

# METEOR

2014



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Cover image: Esmond Burton's sculpture in the Memorial Chapel of a Second Lieutenant of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. The sculpture was modelled on Wilfred Evelyn Littleboy (SH, 1909-14), who was killed near Gheluvelt in October 1917, aged 21.

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Copies of many of the images used in this issue of the *Meteor* can be purchased via Rugby School's Imagebank, which can be accessed through the Parent Portal or at [www.gimagebank.co.uk/rugbyschool](http://www.gimagebank.co.uk/rugbyschool). Imagebank allows parents of pupils to view and order any image in the School's complete library of photographs.



At the end of the summer term of 1914 no one at Rugby could have imagined the dizzying series of events that would lead to the outbreak of war that August, nor the extent or horror of a conflict that, over the next four years, claimed the lives of 686 ORs and over 16 million others. Indeed, the *Meteor* of 28 July 1914 speaks mostly of cricket matches, academic prizes and, in a letter from one disgruntled correspondent, the quality of singing in Chapel. By the beginning of the Advent term of 1914, however, the *Meteor* already records the deaths of 14 ORs, including that of Second Lieutenant Harold Alexander Boyd, who would have been known personally to many of the boys in School – he had left just two years previously. Reading that summer copy of the *Meteor* now, one is struck in particular by the words of the boy editor – he would have been in the XX – as he thinks about leaving Rugby to take up his place in the world beyond School:

*In the outer world men may not notice us or may trample us underfoot by force of numbers; in the outer world we may not get a chance of showing our real character, or may feel we are at the mercy of circumstances.*

When he wrote these words, this boy could not have known how prescient they were, how many young men like him would find themselves ‘at the mercy of circumstances’, would be trampled underfoot in the mud of a battlefield, would never to get the chance to show his real character. It is up to us today to honour the memory of such young men. The School is commemorating the First World War across this centenary year, and over the next four years to 2018, through various projects, remembering with gratitude those who gave their lives, considering the events of the War in their wider context and ensuring that its importance to each and every one of us is never forgotten in the world of tomorrow. Much will be written about these commemorations in future editions of the *Meteor* and we encourage as many people as possible to submit articles about them so that, in another 100 years, someone may sit reading this magazine and know the War was remembered. Rusty MacLean has written a very absorbing account of life at Rugby during the War, which is included in this edition; please turn to pages 38-39.

This year also marks the departure of the Head Master, Patrick Derham, after thirteen years of excellent leadership. Mr Derham’s dedication to the School and his contribution to the wider Rugby community are recorded in thoughtful tributes from the Chairman of the Governors and

# EDITORIAL

Mrs Rosser (pages 6-9). These tributes sit alongside those to the other members of staff who are leaving this year, some to become Head Masters in their own right, others for new endeavours – we wish everyone who is leaving the best of luck for the future.

Following its tenth anniversary last year, The Arnold Foundation for Rugby School was again celebrated this year with a series of fundraising events, which included a hugely successful Parent Celebration Dinner in May in the newly-opened Collingwood Centre Hall. The Arnold Foundation is undoubtedly Mr Derham’s lasting legacy to Rugby and so it is only right that this has been recognised through the creation of the Patrick Derham Bursary Award, which will help continue the Arnold Foundation’s vital work of providing opportunity to those from difficult circumstances who would benefit from a boarding education. A review of the Arnold Foundation’s work this year may be read on page 25.

Rugby is always a busy place, and this year has been no exception to that. The following pages are a glorious celebration of a huge amount of activity and achievement in every sphere – academic work, trips and visits, drama, music and games. Much else has happened in the School that is not recorded here (some testament in itself) but we hope that we have given a fair representation of the many talents and interests that make Rugby such an exciting place to be.

We would like to thank the many staff and pupils who have sent us articles and reports over the course of the year and whose artwork we have used; Amanda Hunter and the staff and Gillman and Soame for supplying us with many of the photographs we have used; and to Tim Mercer and Reuben Wakeman at Mercer Design for all their hard work and expertise.

**ACL and RJS  
2014**



The National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire is a place where the nation remembers those who died in war. At its heart is the Armed Forces Memorial, inscribed with the names of the 16,000 men and women who have lost their lives through war or terrorism since 1945. At 11am on 11 November this year, the sun's rays shone through slots in the outer and inner walls of the memorial, casting a beam across a wreath in its centre. Within the Arboretum's 150 acres are nearly 300 other memorials to men and women of the armed services, of civilian organisations and of voluntary bodies. One such memorial, recently installed, is to the young men and women of the country's Cadet Forces. Rugby's CCF was asked to send a contingent to the dedication of this new memorial. The Chaplain was invited to give this address:

This memorial symbolises certain things which belong together but can so easily become separated. So we are here today to make some connections. Some of us are here from Rugby School, where the game of Rugby football began. Each time a game of rugby takes place, we are maintaining a connection that goes back 180 years to the occasion when a young man picked up the football and ran with it. To remind us of that connection, a plaque stands on the wall beside the playing field to this day. It connects the past with the present, the living with the dead.

In our Christian worship we have the service of Holy Communion, where we eat bread and drink wine to remember Jesus who ate and drank with his disciples on the eve of his own suffering and death; the occasion on which he said, 'greater love has no man than this - that he lay down his life for his friends.' When a Christian takes the bread and wine of Communion, we feel a connection right back over the miles and over the centuries to that sacrifice which so changed the world. And today this memorial, and our presence at this ceremony, are also here to make some connections.

First, this plaque commemorates former members of the Combined Cadet Force who gave their lives in service of their country. And so it makes a connection between their sacrifice and that of the many thousands of other men and women remembered in this arboretum, who died in conflicts in many countries at many different times.

No human life is worth any more or any less than any other human life; no death in war is any more or less of a loss to the loved ones left behind. This national memorial bears witness to the paradox of remembrance: that although the violent death of any man diminishes us all, yet each act of sacrifice made for the sake of others and for the greater good enriches and exalts our humanity. And so the memory of the humblest CCF cadet will quite rightly be kept here in this proud place among the names of famous regiments and historic individuals. This memorial connects the CCF with all these other organisations, military and civilian, and for that reason alone should make us proud this morning.

But in addition to that, there is another connection to remember today. I mean the connection between what we do in our CCF groups on Thursday afternoons (or Tuesday evenings, or whenever it is that you meet) – the connection between that and the reality of armed conflict with all its duties and sacrifices in several parts of the world right now.

This plaque and our presence at this ceremony remind us that when we come along to parade, rushing from the classroom or from lunch, tucking our stray hair into our sixth-hand beret, hoping the RSM won't notice last week's mud on our boots, then throwing ourselves into ditches on section attacks and ambushes – it's not a game. Yes, we enjoy it, most of the time, as we should. But today reminds us that there are young men and women, not much older than us, wearing the same uniform and carrying out the same routines in places where the risks are real and the consequences immense. There are many former CCF cadets serving in the military. Today in particular we mark our connection with those men and women whose service began on a CCF parade ground, marching as we march, learning as we learn – and whose desire to serve led them to an end that no-one would have wished.

Connections: the CCF and the wider military family; the weekly school parade and the night patrol in Afghanistan; the past, the present and the future; the living and the dead. All connected.

We are part of that.

And now we are part of this.

**RMH**

## CHAPLAIN'S NOTES



## FROM THE HEADS OF SCHOOL

It often feels like Rugby is in its own little bubble, with its hectic day-to-day routine separating the School from the outside world. However, the School constantly reminds us of wider issues and not to take what we have for granted. Every week, for example, we're given the opportunity to give back to the community in all kinds of different ways through the Community Action programme, and it's great that this has inspired so many pupils to look beyond the School gates. Whatever they've done – be it working in a charity shop or being part of the Rainsbrook reading and drama activities – we know that many people in our year will leave School this year with a real sense of personal satisfaction because of the work they've done in the community and many positive memories that they'll cherish forever. Rugby doesn't allow you to sit back and put your feet up (unless, of course, you have a double out – sorry, 'study period' – on a Friday afternoon) and the School has certainly taught us to give 100% in everything we do, from academic work to games to extracurricular activities. It really is possible for everyone to find something they enjoy at this School and, with dedication and perseverance, any pupil might find something new that they can thrive at with other people who become their friends.

Something we have valued a lot in our time here is the House system. Each House has its own particular quirks, values and support system, and visiting them all this year for lunch has been very interesting. It's clear that every pupil is fiercely loyal to their House and that's good – it means you stand by one another, through all School throws at you. We'll certainly remember how each of our Houses have pulled together, with Griffin winning this year's House Singing Competition and, last year, Sheriff winning House hockey with only three proper hockey players.

This year's Levee have been brilliant – and only partly because of our constant nagging of them through social media. Their monitoring of junior socials, their presence on the various School councils and their tireless work with inter-year partnerships have all been great; and we certainly appreciate how much they've helped lighten the load of our responsibilities. One piece of advice for any aspiring Levee in the future – learn what the word actually means. There's nothing more embarrassing than being asked to explain it to a visiting speaker and then spending the next few minutes umming and ahing while you rack your brain for anything you remember from GCSE French.

There is another group of people who have had a huge impact on our lives: the staff. The staff have made a significant contribution to our development, helping us transform ourselves from immature 13 year olds into 18-year-old-and-no-longer-quite-so-immature adults. No member of staff at Rugby is just a teacher in the classroom: each one gives up their time to supervise trips or to go through a prep question in House at 10.30pm. The effort our particular teachers have put into our lives has been amazing and we've rarely had the opportunity to thank them for it – so, thank you.

Like us, we're sure the rest of the XX feel ready to leave Rugby at the end of this year. What we're certain of, though, about ourselves and about them, is that Rugby will always feel very close to home.

**Harrison Anton (Shf)  
& Eliza Talbot-Williams (G)**

## Patrick Derham, 2001

I left Rugby in 1968, with a record distinguished only by its lack of distinction. My father also went to Rugby – in fact, we were both in the same House. But despite this long connection with the School, for many years there was very little tying me back to it, little binding me to its community. What happened to change my relationship with Rugby? The answer is simple – Patrick Derham.

I first met Patrick in 2002, when the Arnold Foundation was just a gleam in his eye – albeit a 1,000 watt gleam! Michael Fowle, my predecessor as Chairman, but also my first ever boss when I joined KPMG, had asked if I would be interested in joining a new venture. I met Patrick; he set out a vision for the Arnold Foundation entirely in sympathy with the School's historic charitable mission, to reconnect the School with a wider section of society; and my answer was a resounding yes. I joined the first Arnold Foundation Board in 2003 and the School's Governing Body in 2004. Twelve years on from that first meeting, I count myself hugely fortunate to have travelled with Patrick on such an exciting journey.

The Arnold Foundation is the lasting legacy of Patrick's time at Rugby. The work has been groundbreaking in the independent boarding school sector and the establishing of the national SpringBoard Bursary Foundation to replicate its mission is a reminder of Rugby's pioneering work. But the wider effect of the Arnold Foundation on the School community should not be underestimated: its objectives have galvanized alumni and parents in a remarkable way, with (to date) over £16 million having been raised to help disadvantaged children. But we should go back to the beginning.

Patrick joined the School in 2001 after Michael Mavor had achieved major steps in moving it into full co-education and helped it rediscover its confidence. Patrick took this platform and super-charged it to transform Rugby into arguably the top co-educational boarding school in the country. The first things you notice about Patrick are the intensity of his gaze, his restless impatience and his palpable energy. It is this energy that has allowed him to connect with every part of the School – every pupil and every member of staff – and to set a clear strategic course for the School and deliver it. Something else you notice is Patrick's fierce pride in the Rugby community and his evident connection with its history. No recent head master of Rugby can have more embodied the pioneering spirit of Thomas Arnold or been more conscious of its tradition than Patrick. His passion for the School is obvious in everything he does. I have kept each of his Head Master's reports to the Governing Body for the thirty terms that I have served because they tell a remarkable and uplifting story of a school that is ambitious and striving to do the very best for each individual pupil.

Rugby has always made clear that its aim is to teach lessons for life and to equip its pupils with a set of behaviours and attitudes to guide them through the world outside. Academic achievement is important: it is a key measure of a school's success and a necessary entry ticket to university and a career. But it is only part of the education Rugby provides. Patrick has always been clear in everything he says and does that there are other qualities that define Rugbeians and equip them for a competitive, fast-changing world. Service, tolerance, kindness, perseverance, resilience and curiosity are just some of the attributes and qualities that Patrick encourages. Patrick often refers to the unpretentious nature of the School. Unpretentiousness has always been a hallmark of the School but it is the warmth and kindness that underlie unpretentiousness that are now Rugby's main characteristics. Patrick should take credit for that. Rugby is a happy School.

And to return to one of those qualities – service. No one who has heard Patrick talk can fail to be struck by his conviction that service is an essential part of what distinguishes individuals. Service has always been part of the Rugby tradition: in this centenary year of the outbreak of the First World War the 682 Rugbeians whose deaths are commemorated in the Memorial Chapel are a sad testament to that. But Patrick has defined service in a way that is relevant today. He will leave the School with an ethos refreshed in a modern context.

And Patrick will leave the School with much else besides. Rugby has been innovative in many aspects of education reform; the Pre-U and the extended project qualifications are obvious examples. The fabric of the School has never been stronger. With the opening of the Modern Languages Building and the Collingwood Centre, the major capital programmes are largely complete; and both buildings are key parts in the delivery of our core educational mission. That these programmes have been possible while avoiding debt is because of the reputation of the School, which has never been higher in my lifetime. The school is full and future entry lists are strong.

No account of Patrick's time here would be complete without mentioning his wife, Alison. All people in high profile jobs need someone who, from time to time, tells them a few home truths or who gets them to see matters in a wider perspective. Alison has been that person for Patrick. She is an incredibly important part of how Patrick has succeeded as he has. We all know we owe her a huge debt of gratitude.

When Patrick hands on the baton to Peter Green, he will leave a School in, as he would say, 'very good heart'. That phrase is an understatement of all he has achieved here, although he would say that that there is still more to do. The joy of Rugby is that it has

a history stretching back nearly 450 years. But histories are only the sum of shorter time spans, where individuals make a difference. I believe that when the next history of the School is written Patrick will have earned his place in its continuing story as a genuinely outstanding Head Master. I count myself fortunate to have shared twelve of those years with him.

We all wish Patrick well at Westminster. He and I will be close neighbours there, separated by only a few hundred yards!

### Robert Swannell Chairman of the Governing Body

My first meeting with Patrick was with Malcolm Burns (then Senior Hm) in Whitelaw in 2000. We had been asked to meet each of the prospective candidates for the headship and to give a view to the Governors. Malcolm and I directed our carefully considered questions at the first two candidates and were satisfied with their answers. Then Patrick walked in. The clear blue eyes and the matching sock and tie combination were striking and Malcolm and I suddenly found ourselves on the receiving end of a number of incisive questions about the School that Patrick clearly wanted answered. We knew who the successful candidate was likely to be!

Life at Rugby under Patrick has not been dull. He is intensely driven and the whirl of energy he creates around himself sucks everyone in. Patrick never stands still – and his exhaustless energy can also be exhausting! Nobody within the School community – whether they agree with him on things or disagree with him – can help but admire his passion and desire to make all aspects of the School the best that they can be. He delegates to those he trusts and expects everyone to do their job well. Indeed, experiencing Patrick's disappointment is something very few people do twice! Of course, the School prides itself on how much it values outstanding academic performance, but this never comes at the expense of excellence in other fields as well. This philosophy has been the hallmark of how Patrick has lived his life with us and all areas of the School have thrived as a result.

Patrick appointed more than a third of the current teaching staff and teaching is at the heart of what he believes makes up a school. His own teaching is excellent and pupils who have been taught by him have been inspired by his passion for and knowledge of his subject. He has never missed a lesson, always gathering pupils in School House early in the morning or late in the evening on days when being absent from the classroom is unavoidable. The establishment of the secretive Black Lamp Society and witnessing the

intellectual finesse and creativity with which pupils there argue current affairs has given him great pleasure. Everyday contact with pupils matters very much to Patrick, and whether it is in the classroom, in the houses or on the games field as he rides by on his bike (and who can ever forget that beautiful Dutch bike!), the interest that he shows in every boy and girl is clear to see. He genuinely knows each pupil by name and takes a real interest in every aspect of their progress, whether they appreciate it or not. The thrill that he experiences in receiving emails from time to time from past pupils remembering him as they walk past a Pitt memorial or thanking him for their opportunities at School, has never diminished over the years. Patrick also takes great pride in watching how his staff develop, and it is no surprise that under him eight members of the Common Room have moved on to headships. Actually, very few people leave Rugby except to gain promotions.

As we all know, Patrick is a passionate advocate of the transformational power of education and whenever he addresses the School or the wider community he consistently returns to this theme. He believes that every pupil at Rugby has been given a gift and he urges them to, in his own words, 'Use the voices you have developed to speak up, to speak your own mind and to draw out others around you. But more importantly help those who cannot speak up for themselves.' His commitment to the School's legacy of service to the community has ensured that our Community Action programme continues to grow. He takes pride in the links we have established with the Coventry Diocesan Board of Education and the mentoring programme in local schools, which currently occupies over ninety of our senior pupils. This service is his own words writ large: 'Go and give yourself to your communities and to this world, and in the process, do so for others and not for yourself alone'. Patrick has also resurrected whole-school sponsored walk so that every pupil who spends five years at Rugby has the opportunity to participate once in their time here.

There are no greater or well-established expressions of this commitment to the wider world than the Arnold Foundation for Rugby School (which Robert Swannell writes about above) and the School's link with Future Hope School in Kolkata. Patrick, his wife Alison, and their children Emma and Rupert, have given freely of their own time to develop and cement the links with Future Hope, visiting Kolkata two or three times a year to offer advice and expertise in many different areas. Patrick knows the children there by name and the fondness with which he speaks of them and of their circumstances can melt even the hardest of hearts. The few days I spent there in February demonstrated just how fondly 'Patrick Uncle' is thought of by both the teachers and the boys and girls alike. As hard as it is to imagine



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“Confident, definitely, in all that he does,  
but with a humility that draws people to him”

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Patrick in India on the floor playing with Meccano or eating rice with his fingers I can assure you that he does - I have proof!

For those of us caught up in the day-to-day busyness of School life it can be all too easy to forget the importance of our public profile. During Patrick's time here there is no doubt that Rugby School has risen to national prominence in the political arena and his voice is very much one that is listened to during government consultations. A leading innovator of the way in which bursaries can change lives, Patrick is regularly consulted on this issue and he presents on this topic at all the major conferences. His legacy in the form of our own Arnold Foundation and as a trustee of the national Boarding Bursaries Foundation – SpringBoard – is held as the shining example of true partnership work with socially deprived areas of the UK and the benefits of a boarding education. In a typically selfless way his leaving gift is a bursary in his name so that a pupil is able to have the opportunity to experience for themselves the boarding education that Patrick values so highly.

Over the years, Patrick has been consulted and has taken the lead on all manner of school and educational developments. He has taken a lead role in improvements to the Common Entrance Examination, for example, and taken part in reform of the secondary school History curriculum. Alongside his instigation of reviews of sixth form education and assessment he has become a go-to headmaster for governments looking for both wisdom and inspiration in educational reform.

I have been asked many times during the years that I have worked with Patrick how I would describe him. In my mind he is a visionary Head Master, strongly influenced by his own background and education, and his supreme self-confidence undoubtedly makes things happen. To me, nothing sums up his quality as a leader better than a phrase that the Bishop of Birmingham used recently in the School confirmation service. Bishop David commented that great leaders possess five leadership qualities and all leaders have all of these in common; but the greatest of great leaders also possess the quality of 'confident humility' and this sets them apart from the rest. For me, this phrase captures Patrick completely. Confident, definitely, in all that he does, but with a humility that draws people to him.

It is clear to all who know him well that his job means everything to him, with his family coming a very close second. They are not offended - they know him better than anyone.

I have very much enjoyed the challenge of working closely with Patrick since 2001. He has continued to build on the traditions handed down to Rugby through the years by some of the country's greatest educationalists. And there is no doubting the fact that he has a conscious and instinctive feel for the principles of liberal education, subscribing as much to Matthew as to Thomas Arnold in this respect.

On his first Speech Day in 2002, Patrick reflected on that day in history. It was the date that London wildly celebrated Admiral Howe's defeat of the French at Ushant. Patrick said: 'On this occasion in the splendidly refurbished and improved TSR, I look back on Pittite Britain in the hope that this, my first Speech Day, will herald no such fanfares and celebrations but simply a staging post in the continued success of this great School.' This term has seen many fanfares and celebrations of the work that he has done – not his wish but ours, in recognition of his work. He also quoted Napoleon, who before he appointed a general would ask, 'Has he luck?' I know that Patrick has always considered himself to have been very lucky to have had the opportunity to guide Rugby through the last thirteen years and the pupils, parents and staff who have been with him during that time consider themselves to have been very lucky, too.

As Patrick himself has said, 'Rugby wasn't born great but did achieve greatness under Dr Arnold.' I have no doubt that there will be many who will look back at Patrick's tenure and say that it also achieved greatness under him. I have seen first-hand how very sad he is to leave the community of which he and his family have grown so fond. At his last School Assembly a few weeks ago, Patrick threw down the challenge to us to 'Remain connected with each other and to this School. Take the connections and special friendships that you have formed at Rugby with you, and nurture them in years to come.' I know that he and his family will follow this advice and he, Alison, Emma and Rupert take with them to Westminster School our very best wishes for their future happiness.

**SAR**

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From left to right, top to bottom: John Jarvis, Peter Dewey, Peter Richard, Chris John, Bob Drennan, Matt Williams, Henry Price, Toby Beaumont, Tim Shaw, Claire Le Hur, Mark Semmence, Andrew Christie, Kieran McLaughlin, Elly Nicoll, Tim Roberts, Paul Shelley and Gerry Spreng

## John Jarvis, 1975

John must be one of the very few people to have been interviewed for a job at Rugby after the end of term. Since there were no pupils around, there was obviously no lesson for him to teach and as far as he can remember the interview consisted simply of a gentle stroll around the Close on a glorious July evening with Jim Woodhouse (the Head Master), discussing golf, cricket and only the odd bit of Biology. Having been offered the job, John was again unusual in starting half way through a term, arriving in Rugby with his then wife Carol in November 1975. John has two children from his first marriage; the elder son, James, was in Town House from 1995-2000. At the end of this year, John will leave the School after almost 40 years' service – not many staff nowadays will work for their entire teaching career in one establishment.

John was educated at King's School, Bruton, where his Housemaster was John Norton, the brother of Fred Norton (Housemaster of Whitelaw, 1978-90). He read Zoology at Aberdeen University (where apparently he was a bus conductor in his spare time!) and then spent a year at the University of Western Ontario looking at animal behaviour as part of his MSc. Youthful looking, mop-haired and with a pair of sideboards fit for any good 1970s student, John joined the Biology Department in the autumn of 1975 and has always been a highly respected teacher of the subject. John Winchester (his Head of Department) recalls that, although John's desk was piled high with files, he never really needed to use them since he clearly knew the material he had to teach; and the excellent examination results he has achieved speak for themselves. It is perhaps not surprising that John has seen huge changes in the teaching of Biology over the years but, being a hoarder, he has kept all of his old notes on the premise that if you leave it long enough it is bound to come round again! Given that he started teaching about twenty years after the discovery of DNA and well before we knew anything about genetic fingerprinting and the human genome project, there is certainly a lot of material to be sorted through now that he is about to retire. For many years, John ran the annual Biology field trip and even spent time driving round France with John Winchester trying to find a suitable Biology Field Centre – they finally settled on one in Seix! Apparently, when John was planning these trips, the word in the Department was often 'Don't mention the slope measurer'. Somewhere there exists a video of the 1986 field trip to Dale Fort in Pembrokeshire which vividly illustrates why you should make sure you understand how a piece of apparatus works before trying to demonstrate it in front of a group of very bright sixth formers! It clearly did them no harm, however – many went on to become doctors and vets.

A keen sportsman, having played hockey for the combined Scottish universities, not long after arriving at Rugby John was asked to run hockey as his main extra-curricular activity. In those days, it was a very different game: there were no astroturfs and terms such as 'bully off' and 'roll in' were still in use. After almost twenty years in this role, John bowed out on a high with both the U16s and U18s getting to the National Finals in his last year in charge. Since then he has continued to umpire school matches on a regular basis. John also ran the 'Senior Club' cricket and remembers the 1987-88 team as a particularly good one, with Tim Day (the current Housemaster of Michell) as the leading run scorer. John also played tennis, has helped with golf and ran the School Ski Trip for many years.

During his time at Rugby, John has held various whole-school positions, including Examinations Officer and Fire Officer.

These are both now jobs done by a full-time employee, but in John's day he did them in addition to his teaching and games commitments! In more recent years, John has organised various Parents' Club events and, being a keen 'quizzer' himself, has been Rugby School's very own Jeremy Paxman, acting as quizmaster in the annual House Challenge Competition. All members of staff are attached to a house and John has worked in four during his time at Rugby, starting in School Field under Tom Buckney, moving to Cotton for a few years, joining Stanley just after it started up as a Sixth Form girls' house, and now tutoring in Southfield, where his wisdom has been greatly valued by the girls.

John's departure marks the end of an era. We wish John and Ruth many happy years of retirement in their new home in Vicarage Road.

NJM

## Peter Dewey, 1984

Educated at Worth School and then at Durham University, and forever a keen sportsman, Peter arrived at Rugby in 1984 with the distinctions of playing rugby for England at colts level and captaining a notably successful University XV. Peter quickly made a mark here as a rugby coach who expected his charges to play the game fairly and with a proper attention to skills and who always had infinite time for those who sought to improve as players – quite rightly, he is recognised both locally and nationally as an outstanding coach. Peter took charge of the XV from 1991 to 2003, with notable success both during the Advent term and in the Lent term at sevens. Peter made a similar mark in the History Department, where he made himself into an expert in his chosen periods of specialism – the Third Reich and the Vietnam War. The attention to detail of his notes for A level classes is legendary.

During his thirty years at Rugby, Peter has contributed a huge amount to the School's games programme as, variously, master in charge of tennis, association football and, more recently, rackets. In all things sporting, he has been a stickler for admirably old fashioned values: respect for the game as well as for the opponent is insisted on. These values were carried through into a long period as officer in charge of the Royal Marines detachment of the CCF – indeed, Peter's extraordinary attachment to an ancient pair of puttees was even commented on at CTC Lymington.

Peter has also been an exceptional tutor. For nearly all of his time here he tutored boys in Cotton before moving latterly to School Field. Peter expects high standards of his tutees but also shows great patience and sympathy. They know that they have no stauncher supporter if they are giving their best and need help. Among colleagues, as secretary of the Senior Common Room, he was respected for preparing and serving probably the finest pint of Hook Norton in the world, and is renowned for never missing a day's work through illness – though he is reported to have once overslept and cut a lesson in 1985!

Locally, Peter is well-known in the rugby football community, having excelled as a player for Rugby Lions and Northampton. He gave many hours of his own time to coach representative teams, culminating in the great honour of appointment to the England Schools Under 18 coaching team. His self-deprecating humour and remarkable skills as a raconteur made

him a well-received after-dinner speaker at rugby events. With the advent of the internet, his humour has become more widely disseminated via emails that one is always wise to consider carefully where and when to open...

Rugby School and its pupils have been immensely fortunate to have benefitted from Peter's skills, energy and schoolmasterly ethos over the last thirty years. And so have we who have enjoyed his friendship.

We wish him well for the future.

**HGSB**

## Peter Richard, 1984

Schoolmastering is about much more than getting pupils through exams, although this is an essential part of it. A proper education should also encourage diversity of talents, a clear focus on the wider community and the full breadth of career opportunities; and the teaching of such is all the more effective when delivered through the lens of experience. Peter Richard has quietly, modestly, but very effectively, fitted this mould in his 30-year career at Rugby, always relating his teaching to the real world, leading by example, pushing initiatives and urging pupils to adopt a breadth of vision and a 'can-do' spirit which takes them far beyond their immediate, selfish interests.

After reading Mechanical Engineering at Leeds University and a spell with Rolls Royce, Peter taught at Batley Boys' Grammar School for eight years, before coming to Rugby in 1984. The overlaps between physics, electronics, systems and engineering technology would provide both the heart of Peter's 30 years of teaching here and a rich soil for experimentation and growth, after an early tutelage under Geoff Foxcroft. On top of his very effective classroom teaching, Peter has contributed much to the daily running of the Science Department through his advice and keen use of apparatus wherever possible over computer simulations, his design and development of equipment and circuits (such as the house challenge quizmaster system) and his help in organising the department's extensive collection of apparatus. In addition to working in Physics, Peter designed the Technology labs, where he taught GCSE Systems and Control, AS level Electronics and the Extended Project in Engineering Technology. 'Flying' the School hovercraft flourished under his enthusiastic guidance, and in the days before the Internet and tablets, Peter had the often arduous task of being responsible for audiovisual provision around the school, having to deal not just with the weight of those big old TVs, but also with the idiosyncratic demands of colleagues. With his background, it was natural that he should run the Engineering Education Scheme and Engineering Society – leading pupils through design and production projects run by Warwickshire County Council or by local companies such as Cemex or Morgan Est – as well as the Renault Formula 1 in Schools Challenge. It is entirely typical of Peter's uncomplaining dedication that involvement in these national competitions often demands significant amounts of his holidays; no less typical of his expertise is that Rugby often appeared on the podium.

After a couple of years as a free agent, Peter has been a tutor in Kilbracken for an impressive 28 years, guiding and supporting five grateful housemasters with his calm, pragmatic approach. Peter has worked consistently hard with his many tutees, beginning with the key foundations of self-discipline and organisation, and then encouraging them in the pursuit of skills

and dreams. He has been unfailingly generous in offering extra help to any with Maths and Science problems, always efficient in following up demands or pursuing problems, and always willing and effective in helping to run the house, often taking the reins without any fuss.

Alongside Physics and Engineering, Peter has two further professional passions – sailing and music – which he has pursued with similar dedication and success. Peter has assisted with school sailing since he started here, running the sport from 1986-2000 and again in 2012-13, and winning many trophies along the way. As a qualified CCF Navy officer, RYA dinghy instructor and Coastal Skipper, he worked with the CCF Navy section for many years, running it from 1996-98. He acted as first officer on many cadet cruises to the West Coast of Scotland and across the Channel, including the Tall Ships race from London to Hamburg, where the regime seemed far from a relaxing holiday, but perhaps suitable for a boarding school master: 3 days of 6 hours on watch, 6 hours off. At the beginning of every summer for the last 20 years he has been an instructor on the Navy Cadets' summer camp at Portsmouth, and for many years assisted at the Duke of Edinburgh Award camps at Fremington in Devon.

Peter's love of and skill in music has prompted diverse achievements in characteristically understated fashion. Peter is a violinist of some stature, having performed in about 100 concerts as a first violin in the town's Rococo Players orchestra, but he is probably more familiar to the School as bass guitarist for the Rock of Ages staff band. Just as with sailing, his aim and joy has been as much to encourage the participation of others as himself, whether it be leading, with his wife Jane, a church music group in the community or taking on the Herculean feat of organising Kilbracken music evenings. It would be easy to object that the second of these two things has been an undeserved penury, but Peter has produced *con brio* and *senza sussurro*, eliciting performances from experts and complete amateurs, accompanying on violin, bass or piano. Most significantly, Peter has brought many otherwise reluctant artistes to the happy recognition of the satisfaction to be gained from performance at whatever level.

'Explore. Solve problems. Enjoy the results.' This would make a pretty good aphorism of Peter's can-do philosophy from which his many pupils and colleagues have benefited in so many ways over the years. The loss of his great experience in teaching and tutoring, as well as of the breadth and depth of his contribution to the wider life of Rugby's community, will leave a significant hole, although the School will no doubt want to take advantage of the fact that he will continue to live in Rugby to enjoy his skills for a while longer.

**JDM**

## Chris John, 1991

Wearing a bright red jacket and armed with a hefty set of paintbrushes, Chris made an immediate impact upon his arrival at Rugby in 1991. Prior to this, Chris had completed an art foundation course at Goldsmith's, a Fine Art degree at Winchester School, a PGCE at the London Institute and several years teaching Art and Music at a London comprehensive. Chris arrived at Rugby eager to meet his remit to establish a thriving centre for the arts. Initial impressions of Chris were formed the moment he attended a wine tasting evening at the Senior Common Room. Unaware it was a black tie event and

clad in a black polo neck, blue jeans and black leather jacket, his rock 'n roll credentials were cast in granite from that day forth.

In 1991, there were a total of five pupils studying Art in the now defunct Old Modern Languages building, the Design Centre had not yet opened and Art was the only creative subject on the timetable. As Head of Art, Chris used his enthusiasm and passion to broaden the creative curriculum to include Photography, Media Studies, Ceramics, Printmaking and Textile Design. Over the years, Chris stimulated the pupils' creative juices by leading numerous art trips to Spain, France and Italy. In addition, in 1995, he also directed the first International Arts Festival at the School. Behind the scenes, Chris was actively involved on the Collections Committee as well as the Creative and Performing Arts Committee. He worked hard to bring artists to exhibit in the Lewis Gallery, which he has overseen for the past five years.

Chris has been involved in house plays, school productions, set design and giving inspirational talks and lectures; he has also coached rugby football and assisted two cricket tours – indeed, the list of his contribution to the life of the School is endless. I feel privileged to have spent the past ten years working alongside him. During that time I have observed his natural gift for nurturing young talent, affectionately acknowledged by the pupils who refer to him as 'Papa John'. And his talent has enabled others to realise their own love of art. When Chris stepped down as Head of Art in 1996, to man the helm at Cotton, over two thirds of Rugby School pupils were enrolled in creative subjects.

Chris has cherished memories from his six years in Cotton, working with over 250 pupils who also remember him with great fondness. Reminiscences included discovering Trevor the house goldfish's affliction was the result of the addition of Irr-Bru to his bowl and not a genetic mutation as explained by the Cotton boys. Let's not delve deeper into the shaved guinea pig incident either. Needless to say, Chris' razor sharp wits served him well at Cotton.

After Cotton, as Director of the Design Faculty, Chris has served on a variety of whole-school committees, including the Curriculum and Academic Committee, the Health and Safety Committee and the Marketing and PR Committee. He has also served as Secretary of the Senior Common Room and, away from School, was appointed a governor of the Crescent School and was, for several years, the Chairman of its Governing Body.

After over 30 years as an educator, Chris still retains his love for painting and music, and in his retirement he is looking forward to indulging these passions further. Indeed, Chris says he now wishes to devote his time to 'all things creative' whilst also raising chickens and ducks and tending an organic garden. As a valued piece of the fabric of the everyday life of the School, Chris will be noticeably missed, as both a friend to many and revered colleague to all.

**AKF**

## Bob Drennan, 1992

Bob was flown in as a special delivery from the Cayman Islands with two specific briefs: to establish Drama and Theatre Studies as an academic subject at Rugby and to draw up a cohesive development plan for School productions. Before

Bob's arrival, there was a Stage Committee but it comprised just three members of staff, each with a separate area of responsibility. With Bob at the helm, drama at the School became more streamlined and professional, and in 1993 a specialist technician – Chris Harris – was appointed to advise on the technical aspects of the Macready Theatre and the newly opened Media Studio.

Many memorable School productions have benefitted from Bob's directorial and production skills and he has always prided himself on his involving of as many pupils as possible in each production, both on stage and behind the scenes. Bob has twice produced *The Pirates of Penzance* and his staging of *Macbeth* gave a unique twist to a familiar story. Bob's LXX production of *A Day in the Life of Joe Egg* went on tour to the Cayman Islands and even today former pupils remember that experience with a huge amount of affection. Each Christmas for three years in a row, Bob staged F Block pantomimes, and *Alice in Blunderland*, *The Jungle Book* and *Snow White* saw younger pupils working together to produce some real spectacles. Perhaps Bob's greatest legacy is the annual Arts Festival, which he thought up with Chris John, and which is now one of the highlights of the School year. Bob's wife Elizabeth was always fully involved in productions as his costume advisor and seamstress and her work in this area was very much appreciated. Bob stepped down as Head of Drama in 2000 to become Head of Media Studies and Director of Theatre Productions. His Media pupils have profited from the introduction of trips to Italy and Spain to film on location and the whole School has enjoyed seeing the fruits of some of their labours at the Christmas Concert.

Bob is a remarkable and committed Master in Charge of Golf. Although we hear that the better golfers are never advised to copy his technique, we know that they all greatly admire his competitiveness and his respect for the spirit of the game. Bob has forged some excellent links to the Old Rugbeian Golfing Society, which have greatly helped the improvement of the School's golfing infrastructure – the Anthony Armitage golfing facility on Caldecott's is proof of this. Alongside a number of outstanding individual players, the real highpoint of Bob's time as Master in Charge has to be the School's 2012 victory in the prestigious Gerald Micklem Cup – the first win for Rugby since 1954! Bob was so excited on his return to School that he drove straight up the Head Master's drive late at night to present him with the trophy!

After fifteen years, Bob is the longest serving tutor in School Field in recent memory. As Ed Beesley writes, Bob's dedication to his tutees in that time has been 'characterised by a frank appraisal of their weaknesses coupled with an understanding of their frailties'. Ed continues: 'Bob has been particularly strong with those pupils that have not found life easy and both current and former pupils appreciate his efforts. On a personal note, he was always willing to work beyond the call of duty and I will never forget the extra hours he worked when my father was ill – it is something I will always remember with affection and gratitude.'

Bob leaves Rugby to move to a house in the Borders town of Duns. With a links golf course close by and a connection to the Rugbeian Society, we know that he will feel like he has landed in heaven. He, Elizabeth and their family take our very best wishes for the future with them.

**SAR & HGSB**



## Matt Williams, 2000

Matt Williams came to Rugby in 2000 as a teacher of Drama, Theatre Studies and English from Licensed Victuallers' School in Ascot. Originally from the Midlands, Matt was moving closer to his home town of Birmingham. I think it is fair to say that Matt's life has been transformed during fourteen years at Rugby. He arrived here single, twenty-something, and rabble-rousing and leaves married, with three children and a Volvo!

Matt immediately built a firm friendship with Karen Atkin (later Lewis) in the Drama and Theatre Studies Department and the subject increased in popularity with two lively, young teachers on board. After Karen stood down as Head of Department in 2003, Matt ran the show until his calling into Cotton in 2007. Matt has put on many productions over the years, but perhaps the most memorable was *Much Ado about Nothing* for the Gala Production that celebrated 30 Years in the Macready.

Matt cares deeply about the pupils in his care and he has been a highly successful Assistant Housemaster in Sheriff and a transformational Housemaster in Cotton. Matt threw himself into life in Cotton with vigour and the house is almost unrecognisable from when he took the reins in 2007; not so much in terms of the physical improvements that have taken place, but more in terms of the atmosphere amongst the boys. Cotton has become a very civilised and pleasant environment and Matt has been the driving force behind the change.

Matt has always been keen on his sport and demands high standards and dedication from his team. He has been a highly successful coach of the 2nd XV, enjoying an unbeaten season in 2012, and a great source of support for Simon Brown. Cricket is also close to Matt's heart and he has coached a huge number of boys in his time here. He has represented the Old Guard with panache, not least during the post-match refreshments. Never one to shirk a challenge, Matt has also been involved in coaching badminton and hockey and has run the Clay Pigeon Shooting on Thursday afternoons for many years.

Touring and travel have always been high on Matt's agenda and his house is filled with mementos of his various exciting trips. Matt is a great travelling companion and I have been fortunate to have shared many overseas adventures with him. I remember with great fondness eating sashimi in Tsukiji fish market at 6am, watching a kangaroo bound down the pitch during the second half at Mudgee and the sheer delight of finding Desperados on tap in La Plagne. One piece of advice that I would give, based on what we like to call 'The Singapore Emergency', is if Matt begins a sentence with, 'Nothing to worry about, but...', start worrying! Also, don't let him look after the passports.

In recent times, Matt has taken on organising the Calendar and has been the Educational Visits Co-ordinator. This is no mean feat of organisation when also running a busy boarding house. He has been a much-valued member of the Guidelines Group and I have relied on his honest and straightforward opinions on many occasions.

Matt leaves Rugby to become the Deputy Head at Sidcot School. He has certainly made his mark at Rugby and the School will miss a dedicated and adept schoolmaster. I will miss a valued and trusted friend. I wish Matt, Nic, Henry, Anna and Joseph a very happy and successful future.

NGH

## Henry Price, 2001

Henry arrived at Rugby from Sherborne with only the bare necessities needed for a successful career as a teacher – his wife Mary, her collection of elephants and a large painting of a tempestuous sea. He leaves thirteen years later having ridden many storms himself, and with umpteen sofas, a few grey hairs and four (he was stopping after two) beautiful children.

'Pricey' is often described by his colleagues, and even by those who like him, as being rather grumpy. In fact, he has honed this particular character trait over many years of careful practice so that students will quake on being taught by him for the first time. His furrowed brow has become more fragmented over time, but those of us that know him well, will concede that it is all an act; in truth, Pricey is a pussy cat. For those of you who have been unable to see through his curmudgeonly veneer, you will not have been party to his incredible propensity for using 'cutesy' names for almost anything: Henry does not live in Rugby, but rather 'Rug, Rug'; his beloved Renault Clio was named 'Vroomy' and a night out can be 'the Merchies' followed by a 'cuzzer'.

My first encounter with Henry was back in 2001 at the Plough Inn in Everdon. We were celebrating an Old Guard victory and Henry had come up prior to starting that September. The things that stay with me from that first meeting are Henry's love of real ale (you must ask him about the sunk cost rule) and also his strength of character and ability to be his own man. He has never been easily swayed by public opinion and is incredibly fair in his dealing with pupils and colleagues. Always willing to look for the best in people, Henry is incredibly considered in his decision making and his sensitivity and moral compass are evident in all that he does. It was as a Classics teacher and Head of Classics that Henry really made his mark at Rugby. He inherited a department that was in a state of flux and not only steadied the ship, but more importantly re-energised it and took it forward. Classics under his leadership grew, developed and became fashionable; mostly due to his unflinching passion in all things ancient and a bit dusty. His students have always commented on how he was able to bring the classics to life and all hold him in the highest regard for his work in the classroom.

