



Upper Sixth A Level Drama & Theatre Exam Performances




On Wednesday 19 and Thursday 20 January, Upper Sixth A Level Drama and Theatre Studies pupils performed their scripted exam pieces to an appreciative audience of Parents, Staff, and Stoics in the Dobinson Studio.




Abi Roberts (West) and Izzy Prothero (Lyttelton) gave a compelling performance of an extract from 'People, Places, and Things' by Duncan Macmillan; an intoxicating play about surviving in the modern world. Emma, played with insightful precision by Izzy, is in rehab for addiction, but she can't see the point. Abi performed the role of the doctor with a measured superiority, her moments of hesitation and self-doubt particularly convincing, allowing us to contemplate Macmillan's message about survival in a contradictory world.



Set in a Sussex Downs school in 1962, Hare's play draws from his first-hand experience at Lancing College, depicting boarding school life from the pupils' viewpoint. In particular, 14-year-old John Blakemore, sensitively played by Freddie Kelly-Greaves (Winton). Isolated by class (his father is a sailor and they live in a semi-detached house), Kelly-Greaves elicited sympathy from the audience as he is rejected and struggles to play by the unspoken rules. Ed Mercer, (Fourth Form, Grafton), reading in for Alfie Darling as Jenkins, offered an exceptionally intuitive and well-drawn performance of a public-school boy who only knows privilege and is therefore, inadvertently cruel to Blakemore.



Finn Tyson (Winton) multi-rolled as Housemaster Dewley and Classics Teacher Sprule. Both fail to engage with the pulse of the 60s generation of young men they have in their care, and Tyson's frequent bamboozled expression at the efforts of the boys is hilarious. Robin Vane-Tempest Stewart (Chatham) gave a truly stellar performance as Duffield, a magnificent Prefect who takes Blakemore under his wing, offering him a lifeline and advice on how to survive. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the comedy Sam Stephens-Liddell (Grenville), a consummate actor, brought to bully, Gunter through his languid physicality, plaintive tones and typical imbecilic school-boy behaviour.



In 'The Memory of Water' by Shelagh Stephenson, Cailtin Gilmore (Cheshire), Amalie Mager (Lyttelton) and Cordelia Supple (West) are animated in their portrayal of Teresa, Mary and Catherine, taking command of the chaotic stage set which, akin to Tracy Emin's 'My Bed', reflects their fractured relationship and state of mind. Documenting the eve of their mother's funeral, the role of Catherine, is played brilliantly by Cordelia, who captures the youthful, self-centred and spoilt nature of the youngest child, whilst engendering our sympathies through moments of poignancy. Amalie as Mary is hilarious, sarcastic, dry and acerbic as she suffers the frustration of managing Teresa's fractured mental state, portrayed with a nervy fragility by Gilmore.

Rebecca Clark, Director of Drama



New Head for Winchester House School

The Stowe Group is celebrating the arrival of the new Head of Winchester House School, Antonia Lee.

Antonia joins us from St Helen's School, London, where she was Head of the 490-strong Prep School and sat on the Executive Team for the Prep and Senior Schools. Having read Geography at St Hugh's College, Oxford, Antonia completed her teacher training at Homerton College, Cambridge, and has since gone on to teach 3 to 18-year olds

in all-boys, all-girls and co-educational schools across her career.

Antonia has an adult son and a daughter who are both at university. She is a keen sports fan (particularly cricket, rugby, tennis and athletics), an amateur artist, theatre goer, rambler and skier.

We would like to welcome Antonia to Winchester House and The Stowe Group community and wish her huge success and happiness in her new role.





MUSIC

Conservatoire Success

It is a challenge for any school to have a pupil win a place at a prestigious music conservatoire but to have four pupils attain such an achievement from the same school in a single academic year is practically unheard of, yet this is exactly what four of our standout musicians have managed to do in the recent audition season.

Audrey Au (Lyttelton 20) who is currently on a Gap Year has been accepted to study Violin at the Royal Academy of Music in London. The Royal Academy is the oldest music college in the UK and has an enviable reputation worldwide.

Jeffrey Au (Walpole 19), who is at the moment working with us as a Gap Year Assistant, will be taking up a place with scholarship to study Piano at the Royal College of Music in

London, currently ranked top conservatoire in Europe.

Abigail Roberts (Upper Sixth, West) will study Violin at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance, an institution that counts many notable musicians and dancers amongst its alumni.

Last, but certainly not least, Jessica Foxwell (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) has accepted a place to study Flute at the world-renowned Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

These exceptional achievements by all four pupils are a result of significant dedication and commitment on their part, and we are extremely proud of what they have accomplished!

Craig Greene, Director of Music



LAMDA

LAMDA Candidates Receive Excellent Results

On Thursday 18 November 2021, eight of Stowe's LAMDA pupils took Level 3 Performance exams in front of a visiting Examiner from LAMDA. This was a much-anticipated opportunity, which had been postponed twice due to Covid-19 restrictions. The candidates were on excellent form on the day, each performing two or three pieces and achieving some fine results.

Sam Stephens-Liddell (Upper Sixth, Grenville) and Delia Supple (Upper Sixth, West) passed Grade 8 Solo Acting, both with Distinction.

Wednesday Zhu (Upper Sixth, West) received a Distinction for Grade 5 Solo Acting.

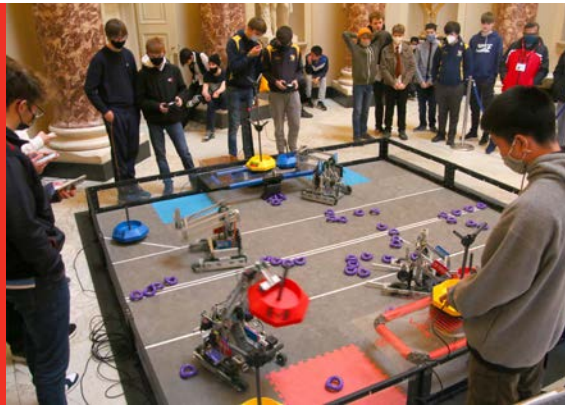
Three of Nugent's Fifth Form achieved Grade 7 Solo Acting: Sophie Lloyd (Distinction), Jemima Pearson-Gee (Merit) and Sophia Beglin (Merit).

