

Shrewsbury U15A XI win through to the National U15 T20 Finals Day

Monday 2 September 2013

Shrewsbury's U15A XI have beaten Malvern in an exciting Midlands Final to secure a place in the Finals of the National U15 T20 competition for the third consecutive year.



Malvern won the toss and surprisingly inserted Shrewsbury into bat, and were put under immediate pressure by Harry Adair and Harry Schofield who put on 58 for the first wicket at approximately a run a ball. There then followed somewhat of a middle order collapse, and it was down to Charlie Home (18 n.o.), Henry Newbould (10) and Charlie Cooke (12) to piece together two important partnerships towards the end of the innings. Considering the start, Shrewsbury posted a modest 125 for 8 for Malvern to chase.

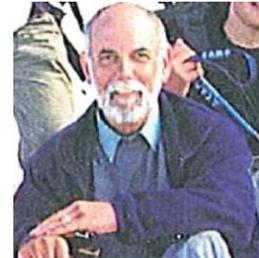
Shrewsbury's bowling was quite simply superb throughout, and Malvern were considerably behind the run rate from the first over to the last. Charlie Home opened with his off breaks and only conceded six runs from his four overs. George Panayi bowled with accuracy and pace as usual, taking 2 for 15. Charlie Cooke was perhaps the most impressive Shrewsbury bowler, taking an excellent 3 wickets for 10 runs in his four overs, including two maidens. Toby Mason also chipped in with two crucial wickets.

Trevor Kidson (Staff, 1988-2004)

Tuesday 3 September 2013

We were saddened to hear recently of the sudden death of Trevor Kidson, at the age of 69.

Trevor is described by his former colleagues as "one of the unsung heroes of Shrewsbury School, a genuinely caring schoolmaster who up immense amounts of time for the boys". He was involved in many different aspects of School life; an inspiring teacher of CDT, a committed House Tutor in Severn Hill, where he was both greatly valued and greatly liked, he also spent countless hours with the U14C cricket team. He was a keen climber and hillwalker, in a period of exciting and edgy activity. The School's Combined Cadet Force spotted his enthusiasm and he spent many hours with cadets, teaching them shooting, climbing and walking skills, and he became a staple member of many expeditions.



gave

One of his colleagues, Huw Peach, remembers Trevor as "tremendously warm towards everyone who came into contact with him. I will never forget the twinkle in his eye and his permanent smile and - more personally - his encouragement to me as a young teacher when I first started."

Mark Twells describes him as "down to earth, straightforward, with lots of time for everyone; he was a truly wonderful schoolmaster in the old sense. I particularly remember him on the Rovers' expedition to Norway in 1999, where he spent many hours with expedition members, encouraging and enthusing. Many members of these various expeditions went on to develop their skills and interests. One former pupil, Adam Booth, who recently climbed Everest, discovered a lot of enthusiasm in Norway with Trevor!"

Adam Booth himself remembers Trevor as a "warm, caring and funny person. He was always able to lighten the mood on the Rovers' trips with his dry sense of humour and cheerful nature. I remember being very upset when his wife had died - I had not experienced anything like that myself at that stage of life, but could vaguely appreciate how awful it must have been for him. To see him come back to School afterwards with dignity and resolve was a real source of inspiration to me as a teenager."

Trevor is survived by his sons, the younger of whom, Peter is an Old Salopian (PH 1998-2003).

Below: Trevor Kidson with the Rovers in Norway, 1999



Lower Sixth and GCSE Awards 2013

Tuesday 3 September 2013



The Headmaster with some of the Lower Sixth and GCSE prizewinners

After a record-breaking year for AS results, **Lower Sixth Examination prizes** have been awarded to the following 22 pupils who achieved outstanding scores in their AS and Pre-U subjects:

C.J. Bibby (SH)
C. F. Chan (MSH)
J. Cherukat (PH)
H.R. Fox (PH)
D.B. Hart (Rt)
K.T. Hau (SH)
C.Y. Ho (MSH)
M. Y. T. Huang (S)
L.M. Jeffcoate (Ch)
S.H. Kung (R)
C. S. Lam (O)
H.C. Law (O)
L.D. Lee (S)
T.R.B. Lloyd (Rt)
R.R.J. Major (EDH)
S. Pelling (EDH)
B.J. Quirk (PH)
I.J. Tenison-Collins (MSH)
I. M. Turney (EDH)
A.H. Walker (O)



E.D. Williams (EDH)

T.Y. Wong (MSH)

GCSE Awards

It has also been another excellent year for GCSE results, and we are delighted to be in the position of awarding 29 honorary scholarships, exhibitions and examination prizes to pupils entering the Lower Sixth this term.

Honorary Scholarships have been awarded to:

K.L. Elcock (EDH)

J.D. Rumble (PH)

Honorary Exhibitions have been awarded to:

H.R.R. Al-Adwani (SH)

J.R.C. Plaut (S)

K.H. Yick (S)

GCSE Examination prizes have been awarded to the following candidates with an outstanding number of A* grades:

T. Barthen (R)

G.P. Birt (PH)

O.A. Bradley (EDH)

E.D. Carroll (Ch)

D.R. Edwards (S)

G.R. Evans (PH)

I.R. Hill (MSH)

O.H.B. Hope (Ch)

T.A. Hunt (EDH)

S. Kandi (M)

A.K.Z. Koh (Ch)

E.K.B. O'Keefe (MSH)

C.R. Price (EDH)

O.J. Pumphrey (O)

E.J. Robinson-Boulton (R)

Y. Sato (SH)

A.T.T. Shaw (Ch)

B.T. Smith (Rt)

N.R. Spruyt (EDH)

R.J. Trivedi (Rb)

R. Viljoen (PH)

C.J. Virgo (MSH)

J.M. Walker (EDH)

T.Y. Yick (M)



D of E Gold Expedition: Sea Kayaking across Scotland, Summer 2013

Wednesday 4 September 2013



The summer break was a busy one for the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award participants, who all embarked on various expeditions around the country. The Sea Kayak team travelled to the west coast of Scotland for their long paddle to the east coast.

During the year they had undergone a series of training camps and practice ventures in preparation for the 'big one!' 100km from Fort William to Inverness through the magnificent Great Glen.

The expedition was extremely successful, this time assisted and not hindered by gusting force 5-6 winds on two days whilst crossing Loch Ness. The downside was that the environment became quite emotionally and mentally challenging for some, with big waves breaking across the boats. But the upside was that the team were journeying at 8km/h compared to the normal 4km/h.

The team completed in high spirits, if somewhat sore after four intense days of physically demanding paddling and uncomfortable nights in tents. Well done to all!

Maj Jo Billington

A windy crossing of Loch Ness - all 36.4km of it!



Music Tour to Austria, July 2013

Thursday 5 September 2013

With the summer term barely over, the Chapel Choir, Orchestra and Big Band set off for a week of music-making in the Austrian Tyrol. Director of Music John Moore gives an entertaining account of a hugely successful and enjoyable tour. You can also view video clips of some of their performances.



In addition to taking photographs during the tour, Andrew Spicer (M UVI) has also made videos of various tour performances. To view them, please click on the links below:

[Big Band - Survival Skills](#)

[Matt Davies \(M UVI\) - A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square](#)

[Awen Blandford \(EDH LVI\) - Bach Cello Prelude](#)

[Tom Sykes \(PH IV\) - Gabriel's Oboe](#) (performed in Salzburg Cathedral)

Wednesday 3rd July, Huttai, Austria

We were to have started off the day with a boat cruise on the Wolfgangsee. But after a heavily delayed departure from Shrewsbury two days before, due to a major mechanical fault with our coach (not the best start), two days and a night of travelling and a late arrival at our hotel, we decided to postpone that trip till later in the week.

So instruments and performing clothes packed, we set off for St Gilgen for the Big Band, under its director Maria Eglinton, to play the first of three open-air gigs during the week. They gave an excellent lunch-time concert in the Bandstand at St Gilgen to an appreciative and cosmopolitan crowd, after which there was free time for lunch, and for some, a swim in the beautiful Wolfgang See, right by St Gilgen. This was slightly cut short by the biggest of cloud-bursts which filled the streets with water within minutes, necessitating a bedraggled dash for the coach after some wonderful Salopian dance moves in the pouring rain, which the bemused Burghers of St Gilgen will remember for a long time!



And so on to our first church concert at St Sebastian's Church in Hof bei Salzburg. Changed and dried, the performers made their way up to the west end organ gallery where the Chapel Choir and strings, with Alex Mason and myself variously conducting and playing organ continuo between them, provided the music for the evening mass in the church. The church resounded to Haydn's St Nicholas Mass, with forces and a performing location that Haydn himself would have



been very familiar with. It was a glorious experience for all concerned. We then followed the Mass with a short concert down at the East end of this attractive Baroque church, with the strings in fine form, and Tom Sykes giving a wonderful performance with the strings of Gabriel's Oboe from the film score for the Mission by Enrico Morricone. The choir gave Austria some Hubert Parry and much more, and the concert was very well-received.

Thursday 4th July

Salzburg and Mozart are one. Salzburg and great musical traditions are also one, so performing there is a real privilege and pleasure for any musician. We set off for our day of performing in this magical, musical shrine, passing by castles, mountains and in fine weather.

We arrived at the magnificent surroundings of Salzburg Cathedral for our lunchtime choral and orchestral concert, but still not quite sure exactly how long we could play for! The itinerary said one thing, but the musical director from the cathedral we met said another, and his version was considerably shorter! In the end we performed a 40-minute recital to hundreds of captive tourists under the magnificent dome, which helps give the cathedral its wonderful musical bloom and deserved reputation as a great ecclesiastical and musical space.



The Choir sounded on top form, with repertoire from Rachmaninoff's Vespers, the Haydn Mass with orchestra once again, and Tallis, all enthusiastically received and beautifully introduced by Richard Hudson in perfect German! The strings again acquitted themselves beautifully, and so, after the concert, it was visits to Mozart's birthplace, lunch in roof top restaurants, strolls through the narrow passages around the centre, and thence to the Mirabel Gardens for an afternoon Big Band Concert.

This, although sited merely between a gap in the trees to one side of the gardens, sounded and was a magnificent performance, with the Band on top form after their various successes in competition during the last year. They had a large and appreciative audience, and it was a great end to a great day, which finished back at our hotel, where after another fine dinner, some of our musicians struck up a jam session with another visiting musical group from the UK who had arrived to also stay in the Hotel Hutter.

Friday 5th July

No concert for the Big Band for once, and no concert at all for anyone till the evening, meant that we had the day free for sight-seeing. We had arranged to visit the infamous Eagle's Nest in the beautiful area of Berchtesgarden, about an hour from the hotel. This was the mountain-top retreat given to Hitler for his 50th Birthday in 1938 by his adoring acolytes, completed and built by thousands of workers in an unbelievably short space of time as they blasted tunnels, dug roads and built sizeable structures at the top of the mountain for Hitler, Eva Braun and guests.



After a precipitous bus journey, during which we gave great thought to the hopefully excellent conditions of the vehicle's brakes, we should have seen the finest views in all of that part of the Germany/Austria hinterland. However the clouds knew the English were coming, and so were on hand, swirling around the Eagle's Nest at the top of the mountain, and giving us only the greyest, mistiest views of each other and little else. Nevertheless, this

was a visit redolent with comparatively recent history, and one which made a deep impression on many of us visiting for the first time.

After time for lunch in the lovely town of Berchtesgaden, we returned to our hotel for dinner, and thence on to Bischofshofen for a concert in the Pfarrkirche, a wonderfully perpendicular-style church with stunning acoustics and another fine classical Austrian baroque-style organ to play.

This was purely a concert, and although the audience was on the smallish side the concert was superb, with some wonderful solo Bach played on the cello by Awen Blandford, the Saxophone Quartet in glorious form, Richard Hudson's Brass Quartet, and some wonderful singing from the Choir and playing from our instrumentalists. The parishioners then entertained us to sausages and liquid refreshment in the nearby church hall, a splendid building, and we made our way, full of the experience of playing in a truly memorable venue, back to our hotel.

Saturday 6th July

This, the last full day of our tour was in many ways the most spectacular and full of the unexpected, from the trick fountains at the Helbrunn Palace, to our performance in the evening at St Martin's Church, Thalgau, where we played to our second biggest audience of the tour in a packed church.

But first we had a wonderful tour of the Helbrunn Palace Gardens, including the Bishop of Salzburg's watery guest seats at an outdoor stone table, summer houses from the Sound of Music, followed by a wonderful lunchtime concert given by the Big Band in the Musikpavillion in Strobl. We then took a boat cruise along the Wolfgang See, postponed from our first day, with swimming again in the lake at St Gilgen before departing for our final concert in Thalgau.



