

TS Mercury

10th October 2000 - Roy Underdown Pavilion

Question! Who used to be called by a number rather than a name, and went barefoot summer and winter? The answer is "a TS Mercury Cadet". On 10th October, David Muffet told us the history of the school and gave us a fascinating account of his experience there. A tough regime. A ship with scarcely any heating, waking in winter to find condensation dripping from the roof and ice on the deck. Days which started at 0600 with a bugle call, then they 'cleaned ship' and rowed ashore for a shower. Not surprising that some boys ran away! But David also described the brighter side. The summers spent sailing cutters, the success of the band and rugby team, the camaraderie. A talk which was full of interest, sprinkled with humour, and which was thoroughly enjoyed by a capacity audience.