Finally, Araminta Orchard and Gwen Grovit (both Fourth Form, Nugent) took Grade 6 Acting as a duologue pair and received a Merit.

Many congratulations are due to all of them, for their extremely hard work and excellent performances.

Deborah Coldstream, LAMDA Teacher

ROBOTICS



On Wednesday 19 January, Stowe hosted a VEX Robotics Regional Competition with 16 teams from various schools attending to complete in this year's VEX game.

The VEX Robotics Competition is an international competition for high school students (Fourth Form to Upper Sixth) that culminates in a huge World Final event in America. The game involves collecting and scoring objects in specific locations within a 12' x 12' square field, in a timed match with two versus two pairings of robots.

Through the 32 qualification matches our most senior member, Ben Li (Upper Sixth, Cobham), finished with his robot ranked first. He then got to pick his partner to go into the playoffs and won through to the Final beating a pairing of two other Stowe teams on the way.

The Final was close, with Ben's alliance with a Queen Elizabeth School team, winning 66 to 61.

Ben's success should now see him qualify for the National Finals and possibly a shot at the World Finals.

Our second team of Lower Sixth pupils should also have a



good chance of qualifying for Nationals as they are still ranked fourth in the UK for the skills aspects of the competition; where students' robots run the game solo, scoring as much as they can in one minute, once controlled and once fully autonomous.

It has been great getting back to face-to-face competitions and the visiting schools very much appreciated the Stowe event and enjoyed the day. Thanks also go to three Old Stoics for coming back to help run the event today: Crispin Marshall-Rowan (Walpole 21), Josh Brown (Winton 21) and Adam Twining (Temple 21).

Paul Thompson, Head of Physics



Drama

Drama Workshop with Dominic Selvey

On Wednesday 5 January, the Sixth Form Drama pupils were treated to a workshop and Q&A with Old Stoic Dominic Selvey (Chandos 20). Dom is currently studying at the prestigious Royal Birmingham Conservatoire.

He took the pupils through a range of engaging practical exercises, including the Exploration of Laban Efforts and Actioning. The former is a way of exploring human intention through movement types. The latter is a technique inspired by the theories of Stanislavski and developed by practitioners such as Max Stafford Clark, which helps actors clarify their characters' objectives by exploring their motivation line by line.

Our pupils follow the rehearsal strategies of Stafford Clark in their A Level scripted work, so it was a very useful opportunity to get hands on with these techniques, spark interest and deepen understanding.

After the practical workshop, Dom spoke to the group about his own experiences of applying to, and studying at Drama School. The pupils asked a range of pertinent questions and were thrilled to gain insight into the audition process and the rigorous day-to-day routine when training to become an actor.

This year we have many Sixth Formers keen to follow in Dom's footsteps and pursue their Drama interests at both university and Drama School; the evening was therefore both inspiring and informative.

Lucy Miller, Drama Department



Netball



It has been a great start to the term for Netball at Stowe.

In the fixtures against Repton on Saturday 8 January, our 1st VII won their match 33-16 and the 2nds also had a comfortably win 30-16. The 3rds and 4ths had very tight games which just went to Repton, but by only two goals in the end; a fantastic start to the league.

On Wednesday 12 January, the U15s won their Quarter Final Cup match against the reigning champions, Godolphin and Latymer, 27-26. They then followed this up with an emphatic 49-5 win against Rugby, with the U15Bs and Cs also winning on Saturday 15 January in the away block.

The Seniors put four teams out against Rugby and all of them came away with victories, many of them by just small margins, which makes them even more enjoyable. Stowe managed nine wins against Rugby out of the 12 matches played.

North Bucks County Champions

Congratulations to both the 1st VII and U16s who played in the North Bucks County tournament on Sunday 16 January and were unbeaten on the day. This resulted in both teams being crowned as North Bucks County Champions in their age groups.

They now progress to the Regional competition to be held in Southampton for the weekend of 29-30 January.

Roses Invitation

Congratulations to Izzy Kaye (Fifth Form, Cheshire) who has been invited to train at an England Roses Netball camp over Exeat. Izzy plays Academy Netball for Wasps along with Phoebe Haynes (Fifth Form, Cheshire) and Lottie Moffat (Fifth Form, Nugent).

Move to the Midlands League

For the Spring 2022 season the Stowe Sports Department made the bold move to join the Midlands Sports League and take on schools which have very strong reputations in hockey, netball and football, these include; Uppingham, Rugby, Oundle, Bromsgrove, Oakham, Repton and Stamford.

Football

The Senior Football 1st team ended with a 1-1 draw away against Bromsgrove on Saturday 8 January, the 2nd team lost their game but will regroup after having been badly affected by illnesses.

Rugby

In rugby, we congratulate the following who are currently playing for U18 sides in the Academy League. Jamie Annand (Upper Sixth, Temple) plays for Wasps, Will Plessis (Lower Sixth, Grenville) plays for Welsh team The Scarlets, and Archie MacParland (Lower Sixth, Temple), Henry Pollock (Lower Sixth, Grafton) and Ewen Baker (Lower Sixth, Chatham) have all played for Northampton Saints.



Lacrosse

It has been a fantastic start for lacrosse this term, with teams travelling to Marlborough on the first Saturday (8 January) of the year. Stowe won the block, five games to two, with stand out performances from the 15A and 14A teams as they won by comfortable margins.

It was also the first opportunity for many in the 14B team to play their first game of lacrosse. They trailed for three quarters but finally won 7-5.

On Saturday 15 January, Stowe hosted St Albans and Uppingham Schools in a triangular fixture, in the first home matches of 2022. There were two comfortable wins for the 1st and 2nds, and a hotly contested game for the 3rd X finishing 6-6.

