

THE SALOPIAN

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EDITORIAL

How does The Salopian appear to the outside world? What are its aims? These are great questions, and great men have answered them. Men of world renown are gathered here to speak their minds.

This is the start of a fascinating piece which appeared in the 1935 edition of *The Salopian*. The distinguished men whose views were sought included the Rt Hon Winston Churchill (as he then was) who, in a rare lapse, failed to offer much of value. Two pieces of advice are, however, as relevant today as they were then, and are worth quoting in full.

Humourist and playwright E. V. Lucas suggested that:

The editors should aim at giving school news in an entertaining way; amusing the readers a lot; instructing the readers a little; and where desirable, scoring off the authorities. Nothing that they do should qualify them, later, for joining a popular daily.

The editor offers no comment.

As was to be expected, it was left to Mr A. A. Milne to clinch the matter. He wrote:

1. *As editor, I should want to fill the paper with Odes to Autumn, parodies of the Rubaiyat, and Lamb-like essays, all of my own writing;*

2. *As a member of the School, I should want to read an Imaginary Conversation between my House Master and Mae West;*

3. *As an Old Boy subscriber, I should want nothing but full reports of School matches, and news of every O.S. of my time;*

4. *As a parent, I should be content with a couple of columns on the Junior House Match in which my son so distinguished himself – lbw (N) b Tomkins, 5.*

In short, I do not think it possible for the editor of a school magazine to please everybody.

Some things never change!

Front cover:
Bridget Lapage, Easter Rowing Camp



RSSH squad on The Lawley

SCHOOL HOUSE – REFLECTION

Giles Bell, Housemaster of School House since 1999, retires this summer. He reflects on his 14 years in the largest House.

It is difficult to condense my association with School House, which has been a total of 16 years if you count my two years as a deputy as well as my 14 years as a Housemaster, into a few lines. I should probably write a book.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to work in such a distinguished house and the reason I have enjoyed my time so much has been down to the people I have met, worked with, laughed with, become friends with and occasionally shouted at! Leaving School House will be a wrench for me and my family. I am not sure Reggie (aged four) is going to forgive me, as he and Edie (aged two) love running upstairs to see Matron and the boys from around 7.15 in the morning. Reggie has become a compulsive gamer and hounds the boys until one of them lets him play games on his phone. He at least asks now before heading up to F floor to see if he can join in a game of 'Call of Duty' or something equally unsavoury but appealing to the mind of the young.

A lot of people have invested a large part of their lives in School House. Hugh and Juliet Ramsbotham were inspirational, not only to the boys in their care, but to young impressionable members of staff such as myself. I remember talking about Housemastering years ago to Hugh and his remark that working at a school like this and not being a Housemaster was like going out for a meal and missing out the main course. Hugh has always been a great support to Emily and me. After Hugh, Gordon Woods was the next incumbent. Gordon was assistant Housemaster of School House before an exile to Oldham's and a return to the proper House. I have a lot to thank Gordon for. I remember him telling Ted Maidment to put me out of my misery, having convinced him to offer me the post of Housemaster as Gordon moved on to higher things.

Most Housemasters are appointed in the confines of the Headmaster's office and a bit of a chat. Ted pulled me aside as I walked into the Common Room one day and just said, "I have decided you are going into School House, don't cock it up!" I shall always be eternally grateful to Ted for giving me the opportunity to ruin/run School House.

Fourteen years on, I have come to the conclusion that the essential ingredients for the making of a good house are as follows:

Ingredient number 1: A lively, fun, approachable, glamorous, hardworking and bubbly Matron.

I have been very lucky to have been blessed with three such ladies. The first is Maureen Donahue, 'Matche', 'Tron', 'Trondles'.

On a personal note I would like to say thank you to Maureen for being a very strong friend during one or two moments of crisis both in my life and the life of the House.

When Maureen sneaked off to the girls of EDH, it took two ladies to replace her. There are few people who could replace Maureen so adeptly but Tania and Nadine have done so with great skill, humour, glamour and jollity. In short, and Tania is just this, they have been fantastic and maintained the high calibre of matronning that I have become used to. Both Tania and Nadine have also been true friends and have never once complained when they have been

"I have decided you are going into School House. Don't cock it up!"



Giles Bell

invaded by our small children early in the morning, later in the morning, early in the afternoon, later in the afternoon and at times in the evening as well.

Ingredient number 2: It helps if you have a good caretaker in a House like School House. Don Davies is a living legend. What more can I say about Don? Everyone loved Don and no one wore School House on his heart with more passion and pride than Don. He was never short of a word, which is probably why I was late for so many lessons when he was here. One of my favourite ever nights in School House was Don's leaving do when the whole House went out for a Chinese and Don gave the most heartfelt and magnificent speech, and I hope the boys who were there fully appreciated its brilliance. The warmth of feeling that Don generated is amply illustrated by the number of overseas trips he has been on since he has retired with various members of the House, who are making sure that his retirement is far from quiet.

It was always going to be difficult to fill Don's boots. He is very secretive about where he puts them! We were lucky to find John McGowan, not only a distinguished caretaker but also a wonderful Elvis impersonator who has given our House soirées an extra dimension.

Ingredient number 3: Awesome and dedicated cleaning ladies. I am sure that many of the parents were attracted to School House by its strict rules and ordered infrastructure. I never forget one parent telling me that she had visited seven houses before choosing School House because it was the most untidy and had the best lived-in feel. Think what it would be like without a team of dedicated, hardworking and cheerful cleaning ladies! The present team are a fantastic bunch and they do wonderfully well in their

"I am sure that many of the parents were attracted to School House by its strict rules and ordered infrastructure."



efforts to turn back the tide of pizza boxes, coke tins and all the rest.

Ingredient number 4: A great team of tutors. After a hard day in class, the last thing a stressed and overworked teacher needs to do is an evening on duty in a boarding house. There are some tutors who have come and gone and moved onto other Houses and other schools, but one has remained constant in his service of School House. John Balcombe cruises round the corridors in his amiable manner as he has done for the last 25 years, always on a Tuesday.

I will not go through every single tutor who has been in School House. Suffice to say, we have been very lucky with the high standard of tutoring. None more so than at this present moment, and Hugo Besterman will find himself in an enviable position in the eyes of other Housemasters when he takes over the reins next term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my tutors for their hard work and friendship.

Ingredient number 5 is a decent Assistant Housemaster. I have been ably helped by a number of eminent Assistant Housemasters. The Foxes, the Cowpers, the Lascelleses, the Dearsleys, the Wrights, were all wonderful supports and have all gone on to greater things. The present incumbent, Miss Laura Whittle, I have a huge amount to thank for. I always feel a little like Dr Who, as his assistants seem to become more and more glamorous. All of my Assistant Housemasters have been far more reliable and level-headed than me and they have all in their own ways kept me on the straight and narrow.

So the ingredients for a happy House so far are glamorous matrons, great cleaners, wonderful tutors, an excellent caretaker and charming assistants. But isn't something missing? The boys themselves – and they are the main ingredient because without them there is none of the fun, the banter, the drama and the fulfilment of watching snotty-nosed, pimply 13-year-olds blossom and flourish into young men.

The plays and films, soirées and House songs that we have worked on, have certainly been a highlight and source of great amusement. There was the year when we were going to do 'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest', but the weeks went by and rehearsals had not started, so in the end we did a review entitled 'Juan Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest', which probably took Shrewsbury School drama to a new low. We did 'Snow White' the pantomime twice and in the first edition James Davies, using his father's guillotine trick, chopped Matron's head off. I am not sure it was very funny but I think we all had a good time rehearsing and laughing.

Then there was 'Gary Otter and the Trunk of Blood', a film rightly panned by the critics but which after a few glasses of wine, and with the right company around, still makes me chuckle. I remember the night before the première sitting in Rupert Webb's bedsit frantically editing it into some semblance of a story. During the last few months we have been working on a film called 'School House Evolution'. It has been a huge amount of fun and promises to be somewhat slicker than 'Gary Otter', largely because of the presence of Brian Parsons, our latest addition to the tutor team and the School's Head of Drama. His wife Dana is currently in LA working on film production. It is quite cool to be able to say that our film is in post-production in LA!

The soirées have been immensely good fun. In the early days, Martin Orvis entertained us with his Flanders and Swan, Maureen found her voice again and put the soul back into soul. There was Sam Grainger playing his guitar over his head, Joby and Guy's band – I could go on.

The great thing about this job is that when you are feeling a bit low or a bit grumpy, someone invariably makes you laugh or they

push you to the point that you completely lose your temper, which can also be therapeutic!

There are a few things about housemastering that I won't miss, but there are many that I will. I was speaking to a current member of my Upper Sixth who arrived as a Sixth Form entrant from a day school and I asked him what he liked about School House, and he said, "Community, sir". Community is one way of putting it. I think I would go further and say family. Over the last 16 years, School House to me has been home to a large family, to my large family. Perhaps I might have been over protective of various members of this family, but that's because we all make errors in judgement, and I have learnt to love the sinner and hate the sin. After all, if you can't make mistakes in your teenage years and learn from them, when can you?

Talking of family, I would like to thank Emily, Joe, Reggie and Edie for being the most loyal members of the School House community. At times they might have had an absent father or husband but they have borne such tough times with admirable stoicism. They have also been great supports, but Emily in particular has been a rock.

My final thank you is to the parents of the School House brethren. Housemastering is a very fulfilling and all-encompassing job. If you stopped to consider the responsibilities you carried, I don't think you could do it. Parents have entrusted you with their most precious possession, their child. I would like to thank all the parents for putting up with me and taking the staggering step of allowing me the privilege to have some input into the lives of their offspring.

I will miss not being involved in such a close way with the lives of the inmates of School House. It has been a great honour to serve so many Salopian families, and getting to know so many of them and their families as friends, as well as professionally, has been a great privilege.

I have so many happy memories to take away with me and I am looking forward to the next chapter in my life with my family. Emily and I will both be living in our own house for the first time and our focus will be on three young people rather than 81. I think it's safe to say that the Bell family will forever wear School House in their hearts.



Photo by Steve Morris

THE RICHARD HILLARY ESSAY PRIZE 2013

*The winner of this year's inaugural Sixth Form Essay Prize, named after the Second World War hero Richard Hillary (Ch 1931-37), author of The Last Enemy, was Alex Walker (O, LVI).
The winning essay, written under exam conditions, is reproduced below:*

The word 'luck' is used to define circumstances in which one individual appears to achieve more success than another for no given reason, the success they garner being based not on hard work or dedication, but simply coming to them through no direct action taken by themselves. The term luck is therefore just language. It shows nothing tangible and it cannot be measured or proved, which is why I feel it is necessary to go as far as to say it doesn't exist at all. Luck is a perception: when things go well the human mind feels it a fundamental necessity to attribute their personal achievements to something. So human psychology is to blame for the mass-conspiracy that has been termed 'luck'. Our mindsets are programmed from an early age to view coincidence as luck; if something happens that we deem to be unlucky it must have come from this entity that no one takes the time to explain but seemingly appears to pervade everything. Luck in this respect appears to be comparable to some sort of deity: it has power over everyone; all we do can be seen in two categories alone, lucky and unlucky, a duality as stark as that between good and bad or perhaps right and wrong. They are thus human words for human feelings but human feelings, they should stay. To take them any further or attribute any more relevance to them than that would be foolish. They describe an emotional value or sentiment used to express the feeling we get when life goes our way, or more often than not doesn't go our way. The term 'luck' means nothing more and nothing less.

The concept of probability itself appears to directly defy any notion of luck. Probability has the power to explain every circumstance and every situation without the need for tangible and redundant articulation of the reasoning behind events. Some things are quite simply more probable than others, events happen and events don't and the likelihood of them occurring can be most easily explained through probability. An individual is deemed 'lucky' to win the lottery. The probability of such an incident is incredibly low so they may feel that 'luck' has been on their side. But the fact remains that the lottery is winnable; someone had to come away with the money and your odds are as good as the next man's and so in fact you are just as lucky as anyone else who could and still might win, and this is not lucky at all, as luck plays no part in deciding your fate; a random combination of numbers does. If we consider the other end of the spectrum, you are considered unlucky if you get hit by lightning, but any number of changes could alter your position and spare you this hardship and so luck again has its supposed part to play. However it also has no part to play as these things just happen, events occur and we can look to probability for their likelihood but more often than not they aren't planned or predestined, they simply come about and whilst you may deem yourself lucky or unlucky as a result, luck can offer you no real explanation.

Living a life in which luck lies at the centre just isn't a real or normal possibility. We can't base all of our actions on the possibility of this or the possibility of that; definite actions must at some point be taken, actions which we know will lead to results.



Air Vice Marshall Sir Michael Simmons (DB 1950-55) and Alex Walker

Of course we can look to probability again but inevitably judging possibilities on a constant basis is impossible and incompatible with day-to-day existence. It could lead to withdrawal from the world and society. The possibility of being hit by a car is always out there and so on this basis, the risk of leaving the house could be assumed to be too great. Given this you are considering the power of unluckiness and luckiness in all action. At the opposite end of the spectrum you could gamble away everything you own on the chance that luck might be on your side, when in reality luck is on no one's side. Sensible decisions need to be taken, decisions that involve results as opposed to possibilities; living with luck constantly on your mind is unhealthy: whilst it is natural to assess choices based on their probability, luck as a concept can lead directly to a stupid kind of recklessness. Whilst many may label this recklessness as living and taking chances, it is

often just stupidity based on a thought that someone possesses a quality that can't be proven as existing beyond a perception at all. The phrase 'I'm a lucky guy' cannot be justified, luck doesn't play a part, the actions taken do and the intelligence behind them is what matters above all else.

Albert Camus argues for the pointlessness of our existence: we have no reason to be here, we simply are. His absurdist ideas centre on the belief that the dull, endless, monotony of life's routine makes it absurd. We go on living and dying and everything in between leads to nothing. If God doesn't exist then why should luck? If there is no real reason behind our actions and we strive for nothing then it would appear only natural to try and increase self-confidence and morale by putting our trust in something other than life itself. If life doesn't hold any answers then maybe testing the boundaries of its cruelty by leaving things to chance is a refreshing way to keep living. If nothing is certain then perhaps everything is equally uncertain and so pastimes such as gambling serve to ease the pain, and often increase it, but are justifiable because of life's ridiculous nature. Luck too can be seen as ridiculous if everything surrounding it is too, we know that luck doesn't exist but we choose to humour ourselves as at the end of the day it is comfortable and reassuring to believe in something more than just one similar thing happening after another. The endless progression of events can be broken by risk-taking and through this partial belief is something we all know not to exist. We know luck can't exist truly because no one is ever entirely lucky. Everyone's luck has to run out because we all die. Life's punishment for living and experiencing and enjoying will come to us all; no one can escape death and so no one can experience luck in this area. Some may argue that Jesus conquered death, but does this constitute supreme luck? Not at all, if Jesus did indeed rise above death and go on to live in eternity, and in fact we have the possibility of continuing life after death, then still luck does not have a part to play. Here divine intervention and the pre-destination of events leaves us coming to the conclusion that luck is non-existent and everything is already decided and this fate or destiny cannot be escaped. Obviously free-will is granted us by our divine maker, and these decisions taken by us can be seen as lucky, but if God is within all of us then nothing we do is our own and luck is simply a word used by those who aren't aware of this notion to describe their predicament.

The existence of suffering in the world is an undeniable and unfortunate yet definite fact. Pain and unhappiness are prominent in the world we live in; they are very real and affect everyone, whether through sickness and disease or natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, or through the evil of mankind itself, murderers, rapists or thieves. It would appear at first glance that unluckiness is far more prolific than luck. This seems a world full of pain, and the pain of those that don't deserve it. If we see the notion of luck as a distinct and real possibility then is it possible for us to label the people that suffer at the hands of the world's natural order or humanity's apparent lack of morality merely unlucky? Surely it is something more than luck that has led to their misery? But then it is impossible to explain what possible meaning or explanation there can be for such atrocities, but it would seem unnatural to label luck as the perpetrator of these horrific crimes. Choices have been made for at least some of these events to come about. It would seem wrong to label the victims of the Nazi regime as unlucky and so why should we bother using the term 'unlucky' to describe anything at all if those circumstances that form the other end of the extreme are so abhorrent and unjustifiable that labelling them by a word that has no reality or true meaning serves to desensitise the events in a way that appears inconsiderate.

'Luck' is therefore a word that has no place in our modern vocabulary. Its use only serves to disguise things we can't rightly comprehend or explain. If something is described as lucky we are only really saying that we didn't expect it, we didn't foresee its occurrence and are therefore simply admitting our own very prominent weakness through its use. As we've seen, to accept luck as an aspect of your life too centrally leads to no real life at all, as simple decisions become either over-thought or are left too heavily down to circumstance rather than actuality. Luck can be partly justified in terms of risk-taking: if we partake in activities with uncertain and improbable outcomes then we may introduce some excitement into our apparently mundane and pointless lives. But even luck in this regard isn't really luck at all but simply the choice to involve yourself in improbable events. Probability explains what we perceive as luck, its methodology and scientific nature appears to be directly opposed to luck's unpredictability. However, it simply and easily explains what we see to be luck as a set of events all with consequences we can't explain yet are forced to accept.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

May I add a word to the fine tributes paid to Donald Wright by Laurence Le Quesne and Roger Sainsbury (Salopian 151)? Laurence rightly draws attention in his final paragraph to the time that Donald would make for you. He was generous to me when I needed it; it started at my interview, conducted in his car (I'd been told of his reputation for speed), which he drove round the Stiperstones all morning in thickish mist at 20 mph. When it was over (and the phrase 'trial by ordeal' had crossed my mind), I said to myself, 'I want to work in this man's school'.

I arrived in 1967, and was soon aware that a mighty wind had been blowing. I arrived just after Alexander and Cleodie

Mackinnon and contemporary with Mike Eagar, Michael Hall and Simon Baxter (not to omit musicians Richard Jones and Hamish Drummond), and realised that more blowing was expected, not without justification of its aim and force. I arrived to teach, and soon to lead, Classics just when Classics could no longer assume curricular primacy. It was exciting, and inspiring too, because I soon saw that I had to improve both my craft of teaching and my understanding of it. Insofar as I did, I owe it to 'Mr Wright's school'. I should not have learnt so much elsewhere, I think. In a good school, not only the pupils learn.

Yours faithfully

Antony Bowen (Master 1967-92)



PRIZEWINNERS 2013

The Sidney Gold Medal	T. A. R. Elliott (OS) (I)
The Harvard Prize	R. St. C. Wade (Rb)
The Noneley Exhibition	E. J. Mallett (S)
The Richard Hillary Essay Medal	A. H. Walker (O)
The Darwin Science Prize	A. Olerinyova (MSH)
The Hill Art Prize	L. J. Emms (MSH)
The Lower Sixth Art Prize	I. J. Tenison-Collins (MSH)
The History of Art Prize	W. H. Merison (SH)
The Arnold Matthews Science Prize for Biology	H. C. Partington (MSH)
The Lower Sixth Biology Prize	J. Cherukat (PH)
The Ramsbotham Prize for Business Studies	A. N. Fearnall (I)
The Lower Sixth Business Studies	C. R. Clarke (O)
The Arnold Matthews Science Prize for Chemistry	A. Olerinyova (MSH)
The Lower Sixth Chemistry Prize	C. F. Chan (MSH)
The Moss Prize for Classics	R. M. Parr (EDH)
The Cross Prize for Classics	T. R. B. Lloyd (Rt)
The Classical Civilisation Prize	P. J. H. Gadsden (Ch)
The Design & Technology Prize	A. C. Chapple (MSH)
The Upper Sixth Economics Prize	E. J. Pollock (I)
The Lower Sixth Economics Prize	S. N. Chandler (Rb)
The Philip Sidney Prize for English	A. C. Leslie (MSH)
The Kitson-Clark Prize for English	R. I. C. Fraser (Ch)
The Dukes Prize for French	H. L. Pritchard (EDH)
The Lower Sixth French Prize	E. D. Williams (EDH)
The Robertson-Eustace Prize for Geography	J. D. Sansom (PH)
The Lower Sixth Geography Prize	S. Pelling (EDH)
The Bentley Prize for German	A. D. D. M Rius (G)
The Global Perspectives and Independent Research Prize	S. L. Kell (MSH)
The Bright Prize for History	E. J. B. Lloyd (Rt)
The Murray Senior Prize for History	H. A. W. Nead (PH)
The Information and Communications Technology Prize	H. C. Mok (MSH)
The Arnold Hagger Prize for Mathematics	R. Suemanothom (G)
The Lower Sixth Mathematics Prize	S. H. Kung (R)
The Music Prize	A. C. Webb (S)
The Photography Prize	K. M. E. Williams (EDH)
The James Meikle Prize for Physical Education	H. E. Adams (EDH)
The Arnold Matthews Science Prize for Physics	E. J. Elcock (Rb)
The Lower Sixth Physics Prize	S. H. Kung (R)
The Dorothy David Prize for Religious Studies	C. F. Adams (EDH)
The Lower Sixth Religious Studies Prize	L. M. Jeffcoate (Ch)
The Bain Prize for Spanish	A. R. Paul (MSH)
The Lower Sixth Spanish Prize	E. D. Williams (EDH)
The Theatre Studies Prize	G. A. Pilsbury (MSH)
The Bentley Elocution Sixth Form Prize	G. T. F. Fowler (SH)
The Bentley Elocution Fifth Form Prize	E. D. Carroll (Ch)
The Bentley Elocution Fourth Form Prize	O. E. Lansdell (PH)
The Bentley Elocution Third Form Prize	C. A. A. Cowan Taylor (Ch)
The McEachran Senior Prize – Senior	S. J. Ansluos (G)
The McEachran Junior Prize	A. K. Z. Koh (Ch)
The David Harrison Prize	A. Angpanitcharoen (Ch)
The Hawksley Burbury Prize	T. Bland (Rt)
Fifth Form Academic Prizes	E. D. Carroll (Ch), D. R. Edwards (S), O. H. B Hope (Ch)
	S. Kandi (M), A. K. Z Koh (Ch), J. R. C Plaut (S), R Viljoen (PH),
	E. J. Robinson-Boulton (R), A. T. T. Shaw (Ch), C. H. Thomas (M)
	W. J Heyes (Ch)
The Goulding Family Prize for Drama	D. S. Iles (PH)
The Junior Drama Prize	C. L. I. Knight (MSH)
The Ashton Theatre Prize	D. C. Hasselberg (EDH)
The Guyer Prize for Music	H. R. Kennedy (I)
The Gordon Riley Prize for Music	G. Ganchev (M)
The Woollam Family Prize for Music	H. O. Thomas (Ch)
The Russell Prize for Music	J. A. Himsforth (Ch)
The Third Form Music Prize	J. W. O. Halliday (G)
The Senior Debating Prize	G. W. Cabral (Ch)
The Junior Debating Prize	C. E. Farquhar (S)
The David Spencer Memorial Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to Boys Sport	H. L. Pritchard (EDH)
The Elle Gurden Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to Girls Sport	M. G. W. Pragnell (G)
The Sportsman of the Year	L. K. Naylor (EDH)
The Sportswoman of the Year	F. Molyneux (EDH) & R. St. C Wade (Rb)
The West Family Prize	D. M. Vaughan-Jackson (Ch)
The Guy Lovett Award	H. C. Boutflower (S)
The Society Leadership Award	T. L. L. Koch De Gooreynd (O)
The Duke of Edinburgh Completion Award	M. J. Kimpton-Smith (O)
The Headmaster's Prize	J. S. S. Doyle (SH)
The Headmaster's Leadership Prize	



SCHOLARSHIPS 2013

THIRD FORM SCHOLARSHIPS

Butler Scholarships:

T. Brennan (Abberley Hall)
A. Moore (Abberley Hall)

Kennedy Scholarships:

O. M. R. Hodges (Abberley Hall)
A. M. J. Warburg (Shrewsbury High Preparatory School)

Moss Scholarships

O. Bureau (Packwood Haugh)
J. B. Channon (Packwood Haugh)
H. M. Mayhew (Bilton Grange Preparatory School)

Alington Scholarships:

E. G. S. Acton (Shrewsbury High Preparatory School)
S. C. G. Bayliss (Packwood Haugh)
F. Blanchard-Butter (S Anselm's Preparatory School)
N. Hari (Prestfelde)
D. P. Schofield (Packwood Haugh)

All-Rounder Scholarships:

A. Howard (Shrewsbury High Preparatory School)
A. C. Moore (Abberley Hall)
W. J. Shawe-Taylor (Papplewick)
E. C. P. Stapleton (Prestfelde)
L. O. J. Paul (Prestfelde)
H. R. Wasdell (Packwood Haugh)

Art Scholarships:

S. L. L. Ingram (Abberley Hall)
M. G. Moss (Packwood Haugh School)

Drama Scholarships

W. J. Shawe-Taylor (Papplewick)
B. C. Elliott (Malsis School)

Music Scholarships:

H. M. Mayhew (Bilton Grange)
E. G. S. Acton (Shrewsbury High Preparatory School)

Music Exhibition:

A. Howard (Shrewsbury High Preparatory School)

Sports Scholarships:

G. A. Garrett (Lockers Park)
G. C. L. Sandy (Winchester House)

SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic Scholarships:

O. A. Bradley (Sedbergh School)
C. S. Chen (La Salm College, Hong Kong)
L. Y. Chu (Marymount Secondary, Hong Kong)
E. O'Keeffe (Casterton School)
C. R. Price (Shrewsbury High School)
E. A. Sankey (Brine Leas School)
N. R. Spruyt (Merchant Taylors' Girls' School)
C. J. Virgo (Grove School)
M. S. Woods (Prior Park College)

Martin Rees Science Scholarship:

N. J. Champion (Bridgnorth Endowed School)

Music Scholarships:

K. L. Elcock (Shrewsbury High School)
H. E. Legner (St Hildegardis Gymnasium)
Q. Luk (St Mary's Canossian College, Hong Kong)
C. R. Price (Shrewsbury High School)

Music Award:

Y. S. Jang (Concord College)

Art Scholarship:

E. B. J. Whittingham (Shrewsbury High School)

Drama Scholarship:

J. M. Walker (Ratcliffe College)

Sports Scholarships:

D. J. Durman (Ellowes Hall Sports College)
V. A. Mobley (Tudor Hall)
L. N. Tay (Wrekin College)

Margaret Cassidy Scholarship:

O. E. Westbury (Ellowes Hall Sports College)

Alex Wilson Scholarship:

M. P. McClure (Idsall School)



OXBRIDGE REFLECTIONS

We asked the 15 pupils who have received offers of places from Oxford and Cambridge this year to tell us a little about their time in the Sixth Form.

TOM BLAND (Rt)

Natural Sciences at Magdalene College, Cambridge

Entering the Sixth Form, I relished the opportunity to finally study the subjects I enjoy the most in greater depth. Biology, Chemistry and Maths were obvious choices for me, as I wanted to continue with my long-standing interest in those subjects. Outside of the classroom, a definite highlight has been my expedition to Malawi last summer, where among other things I was given the amazing opportunity of pursuing my scientific interests in a small African hospital. I have also enjoyed representing my house on the sports pitch, being a member of the School's Charities Committee and making the most of the wide range of lectures and trips that the School has to offer.

ED ELCOCK (Rb)

Natural Sciences at Emmanuel College, Cambridge

Having decided to do Physics, Further Maths and French in the Sixth Form, I have found myself surrounded by both arts and sciences in my final two years at Shrewsbury, allowing me to pursue the interests I developed in both during my first years here. With the addition of Global Perspectives as my complementary study, there have been many times when the workload got on top of me, but in the end I think it will have been worth it. Beyond the classroom, I have managed to keep involved in drama and debating. My favourite extra-curricular activity at school is MUN, and I wish I'd given it a go before Sixth Form. Probably the most beneficial addition to my studies has been participating in the International Young Physicists' Tournament. Going to the tournament last summer in Germany was a great experience and really useful, both for physics and public speaking skills.

XAVIER GREENWOOD (Rt 2007-2012)

Classics at Balliol College, Oxford (confirmed place)

My love for Classics grew in the Sixth Form as the set sizes shrunk; a spirited four-man Greek AS set taught by JAS was my first taste of the various idiosyncrasies one can extract from Classics, and indeed tea and biscuits in our two-man A2 set with Doc. Godwin brightened up even the dullest of winter timetable days.

In the Michaelmas Term of Upper Sixth, my – eventually futile – pursuit of a place to read English at Cambridge instilled in me the flawed theory that it would be a good idea to give up almost all my non-academic interests to focus on my application. It was fortunate that my final two terms allowed me to make up for lost time, whether in MUN, the McEachran prize, the Hunt, or in underground journalism, as my decision to focus all my attention on a failed application stressed to me the importance of the Greek inscription, “nothing in excess” – Shrewsbury offers balance and it should be sought. That being said, there is one thing I have learnt from reapplying: don't be afraid to be ambitious.

SHERRY JIN (EDH)

Chemistry at Wadham College, Oxford

Shrewsbury has provided me with the best academic support and comprehensive extracurricular activities. Chemistry has always captivated me, which is why I am a 'regular customer' for the School Library. Reading through those valuable chemistry books has not only enabled me to acquire as much beyond-A Level knowledge as I can, but also gave me the opportunity to get a place in Wadham College successfully. Moreover, I love challenging myself, so I took part in the School Chemistry Olympiad Training last year and have also participated in several British Chemistry Olympiad Competitions. The sports that I have enjoyed most so far at Shrewsbury are badminton and squash. I got a lot of superb training for squash last year, and have gradually fallen in love with such a creative and fabulous activity. I played it almost every single day when I went back to my country this Christmas holiday.

SEREN KELL (MSH)

Biochemistry at Oxford (open offer)

Outside of lesson time, I have found myself most often in the Music Department. I play violin and piano and, as a member of a wildly ambitious yet spectacular orchestra, a string ensemble and chamber choir, I have been unfortunately forced to neglect the other two members of Shrewsbury's holy trinity - drama and sport. Meanwhile I've taken the opportunity to attend regular lectures (mainly scientific and literary) and a couple of societies (philosophical and political). Participation in MUN has allowed me to benefit from conferences in both Edinburgh and Paris. However, what I genuinely most value from my time at this school have been some good, albeit occasionally eccentric, company, and most of all a persistent sense of fun.

MARK LAWLEY (S)

Psychology and Linguistics at Jesus College, Oxford

I have very much enjoyed all aspects of life at school in the Sixth Form. Academically, I have really appreciated studying fewer subjects in greater detail, as that has allowed my interests in those subjects (French, Maths and Physics) to flourish, which then sparked my interest in Psychology and Linguistics which wouldn't have been possible without the mix of science and languages, as well as some great teaching and support from my teachers at school.

As far as extra-curricular activities go, I have been able to relax and enjoy myself greatly with my admittedly recreational level of sport, and I have expanded my horizons with the great selection of talks, lectures and trips that the School has provided.

ED MALLETT (S)

Chemistry at Oxford (open offer)

Since my first weekend in the Third Form, I have been known as a runner, but an injury in Fourth Form diverted my attention elsewhere and the new aim was an honorary scholarship after my GCSEs, which I achieved. I arrived in the Sixth Form thinking life would be simple. At the start of the Sixth Form, the





change was clear; new people in classes, complicated concepts which didn't float so easily into the mind and, like many, it took me longer than I expected to acclimatise. My AS mocks came around and I achieved one A, which reminded me that I had a bit of work to do. I got my act together and the final exams passed safely by. The Upper Sixth saw me take on the mantle of Huntsman. While working hard in the classroom, I also believe that it is very important to have other targets, such as my running. *"To give anything but your best is to sacrifice the gift."*

ANNA OLERINYOVA (MSH)

Biomedical Science at St John's College, Oxford

I got the opportunity to study at Shrewsbury School two years ago thanks to a scholarship from HMC and a great school funding system. Coming from a small school in Slovakia, I was very excited and scared, but soon I became a part of the School and started loving it. Being more of an academic person, I devote a lot of time to studying in lesson time as well as lectures and various societies. My personal favourites are the student-run philosophy club, which we established with my friend last year, and MUN. I also enjoy taking part in many school or national competitions, such as the Chemistry Olympiad or Maths Challenge.

The best thing about the School though is that it gives me the opportunity for development in every direction. I regularly go to the gym and play squash and last year's Art and Design classes pushed my artistic skills way beyond what I thought were my limits.

ROSIE PARR (EDH)

Classics at Christ Church College, Oxford

Throughout my time here, I always knew my goal was to try to

get into Oxford. After hard toil I have finally achieved this aim. The teachers have been incredibly supportive – in fact 'teacher' is not good enough, as they reach the same pinnacle of wisdom as the philosopher kings. Alongside my academic pursuits, I try to play as much sport as possible. I enjoy fives and hockey, both of which can get rather aggressive; remind anyone of Nero with the Christians in the Circus Maximus? All in all I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Shrewsbury, and to quote Cicero, *'cultivation for the mind is as important as food for the body'*.

HANNAH PARTINGTON (MSH)

Biomedical Science at New College, Oxford

During my time at Shrewsbury I have been presented with opportunities I would not have had elsewhere, including my upcoming expedition to Madagascar, which I am really looking forward to. Also, the diverse community of Shrewsbury has allowed me to meet people from all corners of the world with whom I have made lifelong friends. Though I have participated in the sport side of the School, my primary focus has been academics. I have enjoyed my subjects and all my teachers have been enthusiastic and helpful, especially with my application to Oxford and my Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) on stem cell research, which helped to consolidate my interest in Biomedical Sciences and was also of considerable benefit in my university application. My one piece of advice to any newcomers to the Sixth Form at Shrewsbury is the more you put in, the more you will get out of your time here.

HANNAH PRITCHARD (EDH)

French and English at Queen's College, Oxford

Reading has been my passion at Shrewsbury and I have dedicated most of my time to pursuing this interest and studying in the library. To work in the midst of some of the

world's most treasured writers – favourites of mine include Camus and Baudelaire – provides comfort even on the coldest December afternoon, (alongside the eagerly anticipated Grot breaks I am prone to taking with my Grot-obsessed contemporary, Rosie Parr). So as to avoid falling into the occasionally obsessive and one-dimensional life of an Oxbridge applicant, I have indulged in many of the activities which Shrewsbury has to offer outside of the classroom. Sport is my preferred pastime for the channelling of any academic pressures and stresses, thus hockey, fives and netball have dominated my school afternoons.

JUDAH RAND (R)

Engineering Science at Oriel College, Oxford

My biggest focus in the Sixth Form has been my rowing, no matter how much my academics have pressed. Traipsing through the cold and the wet in order to spend my afternoons at the Boathouse every day has kept me sane and focused in my busy Salopian life. Some of my fondest memories will be of racing, and winning, in a yellow Empacher racing shell with seven other oarsmen and a coxswain. My academics in the Sixth Form have largely involved solving problems in double Maths and Physics, which is mostly entertaining and definitely less work than Humanities. All my teachers deserve credit for my Oxford offer, as does my Housemaster.