Arriving at the church in Thalgau, we found ourselves with precious little time to prepare for the evening mass and concert, and also having to perform from the upper of two west end galleries in the church, again with our forces split either side of another impressive Baroque organ, hopefully this time without a cipher!

Again we were part of the evening mass at the church, including a very long sermon! Haydn was sung again, and much more from the upper gallery in a wonderful acoustic, before us all dashing down to give a concert to the congregation after the concert, which culminated in a standing ovation, and a fitting end to the musical performances on tour. We then had a splendid meal in a local restaurant, before heading back for our last night in the hotel.

Sunday 7th July

Rooms were cleared first thing, and then we had several hours before departure in which to enjoy some really fine weather before our long coach journey back to Shrewsbury. Having enjoyed a fine midday barbeque, we loaded the coach and set off early afternoon for home, passing for the last time the hill top castles of Austria, the wonderful Tyrolean scenery and so on to the long haul through Germany towards the channel port of Calais and our ferry. Our spirits were lifted on the journey by reports and eventual news of Andy Murray's historic Wimbledon victory, and eventually we arrived safely back at the school.

It has to be said that this was one of the best of recent school music tours. The party of boys, girls and staff that went, all played their various parts so well, and everyone on the tour had the interests of others at heart. Consequently it was a happy and hugely successful venture. The standards of performance, as one would expect from the School, were high, but also always fresh and entertaining. The staff who went, JFM, Alex Mason, Dympna Nightingale, David Joyce, Richard Hudson, Maria Eglinton, Donny MacKenzie and Philippa Moore, were hugely supportive and unstinting in their energy and bonhomie.

We now very much look forward to our next venture, be it in Europe or hopefully to the Far East in 2014.

JFM, AEM



Foundation Fortnight...

Thursday 5 September 2013

...is going very well!



Cheery Third Formers in Churchill's (left) and Moser's (centre and right)

The start of a new academic year is a busy enough time for anyone at Shrewsbury. But for new Third Formers, the past few days have been a particularly hectic and exciting whirl of activities, lessons and new experiences.

“Foundation Fortnight is an important bit of ring-fenced time for the new Third Form boys to find their feet,” explains Torin Morgan, Head of Third Form. “We have a tried and tested programme of inductions to sport, music and other activities to keep the boys busy and active. By the end of this period they should feel confident about when and where things are and be left with a feeling of excitement that, as they settle in here, huge possibilities and opportunities lie awaiting them.”

New Sports Website

Thursday 5 September 2013

We've just launched our new Sports Website, which we hope will make it much easier for parents and supporters to find the information they need about all of our sports fixtures.

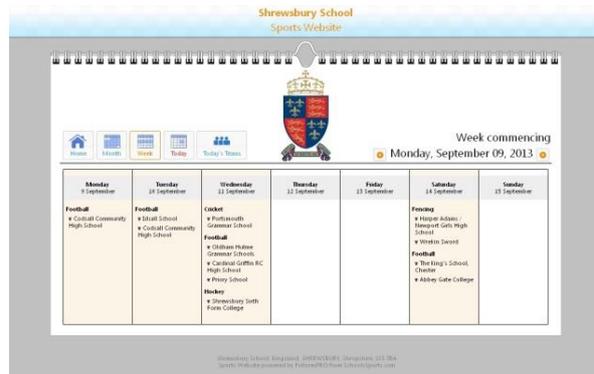
You can access the website via the sports pages of the School Website and you can also view it via the link below:

<http://www.schoolssports.com/school/?id=240>

There are a number of ways that you may find it useful:

Sports Calendar

The [Sports Calendar](#) has the most up-to-date information about all of our fixtures. You can select the day you're interested in and then click the Details link. This shows the venue and, if we're playing away, will have a link to the location map of our opponent's school. You can also see the team selected for the fixture wherever you see this blue image . (Note: Viewing the Calendar either by Week or by Day gives you more information at a glance than the default monthly view.)



The screenshot shows a weekly fixture calendar for Shrewsbury School. The week commences on Monday, September 09, 2013. The fixtures are as follows:

Monday 09 September	Tuesday 10 September	Wednesday 11 September	Thursday 12 September	Friday 13 September	Saturday 14 September	Sunday 15 September
Football <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cardinal Community High School 	Football <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Paul School Cardinal Community High School 	Cricket <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portsmouth Grammar School Football <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chilham House Grammar School Cardinal Griffin RC High School Priny School Hockey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Mary's Sixth Form College 			Football <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harley School / St Mary's High School Winton School Football <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The King's School, Otford Abbey Gate College 	

If you are following a particular team or teams

The [Sports & Teams Fixtures & Results page](#) will give you a detailed fixture listing and results for any of our teams. It is also possible to download the team's fixture list onto your personal calendar on your PC or mobile device, which will then be synchronised with the master fixture list whenever your device is connected to the internet.

News and other information

We will continue to use our own website for [Sports News](#) weekly round-ups of results and information about any major forthcoming fixtures, which will also be included in our weekly eNewsletters.

Home matches

If you are intending to watch any of the home matches, please be aware that the pitch allocation may not be finalised until the day itself, although you can view the [current position of the pitches here](#).

Do please remember that **match teas** are provided for all parents and families (not just those supporting our own teams!) in Quod - the Sixth Form common room - after home matches on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Quod is situated almost next door to the Registry, and the entrance to it is from the Moser Quadrangle.

Annual Prep Schools U11 and U13 Football Tournament

Monday 9 September 2013

Despite increasingly soggy conditions on Sunday 8th September, Shrewsbury's annual under-11 and under-13 Prep Schools Football Tournament was played in great spirit, with some high-level football skills on display, as Giles Bell describes.



Above l to r: Priory School v Prestfelde in the U13s Final; Hallfield v The Ryleys; Beech Hall v Packwood

The weather forecast for Sunday was "changeable", but the first games of the Prep Schools Football Tournament began in bright sunshine and the footballers shone in their clean bright shirts, casting a rainbow of colour across the pristine School pitches. The Tournament has been running for over 20 years now and is a well established part of the football calendar. I noticed that the BBC 5 Live had sent their popular football pundit Robbie Savage to give them updates throughout the day... or maybe he was here to watch the Ryleys team that included his son!

The crowd was behaving itself and being treated to some high quality football. This came as no surprise, as there were players on Aston Villa, Arsenal and West Bromwich Albion's books. It was fantastic to witness the enthusiasm of youth playing with passion, pace and power. The willingness to take players on and go for goal is something that the England manager could take note of after his side's drab display against the Ukraine.

The rain came and tried to dampen spirits but failed, as sanctuary was sought in Quod for the best cakes this side of Battenberg. The players continued despite the conditions and the ball was now zipping around on the greasy surface, increasing the precision passing game played by so many of the teams. A complete and uplifting rainbow was a dramatic back cloth to the final few matches.

For two teams the pot of gold was growing ever closer. In the under-13 tournament the Priory School Edgbaston had just too much for Foremarke School in an exciting and well contested final. The under-11 tournament was won by Hallfield in a dramatic sudden death penalty shoot-out after a tense and scoreless final against Prestfelde. Typically the missed penalty hit the post, amply exemplifying the tight margin between the two teams.

I hope that those who witnessed the events of the day returned to their homes and schools exhilarated after such a feast of football. I very much hope that some of the players on show will be back at some time in the future with a Salopian shirt on. If they do, I sense the future of Shrewsbury School football will be assured.

Results of all the matches can be found on the [Shrewsbury School Prep Schools Six-a-side Football Tournament website](#).

GJFB



New Boys Race 2013 - Moser's Third Formers run to victory at the first attempt

Monday 9 September 2013



At the end of a tiring first week of term, all of the new boys lined up ready for this annual event – a first opportunity to represent their new Houses and compete against their new school mates; albeit over a very old course around the School grounds.

Once Huntsman (and Head of School) Rory Fraser had safely shepherded his flock away from the start line and off to far-flung corners of the School Site, the watching supporters could only guess at how the race was unfolding. Nonetheless, the front runners were not out of sight for more than a few minutes and soon enough the bright red sweater of the Huntsman emerged from the woodland on the School bank. There was no longer a big pack of runners behind him, but only the fastest of the new boys were still within sight of him; the bright colours on the collars and cuffs of their brand-new PE shirts giving away which House they represent. I was delighted to see a red/black shirt among that first group - in fact two together, and then I spotted a couple more just a few places further back! Will and Archie were battling it out for the 3rd place bronze medal, while Dom and Fred had also run a fine race to be in 16th and 17th places.

The top five from each House combine their results to produce an overall winning team, and so when Scott and James were safely over the line too, just a little further back, the speculation began. With the last few boys safely home and Matron's stash of drinks and snacks thoroughly demolished, the results were announced. Ridgemount 3rd, Rigg's 2nd and Moser's 1st! Medals for the team (two for Will who pipped Archie for the individual bronze) and plenty of enthusiastic praise from the big boys when they got back to Moser's - good news travels fast.

Well done troops!

PP

Below: Huntsman Rory Fraser and Senior Whip Ralph Wade lead the way at the start of the New Boys' Race



New Boys' Race 2013

Monday 9 September 2013



Huntsman Rory Fraser and Senior Whip Ralph Wade lead the way at the start of the New Boys' Race

Saturday afternoon blessed Shrewsbury School with beautiful sunshine as the Third Form assembled for their New Boys' Race. Mercifully though, conditions were much cooler than last year and with little wind, it looked as if everything was in place for a great contest.

As boys nervously pinned numbers to each other's shirts in the few minutes leading up to the race, equally nervous housemasters were sounding each other out as to whether they thought they might have a chance this year of breaking Rigg's recent stranglehold. Nobody seemed to know: it was anybody's race.

Huntsman Rory Fraser, looking resplendent in full kit including black velvet cap, red top and (crucially) the ancient bugle and whip, led the boys round Alington Hall in a brief warm-up before sending them off to the start line on Central. Once Mr Haworth had explained the course, duties were handed back to Rory to sound the old cry of 'All hounds who wish to run, run hard, run true, and may the Devil take the hindmost!' A quick toot on the bugle and the entire pack of boys immediately charged in his direction, and would follow him (as 'hare') the entire way round the one-and-a-half-mile course known to Salopians for generations as the 'Benjy' (so named to irritate the Headmaster, Benjamin Kennedy, who loathed running and wanted it banned!).

An early lead was taken by Owen Mock of Rigg's Hall, closely followed by George Garrett of Churchill's. The first ten places remained fairly spread out in a first half of the race which was cautiously paced. Speed was built up down Oldham's Gap however, and the second half saw the leaders move through the gears. Further down the field, there were some fantastic battles going on as everyone fought to be as high up the field as possible, knowing that it could make the difference for their House.



Parents, staff and pupils gathered expectantly around Main School Building hoping to catch a glimpse of the leading runner as he rounded Chapel, and as Owen and George came into view they began to put on a sprint for the line. Owen was marginally too strong for George to pass though, and a fantastic race was won for the third year in a row by a Riggite. Will Blanchard-Butter was only a few seconds behind to take the bronze medal for Moser's Hall, with fellow Moserite Artyom Kutovoy soon after that in fourth. A full twenty-one runners managed to cross the line in under ten minutes, which shows that there is a great deal of talent among this crop of 'New Boys'.

As the rest of the field came home, housemasters once again began chattering nervously about potential House victors. It seemed fairly evenly spread, with no obvious domination by any one house.

A few minutes later, clutching the results in his hand, Mr Haworth spoke to the exhausted athletes about how impressed he'd been by the level of commitment shown across the board. Everyone, it seemed, had really given their best effort. And so to the results: once the individual runners had been congratulated and medals issued, third place in the House event was announced as won by Ridgemount, with 93 points. Only a couple of points ahead were Rigg's in second with 91, but the winning house this year (and for the first time in a number of years) went to Moser's Hall, winning convincingly in the end by 18 points (a total of 73). Congratulations to them and to the beaming Dr Pattenden!

This really was a superb effort by this new Third Form, and well done to everyone who took part with such enthusiasm. Hopefully this is just the start of many glittering Hunt careers among our new cohort of Salopians. Thanks to all the staff and boys – in particular the grounds staff and marshalls along the route – who enabled this race to happen.

IPH

Note: Hunt training for the Third and Fourth Form takes place every Thursday at 5pm; meet at the Stott Pavilion.

Below (l to r): Owen Mock crosses the finish line in 1st place just ahead of George Garrett; the victorious Moser's team; sprinting for the finish line.



Shrewsbury School dads pedalling from Land's End to John O'Groats

Monday 9 September 2013

We were delighted to welcome 'Six Fat Dads' (looking remarkably svelte) as they dropped into Ingram's for a cuppa on Monday 9th September en route from Land's End to John O'Groats.



