







SHEBBEAR COLLEGE

A Foundation for Life



CONTENTS

A Word from the Chaplain	5
Shebbear College Staff	6
Headmaster's Speech	8
Prizes and Donors	14
Sanctuary	17
Arrivals	19
Departures	18
Sport Reports	20
Sports Day Results	42
Departmental Reviews	46
Kindergarten	62
Junior School	64
Senior School	70
Sixth Form	74
Valete	78
Results	83
The Boarding Year	84
Summer School	86
News from the Library	87
Outside the Classroom	88
Ten Tors 2014	92
Charity Events	94
World Aims	96
Art Gallery	100
OSA	105

A WORD FROM THE CHAPLAIN



Last year my article looked as much towards the future as it did towards the events that had happened, being new to my role and the proud history of the College.

Now that I have been here for a complete twelve months I feel better able to reflect on the spiritual year of life at Shebbear, which can be an interesting rollercoaster of ups and downs. The diversity of issues that come a Chaplain's way are extraordinary. From helping a First Former to find their way around the school site to helping a student deal with a family bereavement. I hope the Chaplaincy can act as a beacon within the tumult and provide a safe harbour when people need it most.

What strikes me the most about being part of the team here at Shebbear is that everyone I meet with is on a journey of some sort or another.

Since the time of my last writing we as a family have also grown on our journey, in that we now have a second little girl who keeps us busy and entertained.

This idea of journeys has been an ongoing thought throughout the year for me.

The verse from God's word that I feel best represents this for us, as a school,

is from the book of Jeremiah chapter 29:11 which reads:

'For I know the plans I have for you' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'.

This verse talks about plans, and in particular, God's plan for our lives. In this day and age where sat-nav is now common place, I can remember when I first passed my driving test, sitting down with my father to decide which was the best route to take to get me where I wanted to go using my old UK road map. I had to make a plan before I could go anywhere. Nowadays we just jump in the car, tap in a destination and our sat-nav will tell us where to go. Although we no longer need to look at a map (although it can still be helpful to have an overview; HGVs on Devon roads take note) we still need to listen to and watch our sat-navs in order to reach our destination.

When speaking about the aforementioned verse in Chapel I shared that God didn't just 'say' this, he 'declared' it, showing that this was something of importance to take note of. When travelling in the car I tend to

turn the volume down on my sat-nav, but I do watch the screen as I much prefer to be able to see my route laid out before me.

This is somewhat of a luxury to be able to see the plan of your journey before it unfolds and so when likening the journey in our cars to that of our lives, again there really is a paradigm here of being able to see one and not being able to see the other.

This is where faith comes in that God, having 'declared' that He has plans to 'prosper us and not to harm us' will do just as He said he would.

Riding this rollercoaster here at Shebbear, it is with regular reminding that we need to remember that we are all called to:

'Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can'.

I very much look forward to the ongoing journey and the revealing of the greater 'plan' for everybody at Shebbear.

Peace,
Tim Aldridge



SHEBBEAR COLLEGE STAFF

Governors

	Chairman	Mr. M. Saltmarsh	
	Vice Chairman	Mr. P. Sanders	
Mr. L. Bird	Mr. A. Bowes	Mr. P. Rigby	Mrs. V. Sherriff
Mr. R. Collings	Mrs. J. Down	Mr. D. Verney	Mr. N. Buckland O.B.E.
	Rev. P. Pillinger	Mrs. C. Boother	

Headmaster	Mr. S. D. Weale MA (Oxon)
Deputy Head	Mrs. A. Farrell M. Ed. (English*)

Senior Management	Mrs. E. Bearpark LLB (Maths*)
Head of Junior School	Mr. M. Furber B Ed Hons
Head of Sixth Form	Mr. M. Newitt BSc Hons FRGS PGCE (Geography*)
Head of Middle School	Mr. K. Parker GRSM Hons PGCE (Music*)
Head of Lower School	Mrs. F. Lovett BA Hons (Media Studies*)
College Chaplain	Mr. T. Aldridge BA Hons

Boarding Staff

Mrs. L. Quirk BSA (Head of Boarding and Pastoral Care, Child Protection Officer)
Mr. J. Sanders BSc Hons GTP (Pollard Housemaster)

Senior School Teaching Staff

Mrs. S. Akers Cert.Ed. (Learning Support*)
Mrs. J. Aliberti BA Hons PGCE
Mr. A. Barlow BA Hons PGCE (Art*)
Mr. S. Bee BA Hons PGCE (History*)
Mrs. E. Blundell BSc Hons
Mr. A. Bryan Cert Ed
Mr. I. Burnett BA Hons PGCE
Mrs. C. Cardoo BSc Cert Ed
Mr. S. Clewley BSc PGCE (Physics*)
Mr. A. Colville BSc Hons BSc (Biology*)
Dr. S. Crook Ph D (Cantab) (Chemistry* & Science*)
Mme. C. Fanet BA MA PGCE (Modern Languages*)
Miss S. Ham BSc Hons PGCE (Girls' Games*)
Mr. N. Law BA Hons
Miss M. O'Shaughnessy BA Hons PGCE
Mr. L. Oxenham BA Hons PGCE MSc (Business Studies*)
Mrs. L. Parker GRSM Hons LRAM PGCE
Mrs. K. Purdew Cert Ed
Mr. M. Rogers MA Hons BA Hons PGCE (Religious Studies*)
Miss C. Simpson BA Hons
Mr. A. Steel BSc Hons GTP (Boys' Games*)
Mrs. P. Thomas BA Hons PGCE (ICT*)
Mr. S. Trask BEng Hons PGCE
Mrs. A. Vassilaki BA Hons GTP
Mrs. D. Wahl

Junior School Teaching Staff

Mrs. J. Biddlecombe MITD
Mrs. J. Burnett BA Hons PGCE
Mrs. T. Brock B Ed
Mrs. D. Jones BA Ed Hons Cert SPLD

Learning Support Assistants

Mrs. A. Rideout
Mr. A. Rushton BA Hons
Mrs. S. Chappell
Mrs. K. Clarke RSA Cert SPLD
Mrs. K. Franklin (Examinations Officer)

Classroom Assistants

Mrs. L. Kirby NVQ L3
Mrs. S. Ley NNEB L3
Mrs. S. Standford BTec L3
Mrs. S. Willis-Butcher NVQ L3
Mrs. J. Trask

Science Technician	Mrs. S. Sluggett
Systems Manager	Mr. D. Balman
Librarian	Mrs. J. Welby MCLIP

* denotes head of department

SHEBBEAR COLLEGE STAFF

Administrative Staff

Bursar	Mr. B. Horn ACMA ACIS CGMA
Projects Manager	Mrs. S. Day BSc Hons FCCA
Finance Co-ordinator	Mrs. S. Letchford
Finance Assistants	Miss V. Hooton, Mrs. J. Gilhespy
Headmaster's Secretary/Registrar	Mrs. S. Lindley
Receptionist	Mrs. A. Bryan
Junior School Administrator	Mrs. F. Goode Cert Ed
Marketing	Mr. M. Charman
School Medical Officer	Dr. A. Al-Doori
School Nursing Officer	Sister R. Light
Uniform Shop	Mrs. J. Armstrong
Head of Maintenance	Mr. R. Brauns, Mr P. Bennett
Health and Safety	Mr. R. Arthurs

Maintenance/Groundspersons

Mr. R. Arthurs, Mr. S. Knight, Mr. M. Skinner, Mr. J. Brandi, Mr. A. Poole

Minibus Drivers

Mr. C. Gaden, Mr. P. Coleman, Mrs. J. Whiting, Mr. H. Davies

Catering Staff

Mr. M. Kingsland*
Mrs. I. Fisher
Mrs. M. Taylor
Mrs. C. Priest
Mr. M. Stacey
Mrs. A. Barker
Mrs. M. Ager
Mrs. V. Pitcher
Mrs. P. Hancock
Mrs. L. Priest
Mrs. J. Wickett

Housekeeping Staff

Mrs. M. Buckman*
Mrs. A. Hawkins
Mrs. L. Catton
Mrs. J. Curno
Mrs. R. White
Mrs. K. Lewis
Mrs. A. Rideout
Mrs. P. Parkinson
Mrs. L. Clewley
Mrs. D. Prades
Mrs. A. Andrews
Mrs. C. Stacey

Visiting Music Staff

Flute	Mrs. M. Orriss	Guitar and Singing	Mrs. L. Duncan
Clarinet and saxophone	Mr. S. Smith	Piano	Mrs. A. Morphy
Violin and Cello	Mrs. C. Frith	Piano	Mrs. R. Cornish
Brass	Mr. A. Edwards	Singing	Mrs. R. Slater-Lyons
Guitar	Mr. A. Duncan		

SPEECH DAY

FRIDAY 4TH JULY 2014





HEADMASTER'S ADDRESS

Mr Chairman, Mr Vinken, Honoured Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls.

It is my privilege to deliver my second Speech Day report.

The OSA is very fortunate to have Michael, its President. As a member of the famous Tucker family, I am told that he is related to half the population of North West Devon. Michael has been a teacher for almost forty years and has worked all of that time at another school which is near the village of East Buckland. I am told that he is loved by all there - staff and pupils, and is held in such high regard that a sports field there has unofficially been named Tucker's Field. Having a field there named after a Shebbearian gives me the same reassurance as knowing that Britain owns Gibraltar.

I am also pleased to welcome Adrian Vinken as our Guest Speaker. I gather that Adrian grew up in Shepherd's Bush in West London which is quite close to where I grew up - Chiswick - but not as nice. The name Shepherd's Bush may have excited some of our farming fraternity, but I can tell you that Shepherd's Bush is probably the most unlikely place to see a live sheep in the UK. Adrian is a special person who has



Headmaster:

Mr Simon Weale

Deputy Head:

Mrs Annie Farrell

Chairman:

Mr Michael Tucker, OSA President

New Head Boy:

George Daniel

Guest Speaker:

Mr Adrian Vinken OBE

New Head Girl:

Katie Trask

had a transformational impact on our society by promoting the arts in areas of relative deprivation - he was a driving force behind the establishment of the music venue The Leadmill in Sheffield in the 1980s, and subsequently as Chief Executive of The Theatre Royal in Plymouth he has been responsible for supporting the arts in the South West. I am delighted to welcome someone of his calibre here today.

There is one final guest I want to make a fuss of. David Verney joined Shebbear in 1939 as a boy - quite a year. He has just retired as a Governor after 75 years involvement in the College. That he has been a supporter of us for so long is astonishing. He is a principled and decent man who has Shebbear running through his veins and Mr Saltmarsh, the Chairman of the Governors, is going to present him with a small token of our gratitude.



Well, this time last year I had only been here for a couple of months, so I feel slightly more prepared today, and slightly less of an imposter talking about the school year that is coming to an end. I also now know that the staff have a sweepstake about how long I am going to speak for and so on the basis that the winner takes it all I predict 26 minutes and 52 seconds.

What I didn't realise this time last year was that the day after Speech Day, at about 4.00pm, the tranquil calm of an empty school on that Saturday morning would be shattered by over 160 French children arriving for their Summer School. This immediately prompted me to leave

the school site and book the surfing lesson that I had promised myself.

It was a mixed experience, on the plus side I wasn't stung by any of the venomous aquatic creatures that I had been warned about, but it was unfortunate that as I was undertaking what I thought were perfectly acceptable, although somewhat unnecessary, stretching exercises on the sand I was accosted by a marine mammal conservation group who spent half an hour trying to roll me back into the water, until I was able to explain what I was doing and that what I actually needed was a Costa cappuccino. I do now have a wet suit of my own and a body board, but if you spot me on the coast in the coming weeks I promise not to enter the water until you have eaten your lunch.

So I was able to enjoy the glorious weather last summer here in Devon. Contrary to belief, August is actually a very busy month for schools as we process public exam results. We had really encouraging news about the top end of the school with 22 out of our 26 Upper Sixth leavers going on to university courses - 3 of them abroad to Paris, the USA and Hong Kong. Of the remaining ones, 2 entered the work place and the other 2 sorted out university places prior to taking a gap year. It is a credit to Mr Newitt and the Sixth Form team that they were so well matched to their courses and therefore able to begin the next stage of their journey.

A week later at GCSE we learned of a record number A* and A grades (about 41% - a rise of about 8%) at a time when the national trend showed a decrease in such grades. I won't go on and on about league tables because I don't like them, but these results meant that we went up several places, if not divisions. Such tables don't show how much value the education on offer has added to the pupils, but of course the currency of A* and A grades is very important for getting on to college places. At this top end there were some stella performances with our top 5 performers getting 60 A*

and A grades between them. They are part of a very bright cohort who should be expecting to be realistic contenders for places at the very best universities in the world.

Of course, just as important are those students who get, for example, the C grade they needed to get on to a vocational course or get into the profession they wish to - these aren't things that league tables show, but we are equally proud of.

Those students are our new Upper Sixth and I recently had the very difficult task of choosing a new Prefect Team from them. I am delighted to announce that our new Head Girl is Katie Trask and our new Head Boy is George Daniel.

The other group who received results last August were our departing Upper Sixth, who received their AS results, essentially half their A levels. Doing well at AS levels does make Upper Sixth life much easier, but it doesn't harm to have the odd set back in them because they can serve as a wake-up call (they can be retaken the next summer). This same group are now well placed for life after school, but have the anxious wait for results day in August. They have attracted a string of excellent offers to highly regarded establishments; we have a Natural Sciences offer to King's College Cambridge with a Choral Scholarship, an offer to another student of a place at The Royal College of Music, and a large range of offers to other Russell Group universities.

The Upper Sixth have been a lovely year group and we enjoyed an excellent Leavers' Service and Reception with their parents a few weeks ago. I would very much like to thank Ellen Chamberlain, the Head Girl, and the Deputy Head Girl Megan Furse, who have contributed enormously to the school during their time here, and also to Julius Gemel, the Head Boy and his Deputies Harry Chibbett and Joe Furber. The rest of Sanctuary have fulfilled their roles effectively and the other members of the Upper Sixth have conducted themselves with the right mix of work and play -

they are great young people and they leave with our blessing.

After sorting through the exam results the school year started in earnest last September. We were able to welcome 76 new children (aged from 4 to 18) to Shebbear and we also had 3 splendid additions to the staff in Mr Bee; Head of History, Mr Oxenham; Head of Business Studies and Economics and Miss Simpson in the English Department.

We also made a few innovations to the curriculum. Hopefully our introduction of critical thinking will make your children question the dodgy lines that are fed to them by headmasters. And hopefully, because they have completed modules of the ECDL, the European Computer Driving Licence, they will have an industry standard qualification to ease them into the world of work. The introduction of Business as a GCSE option has been very popular and we have made some progress in our attempts to introduce some vocational qualifications for the Sixth Form from 2015. The school song is, as you probably know, in Latin. I have a dream that in future everyone will know how to translate its words, so I am delighted that, from next term, Latin will be once again taught in the Junior School.

Mr Gove has less than a year guaranteed as Education Secretary before the next election. He has ensured that we are going to have to face a good deal of change in the next few years with major revisions to GCSEs and A Levels, so there is much work to do.

Of course it all starts in our wonderful Kindergarten and our Junior School, where Mr Furber continues to make his mark. Our Junior School is, in reality, a Prep School. It is very different to primary schools because the pupils have so much interaction with specialist teachers, many of them from the Senior School, and they undertake a range of extra-curricular activities that is extraordinary. Mrs Parker, in particular, is effecting a revolution with our Maths teaching and several Junior School children are set to achieve Level 6s in their SATS.



I am struck by the happy, confident children that I meet. This can be out on the school campus as part of their Forest Schools venture or at one of the many activities they undertake. They are not hidden from the highs and lows of competition - having been fairly average at last year's West Buckland Hockey Festival, we won it this year and there were also other victories against West Buckland at cricket and hockey. Yesterday I witnessed the joy (and a few tears) of pupils finding out about their music exam results, but the environment is so supportive that winning or losing is always a learning environment. I am going to ask them to show off now. Last week we were treated to a wonderful production of 'The Wind in the Willows' and now we will hear the final song once again (pictured above).

Another distinct part of our school is our boarding community. At 4.00pm on a Friday when the buses go, the boarding staff don't, and they oversee a truly multi-national community that is happy and flourishing. We have recruited more boarders for September than for many years and this is a great accolade to Mrs Quirk and Mr Sanders, who has only been in the role for a year. Mrs Quirk continues to be our mother wisdom and

ensures that the pastoral care for both day and boarding students is unmatched.

I am also delighted with how well Mrs Lovett has eased into the role of Head of Lower School in her first year.

Our pastoral leaders - Mrs Quirk, Mr Sanders, Mrs Lovett, Mr Parker and Mr Newitt, as well as the Chaplain and Sister, give a crucial support to our community. That community gave typical response in the Autumn with the news that Kieron Bryan had been arrested by the Russian authorities whilst working for Greenpeace in the Arctic ocean. It was a very difficult time for the Bryan family, but the College and the village rallied behind them until Kieron was released.

That sense of community was also evident when I was privileged to visit Hong Kong in April and meet some of our former pupils who still get together regularly to remember their times in Devon. We have educated Cantonese students at Shebbear for many years and they are a key part of this school. They come to England to give themselves a better chance in a hugely competitive job market and like many look back with great fondness at their time at school. One comment that struck me this year came from a sports coach who

had not previously worked in a private school. He said that the great thing about Shebbear is that sport is at the heart of the school, and it is, and I am very pleased about that. The name of the game is mixing participation with excellence. Participation is almost a necessity here, but what has surprised me is the potential and depth of talent in such relatively small year groups.

Our girls sport is unusual in that really it is driven by one person, Miss Ham, and what amazing results. We knew we had a talented Fourth Form and they demonstrated this with several successes on the hockey field and the netball courts. We also knew that we had some excellent Second Form sports women and their hockey season was exceptional. However, the delight came with the wins in the Senior girls hockey and with our First Years as well. Our First VII netball team beat Plymouth College and both our U15 and U12 hockey teams were North Devon Champions. We won most of our matches against old rivals Kelly in both hockey and netball. I was delighted to take many of our U13 and U12 girls on tour to London where they enjoyed a victory against Brentwood School, who later won the English Schools U13 netball cup. Our coaching youth policy of appointing the England over 65 hockey captain Alan Muller as Head Coach has paid big dividends. I guess it is a coincidence that all the teams that I have coached have been brilliantly successful, but of course when all is said and done it is not about the coach.

Our First Form rugby team won the Sevens Tournament we hosted and achieved a number of good wins, including a dramatic second half comeback against West Buckland on Tucker's Field. Our U15s had some good wins at the start and entered the Nat West National Cup and the 1st team also had some early wins but struggled a bit from injuries. The star rugby team had to be the U13s. At the heart of the team were Alessandro Aliberti; our very own manchild, Will Cowan Dickie;

a true Cornish pirate, Stuart Williams; you always need a Welshman, and there was a decent scrum anchored by Charlie Short and Tom Whitmarsh, but everyone in the squad played a part including First Years Will Cunningham and Tom Robins. Watch out for all of these names in the future, between them they had a brilliant season, beating amongst others Plymouth College, West Buckland and Kelly (home and away), Reigate Grammar School, St Vincent Ecole from Biarritz, and Brentwood. They did meet their Waterloo at Truro, where they were under attack from a fantastic side from start to finish, but after Christmas they regrouped to win the North Devon Sevens and were finalists in the Mount House Sevens.

The Third Form had quite a quiet sporting winter, though not for want of trying, and two boys got into the Devon hockey squad, but they have come into their own during the cricket season. With the arrival of two Bajan superstars Shian Braithwaite and Maxwell Lewis we have made the cricketing headlines in Devon. Our U14s lifted the Devon Cup after beating Exmouth Community College (which has more pupils - 400 in a year group - than we have in our whole school) and will now represent Devon in the National U15 Cup.

A great bonus of cricket is that boys and girls can play together and both Eloise Maxa and Heather Mathews were in the cup winning squad. Cricket has enjoyed an excellent term and we have several young players coming through under the guidance of our new cricket coach Tom Allin. Our last summer sports fixture was yesterday against the MCC - it was a fitting way to round off a tremendous sporting year.

Sport is, of course, one way we develop and challenge our students. Another is through our outdoor education and once again we are very grateful to Mrs Akers and her D of E team, particularly Mrs Franklin and Mr Clewley, for giving up so much time at weekends and during holidays. This week four pupils; Will Collins, Will Hill, Alice Cowan-Dickie

and Jed Light successfully completed their final Gold Award Expedition and further down the school a large number are participating in the Bronze Scheme. Meanwhile, after an extensive winter training programme, our Ten Tors team completed the 35 mile challenge, not without the odd SOS call. The finishing team of Heather Mathews, Helen Dalton, Lucy-Ann Nadin, Will Cox and captain, Rob Temple are not the most talkative bunch but they showed a huge range of qualities in very testing conditions.

Equally challenging was the Uganda Expedition that took place last summer, where a number of Sixth Formers were able to help on charity projects in that country. This is an amazing experience and it was only when I waved goodbye to them in the car park that the scale, and slightly scary nature of their venture, came home. Talk about being out of your comfort zone. This is the first time that I have had to consider the risk posed by hippos to my students. Preparations for the next expedition are under way. The indefatigable Mrs Lovett has driven this as part of her oversight of World AIMS - Action in Methodist Schools - and we have continued to support a large number of charities and raised thousands of pounds for them.

I think giving children the chance to perform is wonderful thing, it does so much to develop character and build confidence. On the stage we enjoyed the Seven Golden Dragons, essentially a crazy jaunt through orc land and its highlight was a particularly sinister performance from First Former Tom Robins, who bossed about his pack of Sixth Form orcs. We also had the Sixth Form Panto, not to mention the Staff Murder Mystery.

Our Music Department is also very big on getting children to perform, whatever their level. When I arrived here from my previous school which had five times as many pupils, I wondered how it would be possible to run orchestras when you might not have any players of certain instruments, but we do, and it works.

This year we stepped up to organise and host the North Devon Performing Arts Festival for music. This was formidably organised by Mrs Goode and we as a school did very well. Edward Tai won the North Devon Young Musician of the Year and Henry Cornish won the Most Promising Musician category. We have over 150 instrumental lessons every week and a host of ensembles and choirs. So thank you for the music Mr and Mrs Parker, and the growing team of peris - as a little present we would like to build you a new music block - subject of course to planning permission etc.

Throughout the year our efforts to improve the Shebbear campus have continued at a pace. We have a new Biology lab, designed by Mr Colville, complete with hamster run and friendly snake, a smart new kitchen in the girls' boarding house, refurbished boys' toilets, a solar array, a biomass plant and a new uniform shop. And of course, coming soon, fingers crossed, a new Music Block and a new Sports Pavilion incorporating a Sixth Form Centre. Planning has already started and the funds are in place. Not quite 2 for the price of 1 but we are determined to provide 21st century facilities.

If good facilities help to raise the spirit, nothing really matches the superb art that you will see everywhere around the school. Art at Shebbear is amazing and in Mr Barlow and Mrs Wahl we have 2 incredibly talented and inspirational figures. I don't really need to say anything more.

The final thing I should mention is the inspection which took place this term, and came as a big surprise, being 3 years ahead of schedule. There were some very positive aspects to its findings, essentially the educational side of the school came out very well. But it also found some of our admin practices and systems were at best old fashioned and at worst needed immediate attention. This has taken place, but you will find a report of contrasts when it is finally published during the summer.

End of the year is a time for saying some farewells. Tragically, at the end of last year Sue Clarke, our Head of Housekeeping, died after a short illness. She was a treasured colleague and is missed very much. We also have some colleagues who are not well at the moment but are very much in our thoughts, including Mrs Vassilaki, who is here today, and Mrs Jane Wickett. We send them our love and best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Today we say goodbye to our 2 gappies who will return to Australia to begin university. Shebbear has strong links with Adelaide and it was an Old Shebbearian, David Scott, Head of Boarding at Scots College in Adelaide, who recommended Beth and Harry. Since their arrival in January we have seen their confidence grow. Unbelievably, Harry had not played a formal game of cricket before he came to England. In Australia he plays something called Aussie Rules which enables Australians to win something when they don't win gold medals in the Olympics. And we just know at some point we will see Beth singing the national anthems before a rugby international - she sings at every other opportunity! We wish them well in their future careers.

I am also delighted that we are on the verge of finalising an exchange scheme with Canberra Grammar School. This will mean that some of their students will be coming to Shebbear next term and in exchange some of ours will be able to visit Australia next summer (their winter) to spend a term. I think everything we can do to expose our children to the wider world makes it more likely that they will be resilient, effective citizens of tomorrow.

Kim Franklin has worked at Shebbear for 13 years and, as Examinations Officer, has had to be the most organised person in the school. Kim gets on with things, be it her exam work, form tutoring, learning support, ESL, D of E or helping with a range of plays and performances. She will be sorely missed as everyone

quickly realises she actually runs the school. She has decided to move on and explore some other career opportunities, but in the mean time will spend some time relaxing in Widemouth.

We also say goodbye to Stuart Clewley who has been our Physics teacher for the last 6 years. He has a gentle manner and his popularity with his students stems from the fact that he teaches very well. He has made other major contributions to the pastoral team and to the D of E scheme and he is another tough act to follow. Unfortunately he is also taking his multi-tasking wife Laura, she is a true super trouper who always has a smile on her face, between them they juggle the demands of having 4 children under the age of 6 with working 18 hours of most days. They have helped innovate Camp Pyke, where boarders can stay in school for half term rather than face huge journeys home. As host, Mr Clewley used the skills he learned in previous careers as a chef and as the person who fed the sealions at Longleat. The Clewleys are moving to the prestigious British School in Paris and we wish them all the best and look forward to imposing on them for cheap holidays.

My final task is to thank the Governors for their continued work at the school. As I get to know them it is amazing how much time they give to the school. If they charged their professional rates for their time it would very costly indeed. And to thank the staff. This is a small school and I can tell you that it is much harder to work here than in a bigger establishment where you can escape the spotlight. We are going to hear all about the pupil achievements in a minute, but without the committed staff at this school, whether they are teaching staff or non-teaching staff, nothing would happen.

And finally the pupils. We are about to celebrate your achievements. You make this day what it is and you make this school what it is. Enjoy the break and make next year even better.

PRIZES & DONORS

We acknowledge, with gratitude, the sources from which the Prize Fund is maintained and honour the names which are recorded in the bequests.

Memorials to:

James Thorne
Thomas Braund
Charles Raab
Simon Rattenbury
Jonathan Pickard
J. D. Prior
A. W. Cock
John Dymond
The Rev'd A. Oolds
David Hodges
James Coffman
The Beckly Scholarship Fund
The Colin Ley Art Prizes
The F.T.B. Lawson Prizes
The Westcott Prize for Drama
The John Blainey Computing Prize
The Marcus Godfrey Stone
Junior School Prize

Junior School Prizes

Kindergarten Class Prize

Lydia Andrews

Progress Prize

Thomas Clewley

Academic Year Prize

Year 1: Isobel Gee
Year 2: Sebastian Crookes
Year 3: Cameron Watt
Year 4: Eliza Stenning
Year 5: Harrison Mitchell

Progress Prize

Katherine Huxtable
Ethan Jones
Jessica Prichard
William Brown
Niamh Short

Junior School Sportspersons

Cameron Young
Lewis Whitten

Junior School Academic Prizes

The Arts: Archie Boycott
English: Ellerker Singleton
Mathematics: Matthew Honey
Science: Jabez Kent
Year 6 Progress: Bridget Mathews
Marcus Godfrey Stone Prize:
Bess Scambler
Leslie Clark Prize: Billie Powell

Senior School Prizes

Form 1 Academic Prize

Anna Walter

Form 1 Progress Prize

Toby Biggs

Form 2 Academic Prize

Antonia Aliberti

Form 2 Progress Prize

Jed Foster

Form 3 Academic Prize

Theo Crookes

Form 3 Progress Prize

Helen Dalton

Lower School Learning Prize

Jess Alexander

Form 4 Academic Prizes

Art: Ellie Bird
Business Education: Harry Dymond
English: Hana Fletcher
French: Rosie Garnett
Mathematics: Connie Bromhead
Music: Cameron Mills

Physical Education: Tabitha Kirkwood
Science: Minnie Alexander
Spanish: Tabitha Kirkwood
Technology: Nadia Blaskiewicz
Progress Prize: Miles Coward

Form 5 Academic Excellence

Angus Crookes
Rupert Dymond
Joseph Ho
Madeleine Fong
Ross Bennett
Eva Ho
Tom Routly
Pip Mahoney
Lauren Johns
Jennifer Martin

The Robinson's Cup for Geography Coursework

Ross Bennett

English as a Second Language Prize

Victor Nitsch

Lower Sixth Academic Prizes

Applied Business Studies: Emily Dunn
Art & Design: Sam Westlake
Biology: Alice Cowan-Dickie
Chemistry: Tom Hill
Economics: Salah Gobara
English Literature: George Daniel
Further Mathematics: Tom Hill
Geography: George Daniel
History: George Daniel
Mathematics: Jimmy So
Media Studies: Connor Roberts
Music: Jimmy So
Physics: Jack Honey
Psychology: Salah Gobara
Religious Studies: Sean Clark

Upper Sixth Academic Prizes

Applied Business Studies: Joe Furber
 Art & Design: Saskia Weale
 Biology: Cameron Burnett
 Chemistry: William Collins
 Economics: Ellen Chamberlain
 English Language: Meg Furse
 English Literature: Meg Furse
 Further Mathematics: William Collins
 Geography: Emma Dixon
 History: Ellen Chamberlain
 Mathematics: Julius Gemmel
 Media Studies: Matt Davey
 Music: Emily Neal
 Physical Education: Francesca Traxton
 Physics: Matt Davey
 Psychology: Emma Dixon
 Religious Studies: Saskia Weale

David Hodges Memorial Prize

for Investigation Work in Mathematics
 (3rd Former)
 Theo Crookes

The Arnold Cup

for Best A Level Results 2013
 Jason Lui

Leslie Clark Prize

for Best GCSE Results 2013
 Emilio Aliberti

John Lill Music Prize

William Collins

John Featherstone Art Appreciation Prize

Summer Dunscombe

The Westcott Prize for Drama

Cameron Mills

James Coffman Memorial Prize

for Good Character (3rd former)
 Marton Busa

Rounsefell Prize

for History Coursework
 Saskia Weale

John Dymond Memorial Prize

Awarded to a Valued Member of the
 School Community (6th Former)
 Megan Furse

The Old Shebbearian Association Prize

for Grit and Perseverance
 Jess Lambert

W. Paul Prize

for Creative Writing
 Joe Furber

The Evans Shield

for Service to the School Community
 Henry Cornish

The John Blainey Memorial Prize

for ICT
 Pip Mahoney

The Tom Venner Memorial Prize

Megan Furse

The Jon Colpus Memorial Cup

for Inter-house Competition
 Way House

Sports Person of the Year

Megan Furse

Minor Sports Person of the Year

Dillon Chalmers

Girls' Award for Sporting Commitment

Ellen Chamberlain

Boys' Award for Sporting Commitment

Joe Furber

Sports Team of the Year

U13 Rugby





HOUSE

For the second year in a row Way were victorious in the House completion and lifted the Colpus Cup at Speech Day. The margin of victory increased this year with Way sealing their win by 144 points. The year had started with the Chapel relay and drama competition, which laid the foundation for the year. However, Thorne House staff University Challenge quiz team performed outstandingly beating the other two Houses convincingly. Ruddell and Way had an almighty battle at Sports Day with Way emerging the winner by a margin of 4 points.

Overall, it was a very competitive and closely fought House competition and we look forward to the same next year!



Headmaster's Prize 2013 - 2014

Head Girl: Ellen Chamberlain (above) Head Boy: Julius Gemmel (above)
Deputies: Harry Chibbett, Joe Furber and Megan Furse



A presentation was made to David Verney in recognition of his 75 years of association with Shebbear College as pupil, Old Shebbearian and Governor.

SANCTUARY



School Prefects (2013 – 2014):

Top Row: Cameron Burnett, Matt Davey, Joe Furber, Julius Gemmel, Harry Chibbett, Will Hill

Bottom Row: Emily Neal, Josephine Richards, Saskia Weale, Megan Furse, Ellen Chamberlain,
Emma Dixon, Catherine Kotarski, Francesca Traxton, Jess Lambert

ARRIVALS



Charlotte Simpson

As soon as I graduated from the University of Exeter with a degree in Classics (Latin and Ancient Greek), I started a job as a junior

public-sector consultant in London. After only a few months, I decided that this particular career choice was not for me and on 2nd September 2013, I was back in Devon, preparing for staff induction, as maternity cover for Marie O'Shaughnessy.

For so long, through childhood and adolescence into young adulthood, you work towards that day that you graduate from school and education. For this reason, I do find it amusing that I have done so, only to return to school as a career choice. I have always enjoyed teaching in any capacity: as a tutor or on the sports' field. However, I do consider both the fond memories and experiences I had at school myself and the lasting impressions and academic and life lessons taught by my teachers, a key factor in my returning to an education institution.