RATANON SUEMANOTHOM (G)

Engineering at Hertford College, Oxford

The list of things I have done at Shrewsbury goes from Maths,

Physics and Chemistry competitions to MUN and debating, as well as music, fencing and DofE Gold. Most were fun, some a bit less fun, but still much better than if I sat around doing nothing. One required travelling to Germany during the summer, another meant a trip to London in February, and others just a walk to nearby school buildings. All of them took some time and effort (in varying levels). So, yes, I believe I was involved, learning life's lessons along the way. What's important about learning is not to learn to do textbook questions correctly but to learn to 1) understand and 2) like learning about your subject (I know this is very clichéd but it is quite true). Then things will fall into place. Also, it's good to know, in 2013, that Einstein was still right...

CHRIS WILLIAMS (I 2007-2012)

Human Sciences at St John's College, Oxford

My Sixth Form started with a new Housemaster and a new Headmaster, but one thing in Ingram's did not change. We continued to succeed in a large variety of academic and extra-curricular activities. My involvement in these extra-curricular successes included captaining the winning House debating team, captaining the School fencing team and gaining second most improved at the Public Schools Tournament, being a member of the winning 1st Leagues team two years in a row, acting in two successful House plays, playing the guitar and enrolling in a music tech course. I also managed to find time for my academic work and got involved in Maths, Chemistry and Biology competitions, including the Biology Olympiad in which I won a Silver Medal.

HEAD OF SCHOOL RETROSPECTIVE

Retiring Head of School Max Kimpton-Smith reflects on his time at Shrewsbury:

When I was asked to write this, at first I had no idea what I would say. It is only now – as I forget about the Mexican standoff between procrastination and revision that has lasted far longer that it should have – that it really sinks in that I am leaving this place after five years. I can still vividly remember being greeted by my Heads of House as I arrived, (a “rotund little fellow” as my old rowing coach once referred to me), and it seems like five years has gone far too quickly. I recall listening to the Head of School, Rory Griffiths, read the lesson in the first Chapel service of the year, and I still haven't got my head around the fact that I have nearly finished my year in the same position.

These nostalgic thoughts prompted me to delve into the secret compartment in my wardrobe (also known as my sock drawer), and take out the fabled “Head of School's Book.” This hefty tome is decades old, and reading through it once again, it strikes me how eerily the comments given by the Head of School each year read like a conversation frozen on the pages of this dusty book. Whilst a great deal has changed about Shrewsbury School since this bizarre exchange before me began, it is remarkable how little has changed about the people making the remarks before me. Despite the differences on the surface of the School, one thing has always stayed the same, and that is the sort of people that Salopians are.

In a few weeks' time I will be leaving this place for the final time as a pupil and it gives me a great deal of comfort and satisfaction

knowing that throughout the last 50 years of transition and transformation, Salopians have always been the same well-rounded and charismatic individuals, and I know that through the coming years this will be one thing that will never change.

Five years has gone by in the blink of an eye, but I do feel ready to move on and leave this place. I feel that Shrewsbury has successfully prepared me to embrace what life has to offer and give me an eagerness to move on and out into the world. I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who makes Shrewsbury what it is, a school unparalleled in its ability to produce people who are not purely focused on academia, but are well-rounded and fully prepared for life's challenges.

I fear procrastination may have defeated revision this time.



NEW HOUSE CENTENARY

This summer marks the centenary of the occupation of the New House (now the School Sanatorium), in 1913, by a group of exceptionally talented and devoted junior Masters. The following article is extracted from a draft of a chapter on the New House, which is to be included in Dr David Gee's forthcoming book on the recent history of the School.

The New House provided a notable example of the prevailing ethos at Shrewsbury during its final years as a traditional public school. For sixty-five years, between 1913 and 1978, it housed a community of five bachelor masters, each of whom occupied his own set of rooms - a sitting room and a bedroom - but who shared a common dining room and a common bathroom. The whole situation produced, in effect, a continuation of the style of life which its members had experienced at school and at university. The common bathroom produced an eccentric collection of memories. There were two baths, which had been named 'Quanta' and 'Qualia' by Southwell. One was, by common consent, reserved in the morning for the Senior Member's cold bath, an ordeal which followed a prolonged period of filling the bath, while he shaved. When the moment for his immersion came, his junior colleagues were in constant dread that the experience might prove fatal. The other bath was not infrequently occupied by his photographic prints, for he was an enthusiastic and accomplished photographer.

In its heyday, for the shorter period of just over fifty years, the New House was a key location for those who wished to keep a finger on the pulse of Salopian affairs. The community displayed a consistent character throughout its existence. Stacy Colman remembered it as 'a place of hospitality, disputation, song and friendship, (which) produced an exhilarating mixture of energy and informality . . . it was open, accessible and unpretending'. David Bevan recorded 'a tradition of wit and a light-hearted but total dedication to the job . . . we were not serious, but we were not frivolous; cheerfulness abounded with industry': and David Main endorsed the impression given by his seniors: 'No-one was allowed to take himself too seriously . . . life was lived to the full, both enjoyably and conscientiously'.

These characteristics had, of course, been infused into the New House by its very first inhabitants and notably by 'The Two Men', Evelyn Southwell and Malcolm White, who came to Shrewsbury together in 1910, entered the New House together in 1913, left the staff together in 1915 to serve in the War and who were killed, within days of each other, in 1916. Their respective contributions to Salopian life were as considerable as they were inseparable. 'To the School they were devoted with a rare measure of unselfishness. They were commonly referred to as 'The Men' and they habitually referred to each other as 'man': 'Man, that's good' was an everyday observation.

Their own devotion to Shrewsbury is eloquently revealed in their subsequent letters from the Western Front and three extracts from White's letters are quoted below. The idealism and nostalgia which they exhibit do not resonate easily in our more cynical age, but they still have a great power to move the reader and they provide an

'No one was allowed to take himself too seriously . . . life was lived to the full, both enjoyably and conscientiously'

outstanding example of the magical commitment which the School still seems able to inspire:

"I always think (and sometimes say) that there has never been anything quite like the life which our common household has lived at Shrewsbury these five years, with its intimacies, enthusiasms and mutual appreciations . . ."

"Do you think that we all continue to have our part in the place after death, even when not remembered? I am very jealous of mine . . . I cling to the idea of becoming, after death, more completely a part of Shrewsbury than when I was an unworthy, active member of the community; not by what I've done there, but by how much I have loved it."

Finally, and most famously, in a letter written four days before he was killed:

"Oh Man, I can't write now. I am too like a coach before Bumping Races or Challenge Oars. So, Man, good luck. Our New House and Shrewsbury are immortal, which is a great comfort."

As Ronald Knox remarked, equally movingly, but somewhat cryptically: 'the schoolmaster has a soul and only those who have been schoolmasters and been on intimate terms with their colleagues can know the facts.'

The devotion to the School which was displayed by so many members of the New House was often veiled under a cover of high spirits and light-hearted ebullience: and this, too, was a characteristic which spanned all the years of its existence. Annually, on 5th November, White let off fireworks in the garden, dressed in a scholastic gown and a broad-brimmed felt hat'. David Bevan remembered an incident, when a thunderstorm threatened while he and his colleagues, in full ceremonial dress, were waiting to go on parade, when Stacy Colman and George Simmons 'drew their swords and rushed into the garden, where they re-enacted the confrontation, on Mount Carmel, of Elijah the Tishbite with the priests of Baal'. On another occasion a resident was reputed to have appeared downstairs dressed only in a Fez and a figleaf.

While Hardy was Headmaster a competition called the 'Suckers League' was initiated. The winner was the member who submitted the most obsequious remark with which he was prepared to approach him. On one occasion the winning entry was 'Headmaster, I have completed my corrections. I wonder whether it would be in order for me to take my Mother to a performance of *The Messiah*?'. The Headmaster was noted for the inimitable style of his administrative notices. His regular 'Beginning of term' notice was a fine example and contained the prescription: 'Chapel seating is to be detailed by Masters through previously circulated lists.' This sentence was 'sung antiphonally by certain junior masters to the chant of Psalm 51, at uproarious gatherings in the New House'.

A later generation maintained the spirit of the House in different, but equally flamboyant ways. In the 1960s it was still the customary practice that Housemasters were selected from members of the staff in order of their seniority in the Brown Book. In 1961 Easter was spent at School. In a sudden and uncharacteristic display of decisiveness, Jack Peterson announced the appointment of five Housemasters during the course of one Common Room meeting, apparently ignoring the greater seniority of two members of the New House. The 'Passover Party' which resulted was among the most memorable in its history! But, more generally, the New House was renowned for its generous hospitality. Its annual summer garden party, in which its members collectively reciprocated the hospitality

they had received, had earned wide renown, and invitations to it were greatly prized. The garden, which had been devotedly and expertly cultivated by the Senior Member, was at its magnificent best. It was customary to serve an alcoholic fruit punch; and on the appointed day the windows of Churchill's and Moser's were lined with boys eagerly anticipating a sight of the resulting casualties. On one occasion the results were so dramatic that the colleague who had prepared the punch was banned, by the Headmaster, from ever doing so again! On other occasions, however, preparations were less than meticulous. A colleague who had been invited to dine in the New House found, on his arrival, that none of his hosts was present. He waited during the stipulated pre-prandial period, until the Housekeeper brought in the supper and placed it on the hot-plate. After waiting a little longer, he sat down to the meal and finished it. Since no one else had appeared even then, he sat down, wrote a thank-you note, placed it in an envelope, propped it up on the sideboard and departed!

Daily conversation around the table was, as David Main remembered, punctuated by the recitation of *Spells* by Frank McEachran, the lamentations of the Senior Member about the inadequacy of the Fourth Form's Latin construe and heated discussions about the relative speed and prospects of crews on the river. Another diversion was a competition, among the junior members, to be the first to manoeuvre Russell Hope Simpson, who, in common with other more recent colleagues of a certain age, was prone to the repetition of certain favourite anecdotes, to utter the iconic phrase 'the whole school gasped'; this was the invariable conclusion of his description of the occasion when a visiting adjudicator of the House Music Competition made an incredible and totally unjustifiable decision. An alternative version of this procedure was to lead the venerable Basil Oldham, who was an occasional visitor, to pronounce the word 'incunabula', which he was renowned for being able to utter as one syllable.

The table itself served other purposes. David Main remembers that 'many a pocket-hatched duckling cheeped and stretched its wings (and did other things) on the dining room table'. David Gee, flushed by his crew's first victory under his aegis as a novice rowing coach, unwisely placed the trophy, an enormous silver object, topped by a silver Neptune, complete with trident, upon the table before breakfast, only to be ordered, gruffly and peremptorily by the Senior Member, to whom coaching triumphs were a matter of routine, "Take that thing off!

But ducklings were not the only examples of Peter Gladstone's introduction of fauna into the New House. His dog Moses, and later Nene, his Irish 'boghound', together with a badger and a vixen all joined the menagerie in the New House Ark, to receive Peter's enthusiastic, if not invariably successful training. Bronco, the badger, was the most famous of these other residents. Peter persuaded Bronco to accept a collar and lead, and visitors to the upstairs sitting-rooms might be startled by a snuffling sound and the sight of a pile of cushions being propelled, without any apparent agent, along the upstairs corridor, only to discover that Bronco, concealed behind them, was collecting them to construct a den. His colleagues wagered that Peter could not spend a whole night with Moses, the badger and the vixen all loose in his bedroom. He persevered valiantly, but lost the bet. In the early hours of the morning, he crept quietly downstairs and locked them in the cellar.

By the time that Peter Gladstone and David Main left the house to take up their housemasterships in 1965, the 'glory days' of the New House were coming to an end: but in the nineteen-seventies Michael Ling and Richard Higson manfully maintained its remarkable and distinctive reputation for a combination of meticulous scholarship, unremitting industry and quirky ebullience; and kept it vigorously alive.



SCIENCE OLYMPIADS

Over the last few months, many of our Sixth Form scientists have been taking part in Olympiad Competitions. Designed to challenge and stimulate the most talented young scientists in the country, these competitions are open to all post-16 students in the UK. The Chemistry, Biology and Physics Olympiads are run independently of each other, but they share a similar structure: while the exams are based on the core of the A-level specifications, the questions are designed to stretch able students by making them apply the principles they have learned to new and more complex situations than they would meet in their A-level courses. So, in order to score marks, it is essential to have a very sound base of knowledge and understanding, but also have the ability to think and reason – often “outside the box” – at a high level.

Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded to the students achieving the highest marks in Round 1 of the competitions. A few of the gold medallists are also invited to continue on into Round 2. After the final Round 3, a small team is selected to represent the UK at the International Finals. This has been a particularly successful Olympiad year for Shrewsbury students.

CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

Six students from the Lower Sixth and five from the Upper Sixth entered Round 1 of the Chemistry Olympiad, in which a total of 4,675 students took part. Each of the 11 Shrewsbury students won a medal, making this year our best ever medal tally in Chemistry.

Gold medals were awarded to: Anna Olerinyova (MSH) who had such a high score that she won through to the second round; Ratanon Suemanothom (G UVI); Crystal Chan (MSH LVI) – an

exceptional result for someone in the Lower Sixth.

Silver medals were awarded to: Clive Lam (O LVI), Fiona Lau (MSH UVI), Denton Lee (S LVI), Edward Mallett (S UVI), Jonathan Wu (S LVI).

Bronze medals were awarded to: Yee Lok (Michael) Cheng (I LVI), Alun Vaughan-Jackson (Ch UVI), Taiding Yang (Rt LVI).



Anna Olerinyova

BIOLOGY OLYMPIAD

In addition to winning through to Round 2 of the Chemistry Olympiad, Anna Olerinyova also won through to Round 2 of the Biology Olympiad – a very impressive achievement indeed. As with the Chemistry competition, we were delighted that each of our students who entered the Biology Olympiad won an award.

Gold medals were awarded to: Anna Olerinyova (MSH UVI), Alun Vaughan-Jackson (Ch UVI).

A silver medal was awarded to: James Brent (Rb UVI).

Highly commended: Hannah Partington (MSH UVI), Seren Kell (MSH UVI).

Commended: Rainbow Satchatippavarn (EDH UVI).

CHALLENGING MATHS

SENIOR TEAM MATHS CHALLENGE – SALOPIAN TEAM IN THE UK FINAL

From among 1,100 schools who entered the Senior Team Maths Challenge 2013, the Salopian team – Ed Elcock (Rb UVI), Daniel Hart (Rt LVI), Arthur Kung (R LVI) and Ratanon Suemanothom (G UVI) – finished a highly creditable tenth in the National Final. Dr Charlie Oakley describes some of the mind-boggling tasks they were set.

“The final comprises four rounds. The first was a poster competition and does not count toward the main event. The team clearly conserved their energy and did not feature in the prizes for this round. Next was the group round. Teams were faced with ten mathematical problems of varying difficulty and had to work out the optimal way to distribute their abilities in the 40 minutes available to them. Time was quite tight for this round and without any multiple choice answers, they had to trust their instincts. Daniel Hart calculated the cube root of 88121.125 (or at least had a hunch of which number to cube to get it) in the last few minutes and Shrewsbury registered eight correct answers for an opening score of 48/60. They were unable to deduce the number of zeros in the first 99999 positive whole numbers; I hope this did not haunt them for too long.

The next round was the Crossnumber: one pair received the across clues and the other the down, the only form of

communication they could use to solve the puzzle was through the adjudicating teacher. They were only allowed to ask the other pair to work on a specific clue, a potential cyclical red herring. Apart from a few minor slips, the team amassed 58/60 in this round and had a moment to breathe and prepare themselves for the final round.

This was probably the most demanding of all. In eight minutes, four answers had to be declared to the adjudicator; from question 2, each answer is dependent on the previous, so accuracy and agility of mind is crucial. There were four such relays in the round. The sting was that you could not check whether your answers were correct until you had an answer for the fourth, which could be wildly off. If incorrect, you would then have had to retrace your steps with the clock still ticking down. Luckily, the team had no such qualms and aced all 16 questions, picking up the maximum of 12 time bonuses for a perfect 60/60, to finish the event in style.

We did not make the podium, but tenth place overall was a very impressive result from the team. The good news is that with two of the team still eligible for the competition next year, we could even go 3 x 3 better in 2 x 19 x 53.”

PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

There was an impressive haul of medals in the British Physics Olympiad too:

Gold medals were awarded to: Edward Elcock (Rb UVI), Ratanon Suemanothom (G UVI)– who also won gold in the Chemistry Olympiad.

A silver medal was awarded to: Peter Zhan won a Silver.

Bronze medals were awarded to: Judah Rand, Edward Wilson, Sherry Jin.

Both Edward Elcock (Rb UVI) and Ratanon Suemanothom (G UVI) were part of our team who were chosen to represent the UK in the International Young Physicists Tournament (IYPT) in Germany last summer.

AS PHYSICS CHALLENGE

Arthur Kung (R LVI) has been awarded a prize as one of the top five students in the country in the AS Physics Challenge set by the British Physics Olympiad organisers. More than 4,000 Lower Sixth students from around 400 schools and colleges entered the competition.

This is a tremendous achievement, although Arthur is in fact the second Shrewsbury student to have won this prestigious award in the last decade. He was invited to the Royal Society to receive his prize in April and had the honour of meeting Astronomer Royal and Old Salopian Lord Rees (S 1956-60), who is also the President of the British Physics Olympiad Organisation.

INTERNATIONAL YOUNG PHYSICISTS' TOURNAMENT: SHREWSBURY'S TEAM REPRESENT THE UK AT THE FINALS IN TAIWAN

A team of students from Shrewsbury have been named the best in the country, and some of them now have the opportunity to represent the UK at the International Young Physicists' Tournament (IYPT) being held in Taiwan in July 2013.



Arthur Kung and Lord Rees

The UKYPT Team 2013: Ed Elcock (captain, Rb UVI), James Brent (Rb UVI), Ratanon Suemanothom (G UVI), Arthur Kung (R LVI) and Chris Papaioannou (PH LVI) claimed victory over the runner-up team from The King's School, Canterbury after winning a series of 'Physics Fights' which not only test their in-depth knowledge and problem-solving abilities in advanced physics, but also their presentational skills.

Shrewsbury's success in this prestigious international competition has been quite extraordinary. The first year that the UK took part in the competition was in 2003, and since then Shrewsbury School's team has been judged to be the strongest team in the UK no fewer than seven times! Our teams have so far travelled to Sweden, Switzerland, Slovakia, South Korea, China, Germany and now Taiwan to take part in the international stage of the tournament, and came away from China with bronze medals.

The team that will travel to Taiwan in July this year will comprise three students from Shrewsbury, and two from King's Canterbury.

Next year, we look forward to hosting the IYPT Final at the School, the first time the Final has ever taken place in the UK.



International Young Physicists' Tournament winners (left to right) Mr John Balcombe, James Brent, Ratanon Suemanothom, Arthur Kung, Chris Papaioannou, Ed Elcock, Mr Steve Adams

LET THERE BE LIGHT!

The annual McEachran Prize, this year judged by poet and author Ruth Padel, provides an opportunity for pupils to think beyond the constraints of the curriculum . . .

Good evening ladies, gentlemen, Dr Padel and of course, my distinguished fellow aesthetes. This evening I'm going to be talking to you about the transformative power of light. But first I would like you to glimpse into the imagination of the seven-year-old Titus Groan, in a gothic schoolroom flooded with golden motes, from Mervyn Peake's novel *Gormenghast*, chapter fourteen:

"It was in Bellgrove's class one late afternoon, that Titus first thought consciously about the idea of colour: of things having colours: of everything having its own particular colour, and of the way in which every particular colour kept changing according to where it was, what the light was like, and what it was next to".

Two terms ago, on 17th May 2012 to be precise, I found myself sitting in the gym (an odd place for a Churchillian at the best of times). I had just finished my French paper and the last thing I was going to do was look over it again. It was my birthday – true! – and as I stared around from the back row listening smugly to the frantic scribbling of the poor buggers' nibs, rustling of cheap paper, and echoing steps from mindlessly bored teachers (no doubt playing adjudicator's battleships), I suddenly noticed that a single shaft of light was pouring down into the gloom from a skylight in the roof, and had settled in a pool less than a metre-wide across my neighbour's desk.

I was mesmerized. The room, which until then I had associated with drudgery, stress, and that cardinal Salopian sin: bureaucracy; had been transformed into something magical, a spell had been cast. It's what I imagine one of Kek's lessons must have felt like.

So, what was it in that simple line of shiny dust that transfixed me? Why was it so powerful? Well, I think that it was partly shock. I had convinced myself I could never see beauty in this building, that I hated it. I was utterly wrong. I had made the assumption that because something had not been built to be pretty, it couldn't become something extraordinary.

Secondly, I was the only person who'd actually seen it. My neighbour was utterly oblivious of the golden halo around his

head. I felt as if I was in a dream, that I had discovered another dimension of reality. I was stepping outside myself, the only one of over a hundred heads that looked up. I was privileged to see it, to be just next to it, but not in it. It was just out of reach.

The contrast was glorious! There I had been chewing over the irregular third person subjunctive of *manger*, and filling in the gaps for what Sarah and Abdul had done with their weekend. A moment ago I had been 3427, in centre 29290 sitting Edexel higher tier Mod Lang, but looking around, 29290 had melted away into something other worldly. In a time of your life, when all you can think about is UMS, grades, whether your s's are legible and the seconds sifting past, to be wrenched out of your rut and flung into a situation which no irregular grammatical rule can summarise, no scientific apparatus measure, reminded me that I was alive!

Yes, exams are important, yes Oxbridge would be nice and yes I'm only a pretentious schoolboy. But: that light triggered something in my mind, whether it was vitamin D deficiency, or some primeval instinct to photosynthesise I don't know. As Mervyn Peake so cleverly observed: if we only look about us, we can see the extraordinary in the ordinary anywhere. The shaft made me see colour for the first time in weeks. It reminded me that there was a world outside that gym, and for a moment that world had seeped through, and its subtle beauty had coloured everything.

I would like to end with a quotation from the somewhat topical Victor Hugo:

"To love beauty, is to see light."

Rory Fraser (Ch)



BOOK No. 7 BILLION

Skin dyed with the mess of life
and left out in the sun to tan
like supple leather it became
as boy became old man.

Skin written with beginnings
attempted and endings come too soon
Notes from friends and lovers
pages lost to memories gloom.

The ink may be cracked and failing now,
the pen run almost dry
but life is being written still
authored within the mind's eye.

Humanity jacketed in inhumanity
who condense all conceivable down
into a number stamped on a spine,
and out of fear mock the unfinished manuscript
that in wisdom is left behind.

Theo Simmons (Ch)

“DON'T BE A PRAT . . .”

In the weekday Chapel service each summer term, Upper Sixth leavers volunteer to be interviewed in front of their peers, reflecting on their life and times at Shrewsbury. Ali Webb (S), here interviewed by Director of Music John Moore, looks back on a highly eventful musical career.

Can you say a bit about your background and upbringing?

I was born on a snowy winter's night in March 1995. I am the youngest of three boys and have lived in rural Worcestershire all my life. Dad is an IT salesman, Mum teaches languages, I have one brother in New Zealand on a gap-life and the other studying in America. I have an aunt who has done some in depth research into family history, and she unearthed that my family is descended from Ethelred the Unready, King of England from 978 to 1016, so that's pretty cool – if you believe it. From a very young age I loved music – whether it was singing *Eternal Flame* by the Bangles on a table tennis table, or playing the drums very loudly, all the time. I attended a small rural primary school until I moved to Abberley Hall Prep School at the age of eight, where I then stayed until Shrewsbury. It was there that my passion for music was nurtured and developed under a fantastic teacher, Jane Whittle, to whom I owe a great deal.



Tell us a bit about your music.

Put simply, music is my passion. I live and breathe the stuff. I came to Shrewsbury with a love of the arts, and I'm leaving with musical ambitions for life. I owe so much to the Music Department for helping me develop my passion, and also to the House for putting up with my consistent excuses: “sorry, got a piano lesson”, “sorry, can't come out, got a concert”. People have often joked that the Maidment Building is my second home. It scares me to think how many hours I've actually spent there in five years, but for me that's been time well spent. Music is a universal language that we all speak and are affected by. There is a poster in Mr Peach's room of a quote by the German philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche, which translates as “Without music, life would be a mistake”.

You spent some time at Berklee College of Music last summer - could you tell us a bit about your experiences?

I was fortunate enough to attend Berklee's Five-Week Summer Performance Programme in Boston, America. It was possibly the best five weeks of my life – I was surrounded by amazing music, awesome people and a great city. I had never been totally immersed in music for such an extended period of time before, but I can definitely say that I didn't want to leave. Rob Collins, who left two years ago, went to Berklee to study full time, but chose to transfer to a more traditional music degree at Durham. The 'American way' may not suit all, but I fell in love with the place, the community of musicians and teachers, the way of life – everything – and I hope to return one day. I cannot recommend the Five-Week highly enough to any budding musicians out there.

As well as being passionate about music, you're also quite talented! Which came first?

As I said, I was into music from a very young age – but the spark

that ignited my passion, as it were, was the beat of a Caribbean steel band that visited my primary school when I was six years old. That inspired me to take up the drums and I remember even now how frustrated my family and neighbours would get at the volume of noise coming from the Webb household! The piano followed suit, and then trumpet and voice. I practised ferociously, and I'd often get very upset because I wasn't as good as Elton John...but I stuck at it and proved to myself that if you practise, you get better. I did some quick back-of-the-envelope calculations and I estimate that since coming to Shrewsbury I've probably done in the region of about 2,000 hours of practice. There was an article published in *The Week* in 2008 which said that researchers have estimated that 10,000 hours of practice is the magic number for becoming a 'true expert', so if this is the case, I've still got a fair amount to do!

And what about sport?

In my first two years here I was a keen fencer and J15 rower. Despite making the decision, which to some extent I regret, to reduce the amount of sport I did to make more time for music, I still enjoy a rare game of football on the House pitch or an afternoon bike ride. In fact two years ago I did cycle 1,000 miles in nine days from John O'Groats to Land's End, so you can do anything when you put your mind to it!

What are your thoughts on co-education, and where do you see Shrewsbury in ten years' time?

When I joined the School in 2008, Sixth Form girls were also introduced. This was great. I have fond memories of singing Elton John's *Can You Feel the Love Tonight* in a School assembly, joined by four gorgeous Sixth Form girl backing singers. Similarly I remember being coddled in 'private' rehearsals which were for no other reason than for female attention. I came from a co-educational prep school, so the move to an all boys' school was the only downside to Shrewsbury. Having now spent two years in co-education once more, I can say that it is much better – for all the known reasons that I shan't bore you with. As for the future, I have no doubt that Shrewsbury will continue to thrive in full co-education, but if Severn Hill is the next house to be converted for small girls, well, then I might have something different to say!

Do you have a philosophy of life?

There is a wooden sign in my room that reads “The harder you work, the luckier you get”, another that says “He who dares wins” and a small card containing the motto of the clothing company, Life is Good – “Do what you like. Like what you do”. We are surrounded by different philosophies, different ways of doing things – this is a good thing because it lets us observe them, see how well they work and we can try them for ourselves. I'm still working out what works for me, but in the meantime, these are good ones to start with.

What have been some of the highs of your time here?

There are so many I wouldn't know where to begin! But I guess there's one that stands out: organizing and performing my own solo gig in the Ashton Theatre earlier this year was the most stressful yet

enjoyable few months of my life. The buzz I got from singing to a packed house, accompanied by great friends and musicians is an emotion I want to keep feeling for the rest of my life. Beyond that: two Edinburgh tours, numerous House Singing victories... the list goes on!

What of the future?

I'll be spending next year at Shrewsbury International School Bangkok teaching music as a gap student. After that, the finer details are as yet unclear, but I'll be pursuing a career in the music industry.

What will you miss?

I will miss a lot about Shrewsbury - the music, facilities, staff, friends etc – but to tell the truth, I actually can't wait to leave and get out into the real world. Now that's not a negative comment - Shrewsbury is preparing you to do just that and I think the Headmaster and all the staff would be disappointed that they hadn't done their job if you weren't chomping at the bit after 5 years to get out there into the next phase of your life. I certainly am!

If you had one message for those in front of you, what would it be?

When I arrived in Third Form, I was offered some wise words from my brother which came in the form of a letter sent from Delos Island, Greece, dated Saturday, 6th September 2008:

Dear Ali,

1. Don't be a prat. You may find that some of your fellow new boys in the house are prats. I certainly found this. After five years, however, I guarantee you will count them all as among your very best friends. People change a lot in this time, much more than in the prep school years.
2. Don't be a prat yourself. This consists principally of saying bad things about people behind their backs. It can be hard to

avoid sometimes, particularly regarding somebody everyone dislikes, but just don't do it.

3. Salopian slang is important and you should master it as soon as possible.
4. Don't forget to enjoy yourself!

As I mentioned, I almost left the school at the end of 5th form. During talks with Mr Moore, he briefly touched on the fact that school is a place to make mistakes, and this is something that has stuck with me. Now, I'm not encouraging people to be naughty, and you should "get it right, lads", but you need to be yourself. And in order to do that you need to find out who you are. So, don't be afraid to try new things. Don't be afraid to push boundaries. Most of all, don't be afraid to make mistakes. You owe it to your family, to your friends, and most of all, to yourself.



Ali with Rob Cross and Izzy Osborne in What You Will, 2010



Ali Webb in concert, January 2013

MONTPELLIER STUDY TRIP 2013

Nineteen boys from the Third, Fourth and Fifth Forms spent just under a week in Montpellier at the start of the Easter holidays, the aims being to improve their French, to immerse them in the French way of life, and to have some fun. The party left School in snowy conditions in the small hours of Saturday 23rd March and returned late on Thursday. They were accompanied by Mr Warburg and M Barré. The boys were hosted in pairs by very friendly and hospitable French families, spent their mornings in intensive French lessons with native speaker teachers at a local language school and their afternoons on excursions. These included trips to the Pont du Gard and the Musée Haribo, a cookery course in which we ate what we prepared (absolutely delicious to the surprise of some...), visits to a French Resistance Museum and the Musée Fabre Art Museum, some ice skating and a bit of time on the beach, not to mention the joys of wandering around Montpellier when the sun shone for us, exploring the medieval city centre's streets and alleyways and appreciating its fine architecture and shops. Evenings were spent with their host families, where fine food was eaten and plenty of conversation shared. All seem to have had a rich and varied time, to have made some very worthwhile progress in French and gained an appreciation of why Montpellier is France's fastest growing city and how lucky those who live in the south of France are. Here is a selection of their diary entries:

Le lundi 25 mars

Après un weekend relax dans les familles, lever matinal (huit heures pour nous deux) car les cours commençaient à neuf heures. Certains étaient en retard!



Charles Wade

Choses sérieuses: trois heures et demie de cours avec une petite récré d'une demi-heure. On nous a mis dans deux groupes. On a étudié différents thèmes de l'examen. Donc, très utile. Après cela, le réconfort: baguette garnie (pour moi jambon-beurre)!

L'après-midi, on a fait une visite guidée de Montpellier. C'était très intéressant. Ensuite un moment sportif: l'initiation au patinage. Très drôle mais difficile de ne pas tomber quand on débute, comme moi.

Le soir, retour à la maison chez notre famille d'accueil. Dîner, puis un film français avant de nous coucher après une journée bien remplie.

Louie Stewart (PH IV)

Le mardi 26 mars 2013

Donc, une autre journée à Montpellier ! Après nous être levés aux environs de sept heures, nous avons pris le petit déjeuner (pain au chocolat et thé) et puis nous avons quitté la maison et pris un tramway jusqu'à la Place de la Comédie, avant de marcher à notre école de langues qui s'appellait LSF. Les cours étaient excellents, et après le déjeuner et un peu de temps libre, à une heure et demie, nous avons voyagé en bus pour aller au musée Haribo ! Moi, je déteste les bonbons Haribo mais le musée était très intéressant et j'ai appris beaucoup sur l'histoire de cette compagnie. Aussi, il y avait des bonbons gratuits. Cependant, une heure plus tard, nous devions aller au fameux Pont du Gard ! Le ciel était bleu, donc tout le monde a pris beaucoup de photos car le pont était magnifique. A cinq heures, comme il faisait encore beau, nous avons décidé d'aller à la plage. Elle était belle et après une heure, et un jeu de foot, nous sommes allés dans un restaurant qui s'appelait la Chêneraie pour dîner. La plupart des gens ont mangé du bifteck, qui était délicieux ! A la fin d'une longue journée, nous sommes retournés dormir dans nos familles françaises.

Charles Wade (PH IV)

Le mercredi 27 mars 2013

Nous nous sommes levés vers sept heures, je me suis habillé et j'ai mangé mon petit déjeuner (des céréales et du café), avant de partir en tramway à huit heures et demie. Nous nous sommes arrêtés à la Place de Comédie pour cinq minutes de marche jusqu'à notre salle de classe dans le centre de Montpellier. Après les cours, vers midi et quart, nous sommes allés au Musée de la Résistance, avec notre professeur, M. Warburg. J'ai trouvé ça très étonnant et particulièrement intéressant. Ensuite, nous avons marché à travers la ville afin de suivre un cours de cuisine dans un restaurant typique. Quand nous sommes arrivés, nous avons dû nous laver les mains avant de commencer le cours. Puis, il a fallu mettre un tablier. Nous avons pelé et haché différents légumes, tels que des oignons, carottes et. Après ça, nous avons roulé des boulettes de viande entre nos mains, avant d'ajouter des œufs et des herbes. Finalement, nous avons goûté notre préparation, et je dois dire que c'était délicieux ! (même si, personnellement, je n'aime pas trop les légumes). A la fin de la journée, nous sommes retournés à notre famille d'accueil. Nous étions tous épuisés mais ravis de cette excellente journée !...

Alex Brinkley (PH IV)

MONTPELLIER TRIP 2013



SPANISH FACULTY TRIP TO LA CORUÑA

This was our second trip to La Coruña with the focus on a short, intense boost to language with classes and plenty of time with host families. Leaving an almost snowbound Shropshire behind we had a good journey out, made a little more interesting by a young Spaniard standing up for himself on the flight accusing an unsuspecting air hostess of having trampled his civil liberties by asking him to sit down (not the kind of Spanish we were supposed to be learning!). Upon arrival, the welcome was effusive, setting the tone for what proved to be wonderfully generous hospitality on behalf of our hosts. Before long boys were tucking into their evening meals, *hora española*, with typical Galician dishes such as *pulpo a la gallega*, *empanadas de bonito* and other seafood dishes.

