form Engineering Visit to Airbus UK

Thursday 8 October 2015

Led by Mr Lloyd and Mr Reynolds, a group of 18 Sixth Formers recently enjoyed an exclusive and inspiring visit to Airbus UK at Broughton, Chester.



Design & Technology: Product Design students were treated to a first-class experience of manufacturing methods at the facility, with the incredible scale of production of A380 Airbus wings being of particular interest. Many of our students interested in the practical side of engineering were left speechless at witnessing first-hand the scale of manufacturing such a







The Airbus Group operates three divisions – Airbus, Airbus Defence and Space and Airbus Helicopters. Innovation is part of the Group's DNA, spending £500 million a year in research and technology in the UK and sustaining collaboration agreements with more than 20 British universities. Airbus Broughton specialises in the manufacture of aircraft wings. Innovation drives technology, and technology is at the heart of their ethos for aerospace and defence. Our students were offered a fascinating lecture that left them wiser in the knowledge that multi-national businesses such as Airbus exist thanks to students of economics, geography, business, IT and languages, as much as they thrive on the talents of students of technology, mathematics, and physics.

After a first-class lunch, we were then treated to a Beluga aircraft fly-by; transporting wings from Chester to Toulouse in France, for final aircraft assembly. We were then whisked off to a second factory to see cutting-edge carbon-fibre wing assembly for the Airbus A320.

It was a truly inspirational and informative day for all, and our thanks go to Airbus UK for hosting our young designers. KML



Valuing the Humanities - a visit to Shrewsbury School by Professor Anthony Grayling

Thursday 8 October 2015

On Friday 2nd October, in a joint venture between the Careers Department and the Philosophy and Theology Faculty, the School was delighted, and indeed privileged, to welcome Professor Anthony Grayling, Master of the New College of the Humanities.



An eminent and engaging speaker, writer and broadcaster, Professor Grayling proved inspirational in two separate addresses to staff and students. In the early afternoon, most appropriately located in the auditorium of Hodgson Hall, the new Humanities building, he captivated an audience of Sixth Formers studying Philosophy and Theology.

Taking as his cue 'The Enlightenment,' he outlined both the fundamental nature of that period of European history and also its intellectual roots, particularly in the Reformation and further back in Classical Greece. It was a magisterial and inspiring presentation, delivered without notes, hesitation nor indeed deviation – although there were plenty of fascinating nuggets and throwaway lines. As one boy said, at the end of a profoundly stimulating hour (revealed by the insightful nature of the students' questions), "That was the best lecture I have been to in this school".



At the end of the afternoon in the Ashton Theatre, in a venture that was open to other schools, Professor Grayling spoke more broadly to an audience of staff and students about the value of the Humanities, often side-lined in our current climate, which seems to rate technological and technical subjects rather more highly.

Asking us to imagine a society which ignored its Literature, History and Philosophy, he led us through the benefits and distinctive contributions of each one, leaving us in no doubt (not that we needed convincing...) that such absences would create a very thin, superficial and even dangerous world.

Amongst various anecdotes, he mentioned one particular prestigious London University, sought after for its excellence in the Sciences in particular, which has now pioneered a co-curricular Humanities course for all of its students. That became a necessary step after hearing from various top global companies that its graduates were less desirable as employees because they were undoubtedly highly intelligent, but far too specialised...

The whole day was a real treat for those of us who heard him speak, not only for his warm and personable manner both on stage and in conversation, but also for his confirmation about what we as Humanities' teachers are doing. And for showing that it is possible to inspire people simply by talking to them.

AD



Official opening of Hodgson Hall

Thursday 8 October 2015

We were delighted to welcome Howard, Wendy and Eliza Hodgson (EDH 2011-13) on Old Salopian Day, 3rd October, to officially open our new Humanities building, Hodgson Hall.



The Hodgson Family

On behalf of the School, the Headmaster formally thanked the Hodgson family for the generous donation that had made the building possible. Mr Hodgson's warm and amusing speech not surprisingly centred on the wonderful time his daughter Eliza (EDH 2011-13) had while she was at Shrewsbury. He also expressed his delight at having discovered that he is a descendant of the first Earl of Shrewsbury, Roger de Montgomery (d. 1094).