Since leaving school myself, I have had many different part-time and temp jobs before, during and throughout the summers of my time at University. These have included: working at the London Institute for Cancer Research; bar and restaurant work; sales positions at Tomy (the toy company); paid singing gigs at parties, weddings and funerals; various operations/administration roles and an internship for Hugo Boss' fragrance team at the advertising company, Grey-London. However, for the last 8 years, I have entertained the idea of pursuing a career in the British military and with my mind now made up to make teaching my primary career, I am proud to state that I am currently in training as a soldier in the British Army Reserves (formally the TA).

I have settled into life at Shebbear College very well and with my PGCE successfully accomplished, I am also enjoying the added responsibilities of Deputy Housemistress of Ruddle House - where I now live, and also being a lower school tutor. My primary teaching subject is English but I still manage to include Classical references, stories and ancient philosophy wherever possible - and relevant! I am still able to keep up my classical language skills by teaching Latin to Junior 5 and 6, in addition to some of our older German students.

In a limited number of other occupations can you so freely unite your day-job and your hobbies and interests. I would classify literature and reading as two of my passions and I am able to do so and teach our students every day. I love all sports, as a spectator or player and my main sports are hockey, tennis and netball. Although my most recent competitive sport is Jiu-Jitsu and various other martial arts, I am thoroughly enjoying coaching and managing the U13 girls' sports teams in hockey and netball. Music is another of my interests and as a classically trained singer, during my working week, I am also able to rehearse and perform as part of the staff and sixth form choir.



Leon Oxenham

Leon Oxenham arrived at Shebbear College as the Head of Business Studies and Economics.

Born and bred in Exeter, Devon he returns to the West Country from a stint up north (Lancaster) and then London. He studied Accounting and Finance at the University of Lancaster and trained as a teacher at the Institute of Education in London. His interest in business stems from his work on the financial side of business, particularly with small businesses and how they make up society and employment for

so many. The "theory of business" is secondary to the application in the real world which makes the subject ever-changing, and very exciting. Leon has taught for 18 years in North London at Southgate School and the Latymer School, Edmonton.

Leon also arrives to help out with coaching of the school's hockey. He has been a player at Old Loughtonians, Crostyx, Southgate Adelaide and Exeter and Culm Vale Hornets whilst currently playing for Okehampton 1st XI. Also in his leisure time, Leon tries his hand at songwriting and has released two (not-quite number one) songs.



Simon Bee

In September Simon Bee joined Shebbear as its new Head of History and in doing so fulfilled his lofty ambition of living and

working in Devon. Originally from Worcestershire he has had a varied career path. At the tender age of 19 he became a policeman in the Avon & Somerset Constabulary. After a ten year stint in the Force, working as a city and rural beat officer and on the Juvenile Bureau in Bristol, he took the opportunity to switch to teaching. As a 'mature' student he graduated from Cheltenham & Gloucester with a degree in History with English and later with a PGCE in History with PE. He subsequently taught in Hereford, Tewkesbury and latterly at the Royal Grammar School Worcester. As well as teaching History he will be coaching rugby and helping out with cricket.

He is married to Mandy and is the proud father of three sons, all now grown-up. In his spare time he enjoys watching them play rugby, walking the dog, cycling and learning to surf.

DEPARTURES

Farewell to Mrs Franklin



Kim Franklin arrived at Shebbear in 2003, bringing with her, her son Matthew and daughter Hannah. With an academic background in music and a career in banking as an actuary Mrs Franklin deployed her many talents and skills to our benefit, not least as an LSA in both junior and secondary schools. Mrs Franklin played in the orchestra, sang in the choir and was always keen to lend a hand. She proceeded to add further feathers to her cap latterly by becoming a teacher of ESL and exams officer. There are so many students that have Mrs Franklin to thank for their exam successes!

Absolutely fastidious in her organisation, Mrs Kim Franklin was an

exams officer of the highest calibre: meticulous about the details, Mrs Franklin was always one step ahead and able to anticipate student requirements.

Mrs Franklin assisted in many ways with school plays and acted as wardrobe mistress. She was an invaluable help to Mrs Akers in running the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and became an expedition supervisor. All things said, she was an assistant, officer, mistress, supervisor, teacher and colleague. We will miss her greatly!

Stuart Clewley

Stuart Clewley joined the Science Department at Shebbear College in spring 2008 - as a trainee teacher studying for his PGCE at Bath University. On his placement at the College, Stuart struck me as being a person ideally suited to teaching. He was an extremely well-organised individual and coped superbly with the administrative demands of the job. He was, at all times, a very calm young man who displayed patience, generosity and consideration towards others. Stuart was very positive in his assessment of others and always appreciated the good qualities of the young people that he taught. He was firm with regard to discipline and fair at all times. He had

high expectations of his students who invariably achieved excellent academic results.

When the position of Head of Physics at the College became vacant later on that year, we had absolutely no hesitation in offering the job to Stuart, who duly accepted the post. And what an appointment it turned out to be! One could not have wished for a better colleague to work with. He was engaged in many different areas of College life and involved his lovely wife Laura and their delightful children wherever possible. He put a lot of energy and initiative into the many activities that he was involved in over the six years that he worked at Shebbear, including setting up an Astronomy GCSE group and helping to run the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at the College. As a tutor, he was second to none in his pastoral care of students of all ages. His lessons were interesting and enjoyed by students of all abilities. Alas, in life, everything passes and everything changes. For six years, however, between 2008 and 2014, life at Shebbear College was enriched enormously by the presence of Mr Stuart Clewley. We wish Stuart and his family every success in the future as they move forward in life!

Dr. Stephen Crook



SPORT AT SHEBBEAR COLLEGE



1st XV Rugby

The 2013 senior rugby season started well, the 2nd XV were in their second year, so the boys were used to training as a large squad and there was competition for places in the 1st XV (above). Keeping the boys playing throughout their U16 age group is crucial and the benefits of having the team running were starting to be seen in the 1st XV.

The depth we had in the squad was obvious when we played our first game v Bideford RFC. It was played as a warm up game so it was broken into sections. We started very well dominating the breakdown. Harry Chibbett ran very well with ball in hand. We then played 2 x 10min sections where each team had the ball and attacked. This tested both our attack and defence in turn and highlighted areas to work on for our next game v Kelly. We finished with two 10min halves during which we showed promise in attack, at the final whistle we finished on top of a well organised Bideford side. A great game and good to start the season on such a positive note.

Next we faced Kelly in our first competitive game. As usual Kelly were strong, but we put all the pressure on early through a powerful run from captain Harry Chibbett who off-loaded

to man of the match Connor Roberts and scored our first points, 7-0. The perfect conditions helped the game to stay open, with both sides running well. The half ebbed and flowed and we arrived at half time down 7 points to 10. Unfortunately, we didn't counter Kelly's only attacking platform which was through their strong No 8 and Kelly scored twice more, 7-20. Kelly then went on to score twice more in the final few minutes leaving the score 7-30, flattering Kelly. Combined with Connor, there were decent performances from Emilio Alberti, hooker Salah Gobara and great tackling from substitute winger Sean Clark.

A week of preparations allowed some bruised bodies to mend and work through our patterns. The Saturday block fixture was against Kingsley, and a large squad of 1st and 2nd team players was selected. The dominant Shebbear side managed to keep control of the game from the start. The final score was 60-0, with hatricks from man of the match Olly Dallyn, as well as Joe Gobara and Jonas Weiss. Due to the nature of the game with lots of substitutes rolling on and off, we did not get a chance to practise patterns, so there was a lot to do ahead of the first outing in the RFU Nat West cup competition against Tavistock 10 days later. This game was tough from the



moment we got off the bus in Tavistock. They played together as the local colts side, and the intensity Tavistock started with intimidated the Shebbear side. The first half was a wake up, but a much improved second half was once again too little too late. Even powerful running from Seb Sanders and an exceptional passage of play when Shebbear ran the ball from deep in their own half through almost the entire teams hands, and set up a series of phases to score. It was nice to prove to ourselves and the opposition that when we tune in we are capable of some outstanding rugby as individuals and as a team. Man of the match was Seb Sanders.

The following Wednesday the 1st XV had another cup game, this time the Devon Cup and we played Plymouth College. Traditionally a very tough fixture and this game was no exception. However, for the first half Shebbear attacked the breakdown, ran hard and the defence was excellent. It was very encouraging to see that the work we had done in the week paid off.

The score at half time was only just in Plymouth's advantage. However, Plymouth's size and fitness was always going to take control of the game, and combined with some silly decision making from Shebbear in the second half, Plymouth secured a comfortable win. Congratulations to Timmy Kivell



for an excellent man of the match performance.

At this point in the season we start to realise how tough our fixture list is, and next up we faced Queens College. Another school twice our size but we were confident from the previous year's game that we could challenge them. We scored 3 tries, and all of them were excellent. The first two following a period of Shebbear pressure a lot of work by all players, the third was a powerful length of the field run by Joe Gobara which received much applause from the large crowd of parents and pupils. The man of the match award was split between the captain Harry Chibbett, and his vice Joe Gobara. Harry once again did all the work you don't see. Joe was strong with ball in hand, fast and powerful in attack and defence. The game was a loss, but the strides we made forwards since the previous weeks were huge and a credit to the boys.

The following games against West Buckland and Blundell's did not result in wins for Shebbear, the main problem being that we were giving away too much in terms of size and weight to other teams in the tight 5. Being a very small and young pack meant that our technique was crucial to not get 'out muscled'. The most disappointing loss for some time was against West

Buckland, and I think all players and spectators (including a number of Old Shebbearians), realised this was a game that could have gone either way, but some very silly decision making and poor executions of penalty kicks to touch meant we put ourselves in very difficult positions. The game went in the visitors favour, and once again Shebbear found themselves needing a win away at West Buck in a huge final weekend of the season to scratch an annoying itch. Much work needed to be done.

A turning point in the season was the preparation for the game against Truro 2nd XV. Truro being a strong rugby school provided tough opposition and the 2013 fixture was no exception. However, for the first time in the season the Shebbear side managed to put a complete performance, and with 5mins to go and Shebbear trailing 24-22 Tom Routly looked set to score after a powerful break by Joe Gobara and some outstanding inter play between forwards and backs to recycle the ball. Unfortunately Routly was bundled into the corner flag, and the try was disallowed. The result stayed with Truro, but the Shebbear side proved to the spectators, and themselves that they can play. Bailey Miles was exceptional at open side flanker, and Seb Sanders and Jack Warren were

strong in the set piece and with ball in hand. The good news for us was that both those players carried their performance into the following game against Kingsley. It was clear from the first 10mins that Shebbear were the dominant side, and the score of 24-0 in our favour was an indication of how that game was to go. All coaches decided it would be beneficial to all to mix the teams up, and with some of the stronger Shebbear players lent to Kingsley, they played almost a complete second XV for Shebbear. The game was competitive with both sides playing excellent rugby, and it was a great display of rugby played for the right reasons. Our final outing was back to West Buckland, and although we started confidently, we made some simple mistakes and did not manage to challenge the mid field with enough aggression to stop them moving the ball wide. Although it was close, the result was a disappointing defeat to add to the tally for the season.

The team had once again grown through the season, and it seems a great shame a number of the boys would not return to play the following year. As a coach it is a real privilege to watch a team grow and improve in maturity, skills and confidence, and the skills the boys learn will stand them in good stead for the future. Each player



could have a good future ahead if they continue to enjoy rugby, and I hope that the taste they have developed for it at school will stay with them for many years.

2nd XV Rugby

The 2nd XV (above) continued to develop with matches played on Saturdays and Wednesdays. The boys worked hard and enjoyed playing rugby in a relaxed atmosphere. As well as providing the 1st XV fringe players with game time, the 2nds help to bridge the gap between 'junior' and 'senior' rugby, and it gives a great platform for skills to develop.

Matches during the 2014/15 season will be mainly on Wednesdays, and with over 35 boys regularly at training it is clear that rugby is a game the boys enjoy playing.

U15 Rugby

The Under 15s began their season in style by beating a competent Kelly side 40 points to 5, with tries scored throughout the team and a brace from Tom Squire who also added 10 points with his boot. With the powerful running of big Mark Withecombe, the tenacity of Ollie Rogerson and the athleticism of Will Cox the forwards looked unstoppable. When linked by the skills of Harry

Dymond to a talented back line led by Tom, the team promised to achieve great things. The next match saw them perform equally well but not quite well enough, just losing out to Pilton by 21 points to 19. But against St Joseph's they were back to their winning ways with a hat-trick for Mark and a 49-5 win.

Unfortunately, with a few injuries and absences, the boys were well-beaten by a fast running and skilful Plymouth side away from home on 12th October. They bounced back again in November though with a remarkable win against Blundells. In this match the midfield won the day by pounding Blundells' defence. Patrick Marks scored four tries and James Hibben opened his account with two. In the following match, another win against Kingsley this time, Blake scored a blistering try running the ball in from at least five yards. He trained hard throughout the season and improved his technique both on the front row and in the tackle area.

Indeed all of the team made great progress and learned collectively that the game of rugby is as much about attitude as it is skill and strength. When the boys trained at 100% they played at 100% and on those occasions they proved that they could live with any opposition.



U14 Rugby

The Under 14s endured a tough season in 2013, competing against a number of strong sides in their age category.

Some early season defeats were compounded by the loss of key player Ryan Stairs to a serious, long term knee injury. The rest of the squad showed a strong desire to improve and get results throughout the season, and their hard work was rewarded with positive results against Kelly and Kingsley.

Notable performers in the Under 14s included Ben Parker, Will Balkwill-Western and Jabez Weale, who all produced consistently good levels of performance, very often in trying circumstances.

The season also saw the emergence of Callum Hendry and Ben Roberts, who came into the side and performed exceptionally well.

The highlight of the season came against Truro School, where after an enthralling and competitive game the side unfortunately lost out to a last minute try. However, the performance of the boys showed just how far they had come over the course of the year.



U13 Rugby

Despite being preoccupied for much of the term with a situation unfolding some considerable distance to the east of Shebbear, I was nevertheless fortunate enough to watch and encourage the U13s in what turned out to be a remarkably successful season, and for the great strides which they made, thanks should go to Mr Sanders and Mr Weale, who spent many hours working on improving the boys' approach to the game of rugby.

The seeds of a successful season were sown very early on, with wins at Mount House (pictured above, 55-31) and then at home to Kelly College (34-21) – a side who had twice beaten the boys by 50 points as U12s!

There then followed matches against Kingsley School and Exeter Cathedral in which it became very clear that few, if any, schools would be able to cope with the pace, strength and determination of Will Cowan-Dickie, Alessandro Aliberti and Stuart Williams, all of whom seemed capable of scoring tries at will. To add to the number of tries, it was evident that Will Cowan-Dickie had also developed his kicking skills and he rarely missed a conversion throughout the season.

Plymouth College at home was the next test for the boys and they came through

a close examination of their defensive qualities with flying colours, with 2 tries from Stuart Williams proving to be the difference in a 26-21 victory. The West Buckland fixture saw the boys cruise to a more comfortable victory with the strong running of Alessandro Aliberti (3 tries) proving too much for the visitors' defence and several substitutions late on allowed West Buckland to run in a couple of late tries to give them a rather flattering scoreline of 45-17.

It was unfortunate that because of our past performances against Exeter School, we were unable to secure a fixture against their full 'A' side and consequently a score of 59-24 (with both Alessandro Aliberti and Will Cowan-Dickie having been removed from the action before half time) was no real surprise. The return match at home to Kelly College was another one-sided affair with Will and Alessandro sharing the 8 tries in a 48-19 win.

However, the trip to Truro proved to be something of an eye-opener for the boys as they were brushed aside by a strong-running back line which ran in 10 tries before the referee brought the match to an early close.

Wins over Kingsley School(66-5) and West Buckland(36-10) restored the boys' confidence somewhat and so the regular season ended with an



impressive record - played 11, won 10, lost 1 and, together with a successful tour to Essex and some 7s tournament wins, saw the team receive the Team of the Year award on Speech Day.

U12 Rugby

The First Form have only just started their sporting careers at Shebbear, but their rugby team has proved to be very competitive with several classically close encounters against our biggest rivals West Buckland (narrow win), Kelly (draw and a narrow loss), and Plymouth College (narrow loss). The star player has been Will Cunningham who has scored a hatful of tries and was the key player when the team won the inaugural Shebbear U12 Festival, beating St Joseph's, Kingsley, and Mount House in the process.

Rugby 7's

In addition to hockey and football in the Lent Term, Shebbear also plays rugby 7s. All the age groups enter tournaments locally and we compete well across the age groups. In 2014 this was no exception and our Junior Teams travelled to the North Devon Schools' 7s at West Buckland.

The U15s put up a decent fight against a strong Blundell's side, but were knocked out of the main competition.



However, in the plate competition they looked a different side, and started to move the ball well and exploit weaknesses in opponents' defences. This earned them a place in the semi-finals, but unfortunately a competition administrative error meant their win in the semi-final did not take them into the finals. This was a real shame for a side that did not achieve much success in the 15- a-side season.

The U13s also had a good day at the North Devon 7s. They faced Pilton in the final and won it comfortably; the next test for them was a trip to the Devon finals at Blundells. This competition was through qualification only, and hosted the best 8 teams in the county at U13 and U15 age groups.

Along with Ivybridge and Blundells, Shebbear was one of the of few sides to have both U13 and U15s teams in the competition, an example of how well the boys are doing in the reduced numbers version of the game. The 15s had a tough day, but our fast developing U13s made it to the semis where their journey was ended by a powerful Ivybridge side.

Another event for the U13s was the Prep School 7s at Mount House. The team played some excellent rugby and deservedly beat opposition from West Buckland and St Peters to earn a place

in the finals against hosts Mount House. This was a very close game, and could have gone either way. Fortunately for Mount House, they managed to avoid a tackle from Alessandro Aliberti and scored a breakaway try to win the game. It was an excellent effort from all involved. Stuart Williams, Tom Robins, Eddie Jones and Will Cunningham were quality throughout.

The Seniors entered two events, but unfortunately the Devon 7s at West Buckland was cancelled due to inclement weather. The next event was a 10s tournament at Kelly. Although this competition did not lead anywhere it was good to play in a different format of the game. It took the Shebbear side a while to adjust to playing 10s, but when we did, we linked up forwards and back, winning quick, clean ball and moving the ball wide which was a joy to watch. It was great to watch all the teams develop well in this form of the game. I maintain we bat well above our average with sport at Shebbear, and the rugby 7s is no exception to this. My thanks once again to the parents, staff and pupils who make this possible.

1st XI Football

Following four seasons which had seen only 6 defeats in 38 matches, it was always going to be a tough ask for the



1st XI to keep the run going, especially with a much more challenging fixture list in 2014.

However, a useful warm-up match against Kingsley saw the boys beginning to show an understanding of what the coaches were looking for, and with Reece Stanbury scoring 5 of the team's 8 goals, the prospects for the season looked promising.

However, the next match against Exeter School – always one of the tougher opponents – saw a couple of avoidable defensive errors cost us the game – a match which we thought we should have won, but instead finally going down 3-2.

Travelling to Wellington to play on an extremely muddy pitch against a much more physical side was a daunting task for our young side and it was not surprising that we turned round 2-0 down at half time. However, we clearly had the more skilful players and with the defence tightening up in the second half, skipper Joe Furber and Ross Bennett began to take control in midfield and supplied striker Reece Stanbury with three great opportunities which he finished clinically, to give the team an unlikely, but thoroughly deserved, 3-2 win.

There followed three more comfortable wins against Kelly College(6-2), with



Joe Furber scoring a hat-trick, Blundells 2nds (5-0) and another win over Kingsley School (3-1) albeit with a much weakened side.

The next three matches were without doubt always going to be a huge challenge for the boys and despite defeat in all three, the team spirit remained high and there were some outstanding performances, not least by Harry Landymore in goal who so often kept us in matches when the opposition were dominating. A 2-0 defeat at Truro was disappointing, as we failed to take our chances and were caught on the break for both goals, but we could have no complaints about a 4-1 defeat against Plymouth College, who thoroughly deserved their victory and were probably the best side we met all season. The last of the three defeats was against Taunton School, a side we had beaten last year and who sent a much stronger side, although the 3-0 scoreline definitely flattered them.

Blundells had made contact to see if we would like to play their 1st XI as we had had such a comfortable win against their seconds and so we travelled to Tiverton, knowing with just one more match to play (against the Staff) a good result would guarantee a winning season. We had clearly saved our best performance for this game

as we matched the opposition in every department and having gone behind, snatched a late victory with a brace from top scorer Reece Stanbury. However, it was Matt Davey, Michael Haley, Sean Clark and Conner Roberts in defence and Joe Furber, Bailey Miles, Harry Dymond and Ross Bennett in midfield, all of whom were outstanding and together with a brilliant save by Harry Landymore in the final minute, that won us the game.

The boys were still on a high when they came up against a physical staff side in the final match of the season and it took some time for them to find a way past the defence, but it was the right result in the end, with Matt Davey making sure of victory, scoring late on to make it 3-1 with a stunning left foot drive from fully 25 metres, in his final appearance for the college.

So, a record of 7 wins and 4 defeats still makes it a successful season and my thanks go to all those who represented the side, but particularly to Joe Furber and Matt Davey who set such a fine example both in training and matches through their commitment and enthusiasm for the game. I would also like to thank Nick Law for all his hard work in taking the lead in training sessions and for refereeing the home matches.



Football Round-Up

As has been the case for the past few years now, football for teams below 1st XI level has been severely limited by a variety of circumstances – a shorter term, hockey fixtures and rugby sevens all playing their part.

However, we did manage to arrange a number of small-sided tournaments for the U12s and U13s against Kingsley and St. Joseph's and these proved to be both popular with the students and successful in terms of results.

Other matches for the U12s and U13s proved to be more challenging, though a 3-3 draw with Budehaven (Sophie Gillies scoring a hat-trick) was commendable and though Truro proved to be too strong, there is plenty of talent in those year groups, both male and female, which can be developed.

Wellington, Truro, Kingsley, Holsworthy and Blundells provided the opposition for the U14s and U15s and with one or two exceptions the matches were generally closely contested affairs and had Harry Dymond not been 'poached' by the 1st XI, the results may have been better.

Boys' Hockey

Last year's hockey season began with great promise as the 1st XI squad trained hard in the run-up to match



day one and showed signs of improved understanding of the game.

Still in its infancy, hockey at Shebbear has a long way to go in order to become a force to be reckoned with, but the signs are positive. However, if the team's success was to be measured only by results we would have to concede that the season fell short of early expectations. After a narrow 3-2 defeat at home to Plymouth in game one and another 2-1 home loss to Wellsway School, Bristol, the squad suffered heavy 4-0 losses to Kelly College and West Buckland.

Quite simply it was a case of what might have been, as in both the Plymouth and Wellsway fixtures Shebbear had the lead and but for last minute goals from our opposition in both games, the score lines would have been more reflective of what had happened on the pitch.

1st XI Hockey

Lost to Plymouth	2-3 (Home)
Lost to Wellsway	1-2 (Home)
Lost to West Buckland	0-4 (Away)
Lost to Kelly	0-4 (Home)

There was more encouraging news from our U14/15 side, who despite losing their first match 4-2 against Kelly, drew the following game at Kingsley 0-0. In addition, our U12/13 side travelled to Plymouth in the second half of the year and won 3-2.

The most encouraging news at the Junior and Middles level was the number of boys involved across all year groups and there is clearly potential for single age group sides in the near future. I'd like to thank Mr Muller and Mr Oxenham for their continued commitment to improving the boys' skills and understanding of the game; their experience is invaluable if we are to compete on a more even footing next season.

1st XI Cricket

It was with some concern that the coaches arrived for the opening match of the season, with the knowledge that (supposedly) the fastest bowler in the South West would be arriving with the Wellington School team. It was something of a relief then when Reece Stanbury lost the toss and had to take the field first in this 35 overs-a-side match.

This also allowed Shian Braithwaite, who had literally arrived from Barbados that morning, time to adjust somewhat to the cooler Shebbear conditions. It was encouraging to see all the bowlers performing well at the start of the season - Matt Davey the pick of the bunch taking 2-26 in 6 overs - and helping restrict Wellington to 172-7.

However, that was where the positives came to a juddering halt, as our top order was blown away by Wellington's

quick bowlers and with only three players troubling the scorers in a total of 43 all out, we were beaten by 129 runs. One ray of light however was Shian Braithwaite, who stroked an impressive 32 and showed that he was ready to take on any bowling - whatever the speed.

Just two weeks later we travelled to Wellington for what should have been a quadrangular T20, with Kelly and Plymouth joining the hosts and ourselves. However, when we arrived at 10.00am expecting to play Plymouth College in our first match, we were told that Kelly had pulled out and we would have to wait until just before 2.00pm before playing the losers of the first game. With the boys now facing the prospect of having to play Wellington again, probably in their second match, so soon after the thrashing at home, it was very difficult to keep their motivation high. However, as expected, it was Plymouth who were our first opponents and in our 18 overs we managed a reasonable 88 all out, Matt Davey top scoring with 16.

Tight bowling from Matt Davey, Conner Roberts and Shian Braithwaite, together with some suicidal running by the Plymouth College boys, saw them needing 8 from the final over and a boundary from the last ball. Conner Roberts kept his head and a run out



secured an unlikely victory by just 3 runs. It is remarkable just how much difference a win can make to a team's confidence and so it was on this occasion, as we faced Wellington in the 'final'. Put in to bat, Shian held the innings together scoring 45 in our total of 110-9 and then turned the screw when he opened the bowling (3-12) and helped to reduce the home side to 26-6 and game over – or so the boys thought! However, cricket has a habit of turning up the unexpected and Wellington recovered through some solid middle order batting and, in a repeat of our first match, just 4 runs were required from the final ball to snatch victory for the hosts.

Once again Conner Roberts held his nerve and Wellington managed just a single to give us victory by 2 runs in a thrilling match and how different the mood was on the return journey to Shebbear!

Almost a month then passed before the team faced West Buckland in a 30 overs-a-side match at Shebbear and with skipper Reece Stanbury (57) finally finding some form with the bat, a score of 144 all out was a challenging target for the visitors. It should be said that it is likely that we would have scored more had we had a full complement of boys playing, but we were let down by two and were forced to persuade our scorer,

Meg Ryder-Green, and supporter, Lucy Taylor to help us out and they proved to be invaluable in the field.

Once again it was our opening bowlers – the spin of Shian and swing of Connor that gave us a real chance of victory, restricting West Buckland early on, but it was not quite enough as they hit the winning run with 7 wickets down and just 6 balls remaining.

Just two matches remained – the annual fixture against the OSA and the inaugural match against M.C.C. – in the final week of the term. The OSA were persuaded to allow the 1st XI to bat first and Shian (30) got the boys off to a flying start, before he was well caught at mid-off, giving Harry Landymore a well-deserved wicket.

It was then left to Maxwell Lewis (31) to steady the innings and with the help of a whirlwind knock by Jack Warren (32), which included three sixes, the college could be satisfied with their total of 177-6 in their 30 overs. Then it was the fiery opening spell from U14 Jabez Weale (3-24) that left the OSA reeling on 31-4 and then 60-6, before James Corry (57) was joined by Peter Bowes (35) and the pair took the score to within 20 runs of their target. However, some nerveless spin bowling at the death from Lewis (2-40) and Carl Stanbury (2-18) saw the boys secure a 3-run victory and Maxwell Lewis,

for his contribution with both bat and ball, received the Man of the Match award.

The match against M.C.C. was a different affair altogether and one which the boys relished. Their bowling and fielding was exemplary throughout the 41 overs of the visitors' innings and once again it was U14s Maxwell Lewis (4-60), Jabez Weale and Shian Braithwaite who shone. A total of 224-6 dec. was always going to be a tall order for a side that had relied heavily on the 'Barbados factor' throughout the season and when Shian was dismissed by an outstanding catch at short extra cover for just 14, the coach feared the worst. However, the side made the M.C.C. bowlers work hard for their wickets and it was a relief to see the total reach 110 before the last wicket fell.

Pimms (for the adults) and sandwiches followed in a most enjoyable post-match social gathering and both sides went away with the feeling that it had been a worthwhile fixture.

Finally, my thanks go once again to Alan Poole who continues to produce wickets of a good standard, giving both bat and ball a fair chance and also to the two visitors from Barbados – Shian and Maxwell. The boys not only played a crucial role in helping the U14 side to win the Devon Cup, but their attitude both on and off the field was a credit to



their families and school and they will be missed by all those who met and played with them. They would certainly be welcome back at any time in the future.

U15 Cricket

This year our U15s went through the complete spectrum of sporting emotions as they struggled to find consistency throughout. Results varied from the sublime to the ridiculous as they heavily defeated Kelly College, narrowly lost from a winning position against Plymouth and were comprehensively beaten by West Buckland and Wellington School.

Against Wellington an insurmountable target of 231 runs was set by the opposition and with Shebbear bowled out for 29 and Eloise Maxa top scoring with 7 runs the size of the task was put into perspective. The outstanding bowling performance came from Harley Foster who took 2-35.

Moving onto to a home fixture with Kelly College and with the addition of our Bajan counterpart, Shian Braithwaite, Shebbear comprehensively won this fixture by bowling out the opposition for just 41 runs. The target of 42 was easily reached for the loss of just one wicket. Maxwell Lewis top scored with 22 runs and was well supported by Carl Stanbury with

15 runs. After such an impressive victory the team then travelled to Plymouth with high hopes of a result and things started well when opener Shian Braithwaite played an accomplished innings, scoring 104 runs. The opposition coaches were extremely complimentary in the usual gentlemanly way, synonymous with the game of cricket. Disappointingly this performance could not galvanise the required concentration and competitive spirit in the field and with plenty of errors the team allowed Plymouth to squeeze to victory in the last over with two balls to spare. Bowling performances of the day came from Tom Squire who took 2 wickets for 39 runs, William Cox taking 1-18 and Patrick Marks 1-21.

The team then moved on to play West Buckland determined to make amends and although they faced tough opposition and ultimately lost the match, their fielding performance was much improved. With Shebbear also batting with more grit and determination they made it to 92 runs with Harry Dymond scoring 28 and Patrick Marks making it as far as double figures with 10, before being bowled out. The bowling plaudits went to the female in the team, Devon U15 cricketer Eloise Maxa, who bowled exceptionally well for her 1-25. Well done to those



who played their part in a season where good progress was made.

U14 Cricket

We had a dreadful start to the season with a truly awful batting performance against Wellington in our first game.

This was followed by a mid-week loss against Blundells in a T20 match where we didn't reach 100, but thereafter the Under 14 cricket team enjoyed a fantastic season and ended up as Devon champions. We should have done well. In 2013 as U13s we had played good cricket and won several fixtures, but this year we were strengthened by a splendid foursome - two Bajans and two girls! As you might imagine, this prompted much comment on our travels around the South West.

When Shian Braithwaite was available (he played about half the matches) we had one of the best players at U14 in the West Indies and we therefore had one of the best players in the UK for his age group. Powerfully built, highly skilled, and unflinching against the fastest of bowlers (not that he faced many) Shian only really had to keep his concentration to score heavily. He always batted in his West Indies sweater and his Shebbear tie. His tactical knowledge of the game was far superior to most school cricketers of any age



and so with runs on the board he could be trusted to captain and manage our strong bowling attack to victory. He also bowled excellent off spin – will he be Sheb's first Test player?

Maxwell Lewis, Shian's cousin, was utterly dependable as an opening bat (although he kept getting out in the forties), he fielded brilliantly and bowled some tremendous spells of leg spin and googlies.

Eloise Maxa, part of the Devon U15 squad held the psychological edge of being able to bowl very well whilst also being a girl – this acted like a confundus charm on several boy opponents who could not cope with the idea of getting out to her. It also led to outbreaks of genuine hilarity with Shian and Maxwell when she did take wickets (boys and girls don't play cricket together in Barbados) – which she did on a regular basis. Heather's cricket is more embryonic, but she is brighter than most of the team and her fielding was always brave and committed.

This influx took some of the pressure off the two standout players from last year – Jabez Weale and Carl Stanbury. At last Carl started to add grit and concentration to match his talent and this was shown in his outstanding all round performance in the defeat of West Buckland and his consistently

good bowling. Meanwhile Jabez's batting started to match his fast bowling and he scored 77 not out against Churston Ferrers (in the cup) and 81 not out against Plymouth College (against whom he also took 6 for 15). His performances throughout the season ultimately won him selection for the Devon U15 tour of South Africa in 2015.