Rob Ingham-Clark, Head of Lacrosse

SWIMMING

Well done to the Stoics who competed in the County Championships 800m freestyle on Saturday 8 January. The results were:

Mens' Open Category: Angus Kennedy (Lower Sixth, Temple) 9:32.84 placed 12th.

Ladies' Open Category: Charlotte Hall (Third Form, Cheshire) 10:06.69 placed 11th, Larissa Campbell (Lower Sixth, Nugent) 10:38.95 placed 28th and Hannah Campbell (Third Form, Nugent) 10:44.46 placed 32nd.

Cheryl Davis, Head of Swimming

MUSIC at Stowe

We are delighted to write to you with details of our planned musical programme for the Lent Term 2022. The term is action packed with a wide variety of musical offerings to suit all tastes and we hope that you will want to join us for many of these. Please note that all evening concerts start at 7:30pm.

The Lunchtime Concert series continues apace with another three chances (Thursdays 3 February, 24 February, and 17 March, at 1pm with soup served from 12:30pm in the Marble Hall) to enjoy an eclectic mix of music performed by pupils from across The Stowe Group. Do join us for any number of these exciting events in the magnificent State Music Room.

Our first evening concert of the year sees Director of Music, Craig Greene, present a programme of Piano music on Wednesday 2 February. The recital will feature works by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Grieg.

The following week on Thursday 10 February, Stowe's Chapel Choir & Chamber Choir present an evening of fabulous choral music featuring a wide array of musical styles and genres. Solo turns from a number of our finest vocalists will add additional panache to the concert.

After the Half Term break, recent Stowe graduate Audrey Au (Lyttelton 20) presents a Violin Recital on Wednesday 23 February, featuring music by Beethoven, Bach, Sibelius, & Shostakovich. Accompanying will be Audrey's brother Jeffrey (Walpole 19) who is set to become a scholar at the Royal College of Music. Audrey herself is due to take up a place at the Royal Academy of Music in September so do come and witness two future stars of the musical world!

A little later in the term on Wednesday 2 March, Stowe's dynamic team of Music Scholars and Exhibitioners take to the stage in a collection of solo and group performances.

On Saturday 5 March, Stowe's professional orchestra in residence, the Stowe Sinfonietta, presents a programme of fine music from the high classical era coupled with Strauss' notoriously challenging Oboe Concerto. Head of Instrumental Studies, Katie Potts will display her full range of technical skill and musicality in what promises to be a pulsating performance. Don't miss this great opportunity to hear an incredible exponent of such a beautiful and magnificent instrument.

The following week features a keyboard extravaganza on Wednesday 9 March. The evening will showcase a huge variety of repertoire – from solos

and duets, to multi-piano arrangements of famous themes, there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

Internationally renowned soprano, Rachel Nichols, visits Stowe on Wednesday 16 March to deliver a masterclass and perform a recital of song and opera from across the ages. Sharing the stage with Rachel will be none other than Stowe's Choral Director, Jonathan Kingston, as they steer us through an eclectic programme of music.

Later that week, starting at 2pm on Sunday 20 March, Stowe's elite musicians will compete for the School's most prestigious music prize, the Mozart Trio Prize. Come along to hear an array of dazzling displays from the very best pupils attending Stowe today.

The musical term will conclude with a concert on Wednesday 23 March featuring Stowe's large ensembles as they take to the stage to showcase their work from across the term. Expect to hear delights from Big Band, Wind Band, Bassoon Ensemble, Chamber Choir and String Orchestra.

All of the concerts outlined above are free of charge and we would love to see many of you in attendance. Tickets for all events can now be booked by visiting [Music Events at Stowe School, Buckingham | TicketSource!](#)

The Stowe Music Department



Behind the Scenes - Oliver!

2022 kicked off with a premiere and the release of the film of our Behind the Scenes footage of the Michaelmas Term performance of Oliver! The film, created by Old Stoic Will Berner (Chatham 11) shows never seen before footage of the making of Oliver!

[Watch the film here.](#)

#BackingNoah

Painting Auction

Last Summer, Keith Jansz very generously offered his painting of 'Sports Day at Stowe' for an auction to raise funds for the #BackingNoah campaign.

The canvas was painted by Keith, a tetraplegic who lost the use of his hands and legs, and was paralysed from the neck down, in a tragic road accident in 1995.

An active sportsman before his accident, Keith turned to painting after his wife Cindy arranged a meeting with the mouth artist Trevor Wells, who persuaded Keith to try painting by holding a brush in his mouth. Despite disastrous early efforts Keith persevered and in 1998 he was accepted as a Student Artist by the international self-help organisation, the Mouth & Foot Painting Artists.

Keith now holds exhibitions of his incredible work which attract great interest and admiration, and his paintings are sold as reproductions worldwide. His work is full of light and colour, but above all else it is full of joy.

'The Mouth & Foot Painting Artists has opened the door to an exciting new career, one that I could never have imagined in the dark days following my injury. My work has been published around the world, I have travelled extensively, met incredible people and, most importantly, I have regained my self-esteem.'

Keith Jansz

On Friday 10 December, the presentation of the painting to Stowe parents, Mr Walter Maxwell and Mrs Lynn Maxwell, who made the very generous winning bid in aid of #BackingNoah, took place in the Blue Room. Artist Keith and his wife Cindy, the Maxwells and the Cosby family had the chance to talk about the painting, Keith's work, Noah's rehabilitation, his art studies and the fundraising campaign.

Huge thanks go to Mr and Mrs Jansz and Mr and Mrs Maxwell for supporting the #backingnoah fundraising campaign.



Member of the Mouth & Foot Painting Artists



COMPLEX PROBLEM SOLVING STOWE ED 2022

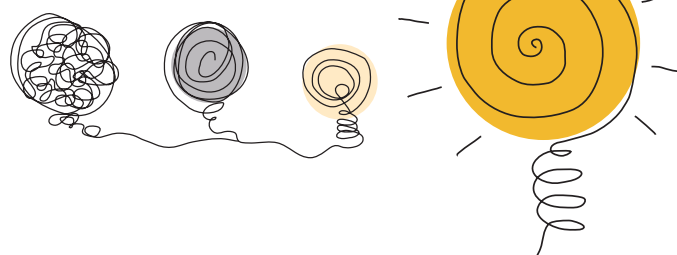
StoweEd is an annual training event run for Teachers and Support Staff within The Stowe Group. A wider invitation is also extended to staff in other school settings. Normally run in person at Stowe, it was cancelled last year due to Covid-19, and this year's restrictions again meant a change to the conference with it being moved last minute online on Tuesday 5 January.

