

Girls' Hockey Season News Round-up

Tuesday 7 January 2020

Our girls' hockey teams enjoyed a busy and successful season last term, with just over 70 fixtures across all year groups and some cracking House matches.

The U14s had lots of success in their first season at Shrewsbury, winning or drawing all their matches bar one, with the highlight being reaching the County Tournament Final and representing Shropshire at the Midlands Finals.

The U15s have a similar record, with only one loss all season and winning all their other matches.

We have had three senior teams this year, who have also had positive seasons. The 3rd XI had good wins against King's Worcester and Moreton Hall and the 2nd XI have had their most successful season to date, including wins against Ellesmere College and Wrekin College.

The 1st XI struggled to find their best form this season, having lost a core group of Upper Sixth players last year, but they performed well in the County Tournament and played very well to beat Oswestry School.

At the End of Michaelmas Term School Assembly, School Firsts were awarded to:

Laura Elliott

Lara Ockleston

Ella Nibblitt

House Hockey Finals

The U15 House Hockey Final, played on the last day of the Michaelmas Term, was Mary Sidney Hall against Moser's Hall. It was a very tight final, with both teams having a number of chances but struggling to get the goal. It finished in a draw, then penalties, and then went on to sudden death penalties after the initial five, with Mary Sidney Hall finally getting the winning goal.

The 2nd House Final was The Grove v Moser's. Both teams were in good spirits with great support on the sidelines. It was The Grove who had the edge in the first half and broke through the Moser's defence in the first ten minutes. Their good game play and strong attacking play continued into the second half and Grove were victorious.

The 1st House Final was between Mary Sidney Hall and Emma Darwin Hall. It was a little slow to get going, but MSH got into a rhythm and started to play some good hockey. The attackers had some excellent strikes at goal, with EDH keeper doing an excellent job, but they were eventually too strong and so MSH were the winners of 1st House Hockey 2019.

Mrs Bradburne

Head of Girls' Games

Futures & Higher Education Bulletin

Wednesday 8 January 2020

The theme of this first bulletin from the Futures (Careers) Department for the new decade is 'opportunities'...

Please follow the link to download it as a pdf: [Futures Bulletin Edition 7, Lent Term 2020](#).

Shrewsbury 10K medal designed by Sixth Former Will Cowper

Thursday 9 January 2020

Runners who complete Shrewsbury's 10K challenge on 15th March will each receive a medal that has been designed by Sixth Former Will Cowper (Rb U6).



Organisers of the popular Mercedes-Benz Shrewsbury 10K invited Shrewsbury School pupils to create a medal in recognition of the School being included for the first time in a new course that loops round the town.

"I originally thought about the design of the medal in terms of it reflecting the evolution of the new course for the race," Will explains. "I thought I would include Charles Darwin, a former pupil here, and the Theory of Evolution, along with the Main School Building. It's a good representation of the School."



Simon Macdonald, Director of Ultimate Fitness Experience, the event organisers, said: "It's a very impressive medal and Will has done a great job with its design, so we're absolutely delighted with it. It's a strong base for our partnership with Shrewsbury School.

"Having Shrewsbury School as part of the new route enables runners to have a better experience. It will be nice for people who perhaps haven't been on the Site before, as Shrewsbury School is in the heart of the town and, with its historic buildings to run past, it's a great addition to the course."

Will, who has been a member of the School's cross-country running club, the Royal Shrewsbury School Hunt, since starting at Shrewsbury, is also looking forward to taking part in the race.

Full details about the Shrewsbury 10k can be found on the Ultimate Fitness Experience website: <https://www.fitnessexperience.co.uk/shrewsbury-10k/>

If any Shrewsbury School parents, Old Salopians or members of staff are keen to run, please contact Mr Middleton (pjm@shrewsbury.org.uk), who may be able to provide free places.

'Dear 2020'

Friday 10 January 2020

Introducing the first in a new series of 'Letters from Shrewsbury' written by the Headmaster, Leo Winkley. He will be writing a letter every couple of weeks to people, things, places, ideas...

His first letter is to the year 2020...

Please follow the link to enjoy reading it:

<https://leowinkley.wordpress.com/2020/01/09/dear-2020/>

Cycle South America: Tessa and Felicity are cycling 6,500km for charity

Friday 10 January 2020

Intrepid former pupils Tessa Scott-Bell (MSH 2014-19) and Felicity Hayward (EDH 2017-19) have just embarked on a mammoth challenge to cycle 6,500 km (4,100 miles) up the western side of South America.

“During the trip from Puerto Montt in Chile to Lima in Peru, we will be ascending over 4000m (four times the height of Ben Nevis) as we cross the Andes mountains. This will be both a physical and cultural challenge, as we will be relying on local people for knowledge about their area and the road conditions.

“The route we are planning to follow will take us up the Pacific coast of the Chilean lake district before crossing the Andes into Northern Argentina. After cycling through vineyards of the Argentinian region of Salta, we plan to cross the border into Bolivia. In Bolivia we will traverse the world’s largest salt flats and face some of our most challenging climbs as we weave through the mining region of Potosi. We intend to enter Peru along the western shore of Lake Titicaca, then head north into the historic Inca region of Cusco. Finally, we will then turn back west and descend into Lima to rejoin the Pacific and complete our journey in late May.”

Felicity is raising money for Epilepsy Research UK because...

“September 2020 is the tenth anniversary of my late mother's (Susan Hayward) death. I am raising money for Epilepsy Research UK in memory of her, as she suffered from the illness in the later stages of her life. As a child growing up with a mother with epilepsy, I am acutely aware of the limitations it places on the sufferer and their family living an ordinary life.

