



## MUSIC

### Keyboard Showcase Concert and Festival Day

On Wednesday 9 March, Stowe hosted pupils from visiting schools for a fun-packed day of Keyboard related activities.

24 pupils from The Dragon, Spratton Hall, Swanbourne House and The Grove Independent School took part in various sessions throughout the day, including an improvisation workshop with animated graphic scores, which encouraged the young pianists to freely roam and explore the huge variety of colours and sounds that can be made by the piano.

In addition, pupils explored the Blues scale and came up with some excellent and unique ideas. There was also a demonstration of Stowe's immense Chapel Organ, given by Director of Music, Craig Greene, a Stoic Lunchtime Concert, a Piano Masterclass, and of course a trip to the School's Tuck Shop!

The highlight for me was working with the talented young musicians throughout the day on multi-piano music of famous themes specially arranged for the event. The highly enjoyable event culminated in an afternoon concert featuring both solo and ensemble performances.

Congratulations to all those who took part by preparing their respective parts so well in advance of the day. I would like to thank our Music Administrator, Jane Horwood, Studio Manager, Ben Weston and also the entire Food Services Team for contributing to the smooth running of the day.

Following the Keyboard Festival Day, on the evening of Wednesday 9 March, over thirty Stoics took part in a piano extravaganza.

Performing all together on nine pianos, Stoics gave impressive performances of well-known music from films such as Pirates of the Caribbean and Shrek (the latter of which composed by Old Stoic Harry Gregson-Williams (Chatham 80).

In addition, the evening would not have been complete without a rendition of arguably one of the most famous pieces of all - Chopsticks - only this time in a nine-piano arrangement.

From three-piano, semi-improvised arrangements of pieces such as Jacob's Bakery, expertly performed by Baz Calkin (Upper Sixth, Chatham), Seb Foxwell (Upper Sixth, Walpole) and Samuel Ellis (Upper Sixth, Chandos) - to the sensitive duet performance of the song Over & Over given by Jemima Pearson-Gee (Fifth Form, Nugent) (Piano & Vocals) and Ben Li (Upper Sixth, Cobham) (Viola), the Stoics showcased the richness and versatility of the Piano in all of its guises.

There was a wonderful sense of group collaboration and enjoyment that came through in all of the performances. Congratulations to all of the performers and their respective Teachers for all their hard work and for making this such a memorable evening.

**Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard**





# ESU Public Speaking Competition

On Saturday 5 March, Stowe hosted the Regional Final of the English-Speaking Union's Public Speaking Competition.

Stowe's team of Annie Flint (Fifth Form, Queen's), Emilia Scott-Copley (Fifth Form, Nugent) and Flora Peppiatt (Third Form, Queen's) had won two previous branch rounds to qualify and were joined by the best public speakers in the region.

Annie spoke eloquently on the need to remove plastic packaging from supermarkets and answered questions put to her, by the team from MCS Oxford, with aplomb. Emilia and Flora

were a great team, being the chair and questioner for the speaker from MCS, bringing great thoughtfulness to the topic of whether justice is too weak.

Unfortunately, we did not progress to the National Final but the Team acquitted themselves brilliantly and should be congratulated for their excellent performances over the course of the competition.

**Rhea Stafford-Smith, Teacher in Charge of Debating, Public Speaking and Model United Nations**



Nick Morris is one of the few members of Staff who hold the distinction of having retired from Stowe twice.

Nick first came to Stowe in 2009 as the School's Director of Operations, a role which he combined with oversight of the Stowe House Preservation Trust. There cannot be many jobs which require the post-holder to master the specifications of an Equestrian Centre, provide IT and sustenance for a small army of Stoics and Staff, as well as delivering capital projects such as the Worsley Science Centre, the Chung Music School, Cobham and the Stowe House Visitor Centre. It is a tribute to Nick's perspicacity and diplomacy that these buildings are now mainstays of the School and that we continue to evolve and modernise with the construction of a new DT&E Centre due to begin later this year.

Following his first retirement from the Operations Directorate in 2017, Nick became the Chief Executive of SHPT which involved a move of offices from one end of Plug Street to the other. Historic Houses are one of Nick's abiding interests and, with his Master's in Heritage Management, he has brought valuable insight, knowledge and skill to the restoration of the ducal palace.

As a result of his tireless efforts in securing funding, finding expert craftsmen and completing endless listed building permissions, it is now possible to walk through the Piano Nobile's complete enfilade of rooms; from the Blue Room, Library, Music Room, Marble Hall through to the Temple Room and it is to Nick's immense credit that he only leaves having set in place the final restoration of the State Dining Room which will complete Stowe's ambitious restoration programme in time for the School's Centenary celebrations in 2023.

One cannot underestimate the difficulties inherent in restoring a Grade I listed building whose primary function is that of a busy Boarding School. It requires powers of collaboration, consultation and empathy that defy understanding.

As Nick retires again, this time from his role as CEO of the Stowe House Preservation Trust, we thank him for his dedicated curatorship of Stowe House, his enthusiasm, guidance and good humour.

With plans to visit the abbeys and houses of North Yorkshire, Edward I's castles and the gardens of North Wales, Nick's understanding of and commitment to historic buildings and conservation is in no danger of diminishing.

**Dr Anthony Wallersteiner, Head**

# Rugby



## National Plate Semi-Final

On Wednesday 2 March the Stowe 1st XV took on Stockport Grammar School in the Semi-Final of the National Plate.

In front of large home support the team didn't disappoint and opened up a healthy lead in the first half with tries coming from backs and forwards, including scrum half Archie McParland (Lower Sixth, Temple) with a brilliant solo 50m effort.

In the second half, despite the continued rain, Stowe continued to exert their dominance and superior skills with four more tries as they cruised to a 41-0 victory.

Try scorers were Will Plessis (two) (Lower Sixth, Grenville), Imran Tinubu (Lower Sixth, Bruce), Josh Hutchings (Lower Sixth, Bruce), Noah Cowan (Lower Sixth, Chatham), Archie McParland (Lower Sixth, Temple) and Wilf Chisnall (Lower Sixth, Grafton).

The Final is to be played at The Allianz Park (The home of Saracens) on Tuesday 15 March and we look forward to a large group of supporters cheering the boys on!

**Grant Seely, Director of Rugby**



The U14 A and B lacrosse teams travelled to Bedford Girls' School to compete in the County Tournament on Monday 7 March.