The 2022 StoweEd theme was Complex Problem Solving. Schools must equip pupils to thrive in a fast moving and ever-changing world. Pupils need to be prepared for jobs that don't yet exist, using technology which hasn't been invented and to solve problems that haven't yet been thought about. There is a need to teach pupils how to collaborate, to solve problems, to think critically and to reflect.

During the day, there were talks by two keynote speakers. The first, Bradley Busch is the Director of InnerDrive which runs workshops to help students develop a successful mindset and perform under pressure. Bradley has worked with Premiership footballers and athletes from Team GB. He is one of the leading experts on how psychological research can best help students and teachers.

The second Speaker was Alex Beard, originally a teacher in a London comprehensive, Alex joined Teach For All, a worldwide network of independent organisations to ensure that all children fulfil their potential. He now heads their Global Learning Lab. He wrote and presented "The Learning Revolution", a three-part series on the future of education for BBC Radio 4, and is the author of "Natural Born Learners", a guide to transforming learning in the 21st-century.

Breakout sessions, which were appropriate for staff in both primary and secondary school settings, focused on how to teach our pupils complex problem-solving skills, and to help teach skills for problem solving that staff may need in their roles and their lives!





ROWING

Rowing has got off to a good start in the first weeks of the Lent Term, with the Stoics cheerfully getting on with their boating. Although the depths of winter with temperatures dropping close to freezing are not the most inviting time to get on the water, we have had many good rowing sessions. Indeed, we've even had some bright sunny days, so we've taken advantage of these to be out as much as possible.

This is particularly important for our beginners, who are trying to learn a completely new set of skills and need to get a feel for the water. A number of our experienced rowers have taken our novices out in crew boats to help them learn, in an easy and safe way. Particular thanks to Max Cowper-Hart (Fifth Form, Chatham), Charlie Cole (Lower Sixth, Walpole) and David Gollifer (Lower Sixth, Grenville) who have given up their training to help new-comers.

A number of the boys have brought friends to learn and a group of about a dozen Third Formers are rowing once-a-week, led by Philippos Konstantopoulos and Ari Lewis, (both Third Form, Walpole).

The girls' group are gathering momentum, inspired by the enthusiasm of Upper Sixth rower Harriet Hines (Cheshire). We are pleased to welcome back Honor Macdonald (Lower Sixth, Stanhope), whilst new-starter Amelia Hine (Lower Sixth, Cheshire) has made remarkable progress. The eight this week was largely a girls' crew and is technically good.

The boys are a strong and experienced group, many of whom have been rowing for four years. This term we are working on teamwork, and improving on leadership and the crew discipline needed to get the most from their school rowing experience.

This week the low temperatures have caught up with us and the lake has iced over, so we've been back on the rowing ergometers again. Like many teams we are using the bleak months to develop our fitness with land training, ready for the Spring, when conditions improve and we can enjoy racing again.

Andrew Rudkin, Rowing Coach

Badminton

On Saturday 15 January our Senior 1st VI and Senior 2nd VI had convincing wins against Rugby School.

Co-Captains Ben Li (Upper Sixth, Cobham) and Josha Mital (Upper Sixth, Winton) won all their matches to set up a 6-2 victory for the 1st team.

The 2nd team showed the depth in strength of Stowe Badminton by winning their matches 6-3 with 1st pairing, shared between Terry Tan (Lower Sixth, Chandos), Ned Goodrich (Fifth Form, Chandos) and Will Harrison (Fifth Form, Winton), and 2nd pairing between Thomas Bicknell (Fourth Form, Winton), Harvey Tian (Lower Sixth, Walpole) and Harry Langford (Fourth Form, Chandos) comfortably winning all of their matches.

Isaac Michael, Head of Badminton

Basketball

On Saturday 15 January an inexperienced 1st Basketball team took part in the annual Wellington College Tournament. Unfortunately defeat against Wellington College, Bishop Wordsworth's School and Bradfield meant the team was unable to progress further in the competition, however it was a good experience for the team to compete.

Meanwhile back at Stowe our 2nd team played Rugby School's 1st team and went down narrowly 34-40, with Henri Mueller (Lower Sixth, Bruce) scoring an impressive 17 points.



Inter-House Basketball

In the Junior girls' competition on Sunday 9 January, Queen's beat Nugent in the deciding match, having already beaten Stanhope and Lyttelton to be crowned 2022 champions.

In the Junior boys' competition, at the Semi-Final stage, Grafton beat Cobham and Chatham beat Grenville to set up a Grafton/Chatham final which Grafton won by the narrowest of margins to be win the title of 2022 Champions.

In the Senior boys' competition Chatham beat Chandos in the first Semi-Final and Cobham beat Grafton in the second Semi-Final. Although trailing for the majority of the final, Chatham remained calm and clawed their way back to beat Cobham by three points to be crowned 2022 Champions.

Isaac Michael, Head of Basketball



CAREERS

Chris Austin CBE - Director, Development at British High Commission Pretoria

On Thursday 13 January, Stowe hosted Chris Austin, the current Director of Development at the British High Council in Pretoria, South Africa, as a guest speaker on International Relations. He provided fascinating answers to questions on matters of International Relations, Economics and Development, and those in attendance in School and via the **Careers Department YouTube link**, received insight on complicated issues such as foreign aid contextualised around Chris' career in his various roles.

