

# ParkLife



THE NEWSLETTER OF SEAFORD COLLEGE

## INSIDE



STUDENTS' ANIMAL INSTINCTS

## The stage is set for a great concert night

A SPECTACULAR summer concert, featuring some of the world's leading opera singers accompanied by the Southbank Sinfonia, is to take place on the College lawns in June.

In the first of its kind – but hopefully not the last – the College has brought in the services of top concert organisers The Showbusiness Production Company Ltd, from Midhurst, to stage the mammoth event on Saturday June 9.

Headline acts will include Old Seafordian and bass Matthew Rose, tenor Robert Murray and talented Russian soprano Ilona Domnich and operatic baritone Sergei Leiferkus. Conductor will be Simon Over.

The Proms-style concert will take place at the rear of Mansion House, where the terraced lawn provides the perfect setting for champagne and picnics. Guests will be able to picnic from 6pm, with the concert commencing at 7.30pm.



HIGH NOTE: Perfect setting for a Proms-style concert

The repertoire for the evening will include the Overture from The Marriage of Figaro and various opera arias including the popular Nessun Dorma and Torreador song from Carmen, plus other arias by

Mozart and Verdi.

The second half will include arias from Eugene Onegin, ending with a rousing 1812 overture finale and dazzling firework spectacular at 10.30pm.

All the singers are all internationally renowned and have sung at such venues as Glyndebourne, The Royal Opera, Covent Garden, English National Opera, Metropolitan Opera, New York, Bolshoi, and Marinsky Theatre and La Scala, Milan.

Up to 1,200 people are expected to attend and tickets will be on sale shortly from the school.

Headmaster Toby Mullins said: "The College grounds lend themselves perfectly to an event of this kind and it is something we have been considering for a while. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us and it is something we could repeat in the future if there is sufficient interest."

## Going places

TWO of Seaford's top teens have been selected to represent their country.

Sixth former Florian Pelzner has been selected to play hockey for Germany U18s while Dan Tarrant has been chosen to join the GB clay pigeon shooting squad at the age of just 15. Florian has been a top scorer for the College U18 team this season and was instrumental in the team reaching the indoor regional semi-finals, where they made it through to the top 20 teams in the country.

Dan, who shoots Olympic Trap, learned of his latest accolade after taking part in the English Open Olympic Trap Event at the National Clay Shooting Centre, Bisley, on Easter Sunday, where he came first in his class and was declared Junior High Gun.

# New head joins in exciting era



NEW HEAD: Sebastian Rees

SEAFORD College will be starting the new academic year with a new Prep School – and a new Prep School head at the helm.

Sebastian Rees, 41, has been appointed to take over as head of the College Prep School from September 2012.

Mr Rees is currently Director of Studies at the highly-respected Junior Kings School, Canterbury, where he has taught for the past six years. Prior to that, he was acting head of Northbourne Primary School, near Deal, and a teacher at nearby Sandwich Junior School, Kent.

### Growing status

Although the junior house will continue to be known internally as Wilberforce, as of September the school will be re-branded as Seaford College Preparatory School, to reflect its growing status as one of the finest prep schools in the South East.

Seaford has had a very successful 11+ entry since 1990 and has 50-60 pupils in both years 7 and 8, but it only extended its age range to create the prep school in 2009, as a lifeline to pupils

“ I have been impressed by the staff who are already in place and the happy atmosphere of the school . . . ”

SEBASTIAN REES

from St Margaret's Convent School, Midhurst, which faced closure. Several key teaching staff from St Margaret's joined the Seaford team at that time and talented musician Jeremy Weaver has since been appointed as teacher in charge of Wilberforce music.

Seaford College Headmaster Toby Mullins said: "The appointment of Sebastian Rees is a very exciting step forward for us. We are ambitious and confident that, after three years of running Key Stage 2, we have the formula to become one of the strongest prep schools in the South of England.

"The College has invested heavily in recent years and we now have state-of-the-art maths

and science facilities, superb sports facilities and the latest in ICT, including wireless access, eight computer suites and an excellent virtual learning environment."

Seaford College Prep School benefits from being self-contained within the 400-acre Lavington Park estate, but shares all of the main school's excellent facilities, including the purpose-built art and design department, magnificently-equipped music school and first-class sports facilities, including a golf course and all-weather hockey pitch.

Work is due to start shortly on a superb new sports and leisure centre, complete with indoor swimming pool.

