



SOLIHULL



MEDIA CUTTINGS

2015-2016



SOLIHULL

2015 - 2016

Pupils urged to join cadet force by school head

ANNETTE BELCHER
anette.belcher@solihullnews.com

A SOLIHULL headmaster is backing the Government's call to increase the number of cadets in schools by encouraging pupils to join the force.

David Lloyd, headmaster of Solihull School, said he believes youngsters who join a cadet force will stand a better chance of gaining employment.

"Employers are always seeking that something extra in job applicants," Mr Lloyd said.

They value the qualities

gained as a cadet – self-discipline, loyalty and respect, leadership, teamwork and resilience."

The government wants to increase the number of cadet forces in schools five-fold by 2020, giving £50 million in the last budget to create cadet forces in 500 state schools.

The government's Cadet Expansion Programme aims to instil values in young people that will help them get the most out of their lives, and to contribute to their communities and country.

"Our CCF, founded in

1898, is one of the oldest in Britain," added Mr Lloyd. "It is a purely voluntary organisation that meets after school and we have 120 cadets – boys and girls – across both the Army and Royal Air Force sections."

"It is open to pupils between 12 and 18 years old and I'm encouraging others to consider joining up. Arguably, the greatest attraction of the CCF is the leadership roles given to young people who are

trained to coach, motivate and inspire others. We seek to develop self-reliance, initiative and leadership – and I know from employers that these are qualities that count for a lot in a job interview."

"Also, participation in a vast range of outdoor skills should hopefully encourage prolonged active and healthy lifestyles at a time when inactivity and obesity in young people are becoming increasing concerns."



Solihull School has 120 cadets across the Army and RAF sections

Solihull Observer
September 2015

The Observer, Thursday September 3, 2015

www.solihullobserver.co.uk



Tegan Bristow in a recent Polocross game.

On England duty

SCHOOL pupils Tegan and Fintan Bristow, from Solihull Junior School, represented their age groups at a national level when they competed in the Pony Club of Great Britain's Inaugural Home Nations International for Polocross.

Selected to play for the England U12 and U16 mixed gender teams respectively, siblings Tegan and Fintan each took part in the two day event in Cheshire which saw England dominate over Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland – winning each of the four scheduled games.

Having played the sport – which combines the skills of polo and lacrosse – since the age of four, ten-year-old Tegan plays goal defence and has

already celebrated several successes including being named as the first ever female winner of the national shield for Most Outstanding Under-14 Player in both the 2013 and 2014 National Championships.

Similarly Fintan, 13, who plays goal shooter, was selected to join the UK U16 squad at age 12 and has already achieved national awards for Most Sportsmanlike Player and Best Open Junior Player in 2014.

He has also been in training with UK World Cup squad captain Debbie Harris.

Their mother, Nadine Bristow, said: "The children thoroughly enjoyed the tournament, and the training camp which began on Tuesday."

"The competition was really tough as each country put their

best players forward, but in the end England won by a clear margin."

Tegan and Fintan were coached by female international Emily Kate Gilfillan in preparation for the weekend's event.

Both pupils also train at Rugby Polocrosse Club which hosted the Polocrosse World Cup when it came to the UK for the first time in 2011.

Mark Penney, head of Solihull Junior School, said: "We encourage our students to strive for greatness both in and outside of the classroom and so we're extremely proud of what Tegan and Fintan have accomplished."

"Having not one but two nationally-ranked players in one family is incredible and Solihull School is behind them 100 per cent."

Solihull
Observer
September 2015

Solihull News
October 2015

4 OCTOBER 2, 2015

Pupil is wild about role as TV presenter

ANNETTE BELCHER
anette.belcher@solihullnews.com

A 10-YEAR-OLD boy from Solihull has been playing the part of popular television presenter Richard Hammond in a documentary about the celebrity's childhood ambition to be a wildlife photographer.

Solihull School pupil George Brown has been playing the part of the former Top Gear star as a schoolboy in the two-part Sky 1 documentary called Jungle Quest.

George, from Dorridge, is playing the part of Hammond from his childhood to the present day, where he lives out his fantasy of photographing wildlife in the Amazon.

George said: "The filming of Richard Hammond's Jungle Quest was exhilarating. To have the chance to play such a famous person is spectacular. It was a brilliant experience for me."

Solihull-born Hammond, who attended Solihull School, has said wildlife has always been his passion.

"Until cars, women, marriage and children took me in a different direction," he said.

The documentary is available on Sky demand.

Amazon captured his imagination and inspired a lifelong interest in photography.

The documentary follows Hammond from his childhood to the present day, where he lives out his fantasy of photographing wildlife in the Amazon.

Along the way, he's treated to unique wildlife encounters as he enters the river with pink river dolphins and rescues an entangled sloth. It's not all plain sailing though, as he battles heat, humidity and torrential rain. He also confronts personal phobias when he comes face-to-face with giant spiders, feels the wrath of bullet ants and must conquer his fear of heights when he is hoisted high into the forest canopy.

The documentary is available on Sky demand.

SOLIHULL SCHOOL

Headmaster and Reception

George Brown plays Richard Hammond (inset) as a boy in the documentary Jungle Quest

Solihull Observer October 2015

www.solihullobserver.co.uk

The Observer, Thursday October 22, 2015

In fine voice

MORE than 250,000 listeners were entertained by Solihull School's Boys' Choir when they were broadcast on BBC Radio 4 following a visit to St Emmanuel Church in Didsbury.