On the effectiveness of military interventionism in Afghanistan, Mr Austin pressed the need for people not to let the recent tragedy erase the success of the past 20 years, and the two democratic tenures the country has seen. Even more interesting was his response to the question about how British aid has been extended to South Africa to tackle gender-based violence. He announced programmes promoted by the British High Council (in Pretoria) that are working to curb the violence as well as dispel the social norms that enable it.

Alongside his thoughtful analysis of international events, Mr Austin gave advice about getting a job in international relations and the skills and academic requirements needed for success in the field. The universities in the United Kingdom he highlighted for studying International Relations included the **University of Sussex** and the **University of York**.



Acquiring multiple languages was one of the skills he advised people should have in order to work in the United Nations. To work for the British Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, the requirements vary but the following are skills that cut across all international relations organisations: communication, knowledge, data and media proficiency as well as interpersonal skills that are often indispensable in foreign diplomacy.

The two critical takeaways from the talk, and arguably the most important principles that Chris recommends that people need for a successful career in International Relations, are integrity and objectivity.

We would like to say thank you again to Mr Chris Austin for taking the time to speak to all the pupils who had the pleasure of listening in.

Adaora Okoye (Lower Sixth, West)



On Tuesday 18 January 2022, Stoics were lucky to welcome guest speakers; Mark Harrison, Lt Col (retired) and Wailee Lai Cpt, to discuss Army careers, the benefits of joining the Army, and also the application process involved.

The talk answered not only many questions proposed by Harry Bryant (Upper Sixth, Cobham) and Rafi Mahmood (Upper Sixth, Walpole) but it also gave an insight into the various routes of joining the Army, whether that be the Internship, Bursary, Army Scholarships, the officer route before or after university or the soldier route from the age of 16.

Soldiers train to become specialists in their chosen field e.g. engineers, medics, musicians, logistics etc. Officers train to lead a team of soldiers. Both routes provide basic Army training including combat training.

The Internship is the ultimate Try-Before-You-Buy for people who are not sure, if the Army is right for them. During the Internship you receive basic training, earn £18,000, receive all the benefits that the Army has to offer, but you won't participate in active combat nor do you need to sign up afterwards.

You can apply for the scholarship programmes before or during your university degree and join the Army after you completed your studies. You can use the scholarship to pay for anything you want e.g. university fees, living costs, car etc.

For all options you must have seven GCSEs including English Language, Maths, either Science or a foreign language, grades 9-4 and/or 72 UCAS points depending on the route you chose.

The recruiting process includes the application form, interview, and a variety of assessments for mental and physical health.

Questions proposed by Rafi and Harry ranged from inquiring about the many qualifications one might gain from joining e.g. apprenticeships or university degrees, to the highlights of the guest speaker's time within the army.

You can find a recording of the talk on the VLE in the Careers section.

Luciane Guntner-Jones, Careers Advisor

HOCKEY



Our opponents for the first matches back after Christmas on Saturday 8 January looked rather daunting on paper, with the boys' hockey teams playing against the strongest hockey school in the country, Repton.

Whilst we only won one of the matches, the score lines showed that the Stowe teams can compete at the very highest level. Well done to the Yearlings B team who won their match. The U15As were leading until 10 minutes to go, so they also showed they will be very competitive on this circuit.

This was a tough start to the season for Stowe 1st XI, but a game full of promise and much to look forward to. At half time the boys came in with a buzz, knowing how well they had played to hold Repton to 1-0, making sure not to be broken down and looking to get some chances on the counter.

In the second half, Stowe couldn't quite maintain the energy that they had given throughout the first half and Repton quality shone through, winning a few more 50/50s and scoring a few they may have missed in the first half.

Most Valuable Player was awarded to Ewan Hughes Rowlands (Lower Sixth, Walpole) for his work at the back, communication and his strong out-letting.

Overall a strong display from Stowe with the cobwebs now off and a full season to look forward to.

On Thursday 6 January the boys' 1st XI team won their National Cup match against John Hampden Grammar 6-3, and then backed it up with a victory against Rugby School 2-1 on Saturday 15 January.

The U15Bs also had a win and special mentions for Players of the Match performances across all teams go to: Wilf Chisnall (Lower Sixth, Grafton), Archie Burnet (Upper Sixth, Grafton), Alexander Dens (Upper Sixth, Grenville), Charlie Cousins (Lower Sixth, Chatham), Milo Chauveau (Lower Sixth, Cobham), Alfie Hoyles (Fifth Form, Grafton), Peter You (Fourth Form, Walpole), Ronan Dhariwal-Mann (Fourth Form, Temple), Zeb Hodgson (Third Form, Bruce), Luke Mayo (Third Form, Winton) and Sam Percy (Third Form, Cobham).

Ben Scott, Head of Hockey

Girls U16s Hockey Team reach the National Quarter Finals

The Girls U16s enjoyed a fantastic cup run this season, starting with a comeback victory on Tuesday 28 September, against the King's High School, Warwick, winning 2-1.

In the second round, they faced a tough draw against Rugby School on Saturday 9 October, in which an incredible comeback saw Stowe draw 3-3 after going down 3-0 within the first 15 minutes. They then won the match in a tense penalty stroke contest, 7-6!

The third round on Tuesday 2 November, saw Stowe facing another tough opponent in Headington School, Oxford. Both teams were level with the score 2-2 at half time but Stowe were able to pull away in the second half, with the game finishing 5-3.

The girls then advanced to the Regional Final knowing a place at Nationals was at stake. Travelling away for the first time in the cup draw, to Sir William Borlase's Grammar School in Marlow on Thursday 23 November. An incredible performance saw Stowe win 4-1, never looking out of control of the game.

This led Stowe to the National Quarter Finals - the furthest a Stowe side has progressed in this Cup.



After the Christmas break on Thursday 20 January, Stowe made the journey away to Epsom College. It was a tough match and at half time the score was a comfortable 2-0 to Epsom. Stowe adjusted and within a minute of the restart Stowe had a goal back and looked to press for an equaliser. Unfortunately, after a long and dominant period, Stowe's energy faltered and Epsom managed to score two goals on the break, with the game finishing 4-1 to Epsom College.