The whole squad played their part in our various victories and pretty much every boy in the year group played in at least one game. Riou Thomas's determination to do well was increasingly matched by his technique and he took wickets and scored runs at key moments. Ryan Stairs, recuperating from serious knee surgery, played a bigger part as the weeks went by and will add to our all-round batting and bowling strength next year. Olly Ryder Green and Angus Cunningham both contributed at important times with the bat and Jake Weeks emerged as an excellent off spinner. This meant we had four spinners capable of bowling key overs in the matches. Ben Roberts batted obdurately at times and fielded with enthusiasm. James Edge and Eddie Jones both played up a year and showed that we have some real depth to our cricket.

In the cup the biggest threat always seemed to be Exeter School, especially

as we had beaten Plymouth quite handily without Shian playing. The semi-final was played on a sluggish pitch at 'fortress Shebbear' and we would have struggled apart from a quite brilliant innings by Shian who scored 89 out of 120. This was a competitive score but not a stellar one. Fortunately Jabez got some key early wickets and this allowed our spinners to strangle them and we won fairly comfortably.

We had expected to play Plymouth College in the final but ended up playing Exmouth Community College on a proper ground (Exmouth by coincidence) with a proper wicket and big boundaries. Exmouth apparently have 400 pupils in each year and their cricket was very disciplined. In the blazing sun they never gave up and chipped away at our batting line up. Crucially they didn't get Shian out, although he was dropped on the boundary at 36. This was one catch not to drop and he was still there after 35 overs – 112 not out. Our score of 182 for 6 was a good one. Jabez bowled very quickly and got some early wickets and although they batted out their overs they were never really in with a shout and we won by fifty runs and were crowned Devon Champions. This also meant that we will represent Devon in the National Under 15 competition next year. We rounded off the season with a



solid victory against Truro – I mention this because there was a little bit of sledging in the first over from Truro towards our batsmen which ended abruptly when Shian hit the ball into a nearby farming field - actions literally spoke louder than words.

And so ended a wonderful season where there was a genuine appetite for cricket and a genuine team celebration when we won the cup.

U13 Cricket

The U13s had a season of mixed fortunes with some outstanding as well as some indifferent performances, but over all they showed that there is both ability and enthusiasm in the side, and this bodes well for the future.

Their first match saw them come up against a strong Wellington School side who, batting first scored 190-8 in their 30 overs, with only Eddie Jones (2-20) and James Edge (3-41) managing to contain the batsmen. Unfortunately, no-one managed double figures when we batted and a total of 29 all out showed just how much practice was required before the next match.

However, a comfortable win against the touring side from Bedale's lifted the boys' spirits and they travelled to St. Peter's with much higher hopes.

Runs from James Edge and Alessandro Aliberti, together with a generous helping of extras, saw the final score reach 120-8 in 20 overs. Then all the bowlers performed well to dismiss the opposition for just 47 leaving the margin of victory an impressive 73 runs.

A heavy defeat at the hands of Exeter School in the County Cup, and at West Buckland did not dampen the boys' enthusiasm and their match against Exeter Cathedral was much closer. Kelly College scored 131-1 in their 20 overs and we were bowled out for just 61 with none of the boys managing to reach double figures. There are important lessons to be learned at this age and probably the most important is that, unlike many other sports, you have only one chance when you are batting. Eddie Jones showed in the next match against Plymouth College that he had learned his lesson, scoring a stylish 36 out of our total of 106-3. However, this was not to be enough as Plymouth knocked off the runs with just one wicket down and overs in hand.

The final match of the season was a return against Kelly College and this was a much closer affair which reflected the progress the boys had made throughout the season. Eddie Jones, James and Matthew Edge, Jed Foster and Stuart Williams all worked with tremendous enthusiasm in practice in



an attempt to improve their technique and skipper Eddie Jones showed his potential whenever he stepped up to play for the successful U14 side.

Though not a winning season, the boys showed commitment and a willingness to listen and learn which should stand them in good stead for next season.

U12 Cricket

The U12s enjoyed mixed success on the cricket field with moments of brilliance with both bat and ball. Unfortunately, it took most of the term before the whole team managed to put a performance together with a good win against Kelly.

The season started with a very tough fixture against South Dartmoor; this was a Devon Cup game and a South Dartmoor side which included a number of county players was too strong for us. We managed to restrict them to 106 runs with some tight bowling from Luke Maxa and Cameron Young but unfortunately their bowling attack was too strong and did not allow any of our batsmen to play themselves in. Our next fixture was against West Buckland, and this was another loss. It was becoming clear that we needed to work on playing straight if we were to avoid giving away our wickets quite so easily. Exeter Cathedral restricted us to 68 all out after a very impressive bowling



display from their openers mixing pace and swing from each end of the wicket. We soon learnt that their bowlers could also bat, and they managed to beat our total for the loss of just one wicket. What was encouraging was that our 'extras' were consistently low in all games, showing that we have a reliable and generally accurate bowling side.

However, it was back to the nets for some basic bat on ball practice ensuring that batsmen learned to play straight and guard their wickets. The boys were quickly learning that cricket is a hard game, and when you are batting you only get one chance. This is a lesson that is valuable to learn, and the boys need to concentrate and focus when required.

We opened the batting against Truro with a combined U12 and U13 side, and finally managed to score some runs. Openers Stuart Williams and Eddie Jones looked solid for the first 6 overs, and James Edge and Alex Watling came in at 4 and 5 and also started to show promise. However the side failed to recognise that they were scoring too slowly and when Alex Watling was run out on 14 we had an opportunity to send in Alessandro Aliberti, whose strength is scoring runs quickly, but we didn't, and ended up 94 for 5 – not enough! Truro needed 95 from 20 overs, and when we had them at 3 for



54 after 12 overs we knew that the game was going to be tight. It was tight, but ended in Truro's favour with just 7 balls left! The final game against Kelly was just a week later.

Kelly batted first and after losing their first two wickets quickly, their number 3 batsmen did most of the damage, scoring 33 not out. Toby Biggs and Cameron Young once again bowled well, and they were well supported by Owen Hendry and Tom Robins. Kelly finished on 86-5. In response Patrick Faulkner opened the batting and carried his bat in an impressive display, scoring 39 runs and along the way gained support from Jack Joslin (15) and Daniel Chamberlain (8 not out). Shebbear won the game for the loss of just 3 wickets. Finally the boys achieved a good all round display with bat and ball, and something tangible for them to celebrate after all their hard work. Well done all.

1st XI Girls' Hockey

Our senior girls (above) were rarely able to match the individual skills of their opponents, most of whom come from considerably larger schools, but what our girls may have lacked in the skills area they more than made up for in determination, work ethic and a strong team ethic.

Victories were achieved against Kingsley (twice) and Bideford College. The second game against Kingsley, played towards the end of the term, was easily the best performance by individuals and the team. The girls put good passing movements together, attacked from the wide positions and finished off good moves with excellent shots on target. They scored 3 times and continued to dictate the game.

The hardworking girls have responded well to the demands of the new tactics and patterns of play with defenders like Becky Cox determined to get to the ball first and move it out wide and attackers like Maddie Burnard, Harriet Squire and Lara Eickemeier showing a willingness to run to close defenders down and to try to put them under pressure. Lara was great for someone who had never played hockey before this term. The goalkeepers, Fran Traxton mostly, and occasionally Harriet, both made great saves and good clearances and at times prevented the stronger opposition from increasing their leads. Megan Furse always led by example and helped to get the best out of the less experienced players. Kerry used her dribbling skills to good effect, Bronwyn Ager never gave up, Phoebe Willis-Butcher always worked hard and made good contributions in the midfield, Katie Trask learned to pass the ball to her



wide players and used her strong hit to clear the ball out of defence, and Charlotte Harper became a useful right-sided defender.

Meg Ryder-Green will be a good player and hopefully will overcome her knee problem. She has good skills and good potential. Ellen Chamberlain just got better and better with a very strong performance against Kingsley being her highlight. She was the player who improved the most but all the girls have come a long way this term and should be pleased with the results of their endeavours.

U15 Girls' Hockey

The U15s had a good year and were able to provide a challenge against all the teams they faced. Lucy Taylor, Ruari Mills and Tabby Kirkwood led the team on different occasions but it was the determined performances by everyone which actually saw the girls achieve some good results and certainly some memorable performances. Here are the results and some of the highlights. First the girls travelled to Budehaven but unfortunately lost a close match 2-1.

Truro 3 Shebbear 1: A tight match with Shebbear dominating parts of the match. Shebbear certainly started with most possession and more attacking moves. Truro came back into the game



scoring a breakaway goal. Shebbear worked hard for an equaliser but it was short lived as Shebbear lost a little concentration and Truro hit back straight away to take it 2-1 at the break. The second half was again a tight battle and more even. Shebbear put pressure on to get back into the match but Truro scored from close range to make it 3-1. Credit to Shebbear as they continued to put pressure on to the very end.

Shebbear 6 Kingsley 0. The U15s welcomed Kingsley and they comprehensively beat their U15s 6-0 with 3 goals in each half. The team controlled the match from start to finish apart from a brief flourish from Kingsley at the start of the second half. There was a hat-trick for Niamh Martin, two for Emma V-Olmos and one for Tabby Kirkwood.

North Devon U15 Tournament. The U15s came away winners of Group 2 in the North Devon Tournament. They beat Bideford 3-0 and then Kingsley 3-0 after dominating in both games. Fluid passing and some neat finishing meant Shebbear U15s would go on to represent North Devon along with the winners of Group 2. Goals came from Niamh Martin (2), Lucy Taylor (2) and Tabby Kirkwood.

Shebbear 3 Blundell's 3. The U15s competed extremely well, controlling

the match with good passing and attacking play. They took a 2-1 lead into half time. Blundell's pressed hard after the break and two goal mouth scrambles from short corners put Blundell's into the lead for the first time. Shebbear battled back with commitment in the tackle and some fluid passing to rescue a point. The Blundell's coach conceded that Shebbear had the edge and was impressed with the constant movement and changing of positions up front, as well as the commitment and togetherness that the girls showed. Niamh Martin scored two goals and Lucy Taylor scored the other.

The North Devon U15 Hockey final was played on Monday 14 October between Shebbear and West Buckland. The pace of the game was fast with the ball travelling end to end with no clear dominating team. Tragedy struck in the first half when Olivia Hill gained a nasty cut to her eye from a ball rebounding off the opponent's stick. However, this only made our girls more determined and the score at full time was 0-0. The dreaded penalty flicks awaited! West Buckland to go first, they score. Ruari Mills steps up to the mark first for Shebbear and did not disappoint with a solid shot at goal. Claudia Golland as goal keeper started to feel the pressure and let a second goal in. Tabby Kirkwood was up next, but



keeping her cool she managed a second goal. The opposition then pushed it straight at Claudia's feet and the goal was saved. However Shebbear could not cope with the pressure and also missed their third shot. A good save by Claudia's hand saw West Buckland miss their fourth shot, Eloise Maxa up next for Shebbear, struck the ball well and it went straight between the goalie's feet. We were ahead 3-2. The last girl for West Buckland came forward, all fingers were crossed, if only Claudia could save this we would be home and dry. The ball was struck, a simple side step by Claudia saw the ball rebound off her foot, we had done it! Shebbear College were North Devon U15 hockey champions. Well done to all the girls but particular mention goes to Claudia Golland our goal keeper, player of the match, for keeping her cool during a very tense 10 minutes.

Shebbear 2 Plymouth 0. The girls were leading 2-0 at home to Plymouth when lightning stopped play!

West Buckland 1 Shebbear 0. Shebbear unfortunately lost 1-0.

Okehampton College 0 Shebbear 5. The U15s secured a 5-0 victory against Okehampton College.

Kelly College 0 Shebbear 6. The U15's finished the year with an emphatic, 6-0 win over Kelly at Shebbear. They

dominated from the start with wave after wave of attacking hockey. Coupled with the strong attack, the defence was solid when required, quashing Kelly's attack before they had time to develop. They limited Kelly to two short corners and a shot on goal. Shebbear's goals came from Hana Fletcher, Minnie Alexander, Lucy Taylor (2) and Emma Vallribera Olmos (2).

U14 Girls' Hockey

With so few girls in this year group, stepping up to playing 11 a-side hockey was always going to be difficult. With only 8 regular players from their year group, the team was constantly borrowing players, both older and younger, to make up the numbers!

The first match was against Bude's U13 side. After a disorganised start in terms of equipment and warm up, the team fared badly against a well drilled Bude side, eventually losing 3-0. The game raised a lot of points and as a team we met later on in the week to review the match and work out a strategy for the way forward. This had an amazing effect and full credit to the girls for re-grouping and then completing a really pleasing season from my point of view.

Our first Saturday match was away to Blundells C team. As their A and B teams both go onto represent East

Devon, playing their C team was a good level match. Shebbear had drafted in three U15 players who had already played one match and were leading 1-0 at half time. I asked the U15s to ease back after that and make the U14s work harder and what followed was a great display of hockey with Heather Mathews and Lydia Bowering-Sheehan scoring great goals and making the score 3-0 to Shebbear at full time.

The North Devon Tournament - Bideford Area - followed, where Shebbear beat both Kingsley and Bideford College 1-0 in short matches. Shebbear was by far and away the dominant team in these matches and played with structure and flair throughout. This meant qualification to the next section to play West Buckland and Park School. The girls beat Park 1-0 but were soundly beaten by the well drilled players of West Buckland 3-0.

Having had matches cancelled by Plymouth College (due to lack of players on their side) and West Buckland (due to WB's flooded pitch), the last match was against Kelly College. Kelly College only brought 7 players with them, but as the U15's were playing at Shebbear that day too, it was decided to use some players who had already played to make up two 11 a-side teams. Shebbear actually



had a mix of U13/U14/U15 to Kelly's U14/U15 mix. Whilst the girls put up a strong fight in the first half and only trailed by a single goal at half time, Kelly upped their game in the second half and won 4-1.

So, after a disappointing start, the U14 team had an amazing season and I was immensely proud of all who played!

U13 Girls' Hockey

The u13's had a fantastically successful season this year winning all but one of their matches and that against Truro.

They went into their first match against Okehampton confident and controlled. The team came together well supporting each other's passes to move up the pitch. The team had some brilliant up front play by Kitty Scambler, Rosie Kivell and Chompoo Thompson who communicated superbly to gain an 8-0 victory.

Understandably the team went into their next match against Truro nervous and unsure as they are a tough team to come up against. The team had been practising strongly on their defensive play and tactic from getting out of the defending D and up the pitch to the attacking D in preparation for the game. The defence put up a great fight with Antonia Aliberti (Goal keeper) defending

a possible 7 goals. She should be proud of her quick reaction and pressure to push the attacking team out of the D. Unfortunately their efforts were not substantial enough and they came away with a 2-7 loss.

The team went to their next match against Bude feeling slightly over confident and they played a tough, disorganised match. The team were unsupportive of each other and were confused about how to gain any momentum. They were fortunate to bring through a 4-3 win with a goal scored in the top left hand corner with only a minute and half to go. A few positions were moved around at this point to use each individual's strengths accordingly. Mixing positions appeared to strengthen the team hugely. Some strong wins followed against Kingsley, Blundells, Holsworthy and Plymouth.

Eevee Banbury and Jess Baker used their positions brilliantly to push up the wings and push the ball to Kitty Scambler who scored many of the goals through these matches. To me their most memorable game was their last game against Kelly College. The team was short of 2 of their players so had no reserves. This caused slight anxiety amongst the girls. However their knowledge of how to play and control the hockey ball and then to pass



accurately to the next well positioned player to gain entry to the attacking D meant they came away with an amazing 8-1 win.

They also played in the North Devon Hockey Tournament and were narrowly beaten by 1 point for first place. Beating Kingsley 3/0, Park 6/0, Holsworthy 1/0, Bideford 2/1, Pilton 7/0, but unfortunately losing to West Buckland 1 /2. An excellent performance by our U12 player Cara Phillips and a special mention goes to Kitty Scambler who scored 14 of the 20 goals. Well done to all the girls, a very respectable 2nd place.

Overall the scores were:-

Okehampton	8/0
Truro	2/7
Bude	4/3
Kingsley	5/0
Blundells	2/1
Plymouth	3/2
Holsworthy	4/3
Kelly	8/1

U12 Girls' Hockey

Our U12 team showed great promise from the beginning. Having been coached in the junior school many came to us already demonstrating the basic skills required. Already a strong side, the joining of Cara Phillips half way



through the season meant the team ended the year with some outstanding victories.

The first game against Okehampton saw the girls come away with an easy 4-1 victory with Amy Taylor being voted as player of the match. Our next game against Truro saw the girls for the first time struggle to keep up with the pace of the game. Our stick skills were just not quick enough to keep up with the strong Truro girls and we lost 4/0.

Unfortunately, we were a little complacent when we played Kingsley the first time and we allowed them to score 3 very quick goals. Always being on the back foot we struggled to come back and lost by 1 goal. Blundells next and again we were surprised at the speed the girls were able to pass the ball but we did manage to get one past the defence and lost 4-1.

The match against Plymouth College was the turning point for the girls, the score see-sawed throughout the whole game as we started to gain more confidence in our receiving and passing. Unfortunately, which is often the Shebbear way, time was not on our side the final whistle went when Plymouth were ahead 5-4. However the girls were not too disappointed as they never thought they could compete against such a big school.

The following game against Holsworthy proved to be an easy 8-0 win. By this point in the season the girls were now starting to believe in their ability more. Cara Phillips and Sophie Gillies in mid field meant the ball was quickly and accurately distributed to our forwards Amy Taylor and Anna Walter, resulting in some excellent scoring opportunities.

Our last 2 games against West Buckland and Kelly College, believe it or not resulted in 2 easy wins for our girls! West Buckland were no match for Maddie Traxton and Chloe Westaway in defence and the girls came away with a 3-0 victory. The Kelly game saw our attack shine this time and the team come away with a 5-2 win, a great end to the winter term.

The following term we had the U12 North Devon tournament and this was our chance to correct the mistakes we had made against Kingsley previously. All the teams play each other and the winners are decided on points gained for winning or drawing. We got off to a good start beating Park 4-0. Next up West Buckland, the ball was flying end to end, it was very exciting, a good cross from Amy Taylor meant that Anna Walter got her stick to the ball and tapped it into the goal. We were one up at half time!

Knowing that West Buckland had only

drawn with Kingsley the girls were all fired up going into the second half. Unfortunately we could not quite keep the same level of intensity and West Buckland scored a cheeky goal two minutes before the whistle so it was a draw. All was not lost, if we could only win the remaining matches!

Next Kingsley, the one the girls were most determined to win and they did not disappoint. As it turns out it was a relatively easy game, coming away with a 3-0 victory. With no time to relax the girls went onto play the remaining 3 games against Pilton, Holsworthy and Bideford, which they won by not conceding a goal for the rest of the day. So, Cara Phillips, Sophie Gillies, Amy Taylor, Anna Walter, Jessica Biggs, Maddie Traxton and Chloe Westaway(GK) became North Devon's U12 Hockey Champions.

1st VII Netball

This year our 1st VII had only two U6th girls in the team and one was injured during the second game. We had three regular 4th year players and a goalkeeper who had never played before! So, very quickly the girls realised how important the 45min activity session was each week; the only time we had a training session with the whole team together!



We got off to a cracking start against Kingsley, winning by 20 goals. Excellent shooting from Emily Dunn and Lucy Taylor, coupled with Niamh Martin strong in defence and Megan Furse linking it all together at centre, meant Kingsley didn't really stand a chance.

Next up was West Buckland and half way through the second quarter tragedy struck, Megan Furse our centre fell and could not get back up again. Tabby Kirkwood very bravely stepped into the role as centre and worked extremely hard to link the attack and defence but the girls were all a little shaken up and the goals were just not going in and we eventually lost 14-20.

A very exciting match against Plymouth College was to follow and although the team was now made up of four U15s with Josephine Muller making her debut as goalkeeper for half the game we managed to beat Plymouth 11-9. Niamh Martin as goal defence was voted player of the match.

Our game against Kelly College proved to be a very tough, frustrating game for the girls and unfortunately an incident 7 minutes before the end saw our heads go down and we lost the game by 4 goals. However, the score line may have shown a loss but morally Shebbear definitely came out victorious.

Blundell's were next and we always

enjoy playing this fixture and this year was to be no exception. The game was beautiful to watch, we were fast, slick with our passes, set plays were performed without mistakes and our shooters Emily Dunn and Lucy Taylor were racking up the goals. Shebbear led throughout and fully deserved their 26-19 victory.

Our next fixture saw Megan Furse returning from injury to play in what turned out to be her final match for Shebbear. During her time at the college she has been a regular, dedicated pupil to all the team sports and throughout her younger years was often seen playing up in the older age group matches. She has been a real role model to the younger girls and was often seen out practising or helping the younger girls in her own time. She was desperate to go out on a high and although she probably should not have been playing, she was determined we were not going to lose her final game. The team did not disappoint her. Getting off to a good start, we went 4-0 up but by half time Plymouth had reduced our lead to 2 goals, 11-9. The game was very exciting, actually probably more nail-biting watching from the side! However, the girls did themselves proud, managing to keep their cool right to the end and we went on to win 17-15.



We also say goodbye to Ellen Chamberlain this year who has also been a dedicated sports woman for the last 7 years. As a strong wing attack her passing into the circle often made the lives of the shooters much easier, placing them right under the goal.

Our final game against Truro was always going to be difficult as they have an England shooter who doesn't really need to jump to receive the ball over our heads. However, we did surprise ourselves when we found we were drawing 9-all after the first quarter. Strong shooting from Harriett Squire and Lucy Taylor played a big part in keeping the scores even. Unfortunately, we could not match the consistent shooting from Truro and we did go on to lose the game. The girls were very happy with their performance and the game was lovely to watch and umpire; maybe we will have more of a chance when their international leaves next year!

So, for a team that had never played together, struggled to find the time to train together and lost a key player earlier on, I think 4 wins and 4 losses is not a bad season's performance. Well done ladies.

U15 Netball

This has been a very successful year for the Under 15 team, despite losing three



very good players to the First team! We were sad to lose Niamh Martin, Lucy Taylor and Tabby Kirkwood but it did also mean that other girls in the year got more involved and enjoyed more match play than in previous years.

The first match of the season was against Plymouth College. This was a gripping game that had Shebbear leading right from the start of the match. They held their lead throughout the game, eventually winning 21-19. Particular mention should go to our strong defence made up of Ruari Mills, Ellie Bird, and Anna Bennett for showing determination and stamina and also to Eloise Maxa (GA), who got player of the match.

Another notable fixture was the one against Blundells. The Shebbear side led the game right from the outset and maintained control of the match throughout, with the half time score 14-4. Blundells came back fighting in the third quarter but the Shebbear girls fought back with some impressive defensive work by Ruari Mills and Ellie Bird and sharp shooting from Eloise Maxa and Minnie Alexander. A special mention must go to Olivia Hill who upped her game in this match and played impressively as Centre. The whole team worked well together throughout the match, leading to a fantastic 22-11 win! The player of the match was Ellie Bird.

The girls had an impressive season with only two defeats, winning all other matches. This is excellent as they were playing in a new formation.

They also had a good performance at the tournament. Having struggled in the past to get through to the semi-finals the girls sailed through their pool beating Park, Chumleigh, Ilfracombe and Torrington all very comfortably. The passing and positioning up the court was superb, a special mention goes to Eloise Maxa, whose feeding into the shooter was outstanding. All very excited that we had won our pool we were looking forward to playing the runners up of the second pool which would normally not have been West Buckland (we wanted them in the final). Unfortunately, they had been having a bad day and had only come second, so we had to play them first. Getting off to a good start it was goal for goal but a couple of silly mistakes saw them take full advantage and we could never get back the 3 goal difference. A little deflated we went onto play Park for 3rd place and came away victorious 9/6. Well done girls, getting closer. Lots of training over the next 12 months and we could take the trophy next year. Girl of the tournament was Minnie Alexander for her consistently accurate shooting.

U14 Netball

In a very small year group of girls, it is always hard for our girls to face up to big schools who have far more pupils to choose from. However, the girls did themselves proud and really improved over the season. They always played in good spirits and even when they were losing by big margins, they never gave up and fought all the way to the final whistle!

Their results were:

v Kingsley School	Won 7-1
v Truro School	Lost 1-49
v Holsworthy	Lost 5-33
v Okehampton	Won 6-5
v Plymouth College	Lost 2-22
v St Joseph's	Lost 2-11
v Blundell's	Lost 27-2
v Budehaven	Won 8-6
v Kelly College	Lost 6-10
v Holsworthy	Lost 8-22

In the North Devon Schools' competition our team entered the B team section and had some good results, winning 3, losing 2 with an overall result of 3rd.

U13 Netball

Congratulations to the U13s on a great season this year. If you get a chance to, keep an eye out for this team: win, lose or draw - they always play with tenacity and provide a great match to watch.

I had an enormous amount of fun



coaching the U13 netball team this year, helped by our Australian gap-year assistant, Beth Hubmayer. The girls like to have a laugh but they always approached training with a focused mindset and a mutual professional and sporting respect for each other as players.

In the U13 netball tournament at Bideford, the team's first game was against Holsworthy. It began quite slowly and the girls went down by 4 goals. After some stern words from Miss Ham at half time, the girls matched their opponents goal for goal, drawing in the second half but unfortunately did not have enough time to make up for their earlier mistakes and lost 3-7.

The next game against Pilton was a different story: the passing was accurate and movement around the court was quicker and our shooters were on top form. The team secured a 13-2 win in 12 minutes. Following this, in a match against South Molton we won 6-2 and the strong centre-court defence from Merryn Alderson and Caitlin McCartney, saw the girls advance into the semi-finals as runners up. Coming up against West Buckland, the girls began the game strongly and were clearly thinking about their positioning and passing. As a result, we were ahead at half time 4-3 but unfortunately we could not sustain this and went on to lose 7-5.

After some good early wins including a 17-2 victory against Kingsley, the U13s met West Buckland again. They put in a better performance but could still not secure a win. It was at this point that the girls realised that with a lot of hard work they can take on the bigger schools and they were determined to correct their mistakes. These included not talking whilst a penalty pass was being played against you, as was demonstrated by a few warnings before an extended penalty was given against Shebbear College. This mistake was not made again!

The U13s then had an easy game against Plymouth College, winning 23-7. Rosie Kivell scored 17 of the goals and was nominated player of the match. Holly Nancékivell also had an outstanding game as WA, intercepting centre passes and her solid, accurate passes into circle helped to secure an excellent victory. Following this, in our next match against Kelly College the team secured a relatively easy win of 19-9 and although Rosie Kivell received player of the match for her fantastic shooting, Eevee Banbury made that possible and had a great game as 'centre'.

On the weekend of the 8th March, the U13 netball team played Reigate Grammar School and Brentwood School as part of the U13 sports tour. The girls had a tough first match against Reigate



where they were 'outmuscled', but they came back strongly on Saturday to secure two wins at Brentwood. I was most impressed with the girls' performance against Brentwood School. They competed hard against a tough opposition and the score remained close up until the final whistle. Chompoo Thompson in particular attracted some complimentary comments from the Brentwood coaches for her performance. The whole experience of playing outside of Devon and being a 'touring side' really helped the girls to pull together as a team.

The team's narrow defeat to Truro on the 29th March (13-12) was a difficult pill to swallow as they had fought back in the final quarter to equalise after losing every other quarter and they conceded a very last minute goal. This score line was no discredit to our last line of defence, Antonia Aliberti and Kitty Scambler, who had a great match and put everything they had into the game. Casting a glance back to this match in particular, I would like to thank the parents of the girls in this team. Without their support, as either (or both) enthusiastic and supportive spectators of our matches and taxi drivers to and from school on match days, we would have had a very different season.

The girls concluded their netball season



with a sports' tournament at home against Bedales School on the 10th May. Unfortunately, we had strong winds and heavy rain on the day which disrupted both the girls' and boys' fixtures.

However, the girls played two matches inside back-to-back against an U12 and U13 side. Their energy and high level of skill did not fail them and they went on to win both matches convincingly.

U12 Netball

The U12 netball team had a superb season, winning five matches out of the eight played. Their first match against Kingsley proved to be more challenging than expected; the team was disjointed and losing by one goal heavily demotivated the team. After rearranging team positioning and starting to focus on tactics, the team came back with a fine performance against Holsworthy winning 8-0.

Their next match against West Buckland proved to be a little more testing but each individual put up a good fight and I was proud of their positive team attitude throughout, supporting each other to work up the court. Unfortunately after many given chances in the shooting D, West Buckland's defence proved to be too strong. After learning from this match about how to use our skill and knowledge

to use accurate passing and effective movement where appropriate, some excellent wins were obtained.

Maddy Traxton should be extremely proud of her developing accuracy in goal-shooting over the season and didn't miss one shot in the Kelly College game leaving a 26-3 score. Cara Phillips, who played centre, showed immense speed and quick reaction throughout many matches and helped to unite the team as a whole. Olivia Rolls should be proud of her developing defence as GK which stopped many goals from being scored, especially so during the two St Joseph's games, both of which they won.

There was some tension before facing the Plymouth side as some team members were unable to play, leaving a disjointed team. However, their aggressive defence and clear communication meant the ball continued to flow into our shooting third, leaving us victorious 18-7 win. Their other match was a defeat by Truro with a score of 10-26.

In the North Devon tournament the girls sailed through to the semi-finals, beating Torrington 6-1, South Molton 15-1, Pilton 5-4 and Ilfracombe 12-1. Unfortunately, we could not match the height of some of the Bideford girls and although our skills may have been better, physically we could not compete



and unfortunately lost 4-7. However, the day finished on a positive note by beating Chumleigh 9-4 and we achieved 3rd place out of 11 teams.

The U12s should be very proud of what they have achieved; their commitment to learn and improve shows this team has much potential to develop.

U15 Rounders

The U15s had a fantastic rounders season this year. They kicked off with an easy win over Okehampton 8.5-3, although we did struggle to make contact with the ball and the majority of the score was made up of half rounders; top scorer Lucy Taylor. A lot of hitting practice during games and activity time resulted in the girls having a strong first innings against Kingsley, scoring 8 to their 1. The girls got a little lazy in the second half only achieving 4.5 rounders, but went on to win the game easily 12.5-3, Minnie Alexander taking the prize this time as top scorer.

In the past, our next fixture against Holsworthy has always proved to be a tricky one. The girls were very fired up for this game, as for the last 3 years we have struggled to beat them for one reason or another, losing by half a rounder last year. We got off to a good start scoring 9 rounders in the first innings. Holsworthy to bat, to our



delight we got them all out in 19 balls and they only achieved 1 rounder! Not really understanding what all the fuss has been about in the past, we were easily dominating in the field and in the batting. We continued to control the game, going onto win 14.5-4.5, Eloise Maxa top scoring with 5.5 rounders.

The girls' final game was against St Joseph's and we got off to a flying start with Eloise Maxa scoring 4 of the 7 rounders in the first half. Our fielding was spot on, all of the St Joseph's girls were out in 13 balls and were unable to score. The outstanding partnership (which has stayed the same for the past 3 years) of Lucy Taylor at bowler, Tabby Kirkwood at backstop and Niamh Martin at first post, continued to be an unbeatable combination. If the ball was missed, the majority of the girls were out before they even began running! The second half saw us score a further 11 rounders and St Josephs were all out in 17 balls but did manage to score a single rounder. I think we can be happy with an 18-1 win!

So, all in all, not a bad season for our U15 girls and being the only team unbeaten this year is definitely an achievement to be very proud of - well done.

U14 Rounders

The U14s had a quiet rounders season only having three matches, two of which they unfortunately lost. The girls took a beating from Holsworthy in their first match losing 6.5 -10.5. The team had new players this year which helped to add skill, but the girls found it hard to come together as one as they had limited time to practise and identify each other's positives. This was particularly evident in this first match and in the first inning they were struggling to get any rhythm together.

However, in the second inning with some talented play from Yasmin Clarke who bowled some incredible balls catching the opposition off guard, they managed to get five players out in a row. Unfortunately, it was not quite enough to pull back the score. It was clear after this match that some positional changes were required and that some tactics on hitting and placing the ball were necessary.

In their next match against St Joseph's the team had really pulled themselves together and the enthusiasm and team spirit was electric. There was some incredible batting from Annie Westlake who managed to boost the team's rounders. Tilly Cage and Georgia Stevens improved dramatically through the season on 1st base and 1st deep



alternating between each inning and their reaction clearly evident by the amount of players they caught out and were able to stop from gaining half rounders on 2nd base. You should both be very proud of your efforts. Unfortunately they lost by half a rounder with the score finishing 6.5 - 7.

The team finally secured their first and only victory of the season when they played Okehampton. The team went out with great determination and a real desire to win the game. The final score was 6-1 with Helen Dalton being top scorer. They put real pressure on Okehampton with their fielding and in the second inning they successfully managed to dismiss seven of the Okehampton players. There was some wonderful catching from Heather Mathews who was also quick to get the ball to second base where it was successfully received by Lucy Nadin. The team's effort was quite commendable in this match and was the best I have ever seen them play and I believe that if they continue to work hard they will improve and achieve more success.