On the games field, Henry brought with him considerable expertise from coaching the 1st XV at Sherborne and also during time spent in Sydney. For many years Henry was a formidable coach of the U16A team and certainly his pack of forwards were under no illusions about how he wanted the game to be played. He has also coached plenty of cricket, although a very bad achilles (always a Classicist) injury, put paid to his own playing days. More lately he has turned his attention towards the beautiful game – he has coached netball for several years now. A keen runner and Crick entrant, Henry has been side-lined recently by a bad back. Alternatively, it may of course be due to being told off by the Head Master for pushing his way to the front of the start line a few years ago.

It is on the pastoral side where Henry has made the biggest impact. Originally a tutor and then Assistant Housemaster in Cotton, he moved to Griffin before taking over the helm at Sheriff. Many people thought that this was an easy role as a housemaster, but the truth was that there was much to do in developing a House that had not yet reached its potential. Keeping alive its strong musical traditions, he also civilised the 'Shezza Bad Boys' and made the House one of the best at Rugby. Always dear to his heart was the sporting prowess of the House and this was another key area Henry developed over time, adding silverware to the enviable atmosphere of

sportsmanship. In his last few years at Rugby he has taken on the challenging task of Senior Housemaster. Galvanising a sometimes disparate group of strong characters has not been easy, but he has done a sterling job and we are a much stronger team because of him. He has also broadened our sphere of reference by organising invaluable exchanges with the likes of Oundle and Uppingham. The sniff of SMT that this role gave him was all he needed to answer the call to run his own school – and how like Pricey dispense with the idea of being a deputy and go straight to headship. Henry has always been ambitious and keen for the next challenge, but has never lost sight of why he entered the profession in the first place. Equally he has always treated those around him with the utmost respect and has been a supportive and influential presence in the lives of many colleagues. Henry will succeed at Wellington School (Welly?) because of integrity, hard work and compassion – and because he is a damn fine schoolmaster.

The Prices will leave behind them a considerable hole in the School community and we wish Henry, Mary, Poppy, Wilfie, Bertie and Monty our fondest wishes. I know they will be missed and I count myself as very fortunate for us both to be only twenty minutes either side of a decent Somerset pub.

MRW

## Toby Beaumont, 2003

Toby was appointed to Rugby in 2003 to teach History. A year later, and he was running the Department – and doing that was no mean feat at the time, given it contained the Head Master, the Deputy Head, several housemasters and a housemistress. Of course, Toby managed the job with aplomb – indeed, there can be very few other heads of department who have ever treated their colleagues to an impromptu wine tasting at a department meeting! As a History teacher, Toby has won the respect of each of the classes he has taught. He has an excellent knowledge of the subject and a real love of talking about it with others in lessons characterised by fun, variety and progress.

Toby's pastoral care is similarly excellent. As the Assistant Housemaster in Dean for a number of years, he developed a close relationship with the girls, to whom he could offer a sympathetic ear and lots of useful advice. Many girls look back on his time in the House with affection and gratitude for all that he did for them.

I will always be very grateful for everything Toby did to help me with hockey, where he expertly coached a number of junior boys' and girls' A teams before taking on the responsibility of the boys' and girls' 2nd XIs, whom he has taken on to considerable success. Toby was the first member of staff to coach a Rugby hockey team to the National Hockey Finals – although I shamelessly like to take all the credit for that myself. In the cricket season, Toby has been an enthusiastic coach of the XXII, and I know how much the boys there have appreciated his help and guidance. In all sports, Toby takes great pride in winning but is always gracious and fair in defeat – he is a true sportsman.

Most recently, Toby has been Assistant Head (Upper School), which has seen him keeping a watchful eye over the progress of the XX and LXX and supervising the Upper School subjects' relocation to the Collingwood Centre. Toby's role also encompasses helping the XX with their UCAS applications, something at which Toby has worked particularly hard to so many pupils' benefit.

Toby has given everything of himself to the School but above all things he is a very dear friend whom we will all miss very much. Toby leaves Rugby to become Usher at Magdalen College School, where he is sure to be a great success. We wish him, and his wife Jill, all the very best for the future.

RD

## Tim Shaw, 2003

Tim joined the English Department in September 2003. From the start he was determined to stretch each of the pupils who were fortunate to come under his watchful eye. In his first year, he and I shared a XX set who, to begin with, made Tim's life difficult by resisting his methods of getting them to engage independently with the material he put in front of them. At the time, it would have been easy for him to relent and provide the pupils with a diet that consisted of him simply telling them what judgements they should have about the texts. Instead, he courageously pursued his purpose to encourage them to make their own responses and the results the following summer bore testimony to the wisdom of his enterprise. Tim often speaks affectionately about those early years, reflecting on the fact that they were demanding but fulfilling.

Over the course of the last 11 years, Tim has thrown himself into many areas of life at the School. He has been an excellent tutor in Michell and Assistant Housemaster then tutor in School Field. His respective housemasters were always grateful for the exceptional level of care that he extended to his tutees. Tim is currently a tutor in Marshall House where, again, his contribution has been much appreciated. He has occupied the position of Second in Department and brought a fine eye for detail to the role. He is regarded by many of his colleagues in the Department as a particular oracle on A level English Language, a subject in which he has been an examiner for a number of years. Moreover, Tim is a talented musician and has contributed his horn playing skills to the School band. Tim would not describe himself as a sportsman but he has brought to each supervisory role he has been asked to fill the same degree of energy and commitment that has characterised his career in the classroom. For several years, Tim managed the running of 3AA, a position that required great patience, organisation and imagination. Again, Tim's dedication to getting the job done properly was always apparent, even down to him rolling up his sleeves and beginning the gardening club.

Tim's assiduity and concern for the welfare of his pupils is exemplified in the time he devotes to visiting boys and girls in their boarding houses in order to assist them with their work. Year after year, and despite having a young family, Tim has been exceptionally generous in the time he has been prepared to give each of his pupils. Most days, Tim can be discovered at his classroom desk a good hour and a half before lessons begin.

Tim's interests outside School are extensive and wide-ranging; from fine art to motor cars, classical music to Portugal, Tim has a remarkably eclectic knowledge. He will frequently exclaim loudly over a magazine photograph of a Land Rover that, to the untutored eye, looks singularly unprepossessing. It is when Tim then expatiates on the vehicle's engine size and personal history that one starts to understand the particular attractions of the car and warm to its merits. Equally impressive is his ability to hear the sound of an approaching vehicle and identify virtually everything there is to know about the machine long before it hoves into view.

Tim’s instinct is always to help others. If one of his colleagues encounters a problem, Tim’s kindly nature will always seek to discover a solution, be the problem a jammed photocopying machine or an issue of a more significant character. He will be greatly missed by his colleagues and I know he will bring to his new role in the English Department at Warwick School the same vigour and commitment that he has shown here at Rugby.

**AJN**

## Claire Le Hur, 2005

‘*Salve* Miss Le Hur’ are words that I have uttered many times in the Classics Department over the last nine years and it is with gratitude, affection and a tinge of sadness that I now say, ‘*Vale* Miss Le Hur’.

All reading this will of course be aware that ‘*salve*’ (‘good morning’) and ‘*vale*’ (‘farewell’) are both second person singular imperatives from the verbs ‘*salveo – ere*’ and ‘*valeo – ere*’, but not all may be aware that these verbs are synonyms – ‘to be well or healthy, to flourish’. I know that I speak for numerous staff, parents and pupils, past and present, when I give the imperative ‘*vale*’ to Claire Le Hur on their behalf.

‘*Salve Monsieur Prix*’ – Claire’s usual greeting to me – not only illustrates the sort of fun banter we have in the Classics Department of a morning but also something of her linguistic versatility (and semi-Gallic blood). Her skills are further proven by the fact that she has quite literally written the Text Book for Latin – *Latin Maxima Clara* – and she has indeed made Latin extremely clear, accessible and enjoyable to countless Rugbeians, in addition to teaching Ancient Greek, Classical Civilisation, Extended Projects and a touch of French on the side. Her patient, kindly and rigorous approach to teaching has won her the loyalty, respect and admiration of her pupils, which is echoed by all the members of the Department that she has led so well over the last seven years.

Classics is a discipline which often attracts the all-rounder and this quality is reflected in Claire’s broad contribution to School life. She has been a stalwart of the netball sorority as well as coaching hockey and tennis with great dedication and skill. Perhaps less well known is her understated involvement in the success of the Leavers’ Ball, working tirelessly until the last moment before stepping back and allowing others to enjoy themselves.

This selfless effort on behalf of others is no better shown than in Rupert Brooke, where Claire has been a tutor throughout her time at Rugby. The tutor who can run the house whilst also having time for all the girls, who can build a strong academic and pastoral understanding of their own tutees and who can provide tireless support and friendship to their housemistress, is a priceless commodity and the life-blood of a school like Rugby; Claire is one of these tutors.

Claire is stepping back from teaching at the end of the summer. Whatever she decides to do, I have no doubt that she will flourish and we all wish her every success and happiness in the future.

‘*Vale* Miss Le Hur’.

**HWP**

## Mark Semmence, 2007

Mark joined the Economics and Business Studies Department in 2007 – although to him, with his desire always to be moving forward, I have no doubt it feels like a lifetime ago. With his strong business background and his willingness to teach a variety of new material, Mark quickly became an integral part of the Department and a firm favourite with the pupils. Mark’s classes have benefitted from his excellent knowledge of economics as well as from his innovative teaching methods – combining questions on the economy with catching practice certainly keeps a class on their toes! Mark’s sense of fun in the classroom and his sage advice to pupils when they got things wrong was good preparation for his time as Assistant Housemaster in Cotton, a role he undertook with enthusiasm and style.

A keen games player, Mark has coached several sports here, including hockey and squash, and he has also introduced real tennis. But it is cricket that has always been his real passion and it is testament to his vision and management that his period as Master in Charge has seen the game go from strength to strength. ‘The Chairman’ – as he became affectionately known by one set of recent players – revolutionised how things were done, transforming the practice facilities; updating the Pavilion with honours boards that detail every School cricket captain since 1831; and helping install a full-time cricket professional. Most summers, Mark has also brought over an Indian coach to help with practices. Dinesh, the first of these Indian coaches, was an instant hit with the boys as well as with his language assistant flatmates, who were always thankful to him for introducing them to such a rich variety of smells and spices from the subcontinent. Mark’s love of all things Indian also meant he scheduled a regular tour to India and I have no doubt that this – as well as the tour to Dubai – will continue for many years to come.

To those who know him well, it is clear that Mark is intent on ‘going places’ and was destined for greater things than Rugby alone. On his appointment as an Assistant Head to oversee marketing and operations, he lost no time in raising the profile of the School in a very competitive market place by launching a new website and rebranding the marketing literature. Mark has ensured that the School has taken a much more professional approach in researching our target market, in identifying new feeder prep schools, and in making sure that our current parents are happy. His energy and enthusiasm have invigorated the way in which the School presents itself. An expert in the art of delegation, this trait has been the envy of those who have worked alongside him on the Senior Management Team and it means he always gets things done quickly. Working with Mark has never been dull.

Mark has fully immersed himself in the life of the Common Room, although, given his CV, his first outing for the Old Guard cricket team was perhaps less glorious than his teammates might have expected. He did subsequently play the odd shot or two in later innings that proved his cricketing credentials, although no amount of sporting prowess can make up for his various wardrobe malfunctions both during and after these matches ...

Mark will be greatly missed when he leaves the School this summer – and not least for his detailed knowledge of the Midlands rail network. I have no doubt that his spirit of adventure and genuine interest in pupil well-being will serve him well when he takes up his new position as Headmaster of Kelly College in Devon. We wish him, Al, India and Flora every happiness for the future

**AJD & SAR**

## Andrew Christie, 2009

Andrew joined the Classics Department at Rugby from Norwich School in September 2009, a school where he and I had been colleagues before I myself moved to Rugby in 2006. In his five years here, Andrew has made an invaluable contribution to all areas of School life, demonstrating his professional, broad and whole-hearted approach to education.

A fastidious and attentive classroom teacher, Andrew’s thorough approach to preparing his classes for public examinations has been highly effective, and equally so in all three of the Department’s subject areas – Latin, Ancient Greek and Classical Civilisation. A strong academic, he has not only brought the best out of high ability A Level language classes but also out of relatively weak Lower School Latin sets. In addition, Andrew has consistently and routinely provided significant support to Classicists outside the classroom, whether giving extra sessions and lectures, organising theatre trips and study days, or leading residential trips abroad. His broad commitment to the Classical cause is beyond question – how many other people would have organised a trip to Tunisia during the Arab Spring?

Initially as a tutor and for the last four years as Assistant Housemaster of Whitelaw, Andrew has been a compassionate supporter of his tutees and a much-appreciated member of the House team. His enthusiastic support of House events such as the play and, memorably, Burns Night has been noted. (Rumour has it that Andrew’s Scottish accent only emerges fully when he is angry.) In short, his contribution to Whitelaw has been outstanding. Andrew has also contributed much to the Games programme at Rugby. A trained and experienced coach of rowing from his time at Norwich, Andrew, through necessity, has widened his coaching skills to include rugby football, hockey and cricket. As always, his conscientious endeavour and his personal commitment to the motivating of young people has been exemplary.

Andrew is known to be a kind man, and one of integrity. His strongly-held faith has seen him become involved to a large extent in the spiritual side of the School. The Chaplain is highly appreciative of his work in this area.

We wish Andrew the very best of good fortune as he takes up his post as Head of Classics at Streatham and Clapham High School. The Classics Department there will not only be in safe hands; it will surely go from strength to strength.

**TJD**

## Kieran McLaughlin, 2009

After five years at Rugby as Deputy Head (Academic) and as a member of the Physics Department, Kieran leaves us at the end of the summer to take up his new post as Headmaster of Durham School.

Given inevitably conflicting opinions within the Common Room about the merits of AS levels as compared to linear courses, and given the perennial need for a pragmatic approach to examination results, it has always seemed to me that Kieran handled a difficult transition period in education as a whole with flexibility, reasonableness and a certain grace. He has also always been extremely articulate explaining why, as he saw it, change needed to happen. Giving heads of department the choice whether to follow the AS structure or remain linear seemed democratic, respectful of individual departmental

experience and helpfully practical as regards a philosophy-lite approach to how A levels should be best experienced by both teachers and pupils. As Deputy Head (Academic), one of Kieran’s main aims was to focus attention on teaching itself, encouraging fresh approaches and trying to foster better communication between different groups within the School. He set up the Teaching and Learning Committee, which was designed to look in a fresh way at existing practices; departments formed faculties so that subjects with overlapping areas could exchange ideas; internal training was increasingly delivered by teachers themselves; and a system of staff mentoring was created which gave teachers the opportunity to be more reflective about how they go about their job.

I was struck by a detail in a conversation with Kieran once when we were talking about gap years and he mentioned that, in the first half of his gap year (before going to read Natural Sciences at Cambridge), he spent swathes of time reading all kinds of books borrowed from his local library, ranging from science to literature to philosophy. This love of learning was evident in his coming to the English Department’s James Joyce *Ulysses* classes, which is where I got to know him as a friend. He is a teacher obviously because he likes thinking and feeling alive to the excitement of new ideas. A desire to focus on how that should be a vivid experience for others will, I know, underpin his approach as a headmaster. As Kieran aims, no doubt, to bring in new ideas at Durham School, the knowledge that he is a black belt in jujitsu should helpfully underscore such a liberal approach to the process of learning.

In the Physics Department, Kieran has always proved himself to be a talented and popular teacher, equally at home with challenging the very brightest Oxbridge applicants and in encouraging weaker students aiming for a pass grade. He has encouraged the whole Department to consider new teaching ideas, to think ‘outside the box’ (physicists are more used to thinking if the cat inside the box is alive or dead!) and to make pupil-led learning a key focus. He was instrumental in helping the Department introduce the Cambridge Pre-U qualification, which has proved to be a highly successful course.

Kieran remarked that the all-embracing nature of Rugby School life was something he liked, Rugby having been his first taste of full boarding school life. The McLaughlins have lived close to the centre of the School both socially and professionally – Kieran’s wife, Kathryn, is a tutor in Southfield, teaches PSHE and organises fabulous Christmas parties for children – and they will be much missed.

**JOS**

## Elly Nicoll, 2010

Elly arrived at Rugby in 2010, following a PGCE at King’s College, London. During her time here she has taught Latin, Ancient Greek and Classical Civilisation across all year groups and has organised and assisted on Classics trips to Italy and Greece. She has also been a keen and active member of the Teaching and Learning Committee. Elly’s intelligence and diligent hard work made her immediately popular with all her classes and she is very much respected amongst the pupils for her excellent teaching, her passion for Classics and her compassion when things are difficult – as well as for her always different coloured nail varnish and her vast array of colourful shoes!

Outside the classroom, Elly made a small piece of history when she was appointed as the first live-in female Assistant Housemistress of a boys' boarding house – School Field. Her charm, calm and caring manner and genuine interest in the lives of the boys have very much endeared her to everyone in School Field, where she will be hugely missed.

Always modest, Elly would not rate her ability as a sportswoman highly. Nonetheless, she has proved herself to be an enthusiastic games coach, leading a number of teams to unbeaten seasons and becoming an ever more confident hockey and netball umpire. Elly's involvement at Rugby in the Duke of Edinburgh Award has converted her into a lover of the 'Great Outdoors', and she hopes to continue to be involved in the scheme in the future.

Elly leaves Rugby to return to her home town, London, to take up a position as Second in Department at Notting Hill and Ealing High School. Elly will undoubtedly flourish in her new job and be a real inspiration to all the girls she teaches. We will all miss Elly as an excellent teacher, colleague and friend and wish her every happiness and success in the future – we hope she won't forget to visit us often.

SSP

## Tim Roberts, 2011

We were extremely fortunate in 2010 to prise Tim away from Malvern College to become full-time Cricket Professional and Assistant Rackets Professional. Tim's move to Rugby brought him closer to his beloved Finedon and he quickly settled into the cricketing community up at Springhill Farm. Tim was also employed to teach Geography, which he has done with enthusiasm, creativity and skill. In addition, he has been attached to Cotton, where he is incredibly popular with the boys, who know him as dedicated and compassionate tutor and a staunch supporter of House events.

Tim's love of cricket is self-evident and his enthusiasm for the game is genuinely infectious. During his time here, he has spent time with boys of all abilities from the XI to the lowest U14 teams and his skilful coaching and encouragement has led to a tangible improvement across the Club. I know how much each team will continue to benefit from everything he has done with them as they move up through the School and how much they will miss his easy rapport with them. Tim will be similarly missed on the rackets courts, where the pupils have really benefitted from his experience and competitiveness.

In addition to cricket and rackets, Tim endured the oval ball and has brought some tactical nous to the coaching of the 2nd XI soccer team. He has also served the Old Guard well, both indoors and out – although when putting in a shift down the right-hand side he was likened by one OR to a kind of 'porky Jack Wilshere'.

We knew that Tim was scared of flying and so sent him numerous overseas cricket tours – two to Dubai and one to India. Whilst in India, we heard a rumour that Tim was the lead guitarist in a Finedon band, which also includes the Finedon vicar, who just happens to be one of the founding members of the Communards. One of the abiding memories of that trip was watching Tim sitting crossed legged on the floor playing the sitar, which he did with great finesse...

Tim has been an outstanding cricket professional and will be much missed when he leaves us to move to Eton. We wish him and his family well for the future.

MJSE

## Paul Shelley, 2011

Paul came to Rugby from 'down under' – literally. And I don't say that just because he's Australian. He was previously employed as a submarine engineer. As with many Design and Technology teachers, it was his fundamental love of tinkering with things that led him into the job, and once in the UK Paul trained to become a teacher. After a short time working in Coventry, the opportunity arose for Paul to work in the Department at Rugby and in close proximity to his wife Carlien, who at the time was Housemistress of Stanley.

Anyone who meets Paul knows that he is always happy, and his personality soon endeared him to the pupils, especially those in the lower years – he certainly thrilled Marshall House with his energy and projects involving hot air balloons and boomerangs. At A level, Paul's teaching has taken his classes through some exciting group assignments and skilfully guided them through essay-style long answers in preparation for their terminal examinations. Paul's GCSE classes have always been given a lot of independence and this has resulted in their producing some excellent – because different and unusual – work. Other of Paul's projects have included the Skill Tree which his Community Action group produced for Brooke School. Paul's own strength lies in metalworking and engineering, an area which he has developed and extended in the Department.

Paul was very much part of the School before he took up his post here and so knew the rich variety of activities that take place and the importance, plainly, of just getting stuck in. He has been keenly involved with various sports, including rugby and netball, and he has been a great help in Sheriff, where he is a House tutor.

The Department will be a quieter place after he has gone. No more the classical music booming out from his office and no more his own operatic trilling in competition with the noise of the workshop. We shall miss him very much.

PAB

## Gerry Spreng, 2011

As with a fine claret, the words 'depth' and 'complexity' are often synonymous with good History. Gerry Spreng, who joined us as Head of History in 2011 (having already done a very good job in the same post at Trinity School, Croydon) readily attracts both adjectives, and in equal measure. Gerry is passionate and highly knowledgeable about history – as indeed he is about good wine. At heart, he is a medievalist, and he brings an appropriate combination of fanaticism, madness and realpolitik to his very popular, clear and well-informed teaching on the Crusades, based not least on his personal acquaintance with several leading experts in the field. Gerry has coached pupils, who otherwise knew nothing about the medieval world or Charlemagne, to nomination for the prestigious Vellacott Prize with essays on the founder of modern Europe. The Carolingian era is Gerry's first historical love, and we wish him

luck with the master's degree he is now undertaking in that subject. Complexity, too, is pervasive. Anecdote and empathy are two essential ingredients of History. The Vietnam War provides plenty of anecdote, but how much better the teacher who can boast not only of having been abused by the local Vietnamese for having no chance of getting through Saigon's Cu Chi tunnels but also of proving the doubters wrong; who can explain Mao's foreign policy having spent a couple of years teaching, as a Chinese speaker, in Beijing; or, when teaching early modern France, whose demonstration of the pomp of the Sun King derives from extensive experience of the corridors of Versailles?

Gerry, then, is a highly expert, devoted historian, but he is also a skilful and forward-looking manager. Under his guidance, the History Department has always been very well-prepared, open to thorough and robust debate, and careful to strike the right balance between innovation and tradition. Gerry has been determined and willing to do his utmost to help both pupils and staff achieve the best results, giving enormously of his time and resources in whatever ways necessary. Underpinning all this is a ready and finely-tuned ability to laugh, both at the lunacies so prevalent in history, and at himself – how could an albino, cricket-playing son of Dunfermline, who breaks his wrist showing off to his hockey team, do otherwise? Staff who endured inescapable Currywurst Museum attacks on the Berlin Wall will have their own take on his humour. Pupils have been fascinated by a course which rests on Country Joe and The Fish playing Woodstock and the South African satire *District 9*. Prawn lovers had better watch out.

The pupils at St John's School, Leatherhead, where Gerry moves now as Head of Sixth Form, have an enormous amount to look forward to.

JDM

## Joel Taylor, 2013

Joel joined Rugby as a Mathematics and Physics teacher in September, following teaching positions at Winchester College and at Abingdon School and, most recently, a PGCE in Mathematics and Physics at Oxford. Teaching mainly Mathematics, Joel's academic ability in the subject was immediately apparent and his classes have benefitted from lots of interesting work in the subject. He has also been a tutor in Tudor, where he has spent many hours involved in House activities. We wish him every success with his new position teaching Mathematics at Wycombe Abbey.

AGD

## Ben Oakley, 2013

Ben joined us this year as the School's first music graduate teaching assistant, having just completed a music degree at Cambridge where he had also been a choral scholar at King's College. Prior to that, he had sung in the choirs of Gloucester and Westminster Cathedrals. With such a wealth of choral experience and a fantastic bass voice, Ben has been an inspiration both to members of the School choirs and more specifically to those who have been preparing for choral scholarships to Oxford and Cambridge. Ben has been very active in the classroom at all levels, but most notably

with Marshall House and with the GCSE composers, and his impressive organisation skills have overseen the smooth running of the Music Scholars' Chamber Concert series and all the extra-curricular music lessons.

Ben has thrown himself into every aspect of School life, even running the Crick without any previous training! His 14-hour-a-week sports commitment has seen him coaching rugby, hockey, cricket and squash, and he has spent many hours in Whitelaw, getting the know the boys, helping to direct the House play and coaching the House to third place in the House Singing Competition.

After Ben's year with us it is hard to think how the School ever managed without a music GTA. He has certainly set the bar very high for the future and leaves us with some wonderful memories of his time here.

RJT

## Will Dunkley, Kat Hayes, 2013

We have always been fortunate in the quality of the graduate teaching assistants we attract at Rugby and we have been especially fortunate this year with Will Dunkley and Kat Hayes.

Both Will and Kat have been excellent helps in the Games Department, where they have coached a variety of sports to all year groups (rugby, hockey, netball, cricket and athletics) and where they have been busy assisting with all the paperwork that accompanies a busy games programme. In addition, they have both given generously of their free time to take extra coaching sessions, which have been of real benefit to the pupils involved.

Away from the Department, Will and Kat have been involved in the pastoral life of the School – Will in Cotton and Kat in Griffin. Their time and diligence on duty nights and at House events have been greatly appreciated by both the pupils and House staff alike.

We wish both Will and Kat the very best with all that lies ahead – good luck and thank you.

SJB

## Younes Baïd, Laurène Eymere, Léa Henri, 2012/13

The Modern Languages Department was again lucky this year to have such a strong team of native speakers to assist our students in their oral work. Younes' work in German and in Michell was much appreciated and we wish him well for his future plans. Léa's lessons have proved very popular and we will miss her a great deal when she returns to education in Brussels. Laurène has been with us for almost two full years and will be a great loss to the Department.

DCG

# SALVETE

## Bradley

**Anderson** Millie  
**Ashby** Zoe  
**Brown** Ashlee  
**Chadwick** Hermione  
**Church** Harriet  
**Gimlette** Susannah  
**Green-Armytage** Victoria  
**James** Lulu  
**Martin** Georgia  
**Wear** Brigitte  
**Tetty** Lady Cigourney

## Cotton

**Agbo** Jean-Charles  
**Al Abasery** Youssef  
**Cole** Jonathan  
**Constantinescu** Eric  
**Jaffa** Jacob  
**Lai** Hamish  
**Mallinson** George  
**Saunders** Sam  
**Umetani** Keita  
**Whitney** Will  
**Johnson** Luke

## Dean

**Bucknall** Amelia  
**Erhardt** Gigi  
**Ferry** Isobel  
**Garthwaite** Alice  
**Gin** Isabelle  
**Green** Emily  
**Greenwood** Livvy  
**Lord** Immy  
**Miller** Alice  
**Price** Kelly  
**Sasame** Ao  
**Short** Sophie

## Griffin

**Bibby** Georgie  
**Hughes** Millie  
**Morley-Fletcher** Hebe  
**Payne** Alice  
**Perronet Miller** Sophia  
**Rosser** Flossie  
**Rovner** Yana  
**Shone** Alice  
**Williams** Eliza  
**Carr** Fia  
**Ingsel** Tenzin

## Kilbracken

**Ang** Eric  
**Clifford** Jack  
**Maslov** Daniil  
**Massey** Caspar  
**Nelson-Smith** Thomas  
**O'Connell** Ted  
**Salvesen** Jack  
**Tubbs** Digby  
**Tuckwell** Sam  
**Wright** Sam  
**Denny** Sam  
**Barchuk** Alex  
**Denny** Jack  
**Guan** Mike

## Marshall

**Bruce** Olivia  
**Chow** Daniel  
**Day** Alice  
**Gower** William  
**Joshi** Esha  
**Kerr-Chin** Andrew  
**Lushington** Henry  
**Malin** Louis  
**Minards** Cate  
**Mitchell** Annabel  
**Paul** Niharika  
**Skinner** William  
**Stuart** Evie  
**Whalley** Lawrence  
**Whitley** Ollie  
**Wylie** Elen

## Michell

**Bradshaw** Benjie  
**Carter** Alexander  
**Chan** Eric  
**Chung** Bobby  
**Farren** Thomas  
**Gamburg** Max  
**Kapustin** Alexey  
**Marshall** Elliott  
**Trott** Ludo  
**Taylor** Matt

## Rupert Brooke

**Bruneau** Hannah  
**Bulmer** Kitty  
**de Boinville** Minna  
**Graham** Jamie-Rose  
**Kennedy** Ellie  
**Ponsonby** Tilly  
**Skan** Molly  
**Swaby** Hannah  
**Symington** Marina  
**Tennant** Mimi  
**Venters** Alex  
**McDermott** Milly  
**Modiano** Lara  
**Shuttleworth** Siannah

## School Field

**Anton** Henry  
**Bowen** Max  
**Falconer** Jack  
**Flax** Charles  
**Hardman** Will  
**Hobbs** Christian  
**Korotkov** Alex  
**McAlinden** Alex  
**Williams** Guy  
**Wu** Vincent  
**Antoci** Stefano  
**Bondarenko** Grygoriy  
**Graham** Lucas  
**Zhang** Yi

## School House

**Arthur** Robert  
**Barlow** Angus  
**Bestwick** Matthew  
**Carr** Edward  
**Doyle** Charlie  
**Elmhirst** Edward  
**Farquharson** Archie  
**Gladstone** Felix  
**Lewis** Laurie  
**Rowlands** Toby  
**Spens** Peter

## Sheriff

**Baskaev** Arkadiy  
**Blood** Tom  
**De Los Santos** Chauncey  
**Gibson** Alex  
**Jackson** George  
**Macpherson** Arthur  
**Maddocks** Hamish  
**Marchant** Oscar  
**McEvedy** Edward  
**Musiani Perez** Lautaro  
**Olugbenga** Temi  
**Spindler** Liam

## Southfield

**Bruce** Isobel  
**Cara** Izzy  
**de Clermont** Anastasia  
**Francis** Sarah  
**Franklin** Charlotte  
**Gowen** Holly  
**Hanson** Sophie  
**Harte** Maisie  
**Owusu** Ashleigh  
**Ravi** Shivi  
**Tomkinson** Francesca

## Stanley

**Bulchandani** Tara  
**Cundall** Miranda  
**Davies** Ellie  
**Denby** Hannah  
**Duff** Tessa  
**Fowler** Lara  
**Gaizutyte** Megan  
**Garthwaite** Eleanor  
**Halley-Stott** Zibby  
**Hemming** Leanne  
**Hoareau** Livvy  
**Huntsman** Lucy  
**Ilaka** Abi  
**James** Siena  
**Karsanidi** Liza  
**Landi** Giulia  
**Lawrence** Bobbie  
**Lu** Cindy  
**Mowat** Vicky  
**Parker** Anna  
**Pheysey** Amelia  
**Puri** Mala  
**Robinson** Jaydene  
**Shterenlikht** Maria

## Town

**Chow** Alexander  
**Malone** Ethan  
**Marshall** Jamie  
**Ogilvie** Freddie  
**Maclean** Cameron

## Tudor

**Beere** Emilia  
**Clarke** Rosie  
**Geary** Georgia  
**Haslam** Jenny  
**Macintosh** Grace  
**McKibbin** Clíodhna  
**Middleton** Alicia  
**Movshevich** Anna  
**Pery** Izzy  
**Sainty** Hannah  
**Wright** Lauren  
**Begum** Noshin  
**Simpson** Lottie

## Whitelaw

**Amanuel** Buruk  
**Cahill** Dominic  
**Hawksworth** William  
**Higgins** Harry  
**Hilleary** Hector  
**Hudson** Charlie  
**Lau** Nicholas  
**Parker** Edward  
**Veasey** Sam  
**Charlwood** Will  
**Davies** Ben  
**Edu** Omotara  
**Gibbs** Jack

## Staff

**Mrs L. A. Bell,**  
to teach Computing  
**S. A. Demetriou,**  
to teach English  
**W. H. Dunkley,**  
as Graduate Teaching Assistant  
**Ms A Đorđević,**  
to teach Classics  
**Miss R. J. Force,**  
to teach Mathematics  
**Miss K. Hayes,**  
as Graduate Teaching Assistant  
**B. B. F Oakley,**  
as Graduate Teaching Assistant



## The Rugby Portobello Trust and the Bradby Youth Club

The Rugby Portobello Trust, based in North Kensington, is a youth, education and housing charity originally founded by Rugby School over a century ago which works with young people aged five to 25 to help them learn how to help themselves. RPT and P3 continue to go from strength to strength, expanding their education, sport and other services into seven Boroughs and offering after-school support to seventeen primary schools. RPT focuses on building basic abilities, improving attitudes, increasing confidence and showing young people that they can turn their lives around by gaining skills that promote employment. The Youth Club provides focused intervention with youngsters with complex needs, and the RPT Housing Project provides housing and support for 80 young people and helps them get into training and work while teaching them how to maintain their homes and live independently.

RPT has a long and fruitful relationship with Rugby School, with many Rugbeians providing financial support for the charity through fundraising events and various acts of sponsorship. On 14 June the School hosted the annual visit to School House and Rugby town of the Club Mums. Information leaflets are available in the Careers Centre for any pupils interested in volunteering during a holiday or gap year to work with RPT, and more information for anyone who wishes to get involved or offer financial support is available on the RPT website at [www.rugbyportobellotrust.org.uk](http://www.rugbyportobellotrust.org.uk).

The Bradby Youth Club on East Union Street in Rugby has a strong tradition of providing activities and a safe environment for young people. Open four nights a week from Monday to Thursday after school during term-time, the Club offers educational, social, cultural and recreational programmes of opportunities, challenges and experiences for its members,

such as boxing, cooking, music, kick boxing, table tennis, canoeing, pool, art, trips, drama, internet café and production of the new Brabs Mag, created by and for the young people. Other services include Outward Bound and PGL residential opportunities, partnership support for primary and secondary schools and a highly successful substance misuse project. As more and more new members are girls, specialised sessions are offered which deal with issues such as staying healthy and safe in relationships, body image and self-esteem. Members can also access support services to assist with training, work or further education, as well as confidence building and guidance for young parents. More information about the Club's services and activities, in addition to details about how to get involved or offer financial support, can be found on Bradby's website at [www.bradby.co.uk](http://www.bradby.co.uk).

Rugby School regularly hosts successful fundraising events to support the Club, most notably the Leavers' Ball Raffle and annual quiz night in the Sports Centre Café, which this year raised over £2,500 and £1,200 respectively. Visiting Bradby is part of the School's Community Action programme on Monday to Thursday evenings, and this year the Club has seen regular visits by twelve members of the XX and LXX. Many of these pupils, along with a new cohort, will continue their visits next year. Matt Conibere, the Club's Youth Leader, reports that the pupils have again done an excellent job engaging with the members and he is as always extremely grateful for all their help and enthusiasm during their evening visits. Matt has expressed his wish that Rugby pupils will continue to visit the Club and hopefully become involved in some of the Club's activities and events in the future.

ACL

# SERVICE & PUBLIC BENEFIT



## Pudsey Bear Café

On 14 November, Marshall House, with the significant input of each of the other houses of Rugby School, raised a total of nearly £6,000 for Children in Need.

One of the main sources of this magnificent total was the Pudsey Bear Café, run and organised by the pupils of Marshall House. It attracted lots of visitors from the School and the local area, after the pupils went out onto the streets fundraising. A big thank you to everyone who helped us organise this.

There were lots of entertaining stalls, including the café itself and the famous sumo wrestling event. The atmosphere was electric and the building was buzzing! All the stalls raised a satisfying amount of money, particularly the tea and cake stall! The sumo wrestling was undoubtedly the highlight of the day, especially when the Head Master competed against the Heads of School – that certainly brought in crowds.

Some Marshall House pupils even performed musical pieces in front of the guests, some of whom had never done so before. Everyone was very proud of them for standing up there and not being afraid.

Each House contributed handsomely to the total, using various different methods: Sheriff took part in a sponsored ICT blackout; Griffin did 'a fiver a favour' campaign; and Stanley sold drinks and snacks on the side of the hockey pitch during matches!

All in all, everyone agrees that we raised an amazing total for Children in Need, and the whole School enjoyed the event.

**Annabel Mitchell (Ma)**



## Arnold Foundation

A number of celebrations this year have marked the tenth anniversary of the Arnold Foundation for Rugby School – and there has certainly been a great deal to celebrate. Many lives have been transformed and 38 Arnold Foundation pupils are currently at the School.

With Patrick Derham's departure in July the Foundation loses its founder and staunchest advocate and we are extremely grateful for his vision and energy over the past ten years. As a permanent tribute the Governing Body and Arnold Foundation Board have established the Patrick Derham Bursary Award. The named endowment fund – which so far has already received donations of £640,000 – will support future Arnold Foundation pupils at the School. Our new Head Master, Peter Green, shares the School's commitment and passion for the Arnold Foundation, and, by 2023, we aim to have given a life-transforming education to more than 200 pupils and impacted on many more thousands of lives.

The end of the Trinity term was particularly busy with a series of Arnold Foundation events, starting on 23 May with the Parent Celebration Dinner where £160,000 was raised in support of the Patrick Derham Bursary Award. 300 guests enjoyed the magnificent surroundings of the transformed Sports Hall in the Collingwood Centre and thanks go to all who supported, attended and organised the event – a triumph! Young Rugbeians and their parents enjoyed a delightful afternoon tea on the Close on Sunday 15 June. It was a special occasion with many recent leavers returning and an opportunity to say farewells to the Derhams. The term ended with the annual Donors' Lunch on 3 July. Arnold Foundation pupils and the Arnold Foundation tutors joined the lunch, and over 100 guests toured the Collingwood Centre and had the opportunity to attend Arts Festival events in the afternoon.

**Kerry Wilson  
Development Director**





# Activities

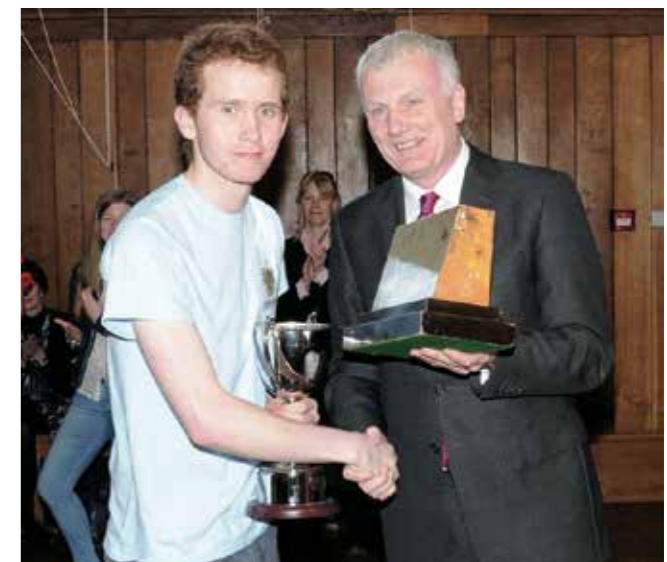
## The Pushcart Race

Early afternoon on Sunday 22 September 2013 and a lonely figure is surveying a deserted Close. A slight breeze pushes a straw strand lazily across the hallowed turf where only the day before the mighty XV had been pursuing their brutal trade. The might and the glory of Rugby's famous game was shortly to be forgotten, however, as the first ripples of noise were heard on the wind. Distant cheering and cajoling reached School House as from all corners of the campus brightly coloured chariots and similarly bedecked athletes emerged in the arena. By 2pm a crescendo of noise and colour had developed and the Close became a frenzy of endeavour as the first carts took to the track. Short bursts of effort from those selected by each House, striving to negotiate the three or four laps in the fastest time, led to the usual intense competition.

With start positions based on results from previous seasons it was apparent from the off that there was some serious intent from all the houses. Early starters were holding podium positions until late in the day. Town were tipped for a strong showing, and the F1-style cart that they unveiled certainly worried the traditional big-hitters. As is often the case, however, new technology can let you down and Town's machine will need to show itself in a better light next year. With Town out of the running and the demise of the once mighty School Field, Michell were pushing hard for a top three finish only to be ousted late in the day by a resurgent Sheriff. Similarly, in the girls' race, Tudor exceeded their seeded position and gave the top three a good run. Dean remained strong, but the grudge match between Griffin and Bradley gave the first two positions. The high-tech, professionally-built Griffin machine eventually overpowered the hand-built, homemade cart of the Bradley girls. No Disney-like underdog happy ending for them, but next year their cart will still be eligible whereas Griffin will need a new one. There was a buzz in the air as the final two teams took to their starts and the tense rivalry that has developed in recent years once again gave an extremely exciting and close finish. Ultimately Whitelaw's ultra-quick first lap gave them a platform on which to build a winning time and they crossed the line seven seconds quicker than School House, keenly reclaiming their pushcart bragging rights.

When the traditional soft toys had been distributed and the trophies awarded, carters departed and the Close returned to peace and quiet.

PAB



## Crick and Barby Runs

We were blessed with fantastic weather for the events this year. In fact it was even a little too warm for some runners, but excellent for the spectators! Furthermore the runners also benefitted from the sunny spell over the preceding week which had dried out most of the mud, making very pleasant conditions under foot and fast times. The new Crick course proved to be a success, with many finishers commenting positively about it.

To tie in with historical links, we were fortunate to have the vicar of Crick bless the runners before they did battle over the course! The runners set off with great exuberance in the direction of Kilsby. They then enjoyed only a short section of tarmac through the village before

heading off-road for the next five miles. The relatively short section over the fields between Kilsby and Barby had more than its fair share of obstacles, including a succession of four stiles to negotiate over only a few hundred metres.

Ben Sutherland took an early lead over the rest of the field in pursuit of his sub-hour ambition. By the time the front end were at the Barby water station, second and third place Ed Clarke and Charlie Bruce had also stretched out a lead of over 100 metres from the next runners. The first girl, Pippa Grimston, was also well in the lead in the girls' competition and was running strongly. From this point the runners were to cover a lovely downhill section towards the Grand

Union Canal where they followed north-east along the tow path. This was a very attractive part of the course, going well into the countryside for a good two miles.

Having surfaced from the canal, the Crick course then converged with the Barby route at the second water station. At this point the Barby runners were approaching halfway and Josh Cara had already stretched ahead of second place Simon Waterhouse. It was back into the fields for all runners, with some of the muddiest parts to contend with on the day, and a hill which seemingly goes on too long just before reaching civilisation on the outskirts of Rugby. The runners then had respite from the uneven terrain while they headed along Ashlawn Road

towards the disused train line. Runners then had to tackle the infamous bank. The smell of home was tangible from the top as they headed across the familiar territory of the Polo and Springhill fields back to School.