Grateful thanks were also given to all the donors to Hodgson Hall, in particular those who had sponsored eight of the 19 classrooms. These have been named in honour of former masters at the School, three of whom were present: Richard Raven, Reverend Hugh Brooke, Laurence Le Quesne, Dr David Gee, Lyndon Duffield, Mark Mortimer, Robin Moulsdale and Gordon Woods.

Mr Hodgson unveiled an impressive board where the names of donors to Hodgson Hall are recorded.





A commemorative plaque was unveiled by Dr Gee, dedicating Hodgson Hall "to all the inspiring teachers and pupils who have been inspired".



"To all the inspiring teachers and the pupils who have been inspired, this building of the Royal Shrewsbury School has been dedicated."

Hodgson Hall is now home to the faculties of History, Geography, Philosophy and Theology, Economics and Business Studies.



The House Singing Competition looms

Thursday 8 October 2015



Unison Song rehearsal



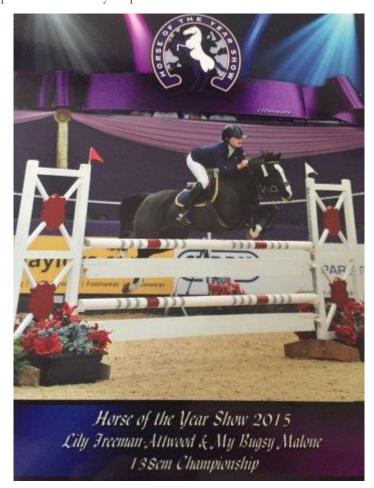
Part Song rehearsal



Lily Freeman-Attwood takes 4th place at the Horse of the Year Show

Sunday 11 October 2015

Many congratulations to Lily Freeman-Attwood (EDH III), who travelled to Birmingham's NEC on Saturday to compete in the world's biggest and most famous horse show. Riding her pony 'My Bugsy Malone' in The Stable Company 138cm event of the Horse of the Year Show, she finished in fourth place - a seriously impressive achievement.





RSSBC: Pairs Head, London

Sunday 11 October 2015

Just before heading off to Boston, USA to compete in the Head of the Charles Regatta, six of our senior boys raced at the Pairs' Head on the London Tideway course on Saturday afternoon.



After covering the 4500m course in some choppy conditions and lots of traffic, all three pairs ended up within a second of each other's times.





The crews placed 80th, 82nd and 83rd out of the 471 racing crews or 7th 8th and 9th out of 38 junior boys' pairs. The boys all deserve credit for safely navigating the challenging course without incident.



Crews from Westminster and St Paul's Schools both performed strongly on home water and the 1st VIII will be hoping to challenge them when the three next meet on the Charles River in Boston on Sunday morning. *ATH*

The Head of the Charles Regatta can be viewed live at http://www.hocr.org/the-regatta/live-webcast/
Follow the RSSBC on Twitter @RSSBC



Author Alex Scarrow visits Shrewsbury School

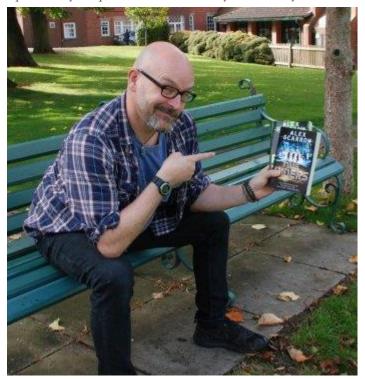
Sunday 11 October 2015

On Tuesday 6th October author Alex Scarrow, writer of the famous 'Timeriders' novels, gave a talk to the Third and Fourth Forms and ran a workshop for the Creative Writing Society. Third Formers Lara Gabbitas and Cristina Puyol Fuertes found some time in their very busy week to reflect on the day.

"When we met Alex Scarrow, we were pleasantly surprised. He was funny and chatty whereas we

were expecting a serious and quieter man. In the workshop we focused on coming up with interesting imaginative ideas using the phrase 'what if...' to open up our brains to more random ideas. He also told us a trick used commonly in the film world called 'steal and twist' used in even very modern films like *Dancing With Wolves* and *Avatar*.

"In his talk to the Third and Fourth Form he told us his about his previous job, and how he wanted to become a rock star when he was younger. After his rock star dream didn't work out, he started work in gaming, coming up with the ideas for computer games. Not one of this games got made, so he turned



to writing. He used his 'what if...' technique and eventually came up with the idea of *Timeriders*.

