

A painting by John Alford



The Shrewsbury Saracens Centenary Dinner

Saturday 29th March 2025

The Kia Oval, Surrey County Cricket Club,
London SE11 5SS



SARACENS

which R Sale was Chairman. And so, the club was on its way to playing magnificent cricket, on the incomparable Common and elsewhere to the great delight of many generations of players, spectators, scorers, umpires, and groundsmen. The photo opposite shows Alington, Lord Rochdale, the Bishop of Chester, and Canon Sawyer watching a game in the early days.

The club thrived greatly during the 20's and 30's, but from 1940 - 46 no meetings were held owing to the war, but members of the committee on the school staff kept a skeleton committee going; there is no mention of games being played during the war.

The 50's, 60's and 70's saw a golden age of cricket with the 'Saracens Week' held every year in the last week of July immediately after the end of term, and of course the Devon Tour in August. Among the galaxy of great players from this

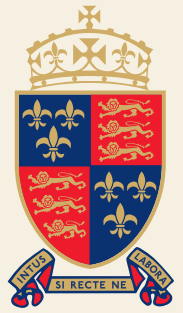


period, in my memory the following stand out: Guy Thornycroft, Robin Mouldsdale, Nicko Williams, Geoffrey Phillips, Rev Hugh Brook, not forgetting the great umpire, Laurence Le Quesne, who raised his finger with famous alacrity! Others will have to tell the story of more recent years of Saracens Cricket.

Robin Brooke-Smith



Cricket at Shrewsbury School in 2025



Our pupils are able to access our state-of-the-art four lane cricket centre all year round. It features full length run ups, and houses four Bola bowling machines and a Merlyn spin bowling machine.

The nets are fully retractable to enable fielding practices, with new LED lighting providing perfect conditions for play.

4 top-quality cricket squares are used seven days a week in the summer. We have 10 outdoor grass nets, as well as mobile cages to facilitate middle practices. Our 1st XI pitch features a scoreboard capable of instant action replays, and the home dressing room benefits from a big screen showing a live feed of the game.

Coaching Programme

The winter programme includes a wide range of 1:1, small group, and squad coaching sessions, with around 80 such practices taking place each week during the winter.

Our highly qualified coaches boast a wealth of experience in both in the professional and recreational game and are well placed to offer advice and guidance



to our pupils. During the summer our 'A' teams train 3 times per week alongside their fixtures, in addition to participating in a vibrant House Cricket programme.

Coaching Staff

Will Hughes

Director of Cricket

✦ ECB Level 3 Coach

Lara Jones

Head of Girls Cricket

✦ Warwickshire CCC

✦ Shropshire CCC

✦ ECB Coach Educator

Adam Shantry

Head of Boys Cricket

✦ ECB Level 4 Coach

✦ Northamptonshire,
Warwickshire, Glamorgan

✦ Glamorgan CCC Satellite
Academy Head Coach

David Manning

✦ ECB Level 3 Coach

✦ Worcestershire Cricket Board

✦ Worcestershire CCC Satellite
Academy Head Coach

Sam Whitney

✦ ECB Level 3 Coach

✦ Shropshire CCC

✦ Specialist Spin Bowling Coach

Matt Swift

✦ Shropshire CCC

✦ Specialist Wicket Keeping Coach



Greg Smith

✦ Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire.

✦ Batting Consultant

Andy Barnard

✦ Shropshire CCC

Rhodri Evans

✦ Glamorgan 2nd XI

Tyler Ibbotson

✦ ECB L3 Coach

✦ Glamorgan CCC Satellite Academy
Assistant Coach



Fixture and Touring Programme

We play over 300 fixtures in a full season, with pre and post-season festivals for boys and girls. As well as playing other leading schools our teams take on county opposition from Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Glamorgan. Our fixture list includes a blend of red ball, white ball, pink ball, and 2-day cricket, with multiple county and national cup ties.

We embark on overseas tours on a 2-year cycle, recent destinations include Cape Town, Australia and Dubai. Pupils benefit from both a cricketing and cultural education while challenging themselves against some of the best cricketing schools in the world.

Professional Cricketers / Internationals

Since the Cricket Centre was built in 2004, 13 players have signed county contracts, with James Taylor and Issy Wong going on to earn full international status.

In 2024, 3 of our pupils attained U19 International status: Theo Wylie (England U19), Jack Home (England U19), and Freddie Ogilby (Ireland U19). Theo also represented his country at the ICC U19 World Cup while still studying at Shrewsbury.

National Titles

Shrewsbury have twice won the HMCT20 competition, and in 2022 and 2023 became the first side to retain the U17 Cricket Paper Trophy in the competition's history. The Girls 1st XI won the Cricket Paper 100 Ball Cup in 2021.