Well done girls and good luck for next season.



U13 Rounders

The U13s had a superbly successful season, winning all but one of their matches. The team had a disjointed start to the season being faced with little to no training time and a mixture of abilities in many positions of the field. However, after a few positional changes and through sheer determination in their first match, a group of individuals bonded for the rest of the season into a team.

Their first match against St Josephs resulted in an easy win at 13.5 - 4. However, the fielding proved to be a little weak with throwing and catching being off target. But some carefully placed hits from Rosie Kivell and Chompoo Thomson ensured they were able to tot up the rounders. From this match it was clear that fielding seemed to be the focus of improvement, to ensure opponents did not score or were caught out as quickly as possible.

Throughout their next matches against Holsworthy, Okehampton and Kingsley they played competently, working and communicating with each other well to support one another in the field. In particular, Jess Baker improved in her accuracy and reaction in throwing and catching and her powerful throws were incredible to see at times. Kitty Scambler was top scorer throughout all matches and should be very proud

of her talent to hit accurately on every opportunity and place the ball superbly.

Unfortunately, in an away match to St Peters in Essex the long journey had got to the team and tensions were high causing a 16 - 17.5 loss. This demoralised the team somewhat and with one of the most important matches to come against West Buckland, team enthusiasm had evaporated.

West Buckland was the last match of the season and the team was nervous and tense. However, the girls knew what fielding tactics worked well and exactly how to keep the opponents' score low. The team were quick and precise in ensuring players could not reach second post to score. Tara caught out several players from backwards hits and some accurate throws to Antonia Aliberti on 1st base meant that in the second innings several were stumped out in a row. The team was composed and came through victorious with an 11.5 - 6.5 win and should be extremely proud of winning against their main rivals.

Overall the team had a very positive year and should be proud of their improved team ethic and skill level.

Overall results:

Won: West Buckland	11.5 - 6.5
Won: Holsworthy	8.5 - 4.5
Won: Okehampton	13.5 - 6
Won: Kingsley	19.5 - 3.5
Won: St Joseph	13.5 - 4
Lost: St Peters	16 - 17.5

U12 Rounders

The U12s had a difficult start to the season as they struggled to settle into positions. However, they managed to pull it together towards the end of the summer and finished the term on a real high. The first game against St Joseph's saw the girls taken by surprise at the tight fielding of the opposition and we were bowled out after 15 balls, only managing to score 2.5 rounders to 10.5. The girls quickly learnt they had to be far more mobile around the pitch, support each other more and eliminate

the silly mistakes. A much better second half saw us score 9 rounders, 4 of them by Cara Phillips and some excellent decisions from Amy Taylor in the deep meant the opposition could only achieve 4.5. Although the game was lost, it was a steep learning curve for the girls and one they would not forget in a hurry.

The following game against Okehampton proved the girls had definitely learnt from their mistakes coming away with a 31.5 - 12.5 victory. Sophie Gillies was top scorer with 6.5, aided by some strong fielding and hitting from Charlotte Nethacott.

Next up was Kingsley and having struggled all year against their strong U12 team the girls were determined to get the better of the opposition. We found it hard during the first half to make good contact with the ball and only scored one full rounder, but did make up the score to 6.5 with some sneaky half rounders. Some excellent fielding and some superb catches by Maddie Traxton and Amy Taylor saw Kingsley only score 4 in reply. The second half was a different story and we scored 9, with every girl on the team achieving at least a half. Some positive fielding by all kept the opposition to 6.5 resulting in a win of 15.5 - 10.5, Cara Phillips again top scoring.

The final game of the season against Holsworthy and the girls found themselves at half time in a bit of a tricky situation again, losing 8.5 to 12.5. Some inconsistent fielding had allowed Holsworthy to score a number of rounders that should have been stopped at 2nd post. After a little team chat at half time the girls raised their standards and scored a whopping 13 rounders and only allowed Holsworthy to score 6.5, resulting in a 21.5 - 19 win for Shebbear, top scorer was Amy Taylor with 7 rounders.

Despite a nail-biting end to the season the girls learnt a great deal this summer, and realised that by pulling together as a team they could achieve more positive results.

SENIOR SPORTS DAY RESULTS 2014

Event	1st	2nd	3rd
Junior Boys 100m	Will Cowan-Dickie	Sean Nadin	Lachlan Young
Junior Girls 100m	Rosie Kivell *1	Willow Bowden	Kitty Scambler
Inter Boys 100m	Patrick Marks	James Hibben	Will Cox
Inter Girls 100m	Eloise Maxa	Lily Harding	Lucy Nadin
Senior Boys 100m	Mike Haley	Bailey Miles	Sean Clark
Senior Girls 100m	Nadine Marx	Eva Ho	Ailis Prowse
Junior Boys 200m	Alessandro Aliberti	Will Cowan-Dickie	Sean Nadin
Junior Girls 200m	Rosie Kivell	Rebecca Faber	Connie Gillies
Inter Boys 200m	Patrick Marks	James Hibben	Will Cox
Inter Girls 200m	Niamh Martin	Helen Dalton	Anna Bennett
Senior Boys 200m	Joe Gobara	Bailey Miles	Reece Stanbury
Senior Girls 200m	Eva Ho	Nadine Marx	Charlotte Harper
Junior Boys 400m	Alessandro Aliberti	Stuart Williams	Sean Nadin
Junior Girls 300m	Rosie Kivell *2	Eevee Banbury	Anna Walter
Inter Boys 400m	Ryan Stairs	Matt Hill	James Kerslake
Inter Girls 300m	Lucy Taylor	Annie Westlake	Pilar Martinez
Senior Boys 400m	Mike Haley	Sean Clark	Sam Westlake
Junior Boys 800m	Stuart Williams	Patrick Faulkner	Will Cunningham
Junior Girls 800m	Eevee Banbury *3	Merryn Alderson	Cara Phillips
Inter Boys 800m	Carl Stanbury	Jake Weeks	Dillon Chalmers
Inter Girls 800m	Helen Dalton	Heather Mathews	Abbie Bennett
Senior Boys 800m	George Daniel	Sam Westlake	Jack Honey
Senior Girls 800m	Ailis Prowse	Francesca Traxton	Charlotte Harper
Junior Boys 1500m	Patrick Faulkner	James Bennett	Toby Biggs
Junior Girls 1500m	Eevee Banbury *4	Amy Taylor	Merryn Alderson
Inter Boys 1500m	Carl Stanbury	Matt Hill	Jake Weeks
Inter Girls 1500m	Lucy Taylor	Heather Mathews	Olivia Hill
Senior Boys 1500m	Connor Roberts	Sam Westlake	Salah Gobara
Senior Girls 1500m	Ailis Prowse	Francesca Traxton	Kitty Harding
Junior Boys Long Jump	Will Cowan-Dickie	Buddy Wahl	Patrick Faulkner
Junior Girls Long Jump	Chompoo Thompson	Amy Taylor	Lucy Johns

* Denotes new school record:

*1 - 13.54 secs

*2 - 49.96 secs

*3 - 2.59 mins

*4 - 5.55 mins

*5 - 1.35m

*6 - 7.43m

Event	1st	2nd	3rd
Inter Boys Long Jump	Isaac Allsop	Mark Withecombe	Will Balkwill-Western
Inter Girls Long Jump	Ellie Bird	Pilar Martinez	Sophia Westphal
Senior Boys Long Jump	Bailey Miles	Connor Roberts	
Senior Girls Long Jump	Nadine Marx	Eva Ho	Phoebe Willis-Butcher
Junior Boys High Jump	Stuart Williams	Jack Luscombe	Alex Watling
Junior Girls High Jump	Jessica Biggs	Sophie Gillies	Cara Phillips
Inter Boys High Jump	Carl Stanbury	Mark Withecombe	Will Cox
Inter Girls High Jump	Eloise Maxa *5	Annie Westlake	Lily Harding
Senior Boys High Jump	Joe Gobara	Connor Roberts	Harry Chibbett
Senior Girls High Jump	Francesca Traxton	Phoebe Willis-Butcher	Maddie Burnard
Inter Boys Triple Jump	Will Cox	Harry Dymond	Jabez Weale
Inter Girls Triple Jump	Ellie Bird	Lucy Taylor	Ella Hughes
Senior Boys Triple Jump	Joe Gobara	Connor Roberts	Bailey Miles
Senior Girls Triple Jump	Katie Trask	Nadine Marx	Kitty Harding
Junior Boys Shot Put	Alessandro Aliberti	Alex Maggs	Casper Griffin
Junior Girls Shot Put	Kitty Scambler *6	Antonia Aliberti	Maddie Traxton
Inter Boys Shot Put	Parka Griffin	Isaac Allsop	Spencer Quance
Inter Girls Shot Put	Nadia Blaskiewicz	Claudia Golland	Helen Dalton
Senior Boys Shot Put	Harry Chibbett	Joe Gobara	Sam Westlake
Senior Girls Shot Put	Katie Trask	Francesca Traxton	Maddie Burnard
Junior Boys Javelin	Charlie Short	James Law	Zinzan Belcher
Junior Girls Javelin	Antonia Aliberti	Maddie Traxton	Tara Twomey
Inter Boys Javelin	James Hibben	Patrick Marks	Carl Stanbury
Inter Girls Javelin	Minnie Alexander	Ruari Mills	Hana Fletcher
Senior Boys Javelin	Harry Chibbett	Joe Gobara	Victor Nitsch
Senior Girls Javelin	Katie Trask	Phoebe Willis-Butcher	Francesca Traxton
Junior Girls 4x100m Relay	RUDDLE	THORNE	WAY
Junior Boys 4x100m Relay	WAY	RUDDLE	THORNE
Inter Boys 4x100m Relay	RUDDLE	THORNE	WAY
Inter Girls 4x100m Relay	RUDDLE	WAY	THORNE
Senior Boys 4x100m Relay	RUDDLE	THORNE	WAY
Senior Girls 4x100m Relay	WAY		
OVERALL	WAY (454 points)	RUDDLE (450 points)	THORNE (426 points)

SENIOR SPORTS DAY 2014



Victor Ludorum

Junior
Intermediate
Senior

Alessandro Aliberti
Carl Stanbury
Joe Gobara

Victrix Ludorum

Rosie Kivell & Eevee Banbury
Lucy Taylor
Nadine Marx



DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS

ART & DESIGN

As Head of Art and Design I must congratulate the sincere endeavours of the GCSE and A Level cohort of pupils; they have worked positively and productively over the year and especially in response to the exam questions. One would often find small groups of pupils working hard into the evening and at weekends in the art rooms in order to develop and improve their course work and this independent approach paid dividends in nailing the exam questions with 13 out of 22 pupils gaining an A* grade and none achieving less than a grade B.



At A Level everyone gained C grades and above, with 40% of the pupils gaining grade A, and a number of pupils continuing to study art at universities as far apart as Plymouth to the London School of Fashion and the International School of Art and Fashion in Paris.

During the ISI Inspection the Art Department had a number of visits from the inspectors. At times they became so engrossed that they found it difficult to leave in order to keep to their next appointment. This was especially memorable during one of Mrs Aliberti's mosaic classes, where the children expressed a natural informative joy for the tasks set with the combination of knowledgeable tutorship by Mrs Aliberti, and looking at the fine work in the pottery. Another inspector who popped in to the department found himself fully involved in the water

colour activity and could not thank the pupils enough. I think it was a way for him to escape from dreaded paperwork.

My thanks go to Mr Trask for running the car mechanics so successfully, however at some point we will have to start to reassemble the car or replace it, as the pupils appear to be very enthusiastic when it comes to removing parts. Also thanks go to Mr Quirk for overseeing and teaching woodwork skills, showing the pupils how to use tools and machinery safely. We are finding that fewer and fewer pupils have the confidence to handle a drill or use a screwdriver, so it has become Mr Quirk's mission to continue to impart these skills to each boy and girl. Each of these small life skills in turn has a positive impact on the development of our children.

Mrs Wahl has had another very colourful year and those of you who have visited her classroom will know what I mean and what an inspirational space it is. Due to her contagious enthusiasm her Junior Art classes won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes at the Bradworthy Art Festival and her Second Formers won the National Educational Art Prize at the Heritage Motor Centre in Warwickshire including a full day workshop at Shebbear with the artist Ian Cook, who is a contemporary British artist.

Ian Cook became famous for his artwork which is created solely using



the unique method of painting using radio-controlled cars, car tyres and toy car wheels. Ian is also known and goes by his company name of

'Popbangcolour' - who does this remind you of? Ian has been an avid car enthusiast since childhood and has combined his passions for cars, toys and art to create complex and dynamic artworks. Ian is a trained fine artist with a degree in Fine Art Painting from Winchester School of Art and describes his work as a 'friendly explosion of colour' which captures attention through the unusual method of working and the promise of live performance art at automotive events.



At the Annual Schools' Exhibition at the Burton Gallery the NADFAS North Devon branch of the Decorative and Fine Art Society awarded Shebbear College the Schools' Prize along with two of its pupils gaining individual prizes; Sam Westlake with his carefully painted pictures of Tavistock by night and Timmy Kivell's very large and colourful impasto paintings of sunflowers. Jane Whittaker, one of the judges, was amazed by the massive array of work from all the schools, proving once again what a creative buzz there is in North Devon.

The Art Department would like to thank all those parents and staff who managed to visit the Art rooms and new skills centre on Speech Day where Mrs Wahl's exhibition was a hit. Thank you for all the positive comments.

Ashley Barlow

BUSINESS STUDIES

I arrived in September 2013 to take over as Head of Business and Economics. At that point the A Level Economics (AQA) and Applied A Level Business Studies (AQA) were already up and running and the first cohort of Year 10 students were taking GCSE Business Studies (Edexcel) for the first time. The expansion of the department's course base also required a little extra teaching help and we have been very lucky to have Miles Rogers helping to teach the A Level Economics. Miles has great experience teaching A Level Economics and has demonstrated his versatility by more recently managing Religious Studies and Critical Thinking at the College.

The Applied Business Studies students in the Lower Sixth have made a visit to Bott Ltd in Bude in order to use this manufacturing business as the basis of their first piece of coursework (Unit 1: Investigating Business). They were able to use Shebbear College itself for the focus of the second piece (Unit 2: People in Business). We were very grateful for the interviews provided by Simon Weale (Headteacher) and Bradley Horn (Bursar) which were then used as evidence for analysis in the project. Well done to Emily Dunn and Julius Gemmell for a good set of results from the year.

The Applied Business Studies students in the Upper Sixth started their year by developing a business plan each. Joe Furber developed his Furbers Burgers van ready for Princesshay in Exeter. Rupert Burnard took on the mammoth task of setting up a small airline. Hayley Prouse explored the business viability of a Holiday Cottage in the already competitive North Cornish coast. Christy Hui looked at a unique café in Bude and finally Chloe Aveyard investigated a Chocolate Bar serving a range of drinks in London. A great set of business ideas. They followed this with the development of new promotional strategies for our very own Shebbear Fair Trade Shop.



Well done to all students for getting a grade in the subject, the coursework tasks are not easy, very long and require an entrepreneurial determination and endeavour to get through at a consistent level. A particular mention to Joe Furber for achieving the Business Studies Award for the year and to Hayley Prouse for an outstanding A* overall. Well done.

The A Level Economics switched boards from AQA to Edexcel in the Lower Sixth. These students began their journey learning about both microeconomics and macroeconomics. Well done to Salah Gobara and George Daniel for a good set of results for the AS. In the Upper Sixth, the students finished their course with the AQA board and all should be commended on achieving a great set of results.

The department joined Media Studies for a very useful trip to Disneyland

Paris. Business Studies and Economics had the opportunity to listen to a range of speakers regarding the development of business in the current economic climate. The journey and experience of each of the entrepreneurs was different and a valuable insight into what it might take to achieve. We also spent a bit of time eating candy floss and experiencing the rides in the park.

The year ahead sees an additional group of GCSE Business Studies showing its increasing popularity and relevance to the real world. Economics Society starts up giving students an opportunity to develop leadership skills and debate current economic issues. The first year of the GCSE Business will tackle their final exams and preparations are now in place for A Level Accounting and a new A Level Business Studies replacing the Applied Business.

Leon Oxenham

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS

ENGLISH

It has been another successful year in the English department. Results at A Level and GCSE have again been impressive, particularly in the face of a seemingly ever-changing programme of study. We have welcomed a new member of staff, Charlotte Simpson, who has had a positive impact within the department, proving popular with staff and students alike.

Encouraging students to read is the most important task facing any English department. When we do this, there is one thing we always seem to rely on: stories. Stories are the lifeblood of literature. Indeed, stories are like water; they are vital to our very existence. The saying goes that you can lead a horse to water but you cannot make it drink, but this is perhaps too simple a proverb for our modern world. What matters is that the horse consumes the water, but this does not necessarily mean making it drink. For the modern horse there are a number of ways to access the fluid that is so important. We could feed our horse intravenously, or we could let it lie in the water in the hope that it somehow absorbs some moisture. We could even nourish our horse with the juicy fruits of a tree fed from the pool of water at the horse's feet. But the simplest, most effective way for the horse to take on water is for it to drink. Children are not so different from horses.



Our students, like the horses in our little fable, have various options – various ways in which they can access the stories which are vital to their development. Films and television can offer a kind of mindless submersion, where stories are offered up complete and imagination is kept as the preserve of the few. Other more interactive media, such as story-driven computer games, allow children the opportunity to shape their own narrative experiences, whilst things like audiobooks make stories accessible without detracting from the original source material: the book.

Reading is to stories as drinking is to water – the simplest, most effective way to consume vital material. As an English teacher I obviously have a vested interest in encouraging students to read although what is most important, of course, is that our children are able to access stories. What reading more than any other medium encourages is the imagination which opens up the possibility for students to create, rather than simply to process the information put before them. Reading and the study of literature is not so much about learning subject matter as it is about learning skills and being inspired. English students are encouraged to analyse, think critically and most importantly, be creative. Reading and the imagination is essential to exam success in so many ways. Those that read, write with assurance. Those that read, create answers to problems. Those that read go to university. It is no coincidence then that so many of our former English A Level candidates here at Shebbear have gone on to successful careers in the media and creative industries. Well done us: well done them. Horses for courses!

Annie Farrell

GEOGRAPHY

This summer's A Level results were extremely pleasing with 50% of the

pupils achieving an A or A* grade. The GCSE results had some very pleasing successes as well. Rupert Burnard has chosen to pursue his passion for conservation geography by embarking on a course in Canada that will help him achieve his dream of becoming a ranger in the wilderness; we look forward to hearing his stories of adventure in the future. The Fifth Form fieldwork in Bude, exploring in which stage of the Butler Model the town is now, produced some thought-provoking reports that showed a great deal of insight by the pupils. It was especially pleasing to see how many planned to continue their geographical studies to A level at Shebbear or elsewhere.

The Form Three projects again produced some extremely interesting results, exploring global issues that particularly interested the individual. It is always enlightening to see the broad range of topics that spark the curiosity and passion of pupils and their depth of understanding when you discuss the chosen area with them.

This engagement with global issues is of ever increasing importance and helps pupils have a sense of place within the wider context of the world. The importance of geography is once again being recognised alongside other traditional subjects at a national level and the continued numbers of pupils choosing to study the subject at GCSE and A Level is very pleasing.

Matthew Newitt

HISTORY

On arriving at Shebbear as the new 'History Chap' I was immediately struck by the range and variety of classroom props that had been designed by, and displayed by, the outgoing 'History Chap'. My first challenge was to salvage as many of the sandbags, cardboard rifles, rolls of barbed wire and tinned corned beef as possible, along with WWI posters, various pieces of artwork



(doubtless a joint venture with Mr Barlow), comfy chairs and a coffee table. I then had to move all of the above out of Mr Langridge's inspirational abode and into the new 'History suite'. The department now has two classrooms and a Sixth Form Humanities study area complete with ICT facilities - very posh - and it has still retained some of its original charms, namely one tin of corned beef and a bottle of Camp Coffee.

Once the accommodation was sorted I then became acquainted with the most important assets available to a Head of Department; the staff. Mr Weale adroitly turned his hand to teaching the Fourth Form about the failed Weimar Republic, the rise of Hitler and the Nazis and the Cold War. During the course of the year he enthusiastically instructed students about the intricacies of the Twentieth Century, regularly interjecting anecdotes from his encyclopaedic knowledge of the period. Mr Burnett and Mr Law taught the First and Second Forms about everything from the Battle of Hastings to the execution of King Charles I and in doing so admirably demonstrated their ability to adapt their teaching styles, develop and create new resources and inspire the next generation of Shebbear historians. I taught the Third Year about the Industrial Revolution, the beginning and end of the British Empire, the Great War, Suffragists and Suffragettes and the Liberal Social Reforms of the early Twentieth Century. Most of these topics form part of the GCSE syllabus

as well, so Form Three students had a taster of 4th and 5th Form History and a head start at the same time.

In the meantime I took the executive decision to change the A Level syllabus. It now incorporates the study of Martin Luther and the German Reformation together with Henry VIII, Edward VI and Mary I in the Lower Sixth; in the Upper Sixth students are now studying Tudor Foreign Policy and Elizabeth I. My reasoning is that Shebbear pupils will now have the opportunity to study recent History at GCSE, as they have always done, and the Early Modern Period at A Level, which is a new departure and good preparation for University.

In March, on Field Day, Forms 1 and 2 visited Escot Park where they learned how to grind corn, forge metal, work the bellows, light fires in a sunken thatched hall and make chair legs and rolling pins out of pieces of wood. All of this was done in an authentically constructed Anglo-Saxon village. Students returned to school covered in soot and smelling of wood-smoke and having experienced a day in the life of a typical medieval villager. The trip was so successful that I hope to repeat it next year as well as a trip to Hampton Court Palace for older students. Thanks go to Messrs Rogers, Laycock, Burnett and Mrs Fanet for their enthusiastic and invaluable contributions to the day.

Looking back on my first year at Shebbear College I am extremely pleased that I took the job. Whilst it has been a very busy year it has also been very rewarding. Not only have I had the pleasure of working with a dedicated and inspirational team of colleagues but more importantly I have had the privilege of teaching and working with your children.

Simon Bee



DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS

ICT

This has been an exciting year with specialised ICT lessons starting from Junior 1 & 2 throughout the Junior School. Junior 1 & 2 used a graphics package to produce amazing Harvest images as well as drawing their homes and the seaside. This has improved pupils' fine motor skills and the enthusiastic use of www.activelearnprimary.co.uk with personalised numeric activities and games designed by Mrs Jones yielded an excellent report from the inspectors. The children also enjoyed being introduced to Beebot and all managed to program him to find his way to the shops!

Throughout the Junior School pupils use Chrome books to log on to Google drive to investigate and create word processed documents, spreadsheets and presentations, as well as considering Internet safety using www.thinkuknow.co.uk

In Babbage our main ICT suite the arrival of 22 Mac minis caused quite a stir and injected greater diversity into the curriculum with access to Garageband and iMovie expanding the software experience of many pupils studying at KS3 and GCSE. A steep learning curve for us all!

Pam Thomas

LEARNING SUPPORT

Our busy department offers support and advice to pupils, staff and parents. Mrs Diana Jones oversees the department in the Junior School, with Mrs Karen Clarke offering 1:1 and small group teaching. All the staff in supporting roles, in both the Junior and Senior school, have a substantial impact on the teaching and development of the pupils. They work tirelessly to give positive reinforcement and encouragement to their pupils and to

build self-esteem and confidence.

In the Senior School, Mr Alex Rushton and Mrs Andrea Rideout have joined Mrs Sarah Chappell and Mrs Karen Clarke to make up the LSA team. They provide 1:1 support for pupils with a learning need in the classroom. They also run the Power of 2 / Toe by Toe class at Chapel time, to give pupils a reading and numeracy boost, ably assisted by volunteer sixth formers.

At the same time Sister Light runs an exercise class to help pupils with their fine motor skills and retained reflexes. The class, which runs over the school year, has had amazing results.

Our Summer exam period was the busiest ever with many pupils requiring access arrangements. It was a fine tuned operation involving current staff and outside invigilators.

The Lower School Learning Support prize went to Jessica Alexander for her determination and enthusiasm throughout the year.

Sue Akers

MATHEMATICS

It has been another exciting year for the Mathematics Department.

As usual we have entered many pupils into the UKMT Maths Challenges at Junior, Intermediate and Senior levels. I would like to make special mention to the following for achieving gold certificates: Antonia Aliberti, Lizzy Flaherty (Junior Girl Power), Jonathan Ip, Theo Crookes, (Intermediate) and Will Collins (Senior).

We entered the Devon FMSP Senior Team Competition in Plymouth. We had some challenging map reading moments on the journey, thanks Emilio and Jack, and in the competition our team came fourth. Mr Trask also took the Intermediate Team to Plymouth, but they probably didn't get lost, and this team came second! Mrs Cardoo took the Junior Team all the way to Exmouth



for the UKMT County Competition and they also had a terrific time.

Otherwise, day to day, we've done some sums, drawn some graphs and we have all learnt something! Special mention to Kevin Chan, Joseph Ho and Maddy Fong who all achieved an A⁺ grade in the Further Maths paper, which A⁺ symbol means 'A* with distinction'. Also, well done to Tom Hill and Jack Honey, who both scored 100%, 100%, 98% and 97% in four of their AS papers in the June sitting, a really impressive achievement.

Many thanks to staff and pupils alike for all their hard work and enthusiasm this year.

Eleanor Bearpark

MEDIA STUDIES

It has been another busy year in the Media Studies department.

There were four A2 students this year, all keen to show their creative and artistic sides through their practical work. For the first time since I began teaching Media two of the students decided to do a horror film teaser trailer rather than the music video task. Emily Neal and Matthew Davey showed great team work and a great deal of skill in their trailer 'Lady of the Lake'. They worked well collaboratively and were fastidious in their approach to all areas of their portfolio. Indeed, Emily's blog was excellent, earning her a very well deserved A*, with Matt achieving an A. Chloe Aveyard and Jessica Lambert chose the music video brief and showed

a great deal of skill in editing and camerawork in their individual pieces. They experimented with a range of transitions available to make their videos far more effective.

The AS music magazine front cover, contents page and double page spreads also showed a great deal of effort. The best piece was by Sarah Penny, who used her research into magazine codes and conventions to produce a very effective magazine, showing great skill. Also of note was her very thorough blog that highlighted her vast research and planning. Connor Roberts and Sean Clark also produced some very good pieces which will stand them in good stead as they head into A2.

At the beginning of March the A Level Business Studies and Media Studies students once again went on a student conference held at Eurodisney, which put them in contact with some high profile speakers within their particular field of expertise.

The media students attended a Media Live! conference that had leading people of their field talking about careers in their areas. This year the conference was fully booked.

Media Live! brings students together with experts from key areas of the industry such as Film & TV, Journalism and News Media, who through examples of their work highlight the different career routes the students may wish to consider. The Q&A sessions are a great opportunity for students to quiz the speakers on their careers, work and inspiration.

The chair of the conference was Sian Jones, an anchor woman for ITV morning news and GMTV. She spoke to the students briefly about her career and how she got into TV.

Next we heard from Wayne Garvie who is Chief Creative Officer, International Production at Sony Pictures Television. Garvie is responsible for driving creative development across the global network of joint venture companies and SPT's

production studios outside of Los Angeles, turning locally developed properties into global formats and fostering co-developments across the group.

He most recently worked for All3MEDIA as Managing Director of International Production where he spent 18 months developing growth of their brands in the U.S. Before that, Garvie was Managing Director for Content and Production at BBC Worldwide. In that role, he was responsible for establishing production companies and has played a key role in the international success of some of the world's biggest television shows such as Strictly Come Dancing and Top Gear. He spoke to the students about how he started his career and about the different paths that he has taken.

Then we heard from Kate Russell who has been writing about technology, gaming and the Internet since 1995 and currently appears weekly on BBC2 and BBC World News, reporting for the technology programme Click. She got her first break on TV after being encouraged to apply for a job advertising for a "young & funky" female presenter who knew about videogames for a new show on Nickelodeon.

Kate is now a regular expert on the sofa at ITV's Daybreak and various other TV and radio stations; she also writes columns for National Geographic Traveller magazine and Web User magazine. Her first book 'Working the Cloud' and companion blog workingthecloud.biz was published in March.

Kate was very inspirational, particularly for the females in the conference, inspiring the next generation of female technologists. She talked to the students about 'crowd funding' as this was a recent experience of hers. At the start of this year she was crowd funded more than 400% of her target to write a science fiction novel.

Lucy Brett spoke next. She works for

The British Board of Film Classification (BBFC). This is an independent, non-governmental body which has classified cinema films since it was set up in 1912 and videos/ DVDs since the Video Recordings Act was passed in 1984.

Lucy Brett joined the BBFC as an Examiner in 2004, became Education Officer in 2010 and is now the Head of Education. She coordinates the BBFC education and outreach programme including education visits, creates online resources and runs a series of in house seminars. Prior to joining the BBFC, Lucy was a journalist for trade and consumer home entertainment magazines and a media studies teacher. Lucy's presentation was excellent and started a conversation later about possible careers in this field, something in which Matt Davey was particularly interested.

The final speaker, and the most dramatic by far, was David Aaronovitch from The Times. Aaronovitch is a writer, broadcaster and commentator on culture, international affairs, politics and the media. A former television researcher, producer and programme editor, he has previously written for The Independent, The Guardian and The Observer, winning numerous accolades, including Columnist of the Year 2003 and the 2001 Orwell prize for journalism. He has appeared on the satirical TV current affairs programme Have I Got News For You, presented a number of radio and television series and programmes on current affairs and historical topics. David spoke from the heart and had all the students in the palm of his hand for the time he was speaking. He told tales of his career and mistakes that he has made. He gave advice on how to 'cut it' in the field of media and inspired the students to think outside the box.

It was a fantastic conference, the best we have attended yet. It inspired and awakened the passion of the students who attended. All left having learnt about working in the field of media.

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS

We look forward to next year's trip and new speakers.

Fran Lovett

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

As we became more settled in the routine of Shebbear College, Mrs Aliberti and I had the pleasure of taking the Modern Foreign Languages Department onto its next stage. We were joined by Mrs Scott who taught A2 German and conducted all the speaking examinations. Mrs Garnett's arrival then enabled us to run GCSE French lessons parallel to our Spanish ones. We were also very fortunate to have, from February to June, the help of a Spanish student from Málaga. Eli Rios attended a large number of Spanish lessons where she helped individual students but also conducted conversation sessions with small groups. Both the fluency and confidence of our pupils leapt forward and we are very grateful to Eli for her contribution to our department.

We have continued to promote the study of two languages and our ambition to create a bilingual MFL group was supported by enough students for a new class to become effective.

Starting to learn a new language is always a very exciting prospect and our Year 7 groups were challenged into taking part in the national Spelling Bee project. We were not able to take our group of four runners up to the regional championship but organised our own



final competition in school in April. The four contenders fought brilliantly for the first place and Lizzy Flaherty was declared Shebbear College Spanish Spelling Bee.

We have strengthened our links with the Junior School and Year 6 became the first Junior School class to learn Spanish. A great deal of fun was had learning about Spain, discovering the differences and similarities with French and English and getting familiar with Spanish sounds and pronunciation.

Meanwhile, Mrs Jones set herself the task of introducing French in Years 1 and 2, laying strong foundations for future learning. I had the pleasure to visit the children in Kindergarten in the summer term and a successful session well outside the boundaries of my comfort zone reinforced my conviction that learning languages at an early age is important and fun. I am now looking forward to my weekly session with the "littluns".

We can only look forward to further challenges and successes in the coming year.

Christine Fanet

MUSIC

The Music Department hit the ground running with our first event, a wedding at Buckland Filleigh on the 28th September. Sixteen members, of the newly established 6th Form and Staff Choir were booked for their first professional gig. We were delighted when Mrs Morphy, a piano teacher at school, invited us to perform an anthem (Schubert's Ave Maria) at her daughter's wedding. Little did we realise that it was for many of the choir the first time they had experienced a full traditional English wedding with all the associated pomp and celebrations, from the beautiful historical setting of the local church with many memorials showing names familiar to us all, a full organ recital before the service, military uniforms, a guard of honour to a chimney sweep and confetti.

The girls particularly liked looking out for the ladies' outfits and it was very moving for all when the bride arrived and walked down the aisle, there were even a few tears of emotion. The Choir





performed their anthem musically and sensitively with a member of the congregation being heard to say 'that was beautiful'. They added harmony and a descant to the hymn 'Jerusalem' and led the congregation in the other hymns. All agreed that it was a very special occasion and the choir were exemplary, a real asset to the College.