"We really enjoyed the time we spent with Alex Scarrow. It showed us that life doesn't always go as you plan (in his case becoming a rock star) and he also showed us how to overcome writer's block and come up with new original ideas for novels."

Author visits are one of the highlights of my year. They provide a chance to meet a literary hero and gain an insight into the journey from wannabe writer to published author. Feedback from the event shows that Alex Scarrow had a very positive affect on our students. Of those who attended the talk, the majority were inspired both to read and to write more and a number commented that Alex reminded them that reading is fun. If he can get that message across, he is worth his weight in gold!

Io Elliot, Head Librarian



'Posh' directed by Sixth Former Julian Chesshire (SH)

Sunday 11 October 2015

"One of the finest pieces of student theatre I have seen" – a review by Helen Brown, Shrewsbury's Director of Drama

Posh by Laura Wade is a controversial play to stage in a public school: after all, the object of its satire is us. Julian Chesshire's production was brilliantly provocative, forcing its audience to question all of its presumptions and prejudices.

The play is a thinly veiled fictionalisation of Oxford's Bullingdon Club, a student drinking society that counts some of the most powerful men in the country among its members. Re-imagined as the Riot Club in the play, the club hosts a group of wealthy, entitled boys on the verge of becoming Men Who Matter. Over the course of an evening, the boys get drunk, expound their political views and eventually act on those views – resulting in the murder of their landlord and the rape of his daughter. The characters are gradually exposed as weak, shallow and utterly selfish; if the play is holding a mirror up to its audience, it is not a mirror that we want to look into.



The production demonstrated some incredible ensemble work from the members of the club; all ten actors fully inhabited their characters throughout and gave the piece real dynamism and energy. It is difficult, in such a production, to single out particular actors for praise, but mention



must be made of Harry Lane Fox's perfect comic timing as Toby and Julian Chesshire's chilling violence as Alistair.

The characters outside the club were played with sympathy and understanding by Dan Iles, Emily Skelton and Tash Tudor. It is through their eyes that the audience sees the club and the growing contrast between the boys and their 'honest, decent, hard-working' counterparts.



The dinner is framed by the presence of Jeremy, an ex-member of the club, now in the House of Lords, who keeps an avuncular eye on the club's doings. Played by James Fraser Andrews of the English Faculty, he reminds the audience that the club cannot be explained away as a group of silly little boys making mistakes: membership of the club confers entry into the highest echelons of the Establishment.





This was one of the finest pieces of student theatre I have seen, made all the more impressive by the fact that it was directed and produced by the students themselves. It did everything that good theatre is supposed to do: it engaged us, entertained us, and made us question who we are and what we do.

HRB



'Posh' directed by Sixth Former Julian Chesshire (SH)

Sunday 11 October 2015

"One of the finest pieces of student theatre I have seen" – a review by Helen Brown, Shrewsbury's Director of Drama

Posh by Laura Wade is a controversial play to stage in a public school: after all, the object of its satire is us. Julian Chesshire's production was brilliantly provocative, forcing its audience to question all of its presumptions and prejudices.

The play is a thinly veiled fictionalisation of Oxford's Bullingdon Club, a student drinking society that counts some of the most powerful men in the country among its members. Re-imagined as the Riot Club in the play, the club hosts a group of wealthy, entitled boys on the verge of becoming Men Who Matter. Over the course of an evening, the boys get drunk, expound their political views and eventually act on those views – resulting in the murder of their landlord and the rape of his daughter. The characters are gradually exposed as weak, shallow and utterly selfish; if the play is holding a mirror up to its audience, it is not a mirror that we want to look into.



The production demonstrated some incredible ensemble work from the members of the club; all ten actors fully inhabited their characters throughout and gave the piece real dynamism and energy. It is difficult, in such a production, to single out particular actors for praise, but mention



must be made of Harry Lane Fox's perfect comic timing as Toby and Julian Chesshire's chilling violence as Alistair.

The characters outside the club were played with sympathy and understanding by Dan Iles, Emily Skelton and Tash Tudor. It is through their eyes that the audience sees the club and the growing contrast between the boys and their 'honest, decent, hard-working' counterparts.