The choir performed pieces including 'For the Beauty of the Earth' by Andrew Carter and 'Gloria' by Peter Nardone for two programmes – one live, and one pre-recorded.

The services, which were themed around 'God's Kingdom' and 'God's Bounty', also saw the 25 boys, aged between nine and 14, perform an additional four hymns accompanied by fellow student Madeleine Browne on the flute.

Oliver Walker said: "I'm thrilled that our choir was once again selected to perform on BBC Radio 4 - and so early in the school year."

"As usual the pupils were a credit to Solihull, especially soloists Joshua Kermode, Jacques Barker, Benedict Barker and Aymubjan Srijothy.

"This is only the beginning of what promises to be an exciting choral music programme for 2015/16 and we look forward to sharing details of further performances."

To find out more about choral music at Solihull School, visit www.solsch.org.uk

The choir during their BBC performance.



NOVEMBER 13, 2015

SOLIHULL NEWS

Solihull News
November 2015

Anne Frank sapling is planted at school

ANNETTE BELCHER
annette.belcher@trinityminor.com

A SAPLING taken from a tree viewed by Anne Frank from her hiding place in Amsterdam has been planted at Solihull School by an Auschwitz survivor.

Mindu Hornick, aged 85 and from Birmingham, was the same age as Anne Frank when she was sent to Auschwitz.

Anne Frank died in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp a few weeks before it was liberated in January 1945.

The sapling was planted on Remembrance Day, at 10am, an hour before the nation stopped to remember the fallen.

Mindu, from Edgbas-



Mindu Hornick planting the Anne Frank tree at Solihull School watched by (from left) school chaplain Rev Canon Andrew Hutchinson, Victoria Newbery, Arjan Baines, headmaster David Lloyd, Leticia Salmon and Holly Krober

ton, was just 12 years-old when she was sent to the notorious Nazi extermination camp with her mother, sister and two younger brothers.

She arrived at Auschwitz in a cattle carriage, but survived along with her older sister Eva after a Polish prisoner advised the girls to lie about their ages and claim they were skilled seamstresses.

Her mother and two brothers were killed.

school in remembrance of the Holocaust and all victims of racial hatred and genocide.

"It was then I heard about the Support Anne Frank Tree Foundation, which has grown saplings from the original horse chestnut tree that Anne could see through the attic window and I thought it would be wonderful if we could have a sapling from this original tree.

"But with so few to go round I thought it was a very long shot."

Solihull School became custodians of an Anne Frank sapling after Holly contacted the foundation and asked if there was a possibility of receiving a treasured sapling. Only a handful of these saplings exist, mainly in the United States.

Anne Frank became famous for the diary she kept while she was hiding out from the Nazis with her family during the Second World War.

'Our sixth-form centre we called a common room and that pretty well summed it up'

Solihull School old boy Michael Buerk launches new building

ANNETTE BELCHER
annette.belcher@trinityminor.com

MICHAEL Buerk was the guest of honour at Solihull School to officially open the new sixth-form centre.

The newsreader and former Solihull School pupil addressed an audience outside the new Cooper building last week, recalling fond and humorous memories of when he was a pupil.

"It's getting hard to think myself back into my young self roaming around here, more than half a century ago," he said.

"Our sixth-form centre, we called it a common room, was in the old School House building on



Warwick Road and doesn't bear much comparison.

"Common pretty well summed it up - a row of broken lockers, a couple of benches and a handful of uncomfortable, probably dangerous chairs."

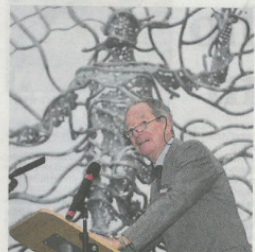
He added: "It was a different world but we felt privileged to be here then."

of a sculpture by Matthew Sanderson.

The four-floor building includes teaching rooms and private study areas incorporating the latest multimedia technology, with the top floor providing open-plan space for teaching, examinations and social events, along with an external terrace garden with panoramic views.

The centre is named Cooper Building, in memory of the headmaster, the Rev Arthur Cooper, who led the school during the First World War.

Headmaster David Lloyd said: "Our new centre will reinforce our standing as one of the Midlands' leading independent schools."



Former Solihull School pupil Michael Buerk officially opens the school's new sixth-form centre; left, the guests outside the new Cooper Building at the launch; and, right, a glimpse inside the new building

Solihull News
November 2015

observer.co.uk

The Observer, Thursday November 12, 2015

Solihull Observer
November 2015

A FORMER pupil at Solihull School has swapped his studies for a career in chocolate.

Joseph Vaughan (16) left school in the summer after sitting his GCSEs to embark on a career as a chocolatier with a shop on the High Street in his hometown Knowle.

His old school chums dropped in at 1683 Chocolate Place to sample some of his goodies.

Joseph's interest in making chocolate started when he was on a chocolate making course his mother bought him for his 14th birthday.

"Matching different chocolate from all over the world to different flavours is really exciting and I am constantly trying to develop new combinations. It has endless possibilities and that is what makes it so much fun," he said.

His former headmaster David Lloyd added: "We try to encourage an entrepreneurial spirit in the school and we are delighted that Joseph has followed his dream and set up his own business. We wish him every success."