Both teams worked hard in their pools, with the A team recording two wins, two draws and two losses, including an impressive 3-1 victory over Berkhamsted; traditionally the strongest side there. The B team defeated St Albans High School 4-2, as well as tied games with Berkhamsted and HABS.

Both teams made it into the Bronze Medal game, losing to St George's Harpenden in each game, meaning the teams both came fourth. This is quite an achievement for these teams, as every other school in the county are in their third season together (all are Year 7 entry schools).

Thanks to the parents who came to support, we now look forward to National Schools.

**Rob Ingham Clark, Head of Lacrosse**



# Lacrosse



Stowe **SPORT**



# The Language Society Sign Language

The Language Society held its first meeting of Term on Wednesday 26 January, hosting Stacey Stockwell, a disability awareness trainer and a musical interpreter for 'Rock and Sign' to give the Society an Introduction to Sign Language. Stacey has signed for famous artists such as Eminem and Bastille, she also helps with deaf and blind awareness, people with dementia, and people with mental health difficulties.

To begin, Stacey told us that sign language is all about effective communication. Keeping eye contact is very important; the recommended distance should be three to six feet from the person you are signing for. Lighting is more important than you think; light from behind makes lip-reading almost impossible.

A few brief surprising statistics were introduced to us such as the fact that only 1.5% of blind people can actually read brail and 83% of people with a disability aren't born disabled. Also, only 20-50% of deaf people are able to lip read. This is because too many letters look the same when you lip read. Try mouthing double and tumble – it looks the same. This is why signing the first letter of a word helps people who are lip reading.

Stacey also made us aware that as a society, we still treat deaf people appallingly. For instance, it is very difficult for deaf people to access basic services in hotels, which means that deaf people have, for example, been asked to keep their door half-open at night in case there was a fire, as they had no flashing fire alarm used for deaf people. Stacey also expressed that all hotels should have basic services available for deaf people, such as vibrating alarm clocks known as a 'shake awake'.

Stacey then introduced us the three types of sign language: British Sign Language (BSL), which is a highly complex language, very different to spoken English, as the whole body can be used and the grammar is different from the English grammar. It took Stacey eight years to be proficient in BSL. Makaton, which is used for people with learning disabilities such as Down's Syndrome or Autism and is very simplified; Sign Supported English, which is a mixture of BSL and spoken English.

Our last task was to learn the whole alphabet in British Sign Language. It was a most informative evening, thanks to Stacey's enthusiasm and passion for communicating with deaf people.

**Tom Gibson, Upper Sixth, Cobham**

# CCF AIR CADET PILOT SCHEME SUCCESS

Over the two-week period prior to Half Term, I completed the Royal Air Force Air Cadet Pilot Scheme. The ACPS is the most prestigious scholarship that the RAF offers to its Cadets. The scheme aims to provide students with 12 hours of flying tuition, with the end goal of the cadet being able to complete their first solo flight.

Upon arrival in Dundee, I met four other Cadets for dinner, who I would soon get to know very well. The following morning marked the first day at Tayside Aviation (at Dundee Airport). Tayside Aviation is an Air Training organisation which trains individuals with career aspirations ranging from the RAF, to Commercial Pilots. Unfortunately, because of bad weather, the first three days consisted of mostly ground school and flying theory lessons. After a few days of poor weather, the skies were finally clear, and the flying commenced. In the days following I spent an average of an hour flying per day, with four to five hours studying in ground school.

One standout moment was when I did a flyby of RAF Leuchars (an ex Tornado and Typhoon fighter jet base), which really made me feel like I was in Top Gun! I was given three textbooks to memorise which consisted of Air Law, Emergencies, Transponder Codes, Flight Terminology and Radio Calls. On the Tuesday of week two, I sat my theory

test which (if I passed with a score of over 75%) would allow me to fly solo. I passed the test with 85% and suddenly with the knowledge that I may be allowed to fly solo, everything swiftly became more real.

On Friday 11 February, after an hour of flying and eight take off and landings, my instructor asked me "would you like to try flying solo?". It is the scholarships intent to get Cadets to the point where flying (at least the basics) is second nature. Although I was initially nervous at the thought of flying alone, my fears quickly subsided as I naturally began my flight checks. It is safe to say that navigating the skies alone was both frightening and thrilling (but definitely more the latter).

The Air Cadet Pilot Scheme was a tremendous opportunity, and I am incredibly grateful to the CCF and School for providing me with this chance to make my dream a reality. I will never forget the memories I made on this course, nor will I forget the incredible people I met. I encourage every young member of the RAF Section within the CCF to aim for the ACPS (and all the other leadership opportunities) as it's truly an unforgettable experience.

**F/Sgt Johnny Sutherland, Head Cadet RAF Section, (Upper Sixth, Chatham)**



# Equestrian



**Cassidy Jorritsma** (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) and her horse Huckleberry competed in the Bury Farm Bareback Challenge four day Show Jumping event over the February Half Term, Thursday 17 to Sunday 20 February.

This young combination had a great competition show jumping in both the 1.05m and 1.10m classes, with Cassidy ending up placed in the top Ten most days, with a Fourth in the 1.10m Sunday 20 February.

**Isabelle Harris** (Third Form, Nugent) finished Second in the British Show Jumping Winter 138cm Grand Prix, landing her one of only 25 places to compete at The Longines Royal International Horse Show at Hickstead in July.

This is an incredible achievement as only a handful of the best riders in the country made the qualification to compete in the Grandprix.

Qualification was spread over three rounds of jumping, finishing with a 1.3 meter high jump off.

Congratulations Isabelle, and good luck in the Final in July!

**Lucinda Stockley**



## Bloxham Eventer Series

Sunday 13 March was the conclusion of this years Bloxham Eventer Challenge Series. Only 30 riders from each class across the series qualified, and we were very proud to say that we ended up with six riders in the Final and two that were able to compete in the Championships.

First up was Olive De-Courcy Ireland (Third Form, Nugent), jumping the 65cm class on her pony Bally Britain Lad. They jumped a lovely clear to end up Seventh on the day.

Cassidy Jorritsma (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) competed in the 90cm class with her horse Huckleberry, once again producing a lovely clear round and ending Fourth in

the Championship and overall fourth in the series. Both girls fought against horrible weather and it was lovely to see how much they both improved in confidence across the competition.

Araminta Spencer-Churchill (Fourth Form, Stanhope) won the individual title for the 100cm class on her pony Neds Legacy. An incredible achievement considering she competed against 25 riders across the series!

Congratulations to all the riders who took part in this year's Bloxham Eventer Challenge series.