Mr Rees said: "I am very excited to be joining the Seaford College Prep School at a time when it is growing and moving forward.

"I have been very impressed by the staff who are already in place and the happy atmosphere of the school, which is a very important factor in children's education."

Mr Rees is married to Gillian and together they have four children – Tim (22), Luke (21), Jess (20) and Nicholas (13).

London-born Mr Rees was educated at Cumnor House Preparatory School in South London and Cranleigh, before reading French and Italian at University College, London.

He spent three years from 1992-95 running a language school in Northern Spain, before returning to England to study for his PGCE at Christ Church College, Canterbury.

Mr Rees coaches U8 and U9 football, rugby and cricket, and, when he's not following his passion for property restoration and DIY, he also enjoys travelling.

## Couple have masterminded a decade of change at school



JULY will mark the end of an era for Richard and Jane Stather (pictured left), who have been in charge of Wilberforce for the past 11 years.

Richard joined Seaford from Scarborough College, North Yorkshire, where he and Jane were in charge of boys' boarding throughout the school. Previously, Richard had been Head of History at Reigate Grammar School. There were just 80 students in Years 6, 7 and 8 in Wilberforce when Richard and Jane joined Seaford in 2001.

With a major building project to add a new classroom, changing room and library undertaken in 2003, and reorganisation to accommodate Years 3-5 three years ago, the couple have masterminded many changes, as the school has

gone from strength to strength.

Wilberforce is now an established prep school with 171 pupils on the roll and Richard became a member of IAPS in 2010.

Jane has been instrumental in this success, either in her organisation of the day to day running of the House or in the meticulous care shown in making the pastoral life of Wilberforce run so smoothly.

Pastoral care has always been their top priority and they are proud to have helped so many young Seafordians set out on the road to a happy and successful school life. Richard said: "Our aim has always been to make pupils enjoy their time in Wilberforce so that every day they look forward to coming to school. Happy pupils are often successful pupils."

Highlights of the school calendar have included the annual Year 8 trip to Normandy every October and the Graduation Dinner for Year 8s in June. Richard and Jane would like to acknowledge the great support they have received from the teaching staff in Wilberforce, and believe that much of Wilberforce's success has been due to the fantastic team effort in school and the wonderful support received from parents over the years.

Richard is stepping down as Head of Wilberforce but will continue to work in the History Department at the College.

He said: "Wilberforce is a very special place and it has been an honour to be associated so closely with its growth and development. I look forward to seeing its continued success."



## Chinese food woks a treat!



CHINESE students at Seaford rolled their sleeves up and got stuck into cooking in the kitchen to give their sixth form friends the chance to try some Chinese food, traditionally eaten at Chinese New Year.

Ella Luo, Wayne Su, Ming Ming Guo, Yang Zhang, Coco Cai, Peter Choi and Jason Kwan slaved into the night in the Food Tech kitchen to prepare more than 200 pork dumplings (dim sum).

These and other Chinese food treats supplied by the Seaford kitchens created a veritable feast for the hungry sixth form, who demolished the lot in ten minutes!

Many thanks to the students and staff who contributed to the success of the event, and special mention goes to Ella, who expertly fried the quality control samples, and Jason Kwan for the most artistic dumpling design!

Later in the term, the EFL department is planning a Central/Eastern European food extravaganza – so watch this space!

## Mixing with the celebs in London



HOUSEMASTER Steve Paxton took all the WGE full-time boarders, as well as Jesse, the gap student, on a day trip to London.

Initially, the boys weren't so keen on seeing wax models in Madame Tussauds, but decided it had been well worth the experience following the visit – and lots of happy snaps were taken with the celebrities! None of the boarders had been to Harrods either, which proved another amazing experience. The sheer size of the department store is one thing – the food hall and variety of goods for sale throughout the store unbelievable!

Mrs Paxton kept everyone fuelled with bacon baps, juice and sweets, and thanks go to both Mr and Mrs Paxton for planning a terrific day.

The boys returned very tired, but very happy and full of their own stories of what an amazing day it had been in the capital.

## Singers soaring in stature



THE singing department at Seaford College has been very busy since the start of the academic year.

The Chapel Choir has sung at many services and concerts, and particularly enjoyed being able to participate in Matt Mattingley's memorial service in February, as he had been such an active member of the Chapel Choir during his 37 years at the college.

The service at St Peter's, Eaton Square was a real triumph in December.