Chocolatier Joe Vaughan with former schoolmates (left to right) Charlie Hadley, Harry Peachey and Alexander Holland.

10 NOVEMBER 27, 2015

Talented trio hit the right note playing with the best

ANNETTE BELCHER
annette.belcher@trinityminor.com

TWO talented musicians have earned spots in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain.

Charlotte Sasse and Dominic Martens, both music scholars at Solihull School, were selected to join the 165-strong ensemble following a competitive audition process which saw them beat off stiff competition from youngsters across the country.

The pair were expected to play from prepared pieces and sight-read during the audition.

The National Youth Orchestra, which takes musicians between the ages of 13 and 19, meets three times a year and performs in iconic venues such as Royal Albert Hall and Barbican Hall in London, Manchester's Bridgewater Hall and Symphony Hall in Birmingham.

Charlotte and Dominic have also recently been made members of the City of Birmingham Symphony Youth Orchestra, where they are joined by fellow Solihull schoolboy Ben Lyons.

Tim Kernode, director of music at Solihull School, said: "This is a very exciting opportunity for these three players. Being part of an orchestra is always a thrilling experience, but to be playing alongside the best of the best at this level will allow them to develop their skills and challenge themselves by performing at a very high level and under internationally renowned conductors."

"Both orchestras are ambitious and dynamic musical groups and must rank amongst the highest level of youth orchestras in the world. We are hugely proud of their success, which comes after years of hard work and regular individual practice."



From left, Dominic Martens, Ben Lyons and Charlotte Sasse

Solihull News
November 2015





SOLIHULL SCHOOL CHILDREN RAISE FUNDS FOR CATARACT OPERATIONS IN SRI LANKA

Front Page Feature

Pupils and staff from Solihull Junior School have raised £8,800 for Assist Resettlement & Renaissance (Assist RR), an organisation which aims to relieve the poverty of victims of war in Sri Lanka by assisting and enhancing their livelihood.



The funds raised during the Junior School's activity week was used to fund 75 cataract surgeries in Ratnapura, in the first of three clinics organised by Dr Velautham Sarveswaran, chairman at Assist RR.

He said: "We are aiming to fund another 325 cataract surgeries using funds provided and I would like to thank Solihull School and its pupils, staff and parents for their continued support of the needs of people in Sri Lanka."

Junior School Head, Mark Penney, said: "Through initiatives such as our Junior School Charity Week, west end extravaganza and 'wear your slippers to school' day, both the Junior and Senior Schools have raised a phenomenal amount of money for some extremely deserving charities. We look forward to continuing the efforts throughout 2016."

The £8,800 is in addition to a further £14,000 raised for charities including Age UK Solihull, the Latin American Foundation for the Future (LAFF) and the Brain Tumour Charity, in the first term of the academic year.

For more information about Solihull School, please visit www.solsch.org.uk or call 0121 705 0958.

Share this page with your friends



HAVING A LAUGH

Comedy writer, Tim Reid, author of the hit series *Car Share*, starring Peter Kay, hosted a creativity masterclass at his alma mater, **Solihull School**. Reid, who was impressed by the students' enthusiasm, emphasised the value of thinking creatively in our everyday lives.

School House Magazine
January 2016

20 | SCHOOLHOUSEMAGAZINE.CO.UK | Spring/Summer 2016

Edge Magazine
January 2016

The Observer, Thursday February 18, 2016

www.solihullobserver.co.uk

PAGE 15

Holocaust survivors premiere film



SURVIVORS of Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen concentration camps visited Solihull School for the British premiere of *Close to Evil*, a documentary marking the journey of Holocaust survivor Tomi Reichental and his efforts to engage with one of his former jailers.

Welcoming Tomi, a survivor from Bergen-Belsen, along with his partner Joyce Weinrib and film director Gerry Gregg, Solihull School invited pupils, parents and guests, including representatives of national Holocaust networks, to view the film at the first official screening in mainland UK.

Having previously aired in Ireland, the film focuses on Tomi's discovery that his former jailer, SS guard and convicted war criminal Hilde Lisiewicz, is alive and protesting her innocence, claiming to be a victim of victor's justice.

The feature unexpectedly takes Tomi back to where it all began, his native Slovakia, where he meets with a German woman; the granddaughter of the man who had a direct role in the death of 35 members of his own family.

Speaking at the event, Tomi said: "I could not have predicted where this journey would lead. I did not wish to confront Hilde, only to see if she felt any remorse for the past. In her refusal to meet with me, I was instead able to come full circle and instead

about his experiences.

"We are committed to teaching our senior school students about the true events of the Holocaust. I hope that the screening, and meeting Tomi, will stay with them for a very long time."

The screening follows the planting of a sapling from the chestnut tree Anne Frank references in her diary, which arrived at the school in November thanks to Holly Krober, a sixth form student who visited Auschwitz and was so moved by the experience that she decided to commemorate the victims at the school.

She worked with the Support Anne Frank Tree Foundation to obtain and plant a sapling, which was planted by local Holocaust survivor Mindu Horvick, who was also at the premiere.

Joyce Weinrib, Leticia Salmon (Head Girl), Tomi Reichental, Gerry Gregg, Holly Krober and Mark Penney.