**Lucinda Stockley**



# WE CAN TAKE STANDS FOR US ALL

## Lower School Academic Scholars

This term, as part of their extension activities, 20 of our Lower School Academic Scholars (LSAS) studied the theme of resistance with Ms Holloway and myself.

The work included looking at resistance during the Second World War (especially in response to the Holocaust) and exploring how the Black September hostage-taking during the 1972 Munich Olympics was represented in Kevin MacDonald's powerful and moving documentary 'One Day in September'.

The topic concluded with a trip to the brilliant Imperial War Museum in London, where pupils were tasked with identifying artefacts which best embodied the concept of resistance (which, given the unsettling world events which have been unfolding since our trip, has become a topic very much on our minds).

There were a number of fascinating discoveries to be had: Arthur Daymond (Fourth Form, Winton) chose a toy dog (also an influence on author Michael Morpurgo) as it was, "one of the most important hidden objects from the war due to the significance it had and the beauty it shows that the human race is capable of, even when facing oppression and difficulty."

Leo Clare (Third Form, Winton) chose a Finnish Molotov Cocktail; Isabella Fuller (Fourth Form, Cheshire), a powerful photograph of the Hanukkah candles on a window sill looking out onto Nazi flags; Niamh Gilmore (Third Form, Cheshire), George Smith (Fourth Form, Winton) and Nada Shamsuddin (Third Form, Cheshire) both chose artefacts linked to the UK Blackout and Blitz.

A number of pupils were inspired by individuals - Sassy Hall (Third Form, Lyttelton) and Hayden Smith (Third Form, Winton) choosing Lucille Hollingdale, who helped fallen airmen in France; Lani Shah (Third Form, Cheshire), Holocaust survivor Alexander Katzenbogen and Oliver Dickmann-Peña (Third Form, Winton) and Thomas Hampson (Third Form, Winton), the Chinese pilot, Lung Kai Ming.

The Sobibor uprising in Poland was Poppy Lawson Johnston's (Fourth Form, Queen's) area of interest and Jonelle Famutimi (Third Form, Cheshire) was moved by two pamphlets raising awareness of the Holocaust to British readers.

Several of these articles will be appearing in the second edition of the School Newspaper, Concord and Victory, which is coordinated by Ms Eisenhut, who also joined us on our trip.

Whilst all of the pieces of writing revealed our Scholars to be astute and perceptive, Isobel Crabb (Fourth Form, Cheshire) possibly produced the most moving and relevant piece - focusing upon the Oneg Shabbat, a collection of writings about the daily lives of the Jews who were so mercilessly treated by the Nazis.

Her concluding comments make for salutary reading in these troubling times.

**Dr Andrew Webber, LSAS**

## Oneg Shabbat

During the Second World War, roughly 6 million Jewish people were killed and appallingly mistreated, under command of Adolf Hitler, the leader of the Nazi Party and the dictator of Germany. After the Nazis occupied Poland in 1939, they began segregating Jews into ghettos, which were extremely run-down, poorly kept, and overcrowded areas of a city. Jews were forced to leave their homes and were made to come and live in these ghettos; where many people struggled greatly, battling disease and poverty. It was estimated that 500,000 Jews died in the ghettos due to illness or starvation.

From the earliest days of the ghettos, residents began work on secret projects to document their traumatic experiences. One of the greatest archives documented was the Oneg Shabbat, meaning 'Joy of Sabbath', which shows the indomitable spirit of its team of collectors and its leader, Emanuel Ringelblum, who, despite the enormous risks of this act of resistance, still devoted themselves to ensuring that the future generations would have an accurate picture of Jewish life during the Holocaust.

They collected information during the day and wrote their notes up at night. The associates knew

that the persecution of all Jews was inevitable and unprecedented, so they were determined to make a record for future historians. The archive contained a wide range of material from candy wrappers to tram tickets, all forms of literature and drawings. The work of the Oneg Shabbat did not stop, even when hundreds of thousands of Jews were deported to concentration camps, such as Treblinka, including members behind the project. To me, this demonstrates great resilience and courage, to be able to create such a shocking record of over 35,000 pages to show the world what had been done to them and the terrible ways in which they were forced to live.

I believe that this insight into what happened to them, helps us reflect on what we are going through in today's world, and in our modern society in 2022. As in Ukraine currently, due to the Russian invasion, many people have been forced to flee their homes, and leave behind the lives they lead in Ukraine. I'm sure that a large number of people will also be resisting and recording their lives for the future generations to appreciate, and as a result be appalled and horrified by what is happening to them right here and right now.

**Isobel Crabb (Fourth Form, Cheshire)**



One of the metal boxes which made up the Oneg Shabbat, displayed in the Imperial War Museum, containing a wide range of material to record the lives of the Jews in ghettos.



## The Elliot Abrams Talk

On Wednesday 23 February, Elliot Abrams (Former National Security Advisor of the United States) gave a talk to Stoics entitled 'International Relations in 2022: Democracy, Diplomacy and the Theatre of War'.

Important questions were raised about nuclear arms in Iran, the rising tension in Ukraine and the precarious state of democracy in South America. Elliot Abrams himself had been in controversy over the Iran-Contra Affair. His answers were welcomingly candid, and his experience working under Presidents from Bush to Trump gave the audience an insight into American politics and their impact on the rest of the globe.

Pupils and Teachers alike were given time to ask questions about his time in politics. The day's main point revolved around the tensions about a potential Russian invasion of Ukraine and the consequences. Unfortunately, in hindsight, he predicted that Russia wouldn't invade, which shows how unpredictable this conflict is. He spoke about the EU's reliance on Russian gas and the consequences of tariffs that could affect countries such as Germany. Though he spoke eloquently and deeply about complicated topics, I always felt I understood what he was trying to get across. Thankfully, there was very little 'politician talk' and a lack of jargon that allowed the pupils, to get into his politics without trying to decipher his language.

One of the most controversial topics seemed to be his stance on nuclear weapons and who should be allowed to have them. He spoke about his distrust of a nuclear arsenal in Iran which led to some cutting questions, allowing us to hear both sides of the argument. Though his stance is one described as Neo-conservatism, his bias didn't come across in a way that would push us all out of listening to his views (even though there was apparent disagreement on several topics). He was also accepting of disagreement and accepted challenges from pupils and Teachers.

After the talk, a private dinner was held that included Elliot Abrams, the Head, various Politics and History Teachers, and pupils. The food was delicious, and I was thankful to be invited along with several of my peers.