The dinner is framed by the presence of Jeremy, an ex-member of the club, now in the House of Lords, who keeps an avuncular eye on the club's doings. Played by James Fraser Andrews of the English Faculty, he reminds the audience that the club cannot be explained away as a group of silly little boys making mistakes: membership of the club confers entry into the highest echelons of the Establishment.





This was one of the finest pieces of student theatre I have seen, made all the more impressive by the fact that it was directed and produced by the students themselves. It did everything that good theatre is supposed to do: it engaged us, entertained us, and made us question who we are and what we do.

Whilst it was Julian who stole the show, valuable contributions were also made by School House boys Leo Sartain (UVI) with his compelling performance as James Leighton Masters, President of the Riot Club, and Alfred Mitchell (UVI), who worked tirelessly behind the scenes as Assistant Director, helping it all come together on the night.



Sunday 11 October 2015

Today's Tucks Race was won by Huntsman Oscar Dickins, with Captain of Girls' Running Olivia Papaioannou winning the girls' race. A full report will follow, but the names of the winners are published below, together with a high-octane and inspiring film of the Tucks, created by Ollie Lansdell (PH UVI) and Mr Haworth (with special thanks to Mr Hundermark for his drone footage), which was shown to the whole School on Monday.

Boys' race

1st - Oscar Dickins (R UVI)

2nd - Freddie Huxley-Fielding (R LVI)

3rd - Harry Adair (O UVI)

Girls' race

1st - Olivia Papaioannou (EDH UVI)

2nd - Pascale Goddard (G UVI)

3rd - Lillian Wilcox (EDH III)



L-R: Lillian Wilcox, Pascale Goddard, Olivia Papaioannou, Oscar Dickins, Harry Adair, Freddie Huxley-Fielding



The news 100 years ago: 15th October - 11th November 1915

Monday 12 October 2015

Between 15th October and 11th November 1915, no OS deaths occurred in WW1; this must have provided a welcome respite for the Housemasters and staff in terms of news-flow arriving at school.

It was also a period in which the UK Government was moving onto a different war footing: the prospect of a more drawn-out war was becoming a reality with every passing month, and the supply lines for Island Britain were being bolstered up.

On the 24th October, the British Government, in a letter to Sherif of Mecca, attempted to define the territorial limits of a proposed Arab State.

On 2nd November, Mr Asquith declared Serbian independence to be an essential object of the war.

Later in November, the Indian Corps began to leave France for Mesopotamia, and also Lord Kitchener arrived at the Dardanelles, which was becoming thoroughly bogged down due to the unexpectedly stiff Turkish resistance.

At home, the Ship Licensing Committee was formed; by an Order in Council voyages between foreign ports were prohibited except under licence. The Requisitioning (Carriage of Foodstuffs) Committee was also formed; another Order in Council authorised the requisition of ships for the carriage of foodstuffs.



County rugby selection for School House boys

Tuesday 13 October 2015

Congratulations to Roman Khidirbekov (III) and Arron Lewis (IV), who have been selected to play for the Shropshire rugby squad in the U14 and U15 age-groups respectively.



Fives players enjoy training event with EFA Ladies

Wednesday 14 October 2015

Many thanks to the Eton Fives Association Ladies, who came to the Shrewsbury Fives courts on Sunday morning to give some valuable and much appreciated match play and coaching to several of our players.

They then moved on to do the same for Wolverhampton Grammar School and Wrekin College girls in the afternoon.



Shrewsbury players L to R: Sarah Jackman (MSH UVI - Senior Captain), Erin Leatherbarrow (MSH UVI), Artemis Cooper (MSH III), Sophie Cormack (G V), Issy Wong (G III), Claire Richards (G V) and Tara Swords (G V)



Lacrosse: North Schools' Tournament win and County team selections

Wednesday 14 October 2015

Following a fantastic team performance by the 1st XII at the North Schools' Lacrosse Tournament on Saturday, four players have also been successful at the U18 County trials, held on Wednesday.

Many congratulations to Antonia Wordie (EDH) and Olivia Papaioannou (EDH), who have been selected for the Shropshire U18A team, and to Imo Luczyc-Wyhowska (MSH) and Amelia Maunder (EDH) who have been selected for the Shropshire B team. Amelia's selection is particularly impressive as she is only 14! The girls will be representing Shropshire in the County Tournament on Sunday 8th November.