Su Sayer, the Chief Executive of United Response (the charity for whom the concert is given), said: "The choir was wonderful... lots of people said they thought it was the best yet." A huge compliment, given that the choir has sung at the services for years. The choir continues to fill its diary – the next recital is in Bepton Church in May.

Many vocal soloists participated in the Chichester Competitive Music Festival and won first, second and third prizes, including lots of trophies and shields. For a countless number, this was the first time they had competed against other singers out of a school environment, yet all equipped themselves incredibly well and shone.

The Schola Cantorum was invited to sing at Amesbury Arts Festival in March. The 14 students gave a beautiful lunchtime recital and then participated in a 'Come and sing Stainer's Crucifixion' in the afternoon and evening, under the baton of an old Seafordian Giles White.

Head of Choir Sara Reynolds said: "The evening performance was a real triumph, and there were some very beautiful and moving moments." The choir continues to support the

Macmillan Memorial service, held in Easebourne church every six months, to help mourners remember their loved ones who have passed away due to cancer.

Sara said: "This proves to be a very difficult and emotional service, and the singers have had to remain very calm and professional throughout their performances."

Some great singing was heard at the acoustic night earlier this term.

Sara said: "It gives the students much pleasure to delve into more popular music with a live band and the sultry blues, funk and pop heard this night was quite something."

"The level of performance has grown enormously for the singers at the College, whether it be at our weekly lunchtime concerts or larger events."

## Snow may be thin on the ground...



TEN teenagers from Seaford College took to the slopes on a week-long winter ski trip.

Leaving Gatwick bright and early one Sunday morning in December, they enjoyed a short flight to Barcelona before transferring up the slopes to the ski resort of La Massella, in Catalonia.

With a very definite lack of snow at this stage, things were not looking too good...

Fortunately, a few slopes were open and they were able to get things underway fairly quickly.

The Spaniards run their equipment hire and fitting like a military mission

and in no time at all, the boys, led by adventurous training co-ordinator Chris Sayell, were out on the slopes.

The first day was spent assessing how well the students could ski – looking at their abilities, rather than their ambitions!

After this, the team divided into two groups – seven students were declared intermediate and advanced, while the other three were confirmed novices and kept on the appropriate slopes for the first two days.

However, they progressed well with help of their well-trained and experienced ski instructor, who put them through some very good skiing practices, despite

the shortage of snow.

More slopes were open by days three, four and five and the students got a great deal of enjoyment from skiing on a good selection and grade of slopes.

By the end of the week, all students had improved their skiing and had lots of fun.

After a hard day on the piste, the students were happy to return to their hotel, where they enjoyed buffet-style meals. The rooms were good and there was a fitness suite and swimming pool, cinema and table tennis to keep them occupied.

Plans are now underway for a similar trip at the end of 2012.

# Touchdown at historic Twickenham



YEAR 9 students had a taste of the thrills and spills that are Twickenham when former Scots international Bill Cuthbertson took them to watch the 130th annual Oxford vs Cambridge Varsity rugby match.

They travelled to Twickenham by coach and enjoyed hot soup and a bacon sandwich before watching the game.

Needless to say, the day was enjoyed by all, and students and staff contributed noisily to the excellent atmosphere within the ground. Oxford won 28-10.

## Saddle up... polo is here now

SEAFORD College has joined the ranks of the elite, after putting together its own polo team.

The team, competing against the likes of Eton, Harrow, Stowe and Cheltenham, played their first match against Wellington College – and beat a strong team on their home turf, at Ash Farm, Berkshire.

Seaford finished as strongly as they started, with some great play from all players. Captain Cody Jones scored 5 goals as Seaford came out 11-5 winners.

Unfortunately, a combination of poor weather and other sports commitments meant they missed out on games against Radley, Eton and Cheltenham later in the season, as well as the Senior Schools Arena finals.

However, they did play a second game against the National Schools champions, Stowe. Seaford battled hard and came very close – losing 11-9.

With a number of promising players including Cody, Robert Denman, Daniel Batchelor and Perry Pearson, Seaford students had been wanting to organise a team for a number of years, but never really had anyone with the skill and expertise to organise it. Now, thanks to Matthew Pitteway, who previously managed the polo team at Stowe, the College has been able to add yet another string to its sporting bow!