After the meal, pupils were invited to drift to Mr Abram's table and ask some one-on-one questions. He spoke about his fears of the growth of nuclear arms globally, the threat of mutually assured destruction, and the failure of the US to secure peace in the Middle East. I asked him about his time under Trump and how he found it working for such a divisive President. He spoke honestly about his distaste for the Presidency and the uncertainty of working under such an unpredictable man.

After reading up on his conviction and pardoning, I attended the talk with some negative opinions of the Abrams. I was, however, pleasantly surprised about how welcoming he was. It was especially warming to be talking to someone who evidently knows infinitely more about politics than you, but to leave not feeling patronised, but instead educated. I did not find him condescending and left feeling like I had really learnt something from listening and speaking to him.

Looking back on the experience, it was amazing to be at the talk and hear the knowledge he passed to us. I was incredibly privileged to be sat at the same table as a real veteran of US Politics. The entire event was a massive treat to all who attended. What's especially warming is that all the humanities pupils seemed to enjoy being there regardless of whether they took Politics. I am confident that everyone left the talk having learnt something.

I am incredibly grateful to the School for hosting this event, as it was a huge benefit to everyone involved.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to Elliot Abrams himself for coming to Stowe and being such an enjoyable speaker to listen to.

**Oscar Floyd (Lower Sixth, Walpole)**



# Lacrosse

## Stoics V Old Stoics

On something of a blustery afternoon on Saturday 5 March, the Old Stoics 1st X came to play the Stowe 1st X.

The OS brought some serious firepower with them with the likes of Liv Thomas (Great Britain, Nugent 18) and India Chadwick (England U23, Nugent 16), who provided plenty of experience for the team, as well as more recent graduates such as Holly Phillips (Nugent 21) and Mia Dettori (Nugent 20).

The game got off to a good start with Savannah King (Upper Sixth, Stanhope) winning the first draw.

The Old Stoics were able to cause a turnover and then take it down to their attacking end and score. After losing the next draw, the game was end to end, with Kimi Chen (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) making some excellent saves, but the Stowe team missing the net on the first three shots on goal. Sav made a fantastic check on Liv Thomas just before shooting winning us back possession, and just before the end of the first quarter, Lyla Mulcahy (Lower Sixth, Nugent) was able to find the back of the net, bringing the game to 1-1.

Next period saw mixed draw results but fewer scoring opportunities for the 1st X, however the defence worked very hard with a caused turnover a piece for Willa Percy (Lower Sixth, Queen's), Jemima Roberts (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) and Hannah Bewes (Lower Sixth, Queen's), and ground-balls for Tiff

Osibanjo (Upper Sixth, Stanhope) and Willa Percy. Kimi recorded eight saves in this quarter!

After the break, the draw control solidified in the present pupils' favour, with a stack more saves to boot. Again, scoring opportunities were few and far between, but again Lyla Mulcahy was able to score a great goal from range as the opposition goalkeeper had come out of her crease looking to close down the angle on a largely unguarded Lyla in a 3v2 break. Four goals were conceded.

In the last period, more scoring opportunities presented themselves but a good performance from the opposing goalie meant many were flummoxed. A lovely assist from Sav to Otilie Hewlett (Upper Sixth, Nugent) was the last goal of the game for Stowe, conceding just one more in the final quarter, with GBS for Lyla, Willa, Otilie and Hannah.

The game was played in great spirits and it was a fantastic opportunity for the Old Stoics to come back and play another game of Lacrosse and socialise, while present Stoics could see where their future Lacrosse careers might take them in the form of the International players.

We would also like to thank all the spectators who joined us and braved the cold.

Roll on National Schools!

**Rob Ingham Clark,  
Head of Lacrosse**





# Hunting for Buried Treasure

History fans will really dig a brand new five-part series coming to TV screens this month - Stowe Parent, Henry Cole's Great British Treasure Hunt.

Best known for *Shed & Buried*, *Find It Fix It Flog It* and *The Motorbike Show*, Henry takes a short break from digging around in sheds in a new quest to unearth ancient artefacts buried beneath Britain's green and pleasant land.

Joining him are five dedicated teams of the UK's top metal detectorists, who are given a unique opportunity to investigate some of the country's finest historical sites, getting 48 hours to go where no detectorist has gone before.

Their finds are assessed and scored by expert judges. Archaeologist Dr Susheela Burford (the show's Finds Liaison Officer) evaluates the historical interest and significance of each item, then awards a number of points, from five for the most interesting, down to one for the least.

To add some extra excitement, auctioneer and independent valuer Adam Partridge then takes a look and hands out a bonus point for the find with the highest monetary value.

Scores accumulate across the five episodes, shown over successive evenings from Monday to Friday, and whichever duo has the highest at the end of the week wins the prestigious GBTH trophy - and the satisfaction of being judged the best amongst their detectorist peers!

Henry and the detectorist duos start their search at Ardington House in Oxfordshire before heading off around the country to another location for each following episode. The final episode was filmed at Stowe, however, due to the National Trust policy of no metal detecting on their land, the Treasure Hunters used neighbouring farmers fields.

Episode one of Henry Cole's Great British Treasure Hunt will air on ITV4 at 9pm on Monday 14 March 2022, then daily until Stowe is featured on Friday 18 March.

Further details can be found on the [ITV Hub](#).

# CASPAR

Upcoming Old Stoic singer songwriter Caspar (Chatham 17), established himself as a popular artist when he leapt on the live music scene last year.

As a support act on tour with the Southern blues rock band "Broken Witt Rebels", Caspar unveiled songs from his forthcoming debut album, drawing plaudits for his emotive lyrics and singing style.

Just two months on and signed to Lastman Music, Caspar is poised to really make his mark on the music world with the release of his first single, 'The Void.'

Caspar's music has been described as a 'blend of original, traditional and contemporary songs combined with rock and blues elements' that fuse to create an 'emotional resonance and punk energy that the genre demands,' while his lyrics reflect his belief in the importance of self-expression, authenticity and the aimless mindset of modern life.

Influenced by a whole range of contemporary artists, significantly Nick Drake, Jackson Browne and Elliott Smith, Caspar says of his writing style: "I trust that, because we are all going through the same human experience, nothing we perceive is truly special or unique to ourselves. On that level I hope that my songs will generate some kind of connection."

Caspar enjoys the vulnerability of being a solo artist on stage, finding it inspiring and in some cases testing when he steps up to play to new audiences. He has many exciting plans for 2022, aside from the release of his new album, he will be back on the road this Spring and appearing at various festivals throughout the Summer.