L to r: Nigel Stubley, Philip Horsnall, Peter Botham, Ben Stubley, Martin Speed and Ian Heap

Pedalling hard on Day 4 of their mammoth journey were Martin Speed, father of current Shrewsbury pupils Will (UVI), Charlie (IV) and Bertie (3), their uncle Peter Botham, Nigel and Ben Stubley, and Ian Heap and Philip Horsnall, whose sons Oscar and Ollie left Shrewsbury this summer.

The Fat Dads Team have been cycling together for many years, although this is their longest journey to date. They are raising money for six charities – Derbyshire Community Foundation, Derby Breast Cancer Support, Derbyshire/Leicestershire/Rutland Air Ambulance, Ashgate Hospice, NeuroCare and Help the Hospices – and have already received donations totalling almost £30,000.

They are currently on schedule to complete the journey in just nine days. “We’re all due into work on Monday morning,” they said cheerfully as they downed the last swig of tea, climbed back on their bikes and set off for into north Shropshire. Only another 567 miles to go!



Cricket: U15A XI defeat Sedbergh to win through to the National U15 T20 Final

Monday 9 September 2013

Having won through to the National U15 T20 Finals Day for the third year running in a tense match against Malvern, Shrewsbury's U15A XI went on to defeat Sedbergh by 6 wickets in the semi-final, played at Arundel Castle on the morning of Sunday 8th September. Although the final itself should have taken place that afternoon, by lunchtime the weather had closed in and the heavens had opened. So the final against Whitgift School is now scheduled for 12pm on Sunday 15th September and will take place at Long Marston Cricket Club, Hertfordshire.

In the semi-final, Shrewsbury lost the toss and Sedbergh decided to bat. After seven overs and through excellent bowling from openers George Panayi and Charlie Home, Sedbergh had lost four wickets and looked doomed to a total under 100. The fifth wicket prospered for Sedbergh however, and it wasn't until Panayi came back for a second spell that Shrewsbury wrestled back some initiative. Sedbergh recovered to 148 for 9, with Panayi 4 for 23 and Home 2 for 11, the pick of the bowlers.

In reply, Shrewsbury opening batsman Harry Adair and Harry Schofield got the innings off to a flyer with the help of some wayward Sedbergh bowling. For the first 9 to 10 overs, Shrewsbury scored at around ten per over, well ahead of the required rate. Adair (19), Panayi (27), Parsonage (14) and Home (14*) all made important and speedy contributions. However it was Harry Schofield who glued the innings together with a sensible 44 not out from 44 balls.

As a result of the victory, Shrewsbury will be appearing in their third Final at this level in five seasons, having won the competition in 2009.

Meanwhile, the Final of the U17s National Cup between Shrewsbury and Portsmouth Grammar School also had to be postponed, when rain prevented any play on Wednesday 1st September. It has been rescheduled for Wednesday 18th September at Cumnor CC.

Societies Fair

Tuesday 10 September 2013

Quod was buzzing with excitement and activity on Monday afternoon at the annual Societies Fair.



Beekeeping equipment, a racing car built by Fourth Formers, mountain bike films, kayaking photos, archery bows, polo sticks and Chinese calligraphy brushes were just some of the props on display to show new entrants some of the vast array of extra-curricular clubs and activities on offer at the School. Enthusiastic club representatives were on hand to answer questions about their activities and were eagerly signing up new members.





Former England scrum-half joins Shrewsbury's rugby coaching staff

Thursday 12 September 2013



We are delighted to welcome Shaun Perry to our rugby coaching staff this term. The former England, Bristol, Brive and Worcester scrum-half retired from the professional ranks last season and is continuing his coaching career at Shrewsbury, as well as at Midlands club Dudley Kingswinford RFC, which is where Shaun started his own playing career.

Shaun won 14 caps for England, and is one of a select group of players who scored for England on Test debut, against New Zealand at Twickenham in 2006. Shaun was a member of the 2007 England World Cup squad who reached the Final in Paris. Shaun will coach our senior squads this term and next.



Salopian selected for the Under-19 Cricket World Cup provisional squad

Thursday 12 September 2013

Ed Barnard (PH UVI) is one of 20 cricketers to have been named in the provisional Under-19 World Cup Squad for next February. He will be aiming to wow the selectors when the squad meet later next month, and hoping to be included in the final 15-man squad that will be announced in November. Meanwhile, a number of other current and former pupils made national cricket headlines this summer.

Last month Ed Barnard (*pictured right*) captained England's Under-17 side in two of their one-day international series against Sri Lanka. After a 12-week lay-off with a stress fracture of his back, he was delighted to make his comeback game an international affair. Although England lost the series 2-1, Edward scored 55 in the third and deciding game. He also represented Worcestershire 2nd XI recently in their game against Northamptonshire.

Ed's fellow Shrewsbury Under-17 team member and captain Henry Blofield (PH) represented the MCC Schools at Lords on 3rd September in their fixture against ESCA Schools. Henry scored 26 and took 2 wickets in his 10 overs but finished on the losing side. (For more details see <http://www.lords.org/september/esca-beat-mcc-schools-at-lords/>.) Henry also made his debut for Shropshire in their three-day Minor Counties fixture against Cheshire at Nantwich in August.

A number of Old Salopian cricketers made headlines during the summer. James Taylor (R 2003-08) was selected for the Ashes squad at Old Trafford as cover for the injured Kevin Pietersen. He eventually played for England in their One Day International against Ireland in Dublin last week.

Joe Leach (M 2004-09) has now made his way into the Worcestershire side and scored his maiden first class century against Gloucestershire at the Cheltenham Festival in August. Joe's younger brother Stephen (M 2007-12) has been a prolific run scorer both for Shropshire and for Warwickshire 2nd XI.

Rhuadhri Smith (Rt 2010-12) has been playing for Scotland's 40-over side in the Yorkshire Bank League. He also made his first class debut for Glamorgan in their county championship 2nd division game with Kent, bowling former West Indian test player Brendan Nash with his first ball.

Also of note was the Varsity match between Oxford and Cambridge, where Old Salopians opposed each other; Ben Williams (Rt 2008-10) represented the Dark Blues while Alasdair Pollock (I 2010-12) opened the bowling for the Light Blues.



Football: Shrewsbury welcomes back Liverpool Ramblers AFC, friends and rivals since 1883

Thursday 12 September 2013

Founded by Liverpool public schoolboys in 1882, the Liverpool Ramblers are the third oldest amateur football club in England. They played their first match against Shrewsbury in March 1883. One hundred and thirty years later, on 7th September 2013 – and for the fiftieth consecutive year – we welcomed the Ramblers back to Shrewsbury for their annual fixture against the School's senior teams.



Nick Kennedy (Ramblers President) and author Jo Russell present copies of 'Liverpool Ramblers AFC: A Complete History' to Master-in-Charge of Football Steve Biggins and Giles Bell (5th XI Coach and Ref)

It is always a delight to welcome the Ramblers to the School, as they are old friends and their teams are often permeated with Old Salopians. This year there were two young men returning to their *alma mater*, and it was good to see that both Jamie Bradshaw (M 2007-12) and Sam Bryan (R 2007-09) had lost none of their pace, skill, guile and charm! The School Second XI went down 3-1 but it is early in the season and coach Clarke was up beat about the performance stating that there were plenty of positives to be gleaned from the match.

The 3rd XI game was also a win for the Ramblers, but the game was rather overshadowed by a nasty injury to Rambler Phil Morley, who had just returned to the club. Everyone at Shrewsbury would like to wish him well and we all hope he is back here next year.

The 4th XI was the only game won by the school and manager Colm Kealy was delighted with his team's performance. Indeed he was talking of entering the 4th XI for the FA cup, such was his optimism for the forthcoming season after the game!



The 5th XI always entertain the veterans and the games have been generally close for a few years now. A competitive match ended with a last minute equalizer for the Ramblers and a 1-1 score line. It was probably a fair reflection of the game as shrewdness, experience and know how was matched by youthful enthusiasm, fitness and energy.

After the match we were delighted to be presented with two copies of Jo Russell's "Liverpool Ramblers AFC, the Complete History". Giles Bell has refereed Ramblers matches for 22 of the last 23 years at various levels and was more than complimentary about the fixture. "I always look forward to the Ramblers fixtures. The games are played in a good spirit and the boys generally learn the right type of lessons. I have been lucky enough to go to a couple of Ramblers Dinners in Liverpool and I have always enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and the chance to talk football into the small hours in one of the world's great footballing cities. Jo's book is a fascinating work of football history and has already been much admired by keen enthusiasts of the game here."

GJFB

The Great Escape from Shrewsbury School

Thursday 12 September 2013

Forty Third Formers from Churchill's, Severn Hill, Ridgemount and Oldham's relaxed following their first frantic week at Shrewsbury at 'The Great Escape', an activity centre tucked away in the idyllic south Shropshire countryside between Bishop's Castle and Clun (which the poet Housman thought 'the quietest place under the sun')...



...Not so quiet last Sunday afternoon, however, as the boys competed with each other paintballing, constructing bridges over shark-infested waters (or lava flows, as one imaginative Third Former preferred to think: there could after all be safe gaps between sharks) and various other outdoor problem-solving tasks which tested the initiative of many to the limit, and indeed beyond.

The weather was kinder than the forecasters had been prepared to let on, and the boys returned muddy and wet but reinvigorated for the second half of their Foundation Fortnight.

RTH





A Week in the Life of the new Third Form

Thursday 12 September 2013

Many thanks to Thomas Brennan of Ingram's and to Angus Moore, Sebastian Ingram and Oliver Hodges of Severn Hill for writing about their first week at Shrewsbury.



Severn Hill Third Form at the New Boys' Race - one week into the new term

Back row: James Crewdson, Sebastian Ingram, Robert Ford, Oliver Hodges, Dominic Ainslie, Tom Brunskill

Front row: Johnnie Peel, Cameron Annyl, Charlie Naylor, Angus Moore

Sunday 1st September

Angus Moore (S): Having been to Shrewsbury the previous day to drop off my older brother, it was my turn to unpack my bags. The Sixth Formers' heads peered out of the windows on the upper floor, awaiting the arrival of the newcomers, and having been examined thoroughly, I strode through the door and into the entrance hall. I knew where my room was, and having reserved the better bed the previous day, I began to unpack the bags. My roommate Ben Higgins and his friend James Parsonage helped me to settle in well. Soon, however, we were sent downstairs to awkwardly mingle with the other new pupils, and within a few minutes we had to say goodbye to our parents and were whisked off to be talked to by the headmaster. After this we walked to KH, and having been bamboozled by the complexity of the cafeteria, we ended up in the dining room. Soon the day ended and, being tired, we fell asleep immediately.

Monday 2nd September

Thomas Brennan (I): First day of lessons. After a whole school assembly we were taken to our first

lesson at Shrewsbury - Maths. Introductions by our teachers followed and we moved from lesson to lesson, stopping for a brief visit to our houses around eleven. After break there were more lessons, followed by lunch. On Monday there is Societies Hour and on this occasion we were introduced to the Director of Music, who encouraged us all to try an instrument.

Afternoon lessons came and went and we were soon ready for sport. This particular afternoon we played a practice in-house match ready for B-Leagues, the inter-house football leagues. Eventually it was time to return to house and do our homework before another meeting with the Housemaster and afterwards, after a long tiring day, to bed.

Tuesday 3rd September

Angus Moore (S): At 8.35am we had our first Tutor period and we talked about Top Schools, sports and lessons. After lessons, we had our first inter-house match, where we beat Rigg's 11-1 after having an introduction to Fives in the Fives courts. We had our rowing swimming test in the evening, where we had to swim in our games kit, which was more challenging than it first seemed.

Oliver Hodges (S): Eventually, after finishing our Top Schools (something we learnt about very quickly) we went downstairs for Dix - Shrewsbury slang for a house meeting – and returned back to our dorms before bed. By now the routine of the School had started to settle in and after two days everything started to feel more familiar, and my legs had started to adjust to the long walks - especially to the Kennedy Building from Severn Hill, which is an absolute trek!

Wednesday 4th September

Sebastian Ingram (S): We were woken up at 7.10am and were taken to breakfast, getting to know the route. Lessons started at 9.00am and we all had a mixture of lessons. I had Physics. It was the first time, so I was anxious. After we'd had lunch, we were led to the Fives courts. We were looking forward to giving the sport a go. It appeared we weren't very good, but it was great fun, even though it hurt our hands a little.

Thursday 5th September

Sebastian Ingram (S): After a hard morning of work, we were relieved that we had no lessons and excited as we were doing one of the School's main sports – rowing. First we had to do the ergos and then we got in the boat. We weren't the best at keeping in time and we didn't know what the cox was saying but we did manage to get going. Afterwards we arrived at KH for a warm supper.