Sunday was spent with the hosts for the most part, full immersion with varying degrees of initial success. Speaking of immersion, it had also started raining, and it wouldn't stop for the next five days, proving why this beautiful part of Spain is called *España Verde*. We met briefly at the 'Domus', comparing notes and learning about the history of man, DNA and how hard we could kick a football among other things.

We then got into a pattern of trips and small group oral lessons. We visited the cathedral at Santiago de Compostela, not looking quite at its best with the iconic Obradoiro façade gushing and dank like a waterfall, and many tourists dripping as they visited the reputed resting place of St James. The tour of La Coruña itself gave an idea of the significance of the place for France and England too, not to mention the Romans given that the seafront is dominated day and night by the ancient Torre de Hercules lighthouse. There was a chance too to visit the Riazor, stadium of Depor – the trophy cabinet not quite as bare as the club's coffers. Sadly international football meant no home game, but we all enjoyed watching Spain's crucial World Cup qualifying victory in France ...

Elsewhere our At'lantik English host company set up a beginners' surf class. Not ideal weather when the difference between getting wet from the Atlantic and from the heavens is hard to distinguish, but as throughout the trip our intrepid Salopians showed real spirit and gave it a go. One or two even looked like they knew what they were doing by the finish!

The key to success for this trip was the quality of the welcome by our host families. The boys gained a real sense of Galician/Spanish hospitality and most (if not all) now have open invitations to return in the future – these are contacts and beginnings of friendships that could last a lifetime with a little care. As well as expressing my gratitude to our Galician families, I should like to thank Ben Smith and his colleagues at At'lantik English for their personal touch and attention to detail, Mike Wright for organising at this end and, last but not least, all the boys for approaching the trip in exactly the right spirit thereby doing themselves and the School proud.

Stuart Cowper



Torre de Hercules lighthouse



Santiago de Compostela



HISTORY TRIP TO ISTANBUL

On our arrival at the airport in Istanbul we were greeted by the man who would accompany us quite literally everywhere we would go on the trip, Yasar (or Yoshi as he became more affectionately known).

Our first day in the city was a busy one, our first port of call the world-famous Blue Mosque conveniently located within walking distance of our hotel. This impressive 17th century Ottoman structure is an architectural masterpiece with its six enormous minarets and intricate tile work. From here we only needed to stroll outside to see our next attraction, the Roman Hippodrome. It was easy to picture the chariot races of Constantine's era that would have entertained the crowds. Hagia Sophia cathedral (later mosque, now museum), whilst no longer a place of worship like the Blue Mosque, was more historically fascinating. It was great to see it so similar to how the Crusaders must have experienced it over 900 years ago – staring up in awe. From here we walked to the Basilica Cistern, an incredible underground structure, which was used as a place to store emergency water for the city for many years. Its eerily lit stone columns that loomed into the darkness of the high vaulted ceiling created a slightly unnerving atmosphere and it was a relief to emerge into the sunny streets after visiting its ancient depths.

From here we still had one more place to visit, the Golden Gate and seven towers. On arrival we were told to watch out for gypsy children, so were rather worried when as we passed into the old fortified area surrounded by the seven towers to see a multitude of men all dressed in black and swinging AK-47s rather haphazardly. They were “filming” apparently, although we weren't convinced and kept our distance, going for a perhaps even more dangerous walk along the top of the massive seven-mile long Theodosian walls. Health and safety being a rather novel idea in Turkey, these didn't have any form of barriers between you and the fairly distant ground below. All that remained of our first day was to visit a restaurant in the evening and be forced to eat far too much hot bread that would ensure constipation for the rest of our stay.

The next day we went straight to the Topkapi palace, highlights included the world's fourth largest diamond that was apparently bought for four spoons and Yasar's gentle, calming voice telling us repeatedly about the multitude of women that were kept as concubines by the Ottoman emperor. We were treated again to his dulcet tones whilst sitting on a boat making its way slowly down the Bosphorus, this time over a microphone, which made him even more incomprehensible than usual. From here we trekked through the Spice Bazaar and into the Grand Bazaar, where it was possible to buy Dolce and Gabbana and Armani aftershaves for less than a pound, although the safety of your skin couldn't be guaranteed.

On our third day we journeyed out of Istanbul towards Iznik, what was the ancient city of Nicaea. That morning an unexpected visitor had arrived. Appearing at breakfast as if from nowhere, Mr Sheppe then decided to join us for the rest of the day, postponing whatever urgent CIA business it was he was meant to be attending to. The Roman walls of Iznik, the first line of defence against the Crusaders, were incredibly impressive. Inevitably, we were followed by most of the school girls in the area. A highlight of the afternoon was the news that Henry Dashwood's bank card had been swallowed by the Turkish system and he would only be able to get it back when the bank staff's lunch break ended, which was at 5pm. Ignoring his plight, we took a ferry back to Istanbul, on which Mr Sheppe taught us how to count to ten in Turkish. From here we took a walk through the more modern part of town, whilst Hugo Scott used the toilet facilities he had been dreaming of all day, in Starbucks.

The next day was our last and we were given free time to do as we pleased; expensive Turkish baths were had by some, whilst others used the time to buy as much cheap rubbish as was possible to bring back to the UK as “gifts”. Three Turkish coffees and extensive use of the hotel's massage chair put me in a bad way and the flight home was a welcome time to get some sleep, after what had been an extremely pleasurable trip.

Alex Walker (O LVI)



Clambering on the massive Theodosian Walls of Constantinople

HOUSE PLAYS 2013



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1 and 4. Severn Hill – 'The Real Inspector Hound' and 'After Magritte'; 2 Churchill's Hall – 'Black Comedy'
3 and 6. Moser's Hall – 'The Servant of Two Masters'; 5 The Grove – 'Hidden Meanings'; 7 Emma Darwin Hall – 'The Cagebirds'

LETTER FROM BANGKOK

Peter Fanning has spent the last nine months working at Shrewsbury's sister School, Shrewsbury International, Bangkok

Arriving at the Central Pier on Bangkok's throbbing River, one registers, with brief surprise, the title 'Shrewsbury' etched in green and white – directing travellers to the courtesy boat which ploughs between the crowded landing stages and the Chatrium Hotel.

Even more surprising is the Shrewsbury School Crest – heraldic lions and *fleurs de Lys* – guarding the entrance to the School. A foreign field that is for ever England.

And here we are – at the wide, white gleaming building of this fifteen hundred pupil school, gazing out across the regal Chao Praya River, teeming with activity, whilst tourists in Bermuda shorts and rainbow tops check in and out of the elegant Chatrium Hotel – or lounge around the Infinity Pool.

In some respects it's hard to guess what these two undoubtedly great schools have in common. A boarding school and a day school; a 13-18, largely single-sex establishment versus a 5-18 co-educational school, with a nursery attached; a largely English catchment versus a seventy per cent Thai speaking population; a temperate climate (and winter chill!) versus forty degrees and rising. They don't row here – and football is more enthusiasm than Premier League. *Vive la difference!* But is there any similarity?

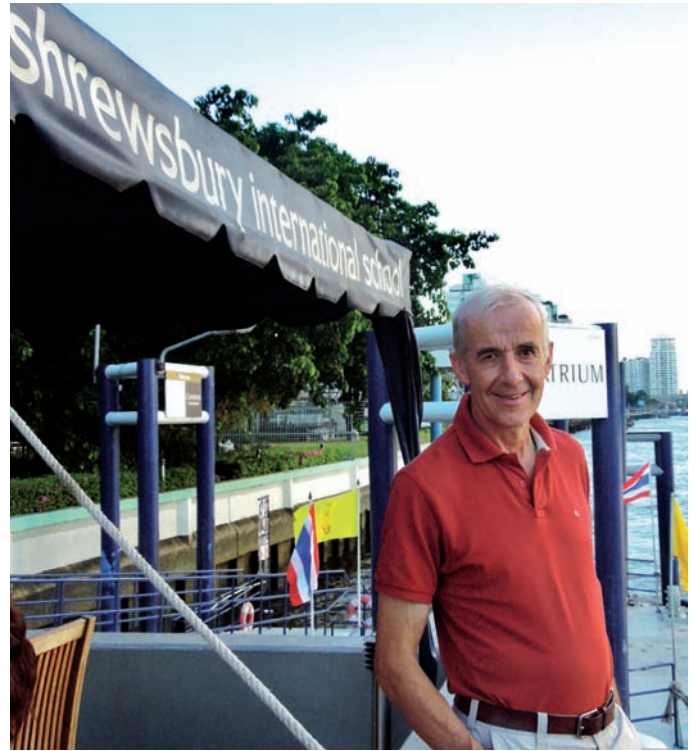
Well of course you could start with the Music. There is a bunch of eccentric enthusiasts on both sides of the world, coaching some amazing and prodigiously talented students. Strings and piano dominate here – taught by a duo of brilliant Russians – where wind playing and voice perhaps predominate in Shropshire.

Academic Drama and Art aspire to the highest standards. But so of course does every Faculty. And here perhaps you start to hit the Unique Selling Points. Shrewsbury International School (SIS) maintains a profile as the leading academic International School of Thailand. The work ethic is unignorable. And the pressure for good results is on a par with some of the major independent UK City Schools. (I wonder how many Parent-Teacher Associations in England raise the question of whether students are being set sufficient work by every single teacher?) Academic 'INSET' is a regular event.

Indiscipline and sanctions are relatively minor too. Students never cross the line. (*What, never? Well hardly ever!*)

Shrewsbury School in Shropshire stands and falls by the breadth of its education. Not only is excellent teaching a given, but staff are expected to multi-task their way through a vigorous pastoral role and then provide an extracurricular programme seven days a week. And whilst some of the SIS teachers can slip away for the odd weekend to Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur or Phuket, the load on a boarding school teacher's time is something that requires the constitution of an ox, matched by the energy of a gazelle.

To his eternal credit, Principal Stephen Holroyd (former Housemaster and Second Master at Shrewsbury UK) is all too aware of the need for what he calls 'Balancing the Books'. Two major initiatives have been launched in recent years. *You Time* involves what most Salopian parents would expect in any school – a programme of activities ranging from choral singing to rugby, softball, chess, swing dancing and preparations for outward bounding at weekends, charity work, debating and Thai dancing – along with drama, strings and orchestra rehearsals.



Peter Fanning demonstrating the energy of a gazelle . . .

What? All of this packed into hours after school? Indeed. And of course, there lies the rub. Where Shrewsbury UK's extendable hours provide for activities long after dark, the scope for congestion and traffic jams within the brief framework of 'after school' requires as much delicate handling as any Fasti planning in Salopia's overcrowded life. One is perhaps surprised that either system works at all.

Holroyd's second amendment has been a course called *Reading The World*. Led by Colin Cheney, a messianic poet from Maine, this is Critical Thinking, Debating and Speaking writ large. A course that encourages students, who are perhaps over-used to adopting the 'Receive' mode of learning, to interact, to question and to argue – in short, to 'Transmit' rather than merely 'Receive'.

Many apply to American and English Universities. Many will need to argue the case for their application at interview. It's an excellent course in broadening the mind and boosting confidence. And there is a special adviser to guide the students through the maze of American College application, as part of an increasingly popular trend.

Living in South East Asia, where the rise in GDP is currently running at 16 to 20 per cent, one is only too aware of what is a rapidly booming economy. How long it will last is hard to say – whether or when the bubble will burst – but in terms of growth, this is the place to be.

My duties, such as they are, have been to teach Drama and English and to launch the Shrewsbury Musical *The Bubble*. Written by Peter Hankin and Julian Roach, with music by John Moore, the tale of the South Sea Bubble, Britain's first financial scam, was initially staged in 2001 at the time of the Dot.Com crisis and subsequently at the Edinburgh Fringe, following the Credit Crunch of 2008.

What Thai audiences will make of the Coffee House scandals, the weasly Jobbers, the grasping aristocrats and the gullible punters of



Hogarth's time is anybody's guess. I suspect they will recognise one or two features and hope they'll enjoy some of the wit, along with the rousing choruses from the Maestro's pen.

Along with some stunning music and drama, memorable moments of our brief foray to South East Asia include: *endless* days of dressing up; if it isn't 'Book Week' (when you dress as a book!), then it's Roman Week, or Evacuees Day, or Loy Krathong (traditional Thai costume), Chinese New Year, Diwali, Song Kran – the list goes on and on; fireworks on the river on festival days; a full Buddhist funeral on our arrival; flotillas of Yellow Shirts packing the river to honour the King's birthday; the Principal's Gangnam dance at the final Christmas School Assembly (yes!) ...and the busy, boat filled River, awash with barges and tugs and party boats, bustling about their business.

And as for the students themselves – one finds young people are pretty much the same, whichever part of the world you travel to; friendly, biddable, thoughtful at times, with astonishing resilience, given how much is thrown at them – armed with a widening vision of what the world can offer and what they can give in return. They certainly look as if they hugely enjoy the life of Shrewsbury School, as well as each other's company.

Not much difference then.



And how did it all go? This extract from an email sent by Peter Fanning to composer John Moore, reproduced by permission, says it all.

... As for *The Bubble*, I was a little heartened to return from SA to find that not only was the stage fully prepared (black box with gibbet and rising and falling shares on four projectors), but the orchestra pit (over which there had been much wrangle with the architect – who was flatly against opening it at all) was open, grilled over for safety and ready to take a 21-piece band (including young Old Salopians Carys Gittins and Chris Hardman).

We rehearsed flat out for two weekends, one prior to the start of term and one at the end of week one. Technicals, technicals, technicals. I think you know the score. I had a nice girl from the drama department helping on lights who speaks some Thai – so communication with the Thai techs was improved. (She is off to work near Stourbridge next term.) Actually, what was nice was to see the polite, but somewhat sceptical drama department slowly starting to thaw. I think that initially they must have wondered why this geriatric had been foisted on them from above.

You will be pleased to know how hard David worked on the band – I think he was often horrified to be constantly asked to crank them

up to an even pacier tempo; but obliged with surprising results; he also learnt to MD whilst playing endless incidental music and underscoring of scenes – not bad for a cathedral organist! – and with Richard Singleton, the balance between band and cast was excellent; not only that, you could hear every mic-ed word. Ah, the long forgotten days of intelligent 18-year-olds in charge of complex sound equipment!

Costumes looked great and tailor made . . . By now we had blown the budget into tiny smithereens.

As for the cast – well, some of the chorus might not have struck you as the most enthusiastic all-singing and dancing thespians. Luckily, there was a nucleus of half a dozen boys, who clearly understood what we were about – and whose enthusiasm – and focus – gradually infected the rest of the throng like a virus. One or two real stars. Nice bunch of Rats, four girls and two boys. So by the end – the chorus numbers and the solos were bizarrely full of pizzazz and very well drilled as well.

Peter Hankin had written a 'prologue' which explains the story rather well. So we added that on in the hope that some of the audience would understand the story. I don't think they coped well with references to Lehmans or the Goodwins – and there was not a lot of laughter at the rapier wit of Hankin/Roach. But at least they comprehended enough to clap like mad at the end of any number.

The general audience response was fairly overwhelming, partly, I think because they had not seen anything of this scale/type/pizzazz before. Stephen [Holroyd] thinks we will be back in two years' time with another show – and so on for the next fourteen years until we have done every one of our shows in Thailand. Hmmm . . . They may have to settle for *The Last Night of the Proms* for the next decade or two . . .



MODEL UNITED NATIONS

2012-13 has been another good year for the Shrewsbury MUN teams, with plenty of notable achievements at conferences. The weekly meetings in L3 on Wednesday evenings have been full, sparky, frequently passionate and often amusing, and in the course of the year we have hosted delegations from Adams Grammar School and Concord College, who are keen to start their own MUN teams.

The MUN season kicked off in the October half-term at the Royal Russell MUN in Croydon, where our A team, Azerbaijan, won a Highly Commended Delegation award and our B team, Israel, won a Commended Delegation award. In addition, James Humpish, our Israeli ambassador's rendition of 'Jerusalem' was named the Best Opening Speech, nine Salopians won individual awards in their committees and – most importantly of all! – an improvised Shrewsbury super-group, 'Ed and the Other People', danced, wiggled, and wobbled their way to victory in the MUN X Factor!

In Paris at the December conference in UNESCO a small, crack team, representing France, emerged with five individual awards, including three Best Delegate awards for Sam Ansloos in (ECOSOC), Henry Dashwood (Security Council) and Amelia Woodruff (UNDP). This was Amelia's first ever conference, and she was in a committee room of almost 200 delegates: a stunning achievement, and a first for womanhood in Shrewsbury MUN history.

At Edinburgh in March, armed only with poetry, questionable analogies and a fistful of several trillion Zimbabwean dollars, our Zimbabwe team fought to defend a country which was cruelly positioned at the rear of the committee rooms and at the back of the General Assembly. Despite this, Shrewsbury did Robert

Mugabe proud, bringing back another nine awards, including three more Best Delegate awards for Sam Ansloos, Sonny Koh (V, Ch) (at his first ever conference) and rising youth star, Guy Cabral (IV, Ch).

Then came Magdalen College Oxford's MUN on the last weekend of the Lent Term. Here the team had a good mix of experienced delegates and MUN novices. Braving the snow and the Oxford traffic wardens (admittedly not entirely successfully, Bursar! – sorry!) our intrepid teams, Argentina (SC) and Israel stayed in rooms in Balliol College.

Perhaps inspired by the portraits of previous Prime Ministers on the walls of the college dining hall, the team rose to the occasion, got stuck in admirably in the committee rooms and had a very enjoyable weekend.

Eight individuals picked up awards in their committees, including Best Delegate awards for the irrepressible Mark Huang and Rory Fraser and a Highly Commended Delegate award for Rhys Elliott-Williams (a Fourth Former attending his first ever conference). In addition our A team, Argentina, were named the Best Delegation at the conference, just pipping strong teams from Thomas Hardy School, Dorchester and Cheadle Hulme to the line.

2012-13 has been a very enjoyable and eventful year so far, and we are hoping to make an impact at two more conferences in the second half of the summer term (at Manchester Grammar School and Withington's).

Finally I would like to thank Miss Burge, Dr Oakley, Mr Barrett, Mr Sheppe and Mr Hann for their invaluable help and support with organising these trips. Without them, these trips could not have gone ahead.

Huw Peach



OPERATIC TRIUMPH LAUNCHES SUMMER TERM IN STYLE

In 2011 Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*; last year Mozart's *The Magic Flute*; this year the most ambitious project yet, a concert performance of Bizet's *Carmen*, slipped in just before the exam season really began.

The scale of this production was staggering, and testimony not only to the rich seam of talented young singers with which the School is currently blessed, but also to the quality of its orchestral players who tackled this long and complex score with a verve and sensitivity which often made it difficult to believe that one was listening to (or in this case playing in) a school orchestra.

Maestro John Moore, never one to take an easy route, keen to give as many as possible of the School's singers experience of grand opera, involved no fewer than 12 pupils singing solo roles over the two performances, entailing of course, double the vocal coaching. Their performances were undoubtedly given a lift by the inspirational singing of the two professional soloists, Kathryn Turpin (*Carmen*), who teaches singing at the School, and Leonel Pinheiro, looking every inch the love-crazed Don José, whose superb Latin tenor is already in high demand.

Members of the Shrewsbury School Community Choir sang the choruses with professional aplomb, and the rapture of the audience's applause from a full house on both nights, not to mention the relief on the conductor's face (this reviewer was sitting in the trombone section), was testimony to the success of this very ambitious project. Thanks also to so many others involved in bringing this production to life: singing teachers Jonathan May and Kathryn Turpin and assistant chorus master Alex Mason in particular. One wonders what next year will bring?

Richard Hudson



Kathryn Turpin



Sam Ansloos



Not quite a concert performance . . .

GALIN GANCHEV THRILLS HIS AUDIENCE

Word had got round. The prospect of a full-length recital by Galin Ganchev (M V) drew a large audience to the Alington Hall, those who had heard him before bringing friends to share in the excitement of such an occasion. A substantial and varied programme promised much, even produced a frisson of anxiety at the sheer scale of the undertaking; in the event, expectations were to be fulfilled and doubts confounded in equal measure.

From a strictly personal point of view, expectations of the opening items were not high, for I have to admit that Preludes and Fugues leave me cold. A year ago I dared to applaud Galin's unfashionably flamboyant treatment of Bach, at the same time conceding that the majority would disapprove. It seems that they have had their way, for his rendering of two of "the forty-eight", disciplined, and, I presume, "authentic" as it was, sounded to me more dutiful than inspired. In fairness, I should record that the playing was widely admired. For those who like that sort of thing . . .

Enter Mozart and the sun shone. In the programme notes, Galin says: "I love to make my audiences experience the works of music I perform at the deepest emotional level". A precocious claim, arguably a presumptuous one, but listening to his fluent and subtly flexible interpretation, I felt he had made his contract. The exuberance of the outer movements was never superficial, and to the adagio he brought a poignant, even anguished, quality, more profound than is suggested by the direction *cantabile*. Mozart knew the dark side and his most brilliant music is the richer for it. This radiant performance was eloquent testimony.

And so to Chopin, the composer for whom the piano might have been invented. There is in his music for the instrument a unique quality of sound that can, in the wrong hands, give the impression of too great ease, of mere salon music. As a performer who makes the most of contrast, be it of tempo or of dynamics, Galin Ganchev is not one to leave it all to the melody. The *Ballade* was the more majestic, the more thrilling for the contemplative handling of quiet passages, emotion taken to the limit, but never overdone.

"In the afternoon they came into a land / In which it seemèd always afternoon". Thus Tennyson in *The Lotos-Eaters*, images from which came to mind in the two Debussy preludes which opened the second half. "A land of streams! Some like a downward smoke, / Slow-dropping veils of thinnest lawn did go". The hazy luminosity so characteristic of Impressionism gleamed in Galin's languid evocation of *Voiles* and *La Cathédrale Engloutie*.

This willingness to linger, to create a mood of rapt intensity, was for me the outstanding feature of his account of Liszt's B minor Sonata, for all that its famous difficulty lies in the soaring, tumultuous passages which sound as if four hands are at work. It is not that Galin Ganchev balks at these lofty peaks; he surmounts them with consummate musicianship, never losing sight of the thematic unity which makes ultimate sense of this sprawling, potentially meandering, example of high Romanticism. The technical mastery and the feat of memory are the most immediately awe-inspiring qualities, but as in the

Chopin, the episodes of contemplation, of searching, as if in a musical maze, make their own demands on the temperament of the pianist. It takes a different kind of courage to summon and sustain such tension, but resisting the temptation to hurry makes the heady return to *Sturm und Drang* all the more telling.

The concert, which had begun at half past seven, lasted until almost ten o'clock, well beyond conventional running time, though it had not felt like it, such is the compelling impact of this exceptional artist. Grateful listeners made their admiration clear, but were they applauding just because he is young, or because he is, in a sense, "ours"? If so, they were missing the point.

Aware that I make, and have made, what some may consider extravagant claims for Galin's accomplishment, I pause here to reflect. It was an electrifying performance of Beethoven at a lunch-time concert two years ago that first alerted me to his special gifts and looking back at what I wrote then, I see that I praised him to the skies. Listening since to the recording he made around the same time, my ears tell me that I was right. On every subsequent occasion, his highly-charged interpretation of familiar works has enhanced my appreciation of them, and while I have no wish to hear the remaining forty-six Preludes and Fugues, I would go a long way to hear him play Mozart, Beethoven, or Chopin.

Countless hours of study and practice lie behind his achievement and, for all I know, the impression of spontaneity may be a product of the intellect, of considered preparation. If, on the other hand, there is, as it appears, something of the instinctive in the way Galin illuminates great music, an intuitive affinity with its genius, then he might read what is written about him and ask, "Do I really do all this?"

Yes, young man, you do. All this, and more.

Martin Knox



END OF TERM CONCERT

The welcome from the Brass Ensemble that traditionally opens major concerts was missing this year, for a very good reason, of which more later. We were not to be denied the sound of the trumpet, however, as Henry Thomas, only in his second year at Shrewsbury, but already an established star of the music department, stepped up to play a movement of the Haydn concerto. He would probably have appreciated the chance to warm up in a fanfare, but once he got into his stride, there was much to admire in his nimble, authoritative playing. His contribution did not end there, for his incisive attack and diamond-bright tone illuminated the many subsequent items in which he participated.

From a familiar work to one that is by comparison a rarity. We should be grateful to Dorit Hasselberg for giving us the chance to hear a clarinet concerto by Louis Spohr, in his day a well-known composer, but now fallen into neglect. Similar to Hummel and perhaps Weber, his work makes a pleasing sound and the soloist was equal to all its demands. It was not the fault of Dorit or of John Moore that some of the accompaniment is too heavily scored for the solo part to come through, but when the way was clear, the assurance with which the most difficult passages were handled by the virtuoso performer was a delight.

There then followed two numbers from *Carmen*, which was due to be performed a few weeks later.



John Moore

Up to this point, the orchestral playing had been inconsistent. Would they rise to the occasion in the symphony (Rachmaninov No 1)? What followed was not so much an improvement as a transformation. From first to last, this was one of the finest performances I have ever heard from the school orchestra. Technically secure and utterly committed, they responded to John Moore's fiery, urgent direction in an interpretation that made nonsense of the work's early failure. There was not a weak link, not a slack moment in a performance of which all concerned should be proud.

In the absence of the Community Choir (on operatic duty) there was a chance to hear Alex Mason's Chapel Choir in concert, though their chosen piece, Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb* was still

from the ecclesiastical repertoire. It would probably have sounded even better in the Chapel, but it still came across effectively in the Alington Hall, for there was a movingly ethereal quality about the pianissimo singing and the diction was exceptionally fine. Such clarity from a large group must take hours of practice. Solos, resonantly delivered by Teresa Fawcett Wood, Jonty Binns, Laurence Jeffcoate, and Rob Cross, were further evidence of the current strength of this core institution. The applause went on until the last performer had left the stage.

Having already made a hit last month with the Big Band, Maria Eglinton showed that she could conjure spirited and disciplined playing from an ensemble twice the size. The "Yiddish Dances" by Adam Gorb, witty and uplifting, were well worth hearing, the complex score holding no terrors for the Wind Orchestra. There were some striking "special effects", particularly from the trumpets and the clarinets.

Finally, enter the Brass Ensemble to the rousing strains of *Stars and Stripes Forever*. In their midst, not conducting, just joining in, was Nigel Gibbon, who leaves us after twenty-six years of cheerful and dedicated service. He has taught hundreds of pupils and in the process driven thousands of miles, so it was appropriate that he should top the bill on this occasion.

After a couple more numbers, he announced an extra item, which seemed to cause total confusion in the band. Chaos, I thought. How embarrassing. But I had fallen for a practical joke. The moment they began *The Bugler's Holiday*, it was obvious that everything was under control, Nigel and three fellow-trumpeters, Henry Thomas, Harry Sargeant, and Brendan Parsons, leading the way with such gusto, such joie de vivre, such flair as brought the house down. It was a fitting send-off for this hugely popular man.

Martin Knox



Harry Sargeant

SHROPSHIRE CONCERTO COMPETITION

A few days after performing in the End of Term Concert, Dorit Hasselberg gave another stunning performance of Spohr's Clarinet Concerto, this time as one of the four finalists in the Shropshire Concerto Competition. She was accompanied by the Shropshire Sinfonia – a fine local orchestra made up of professionals and young local student musicians.

The standard of her co-competitors was extremely high. One was fellow Salopian Henry Kennedy (I UVI) whose performance of the *Tableaux de Provence* for saxophone and orchestra was also quite superb. The other two finalists were both fine instrumentalists from Concord College.

All four finalists received well deserved praise from the adjudicator – the newly appointed Head of Strings at the Birmingham Conservatoire of Music – but Dorit was singled out for her mature and detailed account of the concerto, for which she was awarded first place.

This is the second year in a row that the winner of the County Concerto Competition has come from Shrewsbury School. Last year's winner was Galin Ganchev (M V). Dorit is a pupil of Donny MacKenzie at the School.

NATIONAL CONCERT BAND FESTIVAL

Two weeks later, and just before the beginning of the Summer Term, the competition spotlight fell on Shrewsbury's Big Band. Following their outstanding performance at the regional rounds of the National Concert Band Festival in November, the Big Band were invited to take part in the National Concert Band Festival held at the Birmingham Conservatoire in April, the UK's largest

wind band and big band festival. Shrewsbury's Big Band were awarded another Gold Medal at the Finals of the National Concert Band Festival held at the Birmingham Conservatoire on 13th April.

Director Maria Eglinton was delighted with their performance. "I really don't think they could have played much better. The chosen programme was: *In the Mood*, *The Girl from Ipanema* (vocalist: Teresa Fawcett Wood), *St Thomas* and *The Simpsons* theme tune.

After a tense adjudication given by Dr Ian Darrington (founder and director of the Wigan International Jazz Festival) and John Ruddick (Director of the Midland Youth Jazz Orchestra), we were pleased to be awarded a Gold Medal. Particular congratulations to Henry Thomas (Ch IV), who was awarded an Outstanding Soloist Award."

NOCK DEIGHTON CHALLENGE 2013

There was further competition success for another of the School's Music Scholars, Harry Sargeant (M LVI). Harry plays trumpet, cello and piano to a very high standard and is also increasingly finding a voice as a composer and arranger for ensembles of various sizes and combinations. He was awarded first prize in the Nock Deighton Challenge 2013 with his musical composition *Colonel Custard and Major Mustard*.

"To enter I had to write a piece fully scored for a brass band. I decided to have a fast, upbeat section that also returns at the end, and a middle, slower section with more interesting harmonies and rhythms – and I very much enjoyed doing it." His piece will be performed by the Ironbridge Gorge Brass Band during the Ironbridge Gorge Brass Band Festival in July.



Shrewsbury School Big Band



SHREWSBURY SCHOOL FOUNDATION

Since writing in the last edition of Old Salopian News, much has been happening at the Foundation.

Following the successful completion of the new Boathouse the Foundation has continued to work closely with the School and the Sabrina Supporters Fund, to raise additional funds to ensure the Boat Club continues to have the highest standard of facilities, equipment and coaches. During the past ten years parents and Old Salopians have been very generous with support for boat funding and continue to be so. Recently, the School has been able to order two new Empacher rowing eights with thanks to Old Salopian Jonathon Beeston, parent Philip Kershaw and an anonymous donor.

In July the Foundation will, once again, be running its telephone campaign. Since starting the campaign seven years ago, the Foundation has received over £1million from Old Salopians and parents for bursaries. The Annual Fund helps ensure that there is funding available for Shrewsbury's highest priorities and plays a significant role in helping the School meet its yearly bursarial funding targets. Without this support, Shrewsbury could not maintain its position at the forefront of education. As with all independent schools, fees alone are not enough to maintain the quality of education for which Shrewsbury is known and we are extremely grateful to all our donors for their generosity in helping to ensure future generations are able to benefit from this education just as they and their children have benefitted.

In addition to providing bursarial support, the Foundation also provides funding for capital projects to ensure that Shrewsbury School remains at this cutting edge of education. In many instances the support has come from legacies. The Cricket School and

swimming pool were, for example, made possible because of a generous bequest from Alan Palgrave Brown. Legacies, no matter how large or small, can make a big difference to our School and what better way for us to be able to give something back to it to ensure future generations benefit from its first class education. I urge you, therefore, to please remember your alma mater when preparing your Will. (The Foundation can advise you on how best to manage this.)

As part of an overall improvement plan, the Foundation has been asked by the School to help fund the replacement or restoration of its house, academic and sports Honours Boards, something that the Foundation is fully supportive of. To date Port Hill, Ridgemoor and Moser's Hall have all benefited from this initiative, as has the Main School Building with the restoration of its Oxford and Cambridge Honours boards. The Foundation is only too aware of how important these boards are to Old Salopians and students alike. Not only do they provide inspiration for current and future students but they also instil a sense of pride in them. As such we feel it is important to be able to support these initiatives as much as we can.

As I write, we are approaching the second half of the Summer term and with it, Speech Day. This year the Foundation is hosting a Champagne Reception before the Friday night's concert. This is a new initiative by the Foundation and is part of its on going commitment to communicate its work to as many of its constituents as is possible. It is also an opportunity for the Foundation to thank its donors publicly for their generous support and enabling it to meet its annual commitment of £500,000 for bursaries. We will be following this up in the Autumn with our first Annual Report.

Until then, I wish you all a very good summer and hope that our English weather does not let us down another year running!

Peter Worth

Chairman, Shrewsbury School Foundation

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FOOTBALL

As far as football seasons go, the U15 and 1st XI squads had a very good start. Pre-season began on Top Common before quickly moving to the Portugese National Sports Centre, West of Lisbon. We spent a week there in the near perfect pre-season climate to reach a high level of fitness and gain a greater understanding of what 1st XI football is all about. Temperatures reached a very comfortable 25°C, but there was a nice Atlantic breeze which blew gently up the Tejo estuary. We trained on both grass and 3G pitches and each squad played three matches against local opposition.

We stayed in a nice hotel which, being high above the sports centre gave us a 15-minute climb back to the hotel. Training sessions only ended once the players had completed their 15/20 minute rehabilitation session in the swimming pool.

The 1st XI's matches involved a win, a draw and a loss. The standard was very high, the opponents were fit and technically very good. Our third match was against an under-14 team who were obviously smaller than us, but a very useful unit. We lost the game 1-3, partly due to a poor mental approach, as many players underestimated the opposition. How wrong we were. We learnt how difficult it is to change a 'mind set' halfway through a match.

The tour included an afternoon on the beach and a trip to Estadio Jose Alvalade – the home of Sporting Lisbon. We watched their first home game of the season, a tough match against Rio Ave which resulted in a 0-1 defeat for the hosts.

Once we returned from Portugal and the new term began, the players experienced one or two changes. The 1st XI now train wearing heart-rate monitors. Mr Edmund Palmer (R 1955-60) kindly donated a sizeable sum of money to football which enabled us to purchase a set of 18 heart-rate monitors. Players wore them during training sessions and the monitor sent a signal to the nearby lap-top, which enabled the staff to see their workload/work-rate 'live'. The players responded brilliantly and quickly took on the challenge of maintaining a higher heart-rate which improved fitness levels. The advantage of the heart-rate monitors became more and more apparent as the season progressed.

We also became better at recording our home matches. Henry Binns (R) kindly volunteered to stand out in the cold, wind and rain to film many 1st XI matches. This enabled the coaching staff and the players to look through the matches and work on strengths and weaknesses. These were invaluable, as we played both Bolton and Millfield in friendly matches, and then in cup matches later in the season. It worked with the Bolton game, but not against Millfield – more of that later.