None of the squad's effort, energy, enthusiasm or team spirit could be criticised, as every player gave everything for their team mates throughout this excellent run.

Congratulations go to all the squad.

Dominic Blackmore-Beales, Assistant Head of Hockey

ALL CHANGE AT GRAFTON HOUSE



After 12 years as Grafton Houseparent, Gavin Moffat is leaving Stowe at the end of the academic year to become the new Deputy Head Pastoral of Rossall School, an independent day and boarding school in the Northwest of England on the Fylde coast.

He leaves with many fond memories and experiences of his time in Grafton and at Stowe and will miss being involved with the day-to-day lives of the boys, along with the highly dedicated Grafton team who have given such sterling support to him over the years. It's not quite the end of Gavin's connection with Stowe, as he and his wife Becky will look forward to returning to watch their daughter Lottie (Fifth Form, Nugent) from the touchlines of the hockey pitches and netball courts.

Grafton has gone from strength to strength over the past decade under Gavin's care, and he and Becky will be much missed. Houses often reflect the personalities of their Houseparents, and Gavin leaves a House which is successful, confident, replete with silverware and fiercely loyal.

Our congratulations go to Dr Fitzpatrick Smith (Fitz) who has been appointed as the new Houseparent of Grafton House. Many of you will already know Fitz: he has been an

outstanding teacher of English at Stowe since 2017, and has, most recently, occupied the position of Assistant Houseparent of Winton House. Fitz came to us from the American university system where he taught Philosophy and Literature as a tenured professor at Wittenberg University; prior to Wittenberg, he taught in the California State university system and at Washington University, St Louis - where he attained his Masters and Ph.D.

His writing has been published in various academic works as well as the magazine, Prospect. He and his family relocated to the UK, where he began his secondary school career at Pipers Corner School. During his time with us, he has served at Acting Head of English, and his ability and leadership were recognised in his appointment as Head of Upper School English. He is one of our most popular teachers and innately understands how to engender an easy camaraderie and collective pride.

Fitz will be supported by his wife, Hester and their two sons (aged 8 and 11). Hester is an Art Historian currently recording Artists' Lives for the British Library, which is an important oral history of the greatest contemporary British Artists; she very much looks forward to being part of the Grafton family.

Stowe-Daly Virtual Exchange 2021-22

The fourth meeting of the Stowe-Daly virtual exchange took place on Monday 6 December, towards the very end of a busy term for both schools. Stoics and Dalians spent some time initially in breakout rooms, discussing the festive celebrations both had been undertaking. Stoics shared the highlights of the term with their partners, reflecting on the sporting achievements of the School, and events such as House Singing.

This was followed by presentations of the festive celebrations undertaken within each country and school. Stoics presented upon the religious aspect of both Advent and Christmas, and what the Christian Faith teaches about these times of the year. They also shared how the School community celebrates these events, in the form of services in Chapel, House decorations and Christmas dinners.

The Dalians presented about the different tourist attractions within India, providing some great visuals of these locations. It made a number of us very envious and begin to get itchy feet to get traveling again!

Alongside these presentations, each school shared their entries for the Stowe-Daly Art Competition. The aim of this competition was to not only deepen the relationship between the schools, but also allow for a greater cultural understanding of each nation.

The competition involved each school submitting a dance performance, a

musical performance and a piece of traditional artwork. All of these had to be based upon the theme of their own country. Each piece of work submitted was judged upon the skill utilised, the passion demonstrated, creativity used, and how well it portrayed the nation it was trying to represent.

A number of Stoics threw themselves into this competition. An outstanding **dance performance** was put together by Marina Goje (Third Form, Cheshire), Beatrice Gordon (Third Form, Nugent), Bee Harvey-Craig (Lower Sixth, Cheshire), Olivia Hillier (Third Form, Lyttelton), Amelia Hine (Lower Sixth, Cheshire), Annabel Hussey (Third Form, Nugent), Maya Lopes-Wilson (Upper Sixth, West), Polina Von (Upper Sixth, Queen's), Kia Winnington-Ingram (Upper Sixth, West) and Hannah Wilkinson (Third Form, Lyttelton).

Wednesday Zhu (Upper Sixth, West) designed an excellent piece of artwork (above) which truly demonstrated the complexities of life within the UK.

Many thanks must be extended to Ms Owen, Matron of Temple and Yoga/Fitness Instructor, for supporting the Stoics in choreographing the dance piece.

The Exchange Programme and the Art Competition were both a huge success, and have helped us foster further connections with our partners in India. We are hopeful that this partnership will continue long into the future!

Fran Shah, Head of International Pupils

service@stowe

'On the 6th day of Christmas, Stowe School gave to the elderly, a lovely Christmas party!' The Pupil Perspective:



On the cold afternoon of Sunday 5 December, a group of Stoics came together to host a Christmas Party for the elderly members in the area surrounding Stowe.

Preparations began in the early afternoon ahead of the arrival of our guests. We decorated the State Dining Room and the Marble Hall, and soon enough the visitors began to arrive with us waiting to escort them into the building.

The visitors socialised and enjoyed music performed by Stoics in the Marble Hall.

Soon after the music, the tea ceremony started. The guests got comfortable in the State Dining Room and Stoics served tea and coffee.

After tea, the Stoics sang Christmas carols, then for a while everyone got to know each other, whilst enjoying some cookies.

Near the end of afternoon, the Head led a Bingo game. After that Father Christmas visited the main mansion, ultimately proving Dr Webber is Santa by night and English Teacher by day. The party sadly ended, and we escorted the guests back to their taxis.

Molly Muhoho (Fifth Form, Nugent), Emilia Scott-Copley (Fifth Form, Nugent), Magen Lai (Fifth Form, Lyttelton) and Dameli Yessey (Fifth Form Lyttelton).



Hamper Deliveries

Isabella Fuller (Fourth Form, Cheshire) helped the **MK Dons**, the MK Dons Sports and Education Trust, and a number of local partners, deliver 250 Christmas hampers to local families across Milton Keynes on Wednesday 23 December.

This was enough to provide food, gifts and resources to 900 people in need within the community.