The final test was the short but sharp 'Hospital Hill' in the approach to the finish on the Close, where crowds of spectators were eagerly awaiting the runners back home. Cara was the first on the Close, winning the Barby in an excellent time of 40:03. Simon Waterhouse ran very well to finish second only three and a half minutes behind. Matt Jackson held off Tom Farren to finish in third place. Georgia Martin had one of the star performances of the day, winning the girl's race and finishing

in fifth place overall. Clio McKibbin and Gigi Erhardt also put in strong efforts to finish second and third girl respectively.

In the Crick, Sutherland won with a time which was so close to his target, finishing in 1:00:57 and crossing the line in style. Next in was Clarke who held onto his lead over Bruce, but only by half a minute. The female Crick winner, Grimston, ran a very well-paced race to finish easily under an hour and a half with a time of 1:27:35. In second place was team-mate Lizzie Alexander, followed a minute and a half later by Gracie Umbers who held off Eliza Talbot-Williams to finish third.

The 2011-12 pupil winner, James Firth, was the first OR; and he was first overall

in the non-student category. A number of staff also ran and Mr Walker was first home.

This year's results suggest that the new course is quite comparable in time to the last. However, it will be interesting to see how times may vary with the conditions in future years.

One of the greatest achievements of the day was that of the last student home, Jacob Adorsu. The camaraderie with which his friends from Michell greeted him at the finish spoke volumes about the Rugbeian spirit.



# Reunions

## Southfield Reunion

On Saturday 23 November, Southfieldians old and new gathered for a reunion in the sumptuously refurbished and revamped Crescent annexe. I am sure he will not mind my saying say this, but by far the oldest and the most distinguished of our guests was Tony Tiffin, the first Housemaster of the then Crescent House. He and his wife Jill were on very good form and were thrilled to see the 2013 version of Southfield with its growing population of 61. Old girls were amazed by the expansion in the School in general and envious of the palatial LXX accommodation in Crescent, but also more than thrilled to see that the spirit of the House remains. The occasion was informal and jolly with much reminiscing and the perhaps slightly warped perception of the current girls that they are mostly perfect in comparison with their earlier, more rebellious compatriots! I am reliably informed that the revelling continued late into the evening with returning Town House boys in Rugby but, of course, we are far too virtuous to be involved in such trivia. The food and the hospitality were both excellent and it was great fun to see so many familiar faces and old friends.

LMB



## Town House Reunion

It is a wonderful testament to the nature of Houses at Rugby, but especially Town House, that nearly 300 old boys made it back for what was a memorable day on 23 November. Many of the returning former Town pupils took a tour of the House before lunch and were able to spot themselves on one of the House photos dating all the way back to the 1940s. Then, everyone made their way over to the new Collingwood Centre for speeches and lunch. Reg Whittaker, at 87 years old, was the oldest returning former pupil, and there were several of his contemporaries who could recall the original Town Room located on the Close, as well as the first Housemaster, H.P. Sparling. The proceedings were concluded with an unorthodox rendition of the Floreat, and for a vast number of ORs it really was a day to enjoy and to catch up with old friends and share past memories.

AJD



## First Schools Day

On the morning of 6 March the school rang to the happy sounds of 280 excited primary school visitors being led around the Close and Old and New quads by Rugby School guides who were helping them to complete a quiz. The annual First Schools Day brought together visitors from seven local primary schools to participate in an action-packed morning beginning with a quiz, the questions for which were related to architectural and historic features of various buildings around School House. Following this, the children were taken to one of several venues where they could participate in a range of activities that included music, sport, maths puzzles, science, drama, media, modern languages, IT and art. Morning break took the children to the boarding house to which their school had been assigned and then another activity session took place before lunch. The Music Department kindly put on a concert after the lunch break, followed by prize-giving for the children whose answers to the quiz had been most accurate earlier in the morning. The day was concluded in the now traditional fashion: 280 tired but excited 8-year-olds sprinting the length of the 1st XV rugby pitch towards the Doctor's Wall. It was a scene strongly reminiscent of marauding Scots in the film *Braveheart*. A great day was had by all and the threatening weather mercifully held off.

AJN

“A great day was had by all”

## Careers Convention

The Biennial Careers Convention took place on 8 March 2014 with 65 guest speakers kindly giving their time to talk about their experience of the world of work while helping to explain, guide and inspire the D block, LXX and XX for the journey ahead.

One particular highlight of this year's Careers Convention was the opportunity to have so many recent leavers return to sit on panels alongside industry experts, giving their perspective on the skills, preparation and determination required in securing their first role. This provided a wonderful breadth to the panels, from those just starting on their career paths right through to those at the very top of their sectors. No matter the panel or industry, the message was clear and consistent: determination, commitment, passion, focus, self-awareness and character are the imperative qualities required when pursuing a path to a fulfilling future.

*Here is some feedback from the day:*

“Our children are incredibly fortunate to have this kind of opportunity” – Rugby Parent

“Really helped me to see which careers interested me and those that didn't” – Pupil

“Brilliant day” – Pupil

“It was a really wonderful event all round -far more interesting than I had anticipated” – Pupil

“Understanding opportunities is crucial for pupils at this point in their lives, this event (in just one day) opened their minds enormously to what is on offer for them” – Rugby Parent

JAH



## RM CCF Sir Stuart Pringle Trophy

At first, I did not know what to expect from the Sir Stewart Pringle Trophy Competition, an annual event where school marine cadets are pitted against each other. What would we be doing there? What would it be like to experience part of Royal Marine life? Would Rugby be able to compete against eighteen other schools? And, most importantly, would it be fun? Now, having completed my second year of the competition, I can honestly say that it is one of the most enjoyable experiences of my life.

As we arrived on the Friday, we were ushered into the Royal Marines gymnasium, which would be home to all teams for the weekend. We were taken to the Falklands Hall to be briefed and, immediately after, the competition kicked off with an informal tactical speed march to the dining hall where an immense queue formed for dinner. This was followed by a return to the gymnasium for bed and lights out at around 2300hrs, the idea being that we would be fully rested for the fourteen hours on Woodbury Common the next day. The reality however is a much more enjoyable experience (and a legendary tradition of Pringle), which is an hour-long glow-stick free-for-all which begins the instant lights go

out – a whirlwind of colour and light, accompanied by shouts and laughter. Schools who hold age-old rivalries become united in the battlefield, working together to fend off attackers.

The Competition itself is split into two sections. On the first day, each school is dropped off at different points on Woodbury Common, where they have to navigate and complete ten different 'stances'. These include Leadership (which Rugby has won consecutively in the last three years), Section Attack, Battle Exercise, and Camouflage and Concealment. All of these stances are not only a lot of fun, but

they also give a sense of what it would be like to be a Royal Marine Commando. The second day of the competition consists of Drill, and either Bottom Field (the assault course) or the Endurance course. Bottom Field is another highlight of the competition as it is a test of your physical and mental abilities and is ultimately a lot of fun. Both years I have been on Pringle I was on Bottom Field, and I would love to try the Endurance course in my final year.

The most challenging part of the competition, without a doubt, is the physical aspect. On the Saturday we

wake up at 05:00hrs and are out on the Common in full kit by 07:15hrs. We then proceed to complete ten different stances over a period of nine hours, walking and running across Woodbury Common to each stance, and have to complete each one within half an hour, which is especially difficult on the more physical stances. However, despite this, it is thoroughly enjoyable. Rugby came eighth overall - well done to our team of Nina Whatmough, Cameron McAlister, Harrison Anton, Jack Talbot, Julia Richmond, Duncan Leng, Hugh Campbell, Rob Waterhouse and Alex Lawson-May.

Although the Pringle competition can be challenging at times, and is both mentally and physically exhausting, it is a fantastic experience and a huge amount of fun. I only regret that I will only be able to take part in it one more time. This year's Pringle competition was particularly poignant as just a few months before, Sir Stewart Pringle died at the age of 84. He was noted for his courage, intellect, shrewdness and sense of humour. I have no doubt that in the years to come he will be remembered fondly through this Competition.

**Alex Lawson-May (M)**

## CCF: The Officer Contingent

The CCF has been a key part of life for pupils and staff alike at Rugby since 1860. As we gather on a Thursday afternoon the columns of names which line the walls of the Armoury remind us of the young men who have made the ultimate sacrifice. More than a few will have seen a dusty photograph of Field Marshal Montgomery inspecting the 'troops' on the Close in 1947, and many will remember a visit by Her Majesty the Queen in 1967.

Yet what of the other side to the CCF, those members of staff whose support and time make this activity possible? While reading *A History of Rugby School CCF: 1960-1985* I found my interest piqued by a photograph of the CCF Officer Contingent of 1985. Current and recent pupils will recognise Mr P.W. Dewey, Dr A.E. Smith, Mr H.G. Steele-Bodger, Mr R.V. Smith ('Ron' to many a Gold Duke of Edinburgh award group), Mr P.D. Richard and Mr R.D.R. Ray.

To those staff past and present, without whom generations of Rugbeians would not now carry with them the memories which form part of who they are – thank you.

**AMM**



### Who do you remember?

From left to right  
 Standing: R.S.M; J.W. Potter; P.D. Richard; W.D. Ledwich; H.G. Steele-Bodger; K. Siviter; D. Livingstone; M.R. Pattinson; R.V. Smith; P.A.T. Smith; P.W. Dewey; R. Reeve-Johnson; J.C. Mosley  
 Sitting: P.D. John; C.A. Burton; W.J. Hughes-D'Aeth; J.C. Lewis; R.E.I. Newton; B.S. Elvins; M.R. Toole; D.S. Hemsall; J.D.S. McMenemy; N.G. Kern; G.A.M. Newth; R.D.R. Ray; A.E. Smith





# RM350

## Rugby School cadets in Royal Salute at Buckingham Palace

Founded in 1664, the Royal Marines celebrate 350 years of illustrious history this year. While most pupils and staff were enjoying the start of the summer holidays, six Royal Marines cadets and Mr Waples headed off to HMS Bristol at Whale Island to finalise preparation to march through London and into Buckingham Palace as part of the prestigious RM350 celebrations.

After three very long days of drill practice Rugby School cadets joined 488 personnel in marching from Horse Guards Parade up the Mall to a Royal Salute in the garden at Buckingham Palace, overseen by HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, alongside many proud parents and CCF staff.

Cadets: Cdt C.Sgt Nina Whatmough; Cdt Sgt. Harrison Anton; Cdt Cpl Jack Talbot; Cdt Cpl Julia Richmond; Cdt L.Cpl Sam Hillcox; Cdt Frances Leung.

AMM



# Life at Rugby

## during the First World War

In the School debate of 26 October 1912, the motion was 'That war between England and a continental power is highly improbable, if not impossible'. The motion was lost 60 to 38, although it is telling to note the comments from the meeting: 'Germany would gain nothing by war; the burden of an indemnity would react upon herself'; '(Germany) desired supremacy in Europe. Peace was necessary, and the price of peace was a strenuous preparation for war'; 'Germany was not a colonizing nation. Only the army wanted war; for the rest of Germany it meant ruin'; 'The Germans were eager for war – they did not build fleets for ornament.'

By 1913 the main concerns were, as ever, the state of sport, the various epidemics, the new housemasters and additions to the School buildings. We can look back at the names of those in the pages of the *Meteor* and list the growing number whose sporting and academic success would be snuffed out within five years. Kenneth Powell, who gained School sporting honours in football, racquets, athletics and gymnastics before he left Michell in 1904, and who was in the quarter-finals at Wimbledon in 1913, would die of wounds received near Ypres in 1915. The list of the XI of 1913 would number some three killed, two prisoners of war and a further two wounded in battle. The XV of that year would lose six of their number.

The *Meteor* of July 1914, before the outbreak of war, concerned itself with 'the present plague' of mumps and other illness and its effect upon sport and the O.T.C. The annual inspection went off particularly well with the pronouncement that the 'Rugby contingent is in a most efficient condition and is a great credit to the Officers' Training Corps.' In July of that year, one boy's reading of the newspaper was interrupted by a small boy calling out, 'Any news?' 'Austria has declared war,' came the reply. 'No, you fool, not that! Has Surrey beat Kent?'

By October, and the first *Meteor* of the school year, the casualties were already being listed. 14 killed, 34 wounded and 12 missing. The older boys and some of the younger Staff had gone. The O.T.C. became compulsory and those younger

married men and those too old to fight took on the 'Corps'. Discipline tightened and drill became a 'patriotic duty'. Small boys who dropped their rifles on parade were likely to be beaten by the older boys. There were two parades each week, and every day a squad would be working out on the Close. During the winter months night operations would become routine.

Within school, however, life did not change a great deal. Rugby football was still the most important item in School, and to many it mattered more to win a Cock House match than whether the Germans captured Paris. An immediate impact was that Founder's Day service for 31 October was abandoned and replaced with the first Memorial Service for those killed in the conflict. Football fixtures continued as usual, along with the concerts and Debating Society meetings. The academic work of the school would remain unaltered in the early part of the war, although as casualties mounted the School would lose more staff to the conflict and would find it hard to recruit the best replacements. During the war years more than seventy boys gained honours to Oxford and Cambridge, though many would not live to take them up. Straw hats disappeared during the week, and were reserved for Sundays. The boys were probably much comforted by the demise of the stiff collars, which were replaced in 1917 by the soft variety due to the rationing of starch.

A letter in the *Meteor* in 1914, from C.S. Donald at the Notting Hill Clubs, reminded Rugby that its wider community of the Rugby Mission was also suffering, and as lists were published in the *Meteor*, they also included those from the Rugby Mission. By the end of October, the first war wounded had arrived at the San, with the Geneva Cross 'dangling from the Sanatorium garden wall'. The tone was still light-hearted with the comment, 'for the safety of the billiard table it is gratifying to learn that we have Belgians, and not chateau-breakers.' Reporting of the casualties had been taken over by the Old Rugbeian Society, and each issue of the *Meteor* would gradually be dominated by the lists of the fallen and wounded. House *Fasti* also began to fill up with their own lists.

The usual football fixtures would become more difficult and in December 1916, the boys played against the 8th Cadet Battalion and the Royal Flying Corps. Hampers from home were forbidden, more to avoid jealousy among the boys and to avoid accusations from the town that the School had an unfair advantage. The shortages also meant that entertaining by staff all but disappeared. By 1916 shops were out of bounds after second lesson, and the purchase of rolls, buns and cakes was illegal. In February 1916 the following items of clothing were removed from the permitted list: dress clothes, all caps except the braid which could be worn on House caps, white boots for cricket and cricket blazers. It was no longer permitted to buy prize bats or balls, and some sports prize monies were halved. By 1917 special clothes for distinctions in games were abandoned. The Head Master proposed the setting up of a food shop during the War, but this did not materialise until 1922, when the Stodge finally appeared in its present location.

Although the timetable remained largely unaltered, there were two changes to the School routine which were to last to the present day. Whole school CO which took up the middle of half day afternoons was abolished, and a single CO set for 5.30. The gap during lunch was extended and ran from 12.15 until 3.00. With the passing of the Daylight Saving Bill, a deputation from the Levée was sent to the Head Master to 'consider the possibility of altering the hours of lock-up'. One element which did not change was that the Sixth still ran the school in all minor matters. The Head Boy, as head of Bigside Levée, still had the last lesson off on Saturday morning...to pay the groundsmen. The Levée also introduced a fine of 3d, for any cricket ball hit into Doctor Dukes' garden.

Inevitably the world outside took its toll on life at Rugby. Many boys had brothers or fathers fighting on the Front, and Rugbeians who had recently left, well known to those who remained, were more and more being added to list of fallen. At first the boys saw the War as an exciting game, 'portrayed in the papers by maps with black lines representing the armies, and arrows pointing for direction

of attacks'. But it changed all too soon. One House tutor said goodbye to his boys one Sunday afternoon' and was blown to pieces a few days later'. In July of 1914 the Elsee Bell (Boomer) had been installed in the Chapel. It was to become the audible reminder of the conflict outside the Close. It was rung each day at midday during the term, at which time all work would cease for five minutes for prayers for Rugbeians on active service.

By 1915, there was some rancour when the O.T.C 'stole' one of the half holidays from football. One house even discussed the removal of running, but they eventually agreed to continue. In 1915 farming squads were introduced throughout the country, and Rugby sent groups to camps in Devon and Cornwall during the summer holidays to pick potatoes and help with other vital agricultural work. Courses were set up near Cambridge to show 'how to pick up potatoes', and two from Rugby returned as 'spud experts'. During the term more groups would work in the local farms. In 1916, 55 squads went out to provide help to the local farmers. The school had its own field of 'war potatoes' near Bilton Grange, and in 1917 it even made a profit of £180 (almost £8,000 today).

Though isolated in some ways, the boys still had time to think of their neighbours. In 1916 the boys of Cotton House suggested to the council that they might help with the cleaning of the streets. Armed with shovels provided by the Council, a large party of volunteers cleared much of Hillmorton and Barby Roads. A cold winter in 1917 meant that the boys had a fortnight of skating, either on part of New Bigside or on the local canals, and a week of tobogganing. There were even extra half-holidays given to ensure that this was enjoyed to the full.

The *Meteor* kept the boys informed of their number who were making a contribution to the conflict. Sir Ernest Dunlop Swinton (Elsee/Kilbracken 1881-82) was reported as one who influenced the development and deployment of tanks. The editors were also proud to announce that the second Rugby V.C. had been won. Geoffrey St. George Shillington Cather (Wilson/Cotton 1905-

08) was killed near Beaumont Hamel in July 1916.

By 1918 the world outside Rugby was in chaos. As one boy noted, 'Much of the French Army had mutinied; Russia was done; and then in March, the Germans broke through the British Fifth Army'. Within School, the major problem for the boys was food. An evening meal of a mug of tea, one slice of bread with a small piece of margarine, and a plate of vegetable soup often meant going to bed hungry. The Captain of the XV still had to offer 'tea' to the opposing captain and members of the visiting team. This often called for ingenuity, and one came up with the solution of fining boys who walked across the cricket pitch half a crown. The money raised helped to keep the hospitality going, and possibly financed other extra treats. Although the boys were barred from buying any food from the shops in town, it did not stop some from sneaking into shops to buy tins of food and the occasional bag of sweets.

Older boys now worked as many as fifteen hours a week at military training. The war had the effect of making the boys care much more for their School affairs than ever before, and probably since. There was fierce pride in the House and in the School. Everything became so much more important, with the thought that for many, life after Rugby may be very short. One boy recorded watching a

plane 'stunting' over the Close with two friends and discussing what they would be doing in a year's time. Within the year, the two friends would have been killed in battle.

There was still a lighter side to events, much needed to offset the gloom. Sports Day in 1918 saw the Captain of the XV Robert Collis who, unable to obtain blanks for the starter's pistol, 'obtained' live rounds from the O.T.C. Having nearly shot one of the staff, he noticed swathes of spectators throwing themselves to the ground as he waved his pistol around in an attempt to dislodge a cartridge which had become jammed. Even better news was that in the Lent term of 1918, first lesson and early Chapel were abolished.

On the day of the Armistice, the town of Rugby was full of flags and bunting within hours of the announcement. A special half-holiday was granted, and in the evening a solemn service of thanksgiving was held in Chapel. Routines would change, restrictions in food and clothing would eventually disappear, but the War had left an indelible mark on Rugby. The Memorial Chapel would rise from the corner of the Close, and the Memorial Albums would record the sacrifice by so many members of the School. One hundred years on, the School remembers those who died and those who gave so much.

DRSM



## Drama Club

Every Thursday evening a loyal band of over thirty Drama Club devotees spill through the doors of the Macready Theatre to enjoy an hour of entirely improvised activities. The ever popular, mass warm-up games noisily and energetically help to shed any remnants of inhibition not already discarded at the theatre door; they draw the students into a huge, circular knockout competition. This being my eighth year with Drama Club, I am still clueless about the fast-paced 'Double Garage' elimination game and its intricate rules, which seem to mutate ... luckily the members are not! By the time the winner is declared in the tense final, a quick scan of the grinning faces is proof positive that this one hour of the week is about relaxing and expending energy in an inventive environment that has no age barriers.

New members are made welcome by loyal aficionados and are soon joining in with equal gusto. The three skilled Upper School leaders, who plan each club session and explain subsequent activities and games, often with hilarious demonstrations, are adept in the art of gentle persuasion; even the most timid of newcomers finds they are soon leaping up and having a go! Some of the activities require volunteers and there is never a shortage of hands waving – but equally there is no pressure. An appreciative audience is just as important and members can often suggest traits and quirks to be explored in the imaginative and entertaining improvisations.

Sometimes thespians can take themselves a little too seriously. That is never the case in Drama Club! The regular members, many of whom are studying Drama at GCSE and A' Level, are invariably multi-talented and often to be seen excelling in the regular School productions throughout the year and also in concerts and on the sports field – and yet there is no sense of egotism during that special Thursday evening time. The fact that members do not notice when the hour is up, and never want to leave, is evidence enough of the enjoyable nature of the club. It is an important outlet for soaking up the creative energy of some of our most gifted students. I am sure that their faces ringing from so much laughter is why they keep coming back!

HL



## Academic Scholars

This last year has been very rewarding to the Academic Scholars in that they have been treated to a vast range of activities. As a member of this group myself, I have to admit that these events have broadened my interests in general as well as my understanding of the thought-provoking topics that have come up in discussion.

The highlight of each academic year is no doubt the Scholars' Outing and in September we visited the British Museum before going to a matinée performance of *Prince of Denmark* at the Ambassadors Theatre which ended in a fascinating question and answer session with the cast. As expected, the British Museum had enormous offerings, ranging from the Elgin Marbles to Egyptian relics to the anthropological comparisons of objects from different societies. The Museum was thoroughly enjoyed due to the sheer amount it had to offer and it served as a reminder of how far human development has taken us.

In the afternoon, we enjoyed Michael Lesslie's play which was brought to life by the National Youth Theatre.. It was a very intriguing play, set a decade before *Hamlet* and portraying the relationship between the two main characters, Hamlet and Ophelia. The master class afterwards was particularly stimulating because we saw actors - only a few years older than ourselves - engaged in acting for a living. Perhaps this was a reminder that, as well as the academic achievement that is expected from us, we need to follow our own passions as well.

Throughout the rest of the academic year, Scholars were invited to numerous lectures. We started the year with a visit from Professor Eric Wear, who asked us to think about 'life-changing art' and who explored the art present in our lives as well as its

purposes. It was an engaging talk, which encouraged us to think more about the way in which we use art in our everyday lives. Later in the year, the Scholars met Damian Barr, author of *Maggie and Me*, talking about his childhood and the events in his life which define who he is now. This was very sad for most of us because, hearing our speaker explain the difficulties he faced in order to be himself and live out his dreams, we came to the realization that we are in fact incredibly lucky to be where we are and have what we have.

In addition, the Scholars have regular events organized by Dr Smith, such as Question Time and Junior Question Time, where panelists provide a debate and the audience responds by asking difficult questions and forcing everyone else to think more deeply about politics, ethics or any other topic of interest. Similarly, the Scholars' Seminars held every Sunday at Dr Smith's house provide an intimate setting (with only a dozen guests) to talk about a specific topic (prepared by one pupil) which usually ends in a long debate. Several times a term, a Junior Scholars' Forum is held so that pupils can understand more about a member of staff's enthusiasms outside their teaching. This proved very eye-opening as we heard this year from Dr Hennings on "Mission Work in Kolkata" and Mr Price on "Hector and Andromache".

All the activities for the Scholars offer diversity to those among the pupil body who crave knowledge and seek to have their values questioned. This year I think our thirst has been well quenched.

Anouk Wear (B)

# A GAP YEAR IN RUSSIA

## Experiences in St. Petersburg

I am writing this report both in order to thank the Dewar Pilkington trustees for their generous support of my recent project and to document the experiences which have made this project such a valuable one. I would also like to emphasise how grateful I am for such support given the different circumstances of my project. Many students choose to spend part of a Gap Year undertaking voluntary projects overseas, offering their services to a charitable cause. My project in St. Petersburg was primarily an educational one. It was, however, a serious challenge and by no means comparable to an ordinary holiday. I hope that my efforts to connect with communities might help to heal and improve our diplomatic relations with Russia which, in spite of proliferating economic ties, have remained frosty since the end of the Soviet Union in 1991. I also hope that my initiative will inspire other students to carry out similar

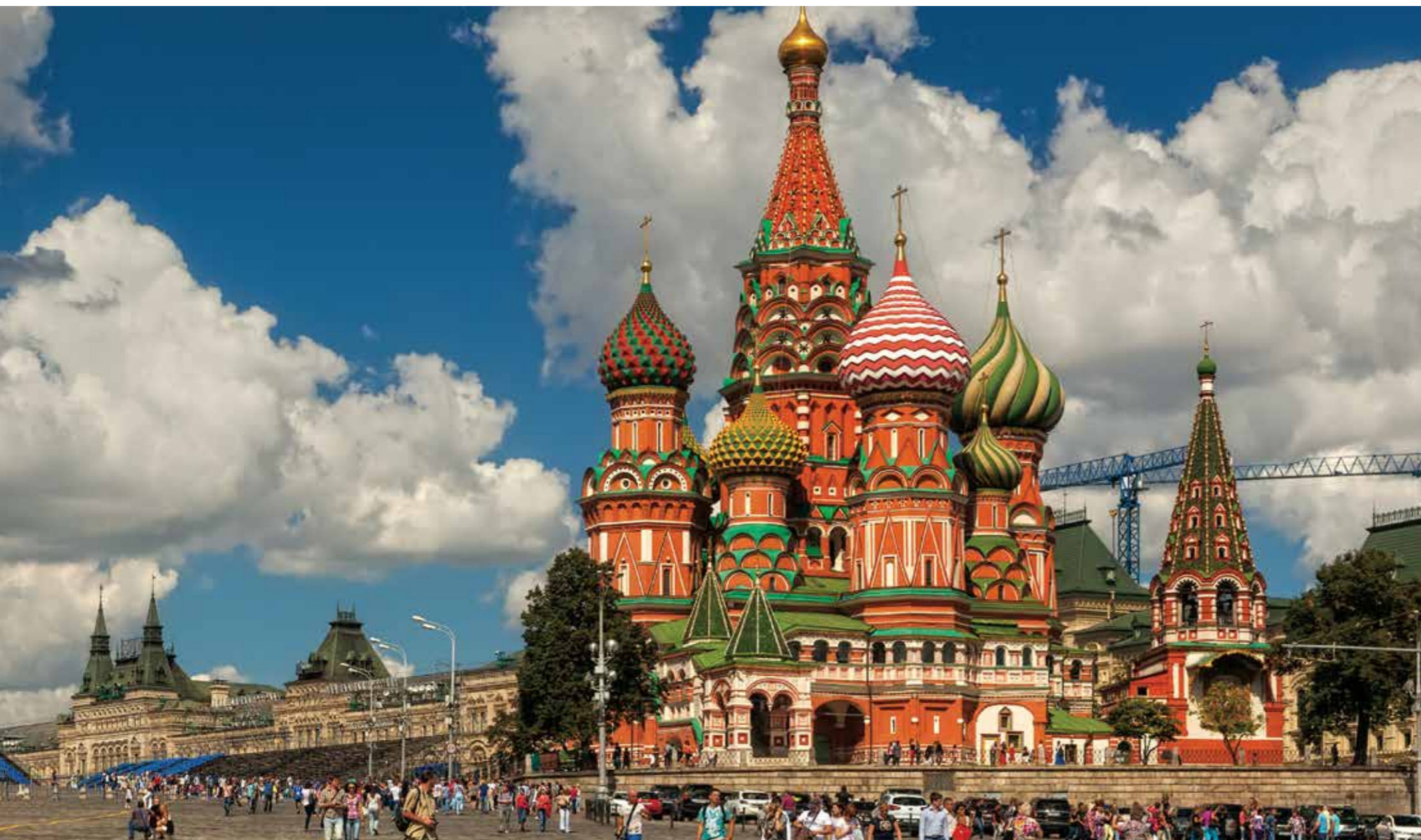
projects and, in the long-run, re-promote the teaching of Slavic languages at Rugby School.

I was living in St. Petersburg during August 2013. This is, in fact, a quieter month for the city, with the majority of tourists leaving at the end of the famous White Nights season. Many Russian families also leave the city and retreat to their countryside *dachas* during the school holidays. I used my time in St. Petersburg to attend an intensive Russian language course at the Derzhavin Institute. Founded in 2003 in collaboration with the All-Russia Pushkin Museum, the language school welcomes international students all year round. It was named after Gavriila Derzhavin, a classical Russian poet and noble statesman. When Derzhavin sat in on one of the final exams at the famous lyceum of Tsarskoe Selo, he was overcome and reduced to tears by the lyrical talent of a teenage boy, Alexander Pushkin. This moment is widely considered to have marked the transition between 18th-century Russian literature and the golden age promised by future generations. The Derzhavin Institute is based in a beautiful 18th-century mansion on the Fontanka Embankment. I was placed in a beginners' class in a tidy group of six. The first week of the course was particularly testing as I had minimal understanding of the language. But within a few days I had grown familiar with the Cyrillic script, able to conjugate several verbs in three tenses, and to express basic wants and needs in everyday situations. Classes were taught primarily in Russian since very few students were English or, indeed, English-speaking. As we progressed in the following weeks, we were introduced to the six cases – nominative, accusative, genitive, dative, prepositional, instrumental – and learned to form agreements in terms of case, number and gender. Whilst the class atmosphere was relaxed, our teacher was rigorous and always ensured the completion 'домашнее задание' to practise what we'd learned each day. At the end of the four-week course I sat a written test designed to gauge my level of progress. I was awarded an A1.2 certificate which means that I reached a pre-intermediate level by European standards. I am delighted by this achievement and hope that it will stand me in good stead for a degree in French and Russian at university.

The language school has direct links with a range of host families who offer basic home-stay accommodation. I was fortunate enough to be living a short-

walk away on the opposite side of the Fontanka Embankment. I lived with two sisters – Maria and Olga – who had left their family further south in order to earn a better living in the city. They owned a small, basic apartment of four rooms in a large 19th-century block. It was dimly lit. We were not allowed to wear shoes inside. The tap water was not drinkable. Hot water was limited during the summer months. Whilst this was all strange to me, I grew accustomed to such ways of living within a few days. Maria – aged 30 – works as a guide in the city and specialises in obscure, unspoiled attractions. Olga – aged 21 – works through the night for a web design company and so scarcely appeared before midday. Neither sister could speak a word of English, nor had they ever travelled outside Russia. Nevertheless, they appeared remarkably content with their lives as settled on its simple pleasures: strong tea, vodka with lemon, Discovery Channel, cheap cigarettes. I am glad that they could not speak English and that they lead such a humble lifestyle. It only confirmed the reality of an emptiness that material wealth so often creates in the Western world. Basic needs seemed a priority, but everything else – the car, the coffee machine, the organic groceries – superfluous.

Since language school only occupied five days of the week, I was able to live more independently at weekends. I first used this as an opportunity to make cultural excursions around the city. I began at the Hermitage – the museum of the Winter Palace – where I focussed 11th to 19th-century Russian Art and the opulent imperial residence, which has been immaculately restored. The Russian Museum, next to the Church of the Saviour on Blood, has one of the most impressive collections of fine art in the city. I was particularly interested in the 20th-century works of social realism, which illustrate a means of expression under a strictly censored regime. My greatest expedition, however, was a trip to Moscow via the overnight train. Alone and somewhat confused, I found myself in a four-bunk compartment with some middle-aged Russian men. I managed to communicate with them and express my interest in their lives. They, too, had never travelled outside Russia, and didn't seem intent on doing so. As I had imagined, Moscow is a very different place from St. Petersburg. Architecturally, except for the ancient walls of the Kremlin, it is a functional city, a business hub for Russia's growing economy. I waited for several hours outside Lenin's Mausoleum just for a glimpse of his unnaturally preserved



St. Basil's Cathedral, Moscow

corpse. The Kremlin itself seemed so busy and so heavily scrutinised that I began to wonder whether political functions existed there at all. The Moscow metro is an architectural showpiece, a triumph for Stalin's radical 5-year plans in the 1930s. With high ceilings and polished marble walls, its extravagance is not unlike the palaces of Peterhof and Tsarskoye Selo, former homes of the Tsars. It also occurred to me that the metro had functioned as a symbol of Soviet Propaganda. Its radiance served as a promise that Stalin's plans had delivered: a justification, he hoped, for the millions of lives sacrificed in the process.

At the end of my course, with just a day to spare, I decided to make one final expedition. I took a train to Veliky Novgorod, an ancient city situated 200km south of St. Petersburg. Novgorod one of the oldest cities of recorded Russian civilisation. Its first settlements date back to the 9th century as a trade route for the Byzantine Empire. What began as a simple market town, which grew prosperous, politically

and economically, was eventually squandered by a series of local and international invasions. First sacked by Ivan the Terrible in the 16th century, it was later submitted to Swedish troops and largely destroyed by the German occupation during the Second World War. Nevertheless, much of the city's historical centre has survived and has been gradually restored to its original style. It was fascinating to see medieval design of an older city, typified by three structures in particular: the St. Sophia Cathedral, Yaroslav's Court and the Yuriev Monastery. The austere style here really contrasts with the extravagance of the modern palaces of St. Petersburg - those designed by the 18th-century Italian architect, Rastrelli. Veliky Novgorod is a charming, unspoiled city with tangible traces of a former princely state and a once dominant medieval republic.

My impressions of post-Communist Russia, albeit interesting and informative, were not without cynicism. St. Petersburg, often referred to as 'the

Venice of the North', owes much of its aesthetic beauty to the designs of major European predecessors – Paris, Amsterdam, Vienna. It is not, however, akin to the rest of Russia; nor, for that matter, is Moscow. The major cities cannot be seen as a face representative of the Russian Federation, a vast landmass which spans across nine different time zones. Most of Russia's wealth, and its current status as an emerging market, is concentrated within Moscow and St. Petersburg. The quality of life, therefore, is significantly lower in rural regions, a contrast visible even from the city outskirts. So what we hear about Russia in the business columns – a 'BRIC' economy – is information based heavily on statistics. The outsider may be at first overwhelmed by the vast collection of State wealth – a souvenir of the autocratic dynasty which once protected a privileged few. However, in many ways, Russia has moved closer to the Tsarist model since the fall of the Soviet Union. The gulf between the rich and poor has widened. Putin has all the qualities of a heroic, long-standing monarch.



St Sophia's Cathedral, Veliky Novgorod

The Derzhavin Institute, St. Petersburg



He has been juggling with power for over a decade, proving himself as the extreme sports daredevil, the ageing super-hero, the singer, the painter and the martial arts champion. Contrary to official records, Putin is one of Russia's wealthiest citizens, a multi-billionaire. It was certainly my impression that the Russians look back on the Soviet times through a rose-tinted lens. I was not party to any real sense of national pride or personal affinity towards a leader. It seems a strange paradox that the rise of human rights in the 21st-century has left Russians just as suspicious and distrusting as ever before.

I have benefited hugely from these travels and return with a mind both broadened and narrowed. Exposure to social problems makes me more appreciative of my own circumstances. I am privileged in so many areas – education, healthcare, social security.

On the other hand, I recognise the potential for greed and excessiveness in our own society. To live with a family without such wealth, but with emotional and spiritual satisfaction, only highlights the limitations of material things – a fact which so often escapes our notice. I hope to return to Russia during my studies at university and really make something of these experiences. I would always place a high premium on overseas projects. Whether it's voluntary work or for educational purposes, we all have a tendency to get trapped in our own environments. Such projects almost inevitably provide a fresh outlook on our own lives. I would particularly recommend this project to anyone interested in languages. A Gap Year is an incredible opportunity to live in the country of your study, and to use your skills beyond the four walls of a classroom.

**Will Seymour (K, 2008-13)**

“A Gap Year is an incredible opportunity to live in the country of your study, and to use your skills beyond the four walls of a classroom”



# Societies

## Bliss Society

This first of this year's Bliss Society trips was to Birmingham City Hall to listen to Mahler's spellbinding First Symphony, a playful and engaging work and excellently played by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. We returned to Birmingham the following month for a stirring Welsh National Opera performance of Donizetti's *Maria Stuarda*, the story of a fictional meeting between Elizabeth I and Mary, Queen of Scots. The Society is no stranger to the works of Matthew Bourne, and this year included a trip to his all-male adaptation of *Swan Lake*. A trip to George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* was a welcome release from the pressures of public exams as the play brilliantly exposed the class prejudices of the early twentieth century elite. We ended the year with a trip to Bernstein's masterpiece *West Side Story*, with its dynamic score and sensational choreography.

**Geraint Owen (M)**

## Geography Society

Charlie Beere, Flo Pilman and Nina Whatmough from last year's XX organised a series of lectures including a fascinating rainforest lecture from Tribes Alive, a charity that works with indigenous tribal people to develop sustainable projects in the Amazon. This work helps to strengthen cultural traditions and retain traditional ways of life whilst helping work on tribal lands to be environmentally friendly. The Geography students learnt about fair trade, reforestation and horticulture, training and education and modern technology - all vital topics to help both in and around the syllabus. An exciting talk was also given on Birmingham's regeneration, informing pupils about both its past and future development ideas to boost the local economy, provide employment and make the city a more desirable place to live and work. Being our nearest large city, this information was highly useful as much of the development will affect the lives of Rugby School pupils. This talk also linked to the LXX field trip to Birmingham, where the pupils visited Shard End, Spark Hill, Castle Bromwich and Meriden to understand the varying characteristics of different areas within the inner city, inner suburbs and on the rural urban fringe. This fieldwork also reiterated work learnt about population change with the issue of rural to urban migration being so topical. The society also arranged a lecture by an important member of the appropriate technology foundation, Practical Action. Following the economist mantra 'small is beautiful', the charity provides cheap and sustainable aid to countries impacted by governmental instability and civil unrest and countries faced with natural disasters. All in all, it was a very successful year of Geography lectures on an array of interesting topics.

The first day of the Advent term saw the release of the new edition of the *Rugby School Geographic Magazine*, renamed *Compass*. 150 pupils submitted their own holiday photos under the theme 'Sunsets, Seas and Skies' for the photography competition led by Saskia Weir. Well done in particular for this edition's winner and runner up Guilla Landi and Georgia Martin.

This year's Geography Society team comprised Megan Gaizutyte, Leanne Hemming, Izzy Pagendam and myself and have been busy inviting numerous inspiring lecturers for the Lower and Upper School Geography talks. The talks this year will include exciting topics (such as one man's adventurous trek to the peak of Mount Everest) and firsthand views from real geographers, such as a famous explorer David Edwards, who is giving a talk on his 'Return to Montserrat.' Whilst helping pupils with their plate tectonic preps, these talks may also inspire adventurous gap year projects. Richard Cowell from Birmingham City Council is also set to give a talk on the 20-year regeneration plan for our neighbouring city, helping pupils both with A2 work on cities and AS work on population.

**JMP**



## History of Art Society

In the Advent term, Dr Matt Lodder from Essex University spoke to the History of Art Society on 'Tattooing as Artistic Practice, 1870-Present'. His paper addressed the myths of tattooing and the lazy journalism that implies that tattoos are, in his words, 'just for sailors' by tracing the practice back to some of the earliest corpses. As well as delivering this fascinating paper, Dr Lodder expanded our understanding of what Art History can include.

**JLR**

## Temple Society

The Temple Society had another stellar year, with talks given on myriad subjects ranging from angels and miracles to Oliver Cromwell. In the year that David Cameron declared that Britain was a 'Christian country', resulting in a swarm of controversy, it seemed fitting that many of the talks focused on belief and the place of theology in our fast-paced, modern society.

In October, the Temple Society had the pleasure of welcoming Valery Rees, who came to speak on the subject of her new book, *From Gabriel to Lucifer: A Cultural History of Angels*. A warm and fascinating speaker, Valery Rees captivated the audience by exploring the similarities and evolution of angelic depictions in many different cultures, from Ezekiel and Biblical cherubim to Persian *genii* to Arab *djinn* and even the social and spiritual concept of guardian angels. Rees pointed out that even if angels are merely a construct of our imagination and exist only in our minds, they have been around for thousands of years and therefore have an intrinsic value to society. Rees presented various theories about human notions of angels and stressed that any human depiction is, in her mind, simply a way of understanding these most divine and powerful beings and that, in truth, angels are formless and heavenly entities, bound to help and deliver messages to us in times of great hardship.

Continuing on the theme of belief in our modern day society, the Society also had the pleasure of hearing Canon Brian Mountford of the University Church in Oxford speak on 'Christian Atheism', which was both an exercise in getting to the heart of Christianity, as well as something which gave an insight into the modern place of religion in society. Canon Brian was quick to identify the bifocal perception of Christian faith: with conservative and traditional perspectives on the one hand, and modern, liberal approaches on the other. He was clear in associating the former case with the belief in the divinity of Christ and a supernatural God; whereas the latter was presented as avoiding supernatural ideology for a more humanist belief. An intriguing highlight to the lecture was a consideration of the question 'Does God exist?', where Canon Brian argued that we are very ill-equipped to ponder this subject, since opinions of what 'God' is

are hugely subjective to us as individuals. He also reasoned that science and religion are very much complementary, dispelling the dogmatic misconception that Christian faith is limited to the supernatural. Miscomprehension of the terms 'religion' and 'faith' thus lies at the heart of the problem. For instance, he quoted statistics relating to how faith is perceived across the country, and showed that there is as much scope about what constitutes faith amongst self-professed believers as there might be with agnostics. The lecture was both engaging and well-defined in the way in which it conveyed general arguments, Canon Brian showed his open-mindedness to the many approaches and interpretations of Christianity, whilst not straying so far from common beliefs as to be considered an overly revolutionary speaker. The Temple Society was very fortunate indeed to receive such a formidable guide to Christianity in the modern world.