Pudsey Gig

Musicians from Form 3 to the 6th Form organised a Charity Gig as part of Children in Need. Guitarists, singers and pianists performed an eclectic programme which was strongly supported by others who paid to listen; over 100 people filled the Memorial Hall. Performers were Tilly Cage, Ben Parker, Georgia Stevens, Nour Gobara, Cameron Mills, Yuet Wong, Hebe Wang, Joey Yeung, Joseph Ho, Meaghan Ryder-Green, Summer Dunscombe, Gera Turemuratova, Emily Neal, Catherine Kotarski and Sam Westlake.

There were many highlights, but no one will forget the Staff contribution from Mr Colville, Mr Oxenham and Mr Rushton who demonstrated their prowess on the guitar with a rousing performance of 'Wonderwall' and our very own compere, Cameron Mills. A big thank you was due to all those that attended and performed and to the staff for supporting the event.

Remembrance Service

The Staff and Sixth Form Choir contributed to this moving service with a rendition of Howard Goodall's 'The



Lord is My Shepherd', a favourite piece from the choir's repertoire.

Winter Music Concert

Musicians from the College entertained an enthusiastic audience at our annual Winter Concert. Songs from the shows were performed with style by the Form 1 and 2 Choir, Form 3, 4 and 5 Choir and the newly formed 6th Form and Staff Choir. The massed choir performance filled the stage to overflowing and filled the Memorial Hall with the rousing harmonies of Hamlich's 'One!' from 'A Chorus Line'. The Brass Group, under the direction of Mr Edwards, entertained us with 'It started with a Flourish', the Flute Choir played a delightful arrangement of Saint-Saens' 'The Elephant' and put us into a seasonal frame of mind with 'Away in a Manger', again expertly arranged and coached by Mel Orriss.

The String Ensemble, led by Mrs Frith, elegantly articulated their performances of a Polka by Nelson and 'Solemn March' from Handel's 'Judas Maccabeus'. The accomplished

Saxophone Quartet, led by Mr Smith, enthralled us with their immaculate performances. This ensemble would not be out of place on any professional stage.

The piano duettists, supported by Mrs Cornish, and soloists this year all surpassed themselves; all instrumentalists who performed were of a least a Grade 6 or above standard, with the second half consisting of concerto movements of a Grade 8 or above standard. Their performances wowed and astounded the audience. It was a real treat. They included on piano Benjamin Parker, Meaghan Ryder-Green, Joseph Ho, Cecily Hung and William Collins, singers Georgia Stevens, Tilly Cage, Sam Westlake and Emily Neal, Ben Parker on saxophone, Henry Cornish on cello, Angus Crookes on flute, Edward Tai on violin, William Collins on oboe and Jimmy So on clarinet.

The evening ended with two orchestral items, a syncopated Soul Bossa Nova (as heard in 'Austin Powers') and the evocative music of 'The Pirates of the Caribbean'. The audience response was

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS



so appreciative that the orchestra had to play it again!

Charity Chamber Concert

Musicians of the highest calibre performed a repertoire which included Vivaldi, Bach, Mozart, Diabelli, Chopin, Schubert and Satie. The standard of the performances was impressive not just for Shebbear College as a knowledgeable member of the audience was heard to say that these performances were of a National Standard. Well done to all who performed. £100 was raised which has been donated to the North Devon Hospice.

North Devon Music Festival

We were delighted to finally be able to perform on home ground for this year's North Devon Music Festival under the excellent organisation of Mrs Goode.

Monday was the day our choirs performed to Helen Deakin (GRSM, LRAM, ARCM), the Festival Adjudicator. The Senior School entered two choirs with over 60 voices. The Lower School Choir performed 'Street Seller' by Bob Chilcott which was "rhythmically driven

and full of energy" and Abba's 'Mamma Mia' "performed with effective dynamic contrast". The pupils were very pleased to be highly commended and each chorister was delighted when they each received a Festival Medal. This year the Festival Cup for Choirs was awarded to the Senior Choir who gained a Distinction in their performance of 'One' from 'The Chorus Line', "great opening with lots of ease in the triplets and syncopation" and 'Jazz Gloria', "a well-balanced overall performance within the dynamic range and a really good build up through the performance". Well done to all who sang.

Tuesday was the day for our numerous pianists and instrumentalists to present their prepared pieces. The Senior String Ensemble won their class with a performance which "clearly demonstrated a good sense of style" and the Saxophone Quartet played "at a great tempo, with crisp articulation and plenty of dynamic variety... which was both effective and full of character". They were awarded a Distinction and the Peter, Peter and Wright Cup for Overall Ensemble Performance.

On the piano Isaac Allsopp, William Balkwill-Western, Stanley Hill, Nour



Gobara, Lydia Bowering Sheehan, Caitlin McCartney and Tara Twomey all performed well, gaining much from the detailed advice given. Special mention must go to Olivia Rolls, Simon Cornish and Spencer Quance who won their classes. In the String classes the following performed with confidence, all the pupils winning at least one of their respective classes. Well done to Katie Slee, Simon Cornish, Lydia Bowering-Sheehan and Henry Cornish. The woodwind and brass sections included performances by Jessica Alexander, Robert Temple and Ben Parker went on to successfully win his class.

A special award was presented at the end of the festival; The Lloyds Bank Trophy to The Most Promising Musician 18 Years and Under, which was awarded to Henry Cornish for his cello performance which demonstrated a mature understanding of his Beethoven 'concerto like' sonata.

The finale of the festival was the Young Musician Competition, with a first prize of £100. Jimmy So, clarinet, and Edward Tai, violin, both performed a varied ten minute programme of repertoire. This highly competitive event which provided a platform for many of the best soloists from North Devon was inspiring and the winner was Edward Tai.

Congratulations to all who participated!

Spring Chamber Concert

This was the opportunity for our younger, less experienced musicians to play to family and friends in an informal environment with plenty of tea and

ASSOCIATED BOARD OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC EXAMINATION RESULTS

Bridget Astley	Piano	Grade 1	Merit
Stanley Hill	Piano		Pass
Elizabeth Hutchinson	Piano		Merit
Timothy Parker	Piano		Merit
Antonia Aliberti	Flute	Grade 2	Merit
Ellerker Singleton	Piano		Distinction
Theo Crookes	Piano		Merit
William Balkwill-Western	Piano		Pass
Caitlin McCartney	Piano		Pass
Tara Twomey	Piano		Pass
Isaac Allsop	Piano		Pass
Jessica Alexander	Singing		Pass
Archie Boycott	Trumpet		Distinction
Jessica Alexander	Clarinet	Grade 3	Pass
Lydia Bowering-Sheehan	Piano		Merit
William Balkwill-Western	Piano		Merit
Ellerker Singleton	Piano		Merit
Olivia Hill	Piano		Pass
Nour Gobara	Piano		Pass
Robert Temple	Trumpet		Pass
Archie Boycott	Trumpet		Pass
Lucy Taylor	Piano	Grade 4	Pass
Heather Mathews	Piano		Pass
Robert Temple	Trumpet		Pass
Oscar Baker	Music Theory	Grade 5	Merit
Theo Crookes	Music Theory		Merit
Benjamin Parker	Music Theory		Distinction
Spencer Quance	Music Theory		Pass
James Hibben	Rock School Guitar		Pass
Angus Crookes	Flute	Grade 7	Merit

TRINITY COLLEGE PASSES

Lola Frisby-Williams	Violin	Initial	Distinction
Bridget Mathews	Flute	Grade 1	Distinction
Ben Harding	Saxophone		Merit
Ellerker Singleton	Saxophone	Grade 2	Merit
Lola Frisby-Williams	Clarinet		Merit
Spencer Quance	Saxophone		Merit
Bridget Astley	Violin		Merit
Bess Scambler	Violin		Merit
Katie Slee	Violin		Merit
Laura Priest	Violin	Grade 3	
Timothy Parker	Violin	Grade 4	
Lydia Bowering-Sheehan	Violin		Merit
Edwin Sze	Violin		
Simon Cornish	Violin		Merit
Ben Parker	Saxophone	Grade 7	Merit
William Collins	Oboe	Grade 8	Merit

REPRESENTATIVE MUSIC 2013-14

Devon County Junior Choir
North Devon Concert Orchestra
Devon County Jazz Orchestra

Jessica Alexander
Lydia Bowering-Sheehan
Ben Parker

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS



cakes. Congratulations to the pianists, Caitlin McCartney, Lizzy Flaherty, Olivia Rolls, Tara Twomey, Jessica Alexander, Simon Cornish, Spencer Quance, Stanley Hill, William Balkwill-Western and Nour Gobara. The violinists included Katie Slee, Simon Cornish and Lydia Bowering-Sheehan. Cloe Westaway on accordion, Oliver Crowhurst and Spencer Quance on saxophone, Ben Roberts on cornet, Robert Temple on trumpet, Jessica Alexander on eb horn and clarinet, Ben Parker on bassoon and Antonia Aliberti and Theo Crookes on flute. A delightful evening with much to be proud about.

Gig Night

Gig Night was an uplifting, energetic evening's entertainment provided by our ever-growing band of singers and instrumentalists. The Lower School Choir performed their rendition of 'Love is Easy' by McFly, ably accompanied by themselves and eagerly supported by Marton Busa and Isaac Allsopp, with a performance of 'Counting Stars'.

Other performances were given by Amy Taylor and Sophie Gillies on guitars, Summer Dunscombe, Cameron Mills and Lily Harding, Madeleine Traxton and Connie Gillies, Lucy Johns, Dillon Chalmers and Connie Bromhead,

Jonathon Hill, Sirichai Crawford, Yuet Wong and Hebe Wang.

The event also included three bands who performed enthusiastically and with skill. The bands comprised Tilly Cage, Helen Dalton, Lucy-Ann Nadin and Heather Mathews, Georgia Stevens, Ben Parker, Tilly Cage and Jabez Weale, Cameron Mills, Summer Dunscombe and Katie Trask.

A big thank you goes to our compere Cameron Mills for pulling the show together and to Rebecka Slater-Lyons and Alex Duncan for their continued hard work and support of the pupils.

Summer Concert

This was truly an evening to remember on so many levels. The Saxophone Ensemble of Will Collins, Julius Gemmel, Ben Parker and Mr Smith opened the concert; this was to be their final public performance and again they did not disappoint with their confident, polished rendition of 'Calypsos'.

The soloists demonstrated a real passion for their instruments and a high level of skill and musical maturity. The pianist, Jason Man performed a demanding piece of Shostakovich, Oscar Baker a lively jazz inspired piece by Rebello, Gigi Lai's Haydn 'Sonata

Movement' showed dexterity and a fine control of tone. The only Bach of the evening was played elegantly by Spencer Quance. Chopin was represented by Edward Tai's 'Nocturne in B' whose performance of this musically demanding work belied his youth and Will Collins enthralled the audience with his masterly performance of the 'Polonaise in A Major'.

Theo Crookes' flute solo, 'Smoke Gets in Your Eyes' brought tears to one's eyes for altogether different reasons and Angus Crookes brought a real sense of Gallic charm to his 'Allegretto' by Godard. Jimmy So gave us an exquisitely balanced performance of the 'Minuet and Trio' from Mozart's Clarinet Quintet.

Singers Ailis Prowse and Emily Neal delighted us with songs from shows and both of them sang with a beautiful clarity of tone across the full range of their voices and Sam Westlake entertained us with his heartfelt composition, 'Home'.

Jimmy So performed a virtuosic piece on the violin which really captured the verve and style of a Paganini Caprice, and Edward Tai showed us the meaning of speed in his rattlingly brisk choice of tempo when he wowed the audience in his stylistic performance of a Hoedown.

The String, Brass and Flute Ensembles all performed their repertoire with growing skill and musical maturity. The Lower School Choir sang two contrasting pieces with a fine sense of style. The Middle School Choir sang in three parts and with poise and a real sense of line, an arrangement of 'Amazing Grace' and the Sixth Form and Staff Choir overwhelmed the audience with their renditions of the 'Lacrymosa' from Mozart's 'Requiem' and 'Gloria' by Vivaldi. And one must not forget the powerful performance by the School Orchestra of the music from 'Les Misérables'.

Thank you to all the students, and in particular to those for whom this was

their last concert at Shebbear, you will be fondly remembered and we look forward to the next event. Well done everybody.

Summer Chamber Concert

Along with an abundance of jam and cream scones, the audience was treated to a delightful concert given by our young musicians. It was a real pleasure to hear how much they had developed during the year and many thanks must go to our instrumental teachers.

The pianists included Charlotte Nethacott, Tara Twomey, Tony Chen (Year 5), Olivia Rolls, Jessica Alexander, William Balkwill-Western and Ruari Mills. The violinists were Timothy Parker (Year 5), Katie Slee, Simon Cornish, Lydia Bowering-Sheehan and Edwin Sze, Antonia Aliberti on the flute, Jessica Alexander on clarinet, Spencer Quance on saxophone, singers Olivia Rolls, Ella Hughes and Georgia Stevens, who also sang with Connie Bromhead and Tilly Cage.

Academics

The Music Department was delighted with the academic results both at GCSE, AS and A Level. During the year Emily Neal was offered a place at The Royal College of Music to study singing and William Collins achieved a choral scholarship at King's College Cambridge.

Kevin and Lisa Parker

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Michael Jordan, who is widely regarded as one of the best basketball players of all time, once said "I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed." It is with this in mind that I write this year's report and reflect on what has been a period of transition

and change, during which our sporting talent has continued to embrace the opportunities presented to them and remained stoic in their determination to succeed; win, lose or draw. As Shebbearians past and present, we all possess a certain quality of character that enables us to rise to the challenges we face and remain determined to succeed, regardless of how our success is measured. This year in particular, our pupils have experienced many highs and lows from victory in cricket and netball in county cup competitions to agonizing defeats in the last minutes in rugby and hockey, but whatever the circumstance, perseverance, learning and development of character have always been at the forefront of our thoughts.

Learning was certainly evidenced in this year's GCSE results as for a second year running, I am delighted to announce that the Physical Education Department can boast a 100% pass rate A*-C (58% of students gaining A*-B grades).

The A Level performances of both Michael Haley and Francesca Traxton were rewarded with places at university, to study at Cardiff and Plymouth Universities respectively. Michael has enrolled on a sport coaching course and Francesca begins her journey studying sports therapy.

Those of you familiar with the Physical Education Department will know very well that we are fully committed to development, forward thinking and providing as much opportunity as possible to our performers. This year this resulted in the acquisition of one indoor and two outdoor table tennis tables. The pupils have certainly enjoyed them at break times, playing singles, doubles and round the table, some were so keen to play they even adopted the use of a school hymn book as a bat (sorry Mr Aldridge). On Monday and Tuesday lunch times we have held Junior and Middles table tennis tournaments which attracted as many as twenty seven entries, the winners

of which were the Cunningham family, with Will Cunningham winning the Juniors and Angus taking the Middles title.

The lunch time sport didn't stop there, with a Juniors, Middles and Seniors five-a-side football competition involving a total of twelve teams and sixty-four players. The victors of the Junior competition were Casper Griffin, Sean Nadin, Stuart Williams, Matthew Edge and Oscar Baker. The Middles tournament was won by Phillip Susur, Harry Scambler, Harley Foster, Doug Fenney and Jake Weeks and the Champions League Standard Senior competition was won by Ross Bennett, Rupert Dymond, George Daniel, Joe Furber, Bailey Miles and Harry Chibbett. The boys played some very exciting football, whilst maintaining the spirit of competitive sport.

With our continued participation in the North Devon Cross Country League and the forthcoming hosting of a league event, cross country continues to go from strength to strength throughout the school. Certainly much of that success is owed to the keen family of runners whose surname is Banbury and, together with our other strong Junior runners, Shebbear were victors of the Kelly College Team Cross Country Relays this year.

As in every year it is our players who deserve the most credit as Shebbear makes strides forward and continues to compete with schools far greater in number but by no means greater in spirit, endeavour and determination to succeed. It is fitting therefore that we acknowledge our representative sporting talent and awards of colours in this year's edition of the magazine.

School Colours:

Cricket

(Half) Matthew Davey, Connor Roberts, Reece Stanbury

Football

(Full) Matthew Davey, Joe Furber, Connor

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS

Roberts, Reece Stanbury
(Half) Bailey Miles

Hockey (Boys)

(Full) Jonas Weiss
(Half) Ross Bennett, Rupert Dymond, Thomas Routly, Connor Roberts, Jack Warren

Hockey (Girls)

(Full) Megan Furse
(Half) Ellen Chamberlain, Rebecca Cox, Francesca Traxton, Kerri-Ann Turton

Netball

(Half) Tabby Kirkwood, Niamh Martin, Lucy Taylor, Francesca Traxton

Rugby

(Full) Harry Chibbett, George Daniel, Joe Gobara, Timothy Kivell, Connor Roberts,
(Half) Emilio Aliberti, Sebastian Sanders, Sam Westlake

Representative Sport 2013 - 2014

Athletics

North Devon U14 Kitty Scambler

Cricket

Barbados U15 Shian Braithwaite
Devon U15 Eloise Maxa
North Devon District U14 Carl Stanbury,
Jabez Weale, Jake Weeks
North Devon District U13 Jed Foster
Cornwall U13 Toby Biggs
North Devon District U12 Jack Joslin
North Devon District U11 Cameron Young
North Devon District U10 Luke Maxa
(Captain)

Cross Country

Devon U15 Eevee-May Banbury
North Devon U13 Eevee-May Banbury,
Patrick Faulkner, Carl Stanbury, Amy Taylor,
Stuart Williams
Devon U12 Patrick Faulkner

Football

Torquay United U13 Stuart Williams
Plymouth Argyle & Devon U13 Sophie Gillies

Hockey

West of England & Cornwall U15 Cara Phillips
Devon U14 Angus Cunningham, Ben Roberts

Karate

National Karate Championships U15 (3rd)
Dillon Chalmers

Netball

North Devon U14 Kitty Scambler

Rugby

Devon U18 Joe Gobara

Devon U15 Tom Squire
Devon U13 Alessandro Aliberti
Cornwall U15 Patrick Marks

Show Jumping

South West U16 Scarlett Powell

Taekwondo

North Devon U13 Olivia Rolls

Junior Sports Awards

Cricket

U15 Will Cox
U14 Shian Braithwaite
U13 Eddie Jones
U12 Toby Biggs

Football

U15 Harry Dymond
U14 Jake Weeks
U13 Stuart Williams
U12 Patrick Faulkner

Boys Hockey

U15 Will Cox
U14 Carl Stanbury
U13 Alessandro Aliberti
U12 Daniel Chamberlain

Rugby

U15 Patrick Marks
U14 Ben Parker
U13 Will Cowan-Dickie
U12 Tom Robins

Overall Sporting Contribution

U15 Harry Dymond
U14 Jabez Weale
U13 Stuart Williams
U12 Will Cunningham

Girls Hockey

U15 Lucy Taylor
U14 Heather Mathews
U13 Chompoo Thomson
U12 Amy Taylor

Netball

U15 Minnie Alexander
U14 Helen Dalton
U13 Kitty Scambler
U12 Madeleine Traxton

Rounders

U15 Eloise Maxa
U14 Annie Westlake
U13 Tara Twomey
U12 Sophie Gillies

Overall Sporting Contribution

U15 Lucy Taylor
U14 Heather Mathews

U13 Kitty Scambler
U12 Amy Taylor

Last year's changes to the KS3 curriculum aimed at improved performance on the games field came to fruition, as success was recorded by junior and intermediate teams in county tournaments and the programme of development will continue this year as we hope to introduce hand ball to the curriculum, specifically targeting improvement in students' co-ordination and decision-making skills in a fast-paced game.

I was also extremely pleased with our cross country runners as we travelled to Kelly College for the relay races and both our boys' and girls' Junior teams returned home with the trophies on offer. Of particular note were the performances of Banbury, Banbury and Banbury (Eevee, Eliza and Ruben) who impressed with their speed and endurance.

Running and charity fundraising was also encouraged through the department's annual charity run, which this year was held on our school site and included the Junior School. The cleaning staff proudly donned their running gear in honour of Sue Clarke who recently passed away, raising money for Cancer Charities in the process.

Sports Day this year was another close run event and well supported once again and the overall winners were Ruddle House. Disappointingly, this was not enough for them to win the overall House Cup back, as Way House ran away with it for a second year in a row. Thus far this means the Colpus Cup in honour of the late Jon Colpus (Head of History for many years) has been won three times by Ruddle and twice by Way House, surely Thorne House will have their day soon.

Once again I would like to thank all parents and staff who support our programme and encourage our pupils to participate. The positive feedback that we received from this year's

inspection report reminds us that our sporting talent understands the importance of sport in our community, is well provided for and that we have achieved considerable success. Congratulations to all!

Arron Steel

PSYCHOLOGY

An engaging and productive year culminated in a 100% pass rate at A2; with 83% being A – C grades. The AS cohort was equally successful as all students who applied to university reached their target grades and beyond.

Particular congratulations are offered to Emma Dixon who, having gained an A grade at AS, continued to perform well by achieving an A at A2. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to her hard work, grit and determination. Emma achieved 100% in one of her modules and 95% in a further two. Having started university studying Anthropology Emma decided that Psychology is her strength and is currently awaiting a place on the Psychology programme. All of the students who completed the A2 course showed particular commitment to psychology and I wish them well in their new pursuits. They shall be missed.

Whilst studying Applied Psychology, as part of the Forensics Psychology module it was a privilege to be visited



by Mr Terry Witton, Governor of Dartmoor Prison. As our guest speaker he imparted fantastic knowledge about the history of Dartmoor, punishments, escapes, day to day life and how a successful career in psychology can be developed in the prison service.

Mr Witton spoke passionately about his role as Governor of such an historic and impressive prison. The students were given a very open and frank account of how prison life used to be and how over the years it has changed in that it is now focused on rehabilitation, rather than draconian punishment. This narrative history of Dartmoor truly impressed the students as they were able to focus and consolidate their studies. It was a pleasure to have such an informative and interesting talk and Mr Witton has kindly offered to visit us again next year.

Encouragingly, the number of students studying AS psychology has doubled this year and I am looking forward to an exciting and rewarding academic year.

Eve Blundell

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

It's been another busy and active year in Religious Studies at the College. It always delights me when I see how the pupils engage with some of the challenging and difficult issues we meet when learning about the beliefs and attitudes of others. Hopefully, this results in a more open-minded approach by our pupils, a greater willingness to listen to the views of others. This was particularly clear when the College hosted an enrichment event for the 5th and 6th form students by Dr Peter Vardy, and reported in the college newsletter.

Form One have explored a variety of World Religions, including the Hindu Puja ritual and the enlightenment of Buddha. They also investigated the importance of Justice in Christianity, looking at how the parables of Jesus inspired figures such as Archbishop



Tutu in South Africa. Form Two have learnt about a range of religious issues and figures including; the Islamic Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca, how Christ inspires the work of the Salvation Army in their work with the homeless, and the religious symbolism of the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe film! The pupils also created some very striking images based around the life and actions of Martin Luther King. Form Three have considered topics such as how religion contributes towards personal identity, why many find it difficult to believe in God, and does science mean there is no need for God. Mrs Blundell has helped to make these lively and involving for all pupils.

GCSE results continue to impress, with over 88% of those Fifth Form students entered for the Full Course GCSE gaining an A*-C grade with just one lesson a week, including eight who achieved an A or better. This is a significant achievement by these pupils, well done and congratulations to all! Many schools offer 2 weekly lessons or 3 a fortnight to gain similar results. It should also be pointed out that all our students have the opportunity to gain a GCSE and to improve their moral understanding, regardless of language skills.

Philosophy and Ethics at A-Level has again attracted some of the best and brightest. Debates and discussions in and out of class have been fascinating and varied, ranging from cannibalism to torture. I should stress that there are no practicals involved! Well done to the Upper Sixth on their results, including Saskia Weale who achieved an A* with

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS

100% in both her A2 exams, a fantastic achievement. The Lower Sixth results were also pleasing, congratulations again to them and I look forward to seeing them make the step up to A2 Philosophy and Ethics. Several of those who took their A2 exams in the summer continued to university to continue their studies in philosophy and ethics at degree level. Well done to all who have made such impressive progress. As ever it has been my pleasure to teach them.

Miles Rogers

THE SCIENCES

Separate Science GCSEs - some meditations from the outgoing Head of Science

In 2008, the Government announced that all pupils achieving level 6 in their Key Stage 3 Science SATs examinations would be entitled to study "triple science", i.e. separate science Biology, Chemistry and Physics GCSE, within state schools. The Government took the view that this would encourage more pupils to follow the so-called STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) at A-level, and that students would subsequently perform better at A-level and beyond in these subjects.

This Government decision was based on data collected by the Department for Children, Schools and Families in the early-noughties, which looked at small groups of highly motivated science students. The Government was led to believe that what had been achieved by this small enthusiastic bunch of "Big Bang Theory" types, could be extended to any pupil reaching level 6 at Key Stage 3!

At the coalface, as opposed to looking down from an ivory tower, most school teachers are aware of the problems of trying to deliver science lessons to your typical adolescent who "traded on their wits" to attain level 6 at Key Stage 3. These problems include, firstly, the

negative effect on the learning process of pupils taking subjects which they do not genuinely like. Secondly, pupils becoming bored and demotivated when doing a lot more work in a subject, but, with no increase in intellectual challenge. Thirdly, pupils being put off as some schools struggle to deliver "triple science" in the curriculum time allowed for two subjects.

In my experience as a teacher, one of the principal factors influencing the subjects that students choose post-16, and the subsequent academic achievement of these students, is the quality of the teaching/learning they experience during their education throughout Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 4. I am not alone in believing that it is quality, not an over-emphasis on quantity, that matters in science education. As Head of Science at Shebbear College over the past dozen years or so, it has been my goal to make science lessons as interesting and enjoyable as possible for all of our pupils - within the financial constraints of a small school. There is certainly no shortage of students choosing science A-levels at the College. Many go on each year to University to study STEM subjects at degree-level: yet only a handful of our pupils do "triple science" GCSE. I believe that there is nothing wrong with Core Science followed by Additional Science, delivered in 20% of curriculum time, as a preparation for post-16 study.

Dr Stephen Crook

BIOLOGY

Returning to School in September brought the excitement of a brand



new Biology lab. It looked fabulous but completely sterile; however this didn't last too long as the non-human residents moved in. First came the Dwarf Russian Hamsters and with the arrival of the run across the ceiling they had the freedom to run around the room (although typically they remain quiet in lessons!). Then came the fish, guppies and mollies in one tank and a selection of tetras in the other.

The next species to arrive were from the plant kingdom, and started to grow like mad with the daylight spectrum lights in the lab. The Swiss cheese plant, Banana tree and Madagascan Dragon tree were all quickly reaching for the ceiling.

The final arrival was Pingu - an Albino Nelson's Milk Snake, who took up residence in the back corner of the room and both delighted and terrified pupils in equal measure. With Pingu's arrival the room had finished its transformation into a state-of-the-art lab full of life and exactly how I had imagined it eighteen months earlier.

We did get out of the lab over the year and the Upper Sixth visited Exeter University for a DNA/CSI workshop and the Lower Sixth joined me on the annual pilgrimage to Paignton Zoo where we discovered the role of zoos in conservation.

We also had a couple of lecture trips to Exeter; the highlight of this was a talk by the President of the Royal Society, Sir Paul Nurse, who enthralled us with his views on the six great ideas in Biology.

Overall a fantastic year for Biology at Shebbear.

Andrew Colville



PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

Astronomy, this year saw the second cohort of 3rd and 4th form pupils embark on the GCSE Astronomy course. It was a small but keen group who remained actively involved in all aspects of the course. The main highlights of the year seemed to be when we looked at key constellations in the night sky. To help the learning of these constellations and their shapes pupils re-created the constellations using chocolate buttons; this certainly seemed to help with the engagement levels with this task. As if this wasn't enough, in a bid to add a constant reminder to all those pupils in the Physics lab the astronomy students also created these constellations on the ceiling, using stickers (I apologise now to Mr. Lazenbury for this).

Probably the second highlight in the astronomy calendar was not the much awaited sun-grazing comet ISON which was hailed to become one of the brightest objects in the night-sky as it passed near the Sun (unfortunately it was destroyed by the heat of the Sun as it passed close by), but the learning of the phases of the Moon!! This was made much more interesting by the use of Oreos (please note that other chocolate

based biscuits are available).

As you may have now gathered and most Physics students will already know I will take pretty much any opportunity to shoe horn in the use of food in the teaching of physics and astronomy. The Lower Sixth will pay tribute to this as we created a wave machine using marshmallows and skewers.

Although this was entertaining and educational, it did

degenerate into a competition of chubby bunnies at the end of the lesson. Another use of food with the Lower Sixth was when covering material properties for this I asked the pupils to describe certain foods/sweets in terms of their properties. It was not as easy as it first sounds. Is a toffee hard and brittle or ductile? What is the Young modulus of a strawberry lace?

Another highlight for the Lower 6th was our unit 3 coursework Physics visit; this was, as last year, to Thorpe Park. But unlike last year, this time we actually managed to get to Thorpe Park in time to go to the talk. This was very useful and gave the students plenty to think about when they were on the rides. Things like the fact that there is a chance, very very very small but a chance none the less, that Stealth might not have sufficient acceleration to get to the top of the rise and as such roll back to the start, or, even worse, but even less likely to happen, that the train could stop at the top of the ride and get stuck, 'for a very long time, as we have no rescue equipment on site!!' the instructor usefully added!

The visit still allows plenty of context for pupils to write about for their

assessment as well as a chance to relax and enjoy 'physics in action'. I personally prefer to sit and watch the students making themselves feel sick.

My personal highlight of the year came when the physics lab was invaded by years one and two from the junior school. Now this could have been one of my worst nightmares but actually was fantastic fun and a really good experience for me, and hopefully them as well. The invasion came about partly due to Benjamin (my son) being in year one, this enabled Mrs Jones to mention (for several mornings when I dropped off Ben) that a science trip up to the Physics lab would be a wonderful opportunity for all. The visit was, as Mrs Jones had suggested, really good, the pupils investigated electricity and which materials conducted electricity. They discovered that metal forks worked much better than plastic knives! We also had the opportunity to have a look at the Van de Graff generator and make cup cake cases levitate before electrocuting some unsuspecting pupils. The whole group was superb and made it a very enjoyable experience.

This year also saw me apply for and get offered a job in the British School of Paris, it has been a long time dream of ours to live in France and be able to make full use of our home in Normandy and this opportunity has allowed us to do that. So I have to say farewell to what is an exceptional science department. I will truly miss Sue's help and superb cakes, the fun trying to find and catch escapees from the Biology lab and most of all the sounds of Bob Dylan reverberating from the Chemistry lab below. I will also miss being the human guinea pig for Mrs Purdew's culinary creations, especially in the run up to the Roundsfell dinners. I would like to thank all those in the science department and the whole school for their support and humour over the past 6 years.

Stuart Clewley

THE KINDERGARTEN

It has been another busy year for the children in the Kindergarten, with activities and trips planned to enhance their learning in a fun and practical way.

A most welcome piece of equipment which has proven invaluable for their computer skills and learning has been the new touch screen computer which was installed during the holidays.

Discussing the summer holidays enabled us to use many different skills in order to make a colourful wall display on transport in the main entrance to the classroom. It continued with games involving positional language, drawing and cutting skills, different occupations and role play.

Autumn was celebrated by collecting leaves, making paper gyros, planting seeds ready for Spring, cooking with fruit and joining in with the Junior School Harvest Festival, where they sang with enthusiasm and enjoyment.

Much fun was had with a visit from the Bhangra band. All the children joined in with singing, dancing and playing a variety of musical instruments.

A returning visit by award winning cameraman Doug Anderson showed how animals survive in the arctic, with everyone fascinated by his stories. All too soon it came round to everyone's favourite time of the year, Christmas. Cards to write, gifts, calendars and wrapping paper to make, always proves a busy and exciting time in the Kindergarten.

But possibly the most exciting time for parents is our Christmas play. This year each child made a decoration to hang on the tree as the traditional story unfolded with lots of songs and actions. All the children were amazing and everyone had a wonderful time. This could only be topped by a party and time spent with their favourite visitor.

The beginning of the Lent term saw the first trip of the year. Langtree Village Hall was the setting for a performance of Jack and the Beanstalk where the children joined the local Junior School in an interactive and fun production. After showing an interest in the



children's TV series, Mr Maker, everyone used their imagination to paint, draw, construct and make patterns using a variety of different skills and techniques which resulted in lovely displays.

Painting a winter scene on one of the windows also proved a popular activity. We made bird feeders, built igloos with marshmallows, investigated ice cubes and food colouring and thought of ways to keep warm during the cold months.

Through cooking, craft activities and role play the children learnt about Chinese New Year, its origin and celebrations, particularly enjoying making the dragon!