Severn Hill Third Form on the river for the first time

Friday 6th September

Angus Moore: Normal lessons continued during the week and we had several sporting events, such as introductions to cricket and rowing, as well as football trials where we played Moser's in a competitive match in front of the A team's coaches. We eventually ran out winners. We were being set relatively light Top Schools, and part Song auditions for the House took place, and rehearsals began soon afterwards.

Saturday 7th September

Sebastian Ingram: The New Boys' Race. You could tell that there was an amount of competitive spirit in the air as we heard the noise signalling the start of the race. It was gruelling and felt like forever, but we were soon finished and greeted with a nice Mars bar at the finishing line.



Ingram's Third Formers catching their breath after the New Boys' Race
Back row: Damian Kam, Jon-Pierre Hamilton, Gen Songthammakul
Front row: Monty Hardcastle, Bertie Speed, Ed Stapleton, Thomas Brennan



Thomas Brennan: In the evening we all went to Quod to participate in the entire year quiz, featuring lots of general knowledge questions for the masses. Pizza was delivered and devoured hungrily. All too soon the evening was over and it was time to return to bed.

Sunday 8th September

Oliver Hodges: As the weekend approached, the prospect of paintballing lifted our tired bodies. Spirits were high as we arrived at 'The Great Escape'. Here we conquered many difficult and team-building activities until the moment came for the paint-balling. After donning our suits and masks we set out, with nerves and adrenaline spreading like a disease. Finally it started, and at that moment chaos prevailed and Mr Cooley used his agility to cause havoc among the arena, along with Dom using his previous experience to his advantage. However, the fun had to come to an end, and we all returned to the House feeling tired yet content after our first week. *(A brief account of the afternoon and some photos may be found on the [Great Escape from Shrewsbury School](#) page.)*

Thomas Brennan: Today was a bonding experience for the boys and after a wonderful service in St Mary's Church, an occasion that takes place once a year, we headed out for Sunday lunch and our afternoon trips. For my particular house, the activity was go-karting. After waiting for the rain to clear, we took to the track. It was very difficult due to the conditions and there were many spin-offs. After an exciting afternoon we returned to School and reflected back to the previous Sunday, already seeming such a long time ago. Reflecting back on my first week, I can really appreciate what I have been able to do here that I couldn't have done anywhere else. Already this place has become part of me and I could not imagine being anywhere else.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Cricket: U15A XI are crowned joint National T20 Champions

Saturday 14 September 2013

Having won through to the National U15 T20 Finals Day for the third year running in a tense match against Malvern, Shrewsbury's U15A XI went on to defeat Sedbergh by 6 wickets in the semi-final, played at Arundel Castle on the morning of Sunday 8th September. Although the final itself should have taken place that afternoon, by lunchtime the weather had closed in and the heavens had opened.

The final against Whitgift School was originally scheduled for Sunday 15th September, but heavy rain and a poor weather forecast have meant that the match has had to be cancelled. Shrewsbury and Whitgift have therefore been declared joint National Champions.

Third Form Foundation Fortnight

Monday 16 September 2013



First taste of rowing



A force to be reckoned with in the New Boys' Race (centre) and runners-up in the inter-house 6-a-side football tournament



End of Foundation Fortnight Celebration Breakfast

Lower Sixth 'Grand Prix'

Monday 16 September 2013



On Sunday 15th September, a posse of pumped-up petrolheads from Rigg's Hall travelled to the Rednal karting track for the eagerly-anticipated Lower Sixth 'Grand Prix' that would set apart the men from the boys. With three new Sixth Form entrants into their number, there was an added frisson of excitement with the untested skills of these 'newbies' who had honed their racing skills in America, Australia and Hong Kong.

The rain lashed down as the minibus pulled up at the track (with Housemaster PJM getting an early 'practice lap' as he drove from Shrewsbury to Oswestry), and conditions were going to prove testing. Indeed, after the five lap time-trial to decide pole position, a number of the Riggites had already succumbed to the treacherous conditions, and Ed Graves managed to not only break one kart, but got a flat tyre in his second kart leaving him starting last on the grid.

A quietly smug PJM posted the fastest lap time to take pole position, though he nervously looked over his shoulder to see that maverick motor machine Reiss Rashid would be in pursuit second on the grid. New Sixth Form entrant Nick Cabot from Boston was the real unknown entity, though there was some debate as to whether he would actually fit his 6ft 7" frame into the



kart, or if he did, whether his splayed gangly knees would mean his kart was impossible to overtake.

Needless to say, as the karts revved and awaited the starter's flag, it was as if time stood still in that lonely corner of Shropshire, but with the swift downward stroke of the starter's flag, it was peddle to the metal and the charge for the first corner, almost as speedy as the opening 100 yards of the annual Tucks running race.

Rashid was an early victim of too much adrenaline with a race-ruining 360 spinout, allowing the nippy Irishman Jack Kinnaird to zip through to take second place. He would claim to be on the tail of PJM for much of the race, though video replays of the race on Sky Sports confirmed that this was nonsense. In fact, unfortunately for Jack, he was to be denied second place with a late fly-by surge from Will Schofield, though there were dark mutterings amongst the others that as a local, he had spent much of the summer holiday practising and training.

Thankfully, all survived the race, though particularly impressive wipeouts were spectacularly executed by Nick Cabot and George Patterson, both of whom are used to using oars not steering wheels. The race winner was – of course – the Rigg's Housemaster PJM, though I suppose he had a slight advantage in having been driving for 15 years. And yes, he had spent most of the summer holiday practising and training...

PJM

Cricket: School Firsts awarded for outstanding contributions to 1st XI success

Monday 16 September 2013



*Back row (l to r): George Lewis, Joe Carrasco
Front row (l to r): Charlie White, Charles Kidson, William Cook*

Congratulations to Joe Carrasco (Rt UVI), William Cook (Rt UVI), Charles Kidson (G UVI), George Lewis (I LVI) and Charlie White (G LVI), who have been awarded School Firsts for their outstanding contributions to the 1st XI's victories this summer in both the Silk Trophy and the HMC U18 National T20 Competition.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



Cricket: U17A XI are joint winners of the National U17s Cup

Tuesday 17 September 2013

Originally scheduled for Wednesday 11th September, the final of the National U17s Cup had to be postponed when heavy rain interrupted the match after only 30 overs of it had been played. Shrewsbury had made 136, batting first on a green surface at Cumnor CC, Oxfordshire.

Sadly, further rain during the week and a wet forecast for the new match date of Wednesday 18th September meant that the Final had to be called off. It will not now be rearranged, and Shrewsbury and Portsmouth Grammar School have therefore agreed to share the National U17s trophy, which is sponsored by School Sport magazine.



Young Engineers win 'Best Engineered Car' Trophy for the second year running

Tuesday 17 September 2013

To build a car from scratch and race it on a professional track... aged 14... The stuff of dreams, surely?

But that is exactly what our Young Engineers group have been doing - and winning awards for their engineering skills to boot.



During the course of the year, a small group of Third and Fourth Formers are to be found in the Design and Technology Department on Wednesday afternoons, arranging their time around their sporting commitments to build an electric racing car. Last Thursday the Young Engineers Group took the car they began building last October to the Liverpool Motor Club Circuit at Aintree for the Greenpower North West Regional Heat of the National Formula 24 competition. The race meeting was attended by over 30 teams from as far afield as Scotland.

After a drivers' briefing and an initial scrutiny of the cars to make sure they met all the regulations of the competition, each team took to the track so that the drivers could familiarise themselves with the circuit and get used to driving with other cars around them.

During the midday break, representatives from Imech (Institute of Mechanical Engineers) formally inspected each car and talked to the team members. Then it was time to get down to racing. The Shrewsbury team made their final checks and prepared to take on some of the best cars in the country in a four-hour endurance race which would entail three changes of batteries and five changes of driver – each car trying to gain a qualifying distance for the National Finals at Goodwood next month.

At 1:00pm the flag dropped and they were off.



As the race progressed, Shrewsbury's car seemed to be going slower than expected, compared with its excellent performance back in May at the first Greenpower race of the season at Mallory Park. Had we selected the wrong gear ratios for the circuit? Did we need to review our race strategy?



The boys battled on and completed the four hours of racing feeling a little disappointed, but discussion soon started on how to improve performance and distance for the next race at Castle Combe Circuit in Wiltshire in ten days' time. And spirits were soon lifted when we were given the news that for the second year running, our team had been awarded the Imech "Best Engineered Car" Trophy.

We appreciate the help from the local companies Mansers, Quest 88 and RMJ Mouldings who have supported the boys, Edward Jones (M), Mat Owen-Sinclair (M), Alex King (M), Paddy Cope (Ch), Cosmo Barratt (I) and Thomas Scott Bell (I), this year. A

few more miles and we could be off to Goodwood next month, and then it's back into the workshop to start building a completely new car ready for next season.

*Pictured above (l to r) with D&T Master John Holloway are Edward Jones (M), Matt Owen-Sinclair (M), Cosmo Barratt (I) and Thomas Scott-Bell (I) in the driving seat
JEH*



Unprecedented success for Shrewsbury's cricketers

Tuesday 17 September 2013

Shrewsbury has achieved the unique distinction of being declared National Champions at under-18, under-17 and under-15 level. The under-14 side have also qualified as Regional Champions for the national Lord's Taverners Trophy in 2014.

At the beginning of July, the 1st XI were crowned HMC U18s National Twenty20 Champions, two days after defeating Eton, Oundle and St Peter's Adelaide to win the prestigious Silk Trophy.

In the semi-finals of the National U15 Twenty20 on 8th September, Shrewsbury's U15A XI defeated Sedbergh by 6 wickets. They were scheduled to meet Whitgift School in the final that afternoon, but sadly the weather closed in, the heavens opened and the match was postponed. Heavy rain and a poor weather forecast a week later meant that the final had to be cancelled. As it was not possible to rearrange a new date, Shrewsbury and Whitgift were declared joint National Champions.

The under-17s have also been the victims of the recent spell of wet weather. Having won through to the final of the U17 National Cup sponsored by School Sport magazine, they managed to play only 30 overs against Portsmouth Grammar School at Cumnor CC last week before the match had to be abandoned. Although it was postponed, further heavy rain preceding the rescheduled date meant that their final, too, had to be cancelled. Shrewsbury and Portsmouth Grammar have therefore agreed to share the national U17s title.



The U17 XI



The 1st XI



The U15A XI



Combined Cadet Force Annual Central Camp, July 2013

Wednesday 18 September 2013



The annual CCF Central Camp is a fun week led by members of the regular forces, with a good balance of military and adventure-style training, all with the aim of developing young people and their leadership skills. The base for this year's camp was an army training camp in Sennybridge, South Wales.

For the Shrewsbury School contingent, the week started with 'The Holy Grail', a multi-activity team-building race, where cadets had to earn points from doing archery, command tasks and the formidable 'Jacobs Ladder' challenge (a 40-metre suspended ladder with only six rungs – see pictures). Once they had sufficient points, they could exchange them for bikes to get them to an orienteering area where they needed yet more points to trade for raft-building materials. The day finished with a raft build in order to claim 'the Holy Grail' – a padlocked barrel – from the River Wye. Needless to say, the teams all got extremely wet!

Day two of the camp was Exercise Day. The cadets were deployed into a small plantation. Once they'd cleared it and confirmed it free of enemy, they established a harbour area by erecting bashas (shelters). They then had numerous operations to fulfil, including reces, clearance patrols and a night ambush. It was an exciting and tense night.

The remainder of the week was filled with more military-style activities. The highlight for many was the day spent with the Royal Engineers. The team learnt how to correctly lash planks and barrels together, producing a huge raft for at least a section of cadets. This particular day ended with numerous raft races between our own cadets and cadets from other schools.

Maj Jo Billington





A Week in the Life of Ed Plaut (S IV)

Wednesday 18 September 2013

Ed is in the Fourth Form in Severn Hill and is a keen sportsman, actor, debater and cellist. He is also an active member of the Model United Nations group, where he is starting to make his mark as an accomplished speaker.

Monday 9th September

The alarm bleeps loudly at 7am, rudely awakening me from my lovely warm bed. It's then a quick shower and down to KH for breakfast, before getting back to house and going off to double Geography with Mr Fox, learning about hydrographs and drainage basins, which is more interesting than it sounds. This is followed by History, Maths and Chemistry before lunch. After lunch it's off to Physics with Mr Balcombe, learning about voltage and current before a slightly more laid back lesson in RS with Mr Dalton, watching Richard Dawkins rudely attack Christianity on video for 40 minutes. After RS I rush back to house stick on my football gear and run up to Top Common for A team football practice, only to find out I've been moved teams and that I'm not needed



for that session. Then back to house to finish off some English coursework, then dinner, then more Top Schools. Finally I crash into bed tiredly at 10 and fall asleep.