In January Dr Beesley talked, animatedly, on Oliver Cromwell and his role in the 1651 Cromwellian Settlement. Dr Beesley disputed the commonly held belief that this was intended as revenge for the Irish Rebellion of 1641, but was, indeed, an act of ethnic cleansing or, as he boldly put it, a 'final solution' to the Irish question. He also challenged the perception that Cromwell was solely responsible for the suffering inflicted on the Irish at the time, arguing that it was part of a culture of English prejudice and religious hatred. Dr Beesley supported this argument by showing that, even amongst the Levellers and liberal thinkers of the time, there was very little opposition to the atrocities inflicted upon the Irish Catholic population. Dr Beesley's engaging and insightful argument contested many Irish and English preconceptions about the Cromwellian Settlement and left the audience captivated and well-informed.

Most recently, Rev Andrew Pinsent of Oxford University, visited the Temple Society to speak on the subject of whether physics can explain miracles. Given that he had spent three years working at CERN near Geneva prior to being ordained as a Catholic priest, there really could not have been a speaker with a more apt background! He began by introducing the news that natural philosophy contained the existence of God as a given truth until

very recently. As an example, Newton believed in the existence of God within the theories of natural philosophy, in addition to his works on calculus, mechanics and gravitation. Rev Pinsent then proceeded to present the analogy of a 'funnel' to the zoology of ideas and emotions in life. Although one could argue that this is a human distortion of the world, Rev Pinsent used the 'funnel idea' to simplify a great number of things to a group of smaller and smaller size as you move down the funnel. He proposed that the reason for the existence of God was as the entity 'at the end of the funnel to which all things simplify'. Rev Pinsent used a wide variety of definitions to convey a philosophical account of miracles and then one of physics. The effect of this was that the audience could decide, based on the given information, whether the scope of physics really allowed miracles or not. Rev Pinsent gave his talk evidently from a hugely knowledgeable background, and his proposals were considered very reasonable if the existence of God is accepted as true. The talk also alluded on several occasions to the pioneering work of the Ian Ramsey Centre in Oxford, which will continue to research the concept of miracles over the coming years.

Archbishop Fredrick Temple, after whom the Society is named, was dedicated to engaging with modernity and never shied away from examining the role of religion in modern life, advocating women's education and preaching on evolution and the compatibility of science and religion. Over a hundred years after his death, it seems that his vision and spirit live on at Rugby through the Temple Society, as we wrestle with the ever-changing role and perception of philosophy and religion in our everyday lives. We would both like to thank Dr Smith for his superb running of the Society, making this year as thought-provoking, relevant and interesting as ever, and for his many car journeys to the train station through reliably miserable weather conditions to provide lifts for the visiting speakers!

**James Haynes (C)  
& Polly Creed (St)**

## English Society

The English Society has had a busy year, with lots of interesting talks and activities. The major event was the lecture from Professor Daniel Karlin from Bristol University on the genesis and reception of Edward FitzGerald's *Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám*. The *Rubáiyát* was one of the most popular poems of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, being rescued from near obscurity by Swinburne and Rossetti to go through five editions in thirty years. Translated from medieval Arabic, the poem celebrates a kind epicuriansim which found a particular appeal amongst *fin de siècle* writers and with publishers until the late 1930s who reveled in bringing out ever more *deluxe* editions with sumptuous illustrations by artists such as Edmund Dulac and Frank Brangwyn. Professor Karlin is an acknowledged expert on the *Rubáiyát* – he recently edited the new Oxford World's Classics edition of the poem – and the pupils very much appreciated his careful guide through various of the stanzas, looking at what was pure translation and what was FitzGerald's own poetry to ask how far any translation of a literary work is also a work of literature itself.

Elsewhere across the year, Dr Sutcliffe continued his on-going classes on James Joyce's *Ulysses* and Mr Demetriou hosted a new series of classes on a wide variety of texts from different time periods seen through theoretical frameworks. There was also a very interesting cross-curricular tragedy seminar day, with discussions of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and *King Lear* contextualized through talks

on Racine's *Phédre* and Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*. Theatre trips were taken to a good local performance of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* and a touring production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which successfully used an all-male cast to explore some of the anarchy and sexual ambiguities of the original text. Thanks to live-screening, the English Society was also able to watch Howard Brenton's new play *Drawing the Line* live from the London's Hampstead Theatre without going any further than the Macready. Brenton's play – an ambitious examination of the impact of the partition of India on the personal lives of the British elite – proved particularly interesting for those A level students studying E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India* and led to much interesting discussion the next day in class. Again this year, English Society film nights proved popular, with audiences enjoying Brian Gilbert's biopic *Wilde*, Kenneth Branagh's gloriously happy *Much Ado about Nothing* and Marcus Thompson's dark and violent version of the Jacobean revenge tragedy *The Changeling*.

## Senior Debating Society

With motions ranging from 'The CCF has no place in schools' to 'Scotland should be an independent country', the early rounds of this year's Senior Debating Competition showed school debating at its best, with the teams speaking fluently and confidently about issues they had clearly spent lots of time thinking about and researching and with lots of interesting questions being asked by the opposition and from the floor. Kilbracken, Town, School House and Stanley did particularly well in their individual rounds to make it to the final, with Town – represented by the excellent Tom Mourant and Ben van Laar – winning the Competition with their staunch support for Ukrainian membership of the EU. This is the second year in a row that Town has won the Competition after they lost their almost exclusive grip on the trophy in 2011, although their victory did not come easily, with fierce opposition from Stanley's Lottie Bestwick and Tallulah Stobart, whose command of economic counterarguments almost saw them clinch the win for themselves.

Thanks go to all the participants in this year's Competition. I hope those returning to the School in September chose to debate again to make next year's competition just as strong as this one, and I am sure that those who are leaving the School and who choose to debate at university will continue to give whomever they come across a run for their money. Particular thanks go to Polly Creed and Margot Speed, this year's society secretaries, who chaired the debates excellently.

**RJS**

**RJS**

## Science Society

This year in the Science Faculty has seen an exciting mix of guest lectures, field trips, master classes, competition successes and even pupil publications.

The lecture series started brilliantly with 'The Physics of Helicopters' by Old Rugbeian Major Julian Lee, who elegantly made a very difficult topic accessible. Alastair Land of Harrow spoke to the Bateson Society on 'Scientists as Explorers', and Luke Bartlett from Uppingham spoke on 'The Chemistry of Wine'. Old favourites - 'Fantastic Plastics', with Professor Averil MacDonald of Reading University, and 'Galileo the Wrangler' with Peter Joyce - were also delivered to local schools as part of our outreach programme. Nick Barker of Warwick University explored 'Explosions, Nappies and Frozen Fruit'; Anu Ojha of the National Space Centre took us on the 'Red Bull Stratos Mission'; and James Keeler from Cambridge gave a fascinating talk on the Second Law of Thermodynamics. Finally, Professor Tony Ryan, a leading world figure in green energy, gave a memorable talk based on his book *Project Sunshine*, explaining the difficulties and advantages of switching away from an oil economy.

Master classes were offered in Biology by Dr Mike Leahy, an expert in virology, a television producer and the owner of Zoo Bus, and in Physics by Anu Ojha. These enrichment classes fired up the pupils, even changed their intellectual direction by offering insight into areas of science not explored through the curriculum.

All three departments ran trips. Our ecologists on the Biology field trip to FSC Nettlecombe Court in Somerset were glad to find the flood waters had subsided by the time they arrived. Physics ran their ever popular Physics in Perspective trip, while Chemistry ran two trips to Warwick University for some lucky E blockers and all the LXX studying A level Chemistry. The LXX Pre-U Chemists went to Sheffield University where they made paracetamol and used the latest instrumentation. LXX chemist Daniel Thompson was the first Rugbeian to use a time-of-flight mass spectrometer in the analysis laboratory adjacent to the organic teaching laboratory where his parents first met in 1990.

The two big Physics events which keep Rugby School firmly on the map were the annual Institute of Physics meeting, with around 500 delegates, and Extreme Physics, a three-day residential for Year 10 pupils from around the country. A new addition to their portfolio was the

Physics teacher and technician INSET run in conjunction with the National Space Centre and overseen by the Head of Physics (Dr Davies) and Andrew McMurray (Leicester University).


Chemistry pupils once again reached the quarter-finals of the West Midlands Chemistry quiz held at Birmingham University. We hosted an annual Chemistry quiz, coming fourth against stiff competition from local grammar schools, and Georgie Colbourne won the annual inter-school Foxcroft essay competition for her essay on nuclear power. The sixth form Chemists also did well in international Chemistry competitions, winning six silver and six bronze in the Chemistry Olympiad, one gold, three silver and five bronze in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge.

Some of our scientists had their scientific writing published. The Head of Science and D blocker Hugh Campbell had an article on fluorine published on Bristol University's Chemistry website. Lucy Hayes had an article on hydrogen peroxide published in the international Young Scientist journal. Dr Thompson had a double-page spread on 'Pre-U Chemistry at Rugby School' in the January edition of the Cambridge International Pre-U Newsletter. Speech Day saw the launch of *Rugby Scientific*, a new science magazine run by pupils for pupils. The editorial team plan a second edition this year and would love to hear from ORs about their days in the Science Schools.

Dr Thompson's reach continues to extend beyond the confines of Rugby, including a lecture at the Institute of Education in London to 700 sixth-formers, offering them advice on exam techniques in AS and A2 Chemistry (available to all Rugby Chemists on the School's VLE), another on 'Chemical Defences' to the Rugby Natural History Society and, having donned his fez, on 'Musical Chemistry' to a packed audience during the Arts Festival, in which he performed all his favourite experiments to some of his favourite songs.

The Science Faculty has always had a strong reputation for innovation, which continues to this day. Our use of the VLE in particular is attracting attention from other schools; last year we collectively wrote over 500 pages of valuable revision resources for Rugby pupils. In short, the Faculty is a very busy and very happy place within Rugby School with lots going on all the time to keep teachers, technicians and pupils interested.

**MAT**



"The Science Faculty has always had a strong reputation for innovation, which continues to this day"

# PSHEe at Rugby



The PSHEe education provision at Rugby School is an important part of the pupils' overall educational experience. In addition to regular PSHEe sessions with experienced tutors (for pupils in Marshall House, the F and E blocks and the LXX), all year groups from F Block through to the XX benefit from whole year-group presentations and workshops at different times during the school year, all of which provide opportunities for them to learn valuable skills for life in a safe environment and to understand and learn from the experiences of others.

In addition to our regular programme of speakers, this year we welcomed some new speakers who were all very well received by their respective audiences, and who will be returning next year. The F block, E block and LXX were privileged to hear Karl Hopwood, international e-safety expert, speak to them about online safety and online reputation; and Karl will return to Rugby in 2014-15 to speak to parents as well as pupils. Dr Aric Sigman delivered an entertaining and informative presentation with a largely medical bias to the E block on the effects of alcohol on young people, and spoke on a separate occasion to the D block and LXX on the topics of 'Screen Time' and 'Body Image' respectively. Peter Hall spoke again to the D block about his personal experiences with drug and alcohol addiction in his highly engaging talk 'Wasted Youth', and professional golfer and former member of the European PGA Golf Tour, John Hoskison, was invited back a third time to deliver his inspirational presentation entitled 'From Prizes to Prison' to the XX. Alex Corkran gave her sensitive and effective talk to the E block on the subject of self-esteem, drawing on her personal experiences with eating disorders, and Alex Fryer spoke again to the D block about relationships. Next year she will present her new talk to the XX entitled 'Leaving School and Moving On'.

ACL

“whole year-group presentations and workshops at different times during the school year, all of which provide opportunities for them to learn valuable skills for life”



Artwork by: Matilda Mo

# TRIPS

OUT & ABOUT

## E block and XX Trip to Iceland

### Day 1

After an early start, a coach full of sleepy teenagers departed to Gatwick in high spirits for the week ahead. After three hours of flight, we caught sight of the rather unappealing, barren rocky wasteland. However, when we touched down in Keflavik we started to appreciate the true beauty of the nation and also met our bus driver, Otto. A short coach ride brought us to the world famous Blue Lagoon, where we enjoyed time swimming around in the steamy blue springs and trying out one or two organic spa treatments! A much more relaxed group then went on to the capital Reykjavik, where we checked into our hotel and shortly afterwards went on to see a Viking monument by the sea.

### Day 2

The second day brought us out and bright and early to the nearby town of Hveragerði where we had to complete a set of questions to gain clues for a challenge. The challenge led us around the town and finished at a zip wire over a thermal waterfall. Then we went to the town's local swimming pool, where we enjoyed swimming, diving and relaxing in a variety of different temperatures. After lunch we took the bus to two large waterfalls, where we were able to walk behind them and get up and close to some of nature's most beautiful creations. Then Otto took us onto the flood plain below the recently famous Eyjafjallajokull, which erupted in 2010. The day ended with our visiting the Solheimjokull glacier, a Geography teacher's dream, with all the glacial features one would ever need surrounded by the stunning backdrop of the glacier. After a busy day the coach pulled up at a different hotel set in the beautiful Icelandic mountains, where the group enjoyed a relaxed evening before an early night.

## Day 3

After an early start we went straight to the renowned volcanic beach of Vik, where the sand was pitch black. Once again this location illustrated why Iceland is such a great place to come for Geography, as just in front of us was the classic arch, stump, stack formation. As well as the stunning, unusual scenery of the beach there were also basaltic columns akin to those of the Giant's Causeway. After a group photo we departed to the ferry terminal to go to the active volcanic Westmann islands. On the island Heimaey, we visited the site of the mass congregation of puffins and apparently the windiest place in Europe. Then we began to ascend the active volcano of Eldfell. After a few attempts, we managed to find the peak where we could take in breathtaking views and feel the heat from the Earth's core. The island 5000 years ago had been two separate islands that were then joined by a large volcanic eruption. The 1973 eruption then led to a two kilometre-squared expansion of the island and the destruction of 400 homes. It also created a more protected harbour that enhanced the prosperous fishing settlement still there today. We then returned to the hotel in Reykjavik.



## Day 4

Our penultimate day saw us visit a caldera volcano at Kerid, followed by the largest waterfall in Europe. Gullfoss, the 60m tall body of falling water, managed to amaze even the sleepy members of the XX. Then the group headed off to a geyser park where many were soaked by the super-hot jets of water, much to the amusement of their peers. After lunch we visited an interactive visitor centre on geysers and tectonics. After this we headed off to the Thingvellir National Park, which allowed us to see two plates diverging and to stand in between the American and Eurasian plates. This was also the area of the first parliament. We visited the spot where the first parliaments were held and had a debate on the speaking rock. After a 'strenuous' day, we went to Reykjavik's city swimming pool and enjoyed chilling out in hot tubs and the pool's assault course before heading out to a fun meal at a local burger bar.

## Day 5

A well-deserved lie-in saw the last day of the trip edge to a close. A final tour around the docklands of the city and a visit to the church, whose architecture was inspired by the Basaltic columns we saw on the third day, set up our last hours in Iceland nicely. A quick hour of free time in the shopping district of the city before driving off to the airport left us in good stead for the flight ahead. Overall, a great trip definitely worth going on!

JMP

“the group headed off to a geyser park where many were soaked by the super-hot jets of water much to the amusement of their peers”



## World Challenge Zambia & Malawi



On 6 July, thirty two pupils and four members of staff arrived at Brunel University for the “Build up day” of our World Challenge Expedition to Zambia and Malawi. After a year and a half of preparation, weeks of fundraising and a training expedition in Hemel Hempstead, the adventure had finally started. Two days of traveling, and the two teams arrived in Livingstone for a few days of relaxation and sightseeing before the teams had to part ways and the real adventures started. Team one took these days as a chance to prepare for the upcoming acclimatisation phase, scouting the various food stalls in Livingstone, but also taking time to do a bit of sightseeing, such as going on a river cruise and jeep safari, including seeing Victoria Falls. Meanwhile team two also decided to visit Victoria Falls. Both teams agreed that this natural curtain of water was remarkable.

The acclimatisation phase was designed to help us adjust to the African climate, and so this entailed a gentle hike for both teams. Team one visited the Lusemfwa Gorge where, having arrived at our camp after an 8 hour journey, we quickly rested up for the 4 days of trekking ahead. The days were spent traversing the beautiful landscape in one of Zambia's most beautiful locations, seeing the more rural side of Zambia which included mud and straw huts and bartering for live chickens. Being by the river there was no lack of wildlife, and camping on the sandy beaches of the river bank every night under the stars was unforgettable. Team two decided to go for a more cultural acclimatisation trek to visit Mwandia, where a local guide was pestered by the group for information on the villages and markets the team had trekked through. It was a short, two hour walk to reach the Mission Church, where we were greeted by millions of children all wanting to hold our hands and play with our hair. We pitched our tents and were introduced to some of the Zambian ways of life. After a classic Zambian meal, we were treated to songs and dancing by the locals, who then demanded that we entertain them with our own songs and dancing. As far as I could tell the locals loved it, so much so that we were invited to sing again at the end of their church service the next morning.

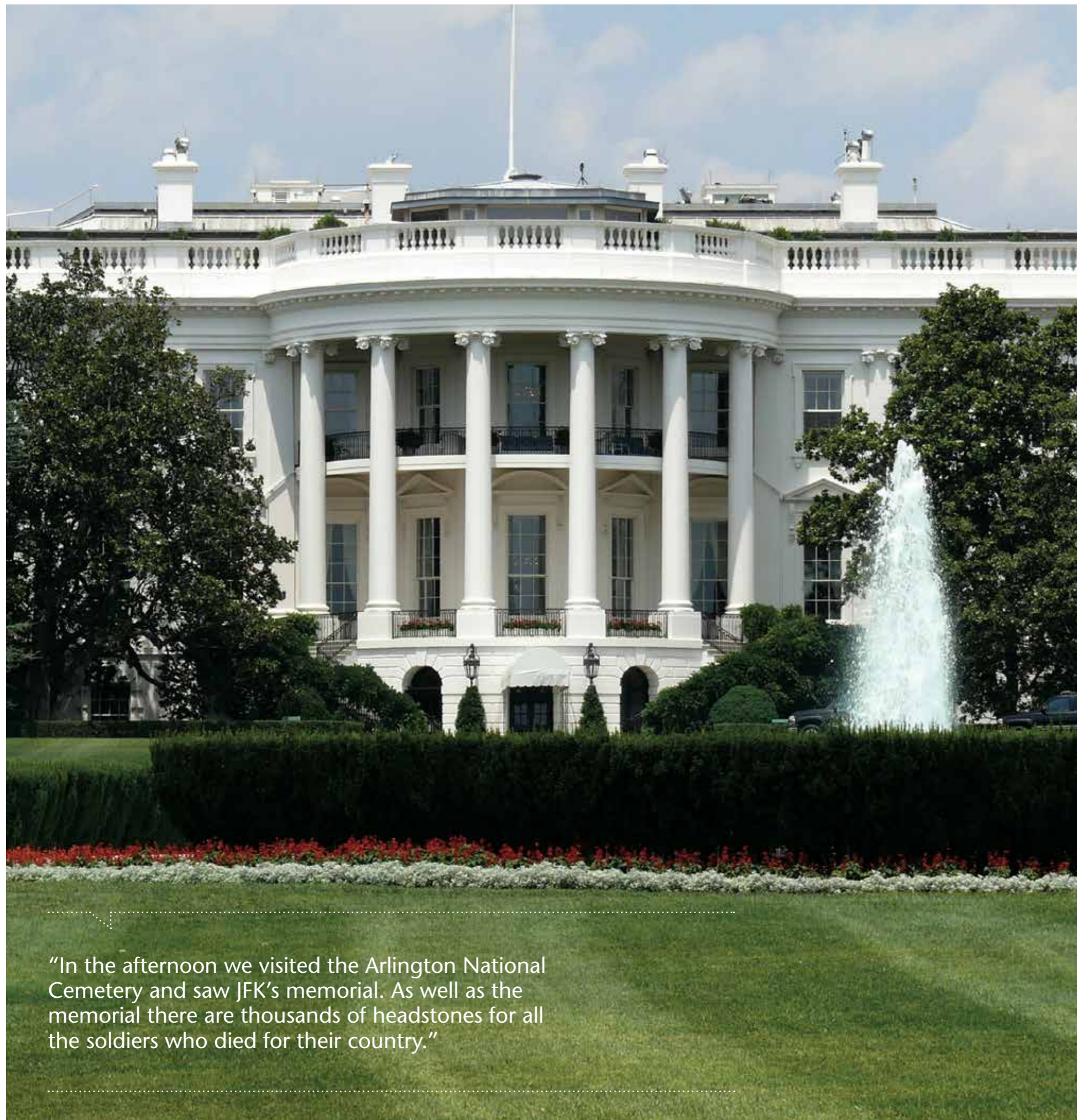
For both teams, the project phase involved a week in Malawi, working with the Sumbi Beach Project. The project was run by Grant Ripley and his family, whose ambitions for the project are to create self-sustained communities in a number

of different villages dotted around Malawi. As for us, we were to help with improving the facilities at the local nurseries. This included the building of two different shaded shelters to be used as classrooms, fences, and play areas. Each team worked at a different site, but both finished successfully in the short amount of time we had. The project phase was the highlight of the trip for many, and so we would like to continue to raise money for the project in the years to come.

For the main trek, team one decided to tackle Mount Mulanje (Malawi), the highest mountain in south-central Africa. The tough climb ahead was easily forgotten due to the distractions of the views from the mountain side, and made easier with the help of our porters. The quick ascent on the first day brought us up onto the plateau Mt Mulanje is famous for and it felt as if we were in a whole new landscape, 2000 meters up. The final ascent to the peak was met with enthusiasm as we all pushed for that final hurdle of our expedition, and we were rewarded with a sense of accomplishment at the top. After this the weather finally turned on us and the endless sunshine of the previous 25 days changed to rain, so it was with relief that we made it back to a nice camping lodge in Blantyre (Malawi). Team two thought long and hard about the destination for their main trek. In the end, they chose to take on the Batoka Gorge in Zambia, a very challenging trek on uneven surfaces for four days. Although many of us fell ill at this stage of the expedition, the Batoka Gorge is home to incredible views and it was the first time on the trip that we were able to camp out under the stars rather than in a tent. After finishing the trek, we were invited to feast in the luxury Taita Falcon Lodge.

As the end of our expedition drew near, it was time for both teams to meet up at the Fat Monkeys Lodge on the shores of Lake Malawi for the much-deserved final stage of the adventure; rest and relaxation. Unfortunately we were unable to swim in Lake Malawi due to health risks, but it meant we were able to spend most of our time sunbathing and buying custom-made African attire. All in all it was a tremendous experience, and we would highly recommend it to anyone.

**George Brockman &  
Harrison Anton (Shf)**



“In the afternoon we visited the Arlington National Cemetery and saw JFK’s memorial. As well as the memorial there are thousands of headstones for all the soldiers who died for their country.”

## US Politics Trip

After a nervous few days leading up to our departure, waiting to see if the federal government would reopen before our arrival, the day finally came when it was announced that the Democrats and Republicans had reached a deal. Government was open again. Saturday arrived and after an early start we were soon at Heathrow and on the plane eagerly anticipating the next six days on the East Coast of America. Most of the group had never been to Washington and only a few had been to New York, so as we flew into Dulles International Airport we were all inspired to broaden our knowledge of American culture and politics. We arrived at our hotel in the late afternoon on the outskirts of Washington and headed into town in the evening to watch *The Capitol Steps*, a political satire show. Despite everyone being extremely tired, and the fact that American comedy is very different from British comedy, parts of it were very funny and it was an enjoyable evening.

On our first full day we had an early start at the local megachurch where we all witnessed our first Evangelical service. It was different by far from any religious service in the UK, and it was interesting to see how the young children and teenagers were successfully integrated into the service. Afterwards we had an interesting talk from an ex-Bush advisor with whom we discussed a range of issues in American politics. Overall, it was an enlightening morning and one that will stay with us for a long time.

In the afternoon we visited the Arlington National Cemetery and saw JFK’s memorial. As well as the memorial there are thousands of headstones for all the soldiers who died for their country. Despite being extremely sad, it is a place that everyone visiting Washington must see. We biked all around the magnificent monuments in Washington as well as the poignant memorials of Franklin Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King. It was a good way of touring the sites and on a wonderful day made the town look even more impressive.

The following morning we expanded our knowledge of American politics, firstly in a meeting with Mark Kennedy, a former Republican Congressman who informed us about the recent polarisation of the Republican Party. This was backed up with Mr. Teeton’s favourite part of the trip, a tour of the Supreme Court, where we learnt about the history of the most powerful court in the land. We then crossed the road to take a tour of Congress and I do not think any of us were expecting how magnificent and grand it was inside. It was as though we were visiting temples in Rome rather than the home of American politics. Later that day we visited the controversial Democratic SuperPAC American Bridge and Conservative think-tank, the Heritage Foundation.

On Wednesday we were all sad to leave Washington, but eager to head to the concrete jungle where dreams are made of, and loved counting cars on the New Jersey Turnpike, arriving at our hotel around lunchtime. In the afternoon we had a harrowing visit to the 9/11 memorial, but the waterfalls in the foundations of the Twin Towers were incredible. We then visited the Statue of Liberty by ferry and enjoyed the evening exploring New York. On our last day we visited the UN building, unexpectedly arriving on United Nations Day, and learned all about how it functions. In the afternoon we were free to explore New York again, with some visiting the Empire State Building, others exploring the wonders of Central Park Zoo, and the girls going shopping.

The six days we had in Washington and New York were immensely enjoyable and our thanks go to Mr Trelinski, Mr Teeton and Miss Perkins who made the trip so memorable.

**Seb Jenks (SH)**

## Spanish Exchange to Madrid

On 14 February 2014 six LXX Hispanists flew out to Madrid to take part in the annual ten day Spanish exchange with Colegio Base. We were all a little nervous as we met our host families, but any initial worry soon disappeared as we immersed ourselves in Spanish life.

Most of us spent the first weekend together in the centre of Madrid and we had the opportunity to meet a range of lovely people, to practise speaking Spanish and to see the main tourist attractions of the Spanish capital, including the Royal Palace, the Santiago Bernabeu stadium, the Retiro park and many cathedrals and churches.

We then spent a week at Colegio Base. The school was extremely welcoming and the experience there was second to none. We can honestly say that every one of us benefited a huge amount in terms of improving our Spanish during the week. Although we went to lessons on most days, we also had day trips out to the centre of Madrid. We had the chance to visit the Prado art gallery, learn about the history of Madrid, go shopping and eat 'chocolate con churros'!

After ten fantastic days in Madrid we returned to Rugby with our Spanish exchange partners in tow. Although our partners stayed in our boarding houses rather than our homes, we can certainly say on their behalf that they really enjoyed themselves. Many of them found boarding school life very eye-opening! The Madrid exchange was an unforgettable experience for all of us and something all LXX Hispanists should look forward to when studying A level Spanish.

**Adam Jeevanjee (W)**



## Spanish Exchange to Valencia

The February half term saw six of the LXX Spanish students head to Valencia for ten days. The trip commenced with our arriving in Spain and being taken to the houses of our exchange families for the weekend, where everyone became immersed in the Spanish way of life. For most of us the weekend involved shopping in the beautiful city of Valencia, and having the classic Spanish dish Paella; normally with all the extended family of our exchange partners in tow.

The Monday morning involved all of us being shown around the school, Ausiais Marchas, and given our schedules for the week, which included a range of ages and classes, from Art to Valenciano; a language which is a mixture of French and Spanish that is specific to the region of Valencia.

There were three day trips during our week at the school. On one day we visited the Oceanographic centre, which is the biggest aquarium in Europe; another day saw a two-hour walking tour, in Spanish, around the old town of Valencia, where a guide spoke to us about many of the historical aspects of the city. That is where we got to try a local delicacy called Horchata, which we were told is an acquired taste. The most enjoyable of the trips was one to Albufera natural park, which is a reservoir with an island in the middle connected only by a single road. We spent the day on a boat which took us to see a Barraca, a type of house only found in the Valencian region of Spain. There was also a picnic on the beach during which we enjoyed the beautiful sunny Spanish weather, despite the fact that it was February. As well as improving our Spanish, it helped us to learn so much more about the Spanish culture, and was an amazing experience to have been a part of.

**Gabriela Grier (D)**

## Montpellier 2013

It is often said that the best way to learn a foreign language is by immersing yourself in it. This is exactly the case, as the XX and LXX students found in our week in Montpellier. Staying with a French family for a week and visiting local sites and towns was a fantastic experience.

Each morning, we attended a language school in the heart of Montpellier's maze of winding roads which required a level of independence on the trams and buses every morning. Navigating your way into the city was also interesting, but luckily no one got lost. The lessons were incredibly helpful, as we discussed issues that French society faces today, in a way that is useful for our course. They also provided us with an insight into the opinions of French people on these issues.

Montpellier itself is a beautiful city, large enough to have a buzz but small enough to be welcoming and safe. We were given a lot of free time to explore the city and sample its culture. The shopping centre was of particular interest to the girls! Our language school was close to the Place de la Comédie, a beautiful square which is one of the most famous parts of Montpellier. On our first afternoon we were given a walking tour of the city, an interesting insight into its history made even better by the sun shining! The following day, Tuesday, we had a full day of lessons, punctuated by trips to the shining gem of all French cuisine: the *pâtisserie*. The queues outside the doors meant we quite often had to rush back to our lessons, but many a worthy 50c was spent on a pain aux abricots or croissant. By Wednesday, all the students had begun to find their feet in this city and got to know the quirks and habits of their host families. The atmosphere had certainly relaxed as people began to feel at home on the buses and trams. The usual morning of lessons was followed by a trip to Nîmes, a beautiful town with strong Roman influences, such as the amphitheatre. I personally enjoyed the insightful 3D video about the history of this city, how it grew from its

Roman roots to the buzzing and recently remodelled town it is today. A short bus ride away was the Pont du Gard; a stunning feat of engineering, providing many an arty snap against the sunset. Speaking of arty snaps, our trip to Sète on Thursday involved a weaving road up to the side of a steep cliff. Unsure of what to expect as we dismounted the bus, we ambled over to the viewing platform, only to be greeted by the most amazing and breathtaking view of the settlement, wiggling its way up the hill and the harbour below. Sète is a sort of 'Little Venice' from above, with a river slicing between the two parts of the town with low bridges and pastel coloured houses. A nice amble around the independent shops and a restorative drink in the cafés along the river prepared us for our next excitement: the hard core shopping that was Odysseum. The girls were squeaking with joy at this prospect, and all arrived at the tram station to get back into Montpellier in the nick of time! Which was really just as well as that evening, we all went out for a meal in the historic winding streets in the centre of Montpellier. The meal was delicious, and a perfect way to pause and enjoy some real French culture. Friday arrived with great haste and as it was a Bank Holiday, we had no lessons. Instead we visited the Medieval walled city of Carcassonne. The narrow streets, turreted walls, street entertainers and interesting shops gave us a sort of living museum experience. We were given a description of the city and a lesson in its history, while also exploring the numerous independent shops and stalls, including a beautiful chapel.

By the time Friday evening arrived and we sat down for our last supper with our host families, there was many a feeling of sadness that the week had ended so quickly! It was a fabulous experience, one which I feel has improved my French no end, as well as showing me the delights of Montpellier. I would like to thank Mrs Jordan, Mrs Kayada and Mr Jarvis for all their hard work which made the trip such a great success.

**Ellie Beach (St)**

“we were given a walking tour of the city, an interesting insight into its history made even better by the sun shining!”





## History of Art Trip: Daumier at the Royal Academy and Portraits in Vienna at The National

On a grey Sunday in January, a group of LXX and XX art historians ventured to London to see a number of exhibitions. In the morning, we visited 'Daumier: Visions of Paris' at the Royal Academy. The exhibition was fascinating with a variety of Daumier's prints, paintings, drawings and famous caricatures of political figures and the satires on the behaviour of his countrymen. Whilst not being an artist that we study directly, Daumier's work provides a backdrop for many of the artists and movements that we do look at in class and I particularly liked the lithograph prints he produced for newspapers and periodicals.

In the lunch break, we all took the opportunity to see 'Isabella Blow: Fashion Galore!' at Somerset House before wandering to Trafalgar Square to look at key art works that we have studied in the permanent collection of the

National Gallery. It was very useful to see the details in works such as Van Eyck's 'The Arnolfini Portrait'. We also visited 'Facing the Modern: The Portrait in Vienna 1900' in the Sainsbury Wing where works by Klimt, Schiele and Kokoschka were on display. As well as these artists, there were also less widely known artists exhibited such as Broncia Koller and Ididor Kaufmann. I thoroughly enjoyed this exhibition especially the Klimt's work 'Posthumous Portrait of Ria Munk III' (1917-18).

Overall we all had an exciting and informative day out in London and the trip was also very worthwhile as the exhibitions included works we were going to study in class.

**Rosie Martin (B)**

## ARTiculation Prize

For the second year, we entered the nationwide ARTiculation Prize and the regional heat was held at the IKON gallery in Birmingham. On the train to Birmingham I was nervous and took the opportunity to go over my paper 'The Contradiction of American Ideals in Picabia's *Portrait d'une Jeune Fille Americaine dans L'etat de Nudite*', perhaps to the amusement of those sharing our carriage!

There were about seven students competing, each of us told to choose any piece of art and discuss it for five minutes in front of an audience. It was fantastic being informed about a really wide range of art works ranging from Pacheco to Michelangelo and to be given the opportunity for each person to share their own insight into pieces that evidently meant so much to them. I also enjoyed meeting History of Art students from other schools and would recommend the experience to anyone.

**Sarah Lord (D)**



## Vienna Exchange

This winter the annual Vienna exchange for the LXX Germanists took place. Everyone was filled with slight trepidation as the plane landed in Vienna. Anxiety about total immersion: questioning whether our German would survive for two weeks under intense scrutiny. However, the understanding shown by our host families soon banished these fears, enabling us to be confident in our language.

The first day after our arrival, we went with our partners to the Theresianische Akademie, our exchange school. After a long school morning, we were introduced to Vienna and became accustomed to our surroundings, finishing with the first of many hot chocolates! Over the weekend we were able to spend time with our families and were introduced to the Austrian culture. For example, I was taken to a traditional Austrian birthday dinner with homemade Sachertorte (a special kind of Austrian cake). Alice mentioned that she was 'introduced to Austrian culture by watching a film (Vaterfreuden), a rom-com chick-flick of sorts, which I absolutely loved and is now one of my favourite films. I was pleasantly surprised when I understood all of what was going on!' Others were able to explore Vienna and visit attractions such as the Spanish Riding School, and even some skiing was on offer.

Monday brought the return to school for a full week of lessons. After the morning spent in class, we visited the European Patent Office, the first of many interesting afternoon trips. Other visits included one of Vienna's many palaces, Schönbrunn, as well as ice skating in front of the town hall; a truly iconic setting. We even spent the day in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. Again, it was completely different to anywhere we had been before; remains of communist era buildings, the unfamiliar language and the beautifully traditional buildings all stood out as we wandered around the city. We must not forget our introduction to traditional Austrian dancing, in which Netanya flaunted her natural talent whilst dancing with the teacher!

Being bored was not an option on this trip, whether due to our busy schedule or thanks to our exchange partners, keen to show us their beloved city. After spending another weekend with the families, we completed our trip in souvenir and cake shops on the last afternoon, before spending the evening together.



Each of our experiences was very different, according to the families we were staying with. Some families were even trilingual with Alice speaking Chinese as well as German and English, and James putting his French skills to use on occasion. The time spent with our families really meant that we formed strong friendships through the sheer length of time spent together, helping each other to struggle through the language barrier. Indeed, on that Sunday that now seems so far away, there were a few teary and emotional farewells between not only us and our respective exchange partners, but also the friends we'd made among the other Austrians.

All in all, the trip was not only very enjoyable but incredibly useful for our German. I think that everyone who embarked on this exchange came back with new friends and a better understanding of the language. By the end of our time in Vienna, the only anxiety left was the prospect of catching up on work and revision!

**Audie Edwardes (B)**

## Skiing in Austria 2014

Despite the arduous bus journey, once in Austria we were all raring to go. After a pleasant night's sleep we got up to sunny Saalbach where we were soon to get on the slopes. The standard ranged from beginners to people who had lived on skis all their lives and would take on all slopes with grace. The improvement for the beginners over the five days was immense: after the first day they could hardly get down the baby slopes, but were rocketing down reds as well as the next person on the last day. In comparison the top group were guided around the two stunning ski resorts. But skiing was not to be our only source of entertainment, as during the evenings we had a whole range of activities to enjoy, from swimming pools with slides, to quiz nights to everyone having a go at Austrian ten pin bowling. At the end of the week we could not help wiping tears from our eyes as we said goodbye to our instructors and Saalbach. Not only did we come home with new found ski skills, plenty of exciting stories and a few bruises, but also with a great group of friends.

**May de la Rue (D) & Griffin Shelton (W)**

# PARIS

## F Block Science Trip to Paris

On 21 March, 43 F block pupils and five teachers boarded the coach bound for Paris. After a long day of travelling, via the Eurotunnel, we arrived in Paris. We had a delicious meal before finally arriving at 'Hotel Forest Hill La Villette'.

The first morning we went to the *Cité des Sciences* (the biggest science museum in Europe). It was very interesting and fun as it was modern and interactive. We particularly enjoyed the sound section as there was lots to do and play with. After looking around we went into La Géode to watch a really cool 4D film about life 'Under the Sea'.

For the rest of the day we went to see some of the famous sights of Paris, including the *Grande Arche de la Défense*, the *Arc de Triomphe* and the *Centre Georges Pompidou* where we were given the best view of Paris and learnt a lot about the city's architectural skyline.

On Monday we spent the whole day at Disneyland Paris. It was so much fun. We went on Space Mountain many times and even had supper in the 'Hakuna Matata' restaurant. When we were starting to feel sick from candy floss and rides, and had all bought our Disney souvenirs, we boarded the coach and went to see the *Sacré Coeur* at twilight. It was very picturesque and we had an amazing view of Paris.

The next day we did more sightseeing. Unfortunately it was grey and raining so we were all very thankful to be dropped off at the *Palais de la Découverte*, another huge museum covering many aspects of science. We were even able to see a demonstration on rats and learned about a variety of other things, such as Ant Nests, the human body and how earthquakes work. We particularly liked the light area, especially the UV and thermal camera sections.

We then walked through the *Tuileries Garden* to the home of the Mona Lisa, the Louvre. After appreciating the artwork there we went to the most famous sculpture in Paris, the Eiffel Tower. It was amazing to be able to stand so close to something many had only ever seen in pictures. This was followed by a *Bateau Mouche* trip along the Seine to see more of the sights of Paris. To finish the day we went to the famous French department store, the *Galeries Lafayette*.

On the last day, after packing up and leaving the hotel, we went to *Notre Dame* where we looked inside the cathedral before wandering around the local markets, buying souvenirs to bring back to England. The inside of the cathedral was beautiful. Then, unfortunately, we had to get back on the coach and return to England. It was such a fun trip, made even better by the amazing staff. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make it so memorable.

**Kitty Bulmer (RB)**



## History Trip to Berlin and Krakow

Our D block students travelled to Berlin and Krakow in October to develop their understanding of the Cold War, Germany under the Nazis, and the Holocaust. We began our excursion in Berlin, where a city tour was broken up by visits to Checkpoint Charlie and a memorable tour of the Stasi Prison, before rounding off our Cold War themed day by embracing the victory of the west in an American diner. Day two in Berlin started with a visit to the German History Museum, where the group explored areas of German History from the early Middle Ages through to reunification. Understandably many were taken with tales of the fascinating period of 768-814, and the impact of Charlemagne's rule upon the history of Europe. Despite their ceaseless hunger for more anecdotes about the Carolingians, we moved on to explore the city in further detail and visited areas of the Wall and the Topography of Terror exhibition, before the gravitational pull of the Alexanderplatz returned us to the hotel. After a long day and tired legs, all craved the comfort of luxury, and we duly obliged with an overnight coach to Krakow. There were murmurings of debate from the back seat about whether or not Charlemagne could truly be considered the 'Father of Europe', which threatened to get rather heated at one stage, but everyone safely arrived refreshed in Krakow for a 0700 start.

There's nothing like the invigorating feeling of arriving in a strange city at a premature hour, and we duly made the most of such good fortune. The group sought to explore every inch of the city, and were treated to a pre-breakfast walking tour of the Jewish quarter and surroundings led by our tour guide, John. Day two in Poland was absorbed by our visit to Auschwitz, a difficult yet powerful experience for all students of History. Throughout the trip, our students proved themselves interested Historians and good company, attributes which characterise the accompanying staff in Miss Hollings, Miss Rayner, and Dr Muston, and my thanks go to them for the smooth running of the trip. This perennially popular visit will run again this coming October.

**Kitty Munnings (D)**

## Art History Trip

After the AS exams, the LXX art historians prepared for the next stage of the course by visiting a couple of exhibitions. One Sunday afternoon they escaped from Rugby and went to Compton Verney to see 'Moore/Rodin'. Rodin is one of the key artists studied for the A2 course and it was a fantastic opportunity to see both his sculptures and his drawings close up. The students had already studied the 'Burghers of Calais' and its positioning on the ground rather than on a plinth both heightened some of Rodin's original aims as well as giving them an opportunity to really consider some of his working methods and interests. The parallels that the exhibition made between the work of Moore and Rodin were interesting and gave the students a real insight into the work of both sculptors.

A couple of days later, the LXX went to Oxford, primarily to see 'Cezanne and the Modern' at the Ashmolean. Whilst many of the Cezannes on display were watercolour sketches, the class were again able to see the processes of Cezanne's work and this will be indispensable when we come to study his oil paintings. His construction and rendering of space were especially clear in these studies. It was also a real bonus to see some Degas and Toulouse-Lautrec as we have recently discussed their work in class. The students also made the most of being in the city, climbing the Carfax Tower and visiting the Pitt-Rivers Museum. Although we will study the architecture of the museum, they were equally fascinated by the wide variety of exhibits!

It is always a real benefit to see the art works that we will be studying and we all returned well prepared and focused for the A2 course!

**JLR**



# FIDDLER

on the

# ROOF

## The School Play

For three days in November, the TSR was transformed into Anatevka, a small Russian village with an eccentric community, as the school embarked on the incredible journey with Tevye and his five daughters.

Thought-provoking, comical and ultimately heart-breaking, *Fiddler on the Roof* has to be one of the best musicals ever written. A father's dilemma between the love for his daughters and his cultural traditions is portrayed in this musical, as Tevye must make decisions for his family. His three eldest daughters, Tzeitel, Hodel and Chava, each test his boundaries to breaking point, and the unexpected arrival of the Russians at Tzeitel's wedding causes a nasty change of events.