A favourite song within the Kindergarten is 'Walking through the Jungle' so it seemed appropriate to change our display in the main entrance to jungle animals. Lots of different skills were used including cutting, folding, writing and different ways of painting to make it come to life. Using maps and the internet, habitats and eating habits were learnt alongside the need for camouflage. This made our next trip an easy choice with a visit to St John's

garden centre in Barnstaple which is also home to Jungleground. Here the children trekked through the jungle looking for different plants and wild animals. A well-earned lunch followed in the restaurant where it was remarked on the wonderful behaviour of all the children.

As the children make bird feeders throughout the year and use binoculars to spot the different birds visiting our garden, it was also decided to invest in a bird bath which they were eager to fill on returning to school in the hope of encouraging some of the smaller birds.

The Lent term also saw our first visit to Rosemoor with Ruth, who not only looks after our domestic needs along with gardening tips and advice but also drives us in the minibus to our different destinations.

Our workshop involved us going on a scavenger hunt, finding a variety of different textures to make into a head band. This was followed by our picnic lunch and a play on the park.

Later in the term an opportunity arose for the children to take part in a circus



workshop organised by the Children's Centre in Holsworthy.

Not only were they able to watch a fun and entertaining afternoon performance, they were also able to try out their own balancing and juggling skills as well as tuck into hotdogs and popcorn!

After painting a spring picture on the window everyone made a kite, learning about shapes and other things that fly. Even the visiting school inspector was impressed with their paper plane making and flying!

The spring activities continued with the annual Easter Fayre with all the children parading in their amazing array of bonnets, all made with the help of their parents. Not an enviable job to judge the best ones!

Brought to life by music and puppetry, the children visited The Queen's Theatre Barnstaple to watch a wonderful performance of the children's book, *How to Catch a Star*.

This was followed by a visit to The Plough in Torrington for an amazing performance of 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Cat.'

Both performances had the children completely enthralled, and resulted in them performing their own versions back in the classroom.

This led nicely on to a topic about keeping safe at sea, so a visit to the lifeboat station in Bude followed.

We already had a little bit of inside information about the lifeboat, as Alfie was very eager to tell us about the work his daddy does when he rescues people, but everyone listened with interest as they learnt about the different flags and keeping safe in the water and on the beach.



A picnic and a play on the beach followed with a closer inspection of the flags.

Unfortunately the sun did not shine on us on our second trip to Rosemoor, but that didn't stop everyone from enjoying a 'Colours of the Rainbow' workshop. After collecting a variety of different objects from around the grounds to match the letters, beautiful rainbow pictures were made which the children were very proud to display.

They even discovered a hobbit house, but unfortunately no one was home. Cooking takes place most weeks in the Kindergarten, a welcome activity which everyone enjoys. It is often associated with our topics but always more exciting when making gifts for Mothering Sunday, Father's Day or other special occasions.

But there is nothing more rewarding than watching and then cooking something that is grown in our own garden. After planting our seed potatoes they yielded a superb crop which was made into potato cakes and chips. Both went down very well indeed.

Another activity carried out each week is PE. Under the supervision of Mrs Brock the children have enjoyed learning different ball skills and techniques, balancing and fitness. This showed in their enthusiasm for sports day, with everyone taking part and everyone carrying out the egg and spoon race with a little more skill than a number of parents!

To continue with sport and fitness the ladies in the kitchen were kind enough to put together a selection of different foods and Sister Light explained to the



children about the different food groups and the importance of each one.

Year 5 entertained the class with their superb stories they had written and illustrated as part of their literacy curriculum. The children decided which stories they enjoyed the most, before showing them the vast variety of books on offer in the classroom.

Many other activities have been carried out during the year including Children in Need, Remembrance Sunday and World Book Day which involved a visit to the school library

Perhaps the most favoured activity was our second visit to Bude beach. Taking picnics, swimming costumes, buckets, spades and spare clothes, everyone enjoyed a wonderful day paddling safely in the sea, building sandcastles and playing games.

One or two rested their eyes on the way back to school but not before enjoying a welcomed cooling ice cream.

At the end of our busy term the children were accompanied by their parents for a fun-filled day out to Trethorne Leisure Park. Pony rides, cuddling and feeding the animals, picnic lunch and lots of slides and equipment to play on made sure all the children, and parents, had a wonderful busy day.

Jacqueline Biddlecombe

JUNIOR SCHOOL



2013-14 was certainly another busy and rewarding year in our Junior School, and I look back on the many achievements of our pupils with great pleasure and tremendous pride. It was undoubtedly a year in which our sports teams came to the fore, but also one in which we saw outstanding music and drama performances, impressive art and craft work on display throughout the school, and numerous examples of our pupils creative flair in Science, Technology and Design: all of which highlights the wonderful diversity of talent that we have within our Junior School.

However, it was the attitude, enthusiasm and endeavour of so many of our pupils that best characterised the school throughout the year and so it was no surprise that many of our Year 6 pupils ended their time in the Junior School having made excellent academic progress, a fact that was reflected in their end of Key Stage 2 SATS results and their performance in the Senior School's Entrance exams. A special mention must go to Scholarship student, Matthew Honey for achieving Level 6 in his Mathematics exam.

As in the previous year, 2013-14 was also a year which saw further changes

in the roles and responsibilities of the staff in the Junior School. Mrs Jones and Mrs Willis-Butcher took over the running of the infant class and were quick to put their stamp upon it. Mrs Brock faced a new challenge, teaching our year 3 pupils (having taught the Junior 5 class for a number of years) and Mrs Burnett became our new Year 5 teacher, as well as taking on the responsibility of planning and delivering the science curriculum throughout the school. In 2013-14 our pupils also continued to benefit from a range of specialist subject teaching across many aspects of the curriculum, including Maths, French, Music, IT, Art, Games and PE. In this respect, the school is continuing to move towards a more preparatory school approach.

This was also the first year in which the College appointed a full time Academic Administrator with specific responsibility for our Junior School. Mrs Fiona Goode, who had for so long been a valued member of the Junior School teaching staff, took on the role and has (unsurprisingly!) done an amazing job in her first year.

Because of all the many changes and new initiatives, I would like to take this

opportunity to thank every member of the Junior School staff for all their patience, hard-work and enthusiasm. Without their support and commitment our pupils would certainly not have made such accelerated progress or have had so many wonderful and varied learning opportunities throughout the year.

The start of the year saw a number of educational trips, (and visits). The Year 6 visit to The Victorian Heritage Centre at Morwellham Quay certainly captured the childrens' interest, as they experienced a real insight into life in Victorian Britain.

The value of first hand experiences of this kind was also the principle, driving our approach to science teaching in the Junior School during the year. With close links to 'Forest School' methods, pupils in both KS 1 and 2 were frequently 'out and about' in the College grounds investigating a range of natural habitats and carrying out simple experiments to support their work back in the class.

At the end of September, our year 6 were off on their much anticipated trip to the PGL Centre in Dorset. During a fabulous week's residential the children experienced a range of challenges together, from zip wires to sailing boats and from giant swings to underground tunnels. It was a wonderful opportunity for the class to bond together as a group, as they encouraged and supported each other in all the different activities. We certainly all returned from the trip exhausted but happy, with special memories and many personal achievements to be proud of.

Another very special Junior School Harvest Festival Service was held in the College Chapel in October, with songs and sketches performed beautifully by all our pupils. The service was taken by our charismatic chaplain, Mr Tim Aldridge and was well received by pupils and parents alike. He has a wonderful way of engaging young children with his humour and warm personality, whilst at the same time getting across the

valuable Christian principles on which our school is based.

In the same way I am also very grateful for the input of our Head of Pastoral Care, Mrs Lin Quirk, in the life of the Junior School. The time she gave to so many of our pupils and staff during the year, to help them deal with anxieties and worries or just to provide a friendly face to talk to, was so valuable and contributes to the wonderful 'family ethos' we have created within the school.

In Sports, our rugby and netball teams set the tone for the rest of the year with some outstanding performances leading up to Christmas. In netball our girls were quick to jell into an effective team and were involved in some highly entertaining battles with both St Petrocs School and West Buckland. However, it was our under 11 rugby team that proved to be quite a force to be reckoned with, and their glorious (27-0) victory away at West Buckland School will long be remembered by all the boys that played that day.

Following on from the wonderful performances of our rugby and netball teams, our footballers, rounders players, cricketers and runners all shared in many successes throughout the year. However, two groups in particular deserve a special mention here.

Firstly our cross country runners, led by the incredible talent that is Eliza Banbury, swept most before them, with a succession of wins in all competitions: the highlight for me being Shebbear's domination of the Kelly College Cross-Country relay both in the girls' and boys' races.

But perhaps our greatest Junior School sporting triumph of the year came from our newly formed hockey team. Thanks to the excellent coaching of Mr Alan Muller, our under 11 mixed hockey team surprised themselves (and everyone else for that matter!), by winning the West Buckland Schools Hockey Festival.

Other notable sporting achievements throughout the year included a much improved league position for our High 5 netball team in the Holsworthy High 5 Netball Competition.

This was also the second year in which we entered a team in the North Devon Gymnastics Competition. Coached to a high standard by Mrs Sue Stanford, over fifty of our pupils from all ages took part and once again we had a very successful day. We won a number of gold, silver and bronze medals, as well as a special award for 'artistic interpretation' awarded to our under 11 mixed intermediate team for their excellent floor work. Laura Priest once again stood out as our most accomplished gymnast. But for me, it was the inclusion of gymnastics within our on-going curriculum that has reaped the greatest rewards. The very fact that all our pupils, from the Kindergarten to Junior 6, are now given the chance to develop their core strength, agility and balance, has and will continue to have a very positive effect on their all round physical development and their performances across a range of other sports that they participate in.

In the Junior School we are always looking to give pupils new experiences and introduce them to activities they may not have experienced before. We were very grateful therefore that the team from Encompass Training at Great Potheridge House near Merton offered a number of our pupils the chance to take part in a Kayaking Course with their instructors.

As you would expect, the build up to Christmas was an exciting time in the Junior School and it was especially endearing to see just how excited some of our youngest pupils got as the traditional festivities got underway. Our Christmas Family fun evening was a great success and helped raise a significant sum for selected charities.

There was another wonderful carol service for our pupils and their families



in the Chapel, Christmas parties for all, a visit from Santa and of course the wonderful Kindergarten Nativity – which was truly magical, with wonderful songs, beautiful costumes and some cameo performances. The reluctant shepherd (Freddie Lovett) and the rather over-zealous donkey (Tom Clewley) were my particular favourites this year.

The spring term was equally packed with activity. Whilst our numerous Sports teams continued to impress, it was also the term when our talented musicians took centre stage. Mrs Goode's determination to ensure that the North Devon Performing Arts Festival didn't come to an abrupt end meant that for the first time Shebbear College hosted the musical element of the event. All of Mrs Goode's hard work was certainly well-rewarded, as many pupils (of all ages and from all parts of North Devon) took part, including a good number from within the Junior School itself. The event was highly successful and there was once again individual success for many of our pupils and yet another gold award for our Junior School Choir.

Our Easter Fayre proved once again, to be a wonderful opportunity for our College as a whole, to come together to celebrate this very special time of the year. The day had started with a wonderful Easter service in the Chapel attended by many of the parents and families of our pupils. We then all headed across to the Headmasters' lawn to take part in a variety of different

JUNIOR SCHOOL



games and activities which had been prepared by our students. Pupils from the Kindergarten and infant class showed off their wonderful Easter bonnets on the cat walk, in front of all the College students and their parents, before prizes were handed out by the Headmaster.

This musical term concluded, as it always does, with a wonderful Junior School Music Concert in the Memorial Hall. A packed house contributed to the wonderful atmosphere of the evening as all our budding musicians performed for their families and friends. There were particular moments that stood out. The violin solo performed by Timothy Parker, Archie Boycott's trumpet solo, and Ellerker Singleton's first public performance on the saxophone, were all highlights of a wonderful evening's entertainment.

At this point I wish to recognise the contribution that Mrs Lisa Parker makes to the development of music within the Junior School. The hard work she puts into both the teaching and organising of music is only matched by her wonderful enthusiasm. I have long given up trying to convince her of the greater virtues of sporting achievements, and must now concede that it is the diversity of interests and talents that we celebrate within

our school that is one of its greatest strengths.

Things certainly didn't slow down for staff and pupils in the Junior School during the Summer Term. With so much coverage in the media regarding the anniversary of the 1st World War it was the perfect time for our Year 6 pupils to be studying Britain in the Twentieth Century in their History lessons. As part of this work, they visited the War Museum at Davidstow. This impressive collection of wartime memorabilia certainly captured the pupils' attention.

Next it was time for our infant class to get into role, as they visited Powderham Castle and became servants for the day in the Great House.

In the same half term the year 5 class were also out on a historical trip visiting The Gildhouse in Poundstock. This time it was to get an insight to life in Tudor times and in another 'activity based' day, they were able to dress up in keeping with the era and take part in a number of tasks that were part of life over 400 years ago including building traditional cob houses.

All these trips illustrate our philosophy with the Junior School of providing our pupils with first hand experiences in their learning where possible, rather than an over-reliance on text books and secondary sources. When I spoke to pupils from all classes at the end of the year about their achievements, it was these, and similar experiences that they were able to recall most vividly, which speaks volumes.

Sport once again dominated the run up to the summer half term. Our cricketers impressed, benefitting I feel from the preparation they had in the indoor nets during the previous term. Despite a narrow loss to St Petrocs, thanks largely to the individual performances of Dan Shaw and Freddy Stevenson (who fortunately for us are now in Year 7 here at Shebbear!) our team went on to clock up a series of wins, including

another victory against West Buckland School. Special mention must go to both Luke Maxa (J5) and Cameron Young (J6) who were selected to join the North Devon Squads in their respective age groups. Indeed, Luke then had the honour of being chosen as captain of the North Devon under-10 team. Not to be out done, our younger cricketers also excelled and ended the season with impressive victories against both Kingsley School and Kelly College.

In Rounders, our girls after a less than auspicious start, finally found their form and the winning way and there are certainly a number of them, who I am sure will go on to impress as they move up through the college. As well as Eliza Banbury, who was mentioned earlier in the piece, watch out for Bess Scambler and Hazel Coward who I believe will go from strength to strength.

In yet another break with tradition, our annual Village Schools' Football Tournament underwent a bit of a make-over this year and instead of focusing on Junior 6 pupils, the tournament was aimed instead at Junior 5 and below. This proved to be positive step, as it gave some of our younger pupils an opportunity to shine. Both our A and B Teams performed admirably, with our A Team just losing out in their semi-final match to the eventual winners, the Tarka Schools' Federation. Another master class in organisation by Mrs Goode (who even sorted out the weather half way through) and an opportunity to welcome back the College's previous Headmaster, Mr Bob Barnes, who assisted me in refereeing a number of the matches.

The final half term of the school year just seemed to fly by. The weather smiled on us again which was just as well as so many of our events and activities were out of doors.

Not however, our first experience of the sport of Judo. The Judo Festival, organised by Kingsley School, proved very popular with all those who took part and many of our pupils were

awarded prizes and certificates on the day. Corby Hamilton Lloyd turned out to be a possible Judo Champion in the making!

There was a great turn out of parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles for 'Tea on the Lawn'. This quintessentially English social event involved tea, jam and scones served to our guests by the year 6 pupils on the lawn outside Pyke House (while the younger children took the opportunity to grab an extra play on The Lighthouse playground). If ever there was any moment that best captured the family feel of our school, it was this. Mrs Kirby's background in catering certainly proved invaluable on the day, as it seems to at so many Junior School social events and in her cookery lessons with pupils throughout the junior school.

The wonderful weather held long enough for the Junior 5 and 6 pupils to complete their sessions of Bikeability training and then for Sports Day where temperatures seemed to reach an all time high! This was rather worrying for me, as I had insisted on introducing a 1500 race this year for pupils in all year groups. However, in what proved to be a great day of sport, the Junior School and Kindergarten pupils did not disappoint. There were outstanding performances from Alfie Sealey (Y1), Hunter Middleton (Y3), Isobel Watt (Y3), Reuben Banbury (Y4), Harry Brown (Y4), Aleya Singleton (Y4), Luke Maxa (Y5), Cameron Young (Y6), Archie Boycott (Y6), Lewis Whitten (Y6), Bess Scambler (Y6) and of course Eliza Banbury (Y6). However, Sports Day is a team event, so congratulations must go to Ruddle House – our winners this year! Indeed for me the highlight was not so much the individual winners, but the determination shown by all of our pupils to do their best and to support their team mates.

And so once again to the end of year Junior School drama extravaganza! After weeks of rehearsal and all the preparation that is involved in an event

of this kind, the show went on. Once again Mrs Jones (Director), Mrs Parker (Musical Director), Cameron Mills (Assistant Director) and their cast of thousands certainly didn't disappoint. In what can only be described as 'simply enchanting', our wonderful thespians put on their version of the classic, 'Wind in the Willows'.

Full details of the show are recorded later in the Shebbearian, but I just have to add my personal plaudits. There were some outstanding individual performances of course, not least from Archie Boycott as Toad, Billie Powell as Badger and Timothy Parker as Mr Rat, but it was the standard of the singing in particular that impressed me most.

Our Year 6 Leavers barbeque was another great success again this year. The parents of every child in the class turned out on a wonderfully warm evening and as well as enjoying the food and drink on offer, we finished with an 'eventful' parents v pupils rounders match.

At the start of the final week of term, the whole of the Junior School had a day out at Paignton Zoo. Despite an early downpour, the sun once again shone throughout most of the day and the children and staff had a great time although I think the comparison that my class made between myself and a rather elderly looking gorilla was a little unfair!

In our final Junior School assembly, Ruddle House were awarded the House Point Cup for the second year in a row and I took the opportunity to pay tribute to all of my wonderful year 6 class, who had impressed me so much throughout the year. I will remember them for their hard work, their determination to succeed, their support of each other and their great sense of fun.

I wish them all the very best, as they move up through the school. This final assembly was also an opportunity for me to thank our outgoing Head Boy, Connor Twomey and Head Girl,



Hazel Coward, for their considerable contribution to the Junior School throughout the year.

Speech Day provided a further opportunity for us to celebrate the success of not only our Year 6 leavers, but of all the pupils in the Junior School. Prizes for academic effort and achievement were presented to pupils from all years, as well as some additional prizes to recognise the efforts of our oldest pupils throughout their time in the school.

I am very proud of our Junior School here at Shebbear College, as are all the staff, the parents of our pupils and most importantly the pupils themselves. As I have taken the families of prospective pupils, or indeed any visitor for a tour around our school this year I have always started by informing them of what I consider to be the greatest strength of the school, the pupils themselves. Our children are happy, friendly, enthusiastic, kind and polite.

We will continue to foster these qualities in the year ahead and endeavour to provide opportunities for every child to fulfil their potential in their academic work and in the many other aspects of school life here at Shebbear.

JUNIOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS



This year's Junior School production returned to a traditional theme as we put on an adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's delightful tale of 'Wind in the Willows'.

It was a truly enchanting production which included a 'Strictly' dancing Mr. Toad and 'Street Dancing' weasels. Our narrators, Cameron Young, Alex Bird, Laura Priest, Luke Honey and Harry Brown did a sterling job remembering so many lines as they kept our story moving forward at a fast pace.

Ratty, played by Timothy Parker, Mole, played by Hazel Coward and Badger, played by Billie Powell, brought their characters alive with some wonderful acting and singing. How they managed to keep straight faces as they worked with Mr. Toad, played by Archie Boycott, I shall never know. Suffice to say, rehearsals were never dull when Toad was in full flow!

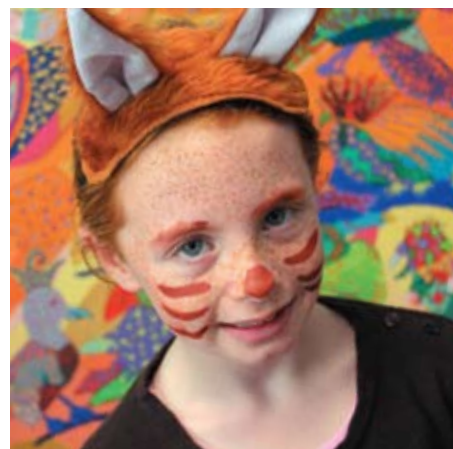
Mr. Toad's infatuation with the motor car inevitably ended in disaster as he was soon caught and imprisoned. Then it was time to 'Rumble' as the wicked

Weasels and their chief, played by Owen Hendry, took over Toad Hall.

Fortunately Toad finally learned to share and forgive; he promised to keep on the straight and narrow and the show ended with a spine-tingling rendition of the song 'Now We Can Share'.

I would like to congratulate all of the children from Years 3 to 6 who were involved with this year's triumphant production. They were simply marvellous and I was so proud of them all.

Diana Jones





SENIOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION SEVEN GOLDEN DRAGONS



This year our production was a fast-moving, action-packed, musical fantasy comedy (how many genres can one play fit into?) for a cast of thousands in the style of a Ben Hur epic. This was a shameless rip-off of 'The Seven Samurai' and was ideal for a mixed-age production.

In an idyllic mythical land the Elflings are happy leading peaceful lives until threatened by the Orcs and their leader, Znakbar, who intends to kill an Elfling a day until they relinquish a magic ring.

Journeying to find the legendary Seven Golden Dragons to help them, the Elflings mistake the Golden Dragon football team for their saviours and the seven lads find themselves transported to a land of dungeons and dragons.

Many exciting adventures happen before the Elflings are free of the Orcs. Landing back on earth the Seven find it might have been a dream ... or was it?

A powerful performance by Cameron Mills as Chris, the leader of the Seven Golden Dragons, took us on a magical journey in which he confronted the mad paranoid megalomania of Znakbar played by Tom Robins (making a debut performance in the Senior School) who kicked and bullied his band of Orcs, consisting of quivering

sixth formers. They sang about the trials and tribulations of growing up as an Orc and were riotously played by George Daniel, Joe Gobara, Salah Gobara, Connor Roberts, Struan Sharpe and Sam Westlake, who kept the audience amused with their incompetence, even unable to terrify little Year 5s in the front row, and their hopeless control of a man-eating Glinch played by Antonia Aliberti.

The Golden Dragons were played by Marton Busa, William Balkwill-Western, Katie Harris and Doug Willis-Butcher, with last minute understudy roles being played valiantly and most competently by Tilly Cage and Connie Gillies.

The Elflings were led by Nadia Blaskiewicz



who also doubled up as mother of two of the Dragons. Other powerful elf performances were by Willow Bowden and Georgia Stevens. We saw the solo singing debut of Alessandro Aliberti and Beth Hubmeyer sang an elfish 'Over the Rainbow'. Elizabeth Hutchinson played an absent minded wise man and an invisible creature, Olivia Rolls played a Basilisk, Holly Nancekivell and Merryn Alderson were nervous airline pilots and if you blinked you missed Robin Dalton as a terrorist! Even Mr B, on the advice of his co-producers, managed to do his usual 'Alfred Hitchcock cameo' and appeared as a Shebbearian-feasting giant.

Back stage, costumes and props were managed by the ever versatile and able Mrs Franklin assisted by Mrs Vassilaki, who also co-produced and kept the lights fixed on the stage during performances.

Musical accompaniment and direction was provided and improvised by The Parker Trio with Mrs Goode on piano. Mrs Parker trained the singers and was repetiteur for rehearsals. Thanks must go to Mr Barlow who assisted with the stage set. Overall, a delightful performance which took the audience to the edge of some Tolkienesque reality.

After such hard work, I thought the cast, considering they live on the Celtic Fringe, should be called 32 Golden Pendragons!

Ian Burnett





FIFTH FORM PROM WEDNESDAY 25TH JUNE





SIXTH FORM

This year's A level results were excellent with many stories of individual success. Our Upper Sixth now embark on the next chapter of their lives as they leave school and head on to university or the work place. The vast majority of them went to their first choice university from Cambridge to the London School of Fashion. Will Collins was awarded a choral scholarship and a place to read Natural Sciences at King's College, Cambridge. The University of Birmingham was popular this year with three of our pupils heading there. We wish all of the Upper Sixth success in their chosen studies.

The Rounsefell Dinner was an excellent evening again this year and the speaker was Wing Commander James Penelhum RAF. Wg Cdr Penelhum spoke about his time in the RAF Police and how he ended up in a career that he had initially not considered. He emphasised the point to the Sixth Form to embrace the opportunity they have as a result of the foundation given to them by attending Shebbear to aim high and succeed in their future life. It was an inspiring message which provoked much thought and debate in the Sixth Form. Thanks must also be extended to Mrs Purdew, Mrs Cardoo and the 5th Form for all their efforts with the catering and service to ensure the evening was a success.

The pantomime this year was Cinderella with both nods to the traditional story and some more contemporary additions. Sam Westlake starred as Prince Charming with Catherine Kotarski as Cinderella; both excellent singers (and who enabled the show to have a musical format) and actors. There were many great contributions from Sixth Formers such as George Daniel as Dandini and Joe Furber as Buttons (stand-up comedian of the future?) and Struan Sharpe managed to wring every ounce of acting prowess from his 'woofs'. However, the unforgettable sight of Harry Chibbett as the step mother and the unfathomed depths of his stage repertoire will live long in the



memory, as well as Matt Davey and Will Hill, who both were so involved in their method acting that their roles as the ugly sisters continued long after the show was completed. Well done to all of the Sixth Form, it was an excellent show.

Overall it was a very busy and successful year. From the serious, philosophical nature of the Sixth Form debate held at Exeter Cathedral through to the relaxed nature of the summer meal it was an excellent year.

Matthew Newitt



ROUNSEFELL DINNER WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL 2014



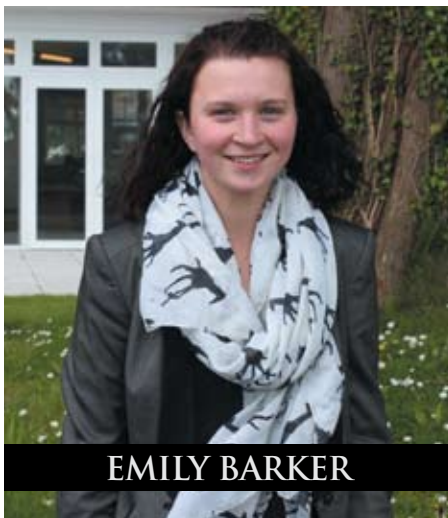


VALETE 2014



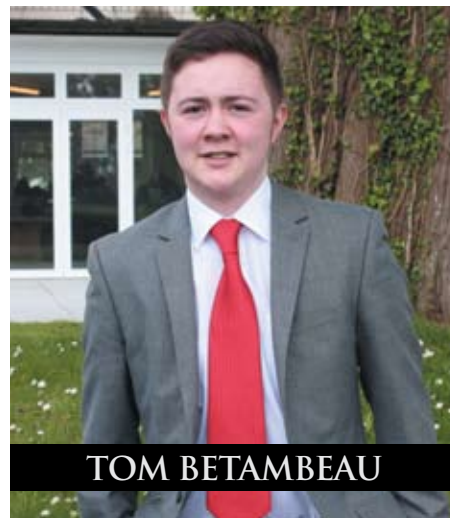
CHLOE AVEYARD

University: London School of Fashion
Course: Footwear Design



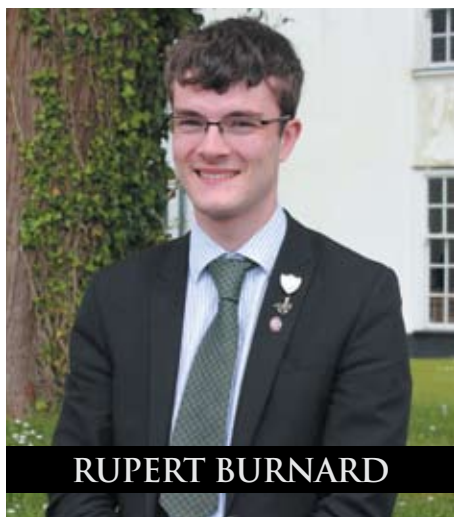
EMILY BARKER

Destination: Gap Year



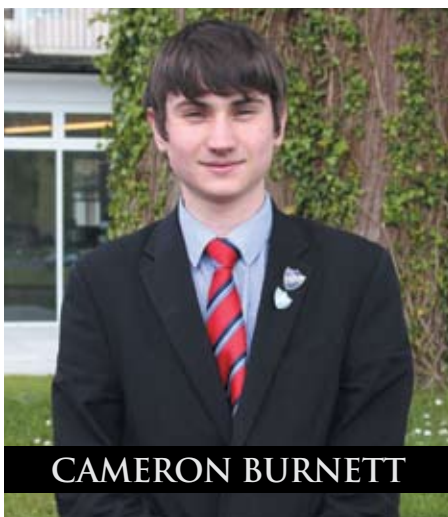
TOM BETAMBEAU

University: Plymouth
Course: Criminology and Criminal Justice
School Record: Viridian Fuels Director



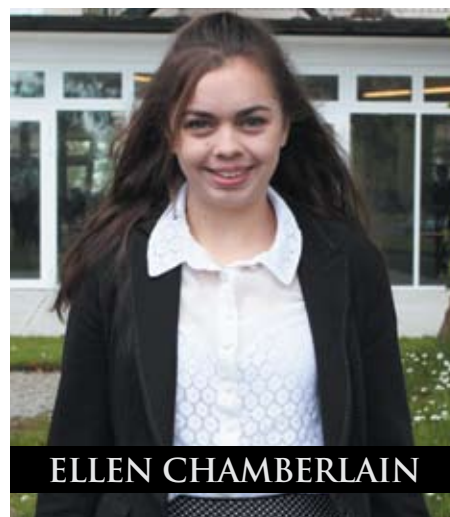
RUPERT BURNARD

University: Fleming College
Course: Fish and Wildlife Technology
School Record: Thorne House Captain



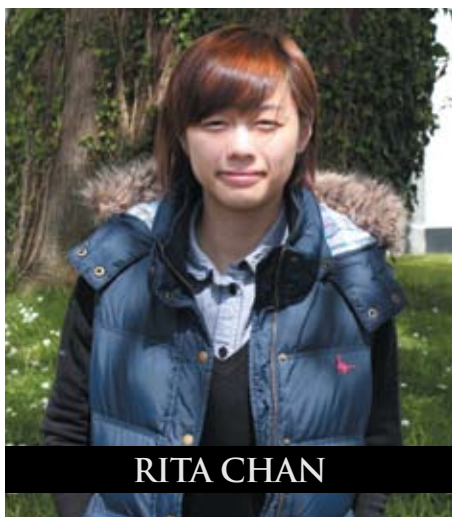
CAMERON BURNETT

University: Keele
Course: Biomedical Science
School Record: Viridian Fuels Director



ELLEN CHAMBERLAIN

University: Bath
Course: Economics
School Record: Head Girl
1st Team Netball
1st Team Hockey
1st Team Rounders



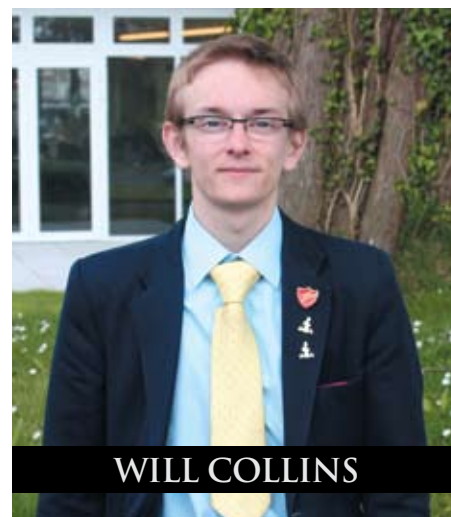
RITA CHAN

University: Portsmouth



HARRY CHIBBETT

University: Birmingham
Course: IR with Economics
School Record: Deputy Head Boy
 1st XV Rugby Captain
 1st XI Cricket, 1st XI Hockey



WILL COLLINS

University: Cambridge
Course: Structural Sciences
School Record: Orchestra
 Choir
 Saxophone Ensemble



MATT DAVEY

University: Brunel
Course: Media and Communications
School Record: 1st XI Football
 1st XI Cricket
 Prefect



EMMA DIXON

University: Birmingham
Course: Anthropology and African Studies
School Record: Prefect



JOE FURBER

University: Gap year then Warwick
Course: Language, Culture and Communication
School Record: 1st XI Football Captain
 1st XI Cricket
 1st XV Rugby



MEGAN FURSE

University: Cardiff
Course: English Language
School Record: 1st Team Netball (Capt)
 1st Team Hockey
 1st Team Rounders

VALETE 2014



JULIUS GEMMEL

Destination: Gap Year
School Record: Head Boy



MICHAEL HALEY

University: Cardiff
Institute
Course: Sports
Science
School Record: 1st XI
Football