## Polo National Champions!

On Sunday 6 March Stowe took four Polo teams to Rugby Polo Club to the SUPA Polo Championships. This was the most teams attending from any one school.

Our A team, Captained by Lucas Stern (Fifth Form, Grenville) with Luca Natella (Fourth Form, Cobham) and Archie Heseltine (Fourth Form, Cobham), had two fantastic matches against Cheltenham and Marlborough, to beat Harrow in the final in a very tense and exciting match!

Amazing performances from the whole team saw Stowe win the title, which they haven't done for five years, a fantastic result.

In the Higher Intermediate Section, Rafi Mahmood (Upper Sixth, Walpole), India Baillie (Lower Sixth, Queen's) and Charlie Hodges (Third Form, Chatham) came Third, after some tricky matches against Radley and SUPA.

The Lower Intermediate team Captained by Freddie Farrell (Lower Sixth, Grenville),

Pia Glyn-Smith (Fifth Form, Lyttelton) and Archie Vernon Miller (Third Form, Chatham) came second, with a great performance.

The Novice Section, Captained by Tilly Poole (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton), and with Nikita Nedoshovenko (Lower Sixth, Walpole) and the third member of their team coming from Shrewsbury also came Second. Nikita was particularly happy that they were able to play in the colours of his country, Ukraine.

A chaotic but wonderful day had by all, thanks to all the Parents who supported the teams through the day.

The polo activity runs twice weekly at Kirtlington Polo Club on a Wednesday and Friday afternoon. All abilities are welcome, from complete beginners through to experienced players. If you are interested in trying this exciting sport then please contact **Mrs Corthine**.

**Fiona Corthine, Head of Polo**

 **SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES  
POLO ASSOCIATION**



# NETBALL



On Tuesday 8 March the U15A team took on Hurstpierpoint College in the National Cup Semi-Final.

Hurstpierpoint College made the long journey from Brighton to Stowe, giving Stowe the home crowd advantage.

As the game began it was Stowe's first Centre; setting the tone of the game Emelia Brett (Fourth Form, Queen's) took the first goal and the game was underway. In the first quarter, it was end to end with Emelia and Iona Clarke (Fourth Form, Queen's) securing goals for the side.

The quarter ended with Hurst being on top by two goals with some fantastic defensive work from Gwen Grovit (Fourth Form, Nugent) and Arianna Hay (Fourth Form, Cheshire).

Hurst had a strong defensive unit which forced Stowe to make some positional

changes in the attacking end with Arianna entering the second half as Goal Shooter.

Stowe had some excellent passages of play, with the ball flying down the court so easily with the dynamic duo of Josephine Parker (Fourth Form, Cheshire) and Maddie Baker (Fourth Form, Queen's) creating and driving into space.

From the hard work of the team and Mila Ratcliff (Fourth Form, Queen's) helping as a backup option Stowe were beginning to close the gap. It was a final big effort from Stowe in the last quarter, with everyone on the team pressuring every pass Hurst were making. Stowe played with confidence and determination, however Hurst took the win 33-20. A fantastic effort from all of the U15A squad and a great Cup run, congratulations to all the players.

**Simeone Compton, Head of Netball**

# Basketball

After two recent defeats against Stamford and Radley, the Basketball 1st team bounced back with an excellent 52-47 win against Bromsgrove on Saturday 5 March.

Gilbert Xu (Fourth Form, Chandos) hit two 3-pointers in the closing moments of the final quarter to take the game away from Bromsgrove. Other prominent scorers were Teide Lokpobiri (Upper Sixth, Chatham) with 16 points and Paddy Potts (Lower Sixth, Chandos) with 11 points.

The U16 team also played Bromsgrove on the same day, and they dominated the 2nd quarter of the match to lead 30-13 at half time. The team managed to stay ahead for the remainder of the match to claim an impressive 47-37 victory.

Top scorers were: Max LaGrande (Fourth Form, Temple) 11 points, Bradley Tyrer (Fifth Form, Grafton) 8 points and Gilbert Xu (Fourth Form, Chandos) 8 points.

**Isaac Michael, Head of Basketball**



# Mountain Biking



Mountain biking has literally taken off this term with the beginnings of Stowe's own mountain bike skills course.

Stowe cyclists have been working hard to make the course design a reality, by building some of the initial features each week. Following an intensive six-week coaching course in the Michaelmas Term, they have been developing their technique and skills further.

On Friday 11 February, Stowe's first ever mountain bike trip took place at Rushmere Country Park where Winton pupils Henry Clare (Fifth Form), Oliver Bicknell (Fifth Form) and Jack Robbins (Fourth Form) explored the trails and features in the park.

**Chris Grimble, Head of Cycling**

# The Egg Challenge

## Design and Technology Open Day Activity

It was wonderful to welcome future designers and innovators to take part in our Egg Challenge on the Lower School Open Day, earlier this month. Their task, to save Egbert the Eggventurous Egg as he hurtles towards the ground from a height of two metres! The pupils worked in small groups to design, then build their impact resistant egg floatation vehicle using a range of materials. Every group tackled the problem in a

different way, from aeroplane inspired gliders to parachutes and air bags; it was inspiring to see such a range of creative ideas. Finally, it was time to send Egbert on his way as Head of Design Martin Quinn tested the groups' final products. We are happy to say that five out of the six teams successfully saved Egbert. A cracking day was had by all and we look forward to welcoming the pupils back in the near future!



# Laocoön

Lower Sixth Artists have been making the most of the rich sculptural works around Stowe, such as the Laocoön statue in the North Hall, as part of their figure project exploring more expressive interpretations of the human body.

The statue depicts Laocoön and his sons battling against snakes that were sent by Poseidon as punishment for warning the Trojans against the wooden horse sent by the Greeks.

Stowe's current bronze copy, installed in 2019, was taken from Auguste-Jean-Marie Carbonneaux's (1769-1843) copy which was housed at Stowe from 1823 to 1848, and was itself a copy of the Vatican's statue.

At the same time, Jenny Saville and the Cubist movement served to inspire and challenge how the figure can be observed and conveyed in the subsequent artwork by pupils.

**Chris Grimble, Teacher of Art**





## Stoic Spotlight

# Chanel Fontaine-Geary

(LOWER SIXTH, QUEEN'S)

**In the next in our series of interviews with Stoics, we are delighted to introduce Chanel Fontaine-Geary.**

On Thursday 24 February, Emma Ballard from the online platform "Women & Golf" visited Stowe to meet with Golf Scholar Chanel Fontaine-Geary.