Solihull Observer
February 2016

Solihull News
February 2016



GROWING PLACES

BACK TO THE FUTURE

Solihull School has buried a time capsule to be opened in 2060 – the year of its 500th anniversary. The capsule, buried outside the new Cooper Building, was donated by the Old Silhillians' Association Trust. It contains more than 50 items from the school year, including a ceramic poppy to mark 100 years of remembrance, message from the headmaster, summer term diary and school ID tag.

MARKING TIME: Evie Townsend, Ben Northam, Leticia Salmon and Moses Hakobyan bury the capsule



Birmingham Living
February 2016

SCHOOL REPORT
Birmingham Living is committed to highlighting the best of our schools and colleges. Here's our round-up of the latest stand-out news and events



The Observer, Thursday March 24, 2016

www.solihullobservers.co.uk



Solihull School head girl Leticia Salmon at Buckingham Palace.

BELOW: Leticia Salmon proud to be at the prestigious event. (s)

Solihull Observer
March 2016

Quick-thinking gets royal praise

A SOLIHULL girl who rushed to the aid of a stoke sufferer while white water rafting in Kenya has been recognised for her actions at Buckingham Palace.

Leticia Salmon, head girl at Solihull School, was commended for her outstanding contribution to society at a special event hosted by Princess Anne.

Leticia, who is also a sergeant in Solihull School's CCF, was on the school trip when a major suffered a stroke.

Her quick-thinking actions, identifying the stroke, meant she could call for additional assistance from other boats.

The major was then rushed on a two-hour trip to a hospital in Nairobi.

Lt Col Richard Ayres, who was in charge of the overall expedi-



tion, said Leticia was 'a credit to her family, the CCF and her school'.

The young first aider was then invited to attend the Young Achievers Reception, an annual event primarily for St John Ambulance cadets who have made outstanding contributions to society using first aid training.

Leticia said: "For me, being recognised is not about me. It is about recognising the importance of first aid and the need for everyone to receive training - especially as I know that so many young people perform similar acts that go unacknowledged."

"Princess Anne took the time to speak to each of us individually, particularly the cadets from the CCF or ACF who had put first aid into real life practice."

Solihull Observer
March 2016

The Observer, Thursday March 31, 2016

www.solihullobservers.co.uk

Peru trek hikes up £3,000 for charity



The duo raised over £3,000 for charities Sense and Latin American Foundation for the Future (LAFF).



Julia Skan and Liz Whitfield trekked through South America in aid of charity.

A PAIR of intrepid Solihull explorers have raised more than £3,000 for charity by trekking through South America.

Julia Skan, head of careers, and Liz Whitfield, parent and former president of the Solihull School Parent's Association, completed a four day hiking challenge in Peru to raise vital funds for charities Sense and Latin American Foundation for the Future (LAFF).

The pair followed the Inca Trail to the Lost City of Machu Picchu in aid of the charities which are close to their hearts - Sense working with deafblind children and adults in the UK, and LAFF supporting marginalised children in Peru, helping them to create independence through education and knowledge.

Julia said: "While in Peru we visited the LAFF charity in Cusco where we handed over clothing and school equipment, as well as a cheque which will go towards providing children with the chance to make it out of poverty."

"We're extremely grateful for all the donations we've received."

Solihull School has raised almost £55,000 in the last academic year - and nearly £15,000 since September - for local, national and international charities.

Daily Telegraph
March 2016

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS RESPONSIBILITIES

Jobs to set them up for life: the best school roles

Becoming a chorister or leading the debating team can boost your child's self-esteem - and CV. Lucy Higginson weighs up the pros and cons

choirs to Quidditch teams (well, almost), children have never had so many chances to lead while they learn. But how much do extra duties benefit pupils and university applications? Is Megan's experience typical, or can privilege bring with it too much pressure?

Megan Lloyd, president of debating at Solihull School, used to be shy. But now, she can talk confidently in front of a hundred people. "With 22 fixtures a year I do give up weekends sometimes, but I enjoy it so much," she says. "It's changed how I write my essays, too, making me think things through from different perspectives."

With schools now running everything from chamber

pastoral captain, who helps connect younger pupils with older 'buddies', especially if they are struggling with work, interaction or a bereavement. Some roles seem mind-bogglingly demanding. Head pupils typically attend school events, lead tours, write blogs, read in chapel, attend governors and alumni meetings and more. My duties as a deputy head in the 1980s were limited to changing the daily hymn number at assembly.

Online forums abound with parental debate about whether prefectural privilege merits the work that comes with it. "My daughter has been run ragged," complains one head girl's mother. Ironically - and maddeningly, for many heads - Oxbridge can be uninterested in these kinds of achievements. But other universities feel differently.

"We do look at wider relevant skills," says Angela Mills, Bristol's director of admissions. "So, yes, debating might be useful when applying for law..." Competition is always hot for these 'top jobs', even if the perks don't extend much beyond a lapel badge. But how are the candidates selected?

The Grange is not untypical in canvassing pupils' and teachers' views, and interviewing for the biggest roles. Failure teaches something too, points out Mr Jeffery: "The first thing many fail at is their driving test or getting into their first-choice university - it's no bad thing to experience disappointment in the secure environment of school."

In terms of commitment, nothing compares to being a chorister, some of whom are only eight. Though their school fees are subsidised, with free instrument tuition thrown in, choristers can spend 18 hours a week in practice and services, with Sunday eucharist being compulsory. It can be a hard sell.