Tuesday 10th September

Before school on Tuesday is always Tutor Period, and my Tutor this year is Mr Morris, so it's off to the Lyle Bs before first period for the always entertaining session. Another double lesson first thing today, this time Biology with Mr Allott. A practical involving jelly blocks, acid and a broken vial ensued, but it did actually have some academic meaning to do with diffusion. Then it was Geography and after break, History with Mr Cook, which is always amusing in some way. English and RS followed, and then Maths with Miss Burge, which ended in a game of darts, which certainly lightened up learning about probabilities. Then it was the dash back to Severn Hill on the other side of campus to get changed for football.

After an hour of practice, it was time for B Leagues, one of the house football leagues. B Leagues could be compared to the Champions League or the World Cup, but that would be understating their magnificence. The Severn Hill team, who have been likened to the all-conquering Cardiff City, stepped out onto the illustrious turf of Upper Kingsland to attempt to defeat reigning champions Port Hill. An hour later, Severn Hill 9 Port Hill 1, a victory that included five goals from myself. Then it was a bit of Top Schools and some work on my Model United Nations resolution for the next day, and then back to my warm bed.



Wednesday 11th September

Wednesday brings the delight of Fourth and Fifth Form Chapel with it, so before double Spanish it's off to the Chapel through the drizzle to listen to Reverend Dobbie deliver his talk on a piece of art and how it is connected to Christianity. This week was the mismatched stained glass window of Lincoln Cathedral, and how God picks up our metaphorical "pieces" and puts them back together.

After Chapel it's double Spanish on the top floor of MSBs with Mrs Wright, learning about the imperfect and preterite tenses. Not exciting stuff, but it's got to be learnt I suppose. Then it's triple science, with Physics followed by double Chemistry. We are doing tests for negative ions in Chemistry which is good fun, mixing and heating chemicals to find out what colour certain ions are. Then it's sport, and afterwards some of my mates and I bravely venture out into town in the heavy rain, getting drenched - all for a Subway sandwich (it was worth it).

After town I head back to the house to gather my preparation for MUN (Model United Nations), and head off to MSBs. I am proposing a resolution on Chemical and Biological Weapons as if I was a British diplomat at the UN, talking to try and get my resolution passed. MUN is great fun, and is never entirely serious, with the Vatican City threatening to excommunicate all those states who don't vote for my resolution, and some very strange analogies involving chemical weapons being compared to angry mothers-in-law. In the end my resolution doesn't pass, but it was quite closely run. After MUN it is off to dinner and then back to house to do some more Top Schools and then to bed.

Thursday 12th September

There had been rumours of a fire drill happening early on Thursday morning, and so I am greatly relieved to be awoken by my alarm at 7.20 instead of at 6 by a loud fire alarm. As the Fourth Form have nothing on this morning, the pace is slightly slower as we amble down to breakfast and then on to lessons. My favourite two periods of the week are double History on a Thursday morning, and this morning is as entertaining as last week. We work hard learning about the Treaty of Versailles and the aftermath of World War 1, but the fun really happens in the break between the two periods. These five minutes normally consists of Mr Cook showing us some extremely funny YouTube clips, and this week is no different, featuring llamas with hats and a trailer for one of the great amateur horror films of all time, 'Possum Death Spree'.

After History it's off to Maths, English and then a cello lesson with Mrs Bingham. Thursday afternoon brings with it CCF, my chosen activity for the year. This week we learn about the No8 rifle, and how to safety check it, as well as how to march and stand to attention (known as drill in the CCF) and also field signals. After that lot it's the annual CCF recruit tradition, the River Run. This involves a run down to the River Severn, then up the Reabrook tributary (in the actual water) before running back up to school via an alternative way that involves pulling yourself up an extremely steep bank with a rope. As we were the second last group to start, the slope was slick with water and muddy, and getting up was a real challenge. However, in the end my group finished second out of six, which was quite good. After that I head back to house for a shower, much needed after all the mud, before a quick game of football on the house pitch and then dinner.

Friday 13th September

First thing on Friday morning is double RS with Mr Dalton, in which we take notes about miracles before going off through the never-ending drizzle to English with Mr Sheppe. Double Physics follows after break, and then Spanish and Geography after lunch. After lessons I have football again, so I put on my kit and head for Top Common. Today we play a practice match



with the squad split in half, and after getting embarrassingly beaten between my legs for the oppositions first goal, I play OK. Eventually, my team end up losing 5-3 and we head off for dinner. After dinner it's the usual routine of shower, work and sleep.

Saturday 14th September

My alarm goes off at 7.20 today as its Saturday and I have nothing on before lessons, and first thing is PSHE with Mrs Peak, a slightly more relaxed lesson than the other subjects, before Biology and Maths. In Biology we do a practical to investigate osmosis, and in Maths we do sine and cosine rules. Then it's off to Grot Shop for break, grabbing a snack before going to ICT with Mr Fox and then Spanish. As it's a Saturday, there are no afternoon lessons so I head back to house. It's the afternoon of the Third Form 6-a-side, and it's a good result for Severn Hill, who finish second, losing narrowly to Ridgemount in the final. On Saturday nights I tend to order in a takeaway pizza and watch a film with some mates, and tonight we watch "Lost Lake". Then it's off to bed, looking forward to my lie-in the next day as it is evening chapel the next day.

Sunday 15th September

A lie-in this morning as chapel is in the evening, and I sleep in to the glorious time of 9.30. I heat up the remnants of my pizza from the previous night, and after much procrastination I finally get down to my second draft of my English coursework. After I finally finish this I have a couple of games of Fifa with my mates, and then after a few more hours of pure procrastination I finally get down to revising some Chemistry for a test the next day. Chapel is a shorter, evening service today that starts at 8.30 and is finished by 9, so after Chapel I finish my chemistry revision and head for bed.



Preparing for life beyond school - words of advice from an Old Grovite

Wednesday 18 September 2013



We were delighted that Old Grovite and Head of House Julian Barratt (1992-97) was kind enough to come and talk to the House about university and preparing for the world of work beyond.

Appropriately perhaps for the MD of SNG Barratt Group (Jaguar), Julian arrived in style in a 1965 E-type. He spoke about the days when, under Peter Fanning, the House was full of rowers and was expected to be up there winning House Singing... We

kept an embarrassed silence before pointing out that we'd been doing rather well at other things in recent times!

Julian then got down to business and spoke to the House about how to make themselves stand out from the crowd, and how to get on in an ever-more competitive world. He connected brilliantly with everyone and his talk and thoughts were well received by all. Our current Head of House, Jack Hodges then gave him a tour - and he had a look at the old House photos. Observations included that Julian was a very big Third Former (no doubt why he went on to enjoy a fine rowing career) and that Huw Peach hasn't changed a bit in all the many years he has been a Tutor in the House.



New Entrants Concert

Thursday 19 September 2013

As Richard Hudson describes, this was an evening of wonderful performances across a huge musical spectrum, demonstrating that the future of Shrewsbury music is as exciting as ever.

The New Entrants concert must present any director of music with a particular set of difficulties. Overwhelmed by the impressions and strange routines of a new school, in the throes of an induction programme partly designed to allow minimal time and energy for retrospective nostalgia, and perhaps above all, musically rusty after the depredations of the summer holidays, instruments often put aside for weeks, if not months have to be found, dusted off, oiled, polished and practised for a very high profile event.

For the young musician, on top of all these challenges lies the challenge of performing alongside unfamiliar peers, unfamiliar members of staff, the Headmaster and serried ranks of expectant parents, in a space rather larger and grander than many have been used to performing in until now.

For those putting together the programme, the sheer logistics involved in getting the boys and girls to rehearsals, squeezed in here and there in the rare gaps that can be created in their induction programme, demands a cool head and little short of organisational genius. And then of course there is the difficulty inherent in including in the same concert the almost-professional-standard pianist or singer with the Grade 2 clarinettist, without risking either the humiliation of the latter or the over-promotion of the former.

All these difficulties seemed to be effortlessly overcome in the 2013 New Entrants concert which took place last Saturday evening in the Alington Hall. Twenty-five fluent performances delighted the audience, and often very visibly the performers themselves, the music ranging across the usual broad spectrum which characterises music at Shrewsbury School. Performances by Lower Sixth entrants framed those by the 13-year-olds, and the slick continuity meant that all was over in little over 90 minutes. It is invidious in such an event to single out individual performances, and a few of those of the more advanced seniors must inevitably stand out as the more polished and mature performances. Suffice it then to say that the wonderful evening was brought to a close by Henrike Legner, who performed on the piano with immense pace and steely strength of purpose the final movement of Bach's very difficult Italian Concerto and then after a brief rest rounded off the concert with Vivaldi's scintillating *Aria Nulla in Mondo Pax Sincera*, repeated the next day in Chapel at the Third Form Service.

And the moral of the tale? Devotees of Shrewsbury School Music have a great deal to look forward to.

RTH



'A view from the touchline' by Giles Bell

Thursday 19 September 2013

Giles Bell writes the first of a regular series of football features which will focus on a different 'Team of the Week'. This week, the spotlight is on the formidable 2nd XI.



Above l to r: the opposition are on the back foot!; Charlie Marques addresses the ball; Jamie Elderton gets the better of Pinky and Perky; 2nd XI manager Matthew Clark and would-be 1st XI player Joe Collings

The Shrewsbury School football season is well into the swing of things, even though the last of the cricket trophies was still to be washed out this week. With 19 school teams in action on a regular basis, it is small wonder there has been a host of goals for the football enthusiast to marvel and wonder at. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the 2nd XI - this Thursday's team of the week.

Manager Matthew Clark is very positive about his side's chances this season. He points to a lot of experienced players in his team, none more so than skipper Henry Gittens, who is following in his brother's footsteps and probably his boots too! Henry is certainly the fans' favourite and it is no wonder that he is the player Mr Clark would least like to see snatched away from him by the 1st IX.

Other players to catch the manager's eye have been George Lewis in the centre of midfield, whom Mr Clark likens to himself in terms of his aerial dominance and quick feet. He is also delighted to have secured the services of Adrian Tong on a season loan from the 1st XI, as he is too old for cup games.

The one big summer signing that the fans have all been excited to see is Oli Westbury. Oli has made a big money move from Dudley and has settled into the team at centre back, adding a bit of Midlands steel. He told me that Philosophy of Religion lessons aside, playing football with the 2nd XI is the best thing about Shrewsbury School so far.

It has been an up and down start to the season for the team as they have succumbed to the Liverpool Ramblers, the Sixth Form College and Idsall School. However, victories against Hulme Grammar School and Codsall Community High School and a draw against King's School Chester suggest that this squad will gel into a formidable unit over the next few weeks as they look to beat Millfield away, having won at home in the corresponding fixture last year.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



The 2nd XI squad comprises goalkeepers Samir Aslam-Baskeyfield and Rufus Lichfield; defenders Charlie White, Oli Westbury, Antony Peel, Will Hargreaves, and Charlie Marques; midfielders Toby Lansdell, Ben Smith, Jamie Elderton, George Lewis, James Plaut, Adrian Tong and Jamie Hulmes; strikers Henry Gittens, Joe Collings and Ian Yeung. There is a hunger and determination in the squad epitomised by striker Joe Collings, who told me that he would certainly be playing for the 1st XI by the end of the season once Mr Biggins had been to Specsavers! We wish them all the best as they entertain the Old Salopians this weekend, who will doubtless be eager to prove they are not as old and out of shape as they look!

GJFB

Golf: A strong start to the new season

Sunday 22 September 2013



Shrewsbury's golf team at Little Aston GC

The first fixture of the new season took place on Sunday 8th September against Repton, a new opponent. Shrewsbury ran out comfortable winners against a Repton team displaying plenty of enthusiasm yet short of competitive match experience. The format for the match singles was matchplay off scratch handicap, and Shrewsbury boys were able to manage the now familiar Little Aston terrain better than the visitors. Although there was still a rusty feel to most of the boys' play, it diffused as the round went on. As always there was a warm welcome from all at the Golf Club and we were made to feel at home.

Ben Oswald (SH IV) has returned from the summer holidays with an improved handicap of 6; James Walker (Rt V) continues to play off 6; Jonty Robinson (Rt V) caught the golf bug at Hawkstone Park last summer versus the Old Salopian Golfing Society and has a handicap of 9; Alex Haspel (Rb LVI) continues to play for the Juniors at Arscott GC and is off 10; whilst the senior boys, Charlie Bibby (S UVI) and Captain Daniel Legge (S UVI), have also returned to School with lowered handicaps of 15 and 18 respectively. With this improved starting position compared with the same time last year, we can expect to be more competitive in the games and competitions ahead – and we have started well.