“ERUK fund ground-breaking independent research into the causes, treatment and prevention of epilepsy with the aim of identifying new means to control the condition, improve treatment and quality of life for those with epilepsy and perhaps ultimately to find a cure. They work in five key areas:

- Minimising the side-effects of anti-epileptic drugs
- Prevention of memory loss in temporal lobe epilepsy
- Identifying patients who will benefit from surgical intervention
- The use of immuno-therapy as an effective treatment for some types of seizure
- The recovery of intellectual abilities following surgery in children

“These key areas all resonate closely with me and I would like to help ERUK decrease the limitations epilepsy places on other sufferers and their families.”



Tessa is raising money for Young Minds because...

“The plans for the trip came about in the stressful weeks before the first of our A level exams and also marked the year anniversary of the death of a friend from my previous school in Newcastle, who sadly took his own life. Over the past year my outlook on mental health has changed greatly. Added pressures with exams and social media awareness of oneself and friends’ wellbeing has become more important to me. I would like to use this trip, which is both a physical and mental challenge, to raise money and awareness for the charity Young Minds.

“Young Minds acts as a platform to educate people of all ages about mental health as well as offering support and advice in a range of forms. Their website has a diverse selection of stories and opportunities to speak to people who have had similar experiences, while encouraging self-care, confidence and general wellbeing.

“I want to help Young Minds Trust to expand their work and facilities to help many other young teens.”



Felicity and Tessa have received a [Miles Clark Travel Scholarship](#) from Shrewsbury School to help cover the costs of their venture. But they would both be very grateful for support and donations of any kind from the Salopian community for their chosen charities.

Felicity's fundraising page is: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/felicity-hayward1>

Tessa's fundraising page is: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cycle-south-america>

You can follow their adventures via their website, where they will be posting updates as regularly as they can: <https://www.cyclesouthamerica.org/>

Senior House Debating Final

Friday 10 January 2020

A packed Maidment Auditorium saw Ridgemount and Churchill's Hall go head to head for the coveted Senior House Debating trophy on Thursday evening (9th January).



After impressing in the group and knock-out rounds, both teams impressed the large audience with their linguistic prowess, eye for detail and ability to rebut arguments under pressure. The motion debated concerned whether the 2020s will be greater for humanity than the sometimes rocky 2010s.

Ridgemount proposed a convincing case for optimism from Jamie Catto, Ed Bayliss and Frank Kelly. Frank was later awarded Speaker of the Evening for his impressive performance in both round three and the summary.

However, Churchill's analytical, reflective and often philosophical rebuttals were almost flawless on a night that showcased Shrewsbury debating at its very best. Dominic Inglis-Jones (the only Fifth Form pupil in the final - a fine achievement!), James Leaver and Jonny Snell carried the argument for Churchill's persuasively.

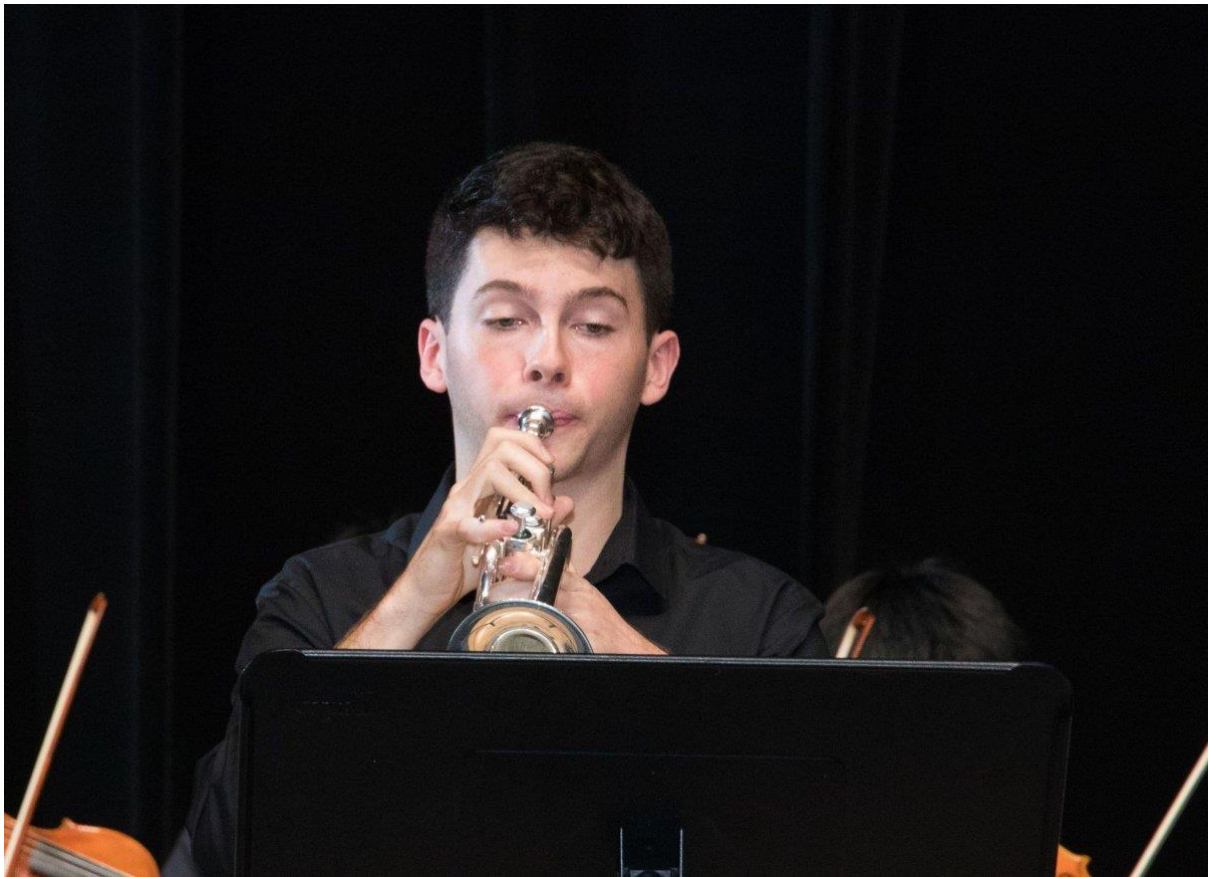
Many thanks to the Headmaster for his individualised feedback and support for the competition. Well done also to Tom Jackson and Charlie Hancock, who worked tirelessly on the logistics each week to make the competition happen. Many of these pupils will now be acting as judges during this Lent Term's Junior House Competition. Watch this space for updates regarding the progress of this competition.