The 1st XII played outstandingly at the North Schools' Tournament at Queen Margaret's, York on Saturday and won their division. Despite playing in a senior event with a young team that included a mix of Third and Fourth Formers as well as Sixth Formers, they drew their first game and went on to win all their subsequent five matches.

Players of the Tournament were Fourth Former Maddie Philips (EDH), who let in only five goals all day, and Third Former Georgia Kannreuther (MSH) who scored a total of seven goals in the Tournament. The team were superbly led and motivated by captain Antonia Wordie.





Headmaster's Commendations

Wednesday 14 October 2015

The aim of the Headmaster's Commendations is to recognise and reward outstanding academic achievement and intellectual curiosity. The following pupils have been awarded the Headmaster's Commendations in the first half of this term:

Third Form

Olivia Moir (MSH)

Nicholas Yale (S)

Fourth Form

Suky OuYang (MSH)

Mark Pangin (SH)

Fingal Dickins (R)

Fifth Form

Nik Amthor (R)

Betty Chau (G)

Henry Graham (O)

Sophie Li (G)

Linda Zhao (G)

Lower Sixth

Joshua Bray (Rb)

Sumaiya Quraishi (MSH)

Ben Jones (Rb)

Caroline Reid (EDH)





Rovers rescue drowning sheep

Wednesday 14 October 2015

The Rovers — the School's mountaineering and adventuring society — has a long and proud history of feats of derring-do. And, as they discovered on Thursday as they paddled their way down the River Severn, even their Field Day expeditions have a tendency to turn into adventures.

Canoeing down the Severn on Field Day yesterday, a drowning sheep was spotted in the river standing neck deep in the water, which he looked as if he had been in for several hours, unable to climb up the steep bank to his home field.



Manhandled into a canoe, he was released up a rather easier bank on the opposite side of the river which he eventually scrambled up, gradually regaining strength in his legs.





The farmer will wonder how his opposite-bank-neighbour's sheep has ended up in his flock: there are no bridges between Montford Bridge and Welsh Bridge along this 17km stretch of the river!

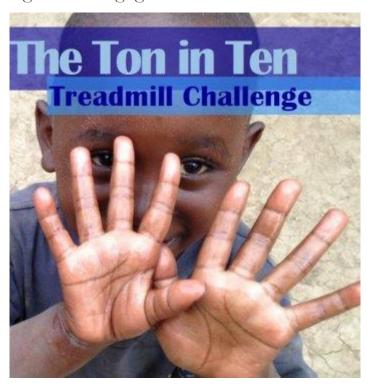
RTH



The Hunt's 'Ton in Ten Treadmill Challenge' - raising funds for the Restart Centre in Kenya

Thursday 15 October 2015

As part of their preparations for the forthcoming tour to East Africa, The Hunt have been raising funds to support the work of the Restart Centre in Kenya, home to orphans and street children and a quite extraordinary place. They will be out with their collecting buckets at this evening's House Singing.



As part of their preparations for the forthcoming tour to East Africa, The Hunt have been raising funds to support the work of the **Restart Centre** in Kenya, home to orphans and street children and a quite extraordinary place.

Having raised just under £400 from a cake sale, the next fundraiser was a 'Ton in Ten Treadmill Challenge' last Sunday, 11th October. The aim was to run 100 miles in 10 hours or under, with the treadmills based in Kingsland Hall from 8.30am to 6.30pm.

Twenty Hunt runners took part and ticked off the miles knowing that they'd need to average 10mph (6 minute miling) if they were going to complete the challenge in the required time. By early evening the challenge had been completed, with 100 miles run in 9 hours 51 minutes – pretty swift work!

We have now raised over £1,400 for the Restart Centre which will go an incredibly long way in helping them care for and nurture children who have had the worst possible start in life. We will



be able to hand over a cheque for funds raised to the founder of the charity, Mary Coulson, when we travel to Kenya during The Hunt's East Africa tour.

Hunt runners will be out with the charity buckets at this evening's House Singing event, so do bring along some spare change (or, even better, notes!). If you are unable to attend House Singing but would like to donate money towards the Restart Centre, please send cheques made payable to 'The Sanata Charitable Trust' to Peter Middleton, Rigg's Hall, The Schools, Shrewsbury SY3 7AZ.