18th September v Malvern

With the same team as the previous week plus Rishi Trivedi (Rb LVI), we travelled to Bransford Golf Club near Worcester to face a familiar Malvern opponent. It was noticeable, however – and a compliment to our improving squad – that Malvern had put out a much stronger team than before, with four players off less than handicap 7, including a serious German 'county' player off handicap 1.

The format was 4 ball better-ball off scratch and we were up against it as we lost the first two matches 5 and 3 and 3 and 1. Charlie Bibby and Dan Legge managed a victory in the third match, whilst Rishi Trivedi (Rb L), playing as a Shrewsbury extra man versus Malvern's extra

man, was one up as he walked onto the 18th tee, giving us the possibility of grabbing an unlikely draw. It was not to be, however, as Rishi was unsighted off the tee and ended up losing the hole and halving his own match.

Malvern is a good bench mark for the development of Shrewsbury School golf, and for us to be competitive against them this year is a feather in our cap and means we are moving in the right direction - they are 2013 ISGA national finalists.

22nd September v Pocklington

We played Pocklington in round 1 of the national HMC Foursomes Golf competition at Little Aston Golf Club. Foursomes is a fantastic form of matchplay golf and rarely seen in the modern game. Players play alternate shots and quickly learn to consider the strengths and weaknesses of their partner's golf game.

The first game matched Ben Oswald (SH IV) and Alex Haspel (Rb LVI) with two big-hitting Pocklington boys. Our lads were quickly 2 down and looking up against it. One of the keys to matchplay, however, is to stick in there and not allow the opposition to win holes easily. As expected, the pressure built on Pocklington, as Shrewsbury's golf game and partnership strengthened; they played the last nine holes to 3 over par and this was enough to see off the opposition, 3 and 1. Jonty Robinson (Rt V) and James Walker (Rt V) played well together in the second match, as did Charlie Bibby (S UVI) and Captain Daniel Legge (S UVI) in the last match. These matches seemed more straightforward, as Shrewsbury capitalised on some wild shots from Pocklington with mature decision-making and good shot execution. The opposition in both games stretched themselves further and the matches both ended 4 and 3, with neither Shrewsbury team in real danger of being caught.

So, we continue to be competitive in the early part of the season and look forward to a match against Kings Macclesfield on 2nd Oct at Shifnal Golf Club in the ISGA Singles Matchplay Knockout competition, before arranging Round 2 of this competition.

Shrewsbury v Repton: Won 5 – 1

Shrewsbury v Malvern: Lost 2 ½ - 1 ½

Shrewsbury v Pocklington: Won 3-0

Mark Schofield (Master in Charge of Golf)

Below: Shrewsbury's golf team looking cheerful after the Pocklington fixture



Foundation Fortnight

Monday 23 September 2013

On Sunday 1st September, ten young boys with immaculate suits and carefully parted hair arrived in Rigg's Hall, dragging large trunks behind them, and tuck boxes full to the brim ready for the term ahead. A heady cocktail of excitement and apprehension was coursing through their veins (shaken, not stirred) with their Salopian careers about to begin, and their first tentative steps on that journey. Long, lingering hugs with mothers (and one or two misty-eyed fathers) and then they were off to be greeted by the Headmaster before the first of many cups of cocoa on the Private Side, where the boys were talked through their first day at Shrewsbury School.

Their first lessons passed without a hitch, and some of the boys by the end of the first day even knew what it meant a Schweff, Boon and Beef was (no, not a second-rate Shropshire Legal Firm). Football trials filled the first afternoon, though those keen to get down to the river and the Boat Club didn't have to wait long before they got their chance. With a long history of rowing success (including an



Olympic gold medallist amongst our former inhabitants, and with Rigg's topping the Bumps charts for many years now) Housemaster PJM was delighted to see so many of the boys impressing on their first outing at the river, punching out some strong Ergo scores (Ralph Furse in particular) and looking like future Pinsents once in their Eight.

The first week saw a flurry of activities as the boys were introduced to all the major sports at Shrewsbury (Football, Fives, Rowing, Cricket, and The Hunt) with a swim test and an Introduction to Music thrown in for good measure. The first Saturday saw the all-important Third Form Race, a 2.3km lung-bursting, eyeball-bulging dash around the historic 'Benjies' course. In recent years, Rigg's have added running success to their list of sports fortes, and with the two previous winners of the Third Form race coming from Rigg's, the pressure was on the newest members of the house. They did not disappoint, however, with former Elms speedster Mungo Hargreaves securing a spot in the top 10, with a final finish in 6th place. Strong performances from the likes of Morton Moss and Alastair Harris also added crucial points for Rigg's, and what's more, Owen Mock destroyed the field to come home 1st, the third year in a row that the winner has come from Rigg's Hall! The boys did brilliantly, and we were very proud of them achieving team silver medals to accompany Owen's gold individual and the race trophy.



The following week saw the eagerly-anticipated Six-a-Side tournament, which also marked the start of a Third Form weekend where parents were allowed back on campus, and were able to see their sons for the first time in two weeks! Rigg's were drawn into the 'Group of Death' as it was referred to on Sky Sports, with Gary Lineker suggesting that there may have been foul play amongst some of the Housemasters in rigging the draw. However, to be the best, you have to beat the best, and that was exactly what Rigg's would need to do - their first match was up against the favourites for the tournament, Ridgemount (who had six players in the U14A!) Our plan was to tactically lose this first match and save energy for the matches that we felt we could win, however our plan failed when we scored an early goal through Owen Mock. "Oh dear oh dear," muttered Alan Hansen in the commentary box, and indeed, a red-faced Ridgemount simply couldn't score, try as hard as they might. The final score remained 1-0, an historic victory for Rigg's, with many suggesting that Ridgemount Housemaster and former Director of Sport Will Hughes should fall on his sword and leave his position in disgrace. Alas, he has stubbornly refused to yield his position.



Meanwhile, Rigg's were battling away against a spirited Radbrook (last year's winners in the final against Rigg's) which resulted in a gentlemanly draw (a goal apiece for Mungo Hargreaves and Niklas Amthor), with much back-slapping and "good show, old boy" at the end of the match. Our next match was against Severn Hill, and we graciously allowed them to score 4 goals against us, though there was considerable embarrassment for Severn Hill housemaster Dan Nicholas when his son Zak Nicholas scored for Rigg's against his house leaving a rather confused look on DAGN's face. No matter, no matter, for favourites Ridgemount had also lost against Severn Hill, and looked on the point of implosion.

Our final group match was against Moser's, and we duly went up 1-0 through Owen Mock, though the plucky Moserites got one back quickly, no doubt through some dastardly cheating. A further goal for Mock and it looked like Rigg's had done enough to reach the knockout stage when, disaster upon disaster, a late goal from Moser's (a boy who many suspected was at least 25 years old, and

definitely on steroids) fired a torpedo of a shot into the Rigg's net. Final score 2-2. Heads were bowed, particularly when we heard that due to this draw, Ridgemount would be going through along with Severn Hill. I know, I agree, it seems unfair. Immoral even. Yet those were the facts, and we simply had to



trudge off to routinely destroy Ingram's in the 5th/6th playoff with a Total Football display that saw a 4-1 destruction (2 goals from Mock, 1 from Hargreaves and 1 from Amthor). We would hear later that Ridgemount had won the overall tournament, which of course, dear readers, meant that Rigg's could lay claim to being the moral victors having seen off Ridgemount in the first match (the same argument is often used by Scots such as myself that Scotland were effectively once football world champions as they beat England in the very next match after they were crowned world champions in 1966. It's a strong argument...)

So plenty of sport, plenty of cocoa, plenty of fun, and plenty of sleep. One or two have had the odd shower, nobody has broken a limb, and one and all are now fully-fledged members of Rigg's Hall. Long live the Chocolate & Gold!

PJM



RSSBC: Victoria, Sabrina and Williams Sculls

Monday 23 September 2013



Winners of the Victoria trophies: George Patterson and Lettie Tay

The Boat Club's annual Victoria, Sabrina and Williams Sculls took place in warm sunshine on Saturday 21st September. Whilst most of our racing is in larger boats (and for the boys, sweep boats) this early season test in single sculls gives members of the Club a good opportunity to pit themselves against one another - and to gain some points for their houses.

The Victoria category is for rowers from the Sixth Form. The boys' trophy was first awarded in 1897 (to N.G.B. Halhead of Moser's Hall). This year the event was dominated by Lower Sixth oarsmen, with George Patterson (R) taking the title, Toby Thomas (SH) coming second and Alex Powell (M) in third place. The girls' trophy may be a much more recent addition, but it was hotly contested. Mary Sidney Hall swept the top three positions: Lettie Tay winning in a new record time, Lizzie Collins in second place and Isobel Tennison-Collins coming third.

The Sabrina category is for the Fifth Form. It was won this year by Henry Thomas (Ch), whose time placed him an extremely impressive second overall.

Barnaby Fox (PH) added the Williams title (for Fourth Form boys) to the Junior Williams title he won last year, but he was pushed by Harry Marshall (SH).

This year's Junior Williams event was won by Ed Lewis (Rb).

Below: Henry Thomas (winner of the Sabrina), Barnaby Fox (winner of the Williams) and Ed Lewis (winner of the Junior Williams)





Henry Thomas (Ch V) wins the Sabrina Sculls trophy

Monday 23 September 2013

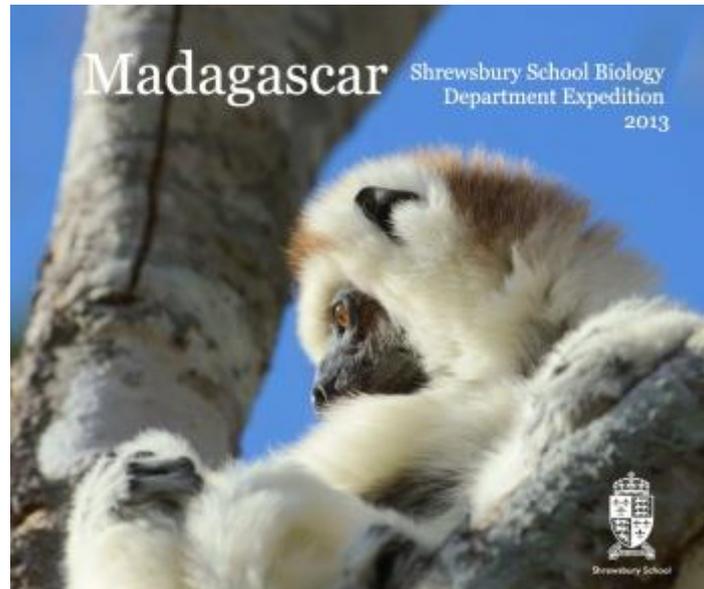


The Boat Club's annual Victoria, Sabrina and Williams Sculls took place in warm sunshine on Saturday 21st September. While most of the RSSBC racing is in larger boats, this early season test in single sculls gives members of the Club a good opportunity to pit themselves against one another - and to gain some points for their houses.

Henry Thomas (Ch V) not only won the trophy in the Sabrina category (for Fifth Formers) but also rowed faster than almost every Sixth Form rower: his time placed him an extremely impressive second overall.

Richard Case's enthralling Madagascar diary - summer 2013

Tuesday 24 September 2013



Our first week was spent in the Spiny Forest in the south of the island, where the team carried out surveys of vegetation - comparing plant diversity and structure in areas that have been disturbed by slash and burn, with more pristine areas. Operation Wallacea is generating large amounts of this baseline data so that their ecologists working on the distribution and abundance of birds and reptiles and lemur behaviour, can better understand how habitat disturbance affects wildlife – most of which is endangered. They can also understand how long it takes for disturbed forest to recover. We were also able to spend time observing lemur behaviour and measuring the distributions of reptiles and birds.



We were greatly privileged to spend a day in a village. According to custom, the group danced into the village bearing “gifts from the road”. The villagers slaughtered the two sheep the group had brought and cooked them while everyone watched the healer go into a trance to bless our journey north. Few Western tourists get to step into a Valo Lala to see a traditional healer (Ombiasa) at work.