Mr Mackridge

Sixth Former Frank performs as Principal Trumpet with the NYO

Friday 10 January 2020

Frank Coughlan (SH U6) led the trumpet section of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain in three concerts during the Christmas holidays, including one that was broadcast from London's Barbican Centre on BBC Radio 3.



Some of the staff from the Shrewsbury School Music Faculty were lucky enough to be able to attend the NYO's performance in Nottingham's Royal Concert Hall, as Director of Music John Moore reports:

"The programme was based round the idea of social revolution and change, and featured Benjamin Britten's *Sinfonia da Requiem* and Shostakovich's mighty Symphony No. 11 'The Year 1905'.

"Frank shone quite wonderfully in many exposed solo passages for trumpet, some of fiendish difficulty, but he handled them all with consummate mastery and professionalism. It was no surprise when the conductor, Jaime Martin, gave Frank his very own bow to the packed audience, who were already on their feet and roaring their appreciation of what was a simply extraordinary concert.

"It can be no secret that this performance puts Frank firmly into the top flight of young trumpeters in the UK.

"Frank is taught at Shrewsbury School by Tim Barber, and he has been offered places to study classical trumpet at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where he was also offered a Scholarship, The Royal Academy of Music and the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire."

Model United Nations

Monday 13 January 2020

At the end of last term, a group of pupils who are relatively new to Model United Nations enjoyed a chance to play leading roles in the inaugural MUN conference hosted across the River Severn by Shrewsbury High School.

Thank you to Lucia Bowers Martinez (EDH L6) for her account:

Our final MUN conference of the Michaelmas Term was the first one to be hosted by Shrewsbury High School, held on Saturday 7th December. Our team were mostly new to MUN, but they were all able to show their true potential as great debaters. I was honoured to have the chance to chair a committee for the first time in my MUN career, as young delegates, many of whom were participating for their first ever time, gave it their all.

After our normal school period one, we all gathered at the Darwin statue in the morning, looking forward to what we hoped would be a thrilling day of eye-opening ideas and sharing of opinions. We walked down to Shrewsbury High School for the Opening Ceremony, with 15 of our own delegates as well as nine Committee Chairs.



When we arrived, we had an inspirational but rather alternative speech from the guest speaker, a former SHS pupil, who had become a women's health campaigner.

Before we knew it, we were all enjoying the discussion and debate in committees, and I was chairing the Special Committee. Then after lunch we went straight back into joint committees, to

discuss a crisis situation invented by the organisers before discussing it again in the General Assembly, where we all sat together in country teams.

The day finished with a successful prize giving and Closing Ceremony, where awards for best delegate were given to Oswald Wu, Lenka Hozzova, Oscar Rink and Boris Petukhov. In addition, Max McKenzie was a Highly Commended delegate, and Lem Mandara won an Honourable Mention in Security Council. After saying our goodbyes, we headed back to school.

Personally, I believe that MUN is about the journey not the destination. What I have most enjoyed about the short yet committed time I have spent as an MUN-er has not been the prizes or victories that have been won, but instead what I have learnt about the world, the people who live in it and the problems that face us and the possible resolutions that could be used to solve these problems. Furthermore, the teamwork, camaraderie and the people I have met along the way, have made my experience in MUN all the more special.

Appointment of new Development Director

Monday 13 January 2020

Following an extensive and thorough recruitment process, we are delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Oliver Jackson-Hutt as Development Director from 1st February 2020.

Oliver takes over from Mr John Rolfe after his 13 years of exceptional leadership and service to Shrewsbury School and the Shrewsbury School Foundation.



Oliver was educated at Fettes College, Edinburgh and The Perse School, Cambridge; thereafter at The University of St Andrews (MA Honours) where he studied English, Art History and Music. He carried out further postgraduate studies at Harvard (PG Cert) and MIT (PG Cert) before taking up various roles, and working for over ten years within the External Relations Directorate at The University of St Andrews, specialising in fundraising.

From there, Oliver was appointed Director of Development at The High School of Dundee where he led a large team that delivered a highly successful capital campaign. In 2017, he was appointed Chief External Relations Officer at Loretto School, Scotland's first boarding school, where he led the school's work across External Relations, including Development, Communications and Admissions.

Oliver is married to Charlotte and they have twin boys who will join Packwood Haugh Prep School, part of the Shrewsbury family of schools.

Oliver is very much looking forward to taking up the post and getting to know the Salopian community near and far. We are very confident that he will bring great expertise and energy to the role, and lead the Foundation into an exciting phase in this new decade, building on the excellent work that John Rolfe has undertaken during his time at Shrewsbury.

Leo Winkley, Headmaster

James Pitt, Chairman, Shrewsbury School Foundation

German Faculty Study Visit to Berlin

Tuesday 14 January 2020

On 11th December, at the end of the busy Michaelmas term, a group of ten Fifth Form German linguists accompanied by Herr Peach and Frau Davies set off for an action-packed trip to Berlin to improve their language skills and understanding of German culture and history - as Viva Moss (M) recounts...