The regulation season started on the Sunday before term began with a very competitive match against Shrewsbury Town Under16s. A 2-4 defeat was nothing to be ashamed of and it was an excellent workout. Our next seven matches gave us a very creditable record of five wins, one draw and one loss. At this time I was quite happy

1st XI Football Squad 2012



*T. J. Atkins, S. H. Lim, O. W. Brown, B. M. Gould, A. Stepanov, A. E. Fisher, G. D. Williams, A. Tong,
W. J. Waterworth, H. N. Bromley-Davenport, M. G. W. Pragnell, E. J. B. Lloyd, A. J. Styles, E. M. Christie, C. E. Farquhar*



ISFA Boodles Cup tie versus Latymer Upper. Will Waterworth wins a header from a corner in the final minute of the game

with our play and we were making very good progress. The 4-3-3 system was working very well and players were beginning to understand their role within the team. Very few changes were needed for each match. Ben Gould was back to full fitness after a previous season of injuries. The back four was solid and they started off many of our attacking moves. I want our teams to be comfortable on the ball and play out from the back whenever possible. Captain Ed Lloyd sat in the middle of the midfield three which enabled the likes of Elliott Christie (15 goals) and Will Waterworth (9 goals) to get forward and support Max Pragnell. Our width was supplied by Sean Lim, Adrian Tong and Guy Williams.

The defeat was against a strong, fit Old Salopian side who went on to have a good season. Wins against Liverpool Ramblers, Codsall High, Hulme Grammar, St Thomas More in the ESFA Cup and a close 1-0 victory against Highgate in the ISFA Boodles cup gave us a solid start and confidence was high as we approached two of our more difficult traditional opponents. The next three games all ended with a scoreline of 4-0, the middle match being the next round of the Boodles, in which we defeated Royal Russell School from Croydon. The games either side of the cup win were both defeats to Bradfield and Millfield. The football was now becoming more serious and had moved up a level. Bradfield away is always going to be difficult, but to go there without Max Pragnell and then to give 2 penalties away in the first half doesn't help the cause. They were a good side, very well organised and they moved the ball to their quick wide players very efficiently. We did set about them in the second half and were unlucky not to get back into the game when we hit the post and shot wide from close range. Millfield at home was disappointing. We gave the game away in the first half with three very unfortunate goals but we didn't work hard enough to stop the shots and crosses. A deflected first goal set the tone for a comfortable victory for the visitors.

Morale-boosting victories against Idsall in the ESFA Cup and Bolton (6-2) led us up to half term. For the first time we were to encounter a two week half term break. My main thought during this

vacation was "what shape will the players come back in?"

Within ten days of returning we had to travel to Latymer Upper School, Chiswick in the next round of the ISFA Boodles Cup. Two days before this we had a comfortable 8-1 victory against Bishop Challoner School in the ESFA Cup, not always a good thing – for complacency sets in quickly. The Latymer game was quite uneventful until the final few minutes. We conceded a second goal which put us 1-2 behind with just three minutes to play. I was looking at the watch and starting to pack the medical bag when we forced a corner in the final minute. Even our goalkeeper Ben Gould advanced into the opposing penalty area to try and rescue the game. Following a goalmouth scramble, Ben coolly and calmly passed the ball into the bottom corner to send the game into extra time. His moment of drama did not end there. Extra time came and went and in the resulting shoot-out Ben saved three penalties. I don't think I have ever been involved in such a dramatic end to a game of football.

A 1-1 draw with Charterhouse and a 2-1 win against Wolverhampton Grammar were the prelude to the ESFA Round 5 match – away at Thomas Telford. We gave away a sloppy goal to be 0-1 down after ten minutes but a Max Pragnell strike from 23 metres brought us back into the game. Now 1-2 down we played very well in the second half. The hosts were put under severe pressure, but we could not force an equaliser. The defeat was probably our hardest to take throughout the whole season. Not to progress into round 6 was very harsh; once again Thomas Telford had ended our ESFA Cup run. What makes the defeat even harder to take is that their next three results in the competition were 4-1, 3-0 and 4-0 wins . . . they went on to win the competition in a dramatic 4-3 win over Haberdashers' Aske's, the final being played at the home of Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Our final game of the term was the quarter final of the ISFA Boodles Cup. We were drawn at home to Bolton – a team we had beaten only seven weeks before. My main fear was again complacency. They had some good players and they were



Victorious team after winning the pulsating penalty shoot out against Latymer Upper in the ISFA Boodles Cup tie

threatening in our defensive half of the field. The game was very open and there were chances at both ends. Fortunately we had filmed the October clash, so we did our homework on the opposition as best as we could. The players stuck to the game plan and we won 4-2....through to the semis after the Christmas break.

The term spluttered to a close with one of the harshest winters we had endured for many years. In all, 51 of our scheduled 261 matches were cancelled and many cup matches had to be re-arranged. The semi-final of the Boodles was on everyone's mind as we had drawn Millfield at home. Not the easiest of opponents, but one whom we respected without fearing them. We had already suffered a big defeat to Millfield in mid October, but the match had been filmed and we watched the game to see where their weaknesses lay. Our preparation was badly affected by the bad weather, but we prepared the team as well as we possibly could. Our training sessions moved to the 3G pitches at the home of Shrewsbury Town FC and the indoor dome at RAF Shawbury. We managed to arrange three matches before the cup game; Shrewsbury Town on grass, Walsall FC Youth on the 3G at Sundorne's Sports Village and Burton Albion FC under-16s on the indoor pitch at St George's Park, the new home of the English Football Association. All three games were perfect preparation for the task that lay ahead. Two 1-1 draws, and a defeat to Walsall Youth hammered home the fact that the semi-final was going to be hard.

It was tough but we gave it our best shot. Another early goal, another deflection and we were under pressure. We worked hard and pushed forward at every opportunity but their well organised defence held firm and we succumbed to the counter attack eventually losing 0-5. A defeat, but not as bad as the scoreline suggests. To have reached the semi-final was a fantastic achievement. The players gave everything to the cause and we lost to a better team, Millfield went on to win the cup – a 2-0 victory over Alleyne's.

Max Pragnell has to have a special mention. In his third season with the 1st XI, he has made 88 1st XI appearances and never missed a match through injury – a fantastic achievement for a striker, especially one who played as the lone striker for many games and one who drew the attention of some of the crudest of challenges. He scored 34 goals last season which brings his tally for the 1st XI to 91. Roy Chatterjee (SH 2009-11) scored 83 goals in 61 games. It has been a real privilege for me to have worked with two of the finest centre forwards that Shrewsbury School has seen. Many purists are now reaching for the calculator to work out whose achievement is greater – I wouldn't dream of doing that, as they both deserve huge praise for their records and leave Shrewsbury School with so many fantastic memories. Max now takes up a soccer scholarship at Davidson College in America.

One person to whom would like to give a special mention is Steve Clancy who will be leaving the School in July. Steve joined us two

years ago as a Graduate Sports Coach. He was a Youth team player at Aston Villa, from where he completed his Sports Science Degree at Loughborough University and gained his Football Association 'B' Licence Coaching Award. During the last two years he has been responsible for developing our Third Form football programme. He has been very quick to assist any coach, including myself, with anything required. He has been fully responsible for the setting up of the 1st XI heart-rate monitors and analysing any data that was thrust his way. He has been a fantastic addition to the coaching staff at Shrewsbury and we wish him well for the future.

My thanks also go to the many members of staff who give up their time to coach our squads and referee both School and House matches.

Steve Biggins

2nd XI Football

The 2nd XI enjoyed an entertaining season this year. When all the players were available, the 2nd XI were a strong side, as they proved in victories over Millfield, Repton and Thomas Telford (probably the strongest team we played this year). With the introduction of two divisions, the Shropshire Schools and Colleges League was a strong competition this year, but we enjoyed a number of local derbies this year in and ended up in mid-table in the top division. My favourite Shropshire League match was the 4-4 away draw against Walford Agricultural College, when Matt Gregson scored our goal of the season with a stunning volley to complete an unlikely comeback.

I would like to pass on my congratulations to a number of 2nd XI stalwarts who are leaving this year. Nick Douglas and Oscar Heap provided outstanding speed down the wings and their performances ensured we were always a threat going forward. Oscar's final scoring record this season was 25 goals in 25 games and I was particularly impressed with his performances in the Lent Term. 2nd XI Player of the year was our Captain, Alex Richards. Alex played in virtually every 2nd XI match for the past two seasons, after making his debut for the team in the Fifth Form. His commitment to the team and his leadership in training and matches were simply outstanding and he has made a huge contribution to the success of 2nd XI football in recent years.

MDH Clark

Player of the Year Awards go to Max Pragnell (1st XI); Alex Richards (2nd XI); George Lewis (U16); Ben Jones (U15); Josh Malyon and George Pearce (U14).

House Football Winners

First House: The Grove; Second House: Ridgemoor; U15 House: Oldham's

League Winners

1st Leagues: Moser's; 2nd Leagues: School House; A Leagues: Ridgemoor; B Leagues: Port Hill

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Goals Ag
1st XI	33	15	6	12	81	68
2nd XI	30	12	7	11	71	58
3rd XI	17	8	3	6	45	44
4th XI	12	4	3	5	34	19
5th XI	7	1	4	2	15	14
6th XI	3	1	0	2	7	7
7th XI	2	0	0	2	1	18
U16A	14	2	3	9	9	31
U16B	13	5	1	7	36	35
U16C	2	0	0	2	0	8
U16D	6	2	2	2	23	19
U15A	16	7	2	7	54	37
U15B	14	9	0	5	40	23
U15C	6	2	0	4	18	24
U15D	2	1	1	0	4	3
U14A	12	5	1	6	42	33
U14B	13	5	0	8	32	37
U14C	9	4	2	3	22	23
U14D	9	6	3	0	36	15

RSSH

“Sometimes the weather was so vile that the football field became a quagmire and matches had to be cancelled, but the runs went on.”

R. F. Delderfield, *To Serve Them All My Days*

“On, on,” cry the ‘hounds’, tearing through field, thicket and ford in pursuit of the ‘scent’ and the promised manna of a slap-up slay at the end of the run. The cry resounds on the hills and lanes of Shropshire, and has done for nearly two hundred years. It’s exactly what we runners do – we move onwards. Whether in rain, sleet, snow or sun, we carry on.

Of course, if moving onwards, one must always look upwards, and this has certainly been the ambition of The Hunt over the past few seasons, where the club has risen to prominence among the ranks of the very top running teams in the country, with last year widely considered as our ‘breakthrough’ season as we broke into the top three teams with medals at both the national long run at Knole Park, and the national relays at Coventry. The aim for this season was to maintain – if not improve – on that position, and to firmly re-establish the Royal Shrewsbury School Hunt as not only a club of historical significance, but one that is widely respected and known for the quality of its cross-country success.

The year began with evidence that The Hunt is building towards the future and looks set for further success as Third Former Freddie Huxley-Fielding (Rigg’s) won the New Boys’ Race in commanding fashion, smashing the record set the previous year by Oscar Dickins (also from Rigg’s). In doing so, Freddie became the first

new boy to break 8 minutes for the 2.3km Benjies course. Later that term, our Juniors surprised everyone by taking team silver at the English Schools’ Cross-Country Cup in Bolton, an astonishing achievement given that this was the first time Shrewsbury has ever reached the final.

A pre-season training camp for selected runners at Club La Santa in Lanzarote over the Christmas break ensured that our athletes were in peak condition for the gruelling 9km hilly cross-country course in Knole Park, Sevenoaks at the start of the Lent term. Our runners duly delivered, with top 10 places for Huntsman Ed Mallett of Severn Hill (8th in 35.31) and Churchill’s Rory Fraser (9th in 35.33), with Severn Hill’s Seb Blake not far behind in 16th, particularly impressive given his preference for the shorter distances and his aversion to hills! Rising star Ralph Wade from Radbrook showed his mettle with a gutsy 36th, which out of over 300 of the top runners in the country is a superb achievement for someone in their first Knole Run. Toby Lansdell’s 43rd position, and Mark Lawley’s 88th ensured that The Hunt – as last year – took team bronze, with our ‘B’ team placing 21st out of 40 teams, beating along the way many top schools’ ‘A’ squads (notably George Heriot’s who had flown down from Scotland, Brighton College, Radley and Lancing).

The County Championships has also in recent years been a platform for success, and this year was no exception, with individual medallists (silver in the Juniors for Radbrook’s Charlie Tait-Harris, and a full Shrewsbury podium in the Seniors with gold and silver for Ed Mallett and Seb Blake, with Rory Fraser taking the bronze), and



Spring Relays double trophy winners at Attingham Park

team trophies in the Senior boys (a near perfect score of 15 points, with Ralph Wade's 5th place making up the final score in the quartet) and the Inter boys, the fourth year in a row that The Hunt have been crowned county champions. We unfortunately just missed out on the Junior team title by 8 points, though our team was depleted without the injured Freddie Huxley-Fielding. Similarly, our girls team suffered when star performer Libby Naylor twisted her ankle early in the race, though Lucie Cornwell-Lee's 10th position suggests she will be up amongst the leaders in next year's race.

The key fixture of the year, however, is always the national relays held in Coventry's Memorial Park, an event that has become the blue-riband event for running at school level, with past competitors including a certain Sebastian Coe. Last year was the first time in 10 years that the Hunt had placed amongst the top three in the country with a superb team silver, and this year the team was aiming for the top spot. Better prepared than ever before, our two squads travelled to Coventry knowing that the competition would also be fiercer than ever, with a number of schools (Harrow and Millfield in particular) on the ascendancy, and whereas in previous years Shrewsbury would look to take a few scalps amongst the established 'Big Five', now it would be our turn to be targeted as one of the top teams. Nevertheless, as the race evolved, it became clear that there were only three teams (out of 50) that were really in the running for the top spot – last year's winners Judd, nine-times winners St Albans', and Shrewsbury. In fact, by the end of the race, the 4th placed team (worryingly for the future, St Albans's 'B' team!) was a full three minutes behind the leaders. Shrewsbury were well-placed after a solid opening leg from Ridgemount's Ed Lloyd (his third year running at Coventry) that put our squad in 8th position, though we quickly shot up the places with Seb Blake's blistering 12.12 over the 2.3 mile course in what were very difficult conditions (the 6th fastest time of the day out of over 300 runners). By this point St Alban's had set up a commanding lead, one that they would not relinquish, and despite strong legs from Otto Clarke of Severn Hill (12.54), and Rory Fraser of Churchill's (12.43), by the final two legs, the race result looked fairly cemented. St Albans were simply too quick, and with internationalists amongst their number, they were always going to be hard to beat. Indeed, the team had recently travelled to the World Schools' Championships to represent England (where they had come 7th) and had just returned from the States where they had not only competed in the East Coast Cross-Country Championships, but also beaten the very best American teams there. To lose to this side of precocious talents was certainly no disgrace, and indeed, whilst there was disappointment that we weren't able to fulfil the dream of a national title this year, nor match the silver of last year, a bronze medal at this national event was still an excellent achievement, and it is a measure of just how high our expectations now are that a national bronze medal is a disappointment. There was certainly optimism for the coming years, with Radbrook's Ralph Wade running just over 13 minutes in the 5th leg of the 'A' team, and youngsters such as his housemate Charlie Tait-Harris gaining experience in the 'B' team, running as a Third Former against predominantly sixth formers. Huntsman Ed Mallett took the anchor leg for our top squad, and whilst Judd School's runner was too far ahead for Ed to make a difference to the position, he nevertheless ran a strong 12.24, the 10th fastest time of the day.

If there was disappointment at Coventry, then the weekend of the 2nd and 3rd March provided an historic success to live on in the memory and go down in the annals of Hunt folklore. For this year we decided to target an unprecedented 'double' at the Northern Schools' Champs and the Midland School's Champs, both on the



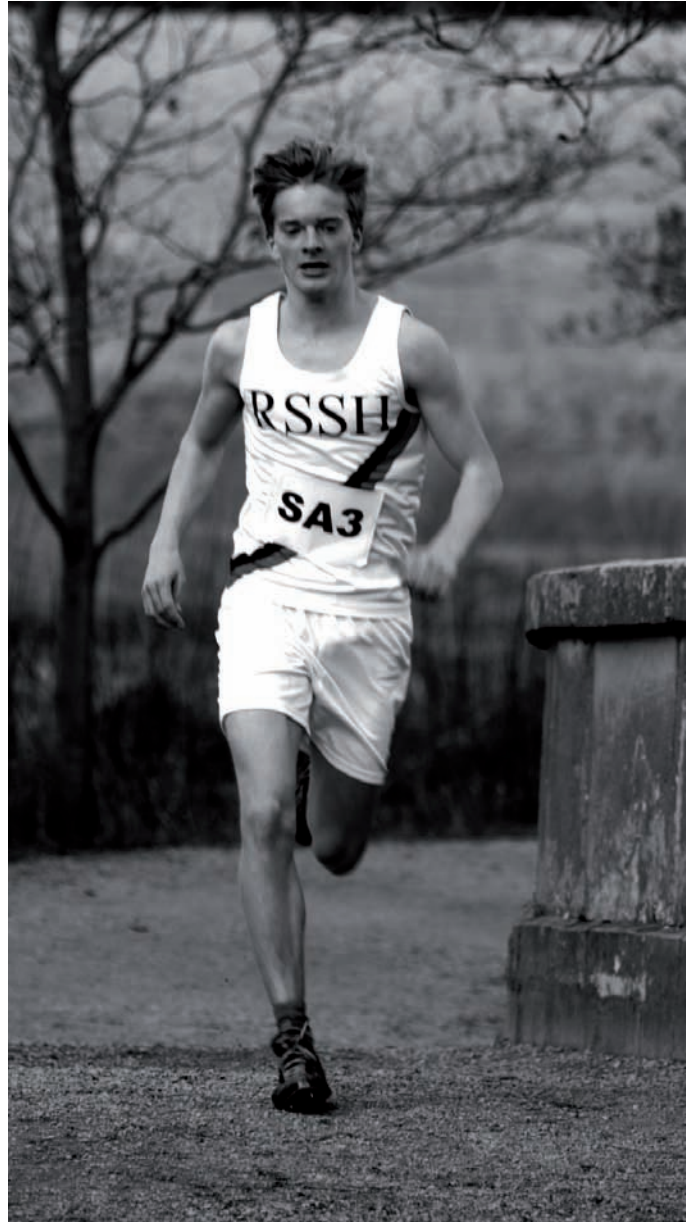
Huntsman Ed Mallett (S) with the Northern Schools' and the Midlands Schools' Championship trophies

same weekend. Two of our runners (Ed Mallett and Rory Fraser) would attempt to double up and run both races on consecutive days, with just two others (Ed Lloyd, and Severn Hill's Mark Lawley) making the journey up to Manchester for the Northern Schools to enable a larger squad to target the trickier Midlands Championships. Our Saturday quartet did exactly the job they were tasked with, running bravely to secure low enough points to be crowned Northern Champs, taking the trophy for the first time since 1998. Mallett and Fraser would have less than 24 hours to recover before they were back in action at Oundle School in our attempt to complete the double and to take the senior trophy for the third year running. The result in the end was never in doubt, with our top five runners in the top 10, and our team total of 37 significantly lower than second-placed Sedbergh's 93 points. Most impressive of all was Ed Mallett's gutsy run to take the individual title, only the second Shrewsbury runner ever to have achieved this, and following not only in the hallowed footsteps of The Hunt's GB internationalist Oli Laws, but also a certain Alastair Brownlee, who went on to become world triathlon champion and Olympic champion too. Ed's achievement was all the more remarkable given that he had raced in the Northern Schools the previous day. Seb Blake took individual bronze, with Rory Fraser not far behind in 5th (our other counters were Ralph Wade in 7th, Port Hill's Toby Lansdell in 10th, and Moser's Hall's Charlie Godman in 11th). In the Colts race, having

won the event in 2011 but losing out to Sedbergh in 2012, we were aiming to regain the trophy again, though we were injury-stricken this year and lost out to a strong Sedbergh outfit. There were nevertheless standout performances from Charlie Tait-Harris, who took individual bronze despite being one of the youngest runners in the race, and Rigg's Hall's Oscar Dickins who placed 4th.

The season was concluded with another 'double' at the Spring Relays, this year held at Attingham Park, and it was a fitting finale to another superb year for The Hunt. At the end of season dinner, we paid tribute to our leavers, who have been exceptional in their service. In closing, I must pause to mention three in particular. Firstly, our Senior Whip Seb Blake, who despite only joining the school in the sixth form, contributed immensely to the club, and his arrival coincided with a golden period for The Hunt, no coincidence I would argue. Another who has served the Hunt with commitment and determination has been James Humpish from School House who has been one of the most inspiring figures I have come across as a coach. Not even placed within the top 100 at the New Boys' Race when he arrived, James was one of the last people I would have imagined dedicating himself to The Hunt for five full years, but James has done so, and has become a passionate and dedicated Gentleman of the Runs. This year James was named captain of our 2nd VIII, and concluded his running career by running just over 8 minutes in the Benjies, nearly halving his time over five years. A true hero of the Hunt. Above all others, however, I would have to single out my Huntsman Ed Mallett, who arrived in the Third Form the year that I too arrived at the school. The journey of The Hunt over the past five years has been very much centred around the successes of the Mallett brothers, and having coached Ed since those very first days, I would place him amongst the great legends of the Hunt from former years. Winner of the New boys' race, county champion for three years in a row, Tucks winner, twice Paperchases winner, Midlands Schools' Champion, and second-fastest at the 2012 national relays, Ed's achievements are endless. A truly exceptional athlete, a brilliant Huntsman, and a runner who loves deeply all that the club stands for, a Salopian whose veins will course for the rest of his life with the blood of The Hunt, I have no doubt that Ed's example will inspire the next generation of runners to achieve success for many years to come. It is to the future that we now look, and what a bright future it looks to be. On, on.

Peter Middleton



Senior Whip Seb Blake (S) in full flight at Attingham Park

CRICKET

Joanna Cull (EDH LVI) has opened a new chapter in Shrewsbury's history by becoming the first girl to play cricket for the School.

Joanna plays for the 3rd XI and says she feels privileged to be part of the School's history and paving the way for many more Shrewsbury girl cricketers in the future. "I have really enjoyed my first year in the Sixth Form here and have been made to feel very welcome in the team. The cricket facilities and coaching are first class."

Jo has been playing cricket "since she could walk" and has been encouraged by her father and brother, both keen cricketers. At home in Cheltenham, she plays for Gloucestershire U17s and for Gloucestershire Women's 1st XI. This is the highest level she can reach within the county and she is now setting her sights on a place in the England Academy. "If I can get a good season under my belt, hit a few runs and take some wickets, I think I've got a chance. But we'll see."

When girls join Shrewsbury's Third Form in 2014, cricket will be the main sport for girls in the Summer Term.



INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS TOURNAMENT

Competition was fierce for trophies, medals and House bragging rights at the Inter-House Athletics Tournament in April. The overall Boys' Trophy and the Junior competition were won by Rigg's Hall. Having won almost a clean sweep last year, Severn Hill claimed the Intermediate Trophy, while the Senior Trophy was won by The Grove. Emma Darwin Hall retained the Girls' Trophy. The Victor and Victrix Ludorum, awarded to the individuals who scored the most points for their House, were respectively won by Seb Blake (S) and Libby Naylor (EDH).



RUGBY

Under the guidance of our coaches Mr Johnson and Chris, September kicked off probably the most successful A XV season since the School started playing rugby in the Michaelmas term. After losing our first game by three points to King's Chester we had some very notable wins away against Denstone, where we didn't concede a try, and Christ College Brecon, where we played a very composed match with lots of new players showing real maturity. A tough win in the worst conditions thinkable against Wrekin was another game that stood out, probably more for the foul weather than the rugby, and an awesome tackling display against Bedstone showed that our team had real promise.

This season saw the emergence of some rugby talent that we didn't know the School possessed, and gave the lower years especially the chance to get an idea of what senior rugby would be like next term. In the end we were just three points away from an unbeaten season, a really good effort that set us up nicely for the Lent term.

January saw the return of Mr Greetham to our match day coaching team. He guided us to a solid start to the season with a win against Repton, shortly after that game matches were halted for weeks by the snow, which didn't stop the training but did have a bit of an impact on the fixture list. After the snow melted we managed to finish the first half of term with a close fought win at Hartpury College. It was a win that set us up nicely for the tour.

Our annual tour was to Dublin this year, and we had three matches planned for us. When we got to the Rugby Club for our first match against Suttonians their first team pitch was a small lake. A suitable field was marked out on the adjacent Gaelic Football field enclosing what appeared to be the deepest, muddiest puddles known.

Another issue was Suttonians' lack of players – they only had eight. We donated a few and played ten a side, but several opposition injuries later and we were practically playing our own side. I think it is safe to say that no Irishman scored that day, but it was a vaguely close match; although the conditions weren't perfect, we felt it was good to have a run out on the first day by way of an introduction to Irish rugby and weather. After a recovery session in the pool the team headed into town for our first evening meal in Dublin city, where we met up with the very smug looking captain Ed Wilson and Mr Greetham, they having been 'allocated' the only tickets to watch the Six Nations match between Ireland and England that afternoon.

The next day we had a morning planned to have a look around Dublin. We were given a tour of the Aviva Stadium, nicknamed the Bed Pan by the locals, which was an impressive sight especially since we had been watching the game played there the day before. The Ireland changing rooms were a little bit nicer than the ones we were used to, complete with a 3G warm-up pitch and hydrotherapy rooms. After the tour we were taken to see the Book of Kells at Trinity College Dublin. Stephen, our tour rep, became our guide and told us about the history of the buildings at the college nicknamed Heaven and Hell (a chapel and an exam room) and we had plenty of time to look at one of Ireland's national treasures.

Our afternoon game was against Malahide RFC. It was a very tough match against a good team; Malahide had a big set of forwards and some hard running backs. Not for the first time we were playing a bigger team but the players matched the opposition physicality all game. We edged ahead after only two minutes with Ed Wilson kicking a penalty, not long after Ed Harrison drove over from close range to raise our lead to 8-0 at half time. It was a gruelling



1st Rugby VII squad at Rosslyn Park National Sevens Tournament in March



Shrewsbury's Ireland Tour XV pictured with the Portlaoise team after the final tour match

game but our team was definitely fitter, and the second half would be where it would count. Another penalty in the second half made it 11-0, Shrewsbury broke through minutes later as Josh Mason made a dart down the blindside, found himself tap-tackled but managed to offload to Ollie Brown who strolled over. The final score was Shrewsbury School 16 Malahide RFC 0. It was a very good performance by the team and one which prompted PG to say "he felt like a proud parent" watching the game. We couldn't let a comment like that slide, so he was called 'Dad' for the rest of the tour.

On the Tuesday morning we were given time in Dublin. Travelling around in groups of about five we ambled around the city centre and visited Grafton Street and Temple Bar. More souvenirs were bought, wallets drained, and an ice-cream shop selling Guinness ice-cream was found. Our tour guide Stephen was incredibly knowledgeable about the statues and buildings in the city, and of their various nicknames – the Stiletto in the Ghetto, Floozy in the Jacuzzi, Tart with the Cart and Quare in the Square. Then we went to Portlaoise for our final match.

Shrewsbury kicked off and immediately regained possession, after this we played some frantic rugby, our standards dropping as the opposition weren't as strong as our previous matches. Despite some handling errors we were able to add to the try count, James Halliday and Stuart Brown scoring. Half time came and although we were leading comfortably PG, MDBJ and Chris had nothing but 'constructive criticism' about our performance. After this rather stern meeting Shrewsbury seemed to regain some of the form that they displayed against Malahide and were more clinical. Tries from Stuart Brown, Ollie Brown and James Plaut added to the score sheet. The game finished with a flourish of tries, with Stuart Brown reaching a tally of 4. The final score of 68-0 was a testament to Shrewsbury's defence which did not allow a single Irishman to cross their line once

in over two hours of rugby, something 'Dad' PG was very proud of 'his boys' for. Afterwards we set off into Dublin to a bowling alley; PG was far too good at it but had competition for being the most competitive bowler from MDBJ. After a meal on O'Connell Street we returned to the hotel and awards ensued. Player of the tour was Ollie Brown, and Players' player was Andrew Muir.

Between Ben Tench's impressions of an unnamed member of staff, Dublin sightseeing, England winning, and not conceding a point with some scary Dick-of-the-day costumes thrown in for good measure, it was a really enjoyable tour for all involved.

After the tour we only had a few games before Sevens training started. In those games we were soundly beaten by a physical Welbeck side. Unfortunately we also lost our last 1st XV match at Old Swinford. An annoying game that was strange in that we managed to score 27 points and still lose.

It wasn't a nice way to end the season, for the upper sixth players especially, but for those of us blessed by not being props we could look forward to a bit of Sevens to finish. As a Sevens team we had a learning experience at the Marches tournament at Hereford, losing all our games against sides we would have been pretty confident against had we played them at Rosslyn Park. Rosslyn was a good tournament for us. After losing heavily against Sherborne we won against AKS Arnold's and gave last year's runners up Bryanston a scare. We finally managed to finish on a high with a win against Watford, especially satisfying for those of us who were playing their last game.

In all was a really good season with some great performances; thanks must go to Mr Greetham, Mr Johnson and Chris, as well as to all the other coaches and staff.

Ed Wilson

1st XV (& A XV) Captain 2012-13

RSSBC

The Lent term of 2013 will be remembered as one of the wettest and coldest for many years providing many challenges for an increasingly expanding Boat Club. The Severn broke its banks and flooded the boathouse on three separate occasions but did little to dampen spirits and hinder successes across the board for the RSSBC.

The J14s kicked off the term collecting a team gold and individual bronze at the English Indoor Rowing Championships (Angus Inglis-Jones, Rory McKirdy, Charlie Speed and Jacob Rand).

The 1st VIII produced the fastest time of the day and recorded victory at the Wycliffe Head of the River. (Charles Clark, Niall Barrow, Peter Gadsden, William Angell-James, Harry Lonergan, Max Kimpton-Smith, Rob Homden and James Kynaston). The J16 VIII was not to be outdone and also won their event (Elliot Robinson-Boulton, Alex Powell, Charlie Duckworth, Charlie Johnston, Hugo Morgan, Toby Thomas, Peter Hammond, George Patterson, Ed Carroll).

Half term provided welcome relief from the once again flooding Severn and the 1st VIII and 2nd VIII travelled to London for a four day training camp on the tideway. The venue of the University of London Boat Club was ideal for coxes and crews to get familiar with one of the most renowned stretches of water in world rowing. The training was useful and the time developing as a squad valuable in preparation for the season ahead.

After half term it was the turn of the girls and juniors to get experience on the Tideway before the Schools' Head of the River. The Girls, J16s and J15s all returned victorious after racing at the



Winners of two trophies at the Chester Regatta in June: Girls' Quad Bridget Lapage, Lizzie Collins, Amy Stockdale, Issy Tenison-Collins with their coach, Nathan Williams

Hammersmith Head. (Girls' quad: Bridget Lapage, Amy Stockdale, Lizzie Collins and Izzy Tenison Collins; J15 VIII: Guy Cabral, Harry Lane-Fox, Will Deacon, Alex Matthews, Joe Davies, Alfie Grocott, Jake Carter, Patrick George, Henry Thomas.)

One week before the Schools' Head four RSSBC crews took to the water at the Runcorn Head. The 2nd VIII were the pick of the bunch winning IM3 Vllls by a good margin. The 1st VIII came off a narrow second best to King's Chester while a girls' VIII had their first



The J15A squad receiving the Coronation Trophy from Sir Steve Redgrave on 16th June

run at a regatta beating three other crews in novice Vllls. A J15/J16C VIII had a good row against some senior opposition.

The Schools' Head of the River was the focus for the term and with some very encouraging performances and good practice on the course hopes were high. Unfortunately the cold and wet that had affected the term seemed to be taking its toll across the school with illness a plenty. With only hours before the race last minute crew changes were needed in some boats to ensure crews got a race. Everyone put down what they could but unfortunately missed out on what could have been a very strong club performance. Special mention should go to the J15A VIII who despite a crew change won an excellent bronze. The girls quad also recorded the schools best girls result at the event coming in seventh of the 19 crews entered.

The J14s competed at the National Junior Sculling Head at Eton Dorney. Mist, rain and freezing temperatures were no match for gutsy Shrewsbury performances from three Octuples and a Quad. All crews performed very well with overall combined results placing Shrewsbury among the best in the country.

The following weekend the J15s were again in the medals with the A crew winning at the North of England Head of the River and



1st VIII with the George Hallowes Memorial Trophy, Metropolitan Regatta, 2nd June

the B crew winning the quad and fours races at the Junior inter Regional Trial along with the J16 VIII. (J15 4+ Patrick George, C. Rassmuss, Tom Sykes, Alex Brinkley. Cox Ed Jones; J15 4X+ Douglas Major, M. Manser, Alex Brinkley, J. Walker. Cox Ed Jones)

So despite some challenges every age group recorded some pleasing victories and maintained good numbers. The club is in a strong position and exciting things are happening at the boathouse!

Athol Hundermark



The 1st VIII in training at the Easter Rowing Camp

FIVES

We anticipated a tougher season than last: we had lost a stellar group of players in Jack Hudson-Williams, Henry Lewis and Sam Welti and, though there was young talent coming through, a few players were going to have to stand up and be counted if we were to achieve our aims: retention of the Williams Cup and to be in contention for the Schools Open National title.

The weather got us off to a stuttering start in January: our weekend fixture against Highgate and Eton usually gives us early impetus and motivation but was this year snowed off. It is astonishing what a difference this made to the quality of play and we felt our seniors were playing catch-up right up to half-term; this year's Open age group boasted a strong field, with the National title widely considered to be anything but a foregone conclusion. We hoped to be right in the mix but at half term this was not looking likely. Our U16 pairs by contrast were taking matches by storm and suffered few or no losses. At U15 we were likewise strong and a big squad of U14s, superbly overseen again by Matt Barrett, seemed to be on the courts for every available hour of the day.

Fixtures picked up, and though our results at first senior pair varied from gutsy (a return from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 against St Olave's) to painful, our depth might still pull us through the Williams Cup? Even this was not to be – a great run from the 1st XI in the Independent Schools cup meant that a number of our players spent some of the term with this focus and were raw; Eton ended up deservedly doing for us in the final.