"For the right child and family it's a wonderful opportunity, but it isn't right for everybody," agrees Alex McCulloch himself, a former chorister, head of Pobleste House School, whose choristering is "any elite activity" - like being on a national sporting programme. The difference is that the boys work alongside professionals. "It's about stepping up," he continues. "When you're doing a live BBC broadcast, there's nowhere to hide."



It's changed how I write my essays, making me think through things from different perspectives

but it isn't right for everybody," agrees Alex McCulloch himself, a former chorister, head of Pobleste House School, whose choristering is "any elite activity" - like being on a national sporting programme. The difference is that the boys work alongside professionals. "It's about stepping up," he continues. "When you're doing a live BBC broadcast, there's nowhere to hide."

Edge Magazine

Search

What's On Food & Drink Home & Garden Life & Style Entertainment

SOLIHULL STUDENTS SET FOR OXBRIDGE

The headmaster of Solihull School has congratulated eight pupils on being offered conditional places at Oxbridge, whilst noting that Oxford and Cambridge were not for everyone.



Photo Caption: Isobel Fuller, Dominic Martens, Leticia Salmon (head girl), Ben Northam (head boy), Lydia Stephens, Zershanneh Quershi, Jack Edge and Luke Sheeran.

David Lloyd, whose school has leapt up the rankings in the Sunday Times' Top 200 Independent Schools, climbing 28 places to 77", said the students should be extremely proud of their achievements.

"However, some of our most able pupils have chosen not to apply for Oxbridge because the course was not quite right or they found another university more appealing. Oxbridge is definitely the right destination for many, but certainly not for everyone so I'd also like to congratulate all of our other university-bound students who have chosen to follow a different path."

The students will learn if they have met their offers after their A Level examinations in the summer.

Edge Magazine
March 2016



Solihull Observer
April 2016

PAGE 28

www.solihullobservers.co.uk

Schools & Colleges

Carousel proves a sell-out hit show

THESPIANS from Solihull School wowed sell-out audiences with their performance of the hit musical Carousel.

Bringing the Rodgers & Hammerstein classic to the independent school on Warwick Road, the cast of over 50 senior school pupils delivered five performances of the award-winning show.

James Hammond, head of drama at the school, said: "Carousel is a wonderful show which includes a number of well-known musical numbers – most notably You'll Never Walk Alone.

"I'm incredibly proud of our students who showcased their fantastic talent for both drama and music.

"I'm sure that the audiences would agree that they equalled – if not surpassed – the quality of many professional performances."

For more information about upcoming performances and events at Solihull School visit www.solsch.org.uk/calendar or call 0121 705 0958.



Solihull School's production of Carousel. s

www.solihullobservers.co.uk

The Observer, Thursday April 21, 2016



Jacob and Bianca from Solihull School's Vote Leave society chat to Solihull locals.

Students have a go on EU issues

BOROUGH students took time out of the classroom last week to mingle with the Solihull public and voice their reasons why people should vote to leave the EU.

Six students from Solihull School took to the high street ahead of the referendum on Thursday (June 23) where the UK will decide whether to stay or leave the European Union.

Talking about their time on the Solihull streets, Jacob Gilbert and Bianca Oberheim said: "It's great to be able to get out and see

campaigning at grass roots level in action.

"Even though we can't vote in the referendum, we feel strongly about the decision that lies ahead and what it could mean for Britain. What I find particularly interesting about the referendum is Britain's relationship with our European neighbours and what it will mean.

"It's really important to encourage engagement as the results will impact on our generation in years to come.

"There is just over ten weeks to go until the referendum, which means that by the time we finish

school for the summer holiday a decision will be made."

Tom Huxley, midlands campaign co-ordinator, said: "People were receptive with the idea of leaving the EU and it certainly gave them food for thought.

"People won't change their mind overnight but it was good to see students out representing their school and having a say in what will be a crucial date for the UK.

"It's all about awareness and making people realise that the result of the referendum will potentially have a big impact on them."

Solihull Observer
April 2016

www.solihullobservers.co.uk

The Observer, Thursday May 26, 2016

PAGE 15

School impresses All Blacks giant

ALL BLACKS legend Sean Fitzpatrick was at Solihull School this month for a sportsman's dinner organised by the Parents' Association.

Widely regarded as one of the finest players ever to come out of New Zealand, Fitzpatrick won 92 caps and captained the side from 1992

until his retirement through injury in 1997.

A familiar face as a pundit on television, he is also founder and director of the Front Row group of companies, which includes Front Row Leadership.

Headmaster David Lloyd said: "It was a very excit-

ing evening, especially for rugby fans, and Sean gave an excellent motivational talk about leadership, attitude and legacy. One of the giants of the game, he was very impressed to learn that the school has no fewer than four current rugby internationals."



Solihull Observer
May 2016

The Observer, Thursday May 19, 2016

www.solihullobservers.co.uk

PAGE 117

Solihull rugby stars have bright futures

RUGBY UNION: THIS season's Six Nations is at an end but for four Solihull schoolboys their international rugby careers could be just beginning.

The pupils are all star players for Solihull School, an independent co-educational school, founded in 1560, with a proud tradition of sporting excellence.

Charlie Morgan and William Cutbill both play for England Counties Under-18s, while William Talbot-Davies players for Wales Under-18s and Tom Serie is in the Under-16

Scotland squad.