Arriving in the former Eastern Block airport of Schönefeld, we made our way to our hotel, via the city's S-Bahn. Excited but starving from the day's travel, we were treated to a meal at Alpenstück, rumoured to serve the best Wiener Schnitzel in all of Berlin – and we would not have disagreed. On our way home we visited the notorious Alexanderplatz where the iconic Fernsehturm (TV tower) loomed over us as we drifted around Weihnachtsmarkt, the first of many traditional Christmas markets we visited.

The next morning, we went to the Neue Synagogue, which was once the largest in Germany. Although the synagogue narrowly survived the Kristallnacht ('the night of broken glass') as well as an air raid attack and subsequent fire, it was not until 1993 that the remaining foundations were restored and made into the Centrum Judaicum. It was rededicated not as a place of worship but of teaching and education. We visited the museum's exhibition called "Open Ye Gates" which tells the history of the building and the lives connected with it.

We all got the hang of the city's transport layout and revisited the Fernsehturm, built by the GDR as a show of Communist power and which has dominated Berlin's skyline since 1969 at 368 metres, although the viewing deck at 203 metres was plenty for some in our group. The view illustrated the sprawling rebuilt city in all its grandeur, with the decisive Unter den Linden crossing (the main boulevard lined with Lime – Linden - trees) East to West.



On returning to ground level, we had a brisk walk to the Brandenburg Gate – another iconic landmark – and then Checkpoint Charlie. The Reichstag can be seen as a backdrop to the Gate; beside and near to the building are the memorials to the Roma and Sinti people, also the memorial to the murdered Jews of Europe. The memorials were sobering, harrowing and showed the real consequences of history.



Later in the day we headed to the Mercedes-Benz Stadium to witness a very lively ice hockey match (a first for many of us) - Berlin vs Düsseldorf – a fiercely competitive match. As with football, this is taken very seriously, with supporters dressed in team colours, scarves, whistles, and all fans in full voice chanting encouragement to their team and expletives to the opponents. Thankfully Eisbären Berlin won 3-1.



On the third day we headed to the financial district of Potsdamer Platz in West Berlin, via the S-Bahn. There we went to the German Spy Museum, which detailed the history of espionage and Berlin's entanglement in the Stasi. It demonstrated the many methods used by the Secret Police, including a camera in a lipstick and other ingenious disguises.



That evening we went to a traditional Rhineland restaurant before watching “Vivid” which was a dazzling display of theatre, costumes and acrobatics. An announcement was made that royal milliner Philip Treacy, who designed the show-stopping costumes, was present at the show.

On our final day we travelled to the palace of Charlottenburg, which was the residence of Emperor Wilhelm I, the King of Prussia and Emperor of Germany, and his wife Sophie Charlotte, the palace’s namesake. We were amazed by the incredible collection of chinoiserie in a room named the ‘Porcelain Cabinet’, which was designed to impress visitors with not only its size and quality but with the kingdom’s international relations.



On a more modern note we then decided to go to the German equivalent of Harrods, called KaDeWe or Kaufhaus des Westens. which means ‘department store of the West’. During the Cold War it was a beacon for everything Western. It was full of Christmas shoppers and took us ten minutes just to get through the entrance. After our retail therapy we proceeded to the Reichstag, the German parliament. We had a guided tour of the building and even saw some of the original Soviet graffiti from the Battle of Berlin. The tour concluded at the renowned dome atop the building, which gave views of the whole of Berlin.

As a treat for our last night we revisited Potsdamer Platz to go sledding and then visit yet another Christmas market at the Gendarmenmarkt. For our final supper we went to the Sony Centre - which is covered in bright LED lights and is where German films are premiered - before having traditional German cuisine. (No-one was brave enough to try the pork knuckle.)



By the next evening, our whirlwind trip had ended and we were all back with our families ready to enjoy Christmas

Shrewsbury School cross-country team win national bronze

Wednesday 15 January 2020

Tremendous performances by our RSSH runners at the national Knole Run on 11th January. Highlights of the day included team bronze for the boys' team, 5th place for Francesca Harris and 7th place for Fourth Former Will Singleton.



The Knole Run in Sevenoaks, Kent is one of the key national events in the schools' cross-country calendar. Despite missing a key runner, Oscar Hamilton-Russell, the boys did amazingly well to make the podium with team bronze.

Individually, Will Singleton came 7th (a truly astonishing achievement for a Fourth Former in an U18 race), Sam Western finished 18th, Max Green 28th, Harrison Cutler 35th, Will Owen 39th and Orlando Williams 40th, to give a team total of 167 behind St Albans in 2nd (148) and The Judd in 1st (59).



Will Singleton



Francesca Harris

In the girls' race, Francesca Harris was our best placed runner in 5th (a superb run) with Livy Elliot 42nd, Anna Cowan 44th and Laura Elliot 61st. This gave the girls a score of 152 and 9th place.

Well done to all runners!



A strong start to the rugby season

Friday 17 January 2020

The rugby season got underway in fine style on Saturday 11th January with a block fixture against Birkenhead School.



The 1st XV playing under a glowering sky...

1st XV:

At first team level the boys got off to a slow start, with a number of errors to give Birkenhead momentum in the first half. However, some individual excellence from Frank Mansell and Will Stanford-Davis enabled us to go into the half-time break 14-7 up.

The team talk focused the team in the second half, with more of the free-flowing rugby promised all season with interplay between backs and forwards. Tries followed, with Ed Craik, Henry Davies, Fred Stephens and Will Stanford-Davis all crossing the whitewash to give us a convincing 40-7 victory.