However, this performance was peppered with light-hearted moments, some written in the script, some not. The beards, worn by all adult males, caused some difficulty in performances, leading to some comical attempts to blend a hand gesture with a way of making them stick. Mention has to be given to Cosmo Wellings for his incredible performance of Tevye, and I personally enjoyed the animal noises in 'If I Were A Rich Man'. As a cast we were all in awe of his ability to memorise so many lines!

Despite my initial qualms, *Fiddler* was tremendous fun, and I am so proud to have been a part of it. It was an incredible way to finish a school career of musicals, and my thanks go to Mr Chessell and Mr Tanner for their expertise and guidance, and also to Mr Colley for his constant and unflagging accompaniments.

Ellie Beach (St)



## Drama & Music

## Lower School Play

### **Blue Remembered Hills by Dennis Potter**

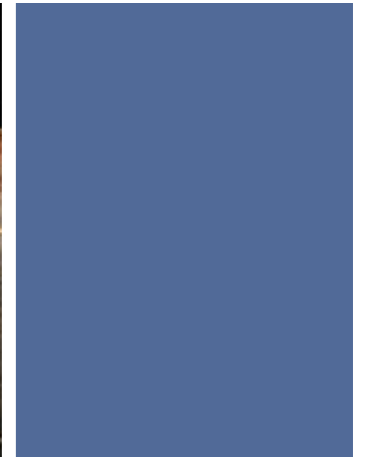
*Blue Remembered Hills* was written by Dennis Potter in 1979 as part of the BBC's Play for Today series. The play tells the story of five young boys and two girls playing in a wood without any adult supervision. Keen to fill their days with adventure and fun, they enjoy hunting squirrels and finding jam jars. But, against the backdrop of the Second World War, their youthful innocence cannot last.

The cast enjoyed working together under the direction of Miss Thompson, who helped us learn new methods of acting to make our characters seem as true to life as possible. We found it difficult at first to play seven year olds, to be believable and not patronising, but after many hours of rehearsal we began to feel more confident in what we were doing. Potter himself had adult actors play the roles, and we could appreciate some of the difficulty those actors must have faced. Another challenge for all of us was adopting a realistic Forest of Dean accent. Perfecting this involved a lot of practice – we hope we managed to pull it off.

We thoroughly enjoyed performing in this play and we very much hope the audience enjoyed watching it. We were delighted with the silence in the audience at the climax of the play when the barn fire leads to the tragic death of one of the boys.

Thank you to everyone who helped to put this memorable play together, and especial thanks to Miss Thompson and Mr Clamp, who helped with the technical elements.

**Jack Harwood (SF)**



## Upper School Play

### **Constellations by Nick Payne**

In the quantum multiverse, every choice, every decision you've ever made and never made exists in an unimaginably vast ensemble of parallel universes.

Directing a play about the nature of our existence was one of the most terrifying but satisfying challenges I have ever faced. But it was not something I had to do alone. I had two very talented and dedicated actors beside me, Bella Campbell and Freddie Rawicz-Szczerbo.

What inspired me to do *Constellations* was the fact that it was relatively abstract. A director can interpret how it could be put on in many different ways. This was, of course, challenging but also fun as it allowed us to be inventive. Fortunately, I had seen the play previously performed in the West End and this proved an invaluable source of ideas, something I would recommend that anyone considering directing do as well, if at all possible, as part of their preparation. However, there is the danger that one is tempted to recreate only a poor facsimile of the professional production you have seen. It is therefore important not be afraid to do things differently. This is something it took me a while to come to terms with.

The possibilities of what one can produce with *Constellations* are pretty much endless, a bit like a multiverse, and narrowing down each

choice until you reach a final decision is one of the most important and fun parts of being a director. Whatever decision you eventually decide upon, whether it be choosing between actors for the main role or deciding which of the plethora of font sizes the programme should have, every choice contributes to the bigger picture. This means every scene you rehearse, every prop you scramble for, come together to build upon your initial ideas and create the production. This is one of the great draws of being a director rather than an actor. In a sense your ownership of a play increases as you direct it the way in which you envisage it. Although an actor can influence a particular character's impression on the audience, it is ultimately the director who dictates the shape and approach to each scene and has the vision of the overall production concept.

However, unsurprisingly, the constant injection of opinion can grate. Beware this trap. It's difficult to find the balance between helping, supporting and listening to the actors and essentially telling them what you want. On occasion I certainly felt myself being too demanding. That is why I was so fortunate to have such great people to work with, and all credit to Fred and Bella who put up with a lot from me. Which really stresses the importance of getting the casting right. You must take into account both their suitability for the role

but also how easy they are to work with and how much commitment they are likely to give to your production.

This finally brings me on to possibly the most important actor when considering taking on a play as a director. You absolutely have to pledge complete commitment to it. Not only do you have to be present for every rehearsal, but think of and produce everything else. This proved to be my greatest struggle as it meant many late nights as I juggled academic commitments and the production. Effective time management was the key to survival and success. Next time I know I would do some things differently, for example creating the programmes earlier. Having a little more breathing room during the final weeks to the play is all important.

However, the fact that you and your actors put so much time and effort into a production makes it all the more rewarding when actors take their bows, having brought a challenging play to life. Few projects match the feeling of accomplishment when you watch something you have worked so intensely on, engage the audience as you had intended. Therefore, if you feel you are interested and are prepared to invest a lot of time, by all means go for it. You'll definitely get back what you put in.

**Annabel Adams (B)**



“Few projects match the feeling of accomplishment when you watch something you have worked so intensely on, engage the audience as you had intended”

# HOUSE MUSIC & DRAMA in review



## Dean House Play

Sunday 9 February saw the Dean House production of *Alice in Wonderland* by famous Old Rugbeian Lewis Carroll. With less than four weeks to audition, learn lines and rehearse, the cast worked extremely hard to produce this wonderful show. We were very lucky to have a brilliant backstage team who were always ready to lend a helpful hand, whether it was with make-up, hair, costume, props or sound and lighting. Despite a slightly nerve-wracking dress rehearsal, the team produced a fantastic performance on the day which they should all be very proud of. Particular highlights included Mrs Farrelly's and Miss Thompson's incredible dancing on stage, Cat Frost receiving a face full of cream, and Alissa Steward rolling around in a sleeping bag! Curious and curiously! Dean also managed to raise a fantastic £300 for the Make a Wish Foundation which provides young, terminally ill children with life-changing opportunities. Well done everyone!

**Claire Hatvany (D)**

## Griffin Lunch Recital

The Griffin Lunch Recital started off with a delightful series of piano pieces from Maia Bouchier, Cordelia Kerner and Tiffany Bucknall, to set the ball rolling. As we progressed through the programme, Griffin's resident actresses emerged from their shells to perform three well-crafted and witty performances of 'Three Classes' (Emily Kerner, Alice Shone and Emma Thomas), 'The Case of Mrs Mace' (Eve Williams and Harriet Bibby) and 'Yorkshiremen in t'pub' (Romilly Harris-Stuart, Millie Hughes, Ishbel Lowther and Taylor Ward). The entertainment continued with more piano recitals from Molly Hammond, Sophia Perronet Miller, Alice Payne and Steph Cheng, followed by a very impressive dance routine from Yana Rover, and a clarinet trio from Eliza Talbot-Williams, Livi Clarke and Hebe Morley-Fletcher. Just as we were all starting to get a little hungry, we were treated to a song duet from Sophia Perronet Miller and Flossie Rosser, and the finale was an excellent piano piece from Anna Gibson. It was really lovely to be 'At Home' in Griffin for our annual music and drama event and there was no question that we would finish with anything other than with our performance of the 2013 House Singing Competition winning song, 'Somewhere Only We Know'.

**Olivia Clarke (G)**

## Michell House Play

Geraint Owen and Miles Wheatland produced an abridged version of the well-known Ealing Comedy *The Ladykillers* for an appreciative audience. Doug Ponsonby was in fine 'character actor' form as Professor Marcus, the role made famous by Alec Guinness, while Geraint Owen's Mrs Wilberforce brought a convincingly authentic Welsh little old lady to the stage. Ed Hutchinson's Major Courtney was full of bombast and William Church's Harry full of chat. Alex Lawson-May stole the show to a certain extent, appropriately enough as Mr Lawson a.k.a. 'One Round'. Members of the XX needed no second invitation to dress up as little old ladies for afternoon tea and cucumber sandwiches at Mrs Wilberforce's house; the villainous band of bank robbers were appropriately punished by being forced to play their instruments in public, rather than rely on their record player playing a recording of *Boccherini's Minuet (3rd movement) from String Quintet in E, Op. 11 No. 5*. The most striking feature of the play was the pre-recorded video sequence of the robbery itself and the subsequent getaway from the railway station – this was particularly original and effective. The audience enjoyed the production very much and expressed their appreciation wholeheartedly to Geraint and Miles after the curtain call.

**TJD**

## School House Music and Drama Evening

This year's School House Music and Drama Evening was a huge success. Expertly masterminded, as always, by Mr Smith, the theme this year was Britishness in all its forms, as displayed through a range of sketches, excerpts, famous speeches and poems before a number of excellent musical performances. The night began with the idea of 'Britain at War'. Charlie Austin read Rupert Brooke's patriotic First World War poem 'The Soldier' before Richard Coombs read the poem 'In Westminster Abbey', John Betjeman's satirical take on the Blitz. With Will Manners feeling ill, Jonnie Fagan stepped into the breach in a way Henry V himself would have been proud of, to read Shakespeare's famous 'St Crispin's Day' Speech. And not to be outdone by English pride, SH's very own Scot Chandler Mundell then flew the flag for independence with a stirring performance of Braveheart's speech from the Mel Gibson film. The next part of the evening concerned 'The British Abroad' and included a speech from George Mikes' *On Not Knowing Foreign Languages*, read by Henry Holmes, and Philip Garthwaite, Ollie Hastings and Ewan Rowlands in the hilarious sketch *Do You Speak English? 'British Dreams and Nightmares'* contained extracts from Milton's *Areopagitica* (Boris van den Belt), Wordsworth's 'London, 1802' (Henry Don) and a chilling speech from the film *V for Vendetta* (Hugo Abel). A section on 'British Empires' – scenes from that parody of public school teaching *1066 and All That* (performed expertly by Freddie Evans, Felix Gladstone, Ollie Hastings and Rory Hunter) and a speech from Robert Baden-Powell's *Scouting for Boys* (Ned Sillett) – was followed by two sketches under the title 'British Snobs': the brilliant Peter Cook *Three Classes* (the diminutive Will Carr, the middling Patrick Haszard and the very tall Rory Farquharson) and the Mitchell and Webb *The Suit Shop* (Charlie Austin and Boris van den Belt), both performed to much laughter.

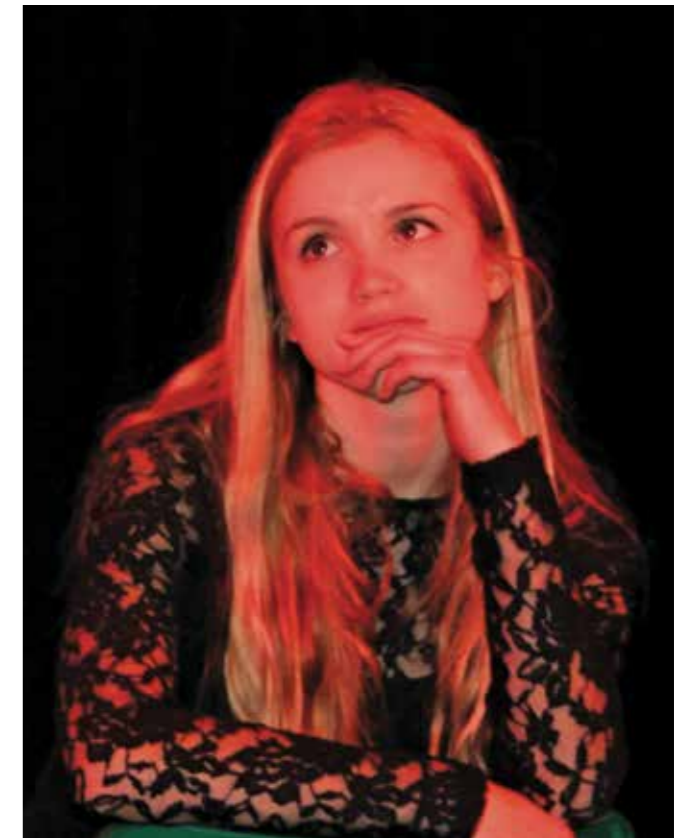
After a short interlude there were musical performances in a wide range of genres and styles. Marcus Hunter played his guitar to a medley of songs he has sung at previous house music evenings; Angus Barlow persevered to eventually coax a sound out of his unforgiving bagpipes, and was brilliant; then Ollie, Ewan and Toby Rowlands respectively played the saxophone, the trombone and the clarinet; and Henry Don and Charles McQuilkin brilliantly laced their joint performance with very impressive guitar solos. The evening concluded with two classical pieces, one played by the duo of Robert Arthur on the cello and Toby Rowlands on the clarinet, the other played by Edward Elmhirst on the piano. The evening was huge fun for all involved, and the parents left the Macready in high spirits to head back to School House for dinner.

**Charlie Austin (SH)**

## Stanley House Play

In February, the Macready was taken back to the jazz era of the 1920s in Stanley House's breathtaking performance (for both audience and performers!) of *Chicago*. An evening packed full of singing, dancing and laughter saw Stanley recreate some of the excitement that Chicago has always managed to capture. An enthusiastic cast was led by the mesmerizing performances of Polly Creed as the good girl turned jazz star Foxie, opposite the equally talented Cecily Bain playing Ruby, Chicago's celebrity criminal. Of course none of this could have been achieved without the expert direction of Lottie Bestwick and Tallulah Stobart, who not only managed to coordinate a group of aspiring jazz stars but also starred in the production themselves. Stanley's musical talent was brought to the fore with Ellie Beach's memorable performance as Jimmy, the money grabbing defence lawyer, accompanied with much enthusiasm by almost the whole House. A particular highlight for many was Leanne Hemming's solo moment as the vulnerable Francis who would not desert his wife. Stanley owes the success of its performance to the unsung heroes of any production: the technical and backstage crew gave the production that feeling of professionalism that really made it a night to remember. All of this was followed by a delicious dinner, where the parents and members of the House sat together to celebrate what a success Chicago had been.

**Lucy Huntsman (St)**



## Whitelaw Gala Evening

Dr Smith's leaving gala was an evening of fun, frivolity, celebration and reverent adulation.

The parents and special guests arrived, christening the Collingwood Hall with a murmuring air of trepidation and excitement. Many hands were shaken that eve, and likewise many cheeks kissed in cordial greetings. At around eight o'clock, Dr Smith and everyone else present, settled down to a geometrically arranged chicken in his honour. Friendships were formed and familiar acquaintances reimbursed as anticipation arose prior to the start of the evening's entertainment schedule.

After everyone was adequately full, the festivities continued as a few of the more musically inclined of Whitelaw took to the stage. The line-up included a rather snazzy saxophone solo by Will Charlwood of the LXX. Performances by his musical contemporaries included Fred Rawicz, who sang and played a cover version of that much-loved Beatles classic, "Let it be", Craig McGuinness and Harry Rawicz played a piece of classical guitar and Andrew Armstrong of the Upper Sixth performed a solo vocal performance of "Sweet Chance". Also, in the words of Whitelaw tutor Ben Oakley, the boys of the house recreated the "glory of the house singing" competition with a surprisingly melodic reprise of their non-award-winning single, "Beautiful." The music was well received by all and it showcased some of the wide-ranging talents of the house, all of which are a testament to the continual encouragement of Dr Smith, and the goodwill of the house to entertain and honour him.

The evening continued with an Andrew Christie production. Balancing being a Classics teacher and tutor in Whitelaw, he successfully directed the F block boys in their performance

of "Teenage Night of Living Terror", an apt choice for such a joyous evening. Mr Christie as impressive as he was prompt. The comic-transvestitism required for the many female parts of the play gave it all a rather Shakespearean edge, and many tutors and parents alike have dubbed their performance, "...interesting". It was certainly an interesting evening as the night continued with another play. This time from the Whitelaw sixth formers, as they staged the Ayckbourn underrated masterpiece, "Ernie's Incredible Illucinations". Notable performances include Fred Rawicz-Szczerbo's heart wrenching, visceral encapsulation of the inner turmoil of hallucinatory Ernie, and Alex Balfour of the XX gave an equally rousing acting debut as German Officer #1. Although Ben Sutherland, Head of House, had his cameo appearance of one line cut from the final performance in the heat of the evening.

The evening was indeed fully entertaining and Dr Smith could be seen at times genuinely amused as he laughed, *with or at* the boys, as they played the fool in tribute to their Housemaster. Reprised were memories of Dr Smith's last Christmas supper when all joined together once more in one last communal performance of Dr Smith's favourite ballad, "Edelweiss".

Best wishes were exchanged as long lasting memories were stored up for the purpose of future reflections and possible party anecdotes. And as the Whitelaw dramatists wiped off their lipstick, and the multitude of parents and guests of Whitelaw boys started to depart, so too did Dr Smith retire into the cool air of that February evening.

**Ben Davies (W)**

"The music was well received by all and it showcased some of the wide-ranging talents of the house"



## Marshall House Latin Play

We sat on the high grey plastic chairs in Biology, anticipating the end of the long lesson. Then the bell rang loudly, interrupting the enzymes presentation. After being dismissed by Miss Tilley, G1 grabbed their folders, pencil cases and costumes and left the classroom, following Louis, who was carrying a cool and small gladiator costume expertly made from duct-tape and metal hooks, and a terrifying werewolf mask.

We boarded Mr Day's silver car and the mini bus which were waiting patiently outside the Queen's gates. Miss Nicoll, armed with bags of Percy Pig sweets, was driving.

When we arrived at the impressive Cambridge school, we found a parking space, and poured out of the minibus. After reporting to the school office, we followed Miss Nicoll and Mr Day to two cramped classrooms where we struggled into togas made with bed sheets and safety pins. Miss Nicoll and Mr Day helped pin them.

After changing, everyone sat in the comfy red chairs in the raised audience, ready to watch everybody else's performances. The opponents were all at least one year above us and had quite good storylines. One was about Metella being murdered. The boys recognised that we were last in the programme. The other performances were very good, but we were sure they unfairly exceeded the time limit. We were not too nervous about our performance as we had rehearsed it twice in the Macready and all of us knew our Latin lines.

Our play was about Caecilius hosting a dinner party. He challenges each guest to tell him a good story. The first guest told a story about a friend who was hurrying through a street next to a wood. Suddenly, he catches sight of a centurion. Curious, the friend greets the centurion, however, strangely, he doesn't reply. Then, he takes off his tunic and disappears. Suddenly, a huge wolf appears and scares the friend. It howls before running back into the woods, leaving the friend standing paralysed with terror.

Caecilius' son Quintus is impressed by the story; he says, "I understand the story! The centurion is a werewolf!"

The second guest tells a story about a friend who is at the slave market. The slave dealer tries to sell to him two strong, muscular slaves who pose for him and wait for him to hand over the money. However, the friend suddenly catches sight of a beautiful slave girl. She could dance, work and sing. The friend instantly falls in love with the slave girl. They happily walk back to the house together. When they arrive back, the friend shows the slave girl to his other slaves and wife. The slave girl delights the slaves. However, when she is shown to his wife, his wife is furious. She makes for him but he backs away. She is very angry.

"I understand the story!" said Quintus again, "the friend is my father, Caecilius. The wife is my mother, Metella, and the slave girl is Melis-sa, our slave girl! She is very beautiful..."

"Yes, I was angry," agreed Metella, looking at her husband Caecilius angrily "Now I am very angry!"

Caecilius begs for another story at once. Suddenly, the cook, Grumio, enters and shouts at the dinner guests, "sanguinem, sanguinem, multam sanguinem," which is translated to "blood, blood, lots of blood!", and informs them that in the arena, the Pompeians are killing the Nucerians and the Nucerians are killing the Pompeians. The conflict has spread to the streets. Everyone runs to the arena, apart from Quintus, who concludes the story by saying that life can be stranger than a story, before following them out.

We performed the play well and managed to come second overall, which was excellent.

On the journey back, it started to rain hard. We drove through a storm and heard lots of thunder and saw lots of lightning. Also, in the minibus, we found more Percy pig sweets.

Thank you to Miss Nicoll for teaching us Latin all year, organising the trip and directing the play. Also, thank you to Mr Day for driving there and helping with the costumes.

**Alice Day (Ma)**



## Duologue Challenge

In February, the heats of the School's first ever Duologue Competition were held in the Macready Theatre. Having produced the Poetry Recital Competition in 2005 and the Monologue Competition in 2009 – both attracting over eighty entrants and resulting in very grand finals – I rather assumed a similar stampede to the stage. I had neglected to allow for the significantly more complicated logistics imposed by a non-solo venture. It is one thing to organise oneself when learning by heart and rehearsing a pair of poems or a lengthy monologue; it is another altogether to find some willing victim to perform a duologue with, and then, in a crowded timetable, to arrange mutually available times to rehearse! Notwithstanding this spanner in the works the heats were a great success and provided enough contenders to give the judge, Mr Drennan, scope for selecting the finalists.

Genuinely unrehearsed, with regard to the running order and set changes, it could have been a shambles! Oh, me of little faith! It is a testament to the hard work and determination of the 24 actors that the final was a most enjoyable evening. Mr Chessell described it as a 'fantastic event' and Mr Fletcher remarked: 'it's amazing when so much talent can be displayed in such a concentrated and varied form.' One parent commented that she was 'bowled over' by the 'sheer variety of performances', and she claimed she had been 'thoroughly entertained!' I was grateful to my three most efficient stagehands who seamlessly changed the props and set the stage between each performance, without having had a single run through! Thanks also to my judges: Mr Drennan and David Howe, formerly Chief Inspector of Warwickshire schools. Mr Drennan stated: 'Even the ones who came twelfth were good.'

"It really was both a privilege and a delight to be involved. These youngsters rise to occasions in a way that humbles me."

Nine weeks later, in front of an appreciative audience, twelve pairs of finalists performed their prepared pieces on the Macready stage at the Competition Final. The contestants were allowed to select their duologues, either by finding their own or by choosing from a variety of offer. The result was an eclectic assortment of excerpts from various plays and films, ranging from Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* and *Mindgame* by Anthony Horowitz to *Long Day's Journey into Night* by Eugene O'Neill. Hovering backstage with the palpably nervous contestants I was more apprehensive than for any other production I have been involved with at the School. Unlike the poems and monologues, where I offered directorial advice to help the finalists, I decided to have no input whatsoever at the rehearsal stage of the Competition. Beyond sending some written advice I left the competitors alone to interpret their pieces and prepare their performances and so, along with the audience and judges, I had no idea how the evening would unfold.

I second that. David Howe said: 'It really was both a privilege and a delight to be involved. These youngsters rise to occasions in a way that humbles me.' I second that too!

Congratulations to all the contestants. In third place were Geraint Owen and Cosmo Wellings, who hilariously and energetically performed an extract they chose from *The Producers* by Mel Brooks. Agnel Agbo and Katherine Johns came second with their touching and very naturally paced rendition of an extract from Jack Rosenthal's *P'tang, Yang, Kipperbang*. First place in the competition went to Rob Smith and Sarah Lord. Their skilfully performed interpretation of a duologue from Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* was both commanding and intense; it was outstanding piece of drama from the worthy winners. The judges' decision was unanimous!

HL

## Arnold Singers at Rochester Cathedral

Rugby School's Arnold Singers were at England's second oldest cathedral in Rochester on 22 January, wowing local parishioners at Choral Evensong. The choir sang music by English composers William Byrd and Charles Stanford, as well as the mystical and reflective setting *Hail Mary* by Russian favourite Sergei Rachmaninov.

After such a successful Advent term of concerts and services, the group rose impressively to the different and demanding choral challenge of singing a full Church of England cathedral service. Former Rugby Assistant Director of Music and current Director of Music

at Kings School, Rochester, Doug McIlwraith, Praised the Arnold Singers for a 'fabulous and moving performance', which was 'enjoyed and appreciated by the congregation.' As it was two years since he had last heard the choir, Doug McIlwraith was clearly impressed: 'the strides the Arnold Singers have made since I last heard them back in November 2012 have been immense.' The congregation of worshippers also included distinguished Cathedral lay clerks and pupils from King's School Rochester. Scott Farrell, Director of Music at the Cathedral, was very complimentary, saying 'the girls' sound was lovely, as was the maturity and richness of the men's sound'.

Other reactions included none other than the Dean of Westminster on Twitter, who tweeted on how much he was looking forward to hear the group sing at Rugby during his visit to preach.

A highly successful trip, rounded off by dinner at the Deanery graciously hosted by the Dean of Rochester and Mrs Beach, parents of Head of Choir, Ellie. It was an occasion very much enjoyed by Rugby pupils, staff, parents and one or two Old Rugbeians.

BBFO



## Rugby School Prep School Musician of the Year

On the 30 January the Rugby School Prep School Musician of the Year event took place in the TSR. The day began with our arrival and meeting the pupils from Bilton Grange and other prep schools. We then had a choral workshop with Mr Tanner and we sung 'The Drunken Sailor' and 'Mr Miller'. We also had a great time participating in the band and we played pieces which had a variety of textures and dynamics. Then we split into our groups to go and practise our solos. We all played or sang our individual pieces and got great advice on how to improve from Mr Bevan, Mr Tanner and Mr Colley. Then we heard the wonders of the Rugby School Jazz Band. We all enjoyed asking questions of the current Music Scholars who were willing to give all the answers they could! The final was a fitting climax to our day with a wonderful performance from a variety of musicians, with Theo Matthews coming out on top with an extraordinary 'comfortable' performance of 'The Wise Bud'. We all had a great day at Rugby and made some new friends.

**Arun Mehta & Theo Matthews,  
Pupils at Spratton Hall**



### Rugby School Jazz Orchestra

Rather like Rudolph and the rest of Santa's reindeers, the Jazz Orchestra tends to be spotted for the first time around Christmas. Last year, however, the band members were invited to play for the opening of the Collingwood Centre at the end of November. Performing in front of the Board of Governors, and invited dignitaries, the band played a few well-chosen tunes before Matt Jackson sang 'Beyond the Sea' to rapturous applause.

Our next outing was of course the Christmas Concert, and again we saw the Jazz Orchestra in fine form, playing a great set of tunes from Swing and Pop favourites, to the vocal delights of Matt Jackson again singing 'Beyond the Sea'. Nat Cameron invoked the spirit of Christmas and brought the performance to a close with a beautiful rendition of 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas'.

Since the beginning of 2014, the band has been seen playing in the Open Day Concert in the Collingwood Centre in the presence of Mr Green, the new Head Master, and in the Speech Day Concert in the TSR for appreciative parents.

The final performance of the year was at a lavish charity garden party in the Trinity term, held at Rokeby by Mrs Derham for the Bradby Club which was a hugely enjoyable occasion.

ARD



### The Brass and Woodwind Concert

The Brass and Woodwind concert is held annually in the Lent term, and is a wonderful opportunity for parents to hear a range of students from the junior ensembles and solo performers, right up to the advanced groups and elite players from the School.

The concert commenced with a rousing performance of 'The Pink Panther' from the Lower School Brass ensemble. There followed many solo performers and ensembles, including the Lower School Trumpets, Flute Choir, Saxophone Quartet and the Clarinet Group, highlighting the diversity and breadth of talent that exists within the School. Many of the younger players had never played in public before and they managed to control their nerves and play very well indeed.

The concert concluded with a performance by the Horton Ensemble, which featured some very sensitive and articulate playing from three of the school's elite performers, Yasmin Walilay, Robert Smith and Eliza Talbot-Williams. It was clear that the audience enjoyed the concert very much, and that they had been treated to a fantastic evening of music, showing the broad range of talent that exists at Rugby.

RJT

### Social Services Music

Rugby School musicians bring music into the local community in a number of ways, and have helped to forge long-standing and cordial connections with schools, church congregations and residential care homes.

As part of the Thursday afternoon Community Action activities, Social Services music has been a long-running and valuable addition to our outreach programme. In addition to providing music for First Schools' Day and the 'Grannies' parties, they perform regularly at Rugby Baptist Church, The Salvation Army, The Rugby Myton Day Hospice, St Cross Hospital, Rugby Age Concern and many local schools and care homes. They are invariably warmly received, and particularly rewarding has been the positive response of adults with learning difficulties and the elderly to the healing and uplifting power of the music. Rugby musicians have also found these experiences moving and inspiring.

The regular series of Tuesday lunchtime recitals at St Andrew's Church provides a public platform at which our more able performers can gain valuable experience, and are gratefully enjoyed by the regular audiences, which can be quite large. Programming has been varied, and has featured School ensembles as well as solo items in a wide range of styles. Some intrepid pupils have even given a whole solo concert – last year Geraint Owen delighted his audience with a spectacular piano recital. The performances take place twice per term, are in the calendar and members of the School staff are of course most welcome to attend.

RFC

### String Quartet Experience

The afternoon of Sunday 19 January witnessed the union of the Rugby Sinfonia, led by Alan Broadbent, and Rugby School's own cohort of string players, led by Ms Brogaard, for a string quartet experience day. Having rallied at the NMR, we played en masse for a couple of sessions, before diverging into a multitude of individual string quartets, the crux of the day. In these we played the second movement of Haydn's *Emperor Quartet*, a series of variations upon the theme that was later to be misappropriated as the German National Anthem, with the melody passed in an egalitarian fashion to each part in turn. The day climaxed with a performance of the Haydn given by the Rugby School staff quartet, alongside a deeply impressive rendition of Schubert's string quintet. This was a delightful experience and it was a great pleasure to meet so many other string players from Rugby.

Nathaniel Hess (SF)



### The House Singing Competition

The House Singing Competition took place on the final Saturday of the Advent term and proved to be a most memorable occasion. The competition, which had been axed some twenty years ago on the grounds that it was not properly living up to its role as an entirely musical event, was coaxing back to life six years ago in conjunction with the Cleaver Beresford Solo Singing Prize. Both events were held on the same night as we were not sure how much interest would be evoked and how many likely performers would step up to the plate. We need not have worried; in the first year we had fifteen solo singers and seven Houses enter the fray and it has grown exponentially since, year on year. In 2010, the event was moved from a Monday night to Saturday, so that more parents might be able to attend and support their sons and daughters and, in 2012, the competition had become so popular with more and more performers wishing to enter both solo and House competitions, that it was decided to hold them on separate evenings. This year we had a 'full House' in every sense – not only was the TSR packed with enthusiastic supporters, but all fifteen Houses finally entered the arena.

It proved a most entertaining evening with what the Head Master described as 'a tremendous atmosphere'. Perhaps one of the most important aspects of the evening was that all Houses chose to be involved, even if music - and singing in particular - isn't their thing. It takes a lot of nerve to stand up there on stage and perform in front of one's peers and whatever their individual talent, everyone gave their all. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for an outstanding evening's entertainment; to those who sang with skill and gave us such a wide variety of musical performances, to those who performed with enthusiasm and panache to make the evening such fun, and finally, to those of you who came to give loyal, appreciative support. It was a night that will linger long in the memory of those present.

Our adjudicator for the evening was Richard Mayo, Director of Music at Dulwich College and sometime Assistant Director of Music at Rugby.

The results were as follows:  
1st - Griffin  
2nd Equal - Rupert Brooke/Sheriff  
4th - Whitelaw

NHB



### Chamber Concert

Rugby's Music Scholars put on yet another season of impressive musical performances in this year's Chamber Concert series. The XX Scholars led the way, with particularly accomplished performances from Gene Hirst and Lottie Bestwick. Cambridge music hopeful Robert Smith also showcased a number of his own compositions, showing the audience all the quality he possesses as composer and performer. LXX Scholars Geraint Owen, Yasmin Walilay, Harry Pateman, Jack Fisher and Lydia Kember gave us a taste of things to come next year with well chosen programmes, stylishly and sensitively delivered. Nathaniel Hess and Andrew Armstrong won the prize for most frank and surprising programme notes, showing that sarcasm and irony are still very much alive. Overall, presentational standards have really improved over the last three terms, and in a year crammed full of diverse musical events, the Scholars really proved that the Chamber Concerts are still important musical highlights for the Music Department, and for Rugby School at large.

BBFO

### Marshall House Informal Concert

On 18 March Marshall House held their annual Informal Concert in the TSR. Pupils, parents and staff were joined by the Head Master Mr Derham to be entertained by the great variety of talented young musicians from this year's G1 and G2 classes. Pieces were performed on guitar, piano, cello, recorder and trumpet, and there were some vocal pieces, too. The finale saw the Marshall House Horn group walking around the stage whilst playing Richard Duckett's 'Acapulco Bay'. Kate Minards, Annabel Mitchell and Daniel Chow were kindly accompanied by Mr Smith. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves, and we look forward to another successful concert in 2015!

Arun Mistry (Ma)



## Christmas Concert

The Christmas concert continues to be one of the highlights of the School year, as the whole School gets together on the last night of term to enjoy high spirits and an equally high standard of music enjoyed by the performers and audience alike. The Concert Band quickly set the pace with a rousing march, 'Thundercrest', to be followed by an exciting performance of the soundtrack to the motion picture *Pirates of the Caribbean*. The School was pleasantly astonished to see Mr Derham bravely step up to the rostrum and fulfil a time honoured tradition as he vigorously conducted an excitable audience through the *Floreat* in his last Christmas Concert at Rugby. After an impressive Philippines Charity Karaoke given by some of our increasingly popular staff vocalists, once again the Levee gave a not surprisingly hilarious performance of a compilation dance routine which involved the use of the entire body of the Speech Room! After some inspiring performances from two of our best Rock Bands the Jazz Orchestra, with both pace and finesse, gave us well known big band standards to include vocal numbers, 'Beyond the Sea' and the finale Christmas song 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas'. As usual both songs were strongly auditioned for and were certainly performed to high levels of expectation by Matt Jackson and Natalie Cameron respectfully. The visuals of the Big Screen were as always a hit between scene changes, including some incredibly revealing special effects from pupils in the Lower School.

All in all, a must-see event, and of course as every year standing room only!

**TWB**



## Guitar Report

It has been a busy year for the Guitar Department which had its inaugural guitar competition in the Advent term and a guitar concert during Lent term. The competition was adjudicated by the internationally acclaimed soloist Craig Ogden, who not only gave great in-depth appraisals to all of the students involved but also gave them advice about how to deal with the problem of broken finger nails, using ping pong balls and super glue! The winners were Josh Cara (classical), who played *Etude No.6* from *Estudios Sencillos* by Brouwer, and Charles McQuilkin (electric) who played *Back in Black* by AC/DC. A diverse concert followed in March and there were numerous ensembles ranging from a ten piece classical guitar ensemble to blues groups and more!

**GAR**

## Choir Report

Singing is something that we love to do at Rugby School, and this year has been no exception. Whether it be the massed roar of a morning 'Jerusalem' or the chant of an intimate Compline, choral music remains an ineluctable part of School life, with a panoply of choirs of differing size and composition.

This year has seen a greater degree of choral diversification than in the past: in addition to the Choral Society, the Chapel Choir, and the Arnold Singers, the Temple Consort (divisible into Upper and Lower, led respectively by Mr Beavan and Mr Swinford) has taken several Sunday services, and the Gospel Choir (under Miss Sanders' direction) has had its debut performance in Chapel.

Unusually, perhaps, the entire School may, at present, claim to have participated in choral endeavours: as I write, a CD is being produced, on the theme of 'Advent to Candlemas', on the tracks of which, interspersed with the more delicately rendered material, are three movements featuring the serried ranks of a Sunday morning chapel, including a particularly moving rendition of the *Floreat*. The many more recording sessions undertaken by the choir constituted a valuable experience, and we eagerly await the release of the recording. Discography apart, various combinations of choir have journeyed to Manchester to broadcast on the BBC Daily Service, on three occasions throughout this year. Moreover, Mr Swinford's technical expertise has allowed some of the music from our regular services to be recorded and distributed on Firefly.

The Arnold Singers have had an eventful year. A particular highlight was the evensong sung in Rochester Cathedral in January; hearing the strains of Rachmaninoff's *Bogoritsye Dyevo* linger in the eaves of such a beautiful building was a spiritually electrifying experience, and one that will remain with us for years to come. Other highlights have included Mozart's *Laudate Dominum* and Handel's *Coronation Anthems* in the Concerto Concert in March, and the Ash Wednesday Service, sombre and reflective as usual, in the Memorial Chapel.

The Choral Society had a thrilling climax in its performance of the Mendelssohn's great oratorio, *Elijah*. It will reconvene during the Arts Festival for a 'come and sing' performance of Vivaldi's *Gloria*, and the same week assures us another exercise in mass participation in the 'Big Sing' event, featuring hordes of local schoolchildren; both promise to be stimulating occasions.

**Nathaniel Hess (SF)**

## Rugby School's Got Vocal Talent

This was last year's headline for the vocal master-class in Arts Festival Week – and, yes, Rugby School has got vocal talent. When I first became involved in the Music Department, there were 22 pupils taking singing lessons. In recent years, singing has flourished and numbers have swelled to at present 130. This enthusiasm for singing finds an outlet in a number of opportunities for students to sing, including concerts, competitions, choirs and consorts, musical theatre productions, rock, pop and jazz events and a plethora of informal performances, both solo and ensemble. Singing at Rugby is now considered cool!

The past year's activities demonstrate just how much is on offer to singers in the School. This year has seen ten meetings of the Blue Note Society, now firmly established on the pupils' 'things not to be missed list'. Indeed, its popularity has increased this year, if average numbers attending provide evidence – there have been between 130 and 140 at each meeting. Again, there have been too many memorable and outstanding performances to give a full account here; it is not only the quality but the variety of the music performed that leaves me full of admiration for the talent on display.

In October, we celebrated the seventh (since its resurrection in 2007) Cleaver Beresford Solo Singing Competition. We were not short of pupils wishing to enter and we enjoyed a high standard of performance, both in the Upper and Lower School sections. We were fortunate to have the celebrated baritone Mark Rowlinson as our adjudicator; he praised the standard of singing that he had witnessed and made the following winning awards: Lower School – F block: Amelia Bucknall and D/E block: Natalie Houlston; Upper School – Ellie Beach (St).

The Lent term saw the newest addition to the music calendar: The Musical Theatre Solo Singing Competition. This had proved a very popular event last year, and so it turned out to be again this year. I suggested to the Head Master that the performers achieved a pretty high standard last year, but this year they definitely raised the bar higher. Gillyanne Kayes, who is a professional musical theatre coach with several students among West End performers, commented that she was impressed by the variety of songs performed (numbers from the 1930s through to contemporary musicals) and by the overall talent on display. She gave the following awards: Lower School – 1st: Matt Jackson (Shf), 2nd: Naomi Cook and 3rd Equal: Cosmo Wellings and Millie Beere; Upper School – 1st: Lucy Cook, 2nd Equal: Nathaniel Hess and Flo Pillman and 3rd Equal: Ellie Beach (St) and Geraint Owen (M).

This has been an exceptional year for singing talent at Rugby School, and we look forward with anticipation to the many musical events taking place in Arts Festival Week.

**NHB**



# Arts Festival Reviews

## Teachers

*Teachers* started with the three main characters – played by Harriet Bibby, Katherine Johns and Freddie Walker – strutting onto the stage with an assured teenage cool. These characters captivated the audience with their engaging, funny and flirtatious banter, and each one was performed with real aplomb. The main storyline – one of the girls' love interest in her drama teacher (played by Hamish Venters) – was supplemented by an excellent chorus and by the enthusiasm of Sam Denny as the deputy head teacher. The Collingwood Hall provided an excellent setting for this play: it was easy to hear what the characters were saying, even from the back of the room.

**Rosie Barnes & Elsa Kirsch (RB)**



## The Dating Game

The first night of any show is a nerve-wracking experience, but when that show is completely pupil-made and directed, the pressure is even greater. However, the opening night of *The Dating Game* – written and directed by Geraint Owen – can only be called a huge success. The Macready Theatre hosted the four-man cast of Geraint Owen, Livy Annan, Megan Gaizutyte and Alex Lawson-May to open this year's Arts Festival with a stylish and assured performance of what it is to be in love. Each of the musical scenes were expertly performed, and real credit has to go to Geraint, who really stole the show. The song 'A Stud and a Babe' was my personal favourite, it being both touching and very funny. Well done to all the cast and crew!

**Charlie Welch (Shf) & Will Hawksworth (W)**

## Big Sing!

Mr Tanner led a number of Warwickshire's schools in a rousing chorus of hymns in this year's Big Sing! Centred on the theme of bread, the School choir rose to the occasion – the yeast they could do! – to providing a beautiful descant to accompany the voices of various primary school children. The event started with a Nigerian folk hymn, 'Wa Wa Wa Emimimo', which was followed by numerous anthems and some readings from the primary school children and some of Rugby's own pupils. Perhaps the highlight of this event was the duet sung by Georgie Colbourne and Natalie Houlston, which added a sombre more serious note to an otherwise lively occasion.

**Immy Lord (D)**



“There was certainly no possibility of relaxing during this performance: throughout it, you were kept on the edge of your seat”

### Flower Face Painting

The perfect start to a relaxing afternoon, Flower Face Painting allowed participants to release their inner artistic flair. Everyone collected in Mrs Phillips’ classroom to get creative with all sorts of artistic materials. We set to work on glittering and painting our faces and arms as much as we could and the atmosphere was great, with everyone in high spirits and keenly throwing themselves in. Under the brilliant guidance of Mrs Philips, we were all able to produce something artistic which we could parade around the School. Flower Face Painting was a very enjoyable afternoon.

**Zenga Nyirenda (B)**

### ‘I’m Bryan and So is My Cast!’

*I’m Bryan and So is My Cast*, performed by Yssy Rigg-Widdowson, Sophie Lee-Peverelle, Rebecca Capewell-Salisbury, Natanya Page and Mr Rigg, was a hilarious performance of a variety of sketches, all directed by Mr Rigg himself. There were eight different, but all brilliantly funny, sketches, including the last one, which involved five members of the audience taking part in a song. OBS provided the perfect atmosphere for the performance, and all of the actors were very good at keeping everyone engaged.