## Animal instincts

WHEN George Orwell wrote Animal Farm, the world was in the depths of war. It seemed to him that all his hopes for humanity would never be realised; the poor would remain exploited, pawns in conflicts they could not control, with democracy giving way to the requirements of fulfilling war aims.

The world today is a very different place. Or is it?

Much of Orwell's social commentary stands true in parts of the world today – which students from Seaford College portrayed as they took to the stage in a vibrant and suitably 'animated' production of the classic fairy story-cum-nightmare. Scott Boarer starred in the principal role



of The Boy with Max Jukes, Freddie Miller and Will Norton as the three prominent pigs – Napoleon, Squealer and Boxer – while Alex Cornelius took the part of the farmer (when he wasn't doubling up as a sheep).

Other sheep were portrayed by Jenevra Glavin, Ouli Jagne and Ollie Whitehouse.

Staff and students worked together to produce a brilliant set for the three-day production, with Brendan Murphy masterminding the art work and Patrick Robinson in charge of building the set.

Paul Griffin and Sebastian Money operated lights and sound.

Head of Drama Dr Jane Askew said: "Animal Farm is an allegory of European

history through much of the 20th century and the students rose to the challenge like the proverbial ducks to water.

"It was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Well done students!"

## Young teachers enjoy passing on IT skills

YOUNG people at Seaford College have been helping some of the area's more senior citizens get to grips with the mysteries of the internet.

In a session dubbed 'IT in the afternoon', year 10 students undertook a volunteer project to introduce a group of 'silversurfers' to some basic ICT and technology skills.

The silversurfers came into school each Wednesday afternoon for five weeks, when they learned a whole range of useful skills, thanks to the enthusiasm of the young people.

While nervous at first, the pupils' confidence as teachers grew, as did the silversurfers' confidence in tackling ICT.

By week five, the group had imported CD tracks onto an MP3 player, learned how to send text messages, set up internet and email accounts, and shown the basics of using office programmes, including Word, Excel, Publisher and PowerPoint.

The pupils, the silversurfers, outset volunteer Jane Pearce and PHSE teacher Penny Kittle thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and all the pupils who took part will be awarded with their 10-hour Volunteering Certificate in school assembly.

Once again, Seaford students were complimented on their manners and behaviour.

## Students go urban on field trip of contrasts

A GROUP of 17 L6 geography students enjoyed a two-day field trip to Cambridge and East London as part of their coursework on urban management.

On the first day, they studied the urban sectors of Cambridge and its urban management. This included viewing the famous Cambridge universities, the universities' large science park and the three large parks located in the centre of the city.

Students had to investigate land use and worked in four groups, one covering each of the four town transects, studying residential, commercial and industrial development, as well as the age of the buildings, from Victorian and post-war to the present day.

After a game of bowling and a night spent in a youth hostel, the group travelled to East London and the area around Stratford, home to the Olympic village, to look at urban redevelopment.

They visited the location used for filming Stanley Kubrick's legendary Full Metal Jacket – an abandoned gasworks.

The newly-assembled modern structures were a complete contrast to Cambridge. However, while redevelopment for the surrounding area obviously brings benefits to its economy, the argument of whether the Games would be nationally beneficial was raised – and will the advantages outweigh the disadvantages in the longer term?

## Leading from the front

COLLEGE chaplain Rev'd Steve Gray, and 20 students and staff, are running relay stages of The South Downs Marathon on Saturday June 9, to raise money for the College Chapel (St Peter's).

The tiny chapel is in need of a little 'TLC' to restore it to its former glory. Donations are always welcome, but Rev'd Gray has arranged a couple of initiatives, in the hope of spurring students' families and friends into action. Ever keen to lead by example, he is hoping to run the entire marathon himself!

Cheques can be made out to Seaford College – but please specify on the back that the donation is for the chapel. Alternatively, you can sponsor Steve and the team for the marathon online at: [Justgiving.com/SchoolChapelMarathon](http://Justgiving.com/SchoolChapelMarathon)

## Steady flow of cash

THE boys from Walled Garden East Boarding House have decided to make a monthly donation to two local charities.

The idea is that the charities can rely on a steady income rather than receiving the occasional lump sum.

The boys also hope to help out as volunteers with their chosen charities and, with this in mind, chose the Brent Lodge Bird and Wildlife Centre, near Chichester, and the Adopt a Snow Leopard from the WWF website.

The boys are hoping to volunteer at the Brent Lodge Hospital, where the money they donate every month will help the animals being treated there.