Director of sport Steve Thompson said: "This is a tremendous achievement. To have four boys playing international rugby is a real feather in our cap and testament to the high quality of coaching staff and the hard work by the boys themselves."

Solihull School has just hosted the biggest school rugby sevens tournament in the region, with almost 1,800 pupils from 30 schools taking part in the four-day festival of rugby,

supported by volunteer match officials and referees from the North Midlands Referees Society.

The boys U12 rugby sevens team are top of the UK rankings after finishing the season undefeated. They won every school tournament they entered - Warwick, KES Birmingham, Nottingham and Bishop Vesey's.

Observer 

SPORT

Twins set for a bright future on court

Tennis twins Tom (left) and Harry Smith (s)



TENNIS: TWINS Tom and Harry Smith are among a group of Year 4 Solihull School boys thriving at the sport.

Joined by fellow Solihull School pupils Alex White, Samuel Stith and Freddie Sunderland, the twins

have each been awarded Orange 1 star, which means they have secured the highest LTA ranking available to their age group.

Alex, Samuel and Freddie were also part of a group to recently meet Jamie Murray when the Davis Cup team visited the county.

All of the boys have been selected for Warwickshire County's training, with Tom, Harry and Samuel participating in regional training. Alex and Freddie will also go on to represent West Warwickshire at the final of the under 9 boys county finals at the Aegon Classic next month.

"The level of tennis being played in the Junior School at the moment is incredible," said Mark Penney, head of the Solihull Junior School. "The boys' perseverance and commitment has been extremely impressive, especially given that achieving this rank is an entirely individual feat."

Solihull Observer
May 2016



20 JUNE 10, 2016 SOLIHULL NEWS

Trailblazing girls make history at local school

A GROUP of Solihull School sixth formers have made their mark by becoming the first girls to have gone all the way through the school since it became fully co-educational in 2005.

The six teenagers, who joined the Junior School aged seven or eight, were the trailblazers of the new system, which had previously only taken girls in the sixth form.

Headmaster David Lloyd said: "We are extremely proud of these girls and all that they have achieved. Since girls first arrived in the sixth form in 1973, co-education at Solihull has been an unrivalled success and equality in every sense runs through our veins."

Two of the six pupils, Head Girl Leticia Salmon and Lydia Stephens, have been awarded Oxbridge conditional offers this year.

Leticia said: "Despite the small numbers of girls at the beginning I never felt out of place. Solihull has always felt welcoming and inclusive."



History-making Solihull School girls, from left, Holly Krober, Amy Lewis, Lydia Stephens, Harriet Marshall, Leticia Salmon and Odile Webber

Solihull News June 2016

The Observer, Thursday June 23, 2016

www.solihullobserver.co.uk

All creatures great and small...

A SCHOOL'S chapel congregation has been boosted by the presence of some furry friends.

Solihull Junior School pupils were invited to take along their pets or favourite cuddly toys to be blessed at the school's annual chapel pet service.

Youngsters from the independent school didn't disappoint, as pets varying from stick insects to a very vocal

chicken joined the service. Around 40 animals enjoyed the blessing, which was taken by the school's chaplain, Reverend Andrew Hutchinson.

Hymns for the service were the appropriately-themed *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, *Rise and Shine* and *If I Were A Butterfly*, while readings were also geared towards the animals who were being blessed.



Goldendoodle Alfie was one of the pets taken to be blessed at Solihull School's annual chapel pet service. (s)

Solihull Observer July 2016

www.solihullobserver.co.uk

The Observer, Thursday July 7, 2016



Cold Feet writer Mike Bullen returned to teach a screenwriting workshop at Solihull School. (s)

Perfect story for TV drama writer

THE WRITER of ITV drama *Cold Feet* has returned to his old school to deliver a screenwriting workshop to its pupils.

Mike Bullen, who wrote all five series of the 1990s drama and is currently working on its upcoming revival which airs on ITV in the autumn, based a number of the leading characters on himself and his friends from Solihull School.

Returning to the independent school on Warwick Road, Mr Bullen worked with drama and theatre studies students, talking about his career in the industry and sharing fond memories of his time at the school.

He said: "When I left school I didn't think screenwriting would be my future, and it

wasn't for some years, but the seeds were definitely sown with drama at Solihull School.

"My fondest memory of my time there was probably when we did a sixth form play – the school's first, I believe.

"We were encouraged by the headmaster at the time but it was all organised by the students; the teachers had no involvement. As I remember it, it was pretty good.

"It's great to see that the students today are still just as passionate.

"One of my favourite moments in the workshop was when the pupils were discussing a piece they'd written. They were talking about their motivation and I saw the spark suddenly catch fire – it was very satisfying."

Solihull School has gone

through many changes since Mr Bullen attended in the 1970s.

"It's a very forward-thinking place," he said. "While many schools will focus on churning out kids with good grades, Solihull encourages its students to think, and looks to develop them as people.


"It provided me with a great sense of community, which I think translates into what I write about, and gave me the confidence to have courage in my own convictions. It means a great deal to me."

David Lloyd, headmaster, added: "It was a pleasure to have Mike return to the school. "His passion, both for Solihull and his career, is extremely evident and I am certain that our students have learned a lot from his visit."