Special mention should be made of Fred Stephens, Bilal Khan and George Daly individually as part of an excellent team effort.

2nd XV:

The second team put in an excellent performance, with the forward play enabling us to turn over a decent amount of possession. The back row also performed well, especially Ruaraidh Lockett and Dylan Griffiths.

It was great to see the Fifth Formers playing so well after limited training time; Arthur Sutherland was formidable up front, and Louis Graham controlled proceedings superbly.

The final try was an absolute delight, with backs and forwards combining from our own 22m all the way up to the try line for Harry to take the last pass, and the team the victory 17-0.

U15s:

A very strong Birkenhead squad and only one week of training in preparation was never going to be an easy day! The first half saw us give away some soft tries to enable the opposition to pull away 19-0 at half time. The benefits of the slope in the second half, however, and some more focused play enabled us to pull back into the game.

Tries from Jack Sheldon and two from Tom Griffin brought the game close, with the eventual score 34-19.

This was a game of two halves – and having ‘won’ the second half, the boys should take great confidence as well as pride in the heart and commitment they displayed.

U14s:

The U14s won a narrow contest, 24-22. The game had a very exciting climax where we finally got the ball off the pitch to hold on to a slender lead.

It was a masterclass from the wings: Todd Rees-Pullman with two long-distance tries from the left wing; and Theeka Niumpradit with amazing defence on his right wing to stop them from doing the same to us.

Oxbridge Success

Friday 17 January 2020

Shrewsbury School is celebrating an outstanding year of success for pupils applying to Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Sixteen Salopians have received offers of places across a whole spectrum of disciplines, from sciences through to humanities and the arts.

"We are absolutely delighted for the 16 pupils who have been offered Oxbridge places this year," said Headmaster Leo Winkley. "This very strong showing is great credit to the pupils themselves and those many colleagues who have encouraged and inspired them to pursue academic challenge at the highest level.

"With offers in subjects as diverse as English Literature, Biology, Natural Sciences, Philosophy, Engineering, Music, Mathematics and Computer Science, this wide mix of courses showcases the rich variety of the academic life at Shrewsbury. A tremendous achievement and inspirational for those in the years to follow."

This year's number of Oxbridge offers (the highest since 2009) builds on an impressive historic record; Shrewsbury School has the rare distinction of having had Oxbridge offers in double figures for all but one of the last 20 years.

The following pre-A Level candidates have been offered conditional places at Oxford University:

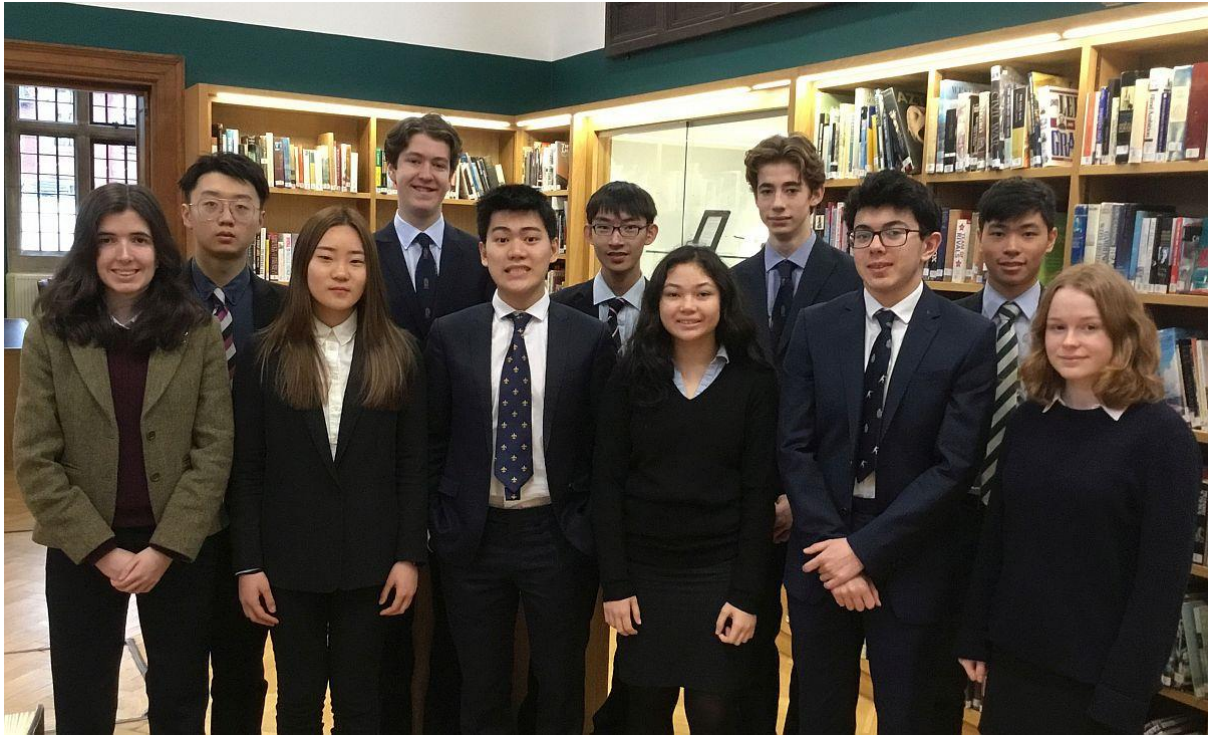
Anna Cowan	(MSH)	English Language & Literature
Johnnie Dowd	(Rb)	English Language & Literature
Owen Fung	(SH)	Mathematics
Charlotte Hancock	(M)	Human Sciences
George Lawrence	(O)	Biology
Nicholas Liu	(I)	Material Sciences
Almar Razif	(EDH)	Music