The Snow Leopard adoption pack has now arrived and the boys are hopeful that their contributions will help these splendid creatures avoid becoming extinct.

## Art students get very animated

SEAFORD College Art Department has a number of young animators amongst its GCSE and A-level candidates.

Using the same software that Aardman uses for Wallace and Gromit, youngsters can now create their own stop-frame animations.

Last year, Millie Elwes finished a piece that she successfully used as part of her AS course, and this year a number of GCSE candidates are making short animated films as part of their portfolios.

Not only do they have to film the short scene, they also have to go through a lengthy design process to make the characters, and the set, whilst experimenting with the movements to make them convincing.

A couple of early efforts can be seen at the following links: Will Strivens – DUTCH COURAGE [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nw1KpUzh\\_kg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nw1KpUzh_kg) Ben Leonard – MISERABLE LES <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nplV4x4Ryg&feature=channel>

## 'Dead' language is 100 per cent alive and well!



WHOEVER said that Latin was a language 'as dead as dead can be' had clearly never visited Seaford College.

Students studying the classics have notched up some stupendous results in their recent exams.

Sara Carr and Ollie Lawes both achieved A\* (93% and 90% respectively) in their GCSE Latin language unit, while Emily Iin (pictured left) got 100% in her Classical Civilisation A-level first unit in Greek and Roman Comedy – a resounding not-to-be-beaten A grade!

Emily is taking both her AS and A2 in

one year and, even more impressive, is the fact that all three students are working with Classics teacher Tim Farmer outside the normal school curriculum, in an after-school slot.

Mr Farmer said: "The staff and the students are naturally delighted with these excellent results. They are justly deserved and are hopefully something for other students to aspire to. Well done all!"

Emily, who is one of the college's overseas HMC students, hopes to study Ancient History at King's College, London, from September.

## Borneo to be wild

SEVEN Seaford students will soon be packing their bags for an adventure of a lifetime.

Georgia Barden, Jack Ghinn, Tilly Gurney, Abigail Hansford, James King, Alexander Watts and James Watts have been busy raising money for over a year to help fund their trip to Borneo.

The students leave the UK on July 16, returning a month later on August 12.

They have raised almost £3,500 with a variety of fundraising activities, including a sponsored walk up the three peaks, a clothes sale, and selling unwanted CDs and DVDs on the internet.

## Tough tests add up to awards for maths students

AT the end of last term, seven candidates were entered into the Senior UK Mathematics Challenge – a very tough test indeed!

From Y12, Profir Partachi, Katerina Zahradova and Tessa Brumder took part, while from Y13, we had Ella Luo, Samual Suchal, Marco Lei and Wayne Su.

Katerina won a bronze award while Profir attained Gold and went through to the Senior Kangaroo Round. In this, Profir scored 40/100, against a UK average of 25/100, exceeding the mean by 15 points – a very commendable achievement.

Earlier this term, 13 candidates were entered for the Intermediate UK Maths Challenge, and they notched up a fine clutch of awards as follows:

Y11 – Georgia Barden (Bronze), Tilly Gurney.

Y10 – Oliver Lawes (Silver), Jack Shawpethers (Bronze), Robert Cogbill (Bronze), Dirk Teepe (Bronze), Dan Jones (Bronze), Harry Leleu (Bronze), Charlie Barnett.

Y9 – Alex Hodson (Gold), Emma Brown (bronze), Sven Teepe, and Freddie Miller.

Alex Hodson, who achieved Gold, now goes through to the next round – Intermediate Kangaroo.

Head of Mathematics Steve Kettlewell said: "I would like to thank all those who participated, representing both themselves and Seaford College. Special congratulations go to both Profir Partachi and Alex Hodson for achieving Gold and going through to their respective next rounds. A great achievement."



## There's no sign of cracking on the Rock!

THE pre-season sporting trip to Gibraltar was 'cool' – in more ways than one . . .

A squad of 22 pupils aged 14-18 took part and the camp was set up in exactly the same way as it would be for an international team preparing for a world cup.

This meant a morning wake-up call at 6.30am with a time trial of 1500m then breakfast; one and a half hours of study; a two-hour training/circuit session on the Astro; lunch; followed by match analysis and match preparation; a match vs an international U18 team; then straight into an ice bath with rest and dinner to follow; finally ending the night with a video analysis of the game and day summary.