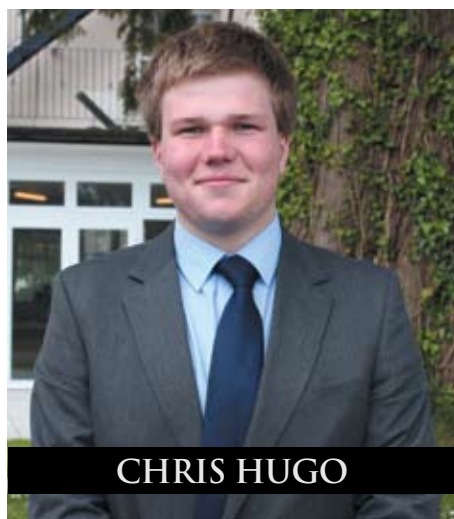
CHARLOTTE HARPER

University: Marjons
Course: Primary
Education
School Record: 1st XI
Hockey
Way House Captain



WILLIAM HILL

University: Southampton
Course: History and
Philosophy
School Record: Prefect



CHRIS HUGO

University: Falmouth Marine
College
Course: Marine Conservation



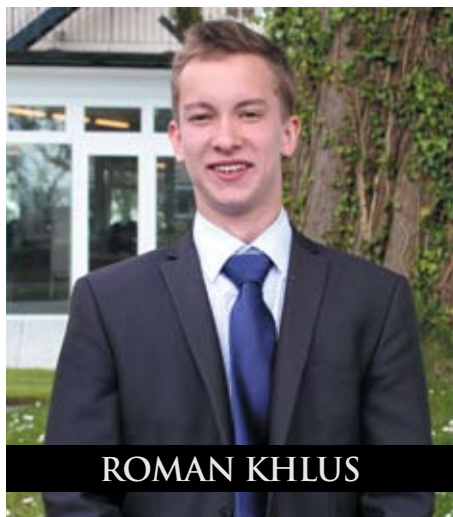
CHRISTY HUI

University: Chester
Course: Tourism Management



JULIETTE JOUBERT

University: Paris School of
Fashion
Course: Fashion
School Record: House Captain Thorne



ROMAN KHLUS

University: Plymouth College of Art
Course: Illustration
School Record: House captain Way Pollard Prefect



CATHERINE KOTARSKI

University: Leeds
Course: English
School Record: Prefect



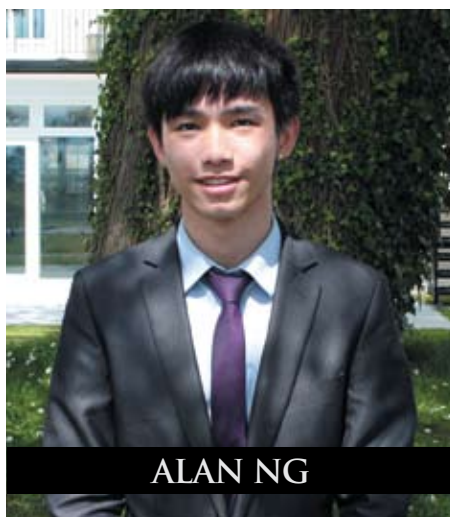
JESS LAMBERT

Destination: Army
School Record: Ruddle Boarding House Captain



EMILY NEAL

University: Kings College London
Course: Ancient History
School Record: Prefect



ALAN NG

University: Coventry
Course: Interior Design



SARAH PENNY

University: Southampton Solent
Course: Media, Culture and Production

VALETE 2014



HAYLEY PROUSE

Destination: Apprenticeship
Trade: Accountancy
School Record: House Captain
 Rudolf



JOSEPHINE RICHARDS

University: Birmingham
Course: Medical Science



FRAN TRAXTON

University: Marjons
Course: Sports Therapy
School Record: 1st Team Hockey
 Netball



AIGERIM TUREMURATOVA

University: New York
Course: Film Academy
 Drama



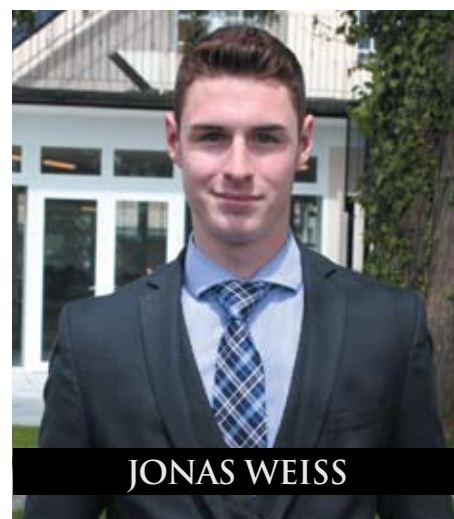
JACK WARREN

University: Aberystwyth
Course: History
School Record: 1st XV Rugby, 1st XI Football, 1st XI Cricket, 1st XI Hockey
 House Captain Ruddle
 Pollard Prefect



SASKIA WEALE

University: Warwick
Course: History
School Record: Prefect



JONAS WEISS

Destination: Work Placement
 Germany
Trade: Hotel Management
School Record: 1st XV Rugby
 1st XI Hockey

RESULTS 2014

A Level Achievements

The class of 2014 at Shebbear College are celebrating the publication of their A Level results. Amongst the many delighted faces on results day were Will Collins (pictured) whose five A Levels (2A*s, 2As and a B) secured his place at King's College, Cambridge to



study Natural Sciences, Head Girl Ellen Chamberlain who scored an A* and 2As and will be studying Economics at Bath, and Saskia Weale whose A* and 2As means she can now study History at the University of Warwick.

Over 80% of Shebbear's Upper Sixth will go on to university this year. Harry Chibbett (Economics), Josephine Richards (Biomedical Science), and Emma Dixon (Anthropology) are all going to the University of Birmingham – the Sunday Times 'University of the Year'. Meg Furse (English) is going to Cardiff, Catherine Kotarski (History and Philosophy) to Leeds, Will Hill (History and Philosophy) to Southampton, and Emily Neal (pictured) (Ancient History) to King's College, London, having also been offered a choral scholarship to the Royal College of Music. Chloe Aveyard and Juliette Joubert are both following their dreams of getting into the fashion industry by securing prestigious places

at the London College of Fashion and ESMOD, in Paris, respectively. Other destinations for students include Keele, Brunel, UWIC, Sussex, Southampton Solent, Marjons, Plymouth, and Aberystwyth.

Some students have decided to enter the workplace or take a gap year before heading off to college. A good example of this are Hayley Prouse and Joe Furber who both joined Shebbear Sixth Form from Holsworthy Community School and both achieved an A*, A and B at A Level! Hayley has taken up an internship with an accountancy firm whilst Joe is aiming to develop his culinary skills for a year before studying English at Sussex. Others have chosen more vocational routes – Charlotte Harper is learning to be a Primary School Teacher at Plymouth and Fran Traxton will be training as a Sports Therapist at Marjons. Jess Lambert, Head of Ruddle House is joining the Army whilst Rupert Burnard is off to university in Canada. He may well be followed to overseas universities by some of Shebbear's International boarders who now have the option of studying higher education in a number of countries and will finalise their decisions in the coming weeks.

Headmaster Simon Weale said 'I am delighted with the range of destinations that our students will move on to. The students have thought carefully about their choices and set their sights high. Although we are in a very quiet part of North Devon we aim to educate our pupils for life beyond Exeter. The newspaper headlines have been dominated by falling A Level pass rates, but our students have doubled the number of A*s achieved and there is a significant rise in the percentage of A grades and B grades achieved (60% overall). Our Sixth Form is not academically selective so I think this is particularly impressive. Our students benefit from the fact that we are a school, not a Sixth Form College. Our students receive close academic and

pastoral support throughout their time here and enjoy a range of opportunities which raise their self-reliance and self-esteem and encourages them to finish their courses. I am confident that this year's leaders will move on to lead successful and fulfilling lives'.

GCSE Results

Shebbear College students enjoyed a strong performance in their GCSE results. The College's pass rates from A* to C were once again well over 10% above the national average and the students are now well placed to start their A Level courses.

There were a number of notable individual performances. Tom Routly, Ross Bennett, Angus Crookes, and Madeline Fong scored 32 A* and A grades between them and twins Joseph and Eva Ho scored 12A* and A grades between them, despite taking all of their exams in their second language. The quality of Shebbear's Art department, which has already won a number of local and national awards already this year, once again shone through with 13 of the 22 entries being awarded an A*.

Headmaster Simon Weale commented 'It has been a very challenging year for Year 11s across the country who have been confronted with the new linear GCSE exams and a government determined to make the exam system more challenging. Our pupils have had to bear the brunt of this and it is too their credit that they have come through so strongly. They are a splendid year group of confident and principled young adults who are going to make a positive impact as they move on to the more specialised part of their education. The benefit of their experiences this year will be that they will begin the next phase of their education as battle hardened exam veterans and I expect them all to do very well at A Level as a result'.

THE BOARDING YEAR



Boarding schools are like the world in miniature: keeping everybody happy all the time is difficult and sometimes a bit of a juggling act, but here at Shebbear we have a supportive staff and a lively fun loving group of young people who thoroughly enjoy the challenges and delights of community living.

All the boarding staff have contributed hugely to the happiness and well-being of students in our houses. They go the extra mile so often and we are so grateful.

This year we have been very happy to welcome Mr Jamie Sanders as housemaster to Pollard House. Not only is he an old Shebbearian boarder himself, but he and his wife Hayley and their baby Billy have brought a young family atmosphere to the boys' house - a real bonus for our boarders.

As well as rugby, Mr Sanders has a penchant for watery activities so boarders have enjoyed regular surfing activities on Sundays.

Boarding staff have provided a huge number of activities. In addition to regular shopping trips and boarding evenings, the boarders have enjoyed paintballing, trips to the cinema and theatre, laser quasar, murder mystery evenings and plenty of social activities.

Our thanks must go to the very strong team of boarding house prefects who have assisted the smooth day-to-day running of the houses. These senior pupils have helped in many ways to support and counsel boarders, using both their experience and levelheadedness.

May I thank also our boarders parents without whose support life could at times be quite difficult. It is good to know that the parents and the staff - who become surrogate parents - have such good working relationships.

In all, boarding at Shebbear College continues to thrive and I'm delighted that when we reflect on snapshots of life during this past year, it is apparent that boarding can provide a great deal of satisfaction for all concerned. Personally, listening to students of eight different nationalities, chatting happily in English as they sit around the dining table makes me feel very contented indeed!

Lin Quirk
Head Of Boarding



INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

For the third consecutive year we welcomed about 20 students from a number of European countries – France, Italy, Russia, Poland and Hungary – who joined classes for two days a week after half term and spent the other three days improving their English skills and visiting local places of interest. The highlight of their day trips was once again the Eden Project, but they also enjoyed visits to Morwellham Quay, Dragon Archery and Dingles Fairground Heritage Centre, where they were able to get a real taste of English culture, both past and present. During Activities Week they spent two days on visits to Tintagel and Dartmoor with Form 1 students, before spending



two nights in Bristol where there were trips to the At-Bristol Science Centre, the Aquarium, Clifton Suspension Bridge, as well as the less educational (but great fun) times spent at the Go Karting Centre, ten-pin bowling and the cinema. My thanks go to Eve Blundell and Nick

Law who accompanied the group to Bristol and to Sean Clark and Conner Roberts who, together with Ailis Prowse, made a film of the students' stay at the college.

Andy Bryan

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

It was hard to follow the success of Andy Briggs's visit to the College in 2012, but we succeeded in our September Book Week, with a visit from a past winner of the Carnegie Medal, Gillian Cross.

She challenged pupils to think about how they would cope if they had to flee their homes and all that was familiar to them as she talked about her book 'After Tomorrow'.

In the same week we had a visit from Paul Dowswell who gave a moving talk about the closing hours of World War One from the perspectives of combatants from different nations, the story told in his book 'Eleven Eleven'.

There was a further buzz of excitement in the Michaelmas Term as Form One pupils selected a book of their choice for Bookbuzz, a reading programme designed to support the encouragement of reading for pleasure and once again kindly sponsored for us by the Friends of Shebbear College. The pupils' choices were received by them, with much enthusiasm, later in the term.

In the Lent Term, bolstered by a visit from its founder Brough Girling, our annual participation in Readathon inspired so much reading that the sponsor money raised by pupils for children's charities was the wonderful sum of £683. That was a real bonus for the Library too, since it entitled us to choose nearly £140 worth of free books as a reward.

Jane Welby



OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Following the previous year's success we enrolled 34 more pupils to the Award making a total of nearly 90.

Eighteen pupils completed their Bronze Award during the summer term. We held a practice expedition around Tavistock in September, a final Bronze expedition to the New Forest in April, and ran a training course followed by a practice expedition to Dartmoor in June for the pupils in 3rd Form.

In July, Alice Cowan-Dickie, Will Hill, Will Collins and Jed Lightie completed an arduous Gold final expedition in the Brecons, taking pictures of optical



illusions as their project. They are now all close to completion.

My sincere thanks go to Mr Clewley and Mrs Franklin for their unfailing help, without which the Award could not happen.

Cricket Talent from Barbados

As a young cricketer in Barbados, to get offered to study and play cricket in England is a dream come true. It is an opportunity to play cricket in totally

different conditions and study in a different environment and culture. I feel honoured to have been given this chance and I tried to make the most of it both academically and cricket wise.

I remember the day we arrived, Shian and I, an early Saturday morning in May which to us was freezing cold and reminded me a bit of Sweden, where I am originally from. We were greeted in the airport by Mr. Barnes and then we were off to Shebbear which was a four hour drive but felt like eight. On arriving at Shebbear we got what I think was the most warming welcome ever by Mr. Bryan and Mr. Weale which was "hello good morning i am ... nice to meet you. Do you have your cricket whites?" implying that we were literally to go upstairs to our rooms get changed and head outside to the cricket field.

That day we lost miserably but that all changed as we progressed further on into the season. After we had played a few matches and had gotten to know everyone through school and cricket we started defeating schools like Plymouth College and Exeter School and soon went on to win the Devon U-14 cup and were knocked out in the semi-finals of the Devon U-15 Cup. I enjoyed playing for the local club Hatherleigh CC obviously because that would





mean more cricket but also because I found everyone so friendly not only at Hatherleigh but also at Shebbear during school and at boarding.

Boarding and going to school was one of my favourite things and this was because I made some good friends like Marton Busa, Isaac Alsop and Callum Hendry while boarding and the teaching styles taught me a lot that I didn't already know and made my understanding of things like simultaneous equations and balancing chemical equations that I learnt from Mrs.Cardoo and the famous cricketer of

his day Dr.Crook, a lot better. I thought the classrooms were very clean and this helped me concentrate and learn better. Compared to Barbados, the standards in England are a lot higher. There is a huge difference between schools/classrooms at Shebbear compared to Combermere my school in Barbados, where twenty students in one class at shebbear is a lot compared to the thirty-two in my class in Barbados. I think you can understand why I prefer the education at Shebbear, with less students in a class the teacher has more time to concentrate on one pupil and this also contributed significantly to why I enjoyed going to school at Shebbear.

I wish I had had some more time to stay and increase my knowledge at school and play some more cricket for Shebbear however this is not so and I would like to thank everyone at Shebbear for their hospitality while I was there. I had a great time at Shebbear and I will cherish that experience forever,

Maxwell Lewis



Bormio Ski Trip 2013

The College ski trip took place during the first week of the Christmas holidays. Forty eager and excited students accompanied by five equally enthusiastic adults participated in the trip to Bormio in Italy. The hotel was ideally situated, half way up the mountain, and provided the epitome of doorstep skiing. Despite the general lack of snow over the Alps, the height of the resort and the position of the hotel allowed for uninterrupted skiing for all, every day. Beautiful skiing conditions for most of the week gave way to the last couple of days of snow and low cloud, allowing the team to ski in a variety of conditions.

With five hours of skiing under professional ski instructor supervision and additional skiing with adults afterwards, this was certainly a worthwhile ski trip for the enthusiast. Indeed, all the students enjoyed the friendly, professional approach of their instructors who split the team up into four ability groups. The two beginner groups took to the sport like ducks to water, making significant progress throughout the week, quickly moving from the beginner slopes to a range of other runs around the mountain, including a slalom course.

The intermediate and advanced groups took advantage of their instructors' in-depth knowledge of the area, improving their skills through instruction, but also finding jumps and off-piste challenges.

There were many falls and wipe-outs, some individually and some on mass, so there were plenty of stories to be told over the evening dinner tables. And talking of dinner.... the food was exceptional. The buffet meal delivered a variety of dishes allowing for individuals' tastes and sense of culinary adventure. It is true to say that no one went hungry!!

One of the highlights of the week that will not be forgotten is the rich, smooth, creamy hot chocolate provided in the

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



restaurants. The taste will linger in the pallet for a long time to come! It is fair to say these became a favourite with the adults and students alike!!

A variety of activities was available in the evenings, although a common theme was our team meeting where everyone had the opportunity to describe wipe-outs and acts of chivalry to honour those recipients of the "wipe-out of the day" and "captain of the day" awards. There are too many stories to record here, but all who took part will have a tale or two to tell, so if you see any of the Bormio Ski Team 2013, ask them how they got on!

Having participated in and having lead many ski trips at various schools, I can honestly say that this was the most successful yet. There are many reasons for this including the resort, the hotel's location, the smoothness of transition from College to Bormio, the lack of

serious injuries and the quality of the food and accommodation, but mainly for the behaviour and maturity shown by the students involved, together with the excellent teamwork of the adults. I

thank all involved for such a successful trip and look forward to the next one.

Steve Trask





TEN TORS 2014

On Sunday afternoon at precisely 3.00pm, our triumphant Ten Tors team crossed the line having completed an arduous 35 mile challenge across Dartmoor.

After many months of training on the moor, many miles walked, many hills climbed, the event started in earnest for our team of young adventurers on the Friday morning, having set up camp and prepared themselves to face the nerve jangling experience of scrutineering! The army takes the safety of the event participants very seriously and a check to see that each team member is carrying the right equipment, food and shelter is paramount. The team had been well briefed by Mrs Bearpark and they returned to camp having passed this obstacle with flying colours.

A relaxing afternoon was spent studying their route (it was to be a particularly tough one, with many river crossings, some big hills and some seriously boggy terrain), planning and calculating their pace and times between Tors. A hearty evening meal followed and then an early night. All were tucked up by 9.00pm.

The night of Friday 9th May was to be one of Dartmoor's wetter and windier. Mrs Bearpark felt the full force of her wrath and spent much of the night battenning down her tent and baling water. She rose to find she was sleeping in three inches of water... Fortunately our team fared a little better, with some sleeping all the way through oblivious to the ferocious storm that was raging all around them.

We were awakened at 5:00 am to the sound of "Chariots of Fire" over the tannoy system. Okehampton camp sprung to life with the sound of 2400 anxious young people preparing to set off. It was over breakfast and discussing the dramas of the previous night that we had our own small drama when one of the team was taken unwell. To set off with someone who was not 100% fit and healthy was clearly a risk, not only to the individual but also to the team.

It was a tough call but we all felt the right decision was to send in Lucy, our reserve, who had so valiantly trained and spent the previous day and night at the camp with us in preparation. Her reward, with only 20 minutes notice, was that she was now in the team! A spot of frantic rucksack repacking followed and the team set off for the start. Time for some last minute briefings and photos and they were gone. Gone to join all the other teams high on the hill overlooking the start. A few words and a prayer from the Brigadier were followed by two rounds of mortar fire, a helicopter flypast and the teams were on their way! It's a moving sight, as 400 teams swarm off on their own challenges across Dartmoor, we wouldn't see them again until tomorrow afternoon....or so we thought!

There's not much for a Team Manager to do at Okehampton camp while the teams are walking, except drink coffee and watch the progress of their team on the digital displays provided by the Army, but at 10.00am Mitch was to be found struggling into his sleeping bag when his phone rang!!!

We'd had a fall out (the term used for a participant that for any number of reasons needed to be extracted). He raced to the fall out cell where, thankfully, poor Nour was to be found wrapped in a very fetching British Red Cross blanket!! To our great relief he was all in one piece, albeit a rather disappointed and slightly shaken young chap. He'd been taken ill having just climbed one of the nastiest, steepest, boggiest hills Dartmoor has to offer. The Team had performed well in what must have been a very frightening experience for them all. The group shelter had been erected and Rob, our Team Leader, had called in assistance from the Army. The decision was taken that Nour was in no condition to continue and the end of his Ten Tors came with a celebratory helicopter ride back to Okehampton camp.

For the next 24 hours all any of us could do was watch those screens, waiting to see the latest updates on Shebbear's progress. We were pretty certain they'd made it to Postbridge for their overnight stop, but with the time lost and various glitches with the tracking system we couldn't be sure. If they'd made it that far we knew they would all be feeling rather happy to have achieved their objective for day one, despite their dramas. As it turns out, that's exactly what happened. Well done team!! (we later discovered they'd lost a tent somewhere along the way... which must have given rise to a degree of panic! Thanks must go to the Army, who lent them a tent for the night)

Sunday morning sees the entire camp spring into a mass of activity, tents being dismantled, helicopters taking off, school minibuses everywhere and the arrival of droves of spectators, parents, families, supporters, all anxious for the return of their teams. All eyes are on the progress boards, Team leaders frantically trying to calculate what time their team would come in. On Friday, Rob and the team had calculated they ought to return at 3.00pm if they'd got to Postbridge the night before. How well they had worked out their route!

"Here they come"...and there they were! Proudly sporting the Shebbear College banner, girls in front, boys to the rear and to the wild applause of the hundreds of spectators welcoming every team home. They looked strong and a little overwhelmed by the reception, they were tired, elated and very, very proud (we all were). I hope it's a moment they will cherish.

A great team performance, under difficult circumstances and a pleasure to take out on the moors.

Thanks must go to Mrs Bearpark, Mr Kingsland, Mr Blundell and Mr Horn for their contributions in helping train yet another successful Shebbear College Ten Tors Team.

Mitch Kingsland



CHARITY EVENTS



Wow! I think it can truly be said that we here at Shebbear College know how to fundraise. Thank you once again for your continued support and generosity with helping raise money throughout the year.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

As always we participated in this year's Macmillan Coffee Morning. There was another great response from parents, pupils and staff who very generously donated a range of cakes and biscuits to make the event a success. Thank you once again to Mr Graham Cornish who provided us with our savoury treats this year.

The stall was set up and run this year by a dedicated team from the World AIMS group and some of our 6th form pupils. They all did a great job of managing the crowds of both senior and junior pupils and were a huge help, pulling together to make the event a success.

It is always lovely to see so many parents attending the coffee morning and this year was no different.

Altogether we raised a fantastic £403.60.

Children in Need

This year's Children in Need event was made even more poignant by the recent hurricane in the Philippines, leaving many homeless and in need.

Once again we ran a week of fun events to help raise awareness and funds for a very worthy cause. These events included a raffle, face painting, cupcake competition, a music gig and stocks. We also sold some Children in Need wrist bands for extra cash!

The mufti theme this year was pyjamas or onesies and we had an array of both pupils and staff walking around 'ready for bed' throughout the day. Mrs Cardoo's onesie was particularly good as was Connie Gillies - the Pink Panther. A great effort from all involved.

Break time on Friday saw an excited mob descend upon the Quad where



those favourite stocks had appeared overnight! It didn't take long before a crowd had gathered around the stocks to witness Mr Newitt and Salah Gobara get a proper Shebbear soaking! Thank you to both chaps for offering their services.

The week was a great success and raised an amazing £700. The parents, staff and pupils have, once again, donated a huge amount of money for an incredibly just cause. A special thank you must also go out to the four girls who helped organise the week – Kitty Harding, Claudia Golland, Meg Ryder-Green and Summer Dunscombe. Thank You!

Readathon

Readathon is an event that we like to take part in every year. It is to challenge the Forms 1-3 pupils to engage in as much reading as possible for a fortnight and to be sponsored to do it! The money goes to three very worthy charities: Readwell, CLIC Sargent and Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's charity.

We were fortunate this year to be visited by the founder of Readathon, Brough Girling, who spoke to all the children involved about the importance of reading. He was a real inspiration to them all and got them fired up for the challenge ahead.

This was evident in the fundraising total as we tripled last year's amount, raising a fantastic £683.

Alongside the reading Mrs Welby and Mrs Vassilaki ran a book review competition. There were some excellent pieces written. The winners were:

Most informative piece:

Maddie Traxton & Willow Bowden

Most persuasive piece:

Will Cunningham & Tara Twomey

Most inspirational piece:

Katy Snee & Stuart Williams

Best presentation:

Lizzy Flaherty & James Law



10K Run – Cancer Research UK

This year we ran the 10K run in the morning, with the spring fete following in the afternoon. All proceeds from both events went to Cancer Research UK. The theme of the run this year was pink and there were all sorts of variations of pink clothing, dyed hair and silly costumes. The course was based on the school grounds so that all of the domestic and office staff could take part in the run in memory of our colleague Sue Clarke, who passed away from cancer last summer. The Junior School also joined in!

The weather conditions weren't perfect, with parts of the course very muddy and slippery due to rain. Once again, the PE department worked hard leading up to the run to get everything organised.

The run was enjoyed by all students and staff whether walking, jogging or running the distance. The winner this year was Ross Bennett with Thomas Routly hot on his heels.

Spring Fete – Cancer Research UK

This year's Spring Fete was another great success. We had lots of tutor



stalls, all based around the theme of Fairtrade bananas and a very exciting inflatable assault course run by 1SCL. For the first time this year the junior and senior school fetes were combined so there were lots of different varieties of stalls for people to have fun on. Susannah Maxa ran a beautiful Phoenix Cards stall, supporting us once again in our fundraising efforts.

Despite the rather miserable weather the atmosphere was great and we were joined by lots of parents. There was some amazing musical entertainment throughout the afternoon which was enjoyed by many whilst tucking into a cream tea.

A grand total of £1114 was raised over the two events, a great effort from all involved.

Fran Lovett

WORLD AIMS

What a busy year we've had in World AIMS again!! We have had another great, committed team who have pulled together to organise events, raise awareness and fundraise for some excellent causes.

Our student coordinators this year were Chloe Aveyard, Salah Gobara and Kitty Harding. They have been integral to the continued success and popularity of our World AIMS groups and have helped to lead the group forward in lots of areas.

Once again we have had good numbers throughout the year in our weekly activity, a sign that Shebbear pupils care about global issues.

Slum Survivor

As part of our World AIMS programme 17 pupils slept out in 'slums' on school campus to raise awareness of homelessness in October. The students built their own slums using only rope, pallets, and tarpaulin. However, to gain food for the night, including treats, they had to partake in challenges to earn them. These challenges included walking for water, bin bag fashion shows, and baby food eating competitions. All students who took part agreed that, although it was a fun exercise to do, it did in fact raise awareness for them with how much they have and how much people who live in slums do not have. The rather inclement weather also highlighted the reality of how hard life can be for homeless people everywhere in the world, including Britain.

MUN

On Saturday 15th March 25 students from Shebbear College once again attended the annual Model United Nations conference held at Queen's Taunton. This conference was attended by over 250 students from 13 different schools. MUN simulates the real United Nations in terms of structure, organisation and discussion; it develops



a huge range of skills and provides a real insight into the world of diplomacy and international politics.

This year we represented Syria (Emilio Alberti, Connor Roberts, Salah Gobara, Bronwyn Ager and Claudia Golland), Azerbaijan (Sean Clark, Maddie Burnard, Max Warren, Kitty Harding and Niamh Martin), Ireland (Phoebe Willis-Butcher, Struan Sharpe, Ella Thomas, Minnie Alexander, Hana Fletcher) and Nigeria (Ailis Prowse, Ollie Rogerson, Victor Nitsch, Kerri-Ann Turton, Lucy Taylor and Nour Gobara).

The day began with Taunton Deane's local MP, Jeremy Browne, talking to the students about the importance of having a viewpoint on politics today and how, in the future, the students could make a difference to important decisions being made.

We then moved on to our various different committees, where we



debated many different resolutions. The committees consisted of Security, Health, Disarmament, Human rights, Middle East, Political, Economic and Social; with two different debates had in each where we listened and debated our way to a solution for the various problems.

All of the students showed a high level of skill in debating, thinking on their feet and also learning about how the United Nations is governed. In addition, all the delegates put a lot of effort into researching their countries and about current world issues that were debated in the General Assembly during the final part of the day. One particular issue up for discussion was the Ukraine crisis.



A special mention should go out to Emilio Aliberti who won the prize of commended delegate for his contribution to the political committee for Syria.

Sixth Form pupil, Sean Clark, spoke of the day: "The Model United Nations is a great way for students to learn about current world affairs from all different countries' points of view. Additionally it is very beneficial for each participant, as it teaches them the skills they will need in later life; for example the art of debating and presenting clauses to crowds reaching over one hundred people which some delegates such as Nour Gobara and Emilio Alberti did this year. I think I speak on behalf of all delegates when I say a big thank you should also go out to Mrs Fran Lovett



and Mrs Eve Blundell who have given us this opportunity to participate in this great experience”.

Fairtrade

Fairtrade at Shebbear College has continued to thrive. We still hold our ‘Fairtrade School’ status and are very proactive towards this cause, with our tuck shop still raising money for our Uganda charities.

Fairtrade Fortnight

There were lots of events held to raise awareness of Fairtrade during our Fairtrade Fortnight. In the first week we sold pancakes made from Fairtrade ingredients to show the school community how easy it is to find Fairtrade ingredients these days! We also played some ‘Unfair’ games during break times to highlight how unfair farming and trading can be without the help of Fairtrade.

Christian Aid Week

After some amazing fundraising on behalf of Christian Aid last year, this year we decided to stick solely to raising awareness. The AIMS group led all the chapels during the week and shared information about the charity and the fantastic work that they do, including case studies from Sudan, Iraq and Colombia.



Love Fashion Hate Sweatshops Campaign

On the 24th April this year the world remembered the Rana Plaza Tragedy. It was on this day only a year ago that the eight storeys high establishment collapsed leaving 1129, mainly female, workers dead, and 2000 injured. Within hours, rescue teams from the Savar district and surrounding Upizilla’s were supported by the United Nations, spearheading the rescue operation of the deadliest accidental structural failure in modern human history. The reverberations this tragedy left are still catching our attention today as our World Aims Group seeks to raise awareness for the many who lost their lives working in the garment factories within the Rana Plaza.

When this statistic was told to a small group of students from our World Aims Group they became keen to know more about this catastrophe and how we could help raise awareness and what we were hoping to gain from our involvement. Watching a film of this tragedy saddened and inspired the students. They read the case studies about a young girl named Yasmina and

her family and the discrimination they received from the factory owners when applying for maternity payment. They were appalled to learn that three million workers of the garment industry receive the equivalent of £27 a month as a full time wage.

The students were genuinely shocked that Bangladeshi factory workers were treated so unfairly and asked immediately how they could help. The students loved the idea of the campaign and of the Craftivist mini protest banners and were excited to get started.

I wanted to help with the mini banners so that I can help people less fortunate than myself, and because it made me feel happy knowing that I was contributing to people’s futures and their safety but then it made me feel sad knowing what was happening to them, so that is why I helped with the mini banners.

Jess Alexander

I really wanted to help with the banners because it was a way to help improve people in other countries circumstances. I was appalled to hear about the miniscule amount that

WORLD AIMS



workers in foreign factories get paid and the fact that it is not even a living wage, whereas the people who own these corporations are extremely rich. I feel that these banners will really make a difference and perhaps the companies that haven't signed the Bangladesh safety accord will now because it shows that the people who buy the corporations clothing really want safer working conditions for the people making their clothes.

Elizabeth Flaherty

What inspired me to do the sewing for this amazing cause was watching the film of what happened in Bangladesh. It inspired me because I knew that by doing this I would be making a difference and raising awareness. I also loved the idea of a peaceful protest.

Zoe Williams

I found the whole situation appalling and wanted to help. Reece Stanbury

During our weekly stitching group we all marvelled at each other's banners. We chatted about our own lives in

comparison to the garment workers and fantasised about how great it would be if our combined pieces of embroidery would be powerful enough to bring about a change to the life of the men, women and children in Bangladesh. It was a great occasion when our banners were finished. The students felt very proud that they had committed themselves to this task.

This unique campaign has encouraged the students to put their thoughts and feelings into words, make these words tangible and ultimately alive. 'The things you do for yourself are gone when you are gone, but the things you do for others remain' -

Kalu Ndukwe Kalu

World AIMS Weekend

In October 2014 eight students across forms four and five attended the annual World Aims Weekend organised by Action in Methodist Schools (AIMS), the Methodist schools global citizenship organisation. Mr Rogers and Mrs Blundell accompanied the students. In all, over sixty students participated from the Methodist Schools group. The

weekend comprised a full schedule which kicked off with a fun icebreaker session on the Friday evening which united all the schools.

The first of the workshops was concentrated on Jubilee Debt which was a real eye opener for many of the students when they were informed that in the year 2000 a debt of \$90bn was owed to developed countries by the world's poorest nations; the aim of the Jubilee Debt campaign was to reduce the total debt to about \$37bn.