The Schools' National Championships this year were hosted at Shrewsbury. They began in snow with the **U15s Competition** on Sunday 24th March. The day ran well for our competitors, with four Shrewsbury pairs in the last 16 and two in the quarter-finals despite a few notable players falling casualty to family holiday plans. Second pair Matt White and Luke Lloyd-Jones lost 12-13 in the deciding game, just missing out on a semi-final spot; they had played comfortably the best fives I've ever seen from either of them, Luke returned cut like a man possessed and they really showed themselves to be big tournament players. Keep an eye on these two for the future, as well as a number of others in the cohort who have made some superb progress this season. In the semis, Jack Fox and George Panayi had a wobbly start, losing the first game 12-13 to Eton 2. This fired them up though, and with renewed focus and now in attack mode, they blew the opposition away for two games: 12-3, 12-4. Neither did they lose nerve: though Eton fought



George Panayi and Jack Fox

well, George was too fast, tall and strong and Jack too accurate from the back of court. Shrewsbury won the fourth game 12-8 to bag themselves a place in the final. Meanwhile and not to be outdone, the Churchillian brothers-in-fun Arthur Bowen and Henry Newbould destroyed all before them in the plate competition and thus took home the first trophies of the week. Cheerful on the outside but really rather competitive underneath it, those two! We note that Eton's two pairs were of a very similar standard this year – indeed they had been the other way around until a result between them a week earlier. Our plan for the final: go in hard, play fast, play early; never give them a sniff! We took the first game 12-7 doing precisely that and followed up taking the second 12-4. George now had the wind in his sails and Jack assisted magnificently, finding length on his approaches from the back court as they took the third game and the tournament 12-6. It had been a well-fought game by the Eton pair, who didn't give much away but were just outpowered by George who, being citius, altius and fortius, did indeed look the Olympian in this tournament.

Our U14s boast a large number of enormously enthusiastic players, which is encouraging for the future, though as yet, none have really taken the step up to the National levels we have reached in the past – we just failed to reach semi-finals of the **Beginners' Competition**. Nonetheless I am confident that if these boys continue playing they will become strong contenders. It seems I could name twenty, but keep a particular eye out for Adam Aslam-Baskeyfield, Ed Chapman, Dan and Ross Orchard, Jesse Mattinson, Max Morris and George Hargrave amongst others. I have a feeling there are champions to emerge from this group yet!

On Monday the **U16s Competition** had begun. George Lewis was playing with Tom Breese at first pair, Tom having been promoted from the U15s for the second half of the season and having been up to the task. The Nationals are a sterner test than school matches though and both would find questions asked of them. All hopes for reaching the later stages really were pinned on the first pair – though this was very nearly proved wrong by Jamie Humes and Ollie Nolan. Though we know that Jamie has the pedigree to play at a high standard, we didn't think Ollie would be consistent enough, but they played an absolute blinder against top seeds Harrow, losing in straight games but 13-15, 3-12, 12-14, Harrow having to work far harder than they did in the ensuing



George Lewis and Tom Breese

quarter-final. George and Tom, through to Tuesday's quarters, had a difficult route through the draw from their fourth seed position. The match against 5th seeded Highgate was, we thought in retrospect when it finished, just the game they needed to get into the tournament and settle. They lost the first game 11-14 but battled back and won 12-9, 14-12, 12-6, looking ever better. This set them up for a semi-final against Harrow. Both this and the final were incredibly close games, both were 3-2 wins for George and Tom and both did irreparable damage to my nerves: it seemed almost inevitable that most games reached 10-10 and were extended to 15. The end result, however, was the desired one for Shrewsbury and reinforced the emergence of a strong junior outfit.

So to the **Open competition**. We had hopes of at least three pairs doing well in this, but understood that we could just as well have none perform on the day! Guy Williams and Henry Blofield had not played well together for weeks (but are known to be able to pull out a good performance in tournaments), Harry Flowers and Charlie White had similarly had good and bad matches and Harry Bromley-Davenport and Elliott Christie can be more volatile than NASA's finest fuel. Shrewsbury 4 (Nick Pearce & Antony Peel) and 5 (Quirk & Hulse) also made it out of their groups. Quirk & Hulse couldn't rattle St Olave's 3 in the second round; Peel & Pearce made it easily to the third round but then met top seeds Eton 1. Pearce & Peel had had a close game against second seeds Harrow in the pools; though they lost, they took from Harrow any air of invincibility their seeding might convey. This was clearly going to be a very open tournament!



Guy Williams and Henry Blofield

Harry and Elliott had had a good pool and had left all their constituent parts and surroundings intact through the pools and round 2. They got the tough draw of Harrow in the third round, but were willing to attack. And it paid off – Harrow were off guard and the match was a good one. 13-15 Harrow the first, then 7-12 Harrow and though 2-0 down, Harry and Elliott kept playing their shots and came very close: 10-13 in the third. In the end, Harrow were just consistent enough to withstand the onslaught.

Harry Flowers and Charlie White had started the tournament with precisely the desired result in the pools – according to script and pre-tournament targets, they turned over 4th seeds St Olave's 1 in their group, thus giving them a seeding spot themselves. They subsequently cruised through St Olave's 2 (12-1, 12-1, 12-2) in the third round but were drawn against Harrow in Quarters the following day.

Guy and Henry were unperturbed by their pool. Harry Flowers and Charlie White did ensure that their third round draw was against the deposed Olavian top pair, but they came through that game 12-9, 12-8, 13-12 and got the confidence of beating a decent pair before winning their Wednesday quarter-final against Westminster. The semi was against Eton and began immediately after the U16s final finished. We were fast out of the blocks as usual and won the first game but Eton were strong players with steady heads. The second game went 12-5 to Eton. We drifted through the third keeping things close as ever but made a few errors towards the end of it and allowed Eton to take it 12-9. The fourth was looking identical and though the score was 7-7 I wasn't optimistic that Guy and Blo would be more consistent under the pressure than Eton were. At this stage though, the whole tournament took a turn: a firmly hit straight shot towards the buttress by Henry went straight into Etonian James Piggot's eye, causing him blurred vision. Fortunately, after a visit to A&E, James was declared clear of any permanent damage, though there was some peripheral bruising to his retina. Less fortunately, his vision still being blurred, Eton were forced to concede the match. Shrewsbury were to play Harrow in the final. Guy and Blo were up for this and got the usual Salopian flying start, then battled to hold off a resurgent Harrow: we reached 11 first but they drew level, we set the game to 14 and held nerve to win 14-12. In the second, the game was again close throughout but it was Harrow's term to reach 10 first, then 11 and though we pulled back to 11-10 they snuck it 12-10. One game each. Harrow were playing with good accuracy and picking off volleys; our chance was going to be taking the ball early, playing fast and using angles to make Harrow retrieve from low. We needed to be disciplined in not playing to their strengths. In the third game it was their accuracy that won out as we didn't make them move enough to play their shots: 12-7 Harrow. It was going to be a long way back, with the Harrovians now playing increasingly confidently and gaining a lead in the 4th. Despite battling on throughout, we lost that game and the match 12-7. A good match but ultimately won by Harrow's greater accuracy into the buttress and picking off our approach shots.

Girls' Fives

The protracted winter weather ensured that the Lent term was particularly difficult for the Skort Brigade. Despite a valiant effort by Poppy Beckett, 'the tan' had gone and the 'legging look' was in. Nevertheless despite the sharp cold weather girls' fives took another giant step forwards and all those who played, practised and competed can be proud of their contribution.

The resumé of girls' participation in Shrewsbury School Fives I sent out in January was not wasted on our L6th and they slowly emerged on the courts to play with real enthusiasm and skill. They

have a strong act to follow but I am encouraged by the level of enthusiasm and skill shown to date to understand that next year we may well produce more national champions.

At this year's championships we competed in three events the Ladies' Open Competition, The Ladies' Festival and The Mixed Pairs.

In the **Ladies' Open** Rosie Parr (capt) and Hannah Pritchard advanced to the quarter finals, played brilliantly but narrowly lost (12-9, 12-11) to Highgate 3. The following day they beat Highgate 5 in a 5th/6th place play off to claim our highest ever finish and a Plate Trophy. Elen Murhpy and Alice Paul didn't manage a quarter final spot but they also progressed to a Plate Final, which they won on the Sunday night. A just reward for all their hard work over two years.

In the **Ladies' Festival** (replacing the U17s Beginners Cup) we entered five pairs (3 x U6th & 2 x L6th) and produced the winners in the shape of Elen Murhpy & Alice Paul. Two successes in two days capped off their career at Shrewsbury and went a long way to overcoming the disappointment of losing to Rosie & Hannah in the U17s final in 2012. Becky Home & Tilly Whittingham, Holly Free & Cressida Adams, Jo Cull & Charlotte Harris and Gaby Byrne & Poppy Beckett all competed well despite the bitter conditions. Becky Home & Tilly Whittingham (U6th) produced their best fives for two years and won through to the semi finals, whilst beginners Jo Cull & Charlotte Harris made great progress in also gaining a semi final place.

In the **Mixed Competition** our 1st (Rosie Parr & Guy Williams) & 2nd pair (Hannah Pritchard & Henry Blofield) both progressed to the semi finals where they lost out to strong Highgate pairs. In this event we are getting closer every year but the girls still have a long way to go. Greater emphasis on technique will eventually bring success but it may be two or three years off. Our 4th pair (Elen

Murphy & Harry Flowers) gained a quarter final spot before losing 12-3 to Highgate 1 the eventual winners.

This was a strong championships for Shrewsbury School and the L6th class of 2013 will do well to gain equivalent success next year but I am certain that the 14 'regulars' that started off their career this year will do all they can to further raise the profile of the sport. As we prepare to accept 13 years old girls at school I am sure that Fives will continue to attract more and more girls to the courts. The presence of Sixth Form girls over the past five years have made our Fives courts the envy of all fives playing schools across the country.

I look back on a season that by our usual standards was not stellar, but in which individuals did meet and sometimes exceed expectations in the final reckoning of the Championships. As I reflect on it, I always return to a conversation I had with Grant Williams on the eve of the Williams Cup, in which we looked at a likely selection for the same tournament next year: it became quickly apparent to us that a golden year is likely rather than possible and that we are on very strong footing for the next three years, with excellent numbers and quality.

I am always grateful for the enormous work done and hours devoted by Matt Barrett (U14s coach), Torin Morgan (U15s), Rob Morris (U16s and league) and Chris Conway and Andy Barnard (Girls), who instil drive, motivation and enjoyment of the game to all they coach. We are tremendously fortunate too to have the constantly energetic and enthusiastic Grant Williams providing quality analysis and coaching for our seniors. We could not run the fixture list and games program that we do without the willingness of all of these. They are an outstanding team who know what makes a champion and it is thanks to them that the popularity of Fives is remains on the up!

Seb Cooley

SQUASH

The Lent Term 2013 has to go down as one of the most rewarding of seasons. The boys progressed significantly and this was undoubtedly helped in no small measure by the assistance I was given in coaching by Guy Rutter. His knowledge and enthusiasm rubbed off on the boys and there is no doubt that the Top Squad worked harder than ever before.

Five players stood out for me over the course of the term. **Tiger Vechamamontien** showed enormous energy and no little tactical nous in progressing from a promising player to one who now has a good chance to progress to the 1st V next year. **George Bates** was tremendously athletic around the court but has added the ability to win and he now realises he can be a nice guy off the court and be a winner on the court. George will be a terrific captain next year. **Rob Cross** led the team really well and showed excellent personal qualities. It is a huge shame to be losing him but he can be very proud of the great strides he has made in the sport over the last five seasons. **Anton Nelson** made huge improvements from a raw and athletic boy into a thinking squash player and he deserves huge credit for his transformation. **George Carver** was the team's no.1 and deservedly won the U19 Junior County Championships. I have no doubt that George will progress to represent his University of choice and to become a very good club player. George is the 2nd best player at Shrewsbury School in my time. I was delighted to discover that Zahan Dastur has now made his first steps into the professional world of squash. I hope he will be able to make it back for next year's OS match.

Myles Harding



Left to right: Tom Edwards, Rob Cross and George Carver

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

One of the reasons that Shrewsbury is known to be one of the leading independent schools in the country is the fact that our pupils enjoy an extraordinarily diverse range of activities. The arrival of the first cohort of girls to join our co-educational Sixth Form extended this range further and activities will continue to grow in preparation for the arrival of Third Form girls in 2014.

As you would expect from a leading independent school, sport, music and drama flourish regardless, but pupils are also able to be involved in any number of extra-curricular activities. We have a huge array of clubs and societies, a dedicated weekly activity afternoon, a termly 'field day', as well as a varied programme of weekend and holiday activities.

William Heyes (Ch UVI) is an excellent example of a young man who has grasped with both hands the opportunities on offer here. His enthusiasm for drama, music and cadets are illustrated in the following interview, along with the wider benefits that tend to flow towards those who make the effort.

You appear to have got a huge amount out of your time at Shrewsbury. Can you describe what you have done over your five years here?

Well, when I joined the School I decided to really attack music, and hopefully earn the scholarship that I had failed to achieve on entry. So, in my first year here I joined the Orchestra, Brass Band and Chapel Choir, all of which I have kept going. In the Fourth Form I started my CCF cadet and DofE career. I also managed a couple of junior plays in those early years, either acting or playing music. In the Sixth Form it really started to become interesting, and the pressure became greater from work as well. I felt that as my skills increased I was asked to do more. In CCF I became an NCO, leading to more things to do, in music I became a bit better known (I got my scholarship in the end) and also I directed the Churchill's House play that year. This really started my career in drama, leading to me moving away from sciences in the classroom. In the Upper Sixth it got really hectic with A2 work. I gained further promotion in the CCF, became a postor and Head of House – it all got pretty busy really!



Pringle Trophy 2012. Will is the compact figure sixth from the left

How do you feel this breadth of experience has benefited you?

I feel all these activities have vastly improved my personality. In the Third Form I was pretty shy and timid really. Music has enhanced my creativity and has made me a more cheery person. CCF has

probably made the biggest change in me; it has made me more confident, I feel I can work with people better. We did a CCF Leadership Cadre, where the understanding and practice of leadership helped me generally in terms of dealing with people, and later it assisted with postor applications. Drama has really increased my confidence around and in front of people on stage. The vast amount of stuff I have been involved with has also taught me about time planning, though very often there have been crashes too! All this work has kept me busy and happy though.

What have been some of the highlights of your activity career here?

Highlights would be the Churchill's House play 'Noises Off', which was great fun to do. Being given one of the main parts in the School Play 'The Arsonists' was a real high point as well. CCF has thrown me all over the place and I have loved every minute of it, mostly camps, the Cadet Leadership Course and the trip we took cross-country skiing to Norway which was the experience of my life – fantastic. As for music, last year's pop concert was amazing fun and we are already planning again for this year and having fun in that. Going to Malawi on a school expedition was a real eye opener, a really fantastic experience.



Malawi 2012

All this has given you some insight into the way these areas of school life are run here. What is your view of the way these areas are provided at Shrewsbury?

It has made me appreciate a lot more about how the School is run, and being involved in organising things with staff makes one realise just how much effort goes into things. You often work with adults quite closely – I now often talk to Mr Hann, the director of 'The Arsonists' from last year. Also, Mr Conway, whom I went to Malawi with – we spent a lot of time working in the garden there together. All these things are good for relationships.

An obvious final question: what advice regarding activities would you give to a new entrant to Shrewsbury?

The School has so many contacts and so many ideas as to how to fill your time when you are not in the classroom – if you choose things you enjoy and stick with them, then things get better and better. Music for example, if you persevere, if it doesn't go well from the start then just keep trying. If anything, I have probably done too much. Overall, don't just sit around the House all day; get out and do something; it is unlikely you will regret it.

Nick David

SCHOOL SPORTS AWARDS 2013

Ten of the School's most gifted and committed sportsmen and women from among a very talented year group were honoured at the inaugural Sports Award Lunch for Upper Sixth pupils on Sunday 12th May.

The celebratory lunch was attended by Sixth Form pupils, parents, staff and representatives of OS sports clubs, who enjoyed an entertaining keynote speech by guest-of-honour Tim Lamb (SH 1966-71), former first class cricketer and current Chief Executive of the Sport and Recreation Alliance.

The testimonials to the Award winners by Director of Sport Paul Greetham and Head of Girls' Sport Nicola Bradburne give an insight into the strength of character, commitment and hard work that have made each of them such an inspiration for their peers.

The David Spencer Memorial Award for Outstanding Contribution to Boys' Sport

This trophy has been generously given to the School by John Scott, a life-long friend of the late David Spencer (SH 1948-53), who died in 2012. It was presented to its first recipient by David's daughter, Sara.

David Spencer played for the School's 1st XI football team for four seasons and captained the side for two seasons, an extremely rare feat in the 20th century at Shrewsbury. He also enjoyed three seasons as a 1st XI cricketer and a season as one of the top four Fives players. He is remembered as one of the great team men at Shrewsbury, a true gentleman, a truly honest sportsman and a proud Salopian.



Winner: CHARLIE FARQUHAR

Charlie Farquhar is admired by all and was easily the most nominated person for this honour by staff and his peers. He has an impeccable school record on and off the sports field – quite simply an outstanding role model for younger pupils in his House Severn Hill, and those who watch from the sidelines. Charlie has always been an obvious choice as a Captain – capable of calculated strategic decisions as a cricket



captain and also barking instruction as a leader on the football and rugby field. As a leader of pupils, he maintains strong and trusted relationships and stays loyal to both his friends and staff. "If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, or walk with Kings – nor lose the common touch" – he does it all with aplomb.

One of his teammates when nominating him wrote this: "I think he deserves this if not simply for the fact he has played in the football, rugby and cricket 1st team for two years, but that he has done so without being a sports scholar and has been crucial in all the sports teams he has played for. I can't think of a more worthy winner for a school sports prize."

The Eleanor Gurden Award for Outstanding Contribution to Girls' Sport

This trophy was generously given by Richard Gurden (DB 1971-76) and his wife Jacqueline, parents of Eleanor Gurden (MSH 2008-10), who presented the trophy. Introducing the Award, Paul Greetham said: "Eleanor Gurden made an unbelievable impact on the introduction of girls' sport to Shrewsbury School. She played hockey, netball, tennis, athletics and rounders at 1st team level, and played to international level in the latter. She was the first ever Head of Girls' Sport and Captain of Boats. I am indebted to the Gurdens as a family for donating this trophy, which I hope will be presented to many down the years who live up to Elle's spirit, enthusiasm and sporting ability."



Winner: HANNAH PRITCHARD

Hannah Pritchard has represented the School in hockey, netball, fives, tennis and rounders and she has always done so with enthusiasm and determination. It's this determination that makes her such an outstanding sportswoman. Her motivational character enables her to encourage people to get involved in sport at all levels, whilst always striving for perfection herself and never satisfied with anything less.



She is a very good hockey player and an exceptional netballer. She is an excellent team player and a strong, positive character who people look up to. On the netball court she has the ability to turn over play quickly through her reading of the game and quick reactions which can then totally change the direction of the match. These qualities transfer brilliantly to Fives, where this year she was part of the first pair who made Salopian history twice this year: making it through to the semi-finals of the Ladies' Open Championships and claiming the plate trophy at the National Schools' Championships. She has been able to manage her academic life alongside regular training sessions, lectures and team fixtures and has a positive approach to every task she undertakes and the respect of those around her. She deserves all the praise and recognition she receives.

Sportsman of the Year: MAX PRAGNELL

Max is one of the best all-round sportsmen Shrewsbury School has ever seen. He does not do average – whatever sport he plays he will only do to the very highest standard. He is a very good swimmer, cricketer, athlete, gymnast and basketball player, to name but a few.



His major sport at Shrewsbury School has been football. He has hardly missed a match in five years; testament to his strength and

fitness levels, as he plays in one of the most injury-prone positions on the pitch. His attitude to all training sessions is nothing less than first class, no matter the climate, pitch conditions or workload. As an Under-15 he gained national recognition and played for the ISFA team. He has recently played for the Shropshire Schools FA U18 team who reached the semi-final of the ESFA Inter-County Trophy.

He has played 1st XI football for three years. As a Fifth Former and whilst playing against boys two years older, stronger and wiser than him, he still scored 21 goals. In three seasons he has played 88 matches and scored 91 goals. This is a new school goal-scoring record which could stand for many years.

Sportswoman of the Year: LIBBY NAYLOR

Libby Naylor is one of the most driven, enthusiastic and deeply committed sportswomen I have ever come across. She puts all her energy, heart and soul into every performance, whatever the sport.

She is an exceptional hockey player, regularly taking apart oppositions with her speed and skill. She is well respected amongst coaches and players due to her exceptional talent, but also because she is hard working, determined and genuinely one of the most thoughtful and considerate girls I have ever met.

She has represented the school in the Hunt, fives and more recently netball. However, the sport she really excels in is athletics. She arrived at Shrewsbury as an established athletics champion and has maintained her high level of training whilst still participating in full academic life along with school practices and fixtures. This demonstrates her determination to get the most out of her time at Shrewsbury and push everything to the limit. She has the recipient of the Victrix Ludorum two years running in the School Inter-House Athletics Championships, dominating the field.

Service to Sports Awards BRIDGET LAPAGE

Bridget Lepage is a leading light at the Boat Club. She has demonstrated a drive and passion for the sport above all others. The youngest in a long line of outstanding oarsmen, she has flown the family flag admirably, and then some. She has been the one the other girls have looked to, to feed off. She has not always found it easy but has always bounced back harder and stronger. With National Schools and Henley on the horizon and a great performance in illustrious company recently at Wallingford, these are exciting times for Bridget and her crew.

ED MALLET

Ed Mallet has truly given outstanding service for his Club and his achievements in cross-country running and athletics over five years have been exceptional. Having won the New Boys' race in the Third Form, he quickly became a pivotal member of the Hunt, steering the Junior County Champs team to victory in his first year. He has developed into one of the leading athletes on the cross-country

schools' circuit, winning the Midlands Championship individual title (one of only two Salopians ever to have done so), becoming county champion for a staggering three years in a row, and running the second fastest time in the country (out of over 300 runners) in the National Relays last year. His ambition and determination have been huge assets and he has been an inspiration to many in the Club, not least his coaches. He does not boast or brag of his achievements, ever modest, and cares deeply and passionately about The Hunt, its traditions and its success. He is one of the most talented athletes we have seen at Shrewsbury for some time.

ED LLOYD

Ed Lloyd has given five sterling years of service to Shrewsbury School sport, notably in Fives, the Hunt and Football, and was made Captain of the 1st XI for the 2012-13 season. He has given up hundreds of hours for training and matches in these sports. He has always played for whichever team he has been

selected and has always turned out for the Hunt even during a hectic football schedule. He has also played a good level of Squash and Cricket and memorably scored a fifty against some fairly hostile bowling from Steve Barnard in a House match. He is a no nonsense sportsman who plays sport in exactly the right way and has never got it wrong on or off the pitch in terms of his attitude or behaviour towards team mates, opponents or coaches. What makes his contribution to Shrewsbury School all the more remarkable is that he has a serious stomach condition of ulcerative colitis, which causes him a good deal of pain and discomfort. Yet he never makes a fuss.

JAMES HUMPISH

There is a photograph taken after the 2008 New Boys' Race of a slightly overweight boy from School House looking very red-faced and brandishing a can of coke. He had placed not quite last, but certainly not far off it. Nobody – not even him – would have guessed back then that he would go on to run in the Hunt for the full five years of his time at the School, and would even be named as captain of the 2nd VIII in his final year.

He is one of the most inspirational and enthusiastic runners that Peter Middleton has come across in his time as coach. Back in the Third Form, he would run a Benjy in over 16 minutes, a time that most people would be able to beat with a brisk walk over the 2.3km course. Yet he didn't give up; he came back to training sessions week after week, and by the end of the year, he had taken over 4 minutes off his time. The following year he dipped under the elusive 10-minute barrier. Astonishingly, the 9-minute mark was broken by the Lower Sixth, and then in his final year, he posted a time that was the 15th-fastest out of the whole School. He has become a regular member of the Hunt squad, competing in many races across the country. He has shown as much – if not more – determination than any other runner in the Hunt, and the improvements he has made have been quite startling. He is an inspirational figure - a true unsung hero if there ever was one.



MAX KIMPTON-SMITH

Max is a dedicated oarsman whose personal modesty and sportsmanship made him the perfect candidate for Captain of Boats. To combine this responsibility with other major School duties, namely Head Boy, is no mean feat and he very much deserves this award for service to sport and the Boat Club in particular.



ALISTAIR FISHER

Alistair is something of an unsung hero. He has an amazingly mature head on his shoulders and has made a great deal of his opportunities in football, rugby and cricket at Shrewsbury. He became a terrifically solid and dependable member of the 1st XI football squad after deciding to concentrate solely on football following an injury that prevented him from continuing to 1st XV standard as a rugby player. He has made the most progress in cricket perhaps. Having been a B team player for most of his junior years, he blossomed into a pacey opening A team bowler in the Fifth Form and forced his way into the 1st XI tour party this year to South Africa with his left-arm swingers. It is his impeccable attitude, loyalty and service to Shrewsbury sport that we reward today. He would never admit to being the most naturally gifted player in any of his teams, but his peers and coaches value his tenacity, courage and sportsmanship above all else.

GRACE *(Composed and recited by Peter Middleton)*

Lord God, bless this food and all who will eat it
And the catering staff who were happy to heat it.
Lord, we thank you for this School and its wonderful sports:
Our rugby fields, cricket squares, Mr Harding's beloved courts.

For lineout takes, protein shakes, rucks, scrums and mauls,
And rugby players playing with strange oval-shaped balls.
For goggle-eyed swimmers with obscenely small speedos
That help them to swim fast, as fast as torpedoes.

For white-gloved nimble Fives players, a game invented by Eton.
Alas poor Etonians, you're so regularly beaten.
For shot-putters, discussers, javelin men in girdles,
And the inevitable ambulance that follows the hurdles.

For googlies and Yorkers, reverse-swept four runs
For Pollock and Farquhar, scores in their tonnes.
For polo and archery, recreational tennis,
Trampolining and cycling and fencers with menace.

For badminton players with swift shuttlecocks,
And matrons who deal with all our smelly socks.
For success in the Boodles with Lloyd and Gould
And Pragnell's goals 91... those keepers he fooled.
At the top of his sport, GB oarsman Harry Lonergan
And Huntsman Ed Mallett, try and catch him, then he's gone again.

For Parr with her hockey stick, hurdler Libby Naylor
And oarsman Lapage, so swift you won't tail her.
Lord, thank you for patience and focus and drive
Thank you for virtues that help us to thrive.
For avoiding, in frustration, the temptation to spit
And thank you, above all, for our blessed Kukri Kit.

So amen, Lord, we say and thank you again
For these servants to school sport, these young women and men.
Bless them all as they move on to pastures a-new
And look back on their time here, for here it was that they grew.

AMEN



Sara Spencer, Charlie Farquhar, Tim Lamb, Hannah Pritchard, John Scott and Eleanor Gurden

LETTER FROM THE SALOPIAN CLUB DIRECTOR

Since the last edition, the Club has enjoyed further sporting success, significant progress has been achieved with the careers initiative and we have good stories to report on the academic and arts scenes. Our new Club President, Nick Bevan (O 1955-60), took over the reins in January. He was born in Ridgemount, attended School as an Oldham's boy, taught here for 18 years and eventually became the Headmaster of Shiplake College. He is proud to be following in the footsteps of his father, D. J. V. Bevan, who was Club President between 1971 and 1972.

The Old Salopian Football Club won the Arthurian League Division One title after a fine campaign and will be playing in the Premiership Division next season. We have been also been alerted to several personal sporting achievements in recent months, with Adam Booth (PH 1995-2000) reaching the summit of Mount Everest and James Taylor (R 2003-08) captaining Nottingham Cricket Club and playing for the England Lions. Rugby player Stu McLaren (S 1993-98) played his final game for the Navy before his retirement from the Service and John Carter (Rt 1994-99) will again captain Oxford University Rugby Club in the 1913-14 season.

The Salopian Club continues to enjoy strong sporting links with the School and on 12th May over thirty Old Salopians attended the annual School Leavers' Sports Awards Lunch.

Other Old Salopian achievers include Sidney Gold Medal winners David Kell (SH 2005-10) and Max Emmerich (Rt 2008-10), Michael Palin, winner of a BAFTA Fellowship, drama student, Eoin Bentick (Rb 2005-10) who organised the inaugural London Student Drama Festival. Reports of all these and other news of Old Salopians can be found below.

The Club continues to develop its careers assistance programme. On 14th May, thirty Old Salopians and parents participated in the first annual careers fair at the School. The evening was hailed a success and the evaluation of the event,

based on feedback from all participants, will be used to shape next year's event. The Club's careers talk and dinner events, used to augment the School's comprehensive careers talks programme, has continued to attract good audiences. This year we have covered the legal profession, working in the City and engineering. The Club continues to receive regular careers requests from those that have left School (over 60 applications over the past nine months), in the majority of cases for work experience.

We are extremely grateful to all parents and Old Salopians who have provided advice and support to these students. Without this goodwill the careers support initiative would have withered away a long time ago. Since the careers fair, the Club's Careers Chair, David Chance (O 1970-75) has concentrated on setting up professional groups, which, when fully established will provide a sustainable careers support structure. The main focus for these groups will be to continue to provide professional advice and where possible to help with work experience. Given time they may also enable networking and social opportunities. We remain very keen to engage greater numbers of parents in this activity, so if you are reading this article and think you can help, please contact Alex Baxter at admbaxter@shrewsbury.org.uk.

Finally, following several recent meetings with Will Morris, the Chairman of the Parents' Association, we have identified several topics of mutual interest including the careers initiative and events participation. The Club is delighted that many parents are among the 300 attendees at the Queen's Gallery visits on 25th and 26th June. The Club will continue to welcome parents to many Old Salopian events and there is considerable support for a joint event (possibly a formal ball) in 2014.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the Old Salopian events (please see list on the back page).

Alex Baxter



Taiding Yang (Rt LVI), Nigel Readman and Cindy Lin (EDH LVI) at the Engineering Careers Talk and Dinner

OS FOOTBALL CLUB

1st XI report

On the 10th January 49 BC Gaius Julius Caesar sat on the banks of the Rubicon agonising over his next move. To cross it would mean only one thing: defiance of the Senate, insurrection and ultimately the overthrow of the old order. On the 10th August 2012 AD Richard McGarry stood on the banks of the Thames, did not cross it, did not defy the Senate but did promise revolution and emancipation from the tyranny of the old order of underachievement and disappointment. Two generals, one goal. Two dreams, two triumphs. To wit, to woo.

And so we come to the OSFC 1st XI 2012/13 season; a season that started in the afterglow of London's Olympic extravaganza with just one burning question: who is Greg Rutherford? Whilst noting his uncanny resemblance to 2nd XI hero and talisman, Tim Colman (I know what you did last summer) the 1s got down to the real business of pulling themselves out of the quagmire of second tier football. Hopes were higher than Pete Doherty and – some contemporary Cassandras warned – just as misguided. But Captain McGarry was quietly confident as he assembled his troops, a canny blend of age and youth and they began at the sort of canter that might see them fed and watered at the stables of Sheik Mohammed.

Games blurred into one as win after win racked up and goals flew past bewildered opponents like planes at an air show. Newly-lean Jack Brydon was the spearhead, bludgeoning defenders into submission before finishing them off with decisive finishes from all angles. In the past there might have been more likelihood of Jack growing a beanstalk than acting as a spearhead, but here was a man in steady employment, consuming a surfeit of eggs and demonstrating that indolence and moral lassitude need not be a permanent stasis.

Freed from the constraints of finding a place for ageing dwarfs in their ranks, the OSFC were a youthful, spunky bunch of youths with pace, dynamism, wizardry and Big Phil Westerman. Eschewing the yoga and extra-marital affairs, the big man was our very own Ryan Giggs, a leader on the pitch, an exemplary professional, a man feared by opponents and revered by team mates.

The OSFC finished the season with a quite staggering record of Played 11, Won 10, Drawn 1, Goals for: Loads, Goals against: Don't be Stupid. This was not a league, it was a procession, a footballing fête in honour of the OSFC, a gargantuan banquet with speeches by opposition captains in honour of their victors; this was what we had all been waiting for, what the captain had been planning for and what the world, quite frankly, needed.

The team was peppered with outstanding performers, starting with the Captain Rich McGarry, who saved his troops so often there were rumblings of a V.C. A veritable dervish in goals, his ability to grow eight arms and four sets of legs when confronted with a one-on-one was not only unusual but also highly effective. In front of him, Olly Harrison patrolled the back line like a somnolent lion, his apparent torpor ready to be jettisoned at the drop of a hat to sniff out any unwanted forays in to the multi-limbed Captain's box. His partnership with the evergreen, ever brown, Phil Westerman was the foundation on which this glorious OSFC season was erected. In midfield spectacularly handsome Adam Parker, fresh from snagging a pass to the Royal Box, was in commanding form, forming a creative, dynamic partnership with well-connected Olly Heywood in the centre of the field. Olly scored with every free kick he took this

season and his final tally of 245 goals was not only the best ever by a midfielder, it was also a blatant lie. He did, however, score a few belters.

It is, perhaps, unfair to single out individuals when you haven't seen a single game this year, but it is true to say that were I to profile all the outstanding performers this season, I would have to delay our pre-season training regime.

The Dunn did not go well.

So, to conclude. The OSFC finished the season with a remarkable record, reclaiming their rightful place at the top table of the Arthurian league. A season that began with a contemplative captain on the banks of the Thames ended in triumph in the first floor dining room in Notting Hill. Ne'er was such gaiety displayed, ne'er was it so well deserved. The end of season meal shall be remembered as one of the great victory banquets of modern times.

Huge credit must go to Rich McGarry for his tireless work as captain and to the whole squad for their outstanding contribution to statistics. The 2012/13 will live long in the memory but it may well prove to be not the banquet, but the 'amuse bouche', the prelude to a feast of honours, the watershed moment when players of undoubted ability stamp their authority on a league that should hold no fear. The future looks bright. Let us build on this season of dreams, this glittering bauble of light, this smörgåsbord of delight, this pre-season of mellow fruitfulness. Let us write an ode to joy and end next season in the history books as victors of the premier league!

Floreat! Ad Infinitum!

Jonathan Jones

2nd XI report

Captain Tim Colman bravely led his 2nd XI team into the unknown, the Second Division. Having gained an unlikely promotion the season before, winning nine of the nine last games, the pressure was on to fight to stay in the highest division the 2nd team could reach. This would prove difficult, given the big names playing in the league with them: the 1st teams of Malvern, Haberdashers and Wellington, the second teams of Chigwell, Lancing and the considerable might of the Charterhouse 2nd and 3rd teams.

After beating the Schools, the League season started against rivals Malvern away. If the players hadn't appreciated how hard the season was going to be for them, they did by the first minute. Malvern visibly had more class than the opposition we played from the season before and it was only an unlikely thirty-yarder from Player of the Season and Top Scorer Will Speer's left foot that left the Old Salopians leading at half time.

Malvern equalised and only some great defending and some good goalkeeping from new Captain Nick 'Nige' Corlett kept the game even. After half time it was James Wild's run down the right wing and squaring of the ball for the advancing midfielder Freddie Young that put the Salopians back on top. All the hard work was undone by a quick throw-in in the last minute which led to a Malvern second equaliser; a score line that was perhaps deserved.