The following have been offered conditional places at Cambridge University:

Jude Huffer	(Rb)	Veterinary Medicine
Jonathan Snell	(Ch)	Philosophy
Mohan Sun	(SH)	Natural Sciences (Biology)
Peter Yang	(SH)	Natural Sciences (Physics)
Kyra Zhou	(G)	Computer Science

The following applied to Oxford University post-A Level and have received firm offers:

Charley Archer	(Ch)	English Language & Literature
Oscar Kanan	(Ch)	Oriental Studies
Adam Pattenden	(S)	Engineering
Jetty Russell	(G)	Biology



L-R: Charlie Hancock, Mohan Sun, Kyra Zhou, Jonathan Snell, Peter Yang, Owen Fung, Almaz Razif, Johnnie Dowd, Jude Huffer, Nicholas Liu, Anna Cowan

Richard Hillary Essay Medal Competition 2020

Friday 17 January 2020

The Richard Hillary Essay Medal competition provides an opportunity for Sixth Formers to spend two hours pitting their wits against a one-word unseen essay title.

The event is modelled on the historic competition undertaken to select Fellows of All Souls College, Oxford. Previous essay titles since it was inaugurated at Shrewsbury in 2013 have included 'Challenge', 'Sense', 'Voice', 'Luck', 'Time', 'Power' and 'Memory'.

This year, nearly 30 Salopians volunteered to take up the challenge; the single word presented to them was 'Balance'. Their essays will be marked by mathematician, musician and public speaker Ben Sparks. The results will be reported before the end of term and the Medal itself will be presented on Speech Day.



The prize is named in honour of Richard Hillary (Old Salopian) and was launched in association with the Salopian Club. Hillary was born in 1919 and joined Churchill's Hall in 1931 and he went on from Shrewsbury to study at Trinity College, Oxford. He was called up to the Royal Air Force in October 1939 to train as a Spitfire fighter pilot. He joined 603 Squadron and moved with them from Scotland to join the Battle of Britain on 27th August 1940. Within a week Hillary had shot down five German fighters, but he himself was shot down on 3rd September 1940 and was very badly burned while escaping from his aircraft.

Hillary was badly disfigured and never regained full use of his hands. He wrote the story of his experiences, "The Last Enemy", which is widely regarded as one of the best books to have emerged from World War Two. He convinced the RAF that he was fit enough to return to flying in November 1942, even though the damage to his hands remained severe. On 8th January 1943 his Bristol Blenheim crashed in Scottish woodland during a night training exercise, and he died aged 23.

He is remembered today at Trinity College, Oxford by an annual literature prize, a portrait outside the college library, and an annual lecture in his honour. At Shrewsbury, his name appears on the War Memorial and his name is also on the Battle of Britain memorial in Chapel.



'Histories of the Unexpected'

Friday 17 January 2020

On 16th January, we were delighted to welcome renowned historians Dr Sam Willis and Professor James Daybell, who gave a thought-provoking and very entertaining talk to pupils on 'The Histories of the Unexpected'.



Their talk was the first in this term's Bastille Society and Academic Extension Lecture series.

It was based around certain objects, such as gloves and chimneys, which allowed them to look at multiple periods and provided a really original way of looking at history. They went from Neolithic paintings to the Titanic to the Duke of Wellington's hair and they showed that everything has a history, even our own bodies, going through many of their own scars and talking about the different facial expressions that humans have developed. They even had a recreation of Victorian perfume that the audience got to smell.

The lecture was made very entertaining by their clever use of props and excellent retelling of gruesome stories from the past. They began at the history of hands and ended with everyone signing a piece of paper, so the talk went in a full circle. It demonstrated very effectively that history is always interconnected.

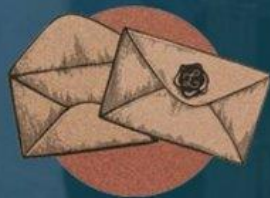
We would again like to thank both Dr Willis and Professor Daybell for taking the time to travel Shrewsbury and delivering such a fascinating talk.

Sophia Bureau (G U6)

Academic Extension Event

HISTORIES OF THE UNEXPECTED

SAM WILLIS & JAMES DAYBELL



JANUARY 16TH
7:30PM
MAIDMENT



Shrewsbury School

Ephiphany Service, St Mary-le-Bow

Wednesday 22 January 2020

The great tradition of the Salopian Club Epiphany Service continues

On Wednesday 15th January a choir boasting some of the finest Salopian voices assembled at St Mary-le-Bow Church in Cheapside for a mere hour's rehearsal and then proceeded to sing with outstanding quality a number of Epiphany carols, including the world premiere of Richard Eteson's (G 89-93) beautifully composed Holy Innocents. The service was again led by the Rev Gavin Williams (Staff 92-02) and also featured readings performed by Salopians of every age.

Many of the appreciative congregation gathered to renew friendships at the Paternoster Bar after the service. Particular thanks are due to Peter Fanning (Staff 81-12), Richard Eteson (G 89-93) and Joe Bell (Rb 10-15) for assembling the choir with admirable patience and to Patrick Craig (Ch 82-87) for directing it with his usual flair.

Futures & Higher Education Bulletin

Thursday 23 January 2020

The latest in the fortnightly Bulletins from the Futures Department, full of useful information, reminders, resources and weblinks for Fifth and Sixth Formers and their parents.

Please follow the link to download it as a pdf: [Futures Bulletin Edition 8, Lent Term 2020.](#)

Football returning to its roots in Shrewsbury...