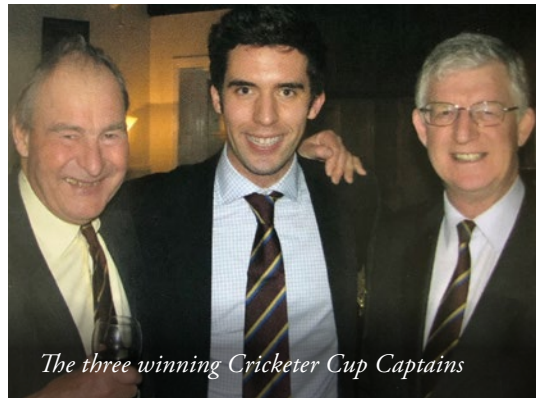


Key Partners

Worcestershire and Glamorgan both run Satellite Academy programmes led by school staff, while we have close ties with many other counties. Cheshire's bond with Shrewsbury now sees them feed into the Glamorgan pathway, while we also host training camps for ECB national squads. Shropshire Cricket Board base their winter training programme at School, while the MCC run a regional hub, and in the summer we host numerous County age group fixtures.

Holistic Development

As well as a first-class cricketing experience, our programme is enhanced by a multitude of additional features including strength and conditioning training, yoga and team-building excursions.



The three winning Cricketer Cup Captains

Salopian Cricket for Life

We are hugely grateful to the Saracens for their ongoing support to Shrewsbury School cricket. Each year two Saracens sides travel to Shrewsbury for a 1st and 2nd XI fixture. The Saracens' Cricketer Cup home games take place on Senior where the honours board in the Top of Shop highlights their achievements.

Generous donations from several Saracens helped fund the indoor cricket centre which has enabled generations of Salopians to benefit from year-round practice facilities, as well as very generous financial contributions to our overseas touring programme which broadens access to the tours. Great interest is regularly shown in the school's social media feeds, where Old Salopians take huge pride in the current pupil's successes.

U6th Leavers are encouraged to join the Saracens and to go on the Devon tour and numbers have been healthy in recent years.

Adam Shantry & Will Hughes

Highlights of the Past 50 Years

The 1970s and 80s

1977 Cricketer Cup Winners

In 1977 Nick Pocock, later to captain Hampshire, practically won the match single-handed, taking 4 for 16 as Oundle Rovers were bowled out for 117 and then making 98 not out in the Shrewsbury Saracens score of 118 for 1.



Saracens in Epernay 1977



1977 Cricketer Cup winners



1987 Cricketer Cup Winners



1987 winning Cricketer Cup Team

2000 Onwards

Barbados Tour, 2001

Tour Party: Matt Randall, Dave Walker, Rob Hillman, Duncan Bowett, Scott Corbett, Ed Home, Andy Pollock, James Pollock, Rob Champion, Jeremy Rodale, Charlie Hunt, John Everall (RIP), Marcus Marvel, Paddy Knox (RIP), Rory Hills.



Sir Garfield Sobers Pavilion



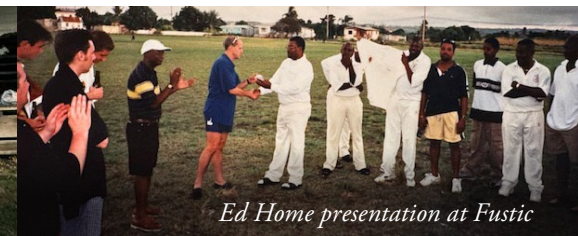
Saracens in Epernay 1987



1987 Richard Tudor receiving cup



2001 Banks brewery ground



Ed Home presentation at Fustic



Barbados Psychiatric Hospital



Kensington Oval



1987 Peter Williams, Nicko Williams and Brian Smallwood



Cricketer Cup 1988 - losing Finalists



Martin Knox at Banks brewery ground



New Year's Eve

2012 Cricketer Cup Winners



Cricketer Cup team with England International James Taylor

Shrewsbury Saracens Cricket Club - “A Century of Service”



Presidents

- ✿ Sir Francis Humphrys 1926-50
- ✿ Alan Barber 1950-82
- ✿ Michael Crawford 1983-85
- ✿ Henry Lewis 1986-87
- ✿ Guy Thornycroft 1988-2001
- ✿ Nicko Williams 2001 - present

Honourable Secretaries

- ✿ Monty Stow
- ✿ Henry Lewis
- ✿ Nicko Williams
- ✿ Angus Pollock
- ✿ Paul Nichols
- ✿ Rob Hillman
- ✿ Tom Cox