**Anastasia de Clermont (S)**

### Last Night at the Proms

Last Night at the Proms started with traditional classical pieces, including a personal favourite of mine, Grieg’s *Hall of the Mountain King*. The orchestra – expertly conducted by Mr Tanner – then donned their Union Jack hats and the audience knew it was time for mass participation. We were all given flags and told to wave them vigorously when it was our chance to shine. We sang *Land of Hope and Glory* and *Jerusalem* before ending with a rousing chorus of the *Floreat*. Overall, this event contained a very high standard of playing and enthusiasm from the orchestra and was a thoroughly enjoyable event for the audience.

**Emily Gower (S)**

### Metamorphosis

*Metamorphosis*, performed by members of the LXX, played with the idea of the rawness of human nature as a family decides what to do with their son who has been transformed overnight into a repulsive beetle. The play jumped from the anguished screaming of the main character, Gregor (played brilliantly by Fred Rawicz-Szczerbo), to the softly rhythmic beating of feet to simulate a gentle rain pattering on the roof. There was certainly no possibility of relaxing during this performance: throughout it, you were kept on the edge of your seat. I especially enjoyed Freddie’s portrayal of the beetle as he showed Gregor’s frustration with his new-found situation.

**Toby Rowlands (SH)**

### Musical Chemistry

Using artists such as Kings of Leon, Queen, Coldplay and Taylor Swift, Dr Thompson presented a series of chemical experiments to music in a way that I had never seen before. Performed in the FLT, Dr Thompson and his team of technicians conducted various experiments, including spinning flames, exploding balloons and a radioactive watch; each experiment was performed to a song that would otherwise not seem relevant to chemistry at all. Telling personal anecdotes and wearing a fez, Dr Thompson treated the audience to some of the practical lessons were are ordinarily not allowed to do in the classroom. At the end, the audience was asked to choose between chemistry and music – and very few people could make up their minds on that issue.

**Hattie Sumpter-Reynolds (S)**





## Music and Words of World War I

In this year, the centenary of the start of the Great War, this performance was a timely reminder of the realities of that conflict. Forty-five minutes of uninterrupted music and poetry from the period performed in the poignant setting of the Memorial Chapel enabled the audience to reflect upon the sacrifices made by so many men a century ago. Miss Brogaard's performance of Vaughan Williams' *The Lark Ascending* and Sam Wright's reading of Isaac Rosenberg's 'Returning, We Hear the Larks' were both, for me, brilliant examples of the talent there is in this School.

**Olivia Unwin (Tu)**

## Pitt's T Emporium

Surrounded by the work in progress of the Textiles Pre-U students, everyone at Pitt's T Emporium was ready to give textiles a go. Mrs Pitt improvised like a true professional, coming in with handfuls of fabrics, paints, paintbrushes and thread for us to decorate the old t-shirts we had brought with us. Most of us worked with fabric paint and scissors, making funky designs and templates, whilst the more adventurous among us started working on the sewing machines to create something that actually looked like fashion! Vivienne Westwood may not be too threatened by the quality of most of our productions, but we all have to start somewhere!

**Anna Gibson (G)**

## Rock of Ages

Rock of Ages – the staff band – saw Mr Bradbury playing a perfect lead guitar whilst Dr Smith's always outstanding voice sang some familiar tunes. There were covers of many classic songs, from Elvis Presley to Pink Floyd. During the interval, Mr Elson performed two solos which were also very impressive. Overall, this was a highly professional performance from everyone, including the sound and lighting team.

**Jack Adams (SH)**

## Rumba Workshop

The Rumba Workshop was one hour well spent, with a wide range of ages taking part. The group was led through various dance moves which culminated in a dance-off between the six best partners; this was won by Luke McManus and Jay Robinson.

**Jake Cox (Shf)**



## Rugby School's Got Vocal Talent

As I arrived at the Vocal Talent event, I did not know what to expect. I thought – along with the other entrants – that all that would be required was a short song for an audience. But Jeremy Fisher – a highly talented musician involved in musical theatre – commented on each performance, made everyone do various exercises to help them improve their song and then asked us each to sing our song again. My exercises involved learning backward and forwards in a rather awkward manner and singing to Natalie Houlston, which I found rather difficult! There is a lot of vocal talent in the School and with Jeremy Fisher's help some of that talent was made even stronger at this event.

**George Jackson (Shf)**

## Upper School Quiz

OBS saw a tense battle between some of the School's keenest quizzers as six LXX boys fought to win this year's Upper School Quiz, whilst the equally keen audience struggled to keep from blurting out the answers. Chester Chan, Craig McGuinness, Josh Harris, Ed Anton, Adam Corbidge and Jack Denny answered a series of tough questions from Mr Bryant on an array of topics, from sports to politics to the weather to Nobel Prize winners. The event made for both a humorous and intellectual source of entertainment.

**Claire Hatvany (D)**



## Festival Finale

The Festival Finale had the mammoth job of both living up to the high standards of last year's Finale and marking the end of Mr Derham's time at the school – and all in an hour and a half!

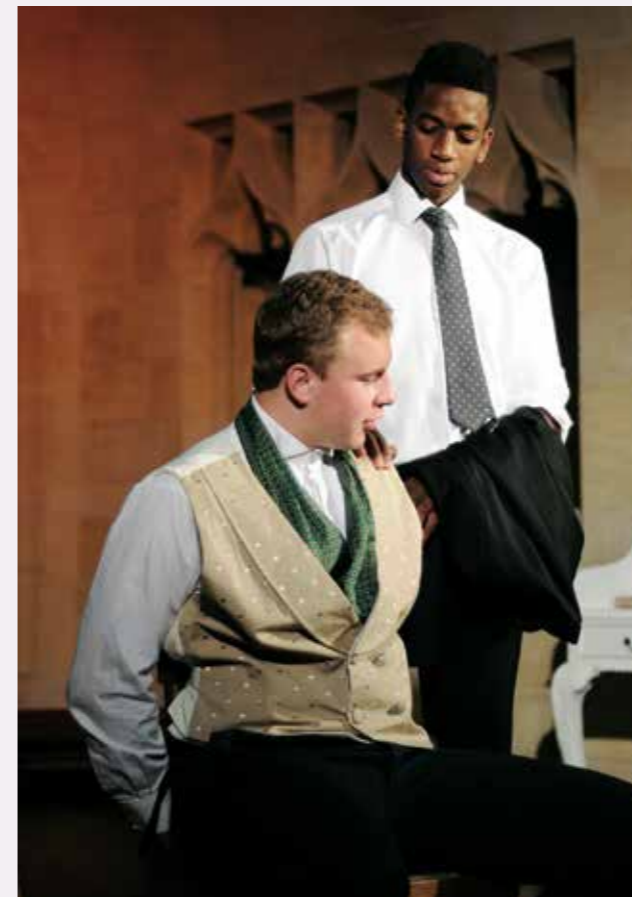
The Rock of Ages staff band was the first act to perform. Dr Smith's vocals filled the TSR and soon the audience was happily clapping away to his tunes. The night had started with a bang and everyone was clearly here to enjoy it. Lucy Cook may have brought in a more sombre mood with her rendition of 'Feed the Birds' from Disney's *Mary Poppins* but the quality of her singing was amazing and everyone knew that they were listening to a real performer. More quality performers followed with two world-famous percussionists covering various iconic tunes from 1980s movie soundtracks, Georgie Colbourne and Sky Martle, and the cast of one of this year's shows, *The Dating Game*.

Geraint Owen and Lucy Symington – next year's Heads of School – made impressive MCs: their confidence and charisma shone through all evening as they welcomed various pupils onto the stage to receive awards for their hard work and talent in lots of different spheres throughout the Arts Festival.

The evening concluded with a performance from Old Rugbeian Emily Wilson who is just breaking into the music scene with her single 'This Is My Life', and a duet from Mrs Naylor and Mr Dhanda, who sang a tribute to the Arts Festival as a whole by seamlessly weaving together the titles of all the different performances.

And then, just when people thought the show was over up jumped Mrs Rosser. She beckoned Mr Derham onto the stage and the world premier of the *Mr Derham Farewell Movie* was unveiled. The video, starring pupils and staff in every setting at Rugby School, is a perfect end to Mr Derham's time at the school and was also an unforgettable end to the Arts Festival 2014. In his speech on Speech Day, Mr Derham mentioned privilege with responsibility and the end of the Finale saw him reminding the School of that philosophy before everyone left, humming some of the evening's best songs, and looking forward to next year's Arts Festival.

**Saqlain Choudhary (M)**







## Letter to my 16-year-old self

Rory, old boy!

Hello 16-year-old me. Look at you in this picture. You think you're looking pretty 'safe', don't you? Pretty 'swag'. Oh dear. To tell the truth you're a lanky, over-confident public school boy, desperately trying to prove to your friends how much of a 'lad' you are and have failed miserably. You've slipped on a pair of your dad's vintage Ray Bans (he's not best pleased when he finds out) and smugly informed your mum that you're going to Ollie's house – in fact you've sneaked off to London with some mates. And for goodness' sake get a haircut. Despite what you think, your floppy mop isn't attracting the girls.



Anyway, how are you? Silly question, really – I know exactly how you are. With your GCSEs coming up in a couple of months, you're stressed. Good grades are the only thing in the world that matter to you at the moment and, with practice paper to do after practice paper, you feel like life can't get much more unbearable. Indeed, the early mornings, the long days and the late nights are all taking their toll – you look a wreck, your body aches every time you move and it takes you a good half hour to get out of bed in the morning (pain and depression). So, I thought now would be a good time to write to you and to offer you some help – and not just for the immediate term. Being a teenager is largely pretty crap. Of course, to the casual observer you're a polite, well-mannered schoolboy. But the overdose of hormones and whirlwind of unanswered questions have left you frightened by the concept that your time now will ultimately decide on things for the rest of your life. Below, then, a few short pieces of advice which I hope will make the next few years more manageable.

First of all, take advantage of change. Before you know it, your schooldays will be coming to an end and you'll be facing the wider world – embrace it. During your time at School you'll do a lot of changing and you emerge at the other end of it all with A Levels, bank accounts, a driving licence, a social life, highly refined music and fashion tastes (despite what everyone says) and legendary sleeping habits. And the change doesn't stop there. You'll go on to university and then into work. You'll change jobs and careers a couple of times and take up and then drop new interests. You'll have various relationships and constantly meet new people. You'll even spend time living abroad. Look out for the positive things that change brings: new friendships, knowledge, skills and experiences, even the possibility to change who you are. Make the most of them all.

My second piece of advice is that, throughout life, you should try to be true to who you are. You have a very good heart and you tend to bring out the best in people; don't lose sight of that. Get into the habit of thinking for yourself and don't be easily led. Please, for your own sake, look after your liver. Mum makes a bet with you soon that if you don't drink spirits before you're 21 she'll buy you a car – and, believe me, a car is more attractive than a drunken teenager with an oyster card. Make up your own mind about what's right and wrong and have the courage to stand up for what you believe in.

Next on my list is take responsibility for your own future. As I'm sure you'll find with your GCSEs, if you want to achieve something then you need to take charge and work hard for it. At the moment, you're too ready to accept what teachers tell you. Use your brain instead. Work hard. Things don't just come to you. Equally, you'll face disappointments and you'll make mistakes in life. The way you cope with these, and what you learn from them, is what counts.

Look after your friends and family. There will be points in your life where you'll consider leaving your fairly eccentric but loyal group of mates behind in favour of a cooler group. But I tell you the bruised, drunk, good-for-nothing boy slumped vacantly next to you in the photo is, and will always be a great friend. Be generous and kind and devote time to those you care about. You'll find that the relationships that you nurture will be the most satisfying and important things of all in life. Never forget about mum and dad - the 'Commodore' and the 'Obergruppenführer'. Tell them how much you appreciate the sacrifices they have made for you and the opportunities they have created. It's only when they're gone that you realise how much they mean to you.

I suspect you're probably sitting reading this letter trembling slightly – things are tough enough without me dropping this bombshell on you. So, let me assure you that there's a lot to look forward to: one day you'll get married and start a family, and all the rivalries and silly preoccupations of school life will be a distant memory. And so my final piece of advice is actually not advice at all but an order: have fun! Whatever you do, wherever you do it, try and look for the fun in it. At 50-odd, your knees will be stiff, your reactions will be slow and you'll have to try and juggle a hectic family life with a struggling golf game. Keep active for as long as possible; don't waste your freedom; enjoy your youth while it lasts.

So, that's my advice. If it sounds like a lot to get right in one go then remember what dad used to tell you on the long journeys back to school: what you achieve in life isn't the result of just a few big decisions you make or a few big things you do; it reflects all the things that you do as part of your everyday life. Try to do every single thing – whether big or small – as well as you possibly can. If you can do that, then you'll find that success looks after itself. The rest is up to you now – good luck!

Lots of love,

Rory, 53

**Rory Farquharson (SH)**



## PUPILS' WORK



Artwork by:  
Natie Cameron  
Alex Barnes Batty  
Isabella Bulmer  
Evie Bulmer  
Cosmo Wellings

## Shoes

Our love was new, like those bright blue shoes that sparkled in the light and glinted in the night. Together we went here, there and everywhere with each other. We spent the summer together. The footprints of others smothered your past. I knew you were never truly faithful.

We went together like a pair, except one foot fitted slightly better than the other; Yours was slightly bigger and always slightly better. Put me down, pin me down, step on me – I loved you all the same.

Then suddenly I stepped in gum. I got stuck and you kept walking, leaving me to flail and fail. My lace frayed and you roughly glued it back together, then one eyelet came undone; my sole was wearing thin; the rubber toe peeled off. Everything you said knocked me that much harder, Wriggled under the skin of those once bright blue shoes, of that idle young love.

I couldn't bear it any longer. I loved those shoes with all my heart but was I tricking myself into living off old times. I didn't really love them anymore so I put them in the bin. Yet still they lived on with me with their footprints hard in my heart.

So here I am waiting for a new pair to carry me everywhere. Shoes do not always last forever. Like love, they are never permanent.

**Hermione Chadwick (B)**



Artwork by:  
Anna Wirth  
Taylor Ward  
Ameila Howard  
Emily Osborn  
Harry Badwan  
Harith Badwan  
Sarah Lord  
Odette Moncur



## Spoon

Your gleaming silver body refracts the light, just as it does my vision, my face. It's cold in my hand, but warm to my touch, moulds to my palm. You have given me a spoon. Its cruel cold kiss bites my lips, a metallic taste lingering on my tongue. You proffer it to me, a thin band of silver, glowing in your palm – you have given me a spoon. It never changes, never dulls, an image staring back at me always distorted, empty of emotion, cold in the metal's fixating gaze.

**Immy Lord (D)**

## The Dove Above

Vision is a rather ambrosial quirk  
Arrives in the bundled feminine form of a pure white dove  
As shelled eggs swivel smooth within the writing coup  
And peck and peek sly at the sky sharp above  
And this dove, this unsettled underarm swooping bird  
All the time she daintily chugs the fiery crisp confetti  
Parting the basin from the bugs

Sleekly, these omnipotent padded words like leaves  
They thaw and flow, seeping, glimmering gold, coo and squawk  
Through the window's eye sashed shutter, below eaves, vows  
Into the writer's block

Nihilism that's renunciation rottenly pressed organic  
Can be profoundly, riotously dispelled, sincerely  
When those like moles in caliginous corners  
Blinded by the darkness in nature's nation  
Are by mercy, engulfed holy by a spontaneous meld  
Of a climatic winged creation

The glassed interior valley sitting on the inside of tank contains, of what remains  
Of an amorphous absorbing anemone  
Drowned lightly in ethereal grains, sacredly healing emotional pains  
Mutely blows bubbles and with open pores, absorbs learning distilled  
New ideas for the prevailing protagonist  
Inspiration coinciding liberation, freely speaking, originating the triad of all affection

The hierarchical creature of no defection or origin  
Is fully embodied in a dove like complexion and foraging food for her family  
Is the indisputable Lion  
Of a non-material nation

**Ben Davies (W)**





# SPORT

IN REVIEW

## XV

### P12 / W8 / L4

The XV had a very successful and exciting season, winning eight of their twelve matches, including outstanding victories over Bedford, Haileybury and Uppingham. In total, the XV scored 321 points and conceded just 191. Captain Harry Mallinder was the top point scorer with 126 points, closely followed by George Lewis, whose incredible speed and finishing ability secured him sixteen tries.

Rugby started the season with a fine 27-14 victory at home over a very physical Cheltenham XV. Rugby dominated the early part of the game, with Ben Pointon scoring in the first minute. Mallinder added further to the score with a try, two conversions and two penalties. Cheltenham drove over the line twice in the second half, but in the end Rugby secured the game with an intercepted try. The next two games – St Edward's and Oundle – proved very tough for the XV and resulted in losses of 7-20 and 5-41 respectively. The Uppingham match was a thrilling encounter and a much improved performance by Rugby showed passion and a desire really to get involved in the game. Rugby's loose play generally provided clean possession which allowed Mallinder at fly half to dictate play and force Uppingham to attack from well inside their own half. The final score was 28-17 to Rugby.

Matthew Flinders Anglican College visited us from Australia to play their seventh and final touring match on the Close. Within two minutes of play, vice-captain Oli Bradfield had scored and further tries were added by Pointon, Lewis, Mallinder and George Innes in a very one-sided first half. The second half was more evenly contested, with Matthew Flinders scoring three tries. Their 31-15 defeat did not detract from their pleasure of playing on the Close.

The XV were unlucky to lose against strong Oakham and Stamford sides. Both games were very closely contested right up until the final whistle – 22-22 to Oakham, 15-19 to Stamford. On each occasion Rugby finished the more dominant side and was extremely close to achieving a winning score but the win just proved elusive. The team did not allow these setbacks to affect their performance against Haileybury where, despite the scores being equal at half time, Rugby controlled possession in the second half to win 41-5. The same positive attitude was seen in the match against Pocklington, who came down to Rugby to celebrate their 500th anniversary. This was a difficult match for the XV but Rugby came out on top, winning 29-12. A competent



performance at Trent sealed another victory. Rugby was put under immense pressure in the first quarter, with Trent nearly scoring on several occasions. However, Rugby began to control the game and eventually came away with a 38-0 victory.

By far the highlight of the season was beating Bedford in the penultimate game. The XV made the most of their opportunities whereas Bedford made a number of handling errors at vital moments. Rugby scored within the first minute and although Bedford leveled the scores twice they never took the lead. It was an incredibly exciting game to play and one that will very much be remembered for Rugby's outstanding tackling and good control from the forwards.

The Guest XV match – against Christ College, Brecon – was well-supported by a large number of the School. Their mobile pack kept possession effectively and often used the pick and drive to make ground, but the Rugby forwards were bigger, technically superior and showed excellent defence around the fringes of the rucks. This resulted in the XV scoring at regular intervals throughout the game to record a final score of 53-0.

There was a vast improvement in Rugby's performance over the term, with the players showing great skill and determination. A total of 31 boys played for the XV across the season, all of whom contributed to a most enjoyable term of rugby.

**Ben Pointon (T)**



## 3RD XV

### P9 / W6 / L3

The season was a great success. The first game, against Cheltenham, ended in a 20-3 victory, nicely setting us up for our next game, against St Edward's, where we were again victorious, this time winning 48-0, with Ollie Colville's wonderful touchline conversion ending the game on a high. A heavy defeat away at Uppingham (7-41) sent us home with our tails between our legs but we bounced back to win the next three on the trot. We took a hard hit mid-season with various injuries and the loss of Bomi Fagbemi to the 2nds. The team trained hard for what was going to be the highlight of the season: Shrewsbury on the Close. Shrewsbury began confidently but the 3rds practically ran away with them, holding a strong defence in the three-quarters and performing some exquisite line-outs. The boys fought hard all season to end with the best record out of the senior teams.

**George Beard (M)**



## 2ND XV

### P9 / W5 / L4

This was a great season and it was amazing to be a part of a team that shared such passion and commitment for the sport. We won five out of our nine games, scoring a total of 178 points and only conceding 99. No game was ever too far out of our reach, as is shown by our biggest defeat – against Stamford – being by just seventeen points. We always had a fighting spirit no matter the opposition, and the whole team can be proud of our effort and determination, especially in the games against Trent (52-0), Uppingham (34-5) and Oakham (29-0). Those games where there was a narrower score line than these, such as our 11-5 opener against Cheltenham, were the ones in which we dug deepest to come away with the win, although that same grit and commitment was also evident in the games that did not go our way. This was probably the most enjoyable season of football for many of us on the team – because of our successes, yes, but also because of the challenges we faced and fought.

**Henry Hudson (W)**

**“It was an incredibly exciting game to play and one that will very much be remembered for Rugby's outstanding tackling and good control from the forwards”**

## 4TH XV

P7 / W6 / L1

This impressive 4th XV missed out on an unbeaten season by only one point. That record speaks volumes about them, as does the fact that they amassed a greater number of points than any 4th XV has managed in last fifteen years. In most matches the forwards provided ample ball for the small yet skilful backline to run at the opposition. The most exciting display was against Uppingham when, after conceding two tries in the first five minutes, the team replied in spectacular fashion, eventually winning the match 45-31. Most members of the team approached the last match against Bedford having never won against them. The 34-10 victory was a fitting end to what was a truly magnificent effort all season.

PTE

## U16A

P9 / W4 / D1 / L4

The season started poorly: we lost our first game to Cheltenham by twelve points, even after a quick breakaway try from Tim Kerr-Chin and a charge down try by Harry Phillipson. However, we quickly picked ourselves up and got four wins on the trot against Oundle, St Edward's, Haileybury and Uppingham. Alex Winter, with his surprising pace on the left wing, was top try scorer with five tries in the season; his record was closely followed by Myles McKay's four tries. Our last match of the first half of term was against Oakham. After going 10-0 down in the first half we fought back and scored a try though Winter, which Joe Phillips converted. Phillips also converted a penalty and at full time the score was level at 10-10. The second half of the season was much more challenging. We lost narrowly to Trent 20-22, which was disappointing as we dominated the game. Against Stamford we played very well and put up a good fight, with tries from Winter and McKay, but lost the game 17-31. Finally, our 0-52 loss against Bedford brought the season to an end, although it was another valiant effort. Phillipson was voted player of the season in recognition of his frequently outstanding back row play and leadership.

George Romain (K)



## U16B

P9 / W5 / L4

After two initial defeats – to Cheltenham and St Edward's Oxford – it looked as though it was going to be a long and difficult season but the squad redoubled its efforts in training and managed narrow victories against Oundle and Uppingham; the team defended heroically in both these fixtures and thoroughly deserved to come out on top. Following a narrow defeat away to Haileybury, three wins followed and the team started to score more and more points, thanks to George Creed's kicking and Oli Tennant's penetrating, mostly unstoppable, runs. The return of Henry Bradshaw made an enormous difference in the latter part of the season, too. Away at Bedford for the last match was always going to be a tough, especially as seven of the original squad were unavailable. A heavy defeat in this game (0-54) was an undeserved end to a positive season. Creed won top points scorer and George Tuckwell led the team with skill. Nevertheless the title of player of the season must go to Sam Green-Armytage for his performance at full-back.

DCG

## U16C

P4 / W1 / L3

This was not a vintage year for the U16Cs. Although the team had come through the lower age groups with a good record, basic skills and attitude were not at the required level for U16 rugby and the oppositions were simply much better. The season started with a narrow victory over St Edward's but that was followed by defeats to Uppingham and Haileybury. The final match, against Bedford, was one-sided from the start and the team went down to a heavy 5-64 defeat. During the season, there were some individual performances to remember: captain Sam Pougatch gave his all in every game but really shone against Bedford, where he played in four different positions due to injuries; Dan Peet and Jonty Carr always worked hard; and Daishi Suzuki and Ollie Hastings made some crunching tackles.

BJR

## U15A

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### P11 / W4 / L7

A season that began full of hope rapidly deteriorated and a set of skilled and strong players recorded few wins and very few quality performances. Twice beaten by over fifty points, it was oddly the first of these loses, against Warwick in the Nationals, that saw the greatest determination and teamwork; tackling was fierce and the defence was well-organised on the fringes. But convincing this group of boys that teamwork and dedication during the week was essential to results in matches fell on many deaf ears and training sessions were punctuated with silliness. Individually it was probably one or two of the poorest trainers that might have been picked out for the title of man of the match but, although these boys' contribution on match day was significant, it was too isolated from their efforts over the rest of the team for total praise.

Real improvement was seen from a number of players. Rory Pond threw and hooked beautifully and when a little fitter he will influence results heavily. Pond also captained the last match when regular captain, Michael Suddaby, was injured. Suddaby himself was a constant threat from the various positions that he played and his speed and strength always gave us hope. Determined no nonsense forwards Will Manners, Aiden McGuirk, Theo Lindsay and Griffin Shelton also developed well. Seb Somervail showed great pace at number 8 but may lack the presence of James Sibley from the base. Several small but skilled midfield players competed for key positions but none has yet the real pace to ask enough questions. Ed Beard secured the scrum half position and Fraser Ralston worked well at fly half. Tom Beal was useful in the centre and just needed a little more ball. Wills Hatton played a good game at full back, and the raw Sam Denny has genuine pace and when he knows the game a little better may be more effective.

With only two wins in the season in our regular Saturday matches the future may look a little bleak. However, this side has huge amounts of skill and, coupled with a better attitude to training, that could see them on to great success in the future.

**TMW**

## U15B

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### P9 / W6 / L3

The overall statistics do not really do justice to how good this season was for the U15Bs. Slip ups against Oundle and Stamford aside, we only met one team all year that I would say were better than us. Players such as Niklas Yoho, Billy Feather and Mark Stevens ran themselves into the ground every week during training and covered every blade of grass on the pitch on match days. Freddie Walker was always a rock at scrum-half and controlled the forwards whilst coordinating perfectly with the backs. Feather grew in confidence as a rugby player and problems with his tackling at the start of the season were turned around so tackling became his real strength by the final game. Feather and Walker played alongside Jamie Harvey, and his elevation to As for the final game is testament to his progress this year. The awesome front row of Yoho, Charlie Mourant and Theo Weir provided a great foundation for Saqlain Choudhury and James Weston behind them. The front five were faultless in every game. Even when we were thrashed by Bedford in the final game we were winning the scrum contest. The back row set up the team's foundations in defence, clear-out and turnover ball. The hard work of the back three was highlighted by the player of the year nominations where their names were dominant. Stevens ended up the close winner of this accolade.

**JMP**



## U14A

**P10 / W4 / D1 / L5**

It was not until the fourth game of the season that the U14As secured their first victory, against Clifton College, and then this was quickly followed by wins against Bedford Modern, Oakham and Denstone. The boys trained with enthusiasm and played competitive rugby throughout the season. They were outgunned in some fixtures against more physical and aggressive opposition and this exposed some defensive frailties on occasions. There is undoubtedly good talent amongst the players here, but they need to learn to take individual responsibility and also to work together as a team, particularly when not in possession of the ball. The standout players of the season were Alex McAlinden, who captained the side, Alex Carter and Casper Massey.

**MAM**

## U14B

**P9 / W5 / L4**

The season started with a match against Cheltenham before home and away fixtures against St Edward's. With little time for training or thorough match preparation, these initial contests were tough and, although Rugby fought hard and scored some encouraging tries, the team was narrowly defeated each time. But thereafter Rugby's fortunes improved significantly and the team enjoyed comprehensive victories over Bedford Modern, Haileybury and Oakham. Both Eric Chan and Chauncey de los Santos proved themselves able at finishing a number of flowing team moves which gave everyone a great deal of confidence before the home game against Trent. Rugby started this game slowly but got better as the halves went on and, despite a late surge from the opposition, emerged victorious with a 26-22 win. A fifty-four point victory against Denstone raised the team's expectations further before the final game of the season, against Bedford, but unfortunately here the opposition's competitiveness and skill were too great and Rugby could only manage 15 points to Bedford's 27.

**TER**

## U14C

**P7 / W3 / L4**

The U14Cs had a mixed season, narrowly losing the matches before half term but obtaining significant wins as the term progressed thereafter and the team grew in ability and confidence. The first match, against Cheltenham, was a tough fight and, although we claimed the first try of the season, poor fitness and poor organization caused us to collapse in the second half and allowed the opposition the victory (12-27). With a steely resolve to improve, weeks of intensive training paid off, with very strong wins against Haileybury (56-5) and Trent (34-0) led by the captain Hamish Maddocks. The final match of the season was against Bedford, traditionally a strong side, which was won 27-15. The team should be commended for their determination and effort.

**JSB**

## U14D

**P5 / W4 / L1**

What a season! Never before have the U14Ds been so successful – at least not in my memory. To be fair, they only played five games, but four wins and a total of 130 points compared to the opposition's 73 are real achievements, and especially for a group of boys who had not really played much rugby before. The first match of the season, at home to Cheltenham, saw the team battling hard against much greater dominance to keep the score line about level before Edward Parker's determined drive over the try line and the cool head of Hamza Syed snatched a lead in the final minutes to end things 17-15. Home and away games against St Edward's followed, where some excellent play in the backs, and from Max Gamburg (inside centre) and Alex Gibson (right wing) in particular, took the team to 32-10 and 43-0 wins respectively. Man mountains of a Radley team ground the boys into a bruising 0-43 loss in a game where it was just impossible for them ever to get the ball into the other half. A few weeks' respite saw the boys bounce back to play probably their best match of the season, home to Bedford, where a fairly shaky first half gave way to a brilliant performance in the second half to take the game to 38-15. Being one of only two of the ten junior teams to win against Bedford that day was a fitting end to a great season all round. These are a smashing group of boys and I wish them all best as they continue their rugby next year.

**RJS**

## Girls' Hockey

### XI

**P9 / W4 / D1 / L4**

Things got off to a convincing start during the pre-season tournament, where the XI ended up in the final, narrowly losing to Sedbergh by a last-minute goal. This tournament helped the team develop their skills, and it was definitely these skills which then led us to a solid 4-4 draw against Bloxham. Sadly any hope we had for an unbeaten season slipped away when we faced the impressive Repton side, the strongest opponent we expected to play all season. The girls played very well, only being 2-1 down at half-time; but the game ended 1-6 to Repton. A loss at Trent in a game where we created a huge number of chances to win, was followed by a tough match against Oakham where Rugby dominated the game but Oakham managed to slip away to score in the final minutes to conclude things 2-3. Then came an excellent run of four wins for Rugby against Bromsgrove (5-0), Cheltenham (3-1), Bedford (2-0) and Uppingham, where just after half time we were 0-2 down, but showed incredible character to come out with a magnificent 3-2 win. In our last match, against Oundle, we started as the stronger of the two teams, with a chance to score within the first two minutes, but at half time the score was still 0-0. Suddenly in the second half, some excellent hockey and quick passing led to a great goal, putting us 1-0 ahead. Sadly, Oundle kicked back hard and due to some poor decision making on our part we lost the game 1-3.

The highlight of the season was definitely how, having won the County Championship for the third year in a row, the team made it further in the Midlands Schools' Tournament than any Rugby girls' XI has managed previously, getting all the way to the semi-finals before losing out to the overall winners, Repton.

A few special mentions must go to Millie Richards, undoubted player of the season, and Ella Bardsley, who was awarded the title most Improved player. Alice Williams was the top goal scorer.

**Milly Browne (Tu)**

## 2ND XI

P9 / W2 / D1 / L6

After a promising start to the season with a 1-0 win against Bloxham, and playing some good hockey, the girls seemed set for more wins ahead, but with a narrow defeat against Repton the following week the girls felt derailed and it took them until just before half term for their second taste of victory, this time against Cheltenham (1-0). Whilst on paper, it does not look like it was a great season, the girls worked hard and developed into very good hockey players who passed the ball well and worked together as a team to try to outwit the opposition. Much work was done to develop the LXX players so that they have an excellent second year playing senior hockey next season.

TGB

## 3RD XI

P9 / W6 / D1 / L2

The 3rd XI got off to a terrific start with a 9-0 win against Bloxham. This set the tone for the rest of the season, with the 3rds accumulating a number of high-scoring wins against the opposition: a few highlights include beating Trent 6-1 and Bromsgrove 6-0. The end of the season proved to be more challenging, with the team facing Uppingham and Oundle. The girls played well together as a team to hold Uppingham to a 0-0 draw but Oundle were the superior team in the final game of the season, winning the match 3-0. While the girls trained well, their game really came alive in matches and there was a commendable competitive spirit throughout the squad.

SSP

## 4TH XI

P6 / W5 / D1

Unbeaten, top of the league, only two goals conceded all season. The first four games read played four, won four, twenty goals scored, none conceded – this was surely an all time great Rugby School hockey team. Sophie Tennant was the clear player of the season, creating countless goals from the right wing alongside fellow forwards Poppy Hudson and Cecily Bain. Katriona McAlister and Issy Greenfield were the silk and steel respectively in the middle of the pitch, the latter single-handedly demolishing some sides. Margot Speed was the inspirational captain, contributing everything from stirring half time speeches to the team's motto. Eleanor Low and Nina Whatmough were the reliable central defenders. Many LXX players also showed their potential so there is much to look forward to next year.

PJB



“there was a commendable competitive spirit throughout the squad”



## 5TH XI

P5 / W4 / D1

The 5th XI had a superb unbeaten season, which started with an 11-0 victory over Oundle in the first game and ended with a 2-2 draw to the same team at the end. All the girls worked brilliantly as a team, from Milly McDermott, who for the first time took on the role of goalkeeper, to the sharp shooters Lizzie Alexander, Audrey Czernin and Amelia St Clair Roberts. Not to be forgotten are the speedy Lottie Simpson on the right wing and the superb defending of Emma Carrington. For some of the girls, this was their first season playing hockey and they showed great determination and spirit!

RJF

## 6TH XI

P9 / W6 / D1 / L2

The ‘Mighty Sixth’ enjoyed a really good season, with four hard-fought contests against Oakham and Oundle. We practically played a fifth game away at Oakham but, knowing we were trailing by one goal and determined not to concede another, Jenny Gorbanenko decided to block a shot on goal with her nose, lost enough blood to warrant an immediate trip to the Oakham San, and the game was cancelled. I know Oakham chalked it up as a victory, but I am convinced we would have found a way to draw level (at least) and refuse to recognise it as a completed fixture. The highlight of the season was a 5-4 victory over Oundle. I am reliably informed this was the team's first victory in the last two years.

Whilst the whole team played well throughout the season, I think it appropriate to single out a couple of stars. As captain, Ellie Beach set the perfect example and thoroughly deserved her award at the end of term as player of the season. Tess Duff and Ellie Davies led the attack with real energy: the latter ended the season as top goal scorer, scoring in all but the cancelled fifth game. Cindy Lu, Liza Karsanidi and Lady Tetley improved massively over the course of the season and can look for promotion to higher teams next year. In addition, we were fortunate to have Charlotte Strachan, the perfect team player, always offering help and support and always providing positive encouragement. Daphne Wong and Jenny Gorbanenko defended with resolute determination. Vicky Mowat, Lara Fowler, Fia Carr and Christina Smith were the perfect midfield generals. In case you have missed my point – all were stars!

JDW



## U16A

### P8 / W2 / L6

The U16As had a mixed season. They started well, winning the Warwickshire County Championships, but were unfortunately narrowly knocked out in the next round. Having no permanent goalie, each week a different person from the team volunteered to step into the role, some having never even held a goalie kit before let alone struggled to put it on. The team had a great spirit, put lots of effort into the training sessions and maintained a good balance between being serious and having fun. The team came out with impressive wins against tough competition, including Bromsgrove (2-1) and Bedford (5-1), as well as having close games against Oundle and Oakham. Thanks to Mr Spreng for his coaching and well done to the U16As for a great season.

**Immy Holmes**

## U16B

### P7 / W5 / L2

The U16Bs enjoyed a very good season, although they were unable to turn the final two matches (Uppingham and Oundle) into victories despite some strong positioning by Jess Clarke who, after promotion from the C team, proved herself invaluable. Without a goal keeper for much of the season, the team rose to the challenge, and Constance Read, Frances Leung, Antonia Brine, Alice Parker and Livy Higgins should all be congratulated on their adaptability in sharing the role. In the final match, Higgins commanded in goal and played with real spirit, even though it meant that she lost her opportunity to become the season's highest goal scorer. In addition to the players already mentioned, special praise should also go to Sophie Palmer and Isla Campbell, both of whom were strong and reliable players all season.

**JLR**

## U16C

### P2 / W2

The U16Cs were not formed until two weeks in to term, when it became clear that the popularity of hockey at this level was greater than expected. The team only played two matches but plenty of good training took place each week, with the girls greatly improving their skills. This training clearly paid off as both matches were won, at home against Oundle and away at Oundle. The team scored a total of eight goals across the two matches, with Imy Wheeler being the top goal scorer. The most improved player of the season was Sophie Levin. For her solid play and commitment, both in training and in matches, the title of player of the season was awarded to Lottie Brumpton. Of particular note was Cat Frost who, though initially reluctant to take the job, turned out to be a very effective and ardent goalkeeper. It was, in short, a winning season with plenty of high spirits and passion from all members of the team.

**MWG**

## U15A

### P9 / W3 / D1 / L5

There is no doubt that the U15As rose to the challenge of a very tough fixture card to pull off some very impressive performances. The victories against Trent, Oakham and Bromsgrove are particular highlights of the season and came, in no small part, because of the grit and determination shown by every girl on the pitch. Although always faced with strong and skilful opposition, this group of girls approached every match with a competitive attitude. There is some genuine talent within the team, and this bodes well for the future – indeed, next season, with a little more aggression in attack, they could easily out-perform themselves. The title of most improved player went to Maia Bouchier, who started as a defender in the B team but who finished as the starting centre forward for the As. I have no doubt that she and the other forwards (Olivia Baker, Poppy Carver and May de la Rue) will become an impressive strike force in future seasons, and not least because they will be ably supplied by midfielders Josie Cameron, Toria Holland and Sky Martle, whose distribution of the ball is generally excellent. The season saw the defensive wall of Kirti Mehta, Zenga Nyrienda, Bee Richards, Ella Sturley, Zoe Summers and Henri Wood turn from simply being responsive defenders into being a coherent unit with the confidence and skill to win a tackle and begin the counter-attack. The team was a pleasure to coach and I wish them all the very best for the future.

**KH**

## U15B

### P9 / W4 / D3 / L2

The U15Bs began the season with a decisive 9-0 win over Bloxham, but glory was short-lived as the following we were beaten 5-0 by Repton. Matches in subsequent weeks were exceptionally close, with the team drawing against Trent and Bedford and taking a win of just one goal in each of the games against Oakham, Bromsgrove and Cheltenham. The penultimate game was a disappointing one for the girls as they came away with a 3-0 loss in a tough match against Uppingham. The team refused the idea of another loss in their final match, playing Oundle, and battled it out to accept a draw.

**Hattie Byrne (B)**

## U15C

### P6 / W6 / D1 / L2

The 15Cs had an excellent season, although one bookended by two unfortunate losses. Throughout the season the girls' skill, combined with their willingness to train hard, meant that they had some easy victories. When faced with the stiff competition of Repton and Cheltenham, they dug deep and played some of their best hockey. What more could you ask for but a team that tries their hardest even in their most difficult matches?

**EJRN**



## U15D

### P6 / W3 / L3

The U15Ds enjoyed a mixed campaign, which combined a stunning opening fixture triumph over Oundle with a slight flagging towards the end of the season with defeats to Oakham and the initially beaten but not finally vanquished Oundle again. Over the course of the season, there were a number of notable performances, with Naomi Cook proving a titanic presence in the heart of the defence, Molly Hammond and Lizzie Raynsford performing dynamically in midfield, and Emily Bell scoring almost at will from her position as centre forward.

**SD**

## U14A

### P7 / W5 / L2

This has been a hugely successful season for the U14As. In the Independent Schools' Hockey League the team won seven games, drew one and lost one, and so finished the League in second place. During the term, the U14s also competed in the County Championships, comfortably securing their position as County Champions with twenty goals over six matches. They then made history by winning the Midlands Schools' Hockey Finals (unbeaten) before then being the first U14 Rugby girls' team to perform on the national stage in a major team game. The England Hockey National Schools' Championships, held at Cannock Hockey Club, were tough but the team's commitment and enthusiasm throughout the tournament enabled them to achieve fourth place – a fantastic achievement!

**ELT**

## U14B

### P6 / W3 / L3

A 5-0 win against Bloxham gave the U14Bs a fantastic start to the season, and things continued very successfully from there. The next match, against Repton, tested the entire team but with great skills shown by Lulu James, Flossie Rosser and Livvy Greenwood the girls managed a 1-0 win. The team worked really well together over the next few matches, with some great goals from Molly Skan and Hannah Bruneau. Amelia Bucknall gave a brilliant performance as goal keeper, letting in only six goals over the entire season, as compared to the total of 33 goals scored by us! Our most comfortable win was an 8-0 stomping over Trent. By the last match of the season the girls were unbeaten. They knew the Oundle fixture would be tough, but they all dug deep and played the best they could. Sadly, however, their best was not as good as Oundle's and they lost 2-0. Molly Skan was our top goal scorer, Ao Sasame was the most improved player and Hannah Bruneau was voted player of the season.

**CL**

## U14C

### P8 / W5 / D2 / L1

The U14Cs enjoyed a good first season of hockey at Rugby School. A competitive fixture card saw the team win five matches, draw two but unfortunately lose one against Uppingham. As the season progressed, the team worked hard, attacked strongly and developed into a tight defensive unit. The girls played every match with enthusiasm and determination and I am sure that they will continue to be a successful team in future seasons.

**HEG**

## U14D

### P7 / W3 / D1 / L3

The season started with a squad of sixteen players, over half of whom had never played hockey before, so the first few weeks were spent introducing basic skills and generally having a bit of fun. That said, we had a match against Oundle on the very first Saturday of term, after only two sessions together, which was an experience to say the least – but an experience we won 3-1! All the girls' hockey skills developed quite significantly over the course of the season, as did their awareness of positioning and tactics. The girls worked hard, played hard and jelled together as a good team who helped and encouraged each other. They were a pleasure to coach and I would like to wish them every success in their future hockey careers.