Friday 24 January 2020

With the excitement of Shrewsbury Town playing Liverpool at home in the FA Cup this weekend and our own 1st XI playing in the Semi-Finals of the ISFA Cup early next month, we also celebrate with pride the role of former pupils of Shrewsbury School in the origins of the beautiful game...

Director of Sport Andrew Murfin and School Archivist Robin Brooke-Smith explain...

For more about the history of football at Shrewsbury School, please have a look at this longer interview with the School Archivist:

Prep School Musical Theatre Workshop

Friday 24 January 2020

Children from local prep schools had the excitement of being among the first people to enjoy a taste of Shrewsbury School's next musical in production, 'The Great Gatsby'.

Pupils from Packwood Haugh, Prestfelde, Shrewsbury High Prep, The Elms and Yarlet spent a fun-filled day working with staff and pupils from Shrewsbury's Music and Drama Departments on songs and dance routines from 'The Great Gatsby', which has been written by Director of Drama Helen Brown, Director of Music John Moore, with choreography by Sian Archer.

As this short video shows, everyone had a wonderful time!

The Great Gatsby will be performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August, with a Workshop Performance at Shrewsbury School next term.

Dance Festival at Prestfelde

Tuesday 28 January 2020

Shrewsbury School pupils swapped roles and became dance teachers for the day...



On Tuesday 21st January a group of our Shrewsbury School pupils from the Wednesday and Thursday afternoon dance groups went to Prestfelde School to take part in their Dance Festival.

Clara Nagle, Zoe Myint-Maung and Kate Woodman (all Mosers) Daisy David (EDH), Alice Lewis (MSH), Imogen Morgan (G) and James Kenyon (Ch), were the dancers who represented the School, spending their day on the opposite side of the dance floor to usual, teaching dance to local primary school pupils.

The purpose of the day was for the participating schools to learn dances, which they will then perform together on 17th March at Prestfelde's Dance Festival. The show will also include a performance from our own dancers.

A massive thank you to all our wonderful dancers who took the time firstly to choreograph and learn their dances to take to Prestfelde, and then to teach and inspire others. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to see what it is like to be the teacher rather than the pupil and they have all given positive feedback on their day, with the staff at Prestfelde praising their attitude and enthusiasm.



The Prestfelde Dance Festival has come at a very exciting time for dance at Shrewsbury School, with numbers in Wednesday sport and Thursday activities at an all-time high as we eagerly look forward to the opening of the new theatre. Mirrors, sprung floor, ballet barres and a place we can call home awaits us.

If you would like to see our fantastic dancers in action, we will be holding our Shrewsbury School Dance Showcase on the evening of 25th March in Alington Hall.

Sian Archer (Dance Teacher)

British Cadet Rifle Team selection

Wednesday 29 January 2020

Congratulations to Ollie Taylor (R L6), who has been selected for the British Cadet Rifle Team and will tour with them to Canada during the Easter Holidays.

The team has a long and distinguished history dating back to 1910, when the first exchange visits of cadet teams from Australia, New Zealand, Canada and England took place. During the 1930s, the British cadet team came to be known as the 'Athelings' – a name that has stuck. The word is of Anglo-Saxon origin and means a 'young noble', usually the heir to a ruler or leader.

During the summer holidays, Ollie competed with the Royal Shrewsbury School Shooting Club at the prestigious Ashburton Shield Competition at Bisley, where he won a silver medal in the Ashburton Four and was awarded the McQueen Trophy for the highest achievement in Sniper Fire over 300 yards.

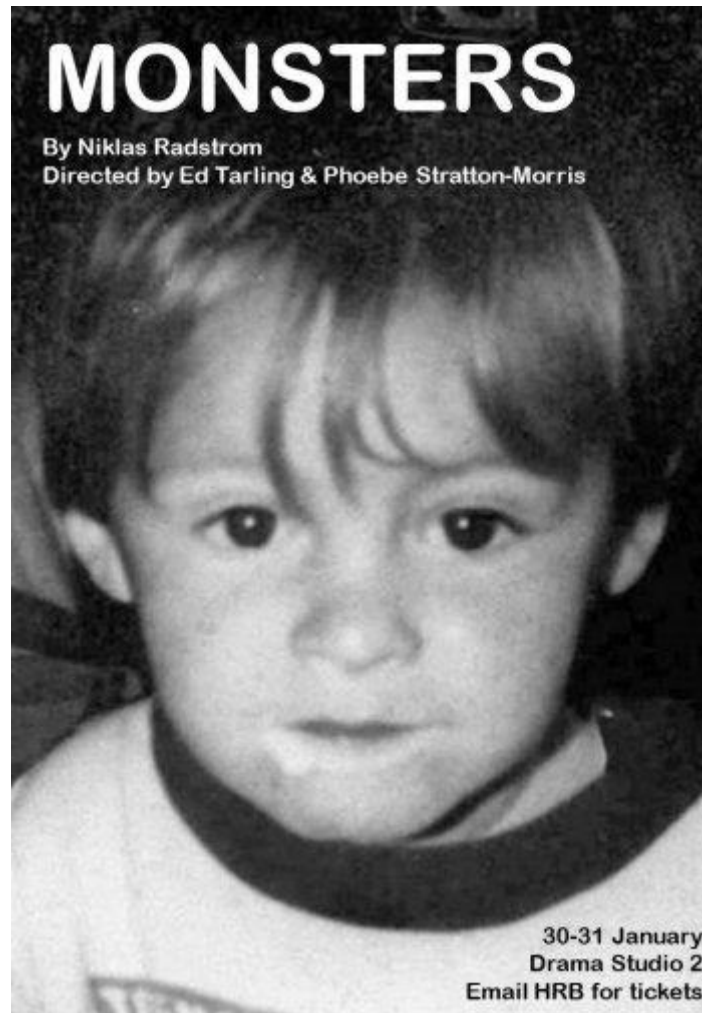


'Monsters' - review

Friday 31 January 2020

A review by Director of Drama Dr Helen Brown of a powerful, thought-provoking, disturbing and deeply moving directorial debut by Sixth Formers Ed Tarling and Phoebe Stratton-Morris.