Visiting the new golf course, Club House and state-of-the-art Golf Studio (with Trackman and GASP Systems) and spending time with both Stowe's Golf Professional Andrew Hancox and Chanel, the article was published on International Women's Day, with links from Social Media to the article.

Emma is very keen to follow Chanel's golf progress and is looking forward to returning to Stowe later in the year to play the Golf Course, in all its splendour, with Andrew and Chanel.

**Following are some excerpts from the published article which can be found [here](#).**

### How did you get into golf?

I come from a long line of female golfers in my family, my Great-Grandma, Nan and Mum play(ed), so it was a really natural progression that I would play.

I think I first picked up a club at three years old. I've just always played, it's just a natural thing to me, I couldn't imagine not playing golf. As a junior, I played in events like the Wee Wonders in Scotland to gain experience and play some amazing golf courses. I ended up doing quite well with US Kids events, which meant I got to go to America and play a shortened version of Pinehurst. It got me really excited when I saw Michelle Wie's picture on the wall there.

### What does being the first girl Golf Scholar at Stowe mean to you? Is there any added pressure?

I'm proud to be the first girl golf scholar and think it's really quite cool! The pressure is there when it comes to differences because the other Scholars are boys. We're friends but I always want to try and match them, hit it as far as them, hit off the same tees. All of which has really benefited my game. I was nervous when I first started but that's gone now.

I'm definitely trying to influence other girls at Stowe to play golf. I like playing with the boys, but it would be good to have a female friend there too. I believe it's really important to be a good role model and show other girls in the school that golf could be a sport for them to play.

### How do you mix golf with your everyday school life at Stowe?

Now I'm in Sixth Form, things are a little more flexible as I have free periods. For example, I finish at 1pm on a Thursday. Normally I'll head to the golf course and try and get nine holes in before my studio lesson with Andrew. Obviously, if I have homework, that will take priority before my lesson.

I pretty much play every day, apart from Wednesday when I'll try something different like football, or sometimes I have a different sports match on a Saturday.

There's a real emphasis at Stowe that it shouldn't be about playing golf seven days a week. When I joined in the Third Form, it was emphasised that it was really important for me to develop other athletic skills, play team sports and play different types of sports where the ball moves itself.

### Who else do you play for apart from Stowe?

I'm Junior Captain of Bedfordshire County and have won the Junior Championship a couple of times. I'm also a member at Woburn Golf Club where I play for their scratch team, and also won the Junior Championship last Summer.

### What's your proudest moment so far?

Definitely winning the Welsh Faldo Series Championship at Rhuddlan Golf Club. I wasn't expecting much but managed to go three rounds and shoot six-under-par, which is the course record.

### Do you have a favourite golf course that you've played?

I think that my favourite is Royal Birkdale. I like links golf courses even though my actual golf game is probably more suited to a parkland course. I just love links golf.

### What are your ambitions for the future?

By the time I'm 18 I'd like to be playing off plus three. I want to be shooting three or four under consistently. I don't want to get amazing too young, I want to peak at the right times.

If I could win the AIG Women's Open, the US Women's Open and all the Majors, I think that would be pretty much my goals, hopefully, multiple times! But if I could just play in the AIG Women's Open once then that would be a dream come true.

# DRAMA



On Wednesday 2 March, the Lower Sixth Drama pupils brought the Dobinson Studio to life with their moving devised performances inspired by Michelle Obama and Emma Watson. Created in the style of Complicité Theatre Company, both casts delivered powerful performances, eliciting laughter and tears, and provoking important questions about what it means to be a woman today.

The evening began with 'Is Michelle Obama Dead', stunningly performed by Sophie Taylor (Lyttelton), Isa Reed (Stanhope), Bee Harvey-Craig (Cheshire), Sienna Bettany (Stanhope) and Bella Elliott (Stanhope). This unique performance unfolded in the form of a live-podcast, and included discussion about intersectionality, cultural appropriation and the importance of educating women across the globe. With stand-out performances from Sophie Taylor and Isa Reed, the cast captivated us with their use of spontaneous-improvisation, while encouraging us to consider our understanding of feminism.

This was shortly followed by a cleverly designed piece which posed questions about the true meaning of feminism. Structured around Emma Watson's 2014 United Nations Speech 'I am a feminist', this piece examined Watson's experiences as a young woman growing-up in the public-eye. Katarina Zant-Boer (Cheshire), Angelina Morton-Cutt (West), Lily Taylor (Fifth Form, Cheshire), Lila Hill (Lyttelton), Honor Macdonald (Stanhope) and Charlie Cole (Walpole) ingeniously used a combination of drama and humour which left us thinking about the importance of gender equality. Perhaps the most powerful moment of the evening was when this brilliant cast reinforced the message that we must all be brave enough to stand up for equality, and when confronting adversity, we must ask the question; "If not me, who? If not now, when?"

**Rebecca Clark, Director of Drama**





# Hockey

Our Third Form boys qualified for the Regional Finals, held on Tuesday 1 March, which was a great achievement. They acquitted themselves very well losing to St Edward's, then 1-0 to eventual champions Wellington, before beating Eton on flicks.

Buoyed with confidence having played at such a high level, they then beat Cokethorpe 9-0 the next day!

In the block against Bromsgrove on Saturday 5 March, the Seniors found the going tough, but the U16As & Bs were on fire with a cumulative 12-1. Other notable results were the Junior Colts C with a draw and the Yearling Bs with a 1-0 win.

In the block against Oakham on Saturday 26 February, there were wins for the 2nd XI, the Colts B, the Yearlings B and a particularly pleasing 5-1 win for the Junior Colts A team, who are showing tremendous progress this season. The 1st XI had a tight match just going down 1-2.

**Ben Scott, Head of Hockey**

# Netball

Huge congratulations to Izzy Kaye (Fifth Form, Cheshire) who represented England U17s over the weekend of 26-27 February, playing as Centre.

On Saturday 26 February we played our first ever block against the very strong Oakham. Whilst most matches did end with Oakham coming out on top, the experience of playing these top schools will develop our Netball teams and we will catch them up with further experience. Our team of the term, the U15A won 41-20 with Emelia Brett (Fourth Form, Queen's) and Arianna Hay (Fourth Form, Cheshire) being voted Players of the Match.