This set the tone for the season. It soon became clear that we would have to be consistent and hardworking to stay in Division 2. After losing to the eventual champions, Charterhouse 3rds, we went on a four-match winning streak including beating Wellington 6-1 and Chigwell 5-2.

Things became increasingly difficult as the inevitable personal joys of skiing, rugby and other engagements took their toll, but we managed to finish the season with a respectable fourth place finish. Played 18, won 8, drawn 3 and lost 7. Highlights of the season included a double win over Haberdashers and a battling return fixture win against a strong Malvern side, going down 2-0 and coming back to win 4-3. A very good season for the 2nd team and something for incoming captain Nick Corlett to build on for next year. Good luck to him and thank you to Tim Colman for his hard work and contribution to the team and club.

Chris Iggulden

Old Salopians Veterans

A somewhat "stop / start" season for the OSFC Vets: played 4, won 3 and lost 1, with multiple postponements thrown in for good measure.

The highlight – and the lowspot – of the season was our appearance in the Derrick Moore Veterans' Cup Final at The Bank

of England Ground in Roehampton. To say we were slow out of the traps would be an understatement: three down after less than quarter of an hour, we pulled a goal back before half time but, alas, were unable to score a second.

Other notable events include the emergence of youngsters Brierley and Speer – the former delightfully performing the "crossbar challenge" in the quarter-final against Charterhouse – the continued excellence of the old-stagers (yes, even in the context of a veterans' team) Honychurch and Goodman (S), and witnessing three of the eight goals in the Bradfield semi-final being scored direct from corners – proof, if ever it were required, that defending (and heading, in particular) is optional in veterans' football.

With the closing of one season comes optimism for the next. All of those current Vets who may be thinking of "calling it a day", don't be daft. Why commit yourself to Sundays looking after the children quite yet? All of you youngsters turning 35, please get in touch: we need you.

Hugh Raven

OS HUNT

The warmer temperatures of the summer months make the simple act of Just Going For A Run seem like a forbidden pleasure after spending such a long time in a cold and damp typical British Winter, which requires the warm-up, the dressing-up and enough running to make a sweat. Now the occasional appearance of Summer Sun can provide the impetus to slip on the Old Salopian Vest, the shorts and trainers and actually start that training you planned to do in the New Year Resolution. For some, the first Shrewsbury Marathon and Half-Marathon on Sunday 23rd June this year will be a challenge which requires much more than just going for a run. Probably, up and above fitness, the most important requirement for this notable event will be determination and with plenty of encouragement along the streets of Shrewsbury, many will achieve much more than was ever imagined. The Hunt, in all its guises, will be represented in Team Shrewsbury School, including boys and girls, staff and the OSH too. Enjoy the day and Run Well.

In the last OSH Event, on Saturday 15th December 2012, we fielded a team (of 2.5!) at The Annual Alumni Race, held on part of Wimbledon Common, near Roehampton, which is organised by Thames Hare & Hounds Club. Some 131 runners started the race and Simon Pickles (M 1971-76) came 91st overall, or 19th in the V50 Class, followed by his 12-year-old son, Sam, running a strong

pace to finish at 92nd, and then Peter Birch (Db, 1966-71) at 98th or 23rd in the V50 Class. The varied ground made for an excellent crosscountry course, with a good dollop of mud added along the way. Even with our small team, we came 8th out of 13 in our V50 Class, which means we are bound to see great improvements next December. Full results can be found at www.thameshareandhound.org.uk and do have a look at our OSH News page on the School website for the full report and pictures. www.shrewsbury.org.uk/page/os-hunt-news

In March it was encouraging to see that The Hunt had completed another season with glowing results, not only in individual achievements, but also in team events. The future of the oldest school running club is going from strength to strength and with the continuing careful guidance of the Master in Charge, Peter Middleton, the traditions and history of The Hunt are being maintained. As the Huntsman Emeritus, Ed Mallett (S 2008-13) becomes one of our number at the end of the summer, we extend our good wishes to the new 178th Huntsman Elect, Rory Fraser (Ch).

Thanks go to Patrick Russell Jones (Ridgemount 1967-72) who kindly sent his father's Junior Whip, Cap & Baton of 1943, to join the collection of Hunt memorabilia. He also sent a photo of the RSSH



The Annual Run with the RSSH, 2012

Team of 1942 (*right*). Barry Russell Jones (Rt 1940-43) is the one with glasses on the front row to the right. Apparently, he also gained his School Colours for football. The Huntsman for that period during the War should be either J.S. Cox or F.C.R. Martin. Perhaps one of our readers can reveal more names of those in this historical picture. Any information can be sent to Peter Birch by email (address below).

Planning ahead, do make a note in your diary for a change of date regarding our Annual Run with the RSSH, which will now be on Saturday, 7th December 2013, (followed by the Annual Dinner) and also the Alumni Race in Wimbledon is scheduled for Saturday, 14th December 2013.

For more information, or OSH ties, or OSH vests contact Peter Birch, email info@crbirch.com



RSSH Team, 1942

ALEX WILSON SCHOLARSHIP

The family of Alex Wilson (Rb 2003-08) are delighted that Max McClure has been awarded the first Alex Wilson Scholarship. Max is currently at Idsall School and will be joining the Sixth Form in Radbrook in September 2013.

Fundraising for the Scholarship Fund continues apace. A football match took place on Easter Sunday and on 25th April, eleven Old Salopians set off on a three-day cycle ride to the Eiffel Tower in Paris from Tower Bridge in London in aid of the Alex Wilson Appeal. The group was led by Ben Langford-Archer (SH 2003-08) and so far they have raised nearly £5,000 for their efforts. Donations can still be made at the following website: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/towertotowerlondontoparis>

Last summer Henry Wilson, James Turner, Jonathan Stokes, Lucy Stokes, Elliot Brooks and Huw Thomas cycled from John O'Groats to Land's End and raised £25,000 for the Scholarship Fund.

The annual Alex Wilson Memorial Football Match will take place at The Schools on Sunday 22nd September.

For further details about the Scholarship Fund, fundraising events and to make donations, please contact Henry Wilson: hcwilson87@gmail.com



The riders from left to right are David Jenkins, Harry McHale, Todd Langford Archer, Mike Orme, Colin Turnbull, William Matthews, James Trelawny, Ben Langford Archer, Jonathan Griffiths, Jack Lewis and Rhys Harding

OSGOLFING SOCIETY

THE GRAND SCOTTISH TOUR

The Grand Scottish Tour, now in its seventeenth year, is the jewel in the crown of the Society's Fasti. This is all thanks to Sandy Bell, the Argyll & Sutherland Highlander, celebrated visionary, fixer and OSGS Enthusiast Emeritus. Small wonder that, at the home of the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers with the Open Championship stands in full muster, we attracted an international field.

Reuben Johnson III (no less) jetted in from Palm Beach, Florida, accompanied by his better half (and better golfer) Mary Watkins (off 10). Reuben went to "Butch" Connell's Ridgemount in 1962 for one year on an English Speaking Union Scholarship. One of his contemporaries in Ridgemount was none other than Anthony Parsons, a forceful centre forward who became one of Shrewsbury's most forceful and successful golfers. Speaking at the Tour supper in the historic clubhouse of North Berwick Golf Club, Reuben recalled, with warmth, history lessons with David Gee, who had become a lifelong friend. The Spartan conditions, the understated central heating system, consisting of a solitary pipe along the skirting board - these memories were embedded in his soul. On his first day, Reuben had walked past Oldham's where he was saluted by a school gardener, who doffed his cap and wished him "Good morning, sir!" The 17-year-old lad from Kansas had arrived.

Thanks to an ingenious suggestion from Professor Andrew Lister, we had team events this year and the results were as follows, coupled with quicker rounds:

North Berwick: Winners: Reuben Johnson III, Simon Cullingworth, Stefan Hindmarsh, David Stewart.

Runners-up: Deborah Backhouse, Malcom McMullan, Peter McMullan, Mary Watkins.

Muirfield: Winners of the Bell-Lewis Quaich: Reuben Johnson III and guest Alick Hay **Winners: AM:** Tom Denton, Simon Denton, Humphry Ward, HughTeacher (guest).

Gullane No 2 Course: Winners: Reuben Johnson III, Stefan Hindmarsh, Humphry Ward. **Runners-up:** Simon Denton, Hilary Ward, Mary Watkins.

THE CAMPION TROPHY

A record number of 79 players have entered for the Champion Trophy, the Society's National Matchplay Championship. These include David Boulton (Rigg's (No 1, The Schools) 38-42), formerly of Hoylake, Aldeburgh, Littlestone and now of The London Beach (P&P) (Pay & Play). Some entrants are of no fixed abode, unattached - in racing parlance, loose, dark horses such as Toby Clowes, Steve Osborne and Dudley MacDonald. All are welcome, as we know how difficult it is to get time off work for weekday meetings or to join London clubs. The final of last year's Champion has yet to be played. Malcom McMullan, educated in Ingram's (58-62) and on the links of Royal County Down will be playing Mark Ferguson (Rt 92-97), whose email address Fergusonmonster necessitates no comment. To reach the Final, McMullan had the audacity or "lift" to eliminate such hallowed names as Richard Barber, Jonty Champion, Ben Chesters and Gerald Woods: whilst the Monster wolfed down honourable golfers such as Dan Evans of Mortonhall, Ed Foster of Gullane and John Smith of The Alwoodley

and the hero of our victory in last year's Bunny Millard (for over 75s - sch...) in partnership with Robert Lanyon.

DENHAM

Our first meeting of 2013 took place in testing conditions at Denham on 20th March. Rob Cutler was tournament winner with 39 points. The field of 14 players included Halford Hewitt Captain Andy Pollock (3) who won a 'Lion' head cover, not the 'Tiger' head cover, as Mrs P was rumoured to prefer Ernie Els to Tiger Woods.

As usual, our thanks go to Anthony Parsons for his firm grip on everything, including an outrageously lavish lunch - classic Denham hospitality.

ROYAL LIVERPOOL GOLF CLUB, HOYLAKE

Our second meeting took place on the eve of the Grand National at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club at Hoylake, stage for the Open in 2014.

An illustrious field of 25 entrants spanned the President of OSGS, Anthony Smith, the President of Saracens, Nicko Williams, Bridgnorth "Senior" Robin Mouldsdales, brought by Halford Hewitt veteran Jonathon Mawdesley and four boys from The Schools and three ardent parents, Trevor Williams, father of Mark, Paul Chambers, father of Jamie, and Steve Oswald, father of Ben - an example of the inclusive family nature of OSGS.

None could hold a candle to the runaway winner Mark Schofield, Master-in-charge of Golf who amassed 40 points. Robert Lanyon arranged this meeting of pain and pleasure with his customary, immaculate attention to detail.

HAWKSTONE PARK

Next we went down memory lane to Hawkstone Park for the Match against The Schools. Seven members or former members of staff took part, contributing to a victory for OSGS of 4-1.

Anthony Smith & Paul Pattenden won 4x3 against Harry Boutflower & David Joyce.

Robert Lanyon & Chris Conway won 2x1 against Jonty Robinson & Will Hughes.

Charles Hill & Mark Schofield won 3x2 against Daniel Legge & Ben Oswald.

Robin Brooke-Smith & Michael Roberts won 6x4 against Tim Foulger & Jake Samuel.

John Upton & John Pulsford lost 4x2 against Alex Haspel & Charles Bibby.

Robert Lanyon deputised as Match organiser for Gerald Smith who was absent golfing in Portugal, having just returned with the President from a clan wedding in Scottsdale, Arizona. Where else would the Smith family assemble for nuptials but with a few golf courses on hand for essentials?

Tim Lewis, Honorary Secretary
Old Salopian Golfing Society
tim.lewis@osgs.net
Tel: 01491 641651



FIXTURE DATES – 2013

Date	Event	Course	Organiser
JULY			
Thurs 11-Sat 13	Peter Burles Salver (65 and over)*	West Hill	Peter Worth
Thurs 11-Sat 13	Bunny Millard Salver (75 and over)*	West Hill	Peter Worth
Fri 12-Sat 13	G.L.Mellin Salver (55 and over)*	West Hill	Peter Worth
AUGUST			
Sun pm 11	West Country Tour	Westward Ho!	Paul Nichols
Mon am 12	West Country Tour	Saunton	Paul Nichols
Tues am 13	West Country Tour	Saunton	Paul Nichols
Sat 17	Match v. Old Reptonians (South)	Worplesdon	Jonathan Russell
Mon 19	Old Schools' Competition	Trevoise	Bill Higson
SEPTEMBER			
Thurs 12	University Challenge	Swindon	Mark Allen
Fri pm 20	Shropshire Meeting	Worfield	Tim Lewis
Wed 25	OS Golf Tournament	Blackwell	Tim Lewis/Charles Stockbridge
Fri 27-Sat 28	Grafton Morrish Finals*	Hunstanton/Brancaster	Andy Pollock
OCTOBER			
Sun 6	President's Meeting & AGM	Trentham	Tim Lewis
Sun 13	Match v. Old Malvernians	Blackwell	Angus Pollock
Sun 27	OSGS Scratch Championship	Blackwell	Angus Pollock
NOVEMBER			
Fri 1	Winter Fourball	Ashridge	Dan Graham
Sat am 9	Robert Walker Foursomes Cup	New Zealand	Tim Lewis

Key* (by invitation only)

Members are asked to contact the Organiser for any event in which they may wish to play.

Tim Lewis (Honorary Secretary): email. tim.lewis@osgs.net – tel. 01491 641651

SARACENS

SARACENS DINNER – 23 MARCH 2013

A celebration dinner for the victorious Saracens Cricketer Cup side was held at the Top of the Shop on the evening of Saturday 23rd March. Over 50 players and guests attended. The festivities started with a champagne reception in the Pentagon, hosted by the Headmaster. After helping Saracens Captain Tom Cox (M 2000-05) to open a magnum of champagne, Mark Turner gave a short address during which he exhorted the Saracens to repeat last season's outstanding achievement. The Top of the Shop had been laid out for fine dining and the Kingsland Hall staff served an excellent meal during which the wine flowed throughout. Towards the end of the meal, President Nicko Williams (SH 1954-58) gave a witty address and then presented Saracens ties to every player who participated in the Cricketer Cup.

This was followed by a speech from Tom Cox, in which he highlighted the key factors that contributed to the 2012 team's successful season. At the conclusion of a happy evening, current players gave a raucous rendition of their Devon tour song (to the tune 'The Sloop John B') which would have definitely scored 'worst in category' at the local Eisteddfod! Special thanks to Paul Nichols (S 1966-71) and his support team for arranging a happy and successful evening. Guests included Paul Pridgeon, Andy Barnard and Will Hughes (G 1988-90), eminent Old Salopian Sir Richard Curtis (I 1946-52) and Salopian Club Director, Alex Baxter.

The Cricketer Cup 2013 began on Sunday 16th June with a match against the 2012 runners-up, Marlborough. For more details of the 2013 Cup, check the Saracens website.



Nicko Williams (SH 1954-58), Tom Cox (M 2000-05) and Richard Tudor (SH 1962-67) – all captains of winning Cricketer Cup teams

Saracens Week begins on 28th June and continues until 4th July. All matches are at Shrewsbury and more information can be found on the Saracens website.

The annual Saracens Devon Tour will begin on 12th August. For more details, please consult the website: <http://www.shrewsbury.org.uk/page/saracens-cricket>

OS YACHT CLUB

With winter gales hopefully but a distant memory (not looking too likely at the time of writing!), the OS Yacht Club's thoughts are once again turning to arrangements for October's boarding schools' Arrow Trophy regatta at Cowes. We hope once again to enter two crews, having been the only school to do so last year, and having won the Charterhouse Bowl for a second time. This is always an entertaining weekend, both on and off the water, and we'd be very pleased to hear from any Salopians who would be interested in joining the crews – enthusiasm often being more important than ability, in true Salopian style.

Thinking beyond Arrow, we are looking to join with Radley in organising a one-day regatta in J80s on Queen Mary Reservoir in January 2014 (the Commodore's recent soaking on the Caledonian Canal having apparently convinced him that sailing outside the summer months is also possible).

For more information on our events and membership, please contact Old Salopian Yacht Club's Secretary, David Richards (david.richards@trinity.oxon.org).



Charterhouse Bowl winners 2012



Shrewsbury Blue chases Shrewsbury White

OS FIVES

The Monday Knights' spectacular debut run in the EFA Trophy was finally halted at Eton by the Old Salopians, who reclaimed the trophy for the first time since 2004.

The semi-finals saw old EFA Trophy rivals the Old Salopians and the Old Etonians go head to head. The Salopians drew first blood with the father and son Williams duo at first pair seeing off Fritz von Guionneau and Hamish Mackenzie in straight games. Victory was sealed when second pair Marc Quinn and Henry Blofield defeated Martin Fiennes and Charlie Fairbanks-Smith – briefly seconded from the 24-hour Fives marathon next door and looking somewhat bleary eyed as a consequence – by three games to nil. Some honour was restored by the vastly experienced Etonian third pair of Jonathan Asquith and Tim Best who were 2-1 ahead of Peter Nichols and Sam Jarvis when the other two pairs finished.

The other semi-final featured defending champions the Old Wulfrunians and the surprise package of the 2013 EFA Trophy the Monday Knights. Wulfrunian skipper Sid Simmons led from the front at first pair as he and Andy Husselbee cruised past Marco Rimini and Paddy Gibbs, but the Knights were hoping that their strength in depth would pay dividends and second pair Bill Emlyn Jones and Johnny Saunders duly obliged, recovering from losing the first game to defeat Mark Yates and Phil Bullock in four close games. With Mike Skjott and Tom Emlyn Jones 2-0 ahead of schoolboys Matt Pritchard and Tom Husselbee in the third court, the result seemed done and dusted but the Wulfrunian youngsters showed they are made of stern stuff as they began to get to grips with a style of Fives from their opponents that they will not have seen much of at school level. To their great credit they came back to level at 2-2, including a 15-14 fourth game nailbiter and a large crowd gathered at the back of the court for the decider. Skjott and Emlyn Jones could easily have become downhearted having been

pegged back and then seen chances to win the match in four pass them by, but they dug deep and began to reimpose their game on Matt and Tom, finally coming through in five tough sets to clinch a place in the final for the Knights.

The Wulfrunians won the 3rd/4th place play-off 2-1 over the Etonians but the attention for most of the afternoon was focused on the final. Grant and Guy Williams once again got the Salopians off to a flyer as they rushed out to a 2-0 lead over Rimini and Gibbs. The Knights pair finally began to find some form in the third game and came agonisingly close to taking the match into a fourth, before going down 14-13 and putting the Salopians one up. The other two pairs were proving to be much closer; the Knights had the initial advantage, going 1-0 up at both second and third pair with 15-14 and 12-11 wins respectively. Quinn and Blofield then took the Salopians to the brink of victory by taking the next two games at second pair 12-8 and 14-12. In the third court, the match was beautifully poised at 2-2, with every game 12-8 or closer and with Bill Emlyn Jones and Johnny Saunders 11-9 up in the fourth game at second pair it looked like the match would be going to the wire. If ever there was a moment for Marc Quinn and Henry Blofield to step up this was it and they responded perfectly to the challenge; some fine cut returning and a slight tiring from the Monday Knights duo saw the Salopian second pair level at 11-11 then go on to win 14-11, take the rubber 3-1 and win the EFA Trophy for the Salopians. The third pair agreed a 2-2 draw at that point and everyone took the opportunity to reflect on a terrific contest and a tremendous day's Fives.

Thanks go to the team captains for their organisation, to Eton for hosting the tournament, and to all of the players who showed exactly how it is possible to play Fives in a highly competitive but extremely friendly and sporting way.



The EFA trophy winning side (left to right): Marc Quinn, Henry Blofield, Guy Williams, Grant Williams, Peter Nichols, Sam Jarvis

SABRINA CLUB

Sabrina Reunion Lunch – 11th May 2013

Readers will recall that the old clubroom in the Pugh Boathouse was refurbished (by generous donations from Sabrina members) and was opened at the same time as the new Yale Boathouse and ergo room in September 2012. The clubroom, now known as the Bowring Room, is in regular use for committee meetings and it was decided to use the improved facilities as a venue for reunions, the first of which was held on Saturday 11th May when Sabrina was competing at the Shrewsbury Regatta.

Appropriately, the first invitees were from the oldest age group i.e. 'all those who entered the School before 1952' and guests included five of the seven surviving members of the 1955 crew who won the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup, Blues, Olympians and Henley winners at University or Club. Some fitted all categories, while others had less glamorous but equally rewarding careers on the river. The thing that bound us all together was our love of rowing and the fact that we were gathering at the spot where most of us took our first tentative stroke.

We were joined by the Headmaster for pre-lunch drinks and, apart from chatting with the luminaries, he was able to meet many of the wives who give so much support to oarsmen. We finally sat down to a superb lunch with excellent wines and beautiful flower arrangements in RSSBC 'Blue & White'. After lunch, those with sufficient energy went to Pengwern where Pat Ward, being unable to join us for lunch due to his duties as a Regatta organiser, entertained us to afternoon tea.

All in all, a splendid day which is causing some of us to look forward to our next opportunity, probably in about six years' time. When your turn comes, don't miss it!



Sabrina Reunion Lunch

Sabrina Club VIII versus RSSBC – at Shrewsbury Regatta, Saturday 11th May 2013

An invitation race between Sabrina and RSSBC was held on Saturday 11th May during the first crew reunion in the newly refurbished Bowring clubroom. With Sabrina on the town side, the old boys took a length's lead off the start and as the crews passed the School Boathouse, RSSBC had pulled this back to a quarter of a length as the fitness over a 1000m race started to show through!

The Sabrina crew held on to the finish line, winning by a canvas. It was a fantastic race and hopefully we will see more Sabrina crews competing in the future.

Thank you to Philip Randall and Christian Swaab for also assisting in the practice outing but were not able to row on the day and also to Paul Manser for coaching and providing the superb opposition.



Sabrina Club VIII (top) versus RSSBC

Sabrina Club VIII Winning Crew

Cox	Charlie Clarke	Oldham's	2009-present
Stroke	James Griffin	Grove	1994-1999
7	Richard Hawley-Jones	Grove	2005-2010
6	Josh Burbidge	Grove	1991-1996
5	Julian Lewis-Booth	Moser's	1982-1987
4	Allister Hagger	Port Hill	1986-1991
3	Ian Dick	School House	1992-1997
2	Philip Wood	Moser's	1992-1997
Bow	Christian Randall	Oldham's	2007-2012

Sabrina 'subs'

	Christian Swaab	Port Hill	1986-1991
	Philip Randall	Oldham's	1999-2002

Future Events

Sabrina Club will be organising further reunions in 2014 in the newly refurbished clubroom. These will include an event for all crews coached by Nick Bevan between 1974 and 1988. We will also be organising a reunion for a section of the membership who entered the School during or after 1953. Sabrina Club will keep you posted and would be grateful if members could ensure that the Salopian Club has a record of their most recent email address.

World Junior Rowing Championships 2013

The World Junior Rowing Championships will be held at Traki, Lithuania between 7th and 11th August. Members will recall that in the 2012 Championships Tom Marshall (SH 2007-2012) stroked the GB VIII to a bronze medal and Harry Lonergan (O UVI) finished fourth in the fours final. Harry is currently a member of this year's GB VIII which recently won Gold at the German Federation Junior Regatta. Sabrina Club wishes Harry the best of luck and success at this year's World Junior Championships.

Rod Spiby (Hon Secretary): Rod.Spiby@bulleys.co.uk
tel. 07970-283704

Philip Wood (Treasurer and Crew Organiser):
Philip.wood@stantonralph.co.uk

Nick Randall (Captain): nick@ruthinsim.co.uk

NEWS OF OLD SALOPIANS

1940-69

Revd Michael Tupper (Staff 1948-80) and his wife Jane celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 15th April 2013.

Michael Palin (R 1957-61) has been awarded a BAFTA Fellowship for his work in television. The Fellowship, BAFTA's highest honour, was presented to Michael by his fellow Python star, Terry Jones, at the Arqiva British Academy Television Awards on 12th May 2013. In his acceptance speech, Michael said: "I'm well aware that any success I've had is down to team-work. I've been blessed throughout my career with the inspiration and support of others. The Fellowship is for all of us." He went on to say that he felt slightly guilty for accepting an award for thoroughly enjoying himself for the last 48 years.

Michael Eckford (S 1958-63) writes: "In 1998 I returned to University (Victoria University in Wellington, NZ) to do a Dip.TESOL with the aim of teaching English to those wishing to learn. In 1999 I found a job in Hong Kong teaching English to boys with special needs. The school was in fact an approved school for violent young criminals. Three contracts took me up until 2007. A voluntary activity was teaching in two prisons. In between times I spent six months teaching at a teachers' training college in Yangzhou, China. I spent 2008-09 in Quy Nhon, Viet Nam on a VSA assignment (similar to VSO), providing English lessons to government officials in the area, which also included working with the medical staff at Bong Som hospital. For the last three years I have been teaching part time in NZ because I enjoy it!" Michael is married to Ruth and they have two children, who are both married.

Timothy B. Cox (Ch 1969-73) has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire.

1970-79

James Lazarus (S 1972-77) has been made Bursar of Hertford College Oxford. He writes that he would welcome visits to the College of Salopians of all vintages.

Alister Bartholomew (Staff 1977-87) After 19 years at Haileybury, Alister left in 2006 to be the Project Director of Haileybury in Kazakhstan. He writes: "Having established the school, I was then appointed as the Business Development Director for Dulwich Colleges International in 2010 in China and Korea but with a brief to do the early planning for Dulwich in Singapore. I was then asked to return to Kazakhstan to step in as interregnum Headmaster for Haileybury in Almaty in December 2011 and also as the in-country Project Director for a second Haileybury school in Astana, the capital. I am now Chairman of the Governors and Chief Operating Officer for both schools and in Kazakhstan two weeks a month. For the rest of the time I run my own Educational Consultancy based in Singapore (www.abconsulting.sg)."

1980-89

Richard Barlow (O 1988-93) has been appointed Deputy British Ambassador to Argentina. After four years as Political Counsellor and Head of Chancery at the British Embassy in Mexico, he takes up his new posting in Argentina in the summer of 2013.

Ross Williams (O 1989-94) (pictured below) is expanding his sports/adventure business '8th Day Adventure' which provides members with hundreds of events each year. He is aiming to expand the business through a funding campaign, with the objective of enticing more people into sports and activities. www.8thdayadventure.co.uk/



1990-99

Alexis Fletcher (M 1990-95) and Suzanna, with children Jack, Molly and Harry, will move from the Netherlands to Singapore. Alexis has been with Shell in a number of roles since joining as a graduate from Edinburgh in 2000, including postings for distribution analysis in London and Milan, project engineering in Japan, Sakhalin Island and the Netherlands and a global projects and commercial audit role. His new posting in Singapore is with Shell's commercial new business development. He writes that he is "always happy to talk to people about the pros and cons of Shell, expat living and even the surprisingly interesting role in audit".

Tom Leach (Ch 1991-96) has just celebrated ten years of living in Krakow, Poland where he runs his own property consultancy with 30 staff. His company Leach & Lang manage over 500 residential and commercial properties in ten cities throughout Poland and have several thousand properties for sale nationwide. Tom says he has so far managed to evade marriage but the prospects are looking ominous. Tom is still in touch with OS friends in UK and abroad and hosted the OS Football Tour to Krakow in 2009.

James Ashcroft (SH 1992-97) and his wife Anna are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Jack Percy Cortez, born on 4th March 2013.

Jon Pendergast (PH 1993-98) and his wife Jennifer are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Sebastian Joshua on 4th November 2012 in Toronto. Jon has been in Canada since 2010, managing SunGard Data System's capital markets consultancy business. He writes: "Although Sebastian shows great interest in

playing with the computer keyboard, it is too early to tell if he has inherited his dad's love of writing software!"

Christopher Wells (Rb 1993-98) married Briony Catherine Rose Todd on 15th June 2013. Briony moved to the UK from Australia in 2003.

Stu McLaren (S 1993-98) (pictured below) played his final rugby union game for the Navy against the Army at Twickenham on 27th April, as he retired from the Royal Marines in May 2013 to move overseas.



John Carter (Rt 1994-99) will captain Oxford University Rugby Club during the 2013/14 season; this is the third successive year that he has held the appointment.

Peter Osborn (G 1994-99) Having recently 'retired' from his job as an Portfolio Manager in London, Pete decided to change his career path and go down the entrepreneurial route. Last year he founded Get Gown & Graduate, a company that supplies affordable graduation attire to university students across the UK. Discounts are available for Old Salopians. For more information, see www.GetGownandGraduate.com

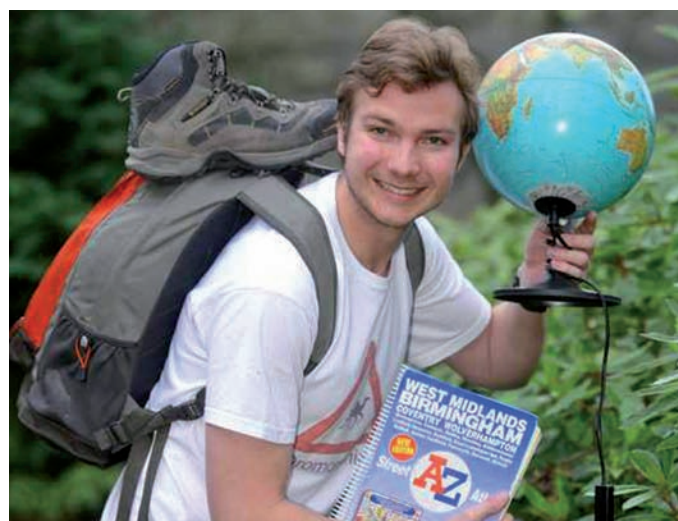
Simon Moore (Rb 1995-2000) (pictured below) and his wife Lizzie are delighted to announce the birth of Amelia Ruby Moore on 10th February 2013. They are currently living in Rickmansworth and Simon is working for Thames Water.



James Street (I 1997-2002) and his business partner Neil Waller have won a 2012 Growing Business Young Guns award, given to those judged to be Britain's brightest entrepreneurs aged 35 and under. Their business, My Destination, is a network of travel websites providing advice and information that is curated exclusively by local experts. It attracts around 18 million annual

visitors, spans over 58 countries and covers more than 120 destinations worldwide.

Ed Hewitt (Rt 1998-2003) (pictured below) set off in February 2013 to trek from Bangkok to Birmingham. He has set himself a budget of spending no more in a month than he used to spend on rent alone in London and expects the journey to take about seven months. He is also using his trip to raise awareness of sustainability challenges in each of the countries he visits. Ed calls himself a 'dromomaniac', a term used by Michael Palin to describe people who love to travel. He has set up a website www.dromomaniacs.com for "those with an insatiable urge to travel" to share their pictures, stories and articles from countries they have visited. He is also raising money for Guy's Trust, set up in memory of 25-year-old Guy Joseph, an avid traveller who died in a paragliding accident. To follow Guy's blog or to sponsor him, please visit www.bangkok2birmingham.com



Dan Howie (Ch 1998-2003) (pictured below) will be setting out in December 2013 with co-pilot Will North to row 3,000 miles across the Atlantic in the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge. Dan writes: "We have been working hard over the last two years to bring this campaign together and we are now tantalisingly close to making the start line! There are now 23 other boats in the race from all over the world and it's therefore a matter a national pride that we give it some serious welly! We are having one last hurrah at The Waldorf Hotel, Covent Garden on Saturday 19th October to help raise funds for St Anna's, Cancer Research UK and Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research." For further information, please contact AtlanticRow2013Events@gmail.com or visit www.atlanticrow2013.com



Adrian Kindred (M 1999-2004) became engaged to Claire Dutton on the 14th February 2012 and the family have the greatest pleasure announcing that he was married in St Oswald's Church, Oswestry on Saturday 22nd June. Adrian is currently studying music at Liverpool Hope University. He performed with the University Choir live on Radio 4 on the first Sunday in Lent.



Tom Magnus (Rt 1999-2004) will be taking his show 'Don't Drop the Egg' to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival this August. The show is born out of the YouTube sensation "mockumentary" about a spoof rugby club known as the Clapham Falcons. Tom says: "The last time I went to the Edinburgh Fringe was in 2002, with the Shrewsbury School Musical Production of 'The Bubble'. It was an incredible experience and a highly successful show. Somehow despite my shocking singing I managed to scavenge a part in the chorus. I also had a brief cameo as a drunken brothel keeper, which was fun. I am delighted that I am going to be giving the Fringe a second go, this time with a show that I have written with my mates Dan Jones and Orry Gibbens. The show pokes light-hearted fun at rugby boys and the culture that often accompanies them."

Sam Rooke (Rb 1999-2002) writes: "I have been in Texas for the last eight years, the last two in Dallas working for CBS Radio in a Sales and Marketing role for KRLD News radio. I have recently accepted a new Position as the Midwest Territory Sales Manager with Crane and Machinery, a division of Manitex International in Chicago IL. I am looking forward to the challenge in an exciting new environment. I married my wife Mary (a Texan through and through) in 2011 and we have one daughter, Lily Katherine and are now excited to be expecting our second daughter Lucy Marie in late October. We are thrilled with our growing family and ready to add the next chapter to our adventure in Chicago. I'm still enjoying playing some rugby with the Dallas Harlequins and will soon be with the Chicago Lions. It's a lot of fun to see how quickly the game is growing out here in the US, and it has been nice to help in the youth development of the sport in the local high schools."

2000-09

Hugo Jammes

(O 2000-05) writes: "I shall be working out of an Omani Army Headquarters in Muscat and focusing on the training and development of an Omani Infantry Battalion. Just a tour of Afghanistan to get out of the way before that!"



Tom Morris (PH 2001-06) was filmed for the television series 'Junior Doctors', which was broadcast weekly from mid-January 2013 on BBC3. The BBC filmed Tom and six other doctors over a period of nine months, including his graduation and his first few months in a new job at Liverpool Royal Hospital.

Jeremy Read (M 2003-07) has embarked on what he calls "a bit of a charitable spree, as now is the time to do some good for the wider world". He ran the London Marathon on 21st April and has entered for The Great North Run on 15th September, Tough Mudder North West on the 5th October and the Kalahari Extreme Marathon on 24th October. "This last is a seriously gruelling race and will be the most physically demanding task I have ever undertaken. The top line is a 250-kilometre, five-day run in the Kalahari Desert with no lifelines; if you get lost 'you're on your own', along with the obvious dangers of venomous animals and flesh-eaters. Bonkers I know." Jeremy is raising money for the charity Hope and Homes for Children. "Having recently had a baby of my own, this charity makes me realise more than ever how fortunate I and indeed many Old Salopians are." If any readers would like to help Jeremy achieve his target of £2,000, please visit: <http://www.justgiving.com/Jez-Read1>

James Taylor (R 2003-08) captained Nottinghamshire in their one-day match against Surrey on 15th May. He was again selected for the England Lions against the touring New Zealand team in May.