Our journey north took the team to the littoral forest of St Luce and the mid-altitude rainforests of Manombo, Ranomafana and Anasibe. The first three days consisted of pure 4x4 adventure, with eight river crossings on the first day. We arrived at the seventh crossing to find the ferry broken down and after hours waiting, about 80 villagers paddled the ferry across in the dark to

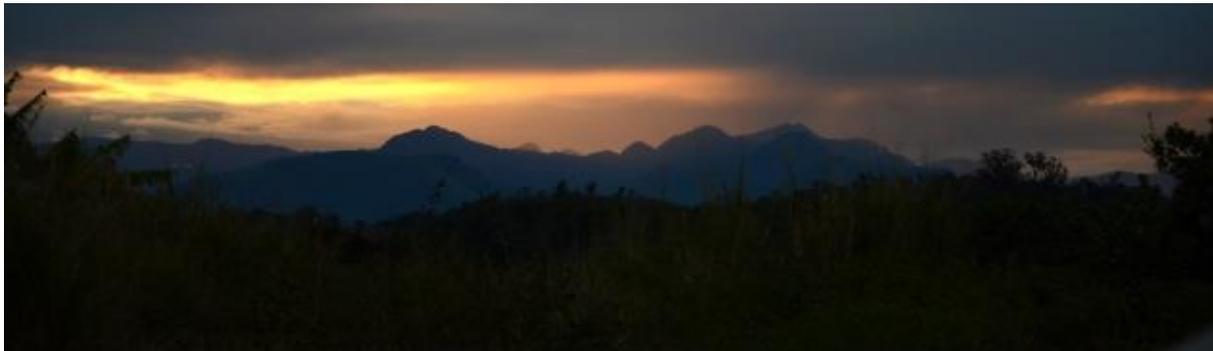
collect us. They made two more round trips to collect all our vehicles and allowed us to camp in their village.



The roads were incredibly difficult but took us through amazing landscapes inaccessible to most tourists. Highlights included seeing five species of lemur at Ranomafana, including the critically endangered Golden Bamboo Lemur, and hearing Indri – the largest species of lemur – calling at Andasibe.

The expedition gave us all a chance to appreciate how real ecology is done and work alongside UK and Malagasy undergraduates and research students. It allowed the team to contribute directly to conservation in an area where it is desperately needed. Above all, it opened the eyes of everyone to Malagasy culture, landscape and wildlife and the challenges the country faces.

RAJC



Runway ready – Shrewsbury School’s Charity Fashion Show prepares for take-off

Tuesday 24 September 2013

Organisers Hattie Warner and Poppy Beckett (both EDH UVI) are currently putting into place the final touches to the School’s Charity Fashion Show. It takes place in the Alington Hall on Saturday 5th October and promises to be a hugely entertaining evening for audience and participants alike.

"We are hoping to raise lots of awareness and money for Save the Children whilst creating a fabulous night of fashion that also helps to support local businesses and boutiques," Hattie explains. "We’re thrilled with the response we’ve had from local shops. We’re really looking forward to showing off some gorgeous evening wear from wedding dress designer Hayley J, and stunning clothes from Pockets, House of Fraser and Templeton Jones. We’re also going to be modelling some great vintage outfits from local shops Street Vintage Clothing, E.A. Jones Vintage and Maggie Mae’s, and we’ve been given some great raffle prizes too."

Hattie and Poppy have lined up 13 of their fellow students to model the outfits, and Awen Blandford (EDH UVI) and George Bates (S UVI) will be providing musical entertainment during the interval. Other friends will be busy behind the scenes, building the catwalk and controlling the sound and lighting.

Adding an extra glamorous sparkle to the event, Hattie and Poppy are delighted that the evening will be compered by a real pro from the world of modelling and fashion – Suzanne Younger, Shropshire’s very own Miss United Kingdom 1989, who now runs her own successful fashion business, ‘Fabulous Fashion Shows’.

Hattie and Poppy are hoping to raise more than £2,000 for Save the Children. Janet Wenlock, who works for the Shropshire branch of Save the Children, is thrilled: "Save the Children is particularly honoured that we’ve been chosen by young people at Shrewsbury, who are helping save the lives of other children and young people by supporting us with such a wonderful event."

*The Fashion Show takes place in the Alington Hall on Saturday 5th October
Champagne and canapé reception 6.30pm for 7.00pm*

*Tickets: £10 (adults); £7.50 (concessions) available online
from www.shrewsburyschool.ticketsource.co.uk, by telephone from Dawn Dunn on 01743 280500
or in person from Save the Children, 70 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury*





Drawing back a curtain on the history of Shrewsbury School Fives

Tuesday 24 September 2013

As part of the Old Salopian weekend, a new set of Fives honours boards were unveiled on Saturday 21st September.



A good number of OS supporters of the Fives came, including players and former masters-in-charge and a number of the current students and recent leavers keen to spot their names. Robin Mouldsdales OS, a former master and housemaster at Shrewsbury and himself Kinnaird Champion from 1954 to 1956 unveiled the boards and addressed particularly the current students, urging them to go on playing after school: to continue to the highest level. The sun shone, so did the faces; many took their photos by the boards on which they are now immortalised.

I'm delighted to have been able to realise these boards, with Andy Barnard putting in much of the initial work and speaking to a signwriter, David Kynaston, to decide where best to put them. Much time then went into finding all the names and initials and choosing exactly what lettering to put on them. The result is the best I could possibly have hoped for and should not only be a

fitting tribute to those who compete to the top national level, but should also give players coming up through the School something to aspire to.

The boards do make an excellent addition to a beautiful, central area of the School and I hope many people will admire them.

Seb Cooley, Master in Charge of Fives





Victoria Cup rowing trophy win for George Patterson helps Rigg's go top of the Leadbitter Cup

Wednesday 25 September 2013



George Patterson (R VI)

Nearly 20 boys from the House were competing on the water in the Boat Club's annual Sabrina, Victoria and Williams sculls on Sunday 22nd September. The Victoria category is for rowers in the Sixth Form and was dominated this year by Lower Sixth oarsmen. The trophy was won by Riggite George Patterson (LVI).

In the overall house rowing competitions, Rigg's went top of the Leadbitter Cup standings on 37 points, seven points clear of second place Radbrook.

George Patterson was in action again on Sunday 29th September as one of three Salopians selected for the Chester Long Distance Sculls event, competing over 5,000 metres on the River Dee. He raced well, finishing 11th in the Nov. 1x category.



Sailing to (almost) glory...

Wednesday 25 September 2013

Fourth Former Ed Chamberlain writes about irritating 13-year-olds in his local regatta

It was only when I got on the four-hour train journey back home to Wimbledon, that I realised how much I valued this race. I had been sailing for years at Wimbledon Park Sailing Club and every year they have had, and still do have, a whole load of events. But their largest one by far is the Rotary Regatta. Every year I have been there I have always taken part in this one particular race for 10-18-year-old sailors. I thought back to the first time I did it as a tiny 11-year-old with no idea how to steer the boat.

The race itself is mainly for club members to get an idea of where they stand in comparison to other sailors. Going to boarding school has altered how often I go there and has changed it from once every week to scraping a visit once every two months. The club hosts for its size one of the largest fleets in the world. The lake itself is a pond technically speaking and 40 boats on a pond mean that it can get very cramped.



When I arrived for the racing early on the Saturday morning, I realised how many of my old friends whom I hadn't seen in years were there. This meant I knew that I wasn't racing against some stuck-up thirteen-year-old who had been told by his Mother that he was a god (though there still were about five of this brand of thirteen-year-olds). I was racing against people of around the same standard and equally as keen. When it came to choice of boats, it was relatively simple; the rules of 'shotgun' come into life a lot in this day and age, so I called 'shotgun' on one of the lasers and that was that.

The club has a huge variety in age of different boats, some from the early 1980s and some from 2012. The laser that I picked was around 1995 and didn't have any of the race controls

which my own boat has. I was in for a surprise when I was out on the water. Rigging it up was a task in itself. With no clips to use, I was forced to use knots to hold things in place, which is fine up to a point but takes a very long time.

After a solid hour of trying a variety of different knots of size and complexity, I was finally done and so the racing began. The first race was great fun and I ended up winning it. The second race came about and after a bad start I got a second. The third race came and I got another first. Then there was the break in which I sat about and chatted, drinking coffee and waiting for the



race officers to say that the racing was going to start again. Then things went wrong. I got out and started the next race. After crossing the line in a solid second position, I turned back when I accidentally sailed over a corner of the course; unfortunately for me this made my last race result redundant and I got a disqualification instead. This put me in a pretty bad mood. Then the last race came along. Despite everything, I was still in first place. But then it had to happen.

After crossing the start line I came up just to the side of one of these thirteen-year-olds, who decided to turn and got caught up in my boat. After being held up at the back for the majority of the race, the thirteen-year-old untangled our boats and I was free to go. From the back of the fleet I overtook boat after boat to make a ninth. This dropped me to third place. As they were handing out the awards, the person who won (whom I have beaten in the past and sailed with for years) said in a jokey voice 'better luck next time'. Oddly, this cheered me up and after some food, I left to go back to school.

Ed has also written about his experience on a School sailing trip to Gosport the following weekend, when he tried yacht sailing for the first time: [School Sailing Trip: Gosport, September 2013](#)

Oarsome achievement for School House!

Wednesday 25 September 2013

Our first major trophy of the year is one of the oldest and biggest in the School. School House have won it several times before, including 90 years ago, when it was won by the members of the Doctor's 1st Boat (see the photo below of the boys in 1923). The trophy is part of the Victoria, Sabrina and Williams Sculls; it is called the Senior Challenge Oars and it is awarded to the House with the fastest combined time of the fastest four scullers.



The proud School House winners in the photo below are (from left to right): Moritz Bensel (UVI), Will Dodson-Wells (UVI), Toby Thomas (LVI) and Harry Marshall (IV).





"There is now a piece of Shrewsbury School in one of the poorest parts of the world." - Stephen Drew, Director of Medic Malawi

Thursday 26 September 2013

We were delighted to receive news this week from Stephen Drew, Director of Medic Malawi, that he has been able to give the go-ahead for the construction of the Shrewsbury School Eye Clinic in Malawi. The Clinic has been a key focus for many of the School's fundraising activities over the last two years – particularly since the first group of Shrewsbury pupils visited Medic Malawi last summer and saw for themselves the huge impact the Clinic will have. A second group are already making plans for their trip to Malawi next July and are looking forward to seeing the Eye Clinic for themselves – and indeed painting the inside of it.



In his letter to the Headmaster, Stephen Drew writes:

I cannot overstate what a wonderful addition the Shrewsbury School Eye Clinic will be to the facilities of the Mtunthama hospital. Eye disease, and consequent unnecessary blindness, is an acute problem in this rural area. It stems from untreated cataracts which have caused total blindness, and trachoma, a disease of the eye carried by insect bites which affect the eyes and cause blindness. It can relatively easily be stopped, but not reversed. A visit of eye surgeons from the UK last year showed many many such cases, and indeed I heard for myself the Government Minister of Health pleading for more rural eye clinics, because blindness was the "Number One Treatable problem in Malawi"

And now, through the efforts of your school, there is to be a Clinic in Mtunthama. The plan is to train one of our Clinical officers to a level at which he can monitor and assess conditions, and follow up after an operation. The surgery itself will be done mainly by a surgeon from the main hospital in the capital city, where they do have a specialist eye surgeon. We will arrange his help about once a month to operate on patients prepared and listed by our clinician. Annually there will be an additional visit from UK surgeons, organised with the Malawi Eye Surgery Fund.

The cost of the building is £12,000, and the generosity of the school has already made available £8,000 of this, enabling me to start the project. I know that fundraising continues at school, and indeed there will be additional funds needed to equip the clinic, and for the running costs of the expensive eye medicines and the visits from Lilongwe. For this reason I hope the Clinic will continue to be a priority for Shrewsbury School, especially after your students have been able to see it (and indeed paint the inside of it), on their visit next year.

Please pass on my thanks to all concerned... It is a great extension of the work of Shrewsbury School. There is now a piece of Shrewsbury School in one of the poorest parts of the world. Thank you.

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



In his reply, the Headmaster expressed his personal delight at the news that construction work on the Clinic can now begin - announced by sheer coincidence on his birthday - "a wonderful birthday present in itself":

"I am thrilled that the various activities of Salopians have contributed to the ability to open an eye clinic in Mtunthama. To think that our boys and girls are supporting something so worthwhile, so far away, is wonderful indeed. I hope very much that we will be able to continue to raise significant funds towards this excellent cause."



Football: 'A view from the touchline'

Thursday 26 September 2013

This week's 'Team of the Week' are the Under-14Bs. As Giles Bell has been finding out, they are already proving themselves to be a formidable force to be reckoned with.



Above (l to r): Gus 'The Trickster' Lloyd; celebrating another goal by Artyom Kutovoy; captain Dominic Ainslie; Will Shave-Taylor

This week's Team of the Week have had a terrific start to their Salopian Football careers. They are the Leyton Orient of Shrewsbury School, as they have not dropped a point this term with three wins in three games against Ludlow (3-0), Repton (5-0) and Idsall (8-0). You may have noticed that they are yet to concede a goal and have scored sixteen. Manager Paul Greatham has been understandably chirpy around the School this term. Indeed he was spotted skipping to the cricket centre yesterday and whistling a jaunty little number!