**MEB**

## XI

### P8 / W4 / D2 / L2

The XI had a varied season of highs and lows, beginning very strongly, fading and then bouncing back with some impressive performances to end things in style. The campaign began with the ambition of both an unbeaten season and success in the National Cup and for the first few weeks of term this looked like a realistic possibility. The team achieved the considerable feat of beating Oundle, Oakham and Trent – all great hockey schools – with every member of the team contributing a huge amount.

The defence of Charlie Austin, Theo Chadwick, George Lewis and Ben Pointon managed to nullify the threat of some very talented opposition attackers whilst also chipping in some magnificent goals, with the outstanding goal of the season being Pointon's full-pitch run and flick into the net over the onrushing keeper's head. The midfield trio of Tom Mourant, Sam Phillipson and George Innes produced magisterial displays on a weekly basis, winning the battle for the midfield every game. The forward unit improved vastly as the season went on and worked tirelessly for the team, pressing relentlessly and forcing the opposition into mistakes that we could capitalize on. Mourant and Will Briggs led the scoring charts with eight goals each. Their prolificacy in front of goal was largely due to the creative touch of the forwards Rory Malloy, George Beard, Mark Weaver and Rory Bennett, who carved open the opposition defences week after week. Jordan Wilson proved hugely effective also, and despite not having much luck in front of goal, he certainly struck fear into the hearts of defenders with his pace and unpredictable skill. Ed Hutchinson, in goal, pulled off many practically super-human saves; we were lucky to have such a brilliant keeper.

Rugby were knocked out of the National Cup at the hands of Exeter and, due to a fatigue hangover from that match, lost 2-3 to Bedford two days later – the most disappointing and unjust result of the season. A loss to a very impressive Repton (2-5) was the only other loss. The last game of the season saw Rugby come back from 2-0 against a German-dominated Bromsgrove side to draw 2-2, which was a good end to a good season.

**Charlie Austin (SH)**



## 2ND XI

P7 / W2 / D1 / L3

This was a season very much of two halves. A disappointing first match – a 1-4 loss against Oundle – seemed to set the tone for the weeks that followed, which saw us draw 3-3 against Uppingham and lose 1-2 and 3-6 against Oakham and Bedford respectively. But all was not lost and, after much hard work on passing and core skills, the second half of term saw a complete turnaround, with great wins against hockey powerhouses Repton (4-1) and Trent (2-0) that culminated in a magnificent 7-0 thrashing of Bromsgrove. It was a very enjoyable season – especially when the wins started coming in – and many of the boys made huge improvements in their hockey skills. Those returning next year – either in the XI or again in the 2nds – do so with plenty to look forward to and plenty to offer.

TGB

## 3RD XI

P7 / W1 / L6

The 3rd XI hockey squad had a mixed season this year. A total of 22 boys trained for the team – reflective of the growing interest amongst boys in playing competitive hockey in the Upper School – with one game seeing eight replacements on the side-line in addition to the 11 players on the pitch! Needless to say, then, both the quality of hockey and the ‘formation’ on the pitch were variable, but there were a number of highlights, including the 1-0 away win at Bedford.

On behalf of the boys, I would like to thank Sophie Robinson, without whom the standard of coaching would have been interesting. It is invidious to single out particular players but James Darby captained the team manfully on many occasions and goalie James Glew kept us in a number of games against the run of play. I thoroughly enjoyed my association with the squad. I hope they enjoyed the term as much as I did.

NGH

“But such is the breadth and depth of talent in this squad that I am sure that they will continue to prove a fine prospect as they move into the Upper School next year”

## U16A

P7 / W4 / D1 / L2

This excellent team, who have shown their worth in the U14 and U15 seasons, continued to show their dominance this year, both on the schools circuit and in the early stages of the National Schools’ Championship. The boys took their 2-2 draw against Oundle in their first match as if it were a defeat, galvanizing themselves into stronger and better play to guarantee clear wins against the rest of their fixture card. This redoubled effort resulted in resounding victories before half term over Uppingham, Oakham (5-0, 3-1) and a brilliant 5-0 thrashing of a powerful Bedford. The boys also retained the U16 County Championship with several composed performances against local opposition.

The first game of the second half of term was against Repton. This was a cagey affair, with neither side giving much away, but the team came out with a well-fought 2-1 victory. This win set them up well for the following week’s match against Trent, an epic contest, with the game swinging both ways, and the array of talent on show on both sides producing some fluent hockey with excellent passes and end-to-end attacks. The final result – a 2-3 defeat to Rugby – was a fair conclusion to a game where quality of Trent’s most talented players was patently clear.

In the Midlands Competition, the team worked their way through the group stages only to come up in the semi-final against the same Trent team they had just lost to. Finding themselves well ahead at half time, and dreaming of the National finals again, Trent hit back in the second half to take the game to a draw. The resulting penalty strokes went in Trent’s favour and they were crowned National Champions. But such is the breadth and depth of talent in this squad that I am sure that they will continue to prove a fine prospect as they move into the Upper School next year.

GS

## U16B

P6 / W1 / D1 / L4

The overall results do not do justice to the manner in which the U16Bs approached their hockey this season. This was a team which was very different in makeup from the very successful U15B team of last year, with more than half the players having to step up a gear and play at a standard much higher than they had experienced before. All the matches were close affairs, with the highlight being the 4-2 win against Uppingham. The low point was the match against Oakham, where we really did not do ourselves justice. Ed Cattermole did a good job in goal to keep the score line in many matches respectable. The team was ably captained by Rory Farquharson.

PTE





## U15A

**P7 / W2 / L5**

The U15As had a mixed season, with some excellent play from individual players and some bruising losses in matches. Things got off to a good start, with the team winning the first game against a strong Oundle side 1-0, with Michael Suddaby coming in off the wing to score the winner with a debatable cross shot. A flurry of strong sides followed (Uppingham, Bedford, Repton, Oakham), against which the team put in some good performances. Jonnie Fagan, Wills Hatton and Rory Pond played strongly, especially in the thriller 5-2 defeat away at Oakham, which saw the home team pip Rugby right at the end with a burst of lucky goals. The team definitely picked up the pace towards the end of the season, thrashing Trent 4-2 at home, with Tris Astley-Jones, Tom Beal, Fraser Ralston and Will Manners getting amongst the goals. The season ended on a positive note with a narrow loss against a talented Bromsgrove side. Vlad Shiroky kept us in the game here with some superb reflex saves, however in the dying embers Charlie Mourant's impenetrable defence was finally broken by a well taken short corner. Overall, this was a strong season, despite the final score line, and one from which the team can take a lot of positives as it moves forward next year.

**Ben Skales (C)**

## U15B

**P7 / W1 / D1 / L5**

The season began with a goalless draw against Oundle, in which we dominated the second half with a series of close chances which we almost scored from but failed to. A sensational hair's breadth save from Brett Edmondson stopped us from conceding a goal. The following run of matches was disappointing, with five consecutive losses, however we came very close against a strong Repton side (5-4). With the team improving gradually match by match, the last fixture, against Bromsgrove, produced our best performances of the season. Complete domination in all aspects of the game led to multiple chances, five of which were converted variously by James Oliver, Jamie Harvey and Tora Shimada. The 5-0 win was a good end to the season, showing what the team was actually capable of. Oliver was the top goal scorer with four goals from a controlling position in the midfield.

**Henry Myers (K)**

## U14A

**P7 / W2 / D1 / L4**

The U14As started the season with a disappointing 0-3 loss to Pincethorpe. We were not prepared enough for this game and had not had enough time to gel together as a team. Our second match was against King Edward's, Birmingham. We put up a valiant fight against them but were simply unable ever to get the ball into the back of the net; the final score was 0-7 to them. Oakham are our traditional rivals and so we were very pleased to put away four goals against them in the first twenty minutes. However, they came back strongly in the second half and the game finished 4-4. We then had the County Tournament, where we finished top of our pool, beating Princethorpe 1-0 (a pleasing reply to our first match), only to lose in the semi-finals. All in all, the season had some high points but also exposed some issues we need to address next year.

**Laurie Lewis (SH)**

## U14B

**P7 / W2 / D1 / L4**

The U14Bs responded positively to the expert tuition they received throughout the season, resulting in rapid improvement in both their individual and team play skills. By the end of the season the team were playing fast and fluent hockey which was very enjoyable to watch. The team was competitive in every fixture: they undoubtedly played their best hockey against Bromsgrove and Oakham, even though the score lines in those matches did not go their way. All players made a valuable contribution throughout the season but the standout player was definitely Rob Arthur, who captained the team and led by example.

**MAM**

## U14C

**P6 / W3 / D2 / L1**

The U14Cs began the season against Oundle the way the meant to go on, firing in the goals left, right and centre to end with a 5-0 win. Tom Blood and Guy Williams (captain) led from the front, whilst William Hawksworth managed to squeeze in a few flamboyant cricket shots. With spirits high and the help of a vastly experienced professional coach, the team travelled to Oakham, only to fall foul to a last-hit equaliser. The arrival of highly-rated new signings Sam Tuckwell and Eric Chan for the game against Repton helped the team make up for their uneventful 0-0 draw the previous week to Bedford: the thumping 6-0 victory saw the boys at full strength with greatly improved ball control and shooting. Blood scored a classy hat trick, Matthew Bestwick finished well upon his return from a broken hand and Harry Higgins snatched a couple, despite missing about ten open goals whilst at it. A tricky game against Trent could have gone either way, but facing an opposition goalkeeper with a substantial physical presence the team conceded their only loss of the season. A cracking fixture against Bromsgrove followed, Rugby going two goals up, Bromsgrove coming back to level the scores just after half time, and late goals from Chan and a beautiful strike from Ted O'Connell sealing the 4-3 victory in the dying moments. The season finale at Oakham was an opportunity to settle old scores. As always, Blood was the man of the hour, following some good work from Charlie Hudson and Benjie Bradshaw in the middle of the pitch, with Chancey de los Santos pulling off some incredible saves in goal. I am not sure I have ever seen so many players spend so much of a match on the floor, having fallen or slipped over, but this fine win was the perfect end to a near-perfect season. There is lots of talent in this side and a strong team spirit has made this a memorable season for all.

**BBFO**

## U14D

**P5 / W3 / L2**

To adequately sing the praises of the U14Ds is a job that would drink dry fourscore and eighteen Castalian fountains of eloquence, but short of that perhaps one word will suffice: unbeaten. Led into battle by the fearless form of Jacob Jaffa, the team practised a version of total hockey: Bobby Chung marauding forward, covered by the indomitable Ed McEvedy and Jack Falconer; hard-working wingers Oliver Lushington, Christian Hobbs and Buruk Amanuel tirelessly covering the length of the pitch while also exchanging positions with our centres; centres Keita Umetani and Jon Cole working in plastic harmony thanks to the vision of the former and grit of the latter; and forwards Jaffa, Nick Lau and Dom Cahill incisive in their running and judicious in their dropping deep to involve themselves in build-up. After an impressive 6-2 win against Bedford, the team were given confidence for a strong season. Although there were draws against Oakham and Oundle, a mighty win against Bromsgrove (5-0) left the team hopeful for a strong finish to the season. In the end, only one team – and that manned by giants – escaped with clean sheet intact, while the season fittingly culminated in a comprehensive dismantling of Oakham (3-0) on their own turf.

**AJC & SD**

## U14E

**P7 / W5 / L2**

The U14Es had a good season, playing seven matches, winning five and losing two. The highest goal scorer was Felix Gladstone, who scored a total of seven goals, followed by Nicholas Lau, who scored four, and Jean-Charles Agbo, Eric Chan and Alexey Kapustin who each scored three goals. Having started the season off slowly with a 4-1 defeat at Princethorpe, the team steadily improved their game and after a nail-biting match at Solihull (a 3-2 win) the team only had one hiccup, at home against Cheltenham, before going on to finish the season with a magnificent 8-1 victory against Radley at home. Other players of note include Buruk Amanuel, twice named as player of the match, who offered a consistently solid presence up front; James Tanner, whose first season as goalkeeper proved inspirational; and Tom Nelson-Smith, whose captaincy of the final match inspired a great victory.

**MWG**

## XI

### P10 / W8 / L2

By anyone's standards, this was an exceptional season as the XI finished unbeaten in pre-season and regular fixtures and victors in the Independent Schools' LB Cup. With strength across two senior teams, the likelihood of a good season was always on the cards, but these successes truly exceeded all expectations.

The pre-season tour to Valencia laid the ideal foundations for the next few months. With the exceptional facilities of the Valencia FC training ground only a few hundred metres from the hotel and access to a number of excellent coaches, the boys were able to train as a squad and play in a style and format that they would adopt for the remainder of the season. During the tour, several senior team members established themselves as definite regular 1st XI players, notably Marcus Hunter (captain), Charlie Bruce, Tom Sainty and Toby Bell. New members of the LXX Tom Howell, Felix Tubbs, Joe Miller, Ed Anton and Charlie Welch all performed well and showed the other members of the squad that they would be pushing for regular places.

With an unbeaten tour and pre-season tournament in School behind them, the XI approached the new season with optimism. The first game, against Berkhamsted, was a tight affair in the first half and the score remained 0-0 at half time. However, after a few subtle tactical changes at half time, Rugby took the game to the opposition, playing more freely and with confidence. Goals from Howell gave us confidence and three more followed before the game was up. Bell showed his pace and skill to the net twice and the final goal was hit from distance by Bruce. This game not only showed our offensive ability but also the strength of our defensive wall of Sainty, Tubbs, Welch and Kori Adu. Along with the acrobatics of Harry Badwan in goal, the team demonstrated they would always be difficult to beat.

Consecutive victories against Berkhamsted, Uppingham, and St Edward's helped establish a style of play that the boys knew would be a challenge for any opposition. Further goals by Bell, Bruce and Ollie Skailes all helped the goal tally, with the defence only conceding four goals in the first six school matches. As the season went on Anton and Matt Tabor showed what good team players they were, often coming off the bench to play crucial roles in either midfield or defence when the situation required it. Further wins against Abingdon (7-1), Oakham (5-2) and Magdalen College School (4-1) increased the boys' confidence further. The match against Oakham saw a

comprehensive 5-2 victory and a place in the Cup competition semi-final against Bedford the following week.

To get to the Cup final, the team would have to beat a Bedford side that was, like them, also still unbeaten. The arrival of Jack Gibbs to the team was welcome and he played with confidence and flair from the outset. As expected, the game was a tight, scrappy affair, with both teams losing shape and fluidity for patches of the game. Excellent defensive work from Adu, Sainty, Tubbs, Welch and Badwan kept us in the game, but with both sides looking a shadow of their former selves Bedford scored from a well-taken free kick in the last few minutes of the first half of extra time and it appeared the dream was over. Hunter, whose ability shone consistently throughout the season, then demonstrated excellent leadership qualities by instilling a sense of belief in the team, and in the last few minutes the boys created a number of chances to secure a corner from the left-hand side of the pitch in the very last minute. Throwing everyone forward, Miller scored from an exceptional diving header to tie the game and take it to penalties. After five penalties, the score was 4-4. With sudden death penalties now in operation the score went to 6-6. An exceptional save from Badwan left Miller the opportunity to put us into the final. With several hundred spectators watching from behind the half way line, he calmly walked up and then slotted the ball past the Bedford keeper. A good team is one who can dig out a win even when they have not played well, and despite their lack of cohesion and normal composure the side did just that.

Radley has won the other semi-final and so it was they we met three days later for the final. Both schools brought several coachloads of supporters with them and what a game they were treated to. Rugby played the best soccer they had done all season and by half time we had completely demolished and demoralised a strong Radley side. Tactics and the chance to reward all the squad in the second half meant that all substitutes were used and, despite two late goals from Radley, the end result was never in doubt. Goals from Bell, Howell, Hunter and an excellent individual effort from Gibbs completed the score line for Rugby. Bell's opening composed individual effort also ensured his 22nd goal of the season and a place in the School record books as well. The game finished 4-2.



FHA

## 2ND XI

**P8 / W4 / D1 / L3**

The season started with a heavy loss against a very strong Berkhamsted team, but with their rather flabby shape and structure on the pitch it was a good early wake-up call for the boys. After consecutive 1-0 wins against St Edward's and Uppingham, the back line of defence rarely changed, other than for injuries – Seb 'The Rock' Jenks in goal and Lucas Graham and Micahel Odunsi working like Ferdinand and Vidic used to. Ben Hatton and Rufus Holt were the roaming full backs who offered quite a bit going forward and also quite a bit at the back. Steve Fernandez was our main second line of defence. He was invaluable in allowing our attacking five the time and space to make their plays. The match against Loughborough in terribly stormy conditions was a game of two halves but unfortunately one of the full backs scythed down a marauding Loughborough winger and the referee could not help but award a penalty to let the opposition draw level. A win against Abingdon saw our wingers come into their own with Fergus Ashby, Henry Holmes, Ope Okembuyo and Hugh Wrigley showing their strengths with piercing runs and a few accurate crosses mixed in with some excellent pressing of the opposition. A dreadful performance against Magdalen College School was the result of the boys' morning in a management and leadership course; perhaps they should have stayed there to pick up a few more tips. The final game of the season, against Bedford, saw Guy Lough and Josh Awosika score two goals each. Lough started the season with low confidence but turned this around to end well-deserved top scorer. Special mention must be made of Jenks, who has not missed a single game for the 2nd XI in two years and whose solid presence in goal has kept us in a number of games. In many ways he sums up what seconds soccer should be about: playing, competing, enjoying and not taking the game, or oneself, too seriously.

**TWR**

## 3RD XI

**P7 / W1 / D1 / L5**

The first game of the season was against Berkhamsted. This was always going to be a tricky one as the side had not had much time to prepare and, although the scores was close at half time, the game turned after the break and the opposition ran out easy winners at 1-6. Things were different against St Edward's, where a clinical finish from Gavin Sewdyall saw the scores even at half time. Fergus Carmichael then rounded off a fine Rugby display with an 18-yard curling free kick that found the top corner of the net. With some superb defence, Rugby ran out this game 2-1 victors. The matches against Abingdon, Princethorpe and Magdalen College School were all difficult. Rugby remained defiant throughout each one but the opposition were ultimately stronger and always managed a narrow victory. In the final game of the season, the team took on Bedford. Two break-away opposition goals before half time meant that we were going to find the second half an uphill battle, but the team produced an excellent performance and pulled a goal back through an Amir Jarada penalty. Sadly, though, an equaliser did not materialize and the game ended 1-2 to Bedford.

**Fergus Carmichael (T)**

## 4TH XI

**P6 / W1 / D2 / L3**

This was a tough season for the 4th XI, who won only one of their six games. The early season was unfortunately disrupted by rain, but the team kept positive. Two comebacks were the highlight of the season – recovering to a 3-3 draw against Berkhamsted and coming back from 2-1 down to beat St Edward's 3-2. Adam Smith, in particular, showed consistent determination, pace and an eye for goal.

**PJB**



## U16A

**P8 / W3 / D2 / L3**

There is a sense of symmetry when you look at our results this term: we have lost as many as we have won, being beaten soundly as often as we have dished out heavy defeats. We have only used 13 players in total for all our fixtures, which illustrates how lucky we have been to avoid injury – or does it suggest a certain unwillingness amongst the players to put their bodies on the line for the cause? Very few of the boys have taken Mr White and me up on our offer for extra circuit training on a Monday night. I think our fitness has improved considerably more than theirs over the last few months.

The team was built on solid foundations. Miles McKay – the latest in a long line of Town House keepers – made some fine saves and was a confident presence between the sticks. Agnel Agbo has played in most positions on the pitch and his hard tackling and physicality has been a huge asset. Vova Semenyaka led the front line well with his tireless running and occasional goals. Joe Phillips ended up top scorer with five goals which he scored by continually annoying the opposition defenders and generally being a nuisance. The team has been well led by the quiet and unassuming Sam Pougatch, who has always shown the commitment and determination needed to succeed.

The team's best performance was probably the 1-1 draw at home against Loughborough in a howling gale, but they also acquitted themselves very well against a strong Berkhamsted side at the start of the season, losing 3-0 but certainly playing a good, fast game. The team succeeded in gaining victory over our more regular opposition during the season – a 7-1 win against Uppingham and a 6-0 win against Uppingham – although unfortunately the behaviour and attitude of some of *their* players in these games left a lot to be desired. I hope the team continue to enjoy and respect the game as they enter the Upper School and I look forward to seeing some of their names in the top teams in the years ahead.

**JCE**

## U16B

**P5 / W1 / L4**

Statistics must be interpreted with caution. Whilst the U16Bs lost four of their five fixtures, and conceded a number of goals in the process, in only two of the games were they totally outclassed – against Abingdon (10-0) and against Berkhamsted (5-0). The games against Magdalen College School (0-3) and Bedford (0-4) were more even contests than the score lines suggest. This is particularly true of the game against MCS, where we should have managed a draw. If we had taken a couple of the many opportunities to score, and maintained our discipline a little longer, we might even have edged a win. The 6-1 win against St Edward's was this team's first taste of victory – having lost all five fixtures the previous year as the U15Bs. The win was even more comfortable than the score line suggests. The whole team played well in this game, but particular credit must go to James Binks, who managed a hat-trick. Thanks must go to John Tsui who kept goal all season, despite wanting to play out-field. Similarly, the captain, Daniel Peet, deserves a mention both for his enthusiasm and his crunching tackles.

**JDW**

## U15A

**P7 / W2 / L5**

The U15As, captained by Stephano Antoci, put in some strong performances this season; sadly, however, these were not always reflected in the final result. On more than one occasion, defensive lapses saw the team go down at half time only to recover in the second half; this was certainly the case against Uppingham, where the team went from 0-1 down at the break to run out eventual 3-1 winners. Against Loughborough, Seb Somervail scored a truly composed second half hat trick, using his great pace to devastating effect, but the team still lost 3-4. Against Oakham, the team came back to score two late goals and putting the opposition under severe pressure, so much so they held on only by running the ball into the corner. This was a positive season that bodes well for next year.

**AKC**

## U15B

**P5 / W1 / L4**

The U15B team only won one of their five matches, but that victory was a spectacular event. Away at Oakham, the team found themselves 3-1 down at half time, knowing that they had played reasonably well but that they faced something of a mountain to climb if they were going to get anything out of the game. Undaunted, the players launched a hugely spirited fight-back, playing with great tenacity, drive and camaraderie; they walked off the pitch 35 minutes later with a 5-3 win. Drifting wraith-like through the Oakham defence, the fleet-of-foot and highly composed Yuichiro Kayama scored an astonishing four goals, which, naturally, earned him the title of man of the match. Across the season the following players all contributed well. In goal, there was the game Henry Stone, who had unselfishly agreed to play there after an injury to Sam Denny; the defence compromised the ever reliable Felix Reynolds, the unpredictable but occasionally irresistible Bennie Awosika, the rock-like Griffin Shelton, and the spirited and skilful Jake Rigby (Adam Jacob and Alex Candlish also featured); in midfield, Martin Teo provided great energy and speed and was able supported Tommy Kwan, Berhan Amanuel and Felix Allen; and the strikers, Kayama and Saqlain Choudhary, played so well that they were promoted to the A team half way through the season. Jack Maeter and Arian Marti Shahandeh also played fleeting cameo roles from the subs' bench.

**JOS**

**"I hope the team continue to enjoy and respect the game as they enter the Upper School"**



## VII

### P10 / W9 / L1

The VII had a phenomenal season this year, being unbeaten in all Saturday fixtures and losing against Princethorpe (on a Wednesday) by only one goal (10-11). This success was a thoroughly deserved by the team who, throughout the season, trained and played at their very best. In addition to their wins in regular fixtures, the VII also went on to win the County Championship after narrowly beating St Thomas Moore School in the final. Although, they did not manage to reach the National finals the VII came fourth in their pool in the Midlands final, which is an outstanding achievement and one not achieved by any Rugby VII before. Shooters Eliza Talbot-Williams and Millie Richards had an excellent season, successfully scoring goals from the edge of the circle despite being up against some very tall defenders. The centre court players worked hard on their drives in order to ensure that the ball was brought down the court securely and their efforts were neatly finished off with some tactical feeds into the circle by Alice Williams and Kate Broad. The defence consisted of Ella Sturley, the first E block pupil to play for the VII, and Jaydene Robinson, who recently vice-captained the England U17 team at the European Championships. Bobbie Lawrence and Milly Browne also made some terrific interceptions. The particular highlight of the season has to be beating our main rivals, Oundle. This was the last match of the season and, understandably, the team went on court feeling slightly nervous. However, everyone showed great determination and we won with a narrow 26 points to 24. Special mention must go to the captain, Zara Thornton, who was outstanding in her role.

HEG

## 2ND VII

### P7 / W5 / L2

The 2nd VII had a successful season with convincing wins against Oakham, Princethorpe, Repton and St Edward's and finishing the season beating Oundle 29-10. Excellent team work was apparent from the beginning and all the girls worked hard in training and matches to improve their skills as the season progressed. The sharp shooting of Rosie Shone, Sophie Tennant and Yasmin Walilay was combined with excellent centre court play from Manon Steyaert and Lucy Symington. The team had a great captain in Livvy Ripman. Along with the rest of the defence – Franny Towers, Lara Fowler, Josie Hall and Charley Dennis – these girls proved themselves to be a formidable team.

RJF



### 3RD VII

**P6 / W6**

The 3rd VII had a fantastic, unbeaten season. They won most matches by about twenty goals but their best win was definitely against Trent, where they won 44-10. The final match – against Oundle – was the toughest one and the girls rose to the challenge of a very good opposition to win 19-14. Anna Wirth captained the team, leading by example in matches and training, and deservedly was awarded the title of player of the season. On a personal note I was so pleased to have my last ever netball season with these girls: they were such good company and it was nice to end things on a winning high.

**CLH**

### 4TH VII

**P7 / W5 / L2**

The 4th VII had an excellent season, not just because they ended it unbeaten but because of the girls' sense of fun, their team spirit and the individual progress they all made as players. The season started well, with a stonking 22-7 victory over Repton. Buoyed by their success here, the rest of the season continued in a similar vein, with massive victories over Uppingham (36-4), St Edward's (16-2) and Cheltenham (39-8). All of the girls can be very proud of their achievements this season and those returning to School next year can look forward to some more great netball.

**HEG**

**“All in all, this was a good season for the team, whose happy attitude and fun spirit was always evident”**



### 5TH VII

**P3 / W1 / L2**

The 5th VII began the season with a humbling loss to the Oundle U16C team but delivered poetic justice in the final game of the season with a glorious victory over Oundle's fourth VII, a victory which stood in testament to the girls' hard work and dedication to training throughout the intervening weeks. The defence was led by Miranda Cundall at goal defence and very ably supported by Emily Kerner and Abi Ilaka. Lottie Simpson, Millie McDermott and Netanya Page held the midcourt positions, running tirelessly every match. Lady Tetty, Tansy Massey, Frances Leung and Bella Campbell were all superb in the circle attack positions. Particular congratulations to Sophie Palmer, who played enthusiastically in every position on the court throughout the season.

**JET**

### 6TH VII

**P2 / L2**

The 6ths formed through natural selection, diffusion and dissemination of players to other games options from 38 girls of varying ability in the first week of term to the 'Extreme Team' of ten girls at the end. The team originally formed as a recreational group, enjoying enthusiastic internal competitions, but as the term progressed a few matches were organized for competitions with other schools and the team played good games against Princethorpe and Uppingham. The player of the season was Ellie Davies, who demonstrated commitment and enthusiasm throughout training sessions and matches. All in all, this was a good season for the team, whose happy attitude and fun spirit was always evident.

**PJS**

### U16A

**P6 / W3 / D1 / L2**

The U16As had a competitive season with several wins, a few losses and unfortunately quite a lot of injuries, but the team always maintained a positive attitude, with each player consistently training and playing to the best of their ability. Millie Phillips won the award for most improved player across the season, not only due to the substantial progress she made in her match play but also due to her encouraging, enthusiastic attitude shown both on and off the court. The best player of the season was Beatrix Lohn, who was continuously outstanding in her match play: her interceptions and tips at crucial times were game-changing. This is a successful team with the skills and qualities to contribute much to the School's netball fixtures in the future.

**AROV**

### U16B

**P5 / W4 / L1**

The U16Bs had an excellent – and undefeated – season. This was entirely deserved given the commitment with which the girls trained, the competitiveness they showed in all their matches and their natural ability. Most notable, however, was their enthusiasm – even during the most repetitive of drills! I can honestly say I left each training session in a better mood than I started it due to their infectious sense of fun; they truly were a pleasure to coach.

**EJRN**

### U15A

**P6 / W1 / L5**

The U15As have had a difficult season. They fully demonstrated how capable they are as a team – particularly in the Uppingham match, which they won 32-30, and in the triangular competition – but silly errors and a lack of confidence allowed at times far inferior teams to claim victory, and that was a shame. If there was an award for the most committed player – especially for the work rate demonstrated on the court – it would go to Lottie Harbottle. The most improved player was Bea Mostyn-Owen; she has firmly secured her place in the As next season. Sky Martle was the undoubted player of the season.

**ELT**



## U15B

**P5 / W3 / L2**

The U15Bs worked really well together as a team, with plenty of encouragement for one another during both matches and training sessions. Their results remained consistent throughout the term, despite one of their key players being promoted to play for the As after the first few weeks. This continued success was due largely to the positive approach and adaptability of all the girls who were willing to play in less familiar positions as required.

**JEO**

## U15C

**P6 / W6**

The U15Cs played all season with great determination and cohesion. Victories were plenty, but the team always tried their hardest and were gracious to the opposition. Throughout the season, the goal scoring prowess of Alice Rees, Dora Manson and Maia Bouchier enabled the skills of all the girls to be converted into victories; they scored an impressive 155 goals between them. The toughest match came against Cheltenham, where we found ourselves down after two quarters, but everybody dug deep and in the end the desire for an unbeaten season manifested in a 20-13 win.

**RJL**

## U15D

**P5 / W4 / L1**

The U15Ds had a brilliant season with some convincing victories, most notably against Kimbolton where they stormed to a 42-1 win. The shooting partnership of Sophie Killick and Emily Bell was strong and healthily competitive all season. At the other end of the court, Jamie Graham was invaluable. Over the season she gained in confidence and rapidly improved as a player, working well with Charlotte Sherpa Blaiklock to make a highly successful defensive partnership. Anna Gibson also deserves a mention for her dedication and tireless work in midcourt. Alas, an unbeaten season was not to be and the team narrowly missed out in an exciting and hard-fought match at Oundle that ended 14-16. In terms of the result, it was a disappointing end to a great season, but all the players did themselves proud and showed how far they had progressed as a team in terms of both skill and attitude.

**JLR**

## U14A

**P7 / W5 / L2**

The season got off to a bad start, with a 14-16 loss to Oakham. As the season progressed, however, the team developed strongly, becoming more aware of each other's strengths and gaining in confidence to the point where we were runners up in the Bromsgrove Tournament, winning all of our group matches and the semi-final, losing the final only by the closest of margins to King's High. We played King's High again three days later, losing again, but with a score line fiercely held up by the tireless running in centre court of Gigi Erhardt and the solid defence of Charlotte Franklin. Our season ended on a very high note, when we beat both Oundle and Sedbergh, two of our toughest opponents, on the same afternoon. This was only possible with the excellent defence of Ellie Kennedy and Millie Anderson, who were jointly awarded the title of player of the match.

**Anastasia de Clermont (5)**

## U14B

**P7 / W6 / L1**

The U14Bs had a difficult first week of the season. Having only one shooter for the first match meant someone had to play out of position. Kitty Bulmer stepped up to the challenge to fill in as goal attack, and created a great shooting partnership with Flossie Rosser. This, teamed with the amazing intercepting skills of Minna de Boinville, led to a win against Oakham 23-12 and set the team up for a number of successive victories, including ones against Uppingham (19-13) and Trent (26-14). Defenders de Boinville, Lauren Wright, Alice Shone and Izzy Cara played consistently well, making interceptions that did not seem possible and appearing from out of nowhere to deny the opposition an attempt on goal. Georgia Martin and Marina Symington were astounding at centre: with seemingly limitless energy, they found space when it was needed and supported the shooters at the attacking end. Bulmer and Lulu James worked well to feed the ball into the shooting team of Rosser and Tilly Ponsoyby.

**CL**

## U14C

**P6 / W5 / L1**

The U14Cs made a very successful debut to their netball careers at Rugby School. The season began with a closely-contested game against Oakham but Rugby proved to be the stronger side, storming to an 18-9 win. The team then dominated the majority of the remaining matches with the highlight having to be the 42-0 win against Princethorpe. There was a great sense of spirit within the squad which made training sessions and matches very enjoyable. The girls responded well to coaching and by the end of the season their play was very fluid from the strong defence through to the hard-working mid court players and up to the excellent shooters. The team's performance this season bodes well for the netball seasons to come.

**SSP**

## U14D

**P5 / W4 / L1**

The U14Ds had a superb season this year. In matches they worked together as a team, were determined and committed to their play and enthusiastic to please and succeed – and succeed they certainly did! The matches we won, we won by quite a large margin; the one match we lost was very tightly fought. If I had to constructively criticise them about any aspect of their play it would be that they need to train harder between matches to continue their strides in improvement next season. As a team they have the potential to do very well.

**MEB**

## U14E

**P7 / W7**

This has been a most successful season for the U14E team – unbeaten and increasingly skilful as the term progressed. The girls won all seven of their games, which included Repton E and D teams and the Tudor Hall C team. All the girls worked as a team but they were prepared to play in other positions as well and, as a coach, I appreciated this flexibility and positive attitude to all activities. Highlights of the season include the significant interceptions of Alice Payne and Sarah Francis, the fluent play in the centre court of Alice Garthwaite, Alice Miller, Holly Gowen and Alicia Middleton, and the reliable and often fantastic play of Susannah Gimlette and Anna Robinson in the goal third.

**ADT**

## U14F

**P5 / W4 / L1**

The U14F team competed with enthusiasm throughout the season and the improvement in skills and game play made by each of the players every week was really excellent to see. The highlight of the season was definitely the magnificent 21-8 win against Uppingham – this was the last game and a very positive note to end on.

**HEG**

“...by the end of the season their play was very fluid from the strong defence through to the hard-working mid court players and up to the excellent shooters. The team's performance this season bodes well for the netball seasons to come.”

## XI

### P16 / W8 / D5 / L3

Overall, 2014 was another very successful cricket season. The XI won eight games whilst only losing to two schools; the XXII enjoyed more success than they have for quite a while, winning most games and only losing one; the U15As had a very good season and the U14As reached the final stages of the County Cup.

It was wonderful to be able to watch the XI open the bowling with two leg spinners and for them to be replaced with two further leg spinners and a left arm orthodox spinner. Schoolboys invariably hate facing spin at the start of an innings and this in part enabled us to bowl sides out cheaply throughout the season. Our successes with the ball included bowling Warwick out for 90, Stowe for 140, Magdalen College School for 72, Uppingham for 97 and Trent for 93. We won all these games and they set us up nicely for the annual two-day fixture against Marlborough.

Marlborough won the toss and elected to field. To try and force a result in this fixture we knew we had to bowl them out quickly and cheaply and Matthew Taylor produced his best form of the season to take 5 for 41 to dismiss them for 120. Although our batting had not been as successful as our bowling, we batted past Marlborough and declared on 278 for 6 an hour into play on the second morning, with Robbie Povey scoring a quick-fire 66 and Taylor an excellent 92. Rugby had nearly 80 overs to bowl Marlborough out again and this they did for 210 which only left Rugby 53 to win. Sadly, however, there were only four overs left in the day, and after an incredibly exciting display of hitting Rugby could only reach 41 for 3 when time was called. Following a number of tame draws in recent years, this will be a game remembered for some time.

Considering no individual player scored more than 420 runs, it shows the strength of the bowling and the depth and fighting spirit of the side that so many games were won. Will Briggs, although he will be disappointed with his overall aggregate of runs, played some match-winning innings, not least his 73 at Blundell's to finish the season on a real high. His bowling was also a real asset as he took 19 important wickets at an average of 14. I was particularly pleased with how his captaincy developed during the course of the summer.

Povey batted well throughout the season but did not manage to go on to make the big scores he is capable of and was unfortunate not to bowl more of his leg spin, but with

three other leg spinners in the side, it was not easy to get him on. Taylor has a very exciting future ahead of him: his quick leg spin took 29 wickets and he also impressed with the bat, finishing top of the averages. He made his debut for Northamptonshire 1st XI this summer and has represented England at U17 level.

Charlie Bruce and Johnny Woodhead bowled beautifully throughout the season and both were the perfect foil to Taylor at the other end, bowling slower leg spin and left arm orthodox respectively. Will Lowe's keeping improved during the season and it was fitting that he made his first 50 for the XI against Blundell's to set us up for victory and in doing so received his colours. Sam Phillipson made a number of very important contributions with the bat. Although unorthodox, he is a very talented games player and his competitiveness, awareness and natural timing of the ball proved very effective. Lautaro Musiani, who has represented the full Argentine XI, is a talented cricketer, but he did not enjoy the slow English wickets at the start of the season. I expect him to score heavily next year. Jack Rosser struggled with the bat, but he has a good technique and with the added confidence of being Captain in 2015 he should lead from the front.

Cricket at Rugby is in great health and as I write this the School is about to host a 50 over first team match between Warwickshire and Kent. The Rugby MCC Hub has been highlighted as being one of the most successful Hubs in the country. There is also much to look forward to with a combined U14 and U15 side touring Dubai next Easter and the XI visiting India next December for the third time.

I would like to thank the cricketing staff, Tim Roberts and James Mead and his team, for the enormous amount of time that they have devoted to Rugby School cricket over recent years.

**MJSE**

#### XI vs Marlborough

**W. J. BRIGGS**, J. P. Rosser, M. J. G. Taylor, S. M. Phillipson, R. J. Povey, H. E. Sutherland, L. A. Musiani-Perez, W. M. Lowe, M. D. Hunter, J. H. Woodhead, C. E. D. Bruce



Battling	Innings	N.O.	Runs	Highest score	Average
R. J. Povey	16	2	420	71	30
M. J. G. Taylor	11	0	345	92	31.36
W. J. Briggs*	16	2	309	73	22.07
L. A. Musiani-Perez	15	1	243	38	17.35
S. M. Phillipson	10	2	231	51	28.87
W. M. Lowe	8	2	108	50	17.67
J. P. Rosser	14	2	99	33	8.25
M. D. Hunter	6	1	94	33	18.8

Bowling	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Best bowling	Average
M. J. G. Taylor	161	41	450	29	5-41	15.51
C. E. D. Bruce	125	19	362	21	4-61	17.23
J. H. Woodhead	188	39	588	20	5-17	29.4
W. J. Briggs*	90	16	271	19	4-27	14.26

## XXII

### P6 / W5 / L1

The XXII, captained by Theo Gough, had a strong season, winning the majority of their matches. After losing the season opener 119-9 to a very capable St Edward's, the team all played well and traditional rivals Oundle, Stowe, Uppingham and Warwick were all soundly beaten after some powerful batting performances from leading run scorer George Beard, who was backed up well by Cam Maclean, Toby Bell and Guy Lough. The bowlers regularly had a decent target to defend, with top wicket taker Ben Hatton combining potently with Sam Pougatch, Jack Gibbs and George Innes to make light work of the opposition.

**Ben Hatton (M)**

## 3RD XI

### P4 / W2 / D1 / L1

We began the season on a highly promising note, scoring an impressive 256-4 in 30 overs against Wyggeston and then dismissing our opponents for 76. Felix Tubbs, who enjoyed a prolific season with the bat, accrued an attractive 80 and was ably supported by George Romain (55 n.o.) and Ed Anton (50). Rory Bennett spun his way to figures of 4-4 in as many overs to seal the win. We lost to a strong Oundle side and fell just short against Stowe. However, a win against Magdalen College School with a weakened side brought a satisfactory conclusion to what was a short season. All the matches were played in a competitive spirit and the team conducted itself in exemplary fashion on the pitch.

**AJN**

## 4TH XI

### P3 / W1 / L2

We began the season on a highly promising note, scoring an impressive 256-4 in 30 overs against Wyggeston and then dismissing our opponents for 76. Felix Tubbs, who enjoyed a prolific season with the bat, accrued an attractive 80 and was ably supported by George Romain (55 n.o.) and Ed Anton (50). Rory Bennett spun his way to figures of 4-4 in as many overs to seal the win. We lost to a strong Oundle side and fell just short against Stowe. However, a win against Magdalen College School with a weakened side brought a satisfactory conclusion to what was a short season. All the matches were played in a competitive spirit and the team conducted itself in exemplary fashion on the pitch.

**AJN**



## U15A

### P16 / W7 / D1 / T1 / L7

The season began with a hard-fought draw against St Edward's after a 15-over partnership for the ninth wicket between Saqlain Choudhary and Freddie Walker helped save Rugby's position in the game. After that, the team only lost once on its own circuit and that was in the absence of run-scoring captain Ed Beard. The bowlers were consistent, often bowling out the opposition when they had assumed their win was inevitable. This was certainly the case against Stowe, who had lost only one wicket and were half way to surmounting the total when the brutal pace of Tris Astley-Jones helped him take five wickets. This match encapsulated the team's excellent spirit, perseverance and wonderful ability to enjoy the game. Maia Bouchier finished as the leading wicket taker with 20; Jonnie Fagan picked up 18 and Choudhary picked up 16. Beard topped the batting averages at 42.38, amassing 339 runs. Bouchier scored consistently, including a match-winning 49 against Repton. Billy Feather and Wills Hatton also made telling contributions at key points throughout the season.

**Saqlain Choudhary (M)**

## U15B

### P7 / W4 / L3

Things began well for the U15Bs, with a convincing win over St Edward's which, at 170-3, was also their highest score of the season. This was followed by another strong performance and victory over Warwick (151-8 v 100-9) before successive close defeats to Oundle and Stowe. The game against Stowe was certainly one of the more 'interesting' fixtures of the season: Rugby were bowled out for 26 and faced a humiliating defeat before managing to reduce Stowe to 22 for 8. Unfortunately, Stowe managed to score the winning runs without the loss of any further wickets. An away win against Wellingborough and an away loss to Uppingham left the season in the balance. In the final game of the season, away to Repton, the team was asked to bat first on a wicket more erratic than the one used in the Stowe fixture. With the loss of four wickets for 15 runs it seemed the season was going to end poorly. Thankfully, Brett Edmondson (87, including six sixes) and Rory Pond (23) steadied the ship, leading the team to a total of 157-7. Excellent bowling by Theo Lindsay and a good team performance in the field limited Repton to 122 all out, allowing the team to end the season on a high note.