New Year New Opportunities

The month of January is often filled with New Year resolutions and new opportunities. Many of you may have reflected upon the last 365 days and feel that 2022 is the year that you would like to give back and get more involved in your community, perhaps your New Year's resolution was to spend more time volunteering.

If the Stoic in your life has expressed an interest in volunteering, or they are looking to add something extra to their UCAS application, want to engage in a rewarding experience or learn skills that will help them in their chosen field of study/career, Service@Stowe has some new and exciting activities on offer.

All the following activities take place on Monday afternoons:

Fundraising - become an expert fundraiser; learn the skills to promote, market and raise money.

Allotments - design, plant and maintain Stowe's very own Community Garden.

Prep Club - assist the Skills Staff and providing academic peer support.

Mindfulness - work alongside the National Trust to research and create a sensory trail in the grounds.

SEN Stowe Experience - work with pupils with neuro and physical diverse abilities. Stoics will organise and host a festival day at Stowe for these pupils.

If you are interested in learning more about the Services Programme or volunteering opportunities in our local community please contact **Ms Andrea Westmoreland**.



WINTER CAMP-OUT

This term Service@Stowe are organising a Sixth Form camp-out to raise money for the Winter Night Shelter in Milton Keynes which supports the homeless, vulnerable and those with mental health problems.

The Winter Night Shelter camp-out will raise awareness and money for people who have to endure the Winter nights on a daily basis. This will involve participating Sixth Form pupils experiencing a Winter night on the streets, simulated on our own Bourbon playing fields.

On Saturday 5 February, Sixth Form Stoics will be invited to spend a night out under canvas. This is to allow them to experience, in some small way, how challenging life for rough sleepers can be within the Winter months.

Stoics will attend supper as usual. They must then pitch a tent within the School grounds, and spend the evening outdoors. Ideally, they will try and replicate the challenges of those facing homelessness as much as possible, and as such should only have a sleeping bag and warm clothing with them. They should not take any form of entertainment or mobile phone into the tent, as this will allow them to fully experience how isolating this situation can be.

We are asking for as many Sixth Formers as possible to sign up (via the VLE) and for friends and family to sponsor the pupils in order to raise money for this essential and worthwhile cause. To sponsor a pupil please visit the **Just Giving page here**.

Thanks for your continuing support

The Service@Stowe Team



Equestrian



Bloxham Eventer Challenge Series

On Sunday 12 December 2021, the Stowe Equestrian team competed in the Second Bloxham Eventer Challenge series at Aston-Lee Walls.

Olive De Courcy-Ireland (Third Form, Nugent) competed on Ballybritain Lad in the 65cm and finished in Eighth.

Lily Taylor (Fifth Form, Cheshire) competed on Towie in the 85cm, going clear and coming 11th.

Cassidy Jorritsma (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) on Huckleberry, had a massive improvement from the previous competition, going clear in the 90cm to win second place. Also, in this section, Ella Gray-Cheape (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) competed on Candy Diamond finishing 26th.

Araminta Spencer-Churchill (Fourth Form, Stanhope) competed on Neds Legacy and won the 100cm section.

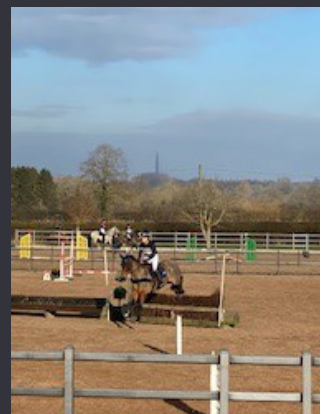
Ellie Martindale (Lower Sixth, Queen's) on Picasso, and Cecily Holland (Fifth Form, Nugent) on Malty May, both competed in the 110cm section finishing Third and Sixth respectively.

The Third Bloxham eventer series took place on Sunday 16 January.

Olive De Courcy-Ireland went clear in the 65cm and ended up in the top 20, Toby Bursnall (Fifth Form, Grafton) competed in the 80cm, Kitty Scott (Fifth Form, Stanhope) went clear and one pole on her two ponies in the 90cm class, ending up Fifth and Sixth.

Araminta Spencer-Churchill (went clear in the 100cm class and came Second.

The Eventer challenge series Final is on Saturday 13 February. The top 30 riders and Top 10 Teams in the league go through to this Championship. Well done team!



Show Jumping

On Saturday 15 January, Mimi Price (Fifth Form, Cheshire) and Isabella Russell (Third Form, Cheshire) competed at the Cedars Upper School Inter-Schools Team and Individual Show Jumping Competition at Bury Farm Equestrian Centre.

Mimi won the 110cm horse class and Isabella was second in the 110cm pony class. They have both qualified for the County Finals at Hickstead in August.



INTERNATIONAL

Outstanding Orthodox Christmas Celebrations!

On Friday 7 January, the International Society celebrated Orthodox Christmas at Stowe. Many Eastern European countries celebrate Christmas on this date as they base the celebration around the Julian calendar.

The celebration is a time for friends and family to come together and celebrate the birth of Christ.

For several Stoics, they would ordinarily be spending this day of festivity having a large meal and time with loved ones. In order to ensure our pupils could still celebrate this special day, the International Society arranged for a dinner to be held in the Music Room.

Our International pupils who originate from Russia, the Ukraine or other areas of Eastern Europe, were treated with a wonderful meal of roast pork, pigs in blankets, potatoes, Russian salads and a variety of cheeses and meats, which the Food Services Department thoughtfully provided.

The Stoics thoroughly enjoyed having their culture and traditions recognised within the School community. Ms Holloway, Head of the P&R Department, shared an insightful talk upon the importance of diversity and inclusion within society and the need to ensure all cultures are represented within the School community.

Pupils also participated in a quiz about the celebration, with winners



being awarded with biscuits and chocolates to celebrate their knowledge!

The International Society would like to take this opportunity to thank both the Food Services Department and Ms Holloway for their efforts in supporting this celebration. The Society hopes to continue to encourage the celebration of a variety of cultural events, and looks forward to hosting a dinner next Half Term for all Senior International Stoics.