The students attended a wide range of workshops during the weekend which were hosted by Methodist Relief And Development Fund (MRDF), Traidcraft (linked to Fairtrade) and a fun practical session on the work of the Mission Aviation Fellowship which involved an obstacle course tackled whilst blind folded. The students expressed how attending the workshops had raised their awareness of previously unknown global issues and were extremely pleased to have attended them.

Coupled with the informative workshops there were also physical and mental challenges for the students, including





fencing, high wires and ropes, raft building, kayaking and a nerve-racking 'Big Swing'. All of our students participated wholeheartedly and were a credit to themselves and the College. It was amazing to witness their grit, determination and solidarity when confronted with yet another obstacle. Fantastic!

The evenings were spent toasting marshmallows over a campfire and meeting campaigners who suggested peaceful ways in which to campaign. Ultimately a productive and thought-provoking weekend was had by all. It was a privilege to attend the weekend and be part of the Shebbear College World Aims Weekend Group.

Students Views:

From my experience on going on the World Aims weekend, it allowed me to take part in many activities I wouldn't usually do. Some of the talks about our



main subject matter, Debt, introduced new things for me to realise how difficult it can be to be struggling financially, which many people are all over the world, including closer to home. Not only on this weekend did I listen to some interesting talks, ranging over many subjects, I also took part in some outdoor activities, where I had the opportunity of meeting new people from all over the UK. -

Lucy Taylor

It was a really great trip, and we all had a brilliant time, taking part in activities such as high ropes and raft-building

and the more courageous of us even tried our luck on the king swing- a truly terrifying experience if ever there was one! We also listened to some very enlightening talks from some interesting and prestigious people involved with various aims movements.

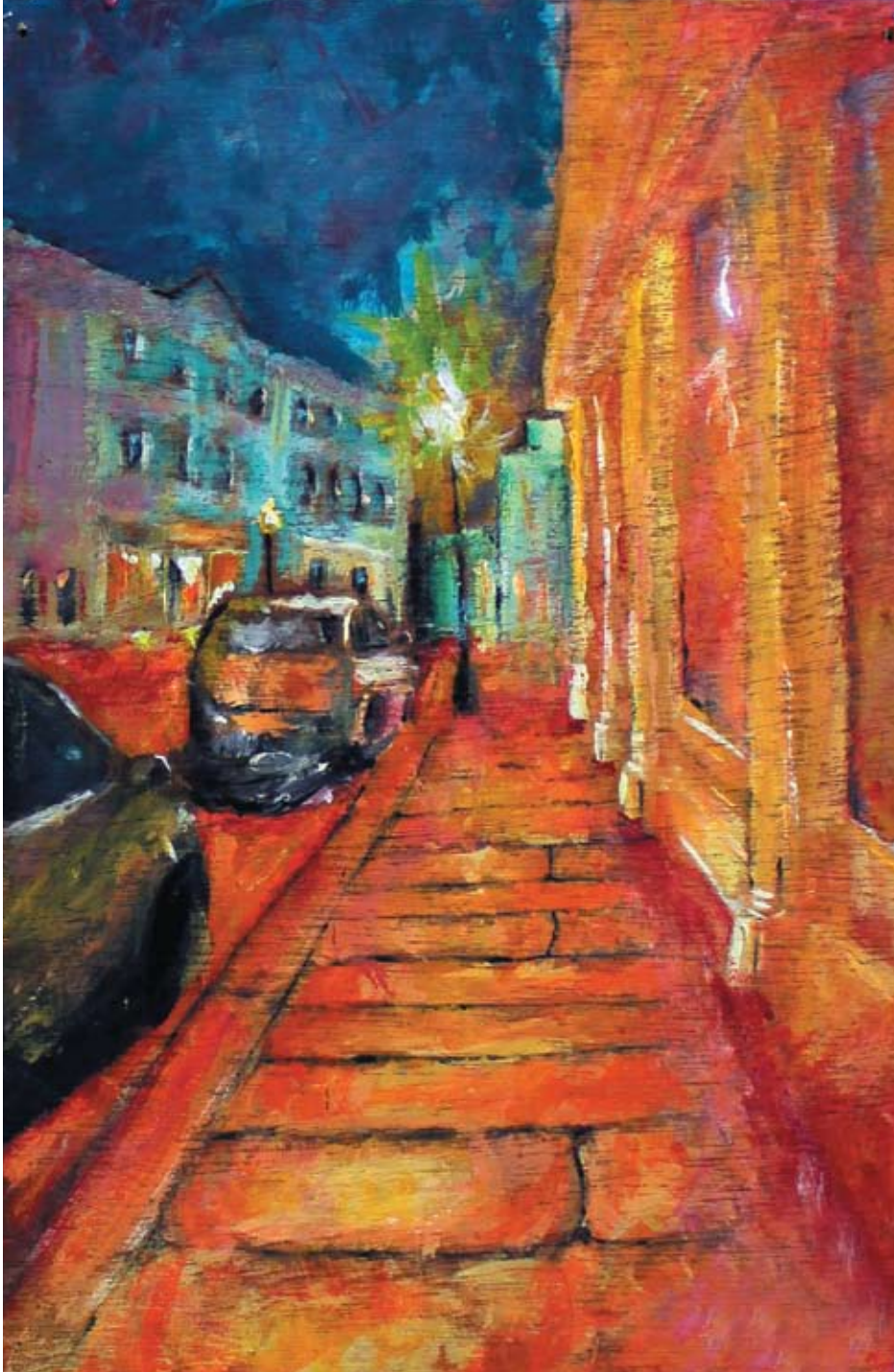
All in all, it was a very enjoyable and weekend, which gave us lots of ideas to help those less fortunate than ourselves and which we could consider acting upon when returning to school. -

Connie Bromhead

Fran Lovett



ART GALLERY



Sam Westlake - Lower 6th Form



Dillon Chalmers - 4th Form



Ailis Prowse - Lower 6th Form



Connie Bromhead - 4th Form



Alvin Kwok - 5th Form



Saskia Weale - Upper 6h Form



Juliette Joubert - Upper 6th Form



Ailis Prowse - Lower 6th Form



Phoebe Willis-Butcher -
Lower 6th Form



Minnie Alexander - 4th Form



Rebecca Cox - 5th Form



Tim Kivell - Lower 6th Form



Juliette Joubert - Upper 6th Form



Christy Hui - Lower 6th Form



Alvin Kwok - 5th Form



Tim Kivell - Lower 6th Form



Amy Honey 4th Form



Rita Chan - Lower 6th Form



Roman Khlus - Upper 6th Form



Nadia Blaskiewicz - 4th Form



Sam Westlake - Lower 6th Form



Chloe Aveyard - Upper 6th Form



Sam Westlake - Lower 6th Form



Juliette Joubert - Upper 6th Form



Chloe Aveyard - Upper 6th Form



Roman Khilus - Upper 6th Form

OLD SHEBBEARIANS' ASSOCIATION



PRESIDENT MICHAEL TUCKER

SHEBBEAR COLLEGE 1959-67

To follow the many outstanding Old Shebbearians who have stood as Presidents of the OSA is a prized honour, yet also an intriguing opportunity, in my case, to revisit the experience of youth. For George Kingsnorth, headmaster in my later school years, was correct when he wrote in one report, that I found sixth form boarding life at Sheb "congenial".

In truth, that experience strongly shaped my subsequent career. After six years in total studying English, History (some Economics) and Education, I entered the teaching profession, where I remain nearly 40 years on. I have taught English and History and coached sport (especially rugby and cricket) to juniors and seniors, while working my way from junior to middle and finally senior boarding. Along the way, there

have been other responsibilities, prep department, school library, plays, and so on. While my role has been varied, the school has remained the same throughout, save for a break of two years at Exeter, studying language in education. The school is West Buckland, so similar to Shebbear physically and otherwise, but also its mirror image, in that their respective roots represent quite different strands of English history.

Of course, pursuing the vocation it inspired at a nearby school has afforded me regular opportunities to observe and monitor Shebbear's progress. Yet it has been a true and informative pleasure over my year in office to see the impressive material and educational developments of the college at close quarters and as show-cased at the Rounsefell Dinner and on Speech Day. It has also been a pleasure to be part of the OSA committee as it expands its role in assisting individual past and present pupils and the development of the school.

Of my interests, some no doubt already apparent, it is revealing how many were initiated or developed at Shebbear. They include literature, history, politics and international affairs, film sport (especially rugby and cricket), natural history, walking (especially the moors of Devon and the Lake District), travel and music.

In all, as an Old Boy, but also lifelong teacher and born and bred North Devonian, I feel Shebbear is a school to be respected and proud of. Moreover, I believe it will continue to be so under headmaster Simon Weale, whose charisma and humour are matched by obvious warmth and energy. Equally, the OSA will, I am sure, thrive when Andrew Friend, a loyal Thorne House junior in my time, becomes President in January.

Michael Tucker

President:

Michael Tucker

Hon. Secretary:

Andy Bryan
c/o Shebbear College
Beaworthy
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106TH ANNUAL REUNION DINNER

Annual Reunion Dinner at the RAF Club
- Saturday 18th January

The 106th Reunion Dinner proved to be a fantastic success as 118 Old Shebbearians and guests enjoyed an evening of good food, excellent speeches and lively conversation.

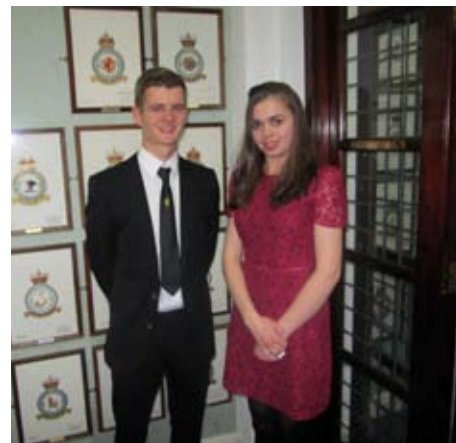
This was the first dinner attended by the new headmaster, Simon Weale with his wife Rebecca, and his amusing speech, tempered with some serious points about the future role of the OSA, clearly made a favourable impression on all those from a range of Shebbearian generations.

James Hancock, the outgoing President, spoke of the honour he felt at having been able to hold the position and said that he had thoroughly enjoyed his year which had enabled him to return to college on a number of occasions for a variety of events.

Michael Tucker then took the chair as the incoming President and said that he too was looking forward to his time in office.

As well as the head boy, Julius Gemmel, and head girl, Ellen Chamberlain, Matt Newitt (Head of 6th Form) and Karen Purdew were the guests and they said how much they enjoyed the occasion, catching up with some they had taught, as well as meeting others who had attended the college long before they arrived as teachers.

It was particularly pleasing to see so many relatively recent leavers at the dinner and a healthy number of female Shebbearians amongst them.



REUNION DINNER ATTENDEES

President: James Hancock

Secretary: Andy Bryan

Guests: Bob Barnes (Headmaster)
Karen Purdew, Matt Newitt
Simon Weale, Rebecca Weale
Julius Gemmel (Head Boy)

Annie Farrell (Deputy Head)
Bradley Horn

Ellen Chamberlain (Head Girl)

Ted Lott	1942-47
David Shorney	1938-43
Roger Horrell	1946-53
John Milner	1949-54
John Ruckes	1949-54
Norman Venner	1950-56
Chris White	1952-56
Geoff Watts	1952-56
Paul Webb	1952-57
Bernard Kneebone	1955-61
Hugh Milner	1955-61
Peter Gartrell	1957-62
Robert Hooper	1957-62
Michael Saltmarsh	1957-63
Mike Tucker	1959-67
Andrew Carnegie	1973-78
Andrew Cruickshank	1960-65
Andrew Thomas	1960-67
Chris Blencowe	1961-68
Henry Holroyd	1961-69
Richard Corbett-Winder	1962-68
John Tucker	1964-69
Paul Sanders	1964-69
Andrew Friend	1965-72
Mark Creedy	1965-72
Dave Allin	1966-72
Brian Adams	1967-72
Mark Alford	1969-74
Peter Southcott	1967-74
Trevor Chamberlain	1967-74
Michael Down	1968-73
Simon Birks	1968-75
Ian Bowes	1967-73
Peter Danby	1967-74
Peter Brown	1971-74
Jeremy Bond	1971-76
John Chamberlain	1971-76
Robert Smale	1971-76
Martin Butler	1973-78
Mark Priest	1974-79
Alistair Nethacott	1975-80
Dave Priest	1975-80
Phil Allin	1975-80
Andrew Tribble	1976-81
Simon Bull	1972-80
Tarek Korraa	1976-80
John Baillie	1975-80
Lester Bird	1975-80
Paul Jeffries	1981-84
David Jackson	1986-93
Ian Bond	1986-93
Ken MacSporran	1986-93
Mark Saltmarsh	1986-93
Matt Venner	1986-93
Edward Lott	1987-94

Ian Williamson	1987-94
Christian Vardy	1989-94
Richard Bickle	1989-96
Nigel Laws	1989-96
Adam Lewis	1990-96
Rob Edmondson	1990-97
Tom Adams	1993-95
Adam Moore	1994-2002
Benjamin Welby	1995-2002
Chris Hale	1995-2002
Dale Snowdon	1995-2002
Kieron Bryan	1995-2002
Oliver Field	1995-2002
Oliver Sinden	1995-2002
Paul Lockyer	1988-95
Peter Hughes	1988-95
Kay Giddy	1996-98
Dexter Barnes	1996-2003
James Marshall	1992-99
Greg Barnes	1997-2004
Jeremy Sinden	1997-2004
Becky Betambeau	1997-2005
Adam Horne	1998-2005
Alice Cooper	2000-04
Hayley Jasper	2002-04
Will Chappell	1997-2004
Mimi Ho	2000-05
Emily Cooper	2001-06
Katy Greenslade	2002-05
Marie Dinsdale	2003-05
Sarah Gardener	2003-05
James Adams	1993-95
Imogen Giddy	1996-2005
Sam Smeddle	1995-2005
Rob Wade	1998-2005
Stefan Duda	1998-2005
Christopher Goode	1999-2006
James Chappell	1999-2006
Alex Roffey	2001-04
Jack Warner	
Christian Briscoe	2000-06
Josef Schmalfuss	2005-07
Maxime Jacovella	2005-07
Naomi Giddy	1995-2008
Mark Schofield	1999-2008
Tobias Hayes	1995-2008
James Scott	1995-2008
James Lancaster	1999-2009
Mitch Barltrop	2005-09
Jo Gardener	2007-09
Georgina Tucker	2008-10
Rob Chamberlain	2005-12
Fred Selwyn	1998-2012
Rob Dunn	2004-13

Apologies: Nigel Laws, Stuart Roberts, David Shorney, David Richards, Alan Hawken, Tom Danby, Peter Gartrell, Michael Ibbetson, Robert Thomas, John Ware, Godfrey Shellard, Keith Hall, Bill Warren

OSA SPORT



OSA Cricket v 1st XI

This year the OSA were persuaded to allow the 1st XI to bat first and Shian (30) got the boys off to a flying start, before he was well caught at mid-off, giving Harry Landymore a well-deserved wicket.

It was then left to Maxwell Lewis(31) to steady the innings and with the help of a whirlwind knock by Jack Warren (32), which included three sixes, the college could be satisfied with their total of 177-6 in their 30 overs. Then it was the fiery opening spell from U14 Jabez Weale (3-24) that left the OSA reeling on 31-4 and then 60-6, before James Corry (57)

was joined by Peter Bowes (35) and the pair took the score to within 20 runs of their target. However, some nerveless spin bowling at the death from Lewis(2-40) and Carl Stanbury (2-18) saw the boys secure a 3-run victory and Maxwell Lewis, for his contribution with both bat and ball, received the Man of the Match award.

OSA Rugby v West Buckland

On the day that the college teams were playing a block fixture against Kelly, there was an equally important match taking place at West Buckland School, where the Old Shebbearians were playing West Buckland Old Boys following their Speech Day.

The team included some recent leavers (Dan Lee, Matt Prowse and Lucas Bland) as well as some older players (James Marshall, Matt & Peter Bowes), and the blend of youth and experience clearly worked to our advantage as the team cruised to a 22-0 victory with Dan and Lucas scoring two of our four tries.

We were treated to after-match refreshments by our extremely hospitable hosts and we hope to make this an annual fixture – with the next match to be played at Shebbear.

The 6th Annual OSA Golf Day

was held at Holsworthy Golf Club in early September. It was again a victim of the weather, but contrary to previous years when the rain has come, this year it was too good, resulting in a number of farmers having to cry off as they had to make hay 'while the sun shined'!

Consequently we had the lowest turn out to date, with only fifteen players tackling the eighteen holes in an individual Stableford competition.

Each of the past 5 years has seen a different winner and this year was no exception, with debutant John Violet taking home the shield with 37 points. In second place was Lester Bird with 36 points, pipping former headmaster Bob Barnes on countback.

The nearest the hole in two was won by Tim Priest, who actually drove the green at the 300 yard 7th, Neil Folland was nearest the hole at the 160 yard 16th, putting his 8 iron within 3 feet of the pin and the longest drive at the 18th was won by Nigel Buse with a cracking drive down the middle of the fairway.

An excellent buffet meal was enjoyed afterwards, with Neil Folland even joining in the club's bingo afterwards, unfortunately, without success!

OBITUARIES

Bert Symes

Bert attended Shebbear between 1934-1941, together with his cousins 'Stoker' Symes and 'Preacher' Symes and later became an officer in the Black Watch.

One of his contemporaries, David Marshall, remembers his performance in 'Journey's End' – the same play in which Bert appeared while in the army, serving in Mogadishu, Somalia.

He went on to teach in Scotland after the war and retired to Aboyne, near Aberdeen. He kept in touch with David throughout the last ten years of his life and always ended his letters with 'Ad Gloriam Per Spinas' and 'Pollard forever'.

Tim Hart (Shebbear College 1972-81)

Tim was on the staff at Shebbear from 1972 until 1981. He was a very enthusiastic teacher of Maths and a very knowledgeable coach to the 2nd XV rugby team throughout his time at Shebbear. In his spare time he was Assistant Housemaster in Thorne House and then in Ruddell. When the rugby season was over Tim devoted many hours at week-ends organising and leading groups of boys in various forms of Outdoor Pursuits. After leaving Shebbear he spent the remaining 20 years of his teaching career at King's College, Taunton.

Tim had been Head Boy of Kingham Hill (Oxfordshire) at the same time as George Kingsnorth was there as Housemaster. Tim was teaching in Barbados when he applied for the job at Shebbear and George Kingsnorth knew when he appointed Tim, without any formal interview, that he was employing a member of staff who would be fully committed to boarding school life, and so it proved.

Around a year ago Tim was diagnosed with Motor Neuron Disease and he passed away on 29th August. Tim was divorced from Tor, his first wife, after leaving Shebbear. He leaves his second wife, Veronique, and son Ollie and daughter Nina, both of whom attended Shebbear Primary School. There was a service of Thanksgiving at the King's College

Chapel in September. Paul Mason and his wife attended as 'representatives' of the College.

Wilfred Paul 1914-2014

Wilfred James Paul was born on 21st April 1914 in Wadebridge, the eldest child of Charlie and Florence Paul and attended Shebbear College as a boarder for seven years. He enjoyed his time at the college and became captain of Thorne House, a prefect and assistant scoutmaster. He was a keen player of all available sports and was pleased to recall that he was the winner at Sports Day of the slow bike race!

After leaving Shebbear, he went to Exeter University to train as a teacher and after qualifying he was employed by the Cornwall Education Committee at Fowey School, where he spent the next 40 years.

He joined the RAF in 1940 but was invalided out in 1941 and returned to Fowey where he became headmaster of the boys' school in 1954 and, apart from a short break which he spent as headmaster of Polruan School, he remained there until his retirement in 1976. During his time in Fowey, he was heavily involved in a range of committees, the Methodist Church and captain of Fowey Cricket Club.

When he was teaching, the cane was the normal punishment but Mr. Paul would much prefer his method, which was to throw a piece of chalk wrapped in paper bearing the details of the punishment.

On retirement he moved to St. Austell and after his wife died lived alone until moving in with his niece. He drove until he was 95 and hated the fact that he could not continue longer. In his own words, he was a retiring, undemonstrative character and although he had a wide circle of friends he often regretted that he did not socialise more, he is nevertheless remembered with great fondness by many who knew him.

Olive Mary Knight

Olive was born at Londonderry Farm, Willsbridge on 17th August 1918 – the 6th of 7 children.

She attended Culverhay School in Keynsham and then Combe Park High School in Bath and regularly attended

Victoria Methodist Church in Keynsham, playing the piano for the Sunday School

When World War Two started, Olive joined the Civil Nursing Reserve and started at the Children's Sanatorium in Frenchay which dealt mainly with TB. At this time she was able to watch the Americans building Frenchay Hospital. She became a qualified nurse and worked at the Bristol Royal Infirmary before gaining promotion to Staff Nurse at the General Hospital where she helped with the evacuation of patients to St. Monica's.

After the war she married an ambulance driver and moved to Jersey where two sons, Grahame and Jonathan, were born. Unfortunately, she was separated several years later and she returned to England where she took up the post of Deputy Matron, and later Matron, at Shebbear College.

She was there until 1970 before moving back to the Bristol area where she worked until 1984 when she suffered a brain tumour and was forced into retirement. She lived in a nursing home until her death last year at the age of ninety-six.

Olive was caring and considerate, always putting others before herself, and had a quiet strength and dignity. She was always the peacemaker and never had a bad word to say about anyone, always seeing the positive side of people – "Wouldn't it be boring if everyone was the same" was a philosophy of hers.

It was her strong sense of duty and commitment to others that led her to nursing and even through the stress of separation and bankruptcy she was always cheerful and would say, "Money isn't everything".

On one occasion whilst at Shebbear, Olive recognised that one of the boys was seriously ill and immediately called the doctor who diagnosed meningitis and the school was immediately closed. George Kingsnorth, the headmaster, was grateful for Olive's prompt action and years later when she was trying to hand him her letter of resignation, he knew what it was and did not want to accept it; such was the regard in which she was held.

Grahame & Jonathan Knight

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Just a 'Flying' Visit by Dr. Mike Hosking

Mike lived at Hembury Cottage, Buckland Filleigh and was a boarder between 1955 – 1958. This was in the 'reign' of headmaster Jack Morris, with Mike being placed in Ruddle House. These schooldays are amongst his fondest memories, recalling scouting activities, swimming, RLSS badge training, cricket, odd-sock Sunday and kick-the-door Sunday (not sure if these latter two still prevail). The former recollection includes a midnight 'scheme' on Dartmoor, with the troop being split into 3 sections and each having to navigate to a particular tor. The main problem was that this was overtaken by one of worst storms in living memory, with sheet lightning and torrential rain. Several scouts lost their way but, fortunately, all survived unscathed. Another exciting scouting activity was in obtaining the Pioneer proficiency badge: requiring departure, as a pair, into the countryside, hiking a distance and surviving 24 hours on few carried rations. No tent, so nightfall required the construction of a bivouac from surrounding nature. Health and Safety probably now precludes such an adventure.

Mike also made close acquaintance with the cane of Jack Morris as the consequence of having constructed a small cannon from metal tube, filling it with gunpowder from fireworks and successfully discharging a ball bearing into one of the College doors. A flaw in this innovative plan, though, was omitting to take into account the considerable noise produced, thereby guaranteeing discovery.

Mike 'jumped-up' a year in order to take 'O-Levels' at age 15 and, to his amazement, as he had previously been awarded the OSA prize for Grit and Perseverance. This early departure from Shebbear had been influenced by a step-father, together with the facts that Mike's paternal grandfather was Snr. 3rd. Engineer on the Titanic and his own father, a Master mariner, was lost overboard in the South China Sea when Mike was 10 and at prep-school. So, the decision was to become a marine engineer and he joined BP as an apprentice. The first 2½ years were spent at college: 2 years in Portsmouth and 6 months in South Shields. These, again, were happy student days, particularly by the sea, in Portsmouth. However, what had seemed a colourful idea for a career, now paled and Mike did not complete the apprenticeship: leaving BP and joining ICI at their plastics research HQ in Welwyn Garden City.

Thus began a long climb up the day-release, evening class academic ladder, studying for further qualifications, eventually resulting in a M.Sc. in microwave physics, from Surrey

University. At this point, Mike decided to change career path again and to move into a field more related to his qualifications: finding this within the aerospace industry. He spent some 18 years with BAe, heading-up departments of electronics and software design engineers, working on defence and satellite systems. A further change then beckoned and Mike moved into academia at the University of Portsmouth, building his industrial and technical experience into student lectures and research. This somewhat 'completed the circle', as he had been a former student here, actually in the same building. During this phase, Mike completed his Ph.D., through research on "The Application of High-Tc Superconductors to Microwave Circuits" and has published numerous papers. He became a familiar figure at the University, transporting containers of liquid nitrogen between buildings.

To date, Mike has been with the University for over 26 years as, although having retired, he was re-employed on a part-time basis and now acts as academic tutor to a large number of undergraduate and post-graduate students, who are studying for their degrees whilst remaining in their workplace. Many are in the armed forces. Mike thoroughly enjoys this work, as it makes use of his own background and the range of projects undertaken by the students is very diverse.

Some 10 years ago, Mike realised a long-held ambition and commenced flying lessons. He now holds a PPL and flies an Ikarus C42: a German light sports aircraft, which also meets the UK microlight regulations. Recently, Mike won the microlight trophy in the international Dawn to Dusk flying competition (initiated by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh 50 years ago), together with the Pooleys' sword for best technical description of the flight. He also won the local Alphabet Challenge: flying to airfields/airstrips beginning with the different letters of the alphabet ('impossible' letters omitted). Mike is happily married, enjoying life and lives in



Mike with C42, Dawn to Dusk trophy and Pooleys sword

Cowplain, Hampshire. Outside from family life, the University and flying, he devotes time to volunteer work at the local Citizens Advice Bureau.

Bill Warren 1958-65 - House Captain Thorne.

On leaving Shebbear instead of the hoped-for career teaching PE, I joined Lloyds Bank in Bideford which gave me both a good grounding in financial services, and also allowed me to play for Bideford First XV for a few months before being moved by Lloyds to Cornwall where I played senior rugby for Launceston 1st XV in many tough Cornish club battles.

I subsequently left Lloyds Bank to work for an insurance company, alongside a rugby colleague, which I found really tough with the really strange (at the time) competition with my fellow employees-I turned from a deep green to a much lighter shade very rapidly. This experience was to stand me in good stead for my next move into the building society industry, working for a major player, initially based in Exeter before moving to Truro. There I helped open a new office, before gaining promotion and this led very quickly to a further step up to managing my own branch in Penzance, from which at least twice yearly I had to work on the Isles of Scilly - a stimulating helicopter trip often to play golf (and work) on St Mary's, the main island. Taking home early daffodils in November/December before the rest of the country saw any was a unique experience.

I was then able to persuade my employers to open two more offices within my area, thus gaining promotion without relocating which was very welcome at the time. I was subsequently promoted to Assistant Regional Manager based in the south east before moving to Bristol for three years and then promoted again to Regional General Manager for the South West. I then took a step back for family reasons before joining the Bristol & West Building Society as Corporate Business Development Manager covering the whole of the UK, a fabulous job full of new and interesting experiences, meeting all sorts of fascinating people.

Following an internal promotion I ran the branch network for that society with 175 branches and almost 2000 people. I then moved on to running a number of central departments including customer services, customer relations and managed the conversion of the building society to a plc. with £10bn assets!! This was a massive challenge which included obtaining a stock exchange listing-a very steep learning curve.

After a range of compliance type roles I left to join the then mortgage industry regulator the Mortgage Code Compliance Board. After setting up and managing the compliance function I was persuaded to join a business improvement consultancy to set up a mortgage arm which grew rapidly until one of my clients offered me a compliance director role which was just too attractive to refuse working with three brilliant entrepreneurs from whom I learnt a great deal. I then took on a challenge of developing a group of mortgage packagers on behalf of a "cooperative" the Regulatory Alliance of Mortgage Packagers my group producing £1bn worth of mortgage business per year. Then I became a victim of the 2008 financial crash which resulted in my setting up my own mortgage and general insurance compliance consultancy and we arrive in 2014 with the business still growing (fortunately) and no chance of my retiring for a few years yet!!

In addition, for seven years to 2011, I was an elected director of the Association of Mortgage Intermediaries the well-known trade body who have enhanced the mortgage industry not just for the intermediary community but for consumers also, following numerous challenges with the regulators, the Financial Services Authority (now the Financial Conduct Authority) including the EU in Brussels at times.

In summary Shebbear gave me a great start in life for someone quite shy and I have been lucky to have had a varied, challenging but very enjoyable career in the financial services mortgage industry being involved with personalities and organisations which I could only ever have dreamt about - so a big thanks and there's more to come health permitting!

Dennis Bradley. (1940 to 1948).

Retired. Lives Leamington Spa. Interests. Family. the operas of Wagner and Verdi, the trombone, growing vegetables on an allotment, German and Germany and Wasps F.C. Best Wishes Dennis.

Rowing On

Charles Aspey, at Shebbear from 1988-92, is now a Marketing Executive with the International Hotels Group, based in Denham, Bucks. He lives in Beaconsfield and travels regularly to the company's US headquarters in Atlanta.

In July 2012 he married Amanda, a management accountant, and they have a baby son, Archie. When time permits he

is still an enthusiastic rower, albeit in the veterans' section of the Eton Excelsior Club.

A Dark Story by Leslie Scrase That Ends in Hope

Keith gives his much loved but terminally ill wife Jenny an extra large dose of her nightly medicine, calmly smothers her, then quickly arranges a cremation. "Thank goodness she is at peace now," he remarks.

So begins Old Shebbearian author Leslie Scrase's latest novel *Beginning Again*.

But returning home from the crematorium he discovers a white van parked outside.

Inside his house are two men rifling through his dead wife's belongings.

A cold rage sweeps over him.

The men are despatched in moments with a carving knife and their bodies dropped into a well in the garden, the top of which is made into a rockery. Police attend but no suspicion falls on Keith.

A few months later after selling his house he buys a camper van and heads, via Kent and Sussex, for Devon where he had been an evacuee during World War Two, to discover the healing power of the natural world ...

Now in his eighties, Leslie Scrase was born in Surrey in 1931. At the beginning of the war he was evacuated firstly to Brighton and then to Bideford, from where he went to a "rather primitive boarding school" - Shebbear, which he enjoyed "immensely".

He did his National Service in the Royal Navy, before going on to university. He then worked as a Methodist Minister in this country, the United States and India.

After some 20 years he left the church to work in the National Health Service before setting up a chauffeur-driven car hire business for celebrities and politicians in Surrey. In retirement he and his wife Wendy live in Dorset.

For many years he has conducted non-religious Humanist ceremonies, including the last annual Service of Remembrance at Weymouth Crematorium.

He has written poetry and several books, among them the "Shebbear novel" - *A Prized Pupil*.

Beginning Again is published by Authors OnLine.

From Russia with thanks

Just over a year ago today I was locked in a cell with a Ukrainian cook called Ruslan, on a train headed to St Petersburg. None of us had any idea what was going to happen

in Russia's second city, what conditions to expect at the new detention centre or whether our cell mates would show a similar kindness as those in Murmansk. I couldn't imagine the food could be any worse, the cells any colder or the prison any more dilapidated than the crumbling ruin we'd left behind, but those weren't my real concerns.

It was the first time in nearly six weeks that the group had been together and we all had rumours and stories to share - the day long journey was strangely one of the best during my time in Russia, because it was time to have conversations, to laugh and cry together. But, with the smiles came warnings of three more months' detention, meaning it was almost certain that I'd be spending Christmas in a St Petersburg prison.

As it turned out, I did spend Christmas in the city, but thankfully I got the gift of a visa to return to the UK and I flew back the next day. Things changed quickly in St Petersburg, I only spent two weeks in a cell and within a week of being given bail, I was engaged to my wonderful girlfriend.

It seems odd to think of those three months in Russia now; they're a collection of newspaper clippings, crumpled letters and some dusty posters baring my concerned face. Since coming home I've returned to work, turned thirty, got a couple of cats and got married. It's certainly been an eventful year.

But I'll never forget the support and love shown to the Bryans throughout the whole experience. Knowing that Mum and Dad had so many people supporting them and that the school was behind them and their attempts to bring me home still humbles me.

The College has been part of my life since I was five years old, and I thought about my time as a pupil frequently during the long hours in my cell - the lessons I learnt there helped me in the darkest times; to offer compassion and comradeship to the prisoners I met, to remain calm when given the opportunity to defend myself, to speak with passion about justice and fairness and to remain hopeful, despite facing hopelessness. Those same lessons led me to become a journalist and they are why I will continue to report on stories that I believe matter.

Shebbear gave me some of the best years of my life and it continues to be there for me and my family, proving what I've known since I was a student - that Shebbear is a family and I'm glad to be part of it.

Kieron Byran