Ben Remnant



Medic Malawi Christmas Cards are now on sale

Thursday 15 October 2015

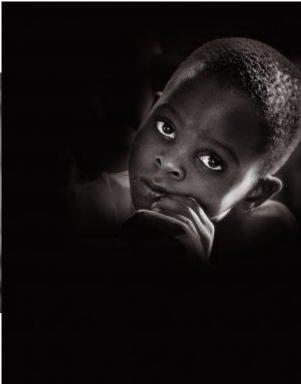
Next summer, 14 Shrewsbury School students, five Shewsy Youth Club members and five members of staff will be travelling to Malawi to see for themselves the work of the Shrewsbury School Eye Clinic, run by Medic Malawi. As part of the School's fundraising for the Eye Clinic, Christmas cards in aid of Medic Malawi are now on sale.

The cards and printing have been kindly donated by Telford Reprographics, so every penny goes to help keep the doors of the Shrewsbury School Eye Clinic open. It costs £30 for an eye operation to restore someone's sight, and at the moment 80 people arrive at the monthly surgeries.

Packs of 10 (one design in each pack - shown below) are £4 each. Packs can be ordered from Dawn in Reception - tel. 01743 280500; email reception@shrewsbury.org.uk. Please make cheques made payable to 'Medic Malawi'. They can then be collected from Reception by your son or daughter.



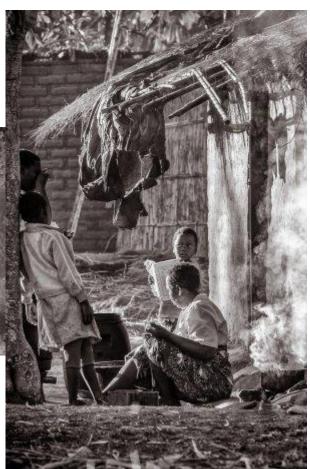
Baby







Donkey



Shelter



House Singing Competition 2015

Thursday 15 October 2015

The results.

Unison

1st - Emma Darwin Hall

2nd - Moser's

3rd - School House

4th - Mary Sidney Hall

5th= Churchill's + Ridgemount

Part Song

1st - School House

2nd - Emma Darwin Hall

3rd - Churchill's

4th - Radbrook

5th - Severn Hill

Overall Trophy

1st - Emma Darwin Hall

2nd - School House

3rd - Churchill's

Best Arrangement

Alex Bennett and Angus Hay - Radbrook

Most Outstanding Soloist

James Fearn - Ingram's

Most Improved House

Ridgemount

Most Entertaining Performance

Mary Sidney Hall



Giles Bell's Team of the Week

Thursday 15 October 2015

This week, the 1st XI girls' hockey team.

I think it would be honest to say that I am not a natural hockey devotee. This is largely to do with issues of self-preservation. I am not for one minute suggesting that those who enjoy the thwack of ball on shin or the delightful feeling of the mouthguard suppressing natural breathing tendencies are 'one egg short of a dozen'. It is just that at my advanced stage of maturity (I am beginning to accept it), the idea of stopping to try and hit a rather small ball with a rather short stick gets less attractive every year.

I had some good friends at University who were masters of the game, but they regularly had grim stories to tell of broken fingers and smacks in the mouth from over-enthusiastic stick-wielders. As a non-vertically challenged individual, I have to conclude that back pain must be an issue. Or does one lean on the stick as a support? I think the only position I would play would be goalie, where at least you are padded up to such a degree it looks as if one might survive a Sunday afternoon stroll through a minefield.

So it is always with a degree of admiration and wonder that I saunter towards the astro to see what the hockey teams are up to.

Chef Coach Chris Cook had whispered to me in the Common Room earlier in the week that the senior girls' hockey team had qualified for the Regional Finals.



The 1st XI celebrating their County Tournament win last week



When I hear of sporting triumphs, I have to investigate. And so I found myself on a rather gloomy afternoon watching the girls warm up for a training session ahead of a tough trip to Moreton the following day.

The first thing I noticed was the evident enjoyment of the players as they began a neat training exercise which I think was a bit like 'Piggy in the Middle'. It was undoubtedly not called 'Piggy in the Middle', but I am not good on the names of hockey training routines. Shall we go for 'practising passing in pressurised situations with an opposition player advancing in a menacing, mean and moody manner'?