The murder of Jamie Bulger remains one of the most troubling events in recent memory. In 1993, the toddler was abducted from a shopping centre by Robert Thompson and Jon Venables, both aged ten. Thompson and Venables tortured and murdered the little boy, whose body was found on railway tracks two days later. The nation was appalled. How could children do something so horrific? Could a child be born evil? Who was to blame?



Niklas Radstrom's play, based in large part on verbatim material from the trial, attempts to answer some of those questions. The audience, seated in-the-round in the claustrophobic surroundings of Drama Studio 2, are cast as the 38 adults who saw Jamie and his killers on the way to his death, but who did nothing to intervene. It is challenging – and at times distressing – to watch; it makes us question our responsibilities as a society as well as the role of theatre within that society. With its emotive name and subject matter, Monsters might seem to be simply fuelling the tabloid hysteria that surrounds cases such as Bulger's death. How do you turn a crime like that into art without being accused of feeding off other people's pain and misery?

Radstrom is insistent that the play is not trying to upset people: “The intention is always to create a space for dialogue. When the play was performed in Scandinavia, audiences didn't want to leave. They wanted to talk, because the play had given them permission to think about what happened, and why and what they might be able to do about it. In the end, only one thing could have stopped Bulger's murder - a single adult saying to those boys, 'Hey, what are you doing?' Nobody did.”

Tom Daly (PH) and Oscar Niblett (Ch) deliver moving performances as the two boys, sometimes sullen and defensive and sometimes heartbreakingly naïve: amid a harrowing

description of the crime, Robert's question, "Did they take him to hospital to bring him back to life?" is a jarring reminder of his youth.

The interrogation is led by two police inspectors, played by theatrical veteran Orlando Williams (Rt) and newcomer Joe Meisner (SH). As they slowly unpick the events leading to Jamie's death, their professional detachment starts to crumble: how can one remain aloof from the horror of 'children killing children'?

Lucy Lees, Annie Stocker and Phoebe Stratton-Morris (EDH) play the boys' mothers, each struggling to come to terms with the loss of a child. The mothers of the murderers and the murdered echo each other's pain: how can a mother stop loving her own child, even when the child isn't there anymore? All three performances are astonishingly powerful, demonstrating a maturity and sensitivity beyond the actors' years. Their refrain, "My love is there even when it isn't needed," has the ring of simple truth.

The audience's complex emotions are articulated throughout by the chorus of onlookers, made up of Imogen Jones (MSH), Imogen Morgan (G), Olivia Barnes (EDH) and Ed Tarling (R). Like the chorus of a Greek tragedy, they occupy a liminal space between the actors and the audience, challenging us to question our role as spectators who do not intervene: "I don't know what you expect to experience, now that you've come to the theatre to see two children killing a third. So you want to upset yourself with an experience that is frightening? Disturbing? Moving? Educational? Do you think it is useful to watch the enactment of two children killing a third? Do you think you can tell your friends, 'Last week, I went to the theatre and saw two children killing a third?'"

This is a play that asks questions, many of which are unanswerable. It was a brave choice by first-time student directors Ed Tarling and Phoebe Stratton-Morris, and has provided the School with one of its most thought-provoking nights at the theatre.

Dr Helen Brown
Director of Drama

Classical Civilisation Trip to Warwick University Ancient Drama Festival 2020

Friday 31 January 2020

On Friday 31st January, eight pupils from the Upper Sixth who are studying Classical Civilisation attended the Ancient Drama Festival held at Warwick University, which culminated in a performance of the Sophoclean masterpiece 'Oedipus The King'.

The play, regarded by Aristotle as the 'blue-print' for all other Greek tragedies, is a set text for students this year.

The innovative production, performed by current undergraduates, set the play in 1928 and had a *city-noir* twist. The arrogant West, fuelled by its industry, courses towards the Great Depression - themes reflected in Oedipus' relationship with his own fate. Oedipus, King of Thebes, searches for the murderer of his predecessor, Laius. His city has become diseased and impoverished, destined to remain so until the killer is revealed. The investigation draws Oedipus towards a prophecy he has always dreaded. As the day darkens, fate begins to spiral out of his control.



Before this performance, which, as Aristotle dictated, left pupils feeling both pity and horror (before they faced the horror of the M6 on a Friday afternoon), Salopians spent the morning attending a series of lectures on Greek Theatre; this was useful for their A level, but also, looking beyond the Moss Gates on Ashton Road, gave them a taster of what university will be like, in terms of taking lecture notes!

Many thanks to Mr Clark for organising.

*Paul Fitzgerald
Head of Classics*

Shrewsbury School Golfers win through to ISGA Regional Final

Friday 31 January 2020

Congratulations to Rory McDonald-O'Brien (PH 4), Sam Austen (SH L6) and Will Austen (SH U6), who won 2-1 at Oswestry Golf Club on Thursday 23rd January.

They will face Denstone in the Regional Final and will be hoping to repeat the success Rory and Sam achieved last year (together with former Captain of Golf Ted Williams), when they not only reached the ISGA National Finals but finished in an impressive sixth place.



Looking forward to the TES Independent School Awards ...

Friday 31 January 2020

As we look forward to the TES Independent School Awards Dinner on 7th February, these two videos give an insight, through the words of pupils, into some of the reasons why Shrewsbury School has been shortlisted for both the Boarding School of the Year Award and the Creativity Award.

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