SUNDAY MERCURY SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2016

CRICKET

MADDY ENJOYS A NEW KIND OF TEST



■ Darren Maddy bowling for Berks in the Birmingham League, and (right) batting for England

TOM PAYNE

FORMER Warwickshire and England cricketer is flourishing in his role elsewhere but I just felt it was coming to the end of my chapter and it was time to move on.

"I was very lucky, I was club captain of Warwickshire and won the county championship, I won two championships and two Twenty20 cups with Leicestershire and played for England, so I had a wonderful 23 years playing the game.

"At that stage, I still envisaged being part of the professional game after my retirement. I almost had an opportunity to go to Western Australia as assistant coach to Justin Langer but I just missed out in that process.

"A month on from having announced my retirement, I had three serious job offers, including one from Leicestershire as strength and conditioning coach, which I thought long and hard about. Then I found out David (Hemp) was leaving Solihull to move to Australia. After meeting the head master and going through the interview process, I started in 2013.

"What David had done previously was outstanding and it wasn't a case of reinventing the wheel, just some simple steps to build on what was there. What we've created at the school now is an environment for the lads to really succeed in and improve and, ultimately, to enjoy."

"The cricket term is a very short one and can obviously be affected by exams, so it does become quite intense. You have 10 weeks of cricket in which we play 130 fixtures. It has opened my eyes from being the player who turned up and concentrated on myself and my performance, to now arranging everything from the fixtures to the kit and the groundmen.

"I've been the mini-bus driver, the tea boy, drinks boy, umpire, coach and manager – it's an all-encompassing role, which is great. It's very enjoyable and, as intense as it is, I wish the season could go on for longer."

Three years ago, Solihull School introduced Sports scholarships and it is these, believes Maddy, which has really allowed its young cricketers to flourish.

He said: "The introduction of sports scholarships has made a massive difference and, in my opinion, has been the biggest turning point in the crickering success at the school. The scholars benefit from a bit of psychology and nutritional advice, extra fitness sessions, along with one-to-one mentoring and guest speakers.

"The lads are now becoming cricketers and that's not necessarily what we've had before – actual cricket thinkers. We may have had talented individuals but now the boys are thinking in the correct way and that makes a big difference.

"If one or two go on to become professional cricketers that would be outstanding, of course, but even if I can get these boys playing club cricket until the age of 40 then that's a success."

While his role at Solihull keeps him busy, Maddy still finds time to play for Berks in the Birmingham League Premier Division, while also being part of PCA Masters sides and the Leicestershire XI.

He said: "I still find myself thinking about batting again or what the lads are doing, and miss being in the changing room in that professional environment. I have been associated with Berks since my last year at Warwickshire. After all the years of playing professionally, I never envisaged myself in club cricket but they are great lads and I really enjoy it.

"I've also had great opportunities to play for the PCA Masters and Leicestershire. Being back in a changing room with those type of characters is great."

■ To find out more information about cricket scholarships at Solihull School, call 0121 705 0958 or email admin@solihull.org.uk

Sunday Mercury
July 2016

14 JULY 15, 2016

Cricketers are bowled over as they pass final exam

YOUNG cricketers from Solihull School knocked their opponents for six to be crowned national champions.

The school's under-13s beat New Hall School from Chelmsford, Essex, by 22 runs in the final of the prestigious English Schools Cricket Association Cup, which was held at Chelmsford School, Bedford.

Captain and cricket scholar Dan Bevan produced a man-of-the-match performance to score an unbeaten 76, while Allie Blundell hit 30 not out from just 21 balls, as Solihull reached 190 for three from their allotted 55 overs. They then bowled New Hall out for 108.

The school's under-15s side also showed their

quality to reach the national cup final before being edged out by a strong side from King's College, Taunton. Barring first, Solihull were restricted to 117 all out. Ethan Rhodes top-scoring with 40. However, King's reached their target for the loss of three wickets.

Solihull School master of cricket Darren Maddy said:

"The boys performed extremely well to reach two

finals, with the under-13s producing a fine display to claim the national title.

"We were up against some strong sides throughout our cup campaign and the under-13s richly

deserved to be crowned champions."

Maddy, a former England international bats-



The victorious Solihull School under-13s side with former England captain Nasser Hussain

man who spent his playing career with Leicestershire and Warwickshire, leads the school's cricket academy, which boasts a number of talented young players.

Another pupil who has been part of Warwickshire

junior squads for the past three years is fast bowler

and middle-order bat

Blundell, while Ethan

Platt, an opening bat and

leg-spin bowler, has earned

county recognition for the

past two years.

Maddy added: "We have

some very talented cricketers

at Solihull.

"We pride ourselves on

giving pupils the very best

coaching and develop-

ment opportunities available

and this is where our cricket

scholarships are a real benefit

to talented young players."

To find out more information

about cricket scholarships at

Solihull School, call 0121 705 0958

or e-mail admissions@solihull.sch.org.uk.

Solihull News July 2016

NEWS

JULY 8, 2016

21



Pupils at Solihull Junior School enjoy taking part in a charity decathlon

Youngsters' top ten effort

KIND-HEARTED pupils from Solihull Junior School have raised more than £5,000 with a charity decathlon.

The youngsters, aged between seven and 11, competed in events including relay races, miniature hurdles and skipping in aid of Birmingham Children's Hospital, Cancer Research UK, The British Heart Foundation and The Motor Neurone Disease Association (MDNA).