**Simeone Compton, Head of Netball**

# POLO

The Polo club travelled to Emsworth (near Windsor) on Sunday 27 February to play a match against Harrow. In an incredible A team match where 6-1 down in the second chukka, our team (Rafi Mahmood (Upper Sixth, Walpole), Luca Natella (Fourth Form, Cobham) and Archie Hestletine (Fourth Form, Cobham) made the ultimate comeback and beat Harrow 12-11.

The B team (Freddie Farrell (Lower Sixth, Grenville), India Baillie (Lower Sixth, Queen's), and new Third Former Charlie Hodges (Chatham) played a fantastic game and won 8-2.

**Fiona Corthine, Head of Polo**



# Football

## Girls' 1st XI Football: Rugby 0-2 Stowe

On Thursday 10 February, the girls' 1st XI played what is believed to be the first competitive girls' football fixture in Stowe's history.

During the Lent Term, the squad has quickly established itself as committed and enthusiastic, making impressive technical progress and showing a desire to be tested against other schools. The opportunity came on an afternoon of rather mixed weather conditions - sleet, rain and bright sunshine, and the venue was Rugby School. Having already played matches this season, Rugby represented a slightly more experienced opposition, but the Stowe girls acquitted themselves extremely well, ultimately recording a 0-2 victory to the delight of Head Coach, Thomas Webster and Assistant Coach, Nicola Borman.

The teams were fairly evenly matched during the early stages, but Stowe looked more like breaking the deadlock with their pace down the wings and their strength in midfield. The opening goal was provided by Vivianna Johnson (Lower Sixth, Cheshire), who put in a tireless performance throughout, and from then on Stowe remained in control of the game. Izzy Goldrick (Lower Sixth, Cheshire) was unfortunate to see a goal disallowed for a marginal offside (where's VAR when you need it?!), but super-sub Emily Sutton (Lower Sixth, Queen's) netted a second for Stowe, in the second half, to seal the win.

Special mentions must go to goalkeeper Elizabeth Knott (Lower Sixth, Cheshire), who made an important save from a free-kick to keep the score at 1-0, the back four, ably marshalled by Deborah James (Lower Sixth, Nugent), for providing a solid defence, and Izzy Goldrick (Lower Sixth, Cheshire), whose marauding runs down the wing provided several chances for the strikers. Extra special mentions go to Sofia Comino (Third Form, Stanhope), playing for the 1st XI while still in the Third Form, and Calypso Riviere (Lower Sixth, Nugent), who was dominant in midfield and turned in a true Captain's performance, earning Woman of the Match.

An excellent start to competitive girls' football at Stowe; we all look forward to seeing this team develop further and set the tone for years to come!

**Nicola Borman, Assistant Coach**

**For weekly reports  
on all Stowe Sports  
visit our website**

**[www.stowesport.co.uk](http://www.stowesport.co.uk)**

# Sport In Brief



## Rugby Beyond Stowe

The U18 Academy season came to its final stages on Sunday 27 February, and it was great to see our local team Northampton Saints make the Grand Final against the Bristol Bears. Even more pleasing was to see Lower Sixth Formers Henry Pollock (Grafton), Archie McParland (Temple) and Ewan Baker (Chatham) representing the Saints.

Earlier in the week, Will Plessis (Lower Sixth, Grenville) made his first appearance for The Scarlets in the Welsh Academy league. Will also made his International debut. Playing at number 8 in the Welsh U18 1st team, in their Six Nations warm up match against Scotland, Will had a fantastic game and was on the winning side as Wales also beat Scotland 31-17.

1st XV players, Henry Pollock (Lower Sixth, Grafton) and Archie McParland (Lower Sixth, Temple) have been selected to train with England U17s in Bristol from 11-13 March. Congratulations to all!

## Squash

The Stowe squash courts have been refurbished and brought back up to tournament standard. Our teams continue to make effective use of them with wins on Thursday 10 February against Rugby at 1st and 2nd team level, and on Thursday 24 February against Bedford School.

## Fencing

On Tuesday 8 February, the team had a memorable trip to Eton College for a match held at their historic Fencing Hall. Training continues on Tuesday evenings and is open to all who wish to give the sport a try.

## Swimming

Well done to Charlotte Hall (Third Form, Cheshire) and Izzy Cox (Fourth Form, Cheshire) who reached several individual finals with some podium finishes in the County Championships on Saturday 5 February. This is a testament to their commitment as they regularly swim for 14 hours a week.

On Thursday 3 March, the full Stowe team beat Marlborough College and Bradfield College, in the Tri Cup in a highly charged atmosphere in our own pool.

## Cross country

The biggest distance travelled by any of our sports teams on Saturday 5 March, was by the six Cross Country athletes who travelled to Worksop to race a quick 5.3km course around the breezy Derbyshire countryside.

The whole team did Stowe proud and the star performer of the day was Charlotte Hall (Third Form, Cheshire), who finished Third overall out of a field of 40 females athletes including Sixth Formers.



# Netball

Stowe netball faced another new test with a full block against Bromsgrove on Saturday 5 March. The Senior teams were competitive but were second best to their experienced opponents, however, the Junior teams won four out of the seven fixtures.

Also on Saturday 5 March, the U15s had a big tournament at Uppingham where they finished third overall.

**Simeone Compton, Head of Netball**

## Badminton

Our girls' 1st team hosted a strong Cheltenham team on Saturday 26 February. Although the team went down 7-2, our 1st pair Deborah James (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Yuki Jiang (Lower Sixth, West) won two of their matches 21-11 and 21-13.

The boys' 1st team avenged their defeat against Cheltenham on Saturday 26 February with a gritty performance to win 5-4 on Saturday 5 March. There were some very close matches. 1st pair Ben Li (Upper Sixth, Cobham) and Joshua

Mital (Lower Sixth, Winton) won all three of their matches and beat their 1st and 2nd pairs 21-19; 21-20 respectively.

Victory was secured when 2nd pair Arin Chatsuwon (Fifth Form, Grenville) and George Owen-Thursfield (Lower Sixth, Temple) beat their 3rd pair 21-17 and 3rd pair Alexander Gu (Lower Sixth, Walpole) and Oliver Dickmann-Peña (Third Form, Winton) beat their counterparts 21-20.

**Isaac Michael, Head of Badminton**

## Rugby 7s

The Senior and U16 7s squads travelled to Oakham on Sunday 6 March, to take part in a tournament of 16 strong schools to prepare for the Rosslyn Park tournament at the end of Lent Term.

Both teams won three games and lost three games with all the matches being close and competitive.