The Cricketer Cup Captains

- ✿ Nicko Williams
- ✿ Richard Tudor
- ✿ Angus Pollock
- ✿ Edward Home
- ✿ Mark Lascelles
- ✿ Rob Hillman
- ✿ Tom Cox
- ✿ Henry Lewis

First Class County Cricketers

- ✿ Ainsworth MLY - Worcestershire
- ✿ Barber AT - Yorkshire
- ✿ Barlow EA - Lancashire
- ✿ Barnard EG - Worcestershire & Warwickshire
- ✿ Bland RDF - Nottinghamshire
- ✿ Blaxland LB - Derbyshire
- ✿ Crawford MG - Yorkshire
- ✿ Ellis SWK - Worcestershire
- ✿ Foster DG - Warwickshire
- ✿ Garrett GA - Warwickshire & Kent
- ✿ Hewetson EP - Warwickshire
- ✿ Home JE - Worcestershire
- ✿ Hutchinson IJF - Middlesex
- ✿ Lamb TM - Middlesex & Northamptonshire
- ✿ Leach J - Worcestershire
- ✿ Lloyd DL - Glamorgan & Derbyshire
- ✿ Moore DN - Gloucestershire
- ✿ Panayi GD - Warwickshire
- ✿ Pocock NEJ - Hampshire
- ✿ Pollock EJ - Warwickshire & Worcestershire
- ✿ Raikes DC - Gloucestershire
- ✿ Singleton AP - Worcestershire

- ✦ Smith RA - Glamorgan
- ✦ Stephenson JS - Yorkshire
- ✦ Taylor JWA - Leicestershire, Notts & England
- ✦ Thornycroft GM - Worcestershire
- ✦ Waters RHC - Sussex
- ✦ Watson GS - Leicestershire
- ✦ Westbury OE - Worcestershire
- ✦ Wong I - Warwickshire & England



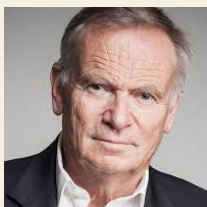
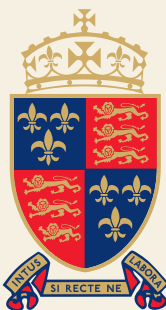
Save the Date!

In this centenary year, it is highly appropriate that **Tim Lamb - Middlesex and Northamptonshire cricketer and former CEO of the ECB - is the President of the Salopian Club. Tim will be hosting a very special dinner in the Long Room at Lord's on Friday 17th October 2025.**

It promises to be an outstanding evening - broadcaster and presenter Nick Owen (R 1961-66) will be speaking and there will be an auction, compered by the novelist and politician Lord Jeffrey Archer, to raise funds to cover part of the cost and keep ticket prices to £120 per head.

Further details will follow, but if you can offer a suitably attractive auction item, please contact the Salopian Club as soon as possible at:

Email: oldsalopian@shrewsbury.org.uk



RULES

1. The affairs of Shrewsbury Saracens are to be regulated by a President, Vice-Presidents, and a Committee.
2. The Committee shall consist of the Hon. Secretary and not more than twelve members to be elected by a majority of votes of Saracens at the Annual Meeting.
3. The duties of the Committee are to assist the Hon. Secretary in arranging matches, to elect Saracens, and generally to forward the interest of the Club among Old Salopian cricketers.
4. Candidates for election are to be Old Salopians, or Members of the Staff at the School, and shall be required to play two qualifying matches, which the Committee reserve the right to dispense with in special cases.
5. Application for qualifying matches are to be made by a Saracen on behalf of a candidate to the Hon. Secretary.
6. Each candidate for election is to be proposed by a Member of the Committee and seconded by a Saracen, and shall be elected by a Majority of votes at a Committee meeting.
7. Each newly-elected Saracen shall pay 20/- to the Hon Secretary for postage and printing. (altered to 40/- in 1930)
There shall be no annual subscription.
8. The Club Colours shall be Maroon, Gold, and Royal Blue, which can only be obtained from E. F. Afford. Shrewsbury.
9. The expenses of a match (Umpires and Scorer) shall be divided amongst those playing. The Manager of a match to be responsible that no debts are incurred by the Club.
10. These rules shall only be altered at a General Meeting after one month's notice of the alteration given to the Hon Secretary.

Original Club Rules from 1925



WINNER
Independent School
of the Year 2020

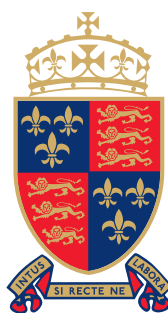
WINNER
Community Outreach
Award 2020



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2024

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School