Tom McAlpine (Rt 2004-09), Michael Houston (R 2004-09) and Edmund Magnus (Rt 2004-09) have embarked on an 800-mile sea kayak expedition across the Caribbean from Grenada to Puerto Rico. They set off on 18th June and expect the journey to take nine weeks. "Storms, high seas and sharks are just some of the obstacles we might come up against, but it is a challenge well worth attempting if we can raise our target of £40,000 for two fantastic charities; The Great Ormond Street Hospital Centre for Children's Rare Disease Research and the Lyla Nsouli Foundation for Children's Brain Cancer Research."

For more details about their journey and to track their progress, visit their website at www.thekxkayakers.co.uk. Donations can be made at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/thekxkayak>



Left to right: Tom McAlpine, Woody Dewar, Michael Houston, Edmund Magnus

Ralph Dempsey

(S 2005-07) has successfully completed an MA in Politics at Sheffield University with Distinction and won the Bethan Reeves Memorial Trophy for the highest academic achievement at MA Level.



Eoin Bentick (Rb 2005-10) organised the inaugural London Student Drama Festival, which took place on 19th June at the Bloomsbury Theatre London. The Festival celebrated creative theatrical talent within the London universities, featuring original plays performed, written, directed and produced by students.

Tom Marshall (SH 2007-12) took part in the elite lightweight rowing training programme at Leander (Jan–Feb 2013) Prior to that, he spent four months in Germany training with their national

team in Dortmund. He writes: "I went to Sydney as the spare for the team at the Youth Olympic Festival where my sculling improved tremendously. I just hope I'm doing better than spare come U23s!"

Dom Gibbons (O 2007-12) is currently volunteering on an Africa and Asia project in Uganda. The Director of the Africa and Asia project, Andrew Mackenzie, informs us that Dom is the 37th Old Salopian to volunteer with the project.

More information is available at www.aventure.co.uk

David Kell (SH 2005-10) collected the Sidney Gold Medal (Shrewsbury's top academic award) at a small ceremony attended by some of his former teachers and his family. David received the award for his outstanding prowess at Physics and shares the 2011 prize with Max Emmerich (Rt 2008-10) who received his medal for Biology during Old Salopian Day in September 2012. David was both a Butler Scholar and Music Scholar. After Shrewsbury he went on to read Physics and Philosophy at Balliol College, Oxford, where he also wrote and produced a play based on C.P. Snow's 'Two Cultures' essay, reflecting on the divide between scientific and literary intellectual cultures.



Left to right: Jerome Armstrong (Head of Maths), Giles Bell (Housemaster of School House), David Kell, Martin Cropper (Deputy Head Academic) and Steve Adams (Head of Science)

ADAM BOOTH REACHES THE SUMMIT OF EVEREST

"... Eventually, after a lot of trudging and lumbering, we reached the summit at about 4.00pm. The elation was amazing; I was ecstatic with a sense of achievement and accomplishment that was overwhelming." So wrote Adam Booth (PH 1995-2000) as a Fifth Former in October 1997, on reaching the summit of Ben Nevis with the School's Rovers mountaineering group.

Sixteen years later, on 13th May 2013, Adam Booth reached the summit of Mount Everest. In reply to a congratulatory email from the School, Adam said he would like to thank the staff who ran the Rovers during his time at Shrewsbury for "lighting the flame": Martin Hansen, Michael Hall, Mark Twells, Stuart Cowper, Stuart Wellings and Graham Barnes.

Martin Hansen, who was Master-in-charge of the Rovers during Adam's time at the School and, with Mark Twells and Stuart Cowper, still teaches at Shrewsbury, expressed their utter delight and pride. "The news that he's summited Everest has quite stunned me. The pupil has certainly exceeded the master. I am so proud that he has achieved this amazing goal. It has brought back many memories of what a happy time we all had bagging much smaller peaks with the Rovers.

"The Rovers attracted pupils and teachers with a passion for mountaineering. Its focus was in taking on challenging mountains in remote locations, typically camping at a high altitude on the way to a summit. Adam was a part of the Club during one of the golden periods during which we camped overnight on the summit of Ben Nevis, scaled the highest mountain in the Picos De Europa, Spain and climbed peaks inside the Arctic Circle, Norway. Adam stood out as one of our rock climbing experts, doing a lot of his training,

unofficially, on the doorframes, stairwells and narrow corridors of the Port Hill dayboy house."

Adam wrote vivid and enthusiastic reports of the Rovers expeditions for the Salopian Newsletter. He ends his account of climbing in Norway in 1999 with a prophetic question: "I remembered completing the highest peak in the Picos De Europa (Torre de Cerredot – 8686ft) with the Rovers one year before, little thinking that I would go on to climb the highest peak in Norway. Indeed, when standing on Galdhøppingen, I stopped to consider where I might be in a year's time... who knows?"

Adam's ascent of Everest marked the 60th anniversary of the first successful ascent by Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay in May 1953; Adam was honoured to carry with him Sir Edmund Hillary's climbing goggles, loaned to him for the trip by Stuart Cathcart, owner of the Shrewsbury climbing equipment shop, High Sports.

"We set out at 10pm on 12th May. There were a couple of head torches ahead, which we quickly overtook. I found out yesterday that my Sherpa turned my oxygen right down to keep me under control! He and I kicked steps up energy-sapping powder snow which had been dumped the previous night. We climbed like this for hours in the pitch darkness with just a small white bubble in front of us from our head torches. This was undoubtedly the hardest part of the whole climb – endless step-kicking in the dark – but one of those situations where you just have to keep our head down, enjoy the suffering, and just get on with it.

After what seemed like an eternity, we came to the top of an enormous slope and turned left. Mentally this was a turning point for



me, because I knew we had just passed a feature called the balcony, the first landmark for hours. I knew that meant we were at about 8,500m and over halfway through the summit push. Even though the left turn meant that the driving wind and snow was now in our faces I felt even stronger now, knowing where we were... I knew I was going to do it, and from then on it was pure exhilaration and enjoyment for the rest of the night...

After the balcony you follow a steep ridge, which felt excitingly exposed even in the dark. This led eventually to another snowy face beneath the south summit. It was at this point that the first signs of light emerged on the horizon... It started with a thin green-blue band over a black landscape, adding just a hint of perspective to our position on the mountain – I can't even describe the sense of vastness behind us, it felt like being in outer space. Then eventually the thin green band widened and the horizon lit up, revealing a whole world beneath us, which we hadn't been able to see before. The clouds seemed so far below, with giant peaks poking up through them, but still far, far below. As we continued up towards the south summit the giant 8,000m peaks of Makalu and Lhotse lit up orange behind us. Truly breathtaking.

On the top of the south summit the final summit pyramid is suddenly revealed for the first time – you can finally see the top! I hope I will never forget this beautiful image. I had seen it in posters and photos so many times, and now I was there, about to tread the same steps as so many of my heroes, and it was even more beautiful in real life than I had hoped... What an immense privilege to be in this special place on earth.

The final hour involved a stunning alpine style ridge between the south summit and the main summit pyramid. I climbed the Hillary Step, a dream of mine for years, and all the time marvelled at the immense beauty of my surroundings, far below.

And then, as if in a dream, I made the final few steps to the top of the world. 6.40am, Monday 13th May 2013.

I was immediately hit by a huge wave of emotion. I was there. Years of planning at its conclusion. And the rest of the world below looking so incredibly beautiful..."

Adam's blog of his ascent can be read at <http://www.boothybrothers.blogspot.co.uk/>

Annabel Warburg

Mark Twells is putting together a feature on the Rovers for the next issue of The Salopian and is currently researching other Salopians who have reached the summit of Everest or climbed to within 2,000 feet of it. He has so far counted seven: Sandy Irvine (S 1916-21); Sir Charles Evans (DB 1932-1937), Deputy Leader of Sir Edmund Hillary's 1953 expedition who made it to within 300 feet of the summit himself; Murray Campbell attempted in 2002; Richard Taylor attempted in 2004; Dr Julian Thompson (S 1989-94), who reached the summit in 2004; Jonjo Knott attempted in 2006.

If you know of anyone else who should be included on this list, please write to Mark at The Schools or email him at: mt@shrewsbury.org.uk

PUBLICATIONS

Dale Vargas and Peter Knowles

A History of Eton Fives

Published by Quiller Press

ISBN: 13-978-1899163984

The origins of Eton Fives for many people are lost in the mists of time. Most people know that the game as it is played today started at Eton somewhere in the 19th century and that the strangely shaped court is modelled on an intricate arrangement of buttresses, ledges, steps and drains outside the College Chapel. But when did people first start hitting a ball against a wall with their hands? How did the game develop from a mere diversion for boys queuing outside the Chapel into a fully-fledged game? How did it then expand beyond the confines of Eton into the rest of the country and indeed around the world?

And when one probes further, so many more questions come to the surface. Who were the people who inspired the game's expansion? Who were the great players of the past and present? Can one compare them across the generations? Who are the heroes, what have been the dramas, what are the songs that have characterised and celebrated a game that most people who play it today consider to be the greatest court game in the world?

Dale Vargas, a former Chairman and President of the Eton Fives Association, is as well placed as any to answer all these questions and he has told the story of this ancient, quirky, fascinating game in all its richness from its origins to the present day. His book is thoroughly researched, delightfully written and sumptuously produced; it is full of photographs, cartoons, anecdotes and personalities; and its story flows along through the highways of great schools, great champions and great quotations (e.g. in the Daily Mail in 1934, "Of all easy forms of suicide, I have seen nothing to approach defending the pepperbox. Compared with fives players in this position, the average coconut leads a sheltered life"), to the byways of folklore, school songs and legend. Who knew, for example, that Abraham Lincoln played fives after receiving news of his nomination as candidate for the Presidency in March 1860? Or that Bernard Montgomery, later Field Marshal, proposed to his future wife on the fives courts at Charterhouse? Or that Roald Dahl was school captain of fives at Repton in the 1930s, describing the game as "subtle and crafty and possibly the fastest ball game on earth"?)

The publication of *A History of Eton Fives* is a major event in the story of the game. Everyone who has enjoyed playing Eton Fives at any level will find this splendid book a complete, entertaining, well-informed and beautifully produced history of the game. A copy of it should reside on their shelves, wherever they may be.

Cost £20 + p&p. Enquiries to Gareth Hoskins, EFA Hon. Secretary, at garethjhoskins@yahoo.co.uk

Richard Barber

Christopher Jenkin (I 1950-55)

I Believe – I Think: Stories and struggles in Christian Ministry

Published by lulu.com

ISBN: 13-978-1291315264

Christopher Jenkin reflects upon his experiences during forty-nine years as a Christian minister and what they have taught him about God and the modern world. He is honest about the struggles he

has faced; the joys, the disappointments, the questions, the certainties and the uncertainties. He seeks to grapple with some of the major theological and ethical issues facing the church.

"Believing – or refusing to believe – are both choices. This choice is made not just once, at some moment of crisis or conversion, but perhaps many times, when the big questions confront us."

Christopher tells his story with frankness and humour, from early childhood experiences of prayer to the big issues of eternity facing a man approaching his final years.



Nick Garlick (SH 1967-72)

Aunt Severe and the Toy Thieves

Published by Andersen Press

ISBN: 13-978-1849395410

The second book in the Aunt Severe series for readers aged seven and over. The Colonel is missing, and Aunt Emily is sad and severe again. But what does the Colonel's disappearance have to do with two notorious toy thieves? Daniel sets to work to find out. With the help of some escaped zoo animals, can Aunt Severe and Daniel track down the toy thieves and bring the Colonel home again?

"Dahlesque characters and humour throughout."

Clare Poole Booksellers' Choice, *The Bookseller*

Malcolm Hamer

Patriotic Games

Published by Acorn Independent Press

ISBN-13: 978-1909121188

Malcolm Hamer is old enough to have been called a wing-half: in fact one of Shrewsbury's finest wing-halves before 4-2-4 and mid-fielders were invented. He played football for Cambridge and the Corinthian-Casuals and he uses his knowledge of the game and his understanding of the amateur sporting attitudes that prevailed before professionalism dominated sport to tell a fascinating story set in 1914.

Europe is stumbling into a devastating war and the British Government sees football as a way to attract millions of young men to volunteer for the armed forces. The recruiting campaign will begin with two matches between the League Champions and the famous amateurs, the Corinthians. The Corinthians, reluctant to take part, are subjected to great pressure: from politicians including Lloyd George and Winston Churchill; and from an unscrupulous betting agent who has huge bets riding on the games. Members of both teams have problems that leave them open to blackmail including one Corinthian who, working for the Secret Service with the task of infiltrating a German spy-ring is being framed for murder.

The story, well researched, takes the reader into an almost Victorian England where the drawing rooms of the rich and the backstreets of the poor are vividly contrasted.

All Hamer's six previous novels have sporting backgrounds and all have been very favourably reviewed. Five of them comprise the Chris Ludlow golf mysteries. His blockbuster, *Predator* tells of the rise and fall of a ruthless and unprincipled sports agent.

Robin Mouldsdales

OBITUARY

C. A. J. Anderson	(S 1942-46)
R. W. Ann	(JHT 1939-43)
P. H. Beanland	(CWM 1937-1940)
T. R. Bell	(R 1950-1951)
P Bowring CBE	(Ch 1936-41)
Cdr S. F. W. Brown OBE*	(R 1936-40)
S. L. Corbishley	(R 1968-73)
J. S. Cox	(Ch 1937-42)
M. G. Crawford	(Rt 1934-39)
R. H. Crawford	(Rt 1938-43)
J. J. L. Crooke	(DB 1942-46)
N. G. Darrah	(Staff 1970-84)
N. B. Davies	(SH 1980-82)
Lord C. S. Denman	(SH 1930-33)
M. J. Dwyer	(Ch 1966-70)
J. A. O. Evans	(O 1941-45)
Lt. Col. B. R. Fairclough*	(SH 1934-38)
J. R. A. Goodbody	(Ch 1946-49)
Dr. P. H. Grace	(Rt 1938-42)
Professor M R P Hall	(Rt 1935-40)
M. T. R. Hargreaves	(SH 1948-52)
W. J. G. Hector	(DB 1942-46)
G. M. Hicks	(CWM 1942-47)
The Rt Hon Lord Thurlow	(SH 1925-30)
P. D. Jenkins	(O 1932-35)
G. O. Jones	(DB 1967-72)
Major A. Kingsford*	(JHT 1934-39)
R. E. Lehmann	(S 1943-46)
J. S. Mackness	(I 1942-47)
M. H. Morgan	(I 1939-42)
L. E. Nolan*	(DB 1933-39)
P. O'Connell	(M 1924-28)
R. Parkin	(DB 1967-71)
S. W. Payne	(I 1959-64)
C. G. H. Peppercorn	(I 1956-59)
H. D. Phillips*	(SH 1984-89)
J. G. Ponsonby	(M 1949-54)
T. F. Popper	(SH 1936-41)
C. D. B. Potter	(M 1949-54)
J. A. O. Pritchard	(DB 1945-48)
F. D. Robinson	(O 1941-45)
G. Rodway QC	(Rt 1950-55)
D. W. L. Rowlands	(O 1947-52)
P. B. D. Sutherland	(SH 1938-43)
J. C. Walker	(Ch 1943-48)
Dr. A. P. Walker	(JHT 1930-34)
Dr. J. F. Whitaker	(I 1945-50)
P. S. Willcocks	(I 1955-60)
A. W. W. Wilson	(Rt 1964-68)
The Rev M. M. M. H. Wilson	(I 1941-44)

*an obituary will appear in the next edition

Peter Beanland (CWM 1937-40)

Peter Beanland came to Shrewsbury from Bradford where his roots were firmly in the textile trade and, like all who came west from Yorkshire, he entered fully into all aspects of School life – especially in the

fives courts and on the river. War, and enthusiastic membership of the Home Guard dominated his last days at School and immediately after. He entered Leeds University in 1940 to study science but soon left to volunteer for the army and service in India. Following a brief period in the Queen's Royal Regiment he moved to the Indian army – by means of a perilous convoy journey round Africa when the ships were attacked several times. In 1944 he was commissioned in the Sikh Regiment and was due to serve in Italy, when dysentery and malaria prevented him travelling.



On demobilisation he found it difficult to return to study and after various starts he settled in the insurance business, where he stayed for the rest of his working life. It may have suited his extremely keen mind and encyclopaedic memory; school and India had brought him proficiency in Latin, German and French; the War had added Urdu. Languages led him to a wide range of interests – natural history, railway history, genealogy, classical and jazz music – and in all these interests he was able to retain remarkably exact detail of knowledge.

Peter was a gentleman, modest, unassuming and impeccably mannered. He was a strong supporter of Shrewsbury, the Club and the Foundation, and took a keen interest in all things Salopian. His wife of 52 years, Ruby, died in 2005 and he leaves his son Geoffrey, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Tom Bell (R 1950-51)

Tom Bell was at Shrewsbury from the Michaelmas Term 1950 for one year - during which time he made a considerable impression on his Rigg's colleagues and he certainly much enjoyed everything Salopian. At the end of the year he returned to New York and entered the John Hopkins University School of Medicine and Hospital.

Three years' service in the USAF brought him with his family to Walnut Creek in California where he settled and practised paediatric medicine for the next 43 years. He died of an infection caused by MDS cancer. He leaves his wife M'Lou, daughters Melissa, Robin and Laurie, son Adam, grandchildren Molly, Randy and Laurie, and very many devoted friends and ex-patients.

Peter Bowring (Ch 1936-41)

Few Salopians have served the School with as much enthusiasm and dedication as Peter Bowring. His death somehow marks the end of an era of Salopian history – and, as he hoped, the start of a new. But a new one without Peter's ever-present support and guidance, interest and encouragement, and above all humour, will be a very different one.

Past President of the Old Salopian Club, Founder Fellow of the Foundation, generous benefactor, and above all Governor of the School for 28 years; and throughout these years of giving his time and thoughts to the School he had full involvement as Chairman of a City company and then, on retirement, to being Chairman of a national charity – and commitment to a wide range of charitable activities.



Peter Bowring came to Churchill's from Abberley Hall and at first it was music that seemed to interest him most; clearly an enthusiastic chorister, though his headmaster expressed surprise and perhaps irritation, asking "is this musician really not going to learn any instrument?" Fortunately the CCF and the cornet and the euphonium answered that question and a spark was clearly lit to all he did at school, though his headmaster's new concern was his appearance: "I commend everything I see or hear of him except his effeminacy of coiffure" (a sartorial concern that stayed with him for the rest of his life!).

Perhaps never chalking up the medals expected of future captains of industry and the nation, he certainly made use of all opportunities. House Monitor, stroke of the

3rd VIII, 1st House Boat, House running colours, Bandsman and Cpl in the CCF. "A good boy, a useful monitor, a very creditable career" was on his last report. He had intended to move to New College Oxford but like so many of his contemporaries he instead volunteered for service and was commissioned into the Rifle Brigade, serving with the 7th Battalion in Egypt, North Africa, through the hard-fought Italian campaign in which he was battalion intelligence officer, and finally in Austria where he was Mentioned in Despatches. He remained connected to the Rifle Brigade for the rest of his life; he joined the London Rifle Brigade Rangers at the outbreak of the Korean War, and was a member of the LRBR contingent that lined the route of George VI's funeral cortège. The band of the Royal Green Jackets played at his funeral.

From Austria he was sent back to Egypt and to Acre in Palestine to the Middle East School of Infantry to attend a company commander's course. But in 1945 he left the army and returned to join the family firm of C T Bowring and Co – a firm that had started with trading in Newfoundland, then into shipping based in Liverpool. As its steamship business gradually declined, the company had emerged as one of London's pre-eminent insurance brokers, with close links to Lloyd's market and with a wide range of interests across the financial sector. Peter joined the trading side in Liverpool and learnt the business from its roots. He moved to London after nine years as a director of the company and chairman of a number of its subsidiary businesses, becoming Group Chairman in 1978. But 1979/80 saw a bitter fight to prevent the take-over of the family business by the large American insurance giant Marsh & McClellan, during which Peter used all his skill and determination to keep the company's independence, whilst never losing his nature of integrity and decency. The offer was too large to be refused by the shareholders; Peter loyally remained to become a director and vice-chairman of Marsh & McClellan, finally retiring in 1985. The story of the take-over, and the history of the family business is splendidly told in Peter's *A Thicket of Business*.

He then devoted his time and energy to a huge range of voluntary commitments, especially using his lightness of touch to the business of fund raising. Chairman and later President of Help the Aged, securing the support and friendship of the Princess of Wales; Chairman of the Aldeburgh Festival-Snape Maltings Foundation; Chair

of the London City Arts Trust, the Transglobe Expedition Trust supporting the educational aspects of Sir Ranulph Fiennes's travels, and the Dulwich Picture Gallery; Master of the Worshipful Company of World Traders, Freeman of the City of London; on the boards of several national and international commercial companies and organisations. His award of the CBE for services to the elderly and the arts in 1993 was widely applauded.

And throughout he pursued his many interests, sailing, motoring, listening to music, photography, cooking and travel. And always with Carole by his side – once his PA and for twenty-six years his beloved wife and companion. What a team.

At the Service of Thanksgiving at All Hallows by the Tower (another concern deeply supported by Peter as Churchwarden, Trustee and Benefactor) Ted Maidment spoke for the four Headmasters to whom Peter had given so much time, support and experience. He was, said Ted, such a marvellous listener who was able to reduce tension and concern with his light touch and who therefore enabled decisions to be made so much more calmly and wisely. And throughout his years of governing he came to know so many of the staff and was always so interested and supportive of all their activities and ideas. Few concerts and plays did not see him and Carole in the audience; few Old Salopian gatherings were not witness to his laughter; Salopian Committee Meetings in the Bowring Building enjoyed his entertainment; he was in every sense a Kingsland man, and the School and Club will always be deeply grateful for all that Peter Bowring gave to the School he loved so much.

Michael Crawford (RT 1934-39) and Richard (Dick) Crawford (RT 1938-43)

Kenneth and Ethel Crawford of Leeds had two sons: Michael and Richard, who was known as Dick from an early age. Kenneth brought his boys up to love sport, the countryside, music – in fact life. The brothers grew up as best friends and stayed so for life, dying within weeks of each other at the age of 92 and 87.

Both went to Craig Prep School in Windermere, but holidays were special, incessantly playing sport in the garden – where Dick the younger always had to be the home team, Yorkshire, England or Leeds United, Michael having to be content with Lancashire, Australia or Manchester United. When Michael was 13 he was old enough to steer his brother off to Headingly

or Elland Road where happy days would be spent together watching their heroes ('happily' except in the summer of 1946 watching Essex bowl Yorkshire out for 12 at Huddersfield). Membership of Alwoodley Golf Club came when Michael was 16 and Dick was 14 and another sporting arena entered their lives.

Michael entered Ridgemount in 1934 and soon established that "he will have a very full time here". Early reports warned that "the danger will be over-occupation soon", but he was "doing well all round with unceasing calls on his energies – after all, the most enjoyable way of living." Academic work never threatened to interfere with his sporting successes but was pursued conscientiously. Dick, following him four years later and being with him for one year, also managed to combine the academic and the sporting success, achieving his Higher Certificate. "He seems to have been involved in nearly everything, always agreeably and unostentatiously, and has contributed fully in his exceptional responsibilities." And, together, their sporting records are extraordinary: Michael was in both Cricket and Football XIs for four years (surely never equalled) and Captain of both; Dick was in the Cricket XI for three and the Football XI for two years and was also Captain of both. Michael won the Senior Quarter Mile, Dick was second four years later. Both were Praeposters and both took their responsibilities in so many areas extremely seriously, yet with a Yorkshire touch of humour and modesty that encouraged friendship and respect amongst staff and colleagues alike.

Both left expecting to go to Magdalene College Cambridge and then into teaching, but for both the War interrupted their studies and, perhaps as a result, their lives, though in Michael's case sport was bound to become the major influence.



Michael won a Bursary to read Classics and was awarded his football blue immediately, playing on the opposite wing to Trevor Bailey. But after one year he left and enlisted in the Shropshire Yeomanry which became part of the Royal Artillery and his war was spent first in Iraq and then Italy, including Monte Cassino, and final demobilisation as a Captain and Mentioned in Despatches. He then returned to Magdalene to complete his degree (and gain another football blue) before starting to teach in 1947; but he knew that that was not for him and he joined a firm of accountants, qualifying as chartered in 1951 and becoming a partner in a Leeds firm for nearly thirty years, once again earning the friendship and respect of partners, staff and clients alike. Following retirement he became Finance Director and then Chairman of a property and investment company. And of course he managed to combine a full sporting life with his professional work – and that sporting life would fill a book.

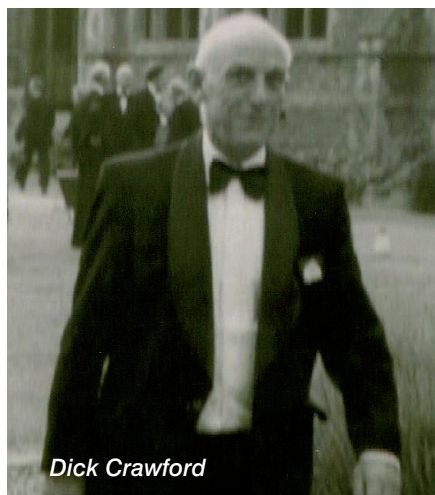
He played cricket for Yorkshire 2nd XI and captained Leeds Cricket Club for 14 seasons. He was invited to captain Yorkshire CCC full time in 1958 but it was the wrong time for a newly married man with a young family who was developing an accounting career. He was a member of the County Committee from 1953 to 1983, Treasurer from 1963 to 1980 and Chairman from 1980 to 1983; and on the General Committee from 1963 to 1985, Vice President in 1979 and an honorary life member. The early 1980s saw very turbulent days for Yorkshire CCC; local MP Roy Chatterley remarked on TV that the only person who came out of the turbulence with any credit was the Chairman Michael Crawford. Michael also served on the Test and County Cricket Board for 16 years and on the MCC Committee for nine.

He played football for Corinthian Casuals and as an amateur for Cambridge Town, for whom he scored all four goals in the 4 all draw with Tottenham Hotspur.

And in golf Michael was a member of Alwoodley for 76 years and served as Treasurer, Chairman and President. He was a tremendous competitor but one who always made the game fun. He was said to have “a Hoganesque understanding of the art and importance of the third shot on any hole”. His competitiveness and motivation was clear to the end – he had his last lesson just before becoming 92 when he was told, “Mr Crawford, you have a good technique and a good swing

so the changes I recommend are small but designed to help”.

Above all he was a family man. Married to Hazel for 58 years, they were a magnificent team, utterly devoted to each other and to their children Neil, James, (both of whom were in Moser’s) and Angela, and their grandchildren. Through them Michael relived his love of sport especially with Neil on the cricket pitches of Kingsland and Fenners, and with all the family in competitions at Alwoodley and on beaches and gardens in Yorkshire, South Africa and anywhere. And family of course always involved his brother.



Dick who never married but always held his nephews and niece as his own family. After Shrewsbury, Dick also joined the Royal Artillery in 1943 and soon moved into the Regiment’s Education Corps - probably the move that sparked his love of teaching. After the War he went up to Magdalene to read History and French followed by two years teaching at Dean Close Prep School in Cheltenham and then an appointment to Charterhouse, where he remained for 35 years. During that time he filled almost every possible role both academically and on the sports field – teacher of Modern Languages and a Form Master of English, Geography and History, House Tutor, Master-in-charge of Football, and of Cricket throughout the school below the First XI, Secretary of the Staff ‘Club’ Brooke Hall, Vice-Chairman of the Games Committee and, naturally, an outstanding tutor of individual pupils. He instilled in all those whom he tutored his love for English literature and poetry and he also had a great interest and a voracious appetite for reading History. He was a perfectionist and his meticulous approach to preparation and to marking pupils’ work was an awe-inspiring model to colleagues. Inevitably a high standard of discipline could be taken as read in all his classes.

Dick had been introduced to music by his father in Leeds and his love of it had continued at Shrewsbury. Throughout his life he was a keen concert-goer though he found it difficult to enjoy some of the more contemporary pieces. And his love of sport stayed with him as a spectator, especially at any occasion involving his nephews and niece and great nephews and great niece. He returned to Yorkshire every school holiday to be with the family and ‘Uncle Dick’ was a central figure in all Crawford gatherings. Professionally he was a very private person who totally dedicated his life to his pupils and their progress and to Charterhouse, in which he continued to take an enormous interest until the end of his life. Privately he was a totally committed family man.

Michael and Dick were in their own ways extraordinary Salopians. Their sporting and academic careers at school have not been surpassed. Michael went on to devote his life to sport; Dick devoted his to education. Both were passionate supporters of Salopia but where Michael could be openly active, Dick inevitably became absorbed by Charterhouse, friendly rivals in so many fields. Michael played football for the Old Salopians, Saracens cricket and much Old Salopian golf. He won the Robert Walker Foursomes Cup at the Berkshire in 2002 at the age of 82. He was President of the Old Salopian Club in 1983, he hosted many Yorkshire dinners, and he was a regular attendee at gatherings throughout the country. He was so proud when his son James became Secretary of the Club.

Two brothers; both significant achievers, but quiet and modest men who were very rarely critical of anyone. Men who were both highly respected in their worlds - of sport, of business, of education. Men always trusted in all they undertook and full of integrity and kindness. Both, in every sense, gentlemen. Their memory will be treasured.

Francis Edward Hovell-Thurlow-Cumming-Bruce, Lord Thurlow (SH 1925-30)

Francis was born ten minutes before his identical twin brother Roualeyn and they entered School House together in 1925. School days seem to have been very normal but also distinguished and Francis was appointed Head of School - with the remarkable sequence of his twin brother staying for another term and succeeding him as Head Boy, surely a first and only. The brothers were used to doing everything together and remained all but

indistinguishable in appearance and closely united in interests and affection until Roualeyn's death in 2000 as a retired Lord Justice of Appeal.

Both brothers went up to Cambridge, Francis to Trinity and Roualeyn to Magdalene, where both briefly joined the Communist Party – not thought eccentric in the early 1930s. But as devout Christians and idealists they soon found that Marxism and Christianity were incompatible and that Stalin's Soviet Union, especially Sidney Webb's rosy picture of it, was less spotless than they had first supposed. It says much for Francis's honest character and integrity that this undergraduate episode had no serious effect on his career at a time when former Cambridge communists were highly suspect in Whitehall.

A first in the Classics Tripos followed by Economic Analysis studied under J M Keynes helped him through the Civil Service Examination and soon into the Dominions Office. During the War he served in the offices of the New Zealand and Canadian High Commission Offices; afterwards he attended the Paris Peace Conference and the UN General Assembly.

Soon after marrying Yvonne Wilson, he had his first overseas posting in Delhi where he worked up to 14 hours a day, six days a week, and came to love India - developing a particular interest in Indian religions. In 1957 he became Deputy High Commissioner in Ghana, then after a spell at home working on Britain's possible entry into the EEC, he had a short time in Canada before being posted as High Commissioner for New Zealand, a country for which he had formed a deep affection, (though in a private letter he said that he found "flora simply stunning, fauna distinctly dull").

In 1963 he was moved to be High Commissioner in Nigeria - an exciting time for the country with elections being boycotted, the Prime Minister murdered and civil war ensuing. In 1967 he returned home and then was posted to his final position as Governor and Commander in Chief of the Bahamas where he remained for three years.

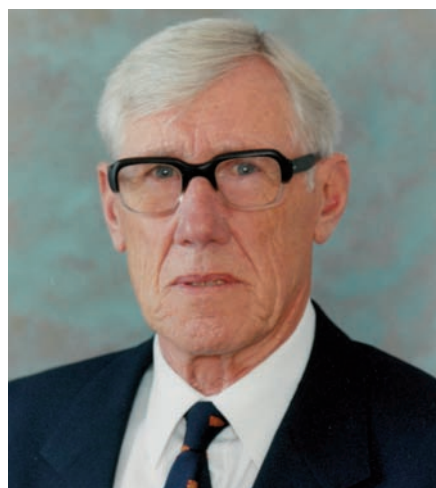
On retirement, and having succeeded to the peerage on the death of his elder brother Harry Major General Lord Thurlow, Francis became an active crossbencher where his experience of Whitehall was useful. He was an excellent draughtsman with a classical scholar's gift for clear simple prose. He spoke on issues concerning the Commonwealth and Europe and was interested in education,

stressing that schools should instill understanding and the art of learning in addition to purveying knowledge. He also spoke about the education of the African farmer, believing that skills and training were the key to solving the food problem in Africa, and he had special interest in mental health. He did not seek to remain a member of the House of Lords when the majority of hereditary peers lost their seats in 1999, but remained vigorous, active and alert far into his nineties. He kept an independent spirit with a great sense of humour. He also remained remarkably fit; he was in his eighties when his doctor told him to stop jogging (he had after all been a member of the Hunt). He died aged 101.

He was for some time chairman of the Institute of Comparative Studies of History, Philosophy and the Sciences. He was appointed CMG in 1957 and KCMG in 1961. His wife died in 1990 and he is survived by his two sons and two daughters.

(With acknowledgement to *The Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*)

Noel Grant Darrah (Staff 1970-84)



Noel Darrah was educated at Wrekin College where he was an outstanding all-round sportsman and Head of School. He went up to Peterhouse College Cambridge in 1943 to read Mechanical Engineering and was awarded blues at cricket, golf, tennis, fives and squash and he rowed for his College VIII. Following Cambridge he joined a College friend's civil engineering company for two years before starting work with the family builders merchant business Baxendales, based in Manchester. Work allowed little time for sport, though he did play county squash for Cheshire and club cricket, golf and tennis.

In 1970 the family firm was taken over by Mercian. With the end of the business and at somewhat of a crossroads, Noel

decided to convert himself into a schoolmaster. It was a bold decision to thus cross to a very different life and to tackle the intricacies of the 'new maths' at a mature age, but diligence was one of his characteristics and he was soon at home in the form room. Inevitably the coaching and supervision of a wide variety of games became his chief occupation apart from his teaching which always came first. In his fourteen years at the School he was master-in-charge of cricket and fives, and of squash in its initial phase in the School, and much is owed to him for his nourishing of the game both as regards the boys, especially in the building of the four squash courts, and the development of the town club. Very distinguished also in the game of golf, he did much to encourage Salopian golfers. With his wife Ann they made a unique contribution in covering the coaching of no fewer than six games in the School. Noel was also Chairman of the Sports Committee and in the care and organisation of all sport at Kingsland he brought a considerable amount of common sense and a practical approach to the somewhat crowded and complex Salopian sporting life, and his often astringent comments on the passing scene were well heeded.