This happened on three of the five days of the tour. On the other two, the players had a dolphin viewing trip into the bay and a morning of exploring the famous Rock.

The ice baths were a particular shock to the system for many!

In five days, the 1st team played five games, winning three

and losing two. The latter were against mens' teams that are 1st and 2nd in their league!

The results were less important than the team preparation for the season ahead, so the players were put through their paces tactically, technically and fitness-wise.

The tour was a great success and the players were able to look back by the end of term and see how the pre-season training had impacted on their later games.

While the boys were busy with their hockey sticks, 13 girls were receiving quality netball coaching from the Gibraltar International coaches, which developed their skills in a range of areas. They played three matches and the girls looked very professional in their matching dresses and T-shirts, showing the U17 Gibraltar national team that they meant business.

Coach Steve Paxton, who has played internationally, said: "Gibraltar has brilliant facilities and this was an experience of a lifetime for all the students. The training they received clearly paid dividends back at school."



TOUGH REGIME: Training in Gibraltar pays off during the season

# Harry's always in a hurry!

HARRY Leleu is shaping up to be the fastest thing on two legs to have run out of Seaford for many a year. Harry, who is in Year 10, is smashing records right, left – and centre – as he steams into yet another successful season on the track.

But it's not just his running that's keeping him ahead of the field. He's also proving a fierce contender in triathlon, and showed his skills in the water as well as on the track at the Tuff Fitty Aquathlon in Littlehampton last month.

The Aquathlon consisted of a 400m swim and a

5k run which saw Harry win a close-fought race to create a new record.

Harry, who is a member of Chichester Westgate Triathlon Club and trains six days a week, has a busy triathlon season ahead and will compete in the Youth National Super Series.

The young runner ended the Michaelmas term by winning the West Sussex West Intermediate boys' cross country, held at Bishop Luffa, with more than half a minute to spare. Tara Bage also put Seaford's name in the frame by coming second in

the junior girls' race.

Harry was again among the Seaford clan who made their mark on the testing Lancing Manor course. Here, not only were there individual and team medals at stake, but places in the Sussex teams for the English Schools Championships being held at Taunton.

Harry had the best finishing position, with a fine second place in the intermediate boys' race, losing out to the same Brighton Phoenix runner who took gold in the Sussex club championships

two weeks earlier.

There were some excellent performances in the junior girls' race, with Tara Bage coming in at 17th place.

In this year's Chichester Corporate Challenge, a three-night series running through February and March, Harry was again a front-runner in the schools' races. In what was described as "the highlight of the secondary races", Harry ran all out to claim the Y10 boys' record to add to the Y9 mark he set last year.



Hooking up with Jonny

A ONCE-in-a-lifetime opportunity to train with England fly-half Jonny Wilkinson was the highlight of a thrilling rugby tour to Toulon by Seaford's U16 team.

During their short tour the temperature reached a staggering 18 degrees! This allowed two evening matches to be played. The first game was against Pays Six Fournais, on the day of arrival. Despite a slow start, the team gradually settled and played some exciting rugby.

The game was lost 35-28 but the team were tired after a day's travelling. Alfie Renwick was declared man of the match, having scored four tries. The second match, a couple of days later, was against RC Ollioulais which was won 28-10.

The hospitality from both opposing teams was excellent, lavishing our team with gifts and items of clothing as souvenirs.

The team were delighted to have a private training session with Jonny Wilkinson (pictured above) and Tom Whitford. This included handling drills, attacking play and a game of touch at the end, in which Jonny joined in!

On the final afternoon the squad watched Toulon train, where they met many other famous players including Steffon Armitage, Simon Shaw and Matt Giteau. The team also managed to have a tour of Stade Felix Mayol and watched an evening match of Toulon vs Agen.

## More youngsters are swinging towards golf

MORE and more pupils at Seaford are choosing golf coaching as their preferred sporting option, as the course and range continue to improve.

Work has been taking place over the winter as part of the long-term plan to keep Seaford College Golf Academy as one of the best school facilities in the country.

New tees have been added to the nine-hole course in readiness for the summer, as well as work to make the course a little more challenging around the greens.

There are 23 golf matches taking place this term across the senior and preparatory schools, and individual invitations to compete at other schools.

The Academy has a very active members section. They hold a Monday night 'roll-up' where up to 20 members gather at 6pm to go out and play. Accurate results are kept and the member with the best five scores over a 22-week period is the winner.