I had a little chat with the squad before their training session on Tuesday and mentioned they were this week's Team of the Week. I like to think that may have helped motivate them in their demolition of Idsall! I was struck by their maturity, humility and togetherness. They have not been together long but are clearly a close-knit bunch who will work hard for each other. They told me that the player's player is Jon Umpujh who was a summer signing from Shrewsbury International School. Despite his diminutive size, Jon's vision, work rate and strength in the tackle suggests there is more than meets the eye to this central midfield play maker.

Niklas Amthor is a strong tackling, no nonsense right back on loan from Bayern Munich, Owen Mock (Hong Kong) is a danger to all in the midfield, Artyom Kutovoy has initials in common with Andre Arshavin, and Marcus Chaplin from North of the border seems content to be part of the under-14B union at present. The Blanchard-Butter twins describe themselves as rugby playing defenders and are happy to put their bodies on the line but not quite so happy to be likened to the Weasley twins from Harry Potter – although some say their defending is magic! With Oliver Hodges also robust in defence and goal keeper Rob Ford unbeatable, it is no wonder that opposition strikers have yet to breach this wall of defiance.

Scoring goals has not been a problem for this exciting outfit. Play maker and captain Dominic Ainslie is proud of his team and is strong, quick, reliant and intelligent (like most Shrewsbury pupils). "I am proud of my team and I am quick, strong and intelligent (like most Shrewsbury pupils)," he told me. Gus Lloyd is the trickster with the keys to unlock the tightest of defences and Lysander Adair is an improving force in the team with plenty of confidence on the ball. Will Shave-Taylor is frequently on song in more ways than one and deserves to be 'Clapton' the

Shrewsbury

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL



back! (He sang an Eric Clapton song at the new pupil's concert.) Jack Humphreys is the marksman with an eye for goal. He scored a hat-trick against Idsall and that makes four in two games since his on loan move from the A Squad. Jack shows a lightness of touch and agility which enables him to skip away from thickset, lumbering defenders like a skittish lamb. Apparently he thinks he honed such skills by playing football with his dad (Big Martin) in the garden. Those of you who witnessed Martin Humphrey's forthright defending for the Shrewsbury Staff team will know where he is coming from!

I very much hope that the season continues to go from strength to strength and that manager Paul Greetham will win the manager of the season award in his final season with the club!

GJFB



Five Facts on Darwin

Thursday 26 September 2013

(With thanks to Giles Bell and his Third Form Philosophy and Theology set.) Giles has recently set some top schools (homework) in which the students have to find out interesting facts about interesting people. "I always give bonus marks for facts that intrigue me because I could not remember them or - let's be honest - I did not know. Here are some of my favourites from the last week":

1. On Darwin's 25th birthday, 12th February 1834, his birthday present was an entire mountain. The mountain was then named Darwin Mountain. (Courtesy of Alistair Lau)
2. Darwin had a huge interest in Earth worms. You may have read his book: 'The Formation of Vegetable Mould Through the Action of Worms, With Observations on their Habits.' (Alistair Lau)
3. Charles Darwin once ate an owl! (Harri Holroyd)
4. He has the same birthday as my Dad (Harri Holroyd)
5. He was a backgammon buff (Harri Holroyd)

And a fact about Gandhi:

Gandhi spoke English with an Irish accent as his English teacher was Irish. (Courtesy of Sam Zadorozhny)



Shrewsbury School Cricket Coach Adam Shantry is swimming the Channel

Thursday 26 September 2013

Casting aside his whites and leaving behind all thoughts of balmy summer days on the cricket field – let alone the week he spent earlier this month coaching at Pembroke House Prep School in Kenya on behalf of the School – Adam Shantry stepped into the chilly waters of the English Channel at Dover yesterday and set off for France, embarking on one of the world's toughest swimming challenges.



Adam is attempting to raise £10,000 for the Professional Cricketers' Association Benevolent Fund and the Tom Maynard Trust, which was set up to help disadvantaged young sportsmen and women in memory of Adam's friend and fellow Glamorgan CC player Tom Maynard, who died last year.

He is swimming in relay with two friends, Tom Mees and Emma Lawson, and they estimate the effort will take them around 18 hours, with much of it having to be done in the dark. "It is going to be a tough challenge," Adam said. "I'm actually not much good at swimming. I've been swimming off Barry Island, near where I live, a couple of times a week for the last few months and wondering what I've got myself in to."



RSSH: Impressive performances in the Shrewsbury Seven Bridges 10k race

Thursday 26 September 2013

On Sunday the School entered a 16-strong team of runners in the town's annual Seven Bridges 10k road race. This provided an excellent opportunity to put a marker down for those runners who will travel out to Kenya and Ethiopia during the October Exeat to train at altitude and visit some of the world's best running camps. As Ian Haworth reports, there were some excellent individual performances – in particular Fourth Former Freddie Huxley-Fielding (R), who finished in an astonishing seventh place overall in a field of around 400 (mostly adult) runners.



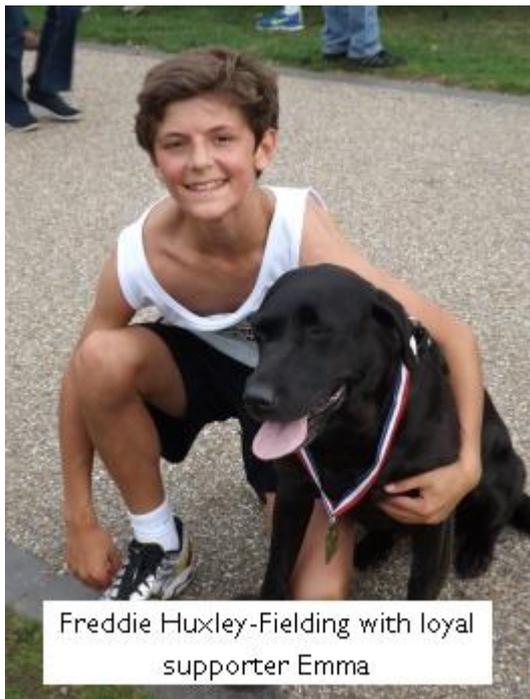
Having trained hard over the Summer and the first few weeks of term, the team (consisting of 12 boys, two girls and two members of staff) were raring to go at the start line. This race had another significance for those travelling over Exeat, however: they have been gathering sponsorship funds in advance of this race to raise money for the Restart Centre, an orphanage in Kenya which we will be visiting during the trip. With everyone having been set the target of raising at least £50 (and some having managed considerably more than that), there was a lot riding on this one!



There was a higher turn-out than expected this year, and as we were entering on the day the race was reaching its limit of 450 participants. This meant a greater level of competition for our runners and thus, it was to be hoped, faster times (especially because the weather conditions - cool, with not a breath of wind - suited us perfectly). We were not to be disappointed.

A very quick pace was set by the leading pack of runners, and a few of the Hunt, beginning the race mainly as a pack, were dragged along a little too quickly in the opening stages and may have paid for it in the last couple of kilometres. Nevertheless, as the course wound its way around the town and over the promised 'seven bridges', the team settled into its natural race pace and tried to hang on. Around the 3k mark, Huntsman Rory Fraser and 4th former Freddie Huxley-Fielding could be seen around the 10th-place mark and fighting it out for dominance. Slightly further back but still very much in the mix were Will Hayward, Ben Remnant and Oscar Dickins, with Theo Clarke, Charlie Godman and Charlie Rogers not far behind them.

With lots of twists and turns (as well as a few steps, some off-road and a couple of hills) this wasn't a course with 'Personal Best' written all over it. Indeed, the winning time of 33.29, by Paul Ward of Wrekin Road Runners, was quite modest for a man with a PB of under 30 minutes. Nevertheless, this was most of the team's first attempt at the 10k so for them, as long as they finished, a PB was guaranteed!



Freddie Huxley-Fielding with loyal supporter Emma

Given the difficult nature of the course, the times of some of our runners are truly astonishing and very encouraging indeed for the season ahead. After Mr Haworth came home in third, Freddie Huxley-Fielding (*pictured right*) finished in a fantastic 7th position, with an even more impressive time of 36:47. To come 7th out of around 400 (mostly adult) competitors is a mark of just how talented this youngster is.

Next to finish among the team was Ben Remnant of the Fifth Form, in 37:45, finishing 9th. This indicates a huge step up from him over the last few months, and he will be eyeing a top-5 position in the Tuck's race in October with confidence. Not far behind was his erstwhile rival, fellow Fifth Former Oscar Dickins in 11th place with 37:57. Rory Fraser was disappointed not to have had one of his better races and faded towards the end, to finish in 15th in a time of 38:43, some distance off what he's capable

of (though still pretty quick!). Only a few seconds behind were Theo Clarke (showing real signs of form recently) and Charlie Godman, who took places 16 and 17 respectively, both finishing in under 39 minutes. Will Hayward, another Fourth Former, had a difficult race, suffering from a severe nose bleed halfway round, but still managed to finish in 39:55, a terrific achievement.

Sean Swayer and Charlie Davis excited the crowd with a sprint finish to the line, narrowly won by Sean, with Charlie Rogers only a few seconds behind them. Tory Mobley in the Lower Sixth was just another 100 metres or so behind this group, and finished in 42.01, finishing 35th and as second fastest woman - a fantastic result, but hopefully just the start of what she achieves over the next couple of years! Miss Rule put in a great run to finish 37th (and 3rd female) in 42.24,

while Lucie Cornwell-Lee, captain of girls' running at Shrewsbury, had a terrific run, finishing 62nd in 45:29.

This was a great effort by all our runners and a really enjoyable event. We hope to have raised several hundred pounds for the Restart Centre, which we're really looking forward to visiting. Well done to all the finishers of what was a tough but very enjoyable race.

IPH



Netball & Hockey: 17th - 23rd September

Wednesday 26 September 2012

NETBALL

Shrewsbury's 1st and 2nd VII netball teams kicked off their first matches against strong opposition; Lauriston Girls' School, Australia, who were finishing off their season with an England tour. Despite two losses, both teams equipped themselves particularly well.

The 1st VII played effectively as a team from the start showing an impressive level of skill and court awareness but despite often winning possession, struggled to maintain an even pace on the ball resulting in Lauriston creeping slowly ahead.

Despite a slightly shaky start for the 2nd VII, a gutsy performance by all pulled the score back to 24-28 in the last quarter. A very promising start to the season by all the players. Elected players of the match: Becky Home (1st VII, GK) and Issy Turney (2nd VII, GS).

HOCKEY

Shrewsbury School v King's Chester 1-1

The Girls 1st XI worked tirelessly against a persistent King's Chester side. Rosie Parr played an excellent game in midfield, with hard work paying off as Charlie Perkins was put through to score the opening goal. Shrewsbury defense battled hard, but were broken down as the score was leveled in the 2nd half. A well fought draw in the teams 2nd game of the season.



Salopian Club Director Heads for Pastures New

Friday 27 September 2013



David Thomas ((Rt 1971-75), Club Chairman writes:

'Well, more like deserts than pastures! Alex has accepted an offer to work as logistics advisor to the Saudi Royal Air Force, building on his previous experience both with the RAF and in Saudi Arabia. This is an excellent opportunity for him, though I and my fellow committee members will sorely miss his capable and unflappable approach to managing all aspects of the Salopian Club.

Alex joined as Director in the Spring of 2011, just as the review of the Club's activities got underway. He contributed actively to the review and since then he has been instrumental in implementing the programmes that resulted from it. Of particular note has been the development of the Careers programme, which saw the first Careers Fair at the School in March for the Upper 6th, supported by over 30 Old Salopians. Alex has also masterminded the events the Club

promotes – Salopian Day, City Drinks, Queen's Gallery visits, etc. – and overseen a vast improvement in the Club's communication with its members and the School.

I know Alex will be a hard act to follow, and would like to thank him personally for all his hard work to make the Club a much more relevant and interesting organisation.

Alex will be leaving in early October, and Miriam will be stepping up to serve as Interim Director until a replacement for Alex can be found. '



Nick Bevan, Salopian Club President – a message from David Thomas, Chairman

Friday 27 September 2013



Those of Nick's friends and colleagues who attended the Salopian Day last week will already know that he suffered a stroke in early September, sadly preventing him attending his Presidential Salopian Day. The stroke has affected one side, but I am told by Hugh Ramsbotham, who visited Nick a week ago, that his cognitive faculties are in good order, and that his speech, sense of humour and spirit of determination are all working well. It seems that the physios are doing unto Nick what he has done to generations of fitness-chasing oarsmen, so he does get very tired!

He is not able to receive visitors yet, but messages, etc. can be directed through his wife Annabel and son Oliver at their home address (obtainable from the Club office).

On behalf of the Committee and all of the Salopian Club, I wish Nick a full and speedy recovery.

Whilst Nick is convalescing Hugh Ramsbotham has kindly agreed to stand in to perform the Presidential duties. I will keep you updated on Nick's progress over the coming weeks.