Fran Shah, Head of International Pupils

FLIX

and... ACTION! An invitation to contribute to a 100-year celebration of all things film and media

Although we are still nearly a year away from it, as most of you know, 2023 is the School's 100th birthday and we at FLIX are already making plans to celebrate that momentous event with a few momentous events of our own.

In addition to a weekend in March 2023 of films made by, or with the assistance of, former Stoics, and a conference for local Film and Media students, we are also collaborating with both the Art Department, the Old Stoics and hopefully yourselves on mounting an exhibition of Film and Media memorabilia which will be displayed in the School's Watson Gallery at the same time, to be entitled **and... ACTION!**

We are hoping that Stoics and their Parents, Old Stoics, friends of the School and Staff will be willing to get involved and loan us any film or media related items that they have and which they think others might like to see. These might be, for example, autographs, props, posters, programmes, costumes, newspaper cuttings, copies of scripts, photographs and anything else that might be gathering dust in the attic, but which would be of interest to film fans.

Although I will be curating the exhibition and writing notes etc., I am delighted that Anna Semler from the Old Stoics office has also agreed to initially co-ordinate any offers from readers and also to promote the exhibition to her members.

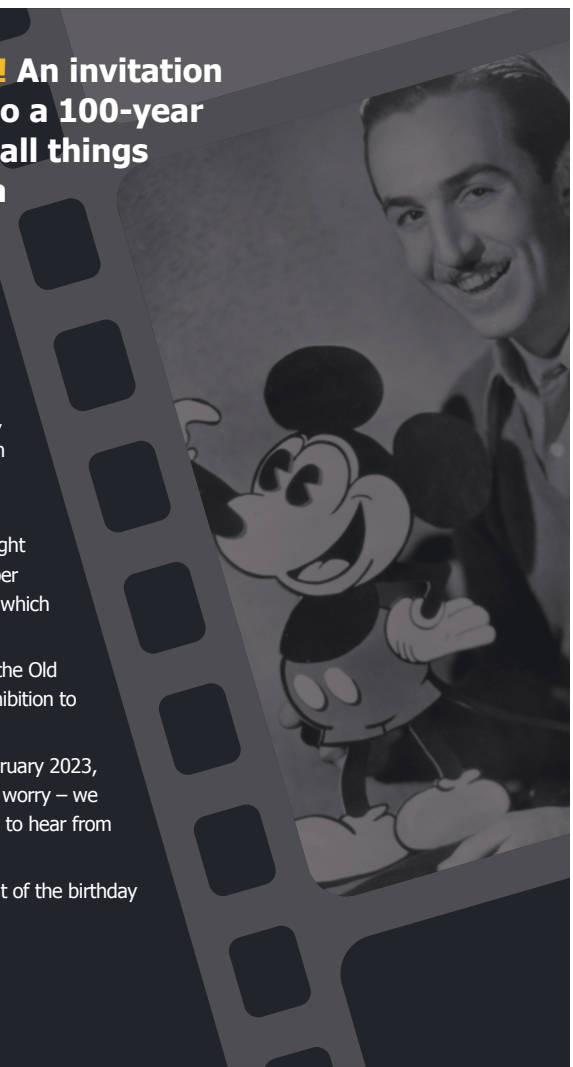
If you or someone you know does have access to anything they might be prepared to loan us from February 2023, through to the end of March, which is roughly when the **and... ACTION!** exhibition will run (and don't worry – we will be insuring all items, as you would expect) then please contact Anna with a quick **email**. We'd love to hear from you.

and... ACTION! will be a unique, one-of-a-kind exhibition and we are certain that it will be a high point of the birthday celebrations.

I'm already dusting off my Walt Disney autograph (again).

Thank you, in advance, for your support.

Andrew Webber, Film Studies Department



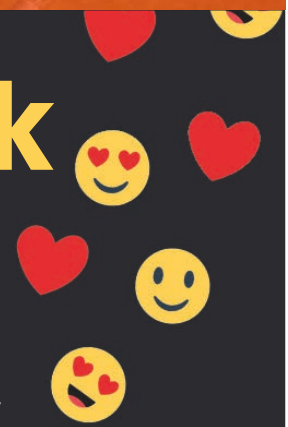
SAVE THE DATE!

Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK

7 - 13 FEBRUARY 2022

Mental Health Week - Growing Together



The year's **Children's Mental Health Week** will take place on 7-13 February. This year's theme is Growing Together. We will be encouraging pupils (and adults) to consider how they have grown, and how they can help others to grow. Growing Together is about growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other grow. Challenges and setbacks can help us to grow and adapt, and trying new things can help us to move beyond our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential. However, emotional growth is often a gradual process that happens over time, and sometimes we might feel a bit 'stuck'.

This year the School hopes to hold informal short talks on mental health using the internal expertise we have in our Medical Team, Therapists and the wider Pastoral Team.

Mike Rickner, Designated Safeguarding Lead



Album Release

Over the Christmas holidays, Stowe's Roland Johnson, West Houseparent, recorded three albums of classical music. The first album, "Sacred Songs" which is Christian in nature, with vocal arrangements, has now been released on **Spotify**. We would like to congratulate Roland and wish him much success, we look forward to the release of his second and third albums soon.

Stowe Bike Servicing & Maintenance



For all servicing and repairs please contact:
Nick Zammit 07801 106842 or
nzammit@stowe.co.uk



Recruitment

The Stowe Group's People Department attended the Milton Keynes Job Fayre on Friday 7 and Saturday 8 January to promote working at Stowe and attract potential employees for current vacancies. All positions are advertised on the [Stowe Group Website](https://www.stowe.co.uk).



SOCIAL MEDIA

Stowe School
Stowe
Buckingham
MK18 5EH

t | +44 (0)1280 818000
f | +44 (0)1280 818181
e | stowemail@stowe.co.uk
w | www.stowe.co.uk

Editorial Team:
Mrs Cath Clarke
Mrs Tori Roddy