Membership is available, subject to approval, to staff and close family members, parents and pupils. The annual fee is £60 for staff and pupils, and £150 for parents and Friends of Seaford.

● Further details can be obtained from Seaford's golf 'guru' Neil Macfarlane on 07770 378970 or nmacfarlane@seaford.org

## Racking up the points on the rugby field

LAST term's rugby report sadly went AWOL before it reached Park Life.

However, the news was so good that we decided it shouldn't be allowed to get away, so it's reproduced here – better late than never, as the saying goes.

It was a short but very busy Autumn term for Seaford Rugby, with over 70 matches played, recording many more wins than losses.

The 1st XV were the strongest for several years, playing some exciting rugby and scoring some spectacular tries from all over the field.

The most impressive displays were the 89-0 win against Ryde IOW, the 44-0 win against Glyn School, Ewell, and the 40-6 win against Hampshire Collegiate.

Ollie McCullough captained the 1st XV well and also gained player of the season, always giving 100 per cent and making some thunderous tackles.

Lee Reilly and Oli White-Smith were most improved players of the 1st XV, both lower sixth pupils who will look to take the team forward next year.

Josh Cowell and Callum Monks also impressed with attacking flair and creativity to haunt opposition defences.

The 2nd XV were ably led by Ali Kent, with the side growing in confidence with every game. With a small squad and a few injuries, it was always going to be tough but despite this, they won some close games against Hurtwood House, Dorking, and Bearwood College, Wokingham.

The U16s continued their form from last year and produced some excellent results, winning 7 and only losing 3, with their best performances coming against St Johns School, Leatherhead, and Worth

School.

Ben Haynes and Alfie Renwick shone in the team and will hopefully be pushing for 1st XV places next season.

The U15 year group was the most successful of the season, with the A team winning 10 and losing just 2, whilst the B team won 4 and only lost 1. Both squads worked hard in training and developed their skills considerably, showing maturity and the desire to win matches. A good squad ethos allowed huge wins against London Freemans, St Johns and Christs Hospital.

In the A team, several members reached the county squad: Byron Clark (prop), Harry Marchant (flanker) and Harry Collins (fly half). These three, along with the rest of the squad, were a formidable attacking force, whilst also being sound in defence.

The U15s had a points difference of +254 which is highly commendable.

The U14s results were inconsistent, but when on form played exciting rugby. With many new pupils coming into the school, it was not until after half term that the team really gelled together and this led to good wins against Churchers and Weald, which should boost confidence for next year.

Jasper Brazier was player of the season, showing determination to make tackles, turn over the ball and attack to the best of his ability.

Thanks also go to all the coaches and referees for the season – Antony Cook and John Green (1st XV), James Rollinson (2nd XV), Jon Thompson (U16s), Jon Smedley, Matthew Hawes and Chris Kulin (U15s) and Bill Cuthbertson, Dominic Barnes and Paul Griffin (U14s).

## All the netball teams triumph on several fronts in a tough season

IT has been an excellent season for Seaford College netball teams. All the girls who represented the school have shown impressive levels of sportsmanship, teamwork and determination.

The first team worked extremely hard this season, developing some new tactics and putting them to good use during some tough matches. The season highlights included beating Bedales (18-8), Hampshire Collegiate (18-14) and Charterhouse (26-13). Every lost match was only by a few goals, meaning that we are now competing

with some of the largest schools in the region.

Although there was little consistency of players at the start of the season, the second team girls worked hard in training and matches, and began to gel. They had excellent wins against Bedales (17-11) and Charterhouse (21-20). They also had a close win against Hampshire Collegiate 1st Team (11-10), a result that was well deserved. This year's second team has been one of the most successful second teams to represent our school.

The 15As had a very successful season, winning

the majority of their matches and improving together as a team throughout the term. They were defensively solid and made attacking play look so easy against some strong schools. Their determination cannot be faulted and they were the most successful netball team of the season.

The 15Bs too had a successful season, proving to be one of the more successful B teams that have represented the school recently. They won many of their matches and evolved as a team throughout the season.

This was a good season for the 14A team, with many successful wins to take away. They developed their skills throughout the term and have a very promising future ahead. They were consistently good in both attack and defence, with excellent shooting under pressure.

The 14Bs had some difficult fixtures, but endeavoured to work hard as a team, and came away with some promising performances. They were defensively excellent throughout matches and persisted to work co-operatively in attack.