On retirement Noel taught Maths at Packwood for a time, but devoted most of his energies to Oswestry Golf Club where he not only played most days (eventually limiting himself to just 18 holes a day) but also served on the Committee for many years and was elected Captain and eventually President. Few golfers play to a single figure handicap for 60 years as he did. He was a formidable opponent in the Halford Hewitt, playing continuously from 1956 to 1988. He was recalled to the colours in 1992 when Wrekin reached the fourth round, playing only in that round and losing to Stowe: his last match was in 1994. In all he played 60 matches, winning 30 with one match recorded as halved. Matches between Shrewsbury and Wrekin were infrequent, but in 1958, Wrekin lost in the first round to Shrewsbury, despite Noel and his partner RGM Morgan crushing Bob Yates and Frank Robinson 10 and 8 – a margin that is seldom recorded in the pages of results. To their credit, Will Painter and Nick Wase-Rogers beat Noel & McCandlish in 1981: whilst best of all, Mark Thorpe and Mark Caswell beat Noel and his partner 8 and 7 in 1988.

Noel kept in close touch with the Salopian Club when his teaching career ended and he and Ann were regular

attenders at Club weekends and other gatherings until in the last few years his illness gradually limited his activities. He died aged 89.

Charles Spencer, Lord Denman (SH 1930-33)

Charles Denman was the eldest son of Sir Richard Denman, 1st Bt who had been Liberal MP for Carlisle and then Labour MP for Leeds, and brother of the 3rd Lord Denman, former Governor-General of Australia whose grandfather had been Lord Chief Justice of England. Charles succeeded to the Baronetcy in 1957 and the peerage on the death of a cousin in 1971.

Charles entered School House but left at 16 after three years, before making any noticeable mark on the School. He became a journeyman gardener and established a market garden in Cornwall. Just before war was declared he joined the territorial unit of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry and in 1941 he was posted with the 1st Battalion DCLI to India, Iraq and the Western Desert, at Cairo and on to Tobruk. At the battle of Bir-El-Harmat the regiment was overrun and as prisoners were being collected, Lt Denman was stuck in a slit-trench with his batman Private Kent when a grenade was thrown, wounding both of them. He climbed on top of the armoured vehicle, shooting its commander and two of the crew with his pistol, then gathered the remainder of his company. When darkness fell he led them, carrying the mortally wounded Kent, 12 miles across the desert, through enemy lines to safety. For this 'utmost gallantry' he was awarded the Military Cross.

After recovery in England he returned to Egypt as acting major and served in Cyprus and the Dodecanese Islands. He was offered a post in Iraq after the War but left the army to contest the election as Conservative member for Leeds Central where his father was the retiring Labour Member. He was not elected.

A business career followed, first with trade in the Gulf, and soon with interests throughout the Arab World, sparked by his wartime experience. He became Chairman of the Committee of Middle Eastern Trade, an adviser to Prime Minister Edward Heath on Middle East Affairs, initiator of the Saudi-British Society, a Director of the Saudi British Bank and of the British Bank of the Middle East, Consolidated Goldfields, Close Brothers and the General Mutual Life Assurance Association.

He also gave much of his spare time to a range of cultural and sporting links with the

region with which he was involved, especially as an inaugural member of the Saudi British Sports Co-operation Programme. He was proud to have played a part in the reopening of King Solomon's Mines which had been worked 3000 years before and to have been involved in the construction of the Cairo sewers, the machine for which was later used in the construction of the Channel Tunnel. He was awarded the CBE in 1976, having been Chairman of the Committee of Middle East Trade.

His interests also included New Zealand and he was much involved in business links between the two countries. In 2011 he received the Friend of New Zealand award as an outstanding contributor to the country's economy. He was a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of World Traders along with Peter Bowring. He maintained his passion for sailing and was a keen supporter of the Jubilee Sailing Trust. His high spirits and enthusiasm for connecting people were undimmed by old age. To celebrate his 90th birthday he embarked on a fact-finding trip to Afghanistan, pausing briefly in Kabul before heading into the mountains to talk to tribal chiefs; having completed his mission, he drove out through the Khyber Pass.

(With acknowledgement to *The Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*)

Martin Dwyer (CH 1966-70)



Martin Dwyer graduated in English and spent some time as a copywriter at several London agencies. A visit to Canada in his first year at Shrewsbury, to Expo 67, had a significant influence on him and he moved to Canada as soon as he could. He married Linda and became a well-known figure in his local area, helping at Putti the shop operated by his wife, and when walking his beloved dog Rupert. He was easily seen, being a flamboyant dresser, and was always in company, as a *bon vivant* and ready conversationalist on so

many subjects and with such wit and good humour. His other passion was as a solver of fiendish cryptic crossword puzzles – another topic of conversation amongst his many friends who will miss him.

(James) Anthony Evans (O 1941-46)

James Evans, always known to his friends by his second name of Anthony, was in Oldham's from 1941 to 1946. He then spent some time in the estate agent and antiques business, travelling much and building up considerable knowledge. However, ill health caused a change in career and he joined Associated Portland Cement Ltd in their central office until he was forced to take early retirement.

Jacques Deulniau writes: "He became a well loved figure in Richmond where he lived for nearly half a century. With a striking, very clear 'auctioneer's' voice and a much loved and considerably deep knowledge of the English language, he was instantly recognised. His early days of travel, always by sea as he never took kindly to air travel, provided many stories and he was the life and soul of any party, entertaining all around and revealing his wicked sense of humour. He could have achieved so much if ill health had not dogged him; as it was, his great support of the National Trust, his continued love of (gentle) travel, his beloved garden, his cat – all gave him as full a life as he could have. He was a great character and will be missed by all who knew him."

Peter Jenkins (O 1932-35)

Peter Jenkins left Oldham's to enter an Engineering Apprenticeship with British Thomson Houston based in Rugby. This included a Higher National Diploma in Electrical Engineering and a London University B Sc Engineering Degree. On graduation in 1941 he joined the Royal Air Force as a Pilot Officer and then as a Flight Lieutenant he was involved in the early warning radar system installations. After the war in 1947 he joined Electric Furnace Ltd as Installation Engineer and spent the next six years travelling extensively in Europe and especially Sweden. In 1953 he set up his own company, Precision Heat Treatment in Molesey, a company which he ran very successfully for the next 28 years. In 1981 he sold the company and had a long and very happy retirement.

Griffith Owen Jones (DB 1967-72)

Owen arrived from Kingsland Grange as a Day Boy in 1967, already with a reputation as a games player. He had considerable

size and strength and he used these attributes in football and especially in rugby. Captain of House Football, he was a towering centre-half in the School 1st XI, and he was full-back in the 1st XV. Academic study never seized his interest but he qualified for entry to Seale Hayne Agricultural College in Devon and gained his HND in Agriculture whilst again excelling on the rugby field.

Owen's first period of employment was as a herdsman on the Duke of Norfolk's estate in Arundel but in the late 1970s he returned to Shropshire as Manager of the Hinton Hall Farm just outside Shrewsbury, when he also married Diana. In 1983 they moved to Cwm Farm outside Bishop's Castle and started a long association with the town and the Onerbury Rugby Club, playing for the First XV and the Veterans XV, coaching the Juniors and serving as Chairman of the Club from 1990-1992. His support of the Club, as well as of the Bishop's Castle Brewery which was an inevitable link, was strong.

Divorce from Diana led to time in Australia in 1993 working mainly in vineyards and gaining a knowledge of, and taste for, Australian red wines. He returned to Shropshire in 1995, met Rowena whom he married in Sydney in 1999, and two years later became the proud father of William.

In 2007 Owen obtained a position as Estate Manager of the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society in Builth Wells and achieved an enormous amount in terms of projects and improvements to the show ground in the next four and a half years. In 2010 he was diagnosed with cancer but continued with all he could, fighting his illness with dignity and determination to the end. He is survived by Rowena and William, aged 12.

Michael Morgan (I 1939-42)

Michael Morgan was born in Shrewsbury and although his father had been in Day Boys it was decided, having won a Scholarship to the Schools, that he should board. He made "excellent progress" through the School though apparently "spending a lot of his energy growing" but it was a surprise to the School and to his family when he announced at the age of 16 that he wished to study oriental languages. This was made possible by a Foreign Office Scholarship but it meant moving to Dulwich College and study at the School of Oriental and African Languages in London where he learnt Chinese.

When he reached 18 he was called up and spent 18 months with the Army

Intelligence Corps in India, Burma and China. With the War over, he applied to the Colonial Service (not thinking he was good enough for the Foreign Office) was accepted, went training at Downing College Cambridge, and was sent to Malaya. Ten extremely happy years followed when he acted as policeman, schools inspector, and magistrate in a very volatile and exciting environment. With Malayan independence imminent, he applied to the Foreign Office and was accepted, especially with his knowledge of Mandarin Chinese, and posted to Peking in 1956. This was another very tense environment for diplomats, and Michael and his young wife Julian entered fully into any activity possible and lived a very full life.



A number of appointments followed – Belgrade, London, South Africa, a second tour to Peking (where he was personally welcomed back by Zhou En Lai with "it is very nice to see you back in Peking, Mr Morgan") and in 1978 High Commissioner in Sierre Leone, when he was honoured as Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George. His final appointment was as Ambassador to the Philippines and he retired in 1985. In all these appointments, especially the later ones as a senior diplomat, his warmth and commitment to the country was widely respected and admired by the nationals amongst whom he lived and worked.

But retirement did not mean inactivity – work with BREL and with Swansea University took him back often to China, and he was totally absorbed in his local Shropshire community, especially with Wistanstow Church, with Age Concern, and with his garden. His love of entertaining continued, especially when Julian was High Sheriff.

It may perhaps have been the Morgans' love of entertaining that meant that his time in the Foreign Office was so full and so

exciting. He always enjoyed meeting people of every sort in every country in which he worked, both local and fellow diplomats from other countries. There are so many stories of the times he was accepted into local culture and life as a friend as well as Her Majesty's Representative. He loved exploring the places he was working in – and taking Julian and his boys when they were young. He was thrilled that both Adam and Giles followed him to Ingram's; the opportunities to be with them and his grandchildren brought enormous joy in his retirement and especially in his increasing illness.

Michael had a wonderful life. Throughout the exciting times and places in which he worked he embodied gentleness, courtesy and modesty – uncelebrated and perhaps unfashionable values in the world today, but qualities that lay at the heart of many of his friendships and the affection so many round the world held for him.

Patrick O'Connell (M 1924-28)

Patrick O'Connell was born in Heswall in 1911 and educated at The Old Hall School before Shrewsbury and Moser's in 1924. His achievements on Kingsland were more sporting than academic and he was particularly known as a terrier-like centre-half and a competitive all-round sportsman. After School he was apprenticed to the Liverpool Cotton Exchange firm of William Tanner Boxwell and qualified as a raw cotton technician. He worked in the Exchange through the 1930s – and filled his life with a great deal of tennis at Heswall Tennis Club, membership of the Heswall Players, football with the Liverpool Ramblers, and an increasing love of national hunt racing; he was frequently seen at the last jump at Bangor-on-Dee shouting his horse on.

At the outbreak of War he enlisted in the Royal Artillery, just as he became engaged to Nancy Laird, a fellow Heswall player and a member of the Birkenhead shipping family. She was able to be with him on his anti-aircraft postings in Inverness and Fort William. He was then part of the invasion force in the D-Day landings; though he spoke very little of his wartime experience, the seasickness on the Channel crossing was often mentioned.

After the War he could not find work on the Cotton Exchange and so decided to seek his fortune abroad with Nancy and now with two children, and they sailed to Peru with the £80 that was allowed him by the Bank of England – not enough for a return ticket. Fifteen very happy years were

spent there in the cotton industry, although his maintenance of utter integrity was seen as strange amongst the less scrupulous business culture of the region. He earned great respect in the worldwide cotton business. He also spent several years as a governor of Markham College, the British boys' school in Lima, where the Headmaster's wife was Ruth Kittermaster, born at Shrewsbury School. His remaining two children were born in Lima.



In 1963 Patrick was appointed head of his firm's Liverpool office and he returned first to Heswall and then to Chorlton. In 1971 he was elected President of the Liverpool Cotton Association until his retirement in 1979 – when he took up golf at Royal Liverpool.

The death of Nancy in 1990 persuaded him to move to Wiltshire to live with his daughter, where he continued to play golf until poor eyesight caused him to stop in his 93rd year. Soon after, when he became completely blind, he had to stop playing bridge. But he never lost his interest in everything around him, his family, sport, politics, the stock market, the weather – he was never short of conversation, and his very happy but somewhat boisterous 100th birthday in 2011 was celebrated with 32 members of his family.

Richard Parkin (DB 1967-71)

Richard Parkin was born in Stanmore, Middlesex and his parents moved to Shrewsbury in 1966, his father becoming managing director at Hall Engineering. Dick entered Day Boys in the Lent Term of 1967 under Arnold Ellis and, in his final year, David Gee. His sporting achievements, whilst not pedestrian, were not the stuff of legend. Dick was a twinkle-toed right wing at rugby with a not inconsiderable turn of speed. He was also House Captain of cricket; never a stroke player of great finesse or flair, but when he put his mind to it, he could dig in and grind out an innings

of unbelievable tedium. On extremely rare occasions however, "Stone wall" Parkin could disturb a fielder's reverie with a flashing cover drive.

In September 1972 Dick joined Thomson McLintock (long since part of KPMG) in Birmingham and started his training in Articles to become a Chartered Accountant by means of a correspondence course supplemented by block release courses arranged by his employer. This studying regime called for a certain amount of self-discipline on his part (never his strong suit) and qualification required him to pass a series of pretty demanding exams where overall pass rates in those days were under 20%. His average day would involve auditing the type of company accounts that took him to the less glamorous corridors of the Black Country's engineering and metal shaping fraternity, whilst contemplating with deep foreboding the looming horrors of three-hour tax exams without calculators. No one was more surprised than Dick that he survived this ordeal and qualified in 1978 and it was much less of a surprise when he followed a well-trodden path and sought out pastures new.

Whilst in Birmingham and to take his mind off the daily grind, Dick began to play a lot of squash where his great eye for a ball would give him a distinct advantage, allowing him to develop into a good league player. He was fiercely competitive and invariably emerged as the winner but he never exhibited the slightest hint of arrogance. He also continued to play a little cricket, a sport which he loved, and he particularly enjoyed games with the Saracens.

It was no surprise when Dick elected to move on from both TMcL and Birmingham at his earliest opportunity, but jaws did drop when he announced that he was moving to Italy, joining Price Waterhouse who sent him on an intensive language course. Whilst he struggled initially, he gradually improved and became fluent in Italian.

In any event, it proved to be a good move for Dick. He threw himself into the culture and started to learn to ski; and skiing soon became his passion. Soon his second home from home became the ski resort of Courmayeur, a traditional town in the Aosta Valley. During the summer months he would walk the mountains learning the contours of the land, which was crucial in dodging the crevasses come winter, when Dick would act as a free ski guide to his friends who came to stay. He also proved to be an excellent mountain guide for American clients in the mid-80s.

He not only knew the best slopes and the best routes for avoiding queues, but also knew the best bars and restaurants. On one occasion he saved a friend's life in the mountains, an episode he was too modest to accept and one he refused to revisit. When there were no visitors, Dick would ski off-piste with the ski guides and instructors who shared his penchant for cutting the powder at altitude.

After leaving Price Waterhouse, Dick worked for a number of Italian subsidiaries of US multinationals and eventually he became Financial Controller of the Italian subsidiary of the British multinational ICI. He subsequently moved on in 1993 to create his own business, offering his services and experience in Italian business development and company creation to foreign SMEs. In the last ten years he represented Wales Trade International in Italy and the scientific instrumentation manufacturers, Hiden Analytical.

In 2011 Dick moved back to live in Shrewsbury whilst still persisting with his work in Italy and continued to flit in and out of people's lives as if he seemed, at least in retrospect, to live his life in different dimensions. Dimensions that never overlapped but existed in parallel. Although reserved by nature, Dick was very gregarious with a sharp sense of humour and turn of wit. Always a superb host in company, he could be outrageous but never out of control. He also cared about others; he had many close friends from very many walks of life.

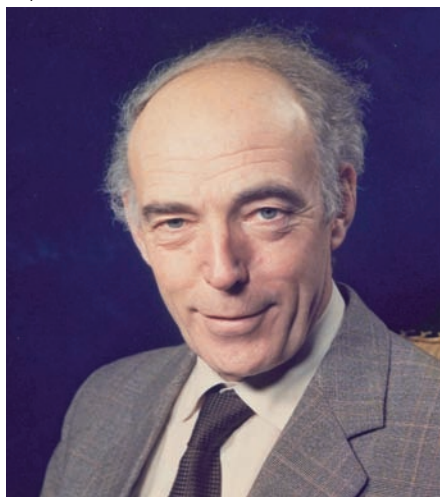
His death was a complete surprise. He was fit and healthy, with no prior medical history and three days earlier had played a hard game of squash. He was having a good laugh in the pub when he collapsed. Some might say he went the best way. Dick was a lovely man, he was a true gentleman. DEEK – SEMPRE NUMERO UNO ... Ciao Bello. Arrivederci.

(This is a necessarily shortened version of the full tribute to Dick Parkin written by his friend Jeremy Napier. Copies of the original can be obtained from Miriam Walton at the Salopian Club Office.)

Frederick David Robinson (O 1941-45)

Born in Church Stretton in 1927, David entered Oldham's in 1941 and clearly loved his time at Shrewsbury. He told his family that during his time there he rowed (mainly he said to avoid having to play cricket), enormously enjoyed the teaching of "Kek" and the books of Spells, and laid the foundations of his abiding love of classical music, particularly of choral music and J S

Bach. He sang in the Chapel Choir and wherever he lived for the rest of his life he joined a choral society, in particular spending many years singing in the Birmingham Bach Choir. He revisited the School Chapel a year or so before he died, now resplendent and very different from his memories, to see the beautiful icons by Aidan Hart. He and his wife were great travellers and much admired the Byzantine icons they found on their many explorations.



After Shrewsbury he went to Imperial College to the School of Mines, where he unsuccessfully attempted to qualify as a Mining Engineer but rowed in the college eight winning the Head of the River Race. He also spent a great deal of time in the adjacent Royal Albert Hall furthering his musical education. Two years of National Service followed, spent mainly in Misurata in Libya where he managed to be given the job of Regimental Librarian and as it was rarely used he thoroughly enjoyed plenty of time to read through the contents of the library. The other huge bonus was the chance to join the Tripoli Sailing Club which began his life-long love of sailing.

On his return to the UK he read Physics at Reading University and began his working life in a research laboratory, then a spell at Selotapes and a few most fruitful and interesting years at Glacier Metal company where he was greatly influenced by the transparent and honest ethics of management. These principles he held dear for the rest of his life and later became involved with the Birmingham branch of the Business Ethics Association. Whilst at Glacier he took a qualification in statistics and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society and became involved in the early days of Operational Research.

In the early 1960s he and his wife Alison and their growing family moved to Kidsgrove, as he was fortunate to be asked

by English Electric to head a fledgling OR department in the early days of computers and was involved in the innovative (at that time) Election Forecasting when Harold Wilson was elected. During this time he was asked to join the family company, Robinson Brothers based in West Bromwich as a very part-time outside director. The company had been manufacturing specialist chemicals for the pharmaceutical and agricultural industries for several generations and they wanted David to help to set up computer systems for them.

English Electric was taken over in 1967; rather than move the family and uproot sons who were settled in Manchester Grammar School and his parents who were frail and had moved to be near them, David joined Robinson Brothers full-time and became Company Secretary. However his career took a most unexpected direction as the chairman died from cancer at the early age of 42, and David found himself as a somewhat reluctant Chairman of Robinsons in 1980 until his retirement in 1995.

His retirement was much enjoyed and he sang in the Bach Choir, sailed all over the Mediterranean with Alison and the family and many friends in their old wooden boat "Escaper" (built by Eric Williams with the proceeds of his book *The Wooden Horse*), travelled a lot, often with archaeological groups to many wonderful sites, and walked in the Welsh hills from their family cottage in Harlech and where he loved being with the family. For the last two or three years of his life he became frail and ill with cancer and he died at home.

Gilbert Rodway QC (Rt 1950-55)

Gilbert Rodway was born in 1937 in Nairobi, Kenya where his parents had been living since the 1920s. In 1945, when he was eight years old, he was sent to Abberley Hall in Worcestershire, spending summer holidays in Kenya and Easter and Christmas with a farming family in Devon.

He entered Ridgemoat in Shrewsbury in 1950 and soon showed the results of his fairly independent early life. After a few altercations with his masters, however, he got down to serious work and, though essentially knowing how to do only what was necessary, "he showed real ability when he was interested". And from the beginning his fine brain and ability to articulate in a logical manner became apparent. His ability to win a difference of views may have won the respect of his colleagues, as did his wit, but he did not

always please those in authority; he was considered to have scant respect for what he regarded as unnecessary rules. His housemaster referred to him as "a stormy petrel, but one with considerable charm and sophistication of manner". He certainly won very many friends. Though no great athlete, he much enjoyed rowing and was in the crews for Senior Challenge Oars and Bumpers. He was interested in music but "somewhat of a dilettante".

From Shrewsbury, National Service followed in the Devon and Dorset Regiment, with first Mons and then officer training at Eaton Hall and the inevitable time in Germany. He learnt to ski, made many new friends and enjoyed his time as a subaltern, though Mons came as a bit of a shock! He then went to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge where he read Law (a decision made very early in childhood) and where he had a very enjoyable time. A natural organiser of parties, he had a full social life - but gained his degree successfully too.

His legal career started in London, where he was called to the Bar, and worked for a set of chambers, Jacksons, who specialised in divorce. He used to say that the tube fare cost more than he would be paid for the brief in his early days but, sharing a flat with his old school friend Paddy Colquhoun, life was never dull and "his social life assumed meteoric proportions".

But then came a major change when an acquaintance of his offered him a place in his Chambers in Hong Kong. He felt that he was working incredibly hard and paying too much tax in England, so Hong Kong seemed attractive. With his wit and charm, his many contacts and his love of social life, this was the perfect environment for him and he thrived. He soon set up his own set of chambers, where he demanded a high standard from all members. With his strong sense of fairness, his honesty and hard work, he was much respected and took silk. The young Chinese in his Chambers held him in high regard in spite of the fact that he refused to speak their language or eat their food. And he was a generous and welcoming host to many visitors from home.

When Hong Kong gained its independence in 1997, Gilbert turned 60. He was fearful of change and so returned to live in England, spending his time between Dorset (where his parents had moved when they left Kenya in 1958, and for which he felt great affection) and London. Here, surrounded by his clocks,

pictures and objets d'art, he would welcome his friends – though sometimes admonishing some with his walking stick which he would try to use improperly with howls of laughter. It was some years ago when he was walking under the underpass at Hyde Park Corner when he became unconscious, having fallen over. One of his more ribald friends put it about that he had been attacked whilst selling *The Big Issue*. It was from this point on that his balance became unstable and he became used to using his silver-topped cane. This was the beginning of his health problems, which were added to by a hip operation, followed by a stroke. He would sit in his drawing room smoking and drinking looking at the largest TV screen, probably the biggest available. And so to the end.

He pursued many interests. He was a member of The Prince of Wales Masonic Lodge, he loved to fish and travel and was a generous host to his wide circle of friends. He kept a close - and generous - relationship with Shrewsbury. He was a great supporter of the young and had many godchildren. He never married, but was a loyal and loving member of his family and will be remembered both for his ability, his strength of character, his kindness to many, his marvellous sense of humour, his generosity of spirit, and his wonderful companionship. "He was a special person who leaves us with happy memories and a legacy of lasting friendship."

David Rowlands (O 1947-52)

David was born in 1934 and lived in Hanwood near Shrewsbury; his father was killed in France in 1944. He joined Oldham's in 1947 and whilst there contracted polio, but luckily suffered no lasting damage. He was a big man in very many ways; friends in Oldham's remember him doing press-ups over puddles in the square outside the House, much to the amusement and support of his colleagues. A robust footballer with enthusiasm coupled with a little skill made him a valued member of any football XI in his House and thus began a lifelong love of the game. Rumour has that he was a bit of a rebel too!

After Shrewsbury he went to Trinity Hall Cambridge to read Rural Estate Management and Land Economy, where he captained his College football team. After qualification he worked on estates in Devon and Shrewsbury. In 1959 he joined his step-father Humphrey Howard at the Lake Vyrnwy Estate as junior partner and, when Humphrey retired in 1964, David became Resident Agent; he loved his time there and

also developed a great interest in serving the community, an interest that stayed with him for the rest of his life. David married Baa in 1964 and when he retired from Lake Vyrnwy in 1978 they went to live in Hirros near Llanerfyl where they build a bungalow with much enthusiastic help from friends and youngsters in the holidays and where he farmed a small holding for many years.

David worked tirelessly for his local community and the wider area of Montgomeryshire, the county of his roots. His grandfather, also David Rowlands, had founded the Montgomeryshire County Times in 1893, and local history was a great interest to him. He was a member of the Powysland Club from 1956, on the Council of Trustees from 1986 and Chairman from 1993-2007, a time which saw important structural changes to this, one of the oldest local history societies in the United Kingdom. He published several articles in the Club's collections, particularly concerning the history of Lake Vyrnwy and on the history of agriculture in the county. He was Chairman of the District Council from 1979-1982, on the Finance Committee for many years, was a Powys County Councillor, a member of the Broadcasting Council for Wales, on the governing body of the Church in Wales, a member of the Primary and Secondary School Governors Association, a trustee of the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust, a Magistrate for 32 years, involved in Antur Tanat Cain, and a founder member of UKIP, standing as a candidate in 1994 and 1999 (European) and 1997, 2001 and 2011 (General).

David raised thousands of pounds for charities in and around his beloved home; he organised the Vyrnwy half marathon, did the 43-mile Cross Wales walk seven times, organised the restoration of Pennant Melangell; the list goes on. He worshipped in Llanwyddyn Church from 1948 until at the end ill health made it difficult to attend. He was a committed Christian, kind, modest, knowledgeable (he was also a member of Mensa) completely honest and straightforward. He was always approachable and happy to give advice or help and to listen to anyone. His rural parish stretched far and wide where he was known throughout.

Peter Berkeley Douglas Sutherland (SH 1938-43)

Peter was born on 13th February 1925 and grew up in Maidenhead before attending Shrewsbury, where he stroked the 1st VIII at Henley in 1939. During the build-up to the Second World War, Peter, together with his

contemporaries at Shrewsbury, was trained in rifle fire and general leadership in preparation for joining the army on his 18th birthday.

He signed up for the Royal Artillery and spent time in Yorkshire, practising on field guns. In 1943 he joined the battery at Dover Castle. He was duly sent to Malaya and served as captain in General William Slim's 14th Army. In 1945, Peter was attached to the first landing craft assault wave, whose job was to dislodge the Japanese from entrenched positions on islands in the South China Sea. He discovered on arrival that the defence had melted away due to the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki a few days earlier. After the Japanese surrender, he was involved in the fight against communists for control of South-East Asia and worked with civilians to re-establish local agriculture and farming, particularly in Malaya, which had been badly disrupted by the War.

On demobilisation, he took up his place at St Catherine's College, Cambridge. After three very happy years, he managed to persuade the examination board to change their standard degree criteria due to his inability to attain his required marks, demonstrating not for the last time a considerable aptitude for making his own luck.

Peter's rowing career took a turn for the worse at Cambridge after he contracted tuberculosis and he spent most of 1950 in hospital. His experience as an invalid was not good and he discharged himself prior to an operation, when he was mistaken for another patient who needed a lung transplant. Although not an academic, he possessed an abundance of common sense.

After making a full recovery, Peter went on to study architecture at the University of London and qualified as an architect, which became his occupation for 50 years. He began to practise from his parents' home in Ray Park Road, Maidenhead, before moving to Henley-on-Thames in 1960 and opening offices there.

Peter had strong links with the rowing world throughout his life, becoming a coach at Oxford University Boat Club in the late 1950s, in the era of Hugh 'Jumbo' Edwards.

He coached the Great Britain eight at the 1960 Rome Olympics and was Captain of Leander Club from 1960 to 1962. In the spring of 1963, he and his wife Diane founded Upper Thames Rowing Club. The original aim was to recruit people from clubs in the Thames Valley to compete with the

best crews from London and the Lower Thames, as well as providing a higher standard of rowing than could traditionally be found on the upper reaches of the Thames.

The first boat the club bought was a second-hand coxless four costing £15. It was kept at Saragossa House in New Street, Henley, where the Sutherlands lived until 1968, and necessitated their living room doors being open year-round in order to accommodate the boat's length. The traffic in New Street had to be stopped whenever there was an outing, as the boat was fed out through the windows on to the street.

After receiving financial support from George Robinson, the brother of Sir David Robinson, founder of Robinson College, Cambridge, Peter was able to acquire the defunct boom shed owned by Henley Royal Regatta on Remenham Lane, which is still the site of the present club. Upper Thames has since developed further and is now one of the leading centres for club rowing in the UK, possessing a unique location on the famous Henley course. This year it celebrates its half-centenary and stands as a testament to a man with great vision and perseverance.

Peter was an avid rower himself and into his mid-eighties often rowed twice a day. Peter was a great friend to the Shrewsbury crews of the 70s and 80s who 'rested' in his beautiful garden by the river between races at Henley. Nowhere could have been more convenient. (The only problem came when he sent his son to Radley and they started coming to rest there as well, causing some interesting confrontations!)

He was an enthusiastic supporter of junior rowing and a firm believer in the wider benefits of the sport. He was keen to open these benefits up to as wide an audience as possible, most notably from prisons and care homes in recent years and becoming a patron of the Henley Regatta for the Disabled. He was very proud to be made an MBE for his services to rowing in 2008.

He is survived by Diane, his wife of 50 years, his son Justin, who is the current captain of Upper Thames Rowing Club,

and his three grandchildren. His daughter Belinda died from multiple sclerosis in 1994, aged 26.

(Extract from Henley Standard, which also carried the following by Boris Johnson, one time MP for Henley):

The world needs people who believe that the sun is about to come out any minute – and if ever there was a man who exuded optimism, good cheer and a general *joie de vivre* it was Peter Sutherland.

I know that he will be much missed in Henley and beyond. With his rosy features, twinkly blue eyes and military moustache, he looked as though he might have spent his formative years suppressing communist insurrections in far eastern jungles. Indeed, I have a feeling that he had. Whether or not these skills were necessary in managing the local branch of the Henley Conservative Association – putting down the odd Europhile uprising perhaps – I have no idea. All that I can say is that his regime helped to give the local MP fantastic support. With Sutherland at the helm, all appeared to be sweetness and light.

He lived a kind of riparian dream – a spot of politics, a lot of rowing and quite a few parties. He had been a distinguished oarsman in his youth and he loved to take you out in a whiff or a skiff or a wherry or whatever. He raised big sums for the Upper Thames Rowing Club, of which he was the president and founder. But the event he really seemed to love was a kind of Mad Hatter's Tea party, called the Strawberry Fayre, that took place in July. You would wander around the lawns of his beautiful home and you would find all sorts of diversions and stalls – mini-golf, card tricks, cream teas, that kind of thing – and all kinds of people seemed to pop up from around the neighbourhood. Rolf Harris, for instance. My children loved it.

He didn't miss a thing and his political instincts were good. I remember his misgivings about the war against Saddam – and he was proved right about that.

He was devoted to his charming wife Diane and I hope she won't mind me saying that he maintained – well into his eighties – a lively appreciation of women in general.

He would often tell me, with a sigh, how much he wished that the Association had chosen my sister, rather than me, and that one day he hoped to rectify the mistake.

John Walker (Ch 1943-48)

John Walker came to Churchill's from St Michael's College, Tenbury Wells and immediately established himself as an athlete and sportsman, despite his small size. He was the best all-round sportsman of his generation: in the 1st XI Football for three years "a very clever footballer, most entertaining to watch with beautiful balance"; in the 1st XI Cricket for two years "a good left-handed opening bat, worth his place for his fielding and throwing alone"; in the Fives IV for two years, and Captain; an outstanding gymnast "he could walk on his hands a considerable distance" (which he was made to do most Speech Days); in the Athletics team as a hurdler and long jumper; in the Shooting VIII.

Dr Paul Johnson (S 1946-51) remembers him as a sporting figurehead and in particular remembers his mother's remarks when watching him fielding: "Who is that boy? His poise and balance would equip him well as a ballet dancer." As his mother had been a top ballet dancer and a protégée of Pavlova, she knew what she was talking about.

John was Head of House and a Praeposter but not noted for any strong academic interest. After school he trained in agriculture and from the beginning worked on the family farm near Tenbury Wells which he inherited and on which he lived for the rest of his life. He played a bit of Arthur Dunn football but little other sport after school. He was a leading light in the Tenbury Wells Amateur Dramatic Society and past master of the local Masonic Lodge. And throughout the area he was always seen as a generous, charming and thoughtful gentleman - a very special man who devoted himself to his family, his farm, his friends and his locality.

It is always intended that an obituary will be published in this magazine of each Salopian who has died since the last edition. We are reliant on those who have been, and will we hope continue to be, so helpful in sending notices to the Club. Families are asked if they would like an obituary and it is they who usually provide the information and often the wording. The editors are very grateful for such help given by them and by friends. Sometimes we rely on the national and local newspapers for the details.

Lives of past pupils recorded in this way are, we believe, an inspiration to today's Salopians, showing as they do the immense breadth and depth of experience and of life, sometimes expected, often recognised, but frequently totally unpredicted, that has followed five years on Kingsland.





Lost . . . or perhaps found?

COMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Venue
Sat 20 July	Young Old Salopian Party	Kensington Roof Gardens
Sat 21 September	Old Salopian Day	Shrewsbury School
Wed 25 September	West Midlands Golf Day	Blackwell Golf Course, Bromsgrove
Mon 18 November	Dinner with the MP for Shrewsbury and Atcham	House of Commons
Thu 29 November	City Drinks	Travellers Club, Pall Mall
Thu 5 December	Birmingham Christmas Drinks	Edmunds Bar, B3
Fri 6 December	Shrewsbury Christmas Drinks	Shrewsbury School
Sun 9 March 2014	Shrewsbury School musicians in concert	Cadogan Hall, London.

For more details, please visit: www.shrewsbury.org.uk/page/osevents