Michael Jones, deputy head of the Junior School, said: "Many pupils

spoke of their personal experiences of family and friends suffering from various forms of cancer.

"Two pupils shared stories of family members who had lost their lives to heart disease and motor neurone disease."

Solihull School will be hosting its next open day on Saturday, September 24, with junior school entrance exams taking place next year on Saturday, January 14.

For more information call 0121 705 0958 or visit www.solsch.org.uk

THE Sun

HOME

FOOTBALL

SPORT

TV & SHOWBIZ

LIVING

NEWS

VIDEOS



LONDON NEWS PICTURES

20

Solihull School head girl Leticia Salmon is off to Cambridge while head boy Ben Northam is going to Oxford

The Sun August 2016



Solihull Observer

MENU NEWS SPORT LIFESTYLE E-EDITIONS PROPERTY ADBOOKER CONT

HOME NEWS SOLIHULL SCHOOL STUDENTS CELEBRATE RECORD GCSE RESULTS

Solihull School students celebrate record GCSE results



Written by Chris Willmott Published 7:30 am, Aug 31, 2016

UPDATED: 3:45 pm, Aug 30, 2016 0 Comments 0 shares

PUPILS at Solihull School are celebrating the best GCSE results on record with 79 per cent of this year's grades at A*/A.

The independent school on Warwick Road saw a record-breaking 40 per cent of all grades at A*, with 10 students receiving 10 A*s or better.

21 pupils received eight or more A*s, and 70 pupils (well over half the year group) received eight or more A*/A grades.

Headmaster David Lloyd said: "This represents a fantastic achievement from all of our pupils. My heartfelt congratulations go to them and the teaching staff for their hard work and dedication which has definitely paid off."

402 people like this. Be the first of your friends.

Solihull Observer Online
August 2016

Birmingham MAIL
WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

Most read Live feeds What's on News Sport Nostalgia Celebs

TRENDING BIRMINGHAM RIOTS V FESTIVAL RIO OLYMPICS 2016 THINGS TO DO THE BRUMMIES

News Midlands News Solihull

Solihull sees excellent A level results

17:35, 18 AUG 2016 UPDATED 18:08, 18 AUG 2016 BY CATRINA HULSE

STUDENTS have been celebrating A level success across Solihull with an outstanding crop of results.

f t G+ in SHARES COMMENTS

Enter your e-mail for our daily newsletter **Subscribe**



Delighted students at The Sixth Form College, Solihull celebrate excellent A level results (l-r) - Asad Butt, Alice Bennett, James Mason, Ned Tilling and Gabriella Kelly

At the independent [Solihull School](#) more than 55 per cent of all grades achieved were A* - A with over one third of the year group celebrating three or more of these top grades and eight students gaining places at Oxbridge universities.

David Lloyd, headmaster, commented: "I'm incredibly proud of all of the students - the hard work and determination they have shown throughout the year has resulted in a fantastic set of grades."

Birmingham Mail
August 2016

Solihull NEWS

Serving the borough since 1930 £1 where sold FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2016

Homeseeker
Space and location
8 pages of property

Dyslexia no bar to top uni for Leticia



A SOLIHULL schoolgirl heroine has gained a coveted place at Cambridge - despite suffering from severe dyslexia.

Leticia Salmon, who made headlines when she rescued a man in a rafting drama, was originally advised not to take A-levels because of her condition.

But the Solihull School pupil is celebrating after getting straight As and being offered a place at Homerton College to read the History of Education.

Two years ago, she saved the life of an adult helper who had suffered a stroke during a Combined Cadet Force expedition to Kenya. The good deed earned Leticia an invitation to the annual Young Achievers Reception at Buckingham Palace, where she met Princess Anne.

The head girl at Solihull School, founded in 1560, wasn't even expected to get enough GCSEs to earn a sixth-form place. But, Leticia, from Hampton-in-Arden, worked tirelessly with the school's Learning Support Department to improve her spelling and writing.

"I'm absolutely thrilled I got the place at Homerton," she said. "It's been a long hard struggle but, even with dyslexia, I've proved that if you are passionate enough about something and want it enough, with lots of hard work, you'll find a way to achieve it."

MAKING THE GRADE: PAGE 6

Solihull News
August 2016

PAGE 2

The Observer, Thursday August 25, 2016

www.solihullobsv.com

It's a family affair on results day



Headmaster David Lloyd with daughter Megan, and deputy head Sean Morgan with son Charlie. Picture by Dave Warren

SOLIHULL School is once again celebrating an outstanding crop of A Level results from the current cohort.

120 students at the 455-year-old independent school received their results - with 85 per cent of all grades achieved at A*-B.

More than 55 per cent of all grades achieved were A*-A, with over one third of the year group celebrating three or more of these top grades, and eight students gaining places at Oxbridge universities.

David Lloyd, headmaster, said: "I'm incredibly proud of all of the students - the hard work and determination they have shown throughout the year has resulted in a fantastic set of grades."

Solihull Observer
August 2016





SOLIHULL

MEDIA CUTTINGS

2015 - 2016

Solihull School
Warwick Road, Solihull
West Midlands B91 3DJ

School Office: 0121 705 0958
Admissions Secretary: 0121 705 4273
Bursar: 0121 705 0883

Fax: 0121 711 4439
Email: admin@solsch.org.uk
www.solsch.org.uk