Morgan Butler was keen to tell me how she had learnt to love the game. "I have learnt to love the game," she said. Hat-trick heroine Nell Kirkby told me that she loved the service being provided by the 'Butler'. "How can I miss when the ball is served up to me on a plate?" she exclaimed. Morgan claims her best moves come from watching Carson in Downton! (Enough Butler jokes! - Ed)



Striker Maddy Philips told me that Morgan Butler was a rising star and that she herself had added a more aggressive style of play to her game this season, which was proving productive. Jemima Price enjoyed drawing with Wrekin, Moreton and the High School at the Regional competition. She is a very talented player and looks to be a good addition to the squad. (She also hands out the drinks at her parents' Christmas party and has promised to keep me on the invite list.)





Coaches Jeremy Lucas and Emma Davis

There are a couple of new faces to the coaching team this year. Kim Onions has arrived to coach netball and hockey, and Emma Davis has completed her transfer from Bedstone College, much to the disappointment of her many loyal fans there. (My source tells me she was her favourite teacher.) Emma was a talented athlete, finishing in the top 30 in the England Schools' Race a couple of years ago. (I like to think I would have performed well in that race but for some reason my school forgot to enter me.) Injury problems led to her focusing her attention on hockey and she now plays for Shrewsbury. She is also a member of Telford Athletics Club.

Emma has been delighted with the attitude of her new protégées and was particularly proud of them for qualifying for the Midlands Regional Finals. At Lilleshall they came second to Ellesmere and the top two teams went through.

One of Emma's strengths is the Steeplechase and I sense that she will glide over any barriers that might come her way in terms of improving the standard of girls' hockey at Shrewsbury. Certainly long-term hockey coach and hockey guru Jeremy Lucas is impressed by Emma's skills and work ethic. "When she is not chasing Steeples, she seems very focused on her hockey," he told me.

I look forward to reporting on more triumphs from the astro. Meanwhile I am off to do a celebratory Hockey Cokey!





1st XI squad
Amelia Binns
Poppy Holbrook
Nell Kirkby
Jemima Price
Caroline Reid
Amy Mobley (Capt)
Jess Moeran (Vice-Capt)
Maddie Phillips
Emily Skelton
Sophie Cormack
Imogen Evans
Morgan Butler
Sarah Jackman
Katie Edwards



Thursday 15 October 2015

Shrewsbury's cross country race 'The Tucks' has been run every year since the early 1830s and is probably the oldest running race in the world. It once again proved a high-octane affair with the whole school take part in the race; both pupils and staff toeing the line and tackling the mud, stiles and tarmac of the three-mile course. In School House, the boys were competing for the coveted Street Trophy, awarded to the first boy in the house. Generously donated by the Street family, it was our Senior Captain of Running Will Street (UVI) himself who won it last year and was looking to defend his title.

However, he had not reckoned on George Newton (LVI), a new Lower Sixth entrant this year and, as Cassidy Sports Scholar, a highly talented athlete. George came in first for School House, winning the trophy with a very fast time despite being barely out of breath at the end! An impressive run and thoroughly deserved win.

Mark Pangin (IV) was close behind in second place. Mark's single-minded determination to improve his running this year has had remarkable results. Since the beginning of term, he has trained extremely hard, not even resting after he broke his collar bone and ended up running in plaster! He has catapulted himself through the ranks and, despite only being in the Fourth Form, is now challenging the top runners in the School.

The boys were also competing for their House athletics vests, which are awarded to the top five finishers in the The Tucks. In third position, maintaining his reputation as one of our best runners, was Will Street, who showed great leadership in the organisation of the teams before the race, and admirable sportsmanship in the presentation afterwards, when he handed over his trophy to George and congratulated him on his victory.

In fourth position was Christian Cavenagh-Thornhill (V), who ran an excellent race and knocked several minutes off his time from last year.

In fifth position was Artur Sarsenov (III), who is another one to watch in future; as a new Third Form entrant, he did exceptionally well to beat the rest of the House. It was great to see that there was one boy from each year group in the top five, which is testament to the depth of ability across the age-range.



L-R: Mark Pangin (IV), Will Street (UVI), George Newton (LVI), Christian Cavenagh-Thornhill (V) and Artur Sarsenov (III)



Friday 16 October 2015







Saturday 24 October 2015



The tucks squad ready for the off