**JDW**



## U14A

**P8 / W2 / L6**

The U14As were a very easy team to manage and they really enjoyed both their cricket and also each other's company. The team will produce a number of boys capable of playing 1st XI cricket in the future and others that will continue to play at various levels and get a lot of fun out of doing so. Most important of all was the fact that they improved as a team as the season went on and, because of strong team efforts, they ended the regular season with great wins over Trent and Repton. Henry Anton, the captain, was definitely one player who stood out against the stronger opposition and it just needed one or two others to show the same application when the going was a bit tough for there to have been more wins. I wish them all the best as they move through the School and look forward to seeing some of them in the 1st XI in a few years' time.

**PJR**

## U14B

**P7 / W2 / L5**

The U14Bs had a U-shape season, with five defeats bookended by two good wins against Warwick and Trent. This was certainly a bowling side: Guy Williams and Charlie Hudson shared the new ball, the former swinging it away from the right handed from around the wicket and the latter bowling a tight stump-to-stump line. Arthur MacPherson took on the keeping responsibilities and sometimes even chipped in with the bat; Matt Bestwick was a useful all-rounder; and Sam Wright and Jack Salvesen shared captaincy duties throughout the term. Hudson was player of the season – very rarely going for more than three each over and incessantly amongst the wickets.

**PJB**

## U14C

**P5 / W2 / L3**

The season started off disappointingly with three successive losses to Oundle, Stowe and Uppingham. Totals here of 29, 83 and 86 suggested that making runs was going to be problematic, though it was also clear that these schools simply has better teams. The last two matches, however, saw a complete transformation in the team's fortunes as they beat Repton and then Trent. At the heart of the team's success in both matches was the batting of Jonathan Cole, who scored 26 against Repton and then an astonishing 80 against Trent, which is the highest total by some distance any C team batsman has amassed in the five years that Mr Monteith and I have been running the team. Angus Barlow and Felix Gladstone also made important totals against Repton (24 and 18 respectively) and captain Dom Cahill posted the best early season innings with 25 against Stowe. The pick of the bowling performances was Hamza Syed's three wickets against an impressive Oundle side; Dom Cahill's three wickets against Repton; and Angus Barlow's four against Trent. This was a team who kept trying and whose persistence eventually found its reward.

**JOS**

# Tennis

## BOYS' TENNIS

The season was already a success before term began when the senior boys won the National Senior Students Championships in Bolton. The winning squad of Ollie Skailes, Lucas Graham, Ed Clarke, Grygoriy Bondarenko and Oli and Ewan Rowlands won all four of their final round matches by the tightest possible margin – a championship tie-break – but on each occasion the pairing of Skailes and Graham held their nerve and Rugby came away with its first boys' national tennis title since the 1950s!

Thus we started the term in buoyant mood and in the expectation of a successful regular season, and so things proved. The 1st VI won all their matches and Skailes and Graham were undefeated in rubbers winning 23 out of 24 sets played, a record which puts them alongside our most successful partnerships since the 1980s. They were usually supported by the consistent Ben Wilmot-Sitwell, who partnered Bondarenko, and the captain Clarke, alongside the understated James Hingley – and three of these boys will be back next summer. The 2nd VI was also pretty strong, most especially the first pair of Oli Rowlands and Theo Chadwick, both of whom would have been in the 1st team in most other years. The U16s are a strong group and alongside the talented first pair of Ewan Rowlands and Nick Colbourne, Philip Garthwaite, Martin Mekushin, Richard Coombs and tennis

convert Arthur Umbers promise a good couple of years ahead. The U15s struggled a little in their matches, but have a strong first pair in Jamie Harvey and Ben Skailes, who were unbeaten in school matches and have impressed the coach with their improvement and performances in the Aegon event. The new intake includes Max Guo, who was playing for the U15s whilst still in Marshall House, and the last of the Rowlands clan Toby. These two have formed a strong first pair and are backed up by a very keen and competitive group which will benefit from more access to coaching as they progress through the School.

The weather has been pretty kind to tennis this term, though it was a shame that Speech Day rain saw the abandonment of the planned family doubles shoot-out. The staff members involved with the teams have been as keen and supportive as ever and it has been especially good to see Dr Beesley in decent form on court despite some concerns about his fading eyesight! However, the key to all of this success, improvement and (just as importantly) enjoyment continues to be having a full-time professional. I feel that Jamie Taylor has really grown into the role this year: he knows the boys individually and is very astute in his assessment of them as players and people. Jamie's commitment to Rugby's tennis and the players was

certainly shown in Bolton when his nerves began to show in the tighter matches. Graham is one of the best players we have had in School in the last 30 years and it is great that we have a coach who can still keep all his best players' feet on the ground on court. The future looks good and it is always a great sight on match days to see 32 tennis courts full of boys and girls competing and enjoying their tennis – long may it continue!

The term's positive momentum continued at the ISTA Championships where the senior boys lost narrowly to the second seeds and eventual runners up Millfield; and, as Dr Beesley remarked, who would have envisaged that kind of performance a few years ago. In addition, the U15 pair of Harvey and Guo won four matches to get to the last 16. We look forward to building on these achievements next year.

**PWD**

<b>1st VI</b>	<b>P5 / W3 / D1 / L1</b>
<b>2nd VI</b>	<b>P4 / W4</b>
<b>3rd VI</b>	<b>P2 / W1 / L1</b>
<b>U16A</b>	<b>P3 / L3</b>
<b>U16B</b>	<b>P2 / L2</b>
<b>U15A</b>	<b>P7 / W7</b>
<b>U15B</b>	<b>P4 / W1 / L3</b>
<b>U14A</b>	<b>P7 / W3 / L4</b>
<b>U14B</b>	<b>P5 / W1 / L4</b>



## GIRLS' TENNIS

The girls' VI have had a very good season, losing only one match against a strong Repton side. Notable successes include the wins against Uppingham and Oakham (both 7-2) and a particularly exciting win against Trent (5-4). The team included three junior players: Ocky Spray and Lydia Norton, having proved themselves in their first two tennis seasons, stepped up to the VI whilst only in the D Block, and new arrival to the School Jamie Graham immediately proved her credentials to join the team, and she is only in the E block! Of course, having such a young team certainly bodes well for the future. As they leave the XX, it is with regret that we say goodbye to Alice Williams and Katie Lister who, as this year's captain and vice-captain respectively, have served the School this year as an extremely successful A team 1st pair and have played in the VI for the past two years. I am very grateful for everything they have done, and I am equally grateful to all the other girls who have stepped in when needed over the season to play with the VI, particularly during a busy public exam season, and in particular Manon Steyaert and Rosie Martin who, both individually and as a pair, have contributed a great deal to girls' tennis over the past five years. The 2nd VI started the term strongly with a very pleasing 7-2 win against Uppingham. Sadly they were unable to sustain their momentum into their next game against Repton, which they lost 4-5 – although the 43-42 win in games here demonstrates just what a close match this was. Further wins came against Stowe (5-4) and Oakham (7-2) to round off a short but very pleasing season. The 3rd VI were only able to play one match this season as other schools cancelled fixtures because of the pressures of the exam calendar. It is a credit to these girls that they were willing to play on through their exams and another credit to them that they were still smiling at the end of their match despite a 9-0 loss.

The pressure of exams affected the U16s who, despite their best efforts,

were not strong enough as a group to win any of their games, although the A team's narrow loss (4-5) against Repton is admirable testimony to their efforts. The U15s had a better season, with the As winning all but one of their matches and the Bs winning all of theirs. There is clearly plenty to look forward to as these younger players come up through the School, and if they can keep a cool head around their exams next year they should be looking at doing very well. For the first time, this year the U15s entered the Aegon National Schools' Competition, which gave them the opportunity to play more competitive matches as well as some singles. At the time of writing they are unbeaten and, having won their county round, have now progressed into the regional knock-out competition to be played in September – well done them. In the U14s, the first pair of Millie Hughes and Georgia Martin worked very well together, ably reading each other's actions to play some fast and fluent tennis. Between them, these two are particularly good at covering the whole court, meaning that they consistently return tough shots which their generally more static oppositions find difficult to match. The other A team pairs also played excellent tennis, with actually very little separating the second and third pairs in terms of strength and decisiveness, so we can definitely look forward to plenty of top tennis from all six girls in the years to come. And there is also much to look forward to with the B pairs, each of whom proved themselves willing to dig deep to keep games competitive right up to the final point. Notable wins for the U14s included the matches against Uppingham (As 8-1, Bs 5-4) and Oundle (As 6-3, Bs 8-1, Cs 6-3). A strong performance was put in against Trent and Bromsgrove in a triangular where, again, both the As and the Bs were victorious. At the end of the season the U14s enjoyed a mixed doubles match against Oundle. The girls were certainly challenged by the boys' stronger, more aggressive shots but definitely not beaten by them, and indeed by the end of the match it was the

girls who were generally giving the boys a run for their money!

As ever, at the end of term, eight girls travelled to Eton for the ISTA Championships. At senior level, both pairs progressed in the main draw but came up against top seeds early on. All the girls played well, with Lydia Norton and Ocky Spray in particular holding their own despite being two years below their age group. But it was the junior pairs who had the most notable success in the competition. Following an extremely successful season in school fixtures, the girls had the confidence to raise their game even further to meet the tougher standard of the ISTC teams to achieve considerable success, with second pair Georgia Martin and Zenga Nyirenda progressing further than any other previous Rugby side in the plate competition to lose only narrowly in the semi-finals to Benenden. Particular praise should go to the first pair of Jamie Graham and Millie Hughes who progressed all the way to the semi-finals of the main draw. They had their chances to cause an upset against a strong Culford side but, in the end, they lost 7-5, 6-3. Considering that the other three schools in the semi-finals were all tennis academies, the success of these two is particularly impressive.

KH

**1st VI**  
**2nd VI**  
**3rd VI**  
**U16A**  
**U16B**  
**U15A**  
**U15B**  
**U15C**  
**U14A**  
**U14B**  
**U14C**

**P6 / W5 / L1**  
**P4 / W3 / L1**  
**P1 / L1**  
**P3 / L3**  
**P2 / L2**  
**P5 / W4 / L1**  
**P5 / W5**  
**P1 / W1**  
**P6 / W5 / L1**  
**P6 / W3 / L3**  
**P2 / W2**





There was very little time to prepare for this year's athletes, with two of the biggest fixtures of the season coming in our first two weeks back at School. In this respect we were at a distinct disadvantage compared to our competitor schools, the majority of which had started a week earlier than us, and so had more time to train, particularly with their relay squads. After a solid – and necessarily rust-busting – performance at our first fixture at Bromsgrove we headed to the Achilles Relays confident in our ability to put in a good performance. Essentially, the Achilles Relays acts as the national schools' relay championships and so attracts all of the big-name schools, including Harrow, Millfield, Eton and St Paul's. The Rugby team made a number of the finals – an impressive achievement in itself – with several near misses at wins. The pick of the teams were the junior girls' 3x800m (with a particularly gutsy run from Georgia Martin on anchor) and the Open boys' 4x400m team of the Sutherland brothers and Michael Suddaby who set a School record. After the Achilles Relays came the equally competitive Radley Relays, where it was the turn of our 4x100m teams to shine, with wins for both the junior and senior teams. Competition was tough for our intermediate teams but they still managed to place a very close second in the medley and in the 4x100m relays. The last really significant inter-school fixture of the term was our home fixture, this year called the Six Schools' Cup, the winner being awarded the Patrick Derham Cup in honour of our departing Head Master.

On home turf, Rugby was fired up to win this fixture and, despite being depleted in numbers and the best efforts of the weather, the team produced a spirited performance to lose narrowly to Oakham. This was obviously a gutting result, but the team will be back next year to try for the win again.

After half term, the focus shifted to more individual competitions, with the Warwickshire Schools' Championships at Leamington. There were many good Rugby performances but particular congratulations must go to Tim Kerr-Chin, Rob Sutherland, Cameron Maclean and Josh Cara who all took individual titles. The following week Cara produced a sterling performance in the 3000m at the Mason Trophy Inter-County School Championships for Warwickshire, breaking the School record, running a significant personal best (8:52.56) and gaining selection alongside Rob Sutherland for the National Schools' Championships in July, televised live on Sky Sports.

All in all, and despite the ignominious beginning, it proved to be a very solid season of athletics with much to be proud of. The potential for more success next year is definitely there and I am sure that the team will move from strength to strength in the future.

**Ben Sutherland (W)**

## BOYS' BADMINTON

Losing some very good players from last season did not hinder this year's squad, who improved quickly and played some very good badminton, winning exactly half their matches and losing by just the narrowest of margins in some of the others. The team was ably led by captain Kevin Taechaubol, who was partnered by the less explosive but equally reliable Andrew Wong. Rej Islam and Sean Lun were a competitive and tenacious second pair – and perhaps better at match play than in training! Will Naul, Guy Franklin and Richie Yeung covered third pair over the Advent and Lent terms and are very promising players for next season. As always, we appreciated the support of external coach Darren Walker and others. Badminton is a fast and demanding sport, requiring a high level of racket skill. These boys ably demonstrated all the skills needed for this in their play this season.

NDJ

## GIRLS' BADMINTON

The girls' badminton team had few overall wins this season, but this should not detract from how well they played and how close many of the score lines actually were, with games frequently going to a third set. The first pair of Sophie Sillman-McNeish and Ishita Ghosh fought hard to the end of every match, often making shots that surprised their opposition. Lucy Cook and Carys Rice were a steady second pair, though both played with other players – Sarah Lord, Margaret Yam and Shivi Ravi – on occasion. Lord, Yam and Ravi also played in various combinations as third pair. All of the girls made considerable progress throughout the term thanks to Darren Walker's expert guidance.

Towards the end of the Lent term, the boys' and girls' teams combined to play four mixed matches, and it was good to end the season with a resounding 11-4 victory for these mixed pairs against Oakham.

JEO

## BASKETBALL

The basketball team has had one of its most successful seasons this year, winning six of their ten fixtures. The team improved with each game played; indeed, the majority of losses were in the first half of the term. Even in difficult matches, such as the two against Bromsgrove, the boys stayed focused and determined to the end. Most pleasingly, this year we have managed to beat schools that pride themselves in running top schoolboy basketball teams; our 57-55 win against Stowe was our best achievement here. The whole team deserves the highest praise, but a few key players deserve a special mention. Captain Will Lowe led the team enthusiastically and fairly throughout the season. His quick lay-up shots invariably proved deadly to the opposition. The most improved player of the season was Hugo Inglis, who has become unbeatable in rebounds and unstoppable at shooting under the basket. Rugby's playmaker, James Shuen, was amazing throughout the season at pushing the ball forward and assisting scoring. Will Barlow's ability to shoot three pointers with precision in crucial parts of the game was essential. Particular thanks go to our external coach, Mark Spatcher, without whom this successful season would not have been possible.

AD



## CROSS COUNTRY

There have been numerous strong performances in cross-country running this year, not only in the Lent term, when the sport is at its busiest, but also in the Advent and Trinity terms.

The Advent term began with a hat-trick for the School's runners at the Draycote Water 10K, with Mr Siggers, Ben Sutherland and Simon Waterhouse claiming first, second and third place respectively. Waterhouse and Emma Thomas were selected to represent Warwickshire at an inter-county event, at which Thomas scored as Warwickshire's third counter out of seven. Eleven runners ran at the Kettering Charity Cup, where Sutherland had a storming run to win the senior male competition. Tertia Rollason, Tallulah Stobart, Bex Capewell-Salisbury and Angharad Wylie came eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh respectively in their age categories in the girls' competition.

Josh Cara led the way in the first event of the Lent term, when he came a superb sixth at the Knole Run, which hosted competitors of a national standard. The boys' team improved by one place on last year's results at the increasingly popular King Henry VIII Relays, coming sixteenth out of 48 teams. Sutherland, Cara, Thomas and Wylie were selected to represent Warwickshire at the English Schools National Cross Country Event, where Cara was first counter for Warwickshire, coming 45th overall in the intermediate boys category. Sutherland and Thomas were the second counters for Warwickshire in their age categories and Wylie was the fourth in hers. On the very next day Sutherland won the Crick Run and Cara won the Barby. Sutherland made history here by being the first boy to win all five of the Crick and Barby runs in his time as a pupil. He holds the record for both events and for two different courses for the Crick as the route was changed this year. Despite the new course being arguably tougher – most of it is cross-country – Sutherland ran an outstanding time of 1:00:57, over eight minutes clear of the second place runner, Ed Clarke.

The Rugby School Running League has been well attended, with over 150 students running over the course of the year. Sheriff dominated the House competition, although Bradley had a look in as well. There were some fine individual performances from Sutherland, who was the fastest pupil on both the winter Close course and the summer House cross-country course. Waterhouse, Wylie and Harrison Anton scored most points for their Houses and each, as well as many other runners, improved their times throughout the year.

AJS



## FENCING

Fencing this year has involved a small but dedicated group of fencers, but it has also been encouraging to see a number of new faces this year, who should be joining the teams next September.

We had four fixtures this year. The first was against Shrewsbury, which we lost (although our épéeists came close). We won our second match, which was against Wrekin, both foil and épée, and then shared the honours in our return bout with Shrewsbury, winning the épée and losing the foil closely. Our last fixture, at the start of the Trinity term, was an ORs match, a very enjoyable occasion, and one where the honours were again shared between the weapons.

This year, the Captain's Sword was won for the second year running by Nat Cameron, and the épée competition was won by Chandler Mundell.

MAH



## FIVES

Fives has had another very successful season this year, and the 1st IV of Marcus Hunter, Harry Mallinder, Theo Chadwick and Joe Miller is the strongest team seen since the courts were rebuilt. Three of the IV leave school this year and I imagine it will be some time before we see such all-round talent again. Oli Rowlands and Tom Mourant have also proved themselves to be very capable players and both have played for the IV on several occasions. The U16 team have played some similarly very good fives, meaning there is lots to look forward to in the future. The U15 results have been more mixed but there is still much individual talent here.

In competitions, Hunter reached the plate final in the Open competition at the National Championships, whilst George Romain played well to make it to the last eight in the Colts' competition. The School proved once again to be the dominant force in the Midlands Championships, providing two semi-finalists in both the senior and U15 singles competitions. At U15 level, Michael Suddaby and Vlad Shirokiy were crowned Doubles Champions. Both plate competitions, for third place, were won by Suddaby and Chadwick. The girls' team was even more successful than the boys at their National Championships, with three girls in the quarter finals of both the U16 and the Open competitions. Indeed, the U16 competition was dominated by Rugby with both the singles and doubles being all-Rugby affairs. Kirsty Martin became the National Champion and she and partner Nush Mehta also became the Doubles Champions. Milly Browne and Milly Richards lost narrowly in the Open doubles competition but the standard of play at the Girls' Nationals was particularly impressive this year.

In the House competition, the U15 winners were Kilbracken and the Open winners were School House.

TMW

## GOLF

The golf team has competed in a number of inter-school competitions this the year: the ISGA Singles Scratch Matchplay Competition and the HMC Foursomes Competition. We managed to make the area finals in the ISGA, but sadly were defeated by St Albans 3-0. The team were very disappointed by this result, as winning would have taken us to Carnoustie for the National Finals. We made it to the quarter finals of the HMC Foursomes, but another 3-0 loss – this time to Solihull – stopped us going any further. In both competitions, the team played with great fortitude and can be very proud of their effort. In March, we competed in the Gerald Micklem Trophy at Woking. With handicaps of 4, 7, 8, 18 and 24 (28 – reserve), our team were very much classed as the underdogs but, galvanized by their defeats at the ISGA and HMC, they put their hearts and souls into the event to put in what was probably the best Rugby performance here outside our win in the competition in 2012. Our first match saw us pitted against a very strong Eton side (handicaps – 1, 3, 3, 5 and 5). The team played with grit and determination but were eventually beaten 3-2; Eton went on to win the competition. For the first round of the plate competition we were drawn against Winchester (handicaps – 4, 5, 7, 7 and 9), whom we managed to hold to a 2 ½ - 2 ½ draw despite foggy weather before losing on the first hole of sudden death.

ARD





## POLO

Polo has enjoyed a very positive year, with each of the players making great progress over the course of the three terms. It is good to see so many of the Lower School getting involved in the sport, and in particular the F block. This bodes well for the future, both in terms of strength of numbers and depth of experience.

During the Advent term, we concentrated on the normal round of lessons and chukkas, allowing the potential teams to practise and play together. Many players made significant improvements to their skills during this period, which set them up well for the Lent and Trinity terms, where there were various matches and tournaments, including matches against Wellington, Stowe and Oakham, the Midlands Polo Festival, the National Senior Schools Polo Championships and the National Girls' Schools Tournament. Whilst things began slowly – with Rugby's A and B teams losing to very strong, more experienced Wellington – results began to settle in our favour and not long into the season we recorded wins against Stowe, Marlborough, Cheltenham and Dean Close. Our best win was against Oakham 11–2.

Special mention must be made of the National Girls' Schools Tournament, where our team of Ellie Shepherd, Lauren Wright, Eliza Williams and Zoe Ashby came second to Millfield out of a total of fourteen schools. Shepherd was also named the most promising player at the National Senior Schools Championship – so congratulations to her! I would like to say a big thank you to the captain, James Glew, for all his hard work across the season.

**NHB**

## RACKETS

The first pair – which eventually settled at Ed Clarke and James Hingley – won more than they lost, with some very good rackets being played. Sam Phillipson and Jack Rosser made useful contributions at this level, with Ollie Skailes and Ben Wilmot-Sitwell completing the strongest senior team that we have had for some years. The U16 pair of Arthur Umers and Nick Colbourne also won more than they lost and made good progress. The U15s were represented by Jonnie Fagan, Ed Beard, Wills Hatton and Will Hardman. Wins were hard to come by for the A pair of Fagan and Beard, although they saved their best till last, winning at Harrow three games to two, having lost the first two games. The Bs were more successful, winning eight of their ten matches. The U14s has one match, a narrow victory against Haileybury.

The highlight of the season was the tour to the US. Eight boys and two staff started the tour with a three-day stay in Chicago, which included sightseeing and also use of the wonderful facilities at the rackets club. After a narrow victory there, we flew to Philadelphia where we had two nights at the rackets club, which included a lot of rackets, court tennis and doubles squash. The famous 'Rocky Steps' were climbed at great pace by sprint champion Sam Phillipson and we had great fun in the rackets club which was made famous by the film *Trading Places*. We then took a drive to the extraordinary Tuxedo Park for a memorable evening at the house of Old Rugbeian Guy Devereaux. The following day we had a brief drive in to Manhattan for a quick match and a look round the rackets club. After this we then had two days in glorious weather generally being tourists around New York. The whole tour party thank Mr Dewey for the organization of the trip.

**PJR**

## SQUASH

The squash team started the season well, with a decent victory against a strong Oundle side, but overall this was a frustrating term – indeed, there was just that one win. Various injuries throughout the season, and in particular the loss of Ben Wilmot-Sitwell to rugby football, meant that there were a number of very close games with excellent play by all players where the score lines were simply against us.

**AMM**

## SWIMMING

We have had a number of regular and enthusiastic attendees at team swimming this season. It is difficult to arrange competitions against other schools since a number of the School's best swimmers are unavailable due to other sport commitments, so there has only been one match this term, against Oundle. Although Oundle were too strong in the seniors, we drew the U16 fixture with a team made up almost entirely of U15 and U14 swimmers, which is very encouraging for the future. My thanks go to the team captains Ptolemy Jenkins and Issy Greenfield for their hard work and commitment.

**BJR**



# SUMMER HOLIDAY TOURS



## RUGBY FOOTBALL TOUR TO CANADA

On arrival at Edmonton International Airport, we were taken to the University of Alberta for a two night stay. This gave everyone a much-needed opportunity to get the long journey out of their system and to acclimatise a bit to the Canadian weather. Our stay in Edmonton mainly consisted of lots of training drills to prepare for our first fixture, but we also found the time to visit the West Edmonton Mall, the tenth largest mall in the world and home to the world's largest indoor amusement park. Our Edmonton match – against St Albert Rugby Club – was a huge success for us: all 27 members of the squad got the chance to play and we won with a resounding 97 points to 0. That same evening we stayed with our very generous host families who showed us more of what ordinary life in Edmonton is like.

En route to Calgary to play our second match we got to see the famous Calgary Stampede, widely billed as 'The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth' and certainly the world's largest rodeo. Our experience here provided us with plenty to talk about with our new host families as we arrived in Calgary itself before, after some more training, we faced one of the city's representative sides, the Celtic Barbarians. This match was another success for Rugby, with a 67-0 win.

Tired from the matches and travelling, we were lucky to spend a weekend of rest and recuperation at a small hotel in the Banff National Park in the Rockies. Staying in the Rockies was an amazing experience and everyone made use of the natural hot springs to relax before our next game. This was against Kamloops Rugby Club and, once again, Rugby did not concede a point, winning the game 57-0.

Elated though we were at our third successive victory, our success only added to the pressure we felt as we travelled to Vancouver to play what turned out to be our hardest match of the tour to date against Richmond Rugby Club. Things were tough in this game but a very good team performance meant that we kept our winning record intact (52-0). Whilst in Vancouver we visited the British Columbia Sports Hall of Fame before taking a boat out on the Fraser River to spot whales.

Buoyed by our performance in previous games, there was a real confidence about the team as we went to train at two of Canada's most successful rugby-playing schools – Brentwood and Shawnigan – before playing our final match against another representative side, Tsunami. Some fantastic tries and team spirit meant that we were again victorious, although we did concede a try, our one and only of the entire tour – the final score was 59-5.

We played some excellent rugby in each of the five games of the tour and very much enjoyed the chance to experience and promote rugby football in Canada. And we will all take back many memories of the kindnesses of our host families and the beauty of the Canadian landscape.

**Rory Farquharson (SH)**

## HOCKEY AND NETBALL TOUR TO SINGAPORE AND AUSTRALIA

Almost as soon as we arrived in Singapore we drove to some nearby netball courts for a few short games to help us acclimatise to the heat and humid conditions. The next day we played our first netball and hockey matches against some very strong netballers and some not so strong hockey players. We lost all three netball matches, which was a shame, but we won both the hockey games. We finished our stay in Singapore with a city tour, which took in Chinatown and Little India and a stop at a great dim sum restaurant.

Having got used to the heat and humidity in Singapore, none of us expected the cold weather in Sydney! The matches we played in Sydney were a bit of a mixed bag: the 1sts narrowly lost both at hockey and netball, the 2nds won both at hockey and netball and the 3rds lost at netball. Sydney was a great place to stay and play but it was not long before we were off to our next destination – Armidale. If the weather in Sydney was cold, the weather in Armidale was even colder, so much so that standing on the sidelines was almost unbearable! At hockey, both the 1sts and the 2nds lost in very close matches. The netball matches were fantastic, both to play and to watch, with all three teams working to the highest standard and showing off our excellent fitness. Sadly, however, we only won one match out of the three played.

On our way up to Mooloolaba we stopped off at Dreamworld, Australia's equivalent of Alton Towers, where we spent the day on some white-knuckle rides before arriving at Matthew Flinders Anglican College to meet our next set of hosts. The matches we played at Matthew Flinders, much like the rest of the matches we played in Australia, were tough and it was a shame about the results, but everyone worked hard and our improved game play was clear from even just the beginning of tour.

On arrival in Cairns, we made our way to Trinity Anglican School where we played our last hockey matches of the tour. These were very closely contested, and there was joy for the 1st XI as they won an epic battle with two late goals against quality opposition. The 2nds had an epic battle of their own, but were unable to find the final touch, finishing with a narrow defeat. The following day saw the last netball matches of tour, with Rugby coming out with three wins.

One of the best experiences of the tour was certainly our trip to the Kuranda Sky Rail. Here we had some incredible views of the rainforest and the shoreline of Cairns and we were able to hold koalas, pet kangaroos and we saw a huge crocodile. We were treated to some traditional Aboriginal dancing and learnt how to throw a boomerang, which actually turned out to be pretty dangerous! Another unforgettable experience was our visit to the Great Barrier Reef. Here we spent the day swimming on the reef amongst reef sharks and turtles, all almost within touching distance. Spirits were high as we finished the tour off in style with speeches and plenty of laughter.

**Kate Broad (B) & Milly Richards (RB)**



“The netball matches were fantastic, both to play and to watch, with all three teams working to the highest standard and showing off our excellent fitness”

## Prize Winners 2014

### ART

<b>Bulmer</b>	<b>Isabella</b>	<b>RB</b>
Carver	Poppy	B
<b>Cheng</b>	<b>Steph</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Garthwaite</b>	<b>Eleanor</b>	<b>St</b>
Moncur	Odette	Tu
Myers	Henry	K
Steyaert	Manon	T
Tanner	James	G
Ward	Taylor	G
Wear	Anouk	B
Wong	Andrew	Shf

### BUSINESS STUDIES

Alford	Logan	W
Holt	Rufus	SH
Wilmot-Sitwell	Benedict	M

### CLASSICS

<b>Bibby</b>	Alex	Tu
<b>Bruce</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Brumpton</b>	<b>Charlotte</b>	<b>S</b>
Bucknall	Tiffany	G
<b>Campbell</b>	<b>Hugh</b>	<b>K</b>
<b>Carr</b>	<b>Edward</b>	<b>SH</b>
<b>Chow</b>	<b>Alexander</b>	<b>T</b>
Clarke	Jessica	Tu
<b>Fadina</b>	<b>Lexi</b>	<b>St</b>
<b>Ferry</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>D</b>
Graham	Jamie-Rose	RB
<b>Hanson</b>	<b>Emma</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Hess</b>	<b>Nathaniel</b>	<b>SF</b>
<b>Hingley</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>SF</b>
<b>Jackson</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>Tu</b>
Jaffa	Jacob	C
<b>Kember</b>	<b>Lydia</b>	<b>Tu</b>
<b>Parker</b>	<b>Edward</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>Read</b>	<b>Phoebe</b>	<b>RB</b>
Skinner	Elinor	S
<b>Spray</b>	<b>Ocky</b>	<b>SH</b>
Teo	Martin	RB
<b>Towers</b>	<b>Franny</b>	<b>RB</b>
Venters	Hamish	SF
<b>Warwick</b>	<b>Emily</b>	<b>S</b>

### COMMUNITY ACTION

Fleming	Emma-Jane	S
Hemming	Leanne	St
James	Siena	St
<b>Young</b>	<b>Saffie</b>	<b>S</b>

### COMPUTING AND ICT

<b>Cole</b>	<b>Jonathan</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Ferry</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>D</b>
Leadsom	Freddie	W
Musiani Perez	Lautaro	Shf
<b>Perronet Miller</b>	<b>Sophia</b>	<b>G</b>
Stevens	Mark	SF

### CREATIVE ARTS

Anderson	Millie	B
<b>Bruce</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Chajceki</b>	<b>Anastasia</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Chan</b>	<b>Eric</b>	<b>M</b>
Farquharson	Archie	SH
Gibson	Alex	Shf
Ponsonby	Tilly	RB
Sasame	Ao	D

### DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Beard	George	M
<b>Capewell-Salisbury</b>	<b>Bex</b>	<b>S</b>
Colbourne	Nicholas	T
<b>Garthwaite</b>	<b>Phillip</b>	<b>SH</b>
Marcus	Rosie	D
Ng	Julian	W
<b>Pointon</b>	<b>Ben</b>	<b>T</b>

### DESIGN FACULTY

Darby	James	SF
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### DIVINITY

Barnes	Rosie	RB
Cook	Naomi	S
Fraser	Georgia	RB
<b>Harwood</b>	<b>Jack</b>	<b>SF</b>
Rees	Alice	B
<b>Reynolds</b>	<b>Felix</b>	<b>C</b>
Weir	Theodore	SH

### Drama

Bibby	Harriet	G
Bella	Bella	B
<b>Harwood</b>	<b>Jack</b>	<b>SF</b>
<b>Smith</b>	<b>Robert</b>	<b>SF</b>
Williams	Eve	G

### ECONOMICS

<b>Bondarenko</b>	<b>Grygoriy</b>	<b>SF</b>
<b>Bulmer</b>	<b>Isabella</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Gough</b>	<b>Theo</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Guan</b>	<b>Mike</b>	<b>K</b>
Lister	Katie	Tu
Mistry	Priya	S
Rosser	Jack	SF
Shterenlikht	Maria	St
Stobart	Tallulah	St

### ENGLISH

<b>Bain</b>	<b>Cecily</b>	<b>St</b>
<b>Beach</b>	<b>Ellie</b>	<b>St</b>
Bibby	Georgie	G
<b>Bruce</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Chajceki</b>	<b>Anastasia</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Cheng</b>	<b>Steph</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Choudhary</b>	<b>Saqlain</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Clarke</b>	<b>Olivia</b>	<b>G</b>
Clarkson	Katya	B
<b>Creed</b>	<b>Polly</b>	<b>St</b>
<b>Farquharson</b>	<b>Rory</b>	<b>SH</b>
<b>Garthwaite</b>	<b>Eleanor</b>	<b>St</b>
<b>Garthwaite</b>	<b>Phillip</b>	<b>SH</b>
Gowen	Holly	S
<b>Harte</b>	<b>Maisie</b>	<b>S</b>
Houlker	Freddie	W
Leadsom	Harry	C
Lord	Sarah	D
Malone	Ethan	T
<b>Mansell</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>Tu</b>
<b>Owen</b>	<b>Geraint</b>	<b>M</b>
Parker	Alice	RB
<b>Perronet Miller</b>	<b>Sophia</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Hannah</b>	<b>Hannah</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Richards</b>	<b>Bee</b>	<b>RB</b>
Griffin	W Day	W
<b>Smith</b>	<b>Juliet</b>	<b>Tu</b>
<b>Speed</b>	<b>Margot</b>	<b>RB</b>
Stacey	Islay	RB
Thomson	Max	T
<b>Towers</b>	<b>Franny</b>	<b>RB</b>
van Laar	Ben	T
<b>Wirth</b>	<b>Anna</b>	<b>G</b>
Yeung	Richie	M
Zhevago	Ivan	M

### FASHION & TEXTILES

Weir	Saskia	G
<b>Young</b>	<b>Saffie</b>	<b>S</b>

### GEOGRAPHY

Antoci	Stefano	SF
Hattie	Byrne	B
<b>Cara</b>	<b>Josh</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Carr</b>	<b>Edward</b>	<b>SH</b>
<b>Chan</b>	<b>Eric</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>de Boinville</b>	<b>Minna</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Gaizutyte</b>	<b>Megan</b>	<b>St</b>
Hatvary	Claire	D
<b>Jackson</b>	<b>Matt</b>	<b>Shf</b>
<b>Lord</b>	<b>Immy</b>	<b>D</b>
Lorimer Turner	Giles	W
Mehta	Kirti	S
<b>Middleton</b>	<b>Alicia</b>	<b>Tu</b>
<b>Payne</b>	<b>Alice</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Perronet Miller</b>	<b>Sophia</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Pillman</b>	<b>Flo</b>	<b>St</b>
Romain	George	K
Simpson	Lottie	Tu
Somervail	Seb	SH
Stoddart	Amelia	RB
<b>Turner</b>	<b>Ollie</b>	<b>SF</b>
Waterhouse	Robert	Shf
<b>Wirth</b>	<b>Anna</b>	<b>G</b>

### GRAPHICS

Read	Constance	G
Wrigley	Hugh	SF

### HEAD MASTER

<b>Anton</b>	<b>Harrison</b>	<b>Shf</b>
Beere	Charlie	Shf
<b>Creed</b>	<b>Polly</b>	<b>St</b>
<b>Mackenzie</b>	<b>Lauren</b>	<b>D</b>

### Mourant

Sillman-McNeish	Sophie	S
Talbot-Williams	Eliza	G
<b>van den Belt</b>	<b>Boris</b>	<b>SH</b>

### HISTORY

<b>Anton</b>	<b>Harrison</b>	<b>Shf</b>
Badwan	Harry	T
Bourne	Jamie	C
<b>Bruce</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Chan</b>	<b>Eric</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Creed</b>	<b>Polly</b>	<b>St</b>
<b>de Boinville</b>	<b>Minna</b>	<b>RB</b>
Denny	Samuel	K
Edwardes	Auden	B
Falconer	Jack	SF
Gower	Emily	S
<b>Hanson</b>	<b>Emma</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Jackson</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>Tu</b>
Johnson	Michael	T
<b>Kwan</b>	<b>Tommy</b>	<b>Shf</b>
<b>Lord</b>	<b>Immy</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Mansell</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>Tu</b>
<b>McEvoy</b>	<b>Jemima</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>Perronet Miller</b>	<b>Sophia</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Ralston</b>	<b>Fraser</b>	<b>T</b>
Sabapathy	Karim	W
<b>Robert</b>	<b>Robert</b>	<b>SF</b>
<b>Speed</b>	<b>Margot</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Spray</b>	<b>Ocky</b>	<b>RB</b>
Symington	Lucy	RB
<b>Symington</b>	<b>Marina</b>	<b>RB</b>
Unwin	Olivia	Tu
Usman	Hassan	C

### HISTORY OF ART

<b>Bardsley</b>	<b>Ella</b>	<b>Tu</b>
Rigg-Widdowson	Yssy	S

### MARSHALL HOUSE

<b>Bruce</b>	<b>Olivia</b>	<b>Ma</b>
<b>Bruce</b>	<b>Olivia</b>	<b>Ma</b>
Capewell-Salisbury	Tom	Ma
Alice	Alice	Ma
Ellie	Ma	Ma
Andrew	Ma	Ma
Cate	Ma	Ma
<b>Rory</b>	<b>Ma</b>	<b>Ma</b>
<b>Rory</b>	<b>Ma</b>	<b>Ma</b>
Niharika	Ma	Ma
Ollie	Ma	Ma
<b>Angharad</b>	<b>Ma</b>	<b>Ma</b>
<b>Angharad</b>	<b>Ma</b>	<b>Ma</b>

### MATHEMATICS

<b>Beal</b>	<b>Tom</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Bondarenko</b>	<b>Grygoriy</b>	<b>SF</b>
<b>Bruce</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Campbell</b>	<b>Hugh</b>	<b>K</b>
<b>Capewell-Salisbury</b>	<b>Bex</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Cara</b>	<b>Josh</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Chan</b>	<b>Eric</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Cheng</b>	<b>Steph</b>	<b>G</b>
Gorbanenko	Jenny	St
<b>Grant</b>	<b>Alasdair</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Guan</b>	<b>Mike</b>	<b>K</b>
<b>Haynes</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Ho</b>	<b>Jasmine</b>	<b>D</b>
Kapustin	Alexey	M
<b>Kwan</b>	<b>Tommy</b>	<b>Shf</b>
<b>Lauterpacht</b>	<b>Emily</b>	<b>Tu</b>
<b>Lough</b>	<b>Guy</b>	<b>SF</b>
Lu	Cindy	St
<b>McGuirk</b>	<b>Aiden</b>	<b>T</b>
McKay	Myles	T
<b>Middleton</b>	<b>Alicia</b>	<b>Tu</b>
<b>Mourant</b>	<b>Tom</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Nyirenda</b>	<b>Zengani</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>Ogilvie</b>	<b>Freddie</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Payne</b>	<b>Alice</b>	<b>G</b>
Puri	Mala	St
<b>Thompson</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Treanor</b>	<b>Kelan</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>van den Belt</b>	<b>Boris</b>	<b>SH</b>
Yam	Margaret	D
Zhang	Yi	SF
<b>Zhao</b>	<b>Alice</b>	<b>S</b>

### MEDIA

Butcher	Georgia	S
Drennan	Alidh	S
Inglis	Ollie	K

### PERSPECTIVES

<b>Gough</b>	<b>Theo</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Jenkins</b>	<b>Ptolemy</b>	<b>SH</b>

### MODERN LANGUAGES

Angell-James	Connie	RB
Anton	Henry	SF
<b>Bain</b>	<b>Cecily</b>	<b>St</b>
Beacham-Watts	Saskia	S
<b>Beal</b>	<b>Tom</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Bondarenko</b>	<b>Grygoriy</b>	<b>SF</b>
Bouchier	Maia	G
Brown	Ashlee	B
<b>Bruce</b>	<b>Isobel</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Cara</b>	<b>Josh</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Chow</b>	<b>Alexander</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Clarke</b>	<b>Olivia</b>	<b>G</b>
Czernin	Audrey	RB
<b>de Boinville</b>	<b>Minna</b>	<b>RB</b>
<b>Fadina</b>	<b>Lexi</b>	<b>St</b>
Fagbemi	Bomi	M
<b>Gaizutyte</b>	<b>Megan</b>	<b>St</b>
<b>Gaizutyte</b>	<b>Megan</b>	<b>St</b>
Hammond	Molly	G
<b>Harte</b>	<b>Maisie</b>	<b>S</b>
Haslam	Jenny	Tu
Hastings	Ollie	SH
<b>Hingley</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>SF</b>
Jackson	George	Shf
<b>Jackson</b>	<b>Matt</b>	<b>Shf</b>
Kerner	Emily	G
Koopman	Margaux	B
Maclean	Cameron	T
McAlister	Cameron	C
<b>McEvoy</b>	<b>Jemima</b>	<b>B</b>
Olcott	Ellie	Tu
<b>Edward</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>Payne</b>	<b>Alice</b>	<b>G</b>
Raichura	Poppy	G
<b>Fraser</b>	<b>Fraser</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Felix</b>	<b>Felix</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Richards</b>	<b>Bee</b>	<b>RB</b>
Richmond	Julia	D
Rovner	Yana	G
<b>Ewan</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>SH</b>
Sandison	Bob	Shf
<b>Benedict</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>
Michael	Michael	K
Rob	Rob	C
<b>Marina</b>	<b>RB</b>	<b>RB</b>
Alan	Freddie	SF
Simon	Simon	Shf
<b>Alice</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>
Anna	Anna	D

### MUSIC

Alexander	Monty	C
Armstrong	Andrew	W
<b>Beach</b>	<b>Ellie</b>	<b>St</b>
Beere	Jack	Shf
Bucknall	Amelia	D
Cameron	Natalie	St
<b>Cara</b>	<b>Josh</b>	<b>T</b>
Chan	Valerie	B



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