The Seniors eventually just lost in the Bowl Final, but the Colts ended up as the winners of the Shield Competition. Well done to Captain Harvey Poole (Fifth Form, Winton), Player of the Day Rory Adams (Fifth Form, Winton) and top try scorer Tom Mayo (Fifth Form, Winton).

# CAREERS

## US College Conference



On Friday 25 February, Stowe welcomed 24 schools, including independent and state schools, to our first annual US College Inter-School Professional Development Day. The day was co-hosted by David Hawkins, The University Guy, who is an expert in supporting applications to elite US colleges and universities.

The day started off with an overview of key trends in US applications, testing where the general consensus was that, even if a course might state SAT/ACT optional, our pupils should take the test to demonstrate academic competence and potential. SATs and ACTs are also a gateway to many scholarships at US colleges.

The various types of higher education experiences available to Stoics were explored with the expert help of Rutgers University, Vassar College and Georgetown University. It was interesting to hear from a range of size and specialist universities and colleges. With over 6,000 US colleges to choose from, it is clearly important to look beyond the university's that pupils know of, from watching TV.

At Stowe, we have an outstanding range of support available to pupils. From a dedicated International University Advisor, our resident Harvard Scholar, SAT/ACT maths and essay clinics, to an abundance of specialist Academic Staff who can support pupils with writing Common App and other entrance essays.

Fifth Form pupils considering applying to the US should contact **Mrs Guntner-Jones** for assistance and to register to SAT/ACT classes. The Fifth Form has an assembly before the Easter break to promote early preparation for the more complex US college applications.

Sports at Stowe have always been popular and many pupils ask about sports scholarships. Holly Cram and Brett Taylor from Aspire USA presented an outstanding overview of US sports scholarship applications. Lastly, we heard from Elizabeth Verner-Pollard from Unifrog about how the platform can help pupils search for opportunities for courses and scholarships in the US. Stowe has been using Unifrog for the past few years and has found it a good first step for pupils to use with Parents, when searching for colleges and universities in the US. This is available to all Stoics, who receive an induction into Unifrog in the Third Form and again in the Fifth Form when they choose their A Level options.

Sixth Form Tutors then encourage pupils to continue to use Unifrog for a range of activities including searching for US colleges and preparing for Common App essays. An outstanding tool which I think more schools will start to use following the conference presentation at Stowe.

**Dr Gordon West, Head of Careers (Universities, Careers & Gap Years)**



### US UNIVERSITY TIMELINE

Michaelmas L6th

Lent L6th

Summer L6th

Michaelmas U6th

Build your college list

Meet with colleges or connect via email

SAT / ACT preparation

Visit colleges in the USA

Request references and school materials

Take SAT or ACT

Work on essays and application portals





# CAREERS

## Is Work Experience Important?



Work experience is an important part of any UCAS, international university or degree apprenticeship application and pupils should consider how they will source work experience this Easter or Summer break. If your Son or Daughter is in the Fifth or Lower Sixth Form, have they spoken to you about work experience?

From simply applying and getting paid for a Summer job, volunteering or using your social and professional networks to source a placement, now is the time to start networking and applying, especially in the most competitive sectors such as Law, Medicine, Engineering, Banking...

There are also a range of commercial companies that can help pupils with immersive experiences. A popular example of this is Invest.

A recent survey showed two thirds of employers look for graduates with relevant work experience because it helps them prepare for work and develop general business awareness. Importantly, one third of employers felt that applicants did not have a satisfactory level of knowledge about their chosen career or job.

To gain a better understanding of a career, organise some work experience or a few days' work shadowing with an employer. It may not give time to develop job-specific skills, but it can give an insight into the work involved. It also shows motivation and commitment. For advice on how to source work experience, please email [Mrs Guntner-Jones](mailto:Mrs Guntner-Jones) to book a careers appointment.

Alternatively, pupils could gain relevant work experience as part of a vocational programme, such as an apprenticeship or the growing number of degree programmes with integrated work placements. The Lower Sixth are currently exploring higher education options and should consider internships when planning their life after Stowe.

- Internships can last from a few weeks to up to a year and could be something organised for a summer holiday or a gap year. Depending on the type of contract, a wage maybe received. Internships are available in many sectors and industries such as business, law, marketing, engineering, and hospitality, and can give the opportunity to gain more career-specific skills and knowledge. They are very popular and competition for places is high, so applications need to be as early as possible.
- Sandwich degrees normally last four years and include a year working in industry with an employer. Most placements offer a salary, and they are a great opportunity to gain in-depth experience of work in the chosen field.

### Want to find out more?

Here are some reports and surveys which give detailed insight into the careers of the future:

**Top Tips and Guidance from People who Recruit** - a great guide produced by CIPD. It's packed full of advice directly based on what recruiters say - what they look for when they pick out the best job applications, the kinds of questions they ask at interview, and how they choose who to give the job, apprenticeship, or work experience opportunity to. You will also find a section on what to do if you haven't got any work experience, including information on volunteering and how it can boost your chances of finding a job.

**What are the 21st century skills every student needs?** An insightful article from the World Economic Forum about the skills needs of the future, with references to key research and reports.

**Working Futures (UKCES)** - based on detailed labour market information, this report offers a forecast for job opportunities in the UK up to the year 2024, based on past behaviour and performance. The report isn't intended to offer precise predictions, but an indication of which industries might expand, which might contract, and on what scale.

**Careers of the Future and the Future of Work: jobs and skills in 2030 (UKCES)** - a piece of research exploring the future of work, and how jobs and the skills needed in the workplace will change by 2030.

**Sector Insights (UKCES)** - a collection of reports that look at particular sectors in the UK to identify the outlook for jobs and skills, identify major trends affecting each sector, and how the mix of skills needs is likely to change over the next decade. These reports also investigate employers' perceptions of the skills needs of specific occupations, and the challenges employers have in meeting those needs.

**Education and skills survey 2019 - the Right Combination (CBI/Pearson)** - this report provides useful insight into the skills employers are looking for, based on the results of a survey of nearly 500 organisations in the UK.

**Skills Matter (OECD report) - a survey of adult skills in 28 OECD countries.** It was developed to provide a picture of the match between the supply and demand for skills, how labour markets are changing, and how well equipped their citizens are to participate in and benefit from increasingly knowledge-based economies.

**Dr Gordon West, Head of Careers (Universities, Careers & Gap Years)**



EXPERIENCE

# MATHS TALKS

## Comets, Love & Guinness

The Gaussian Society met on Wednesday 7 February to hear talks from Benedict Hartigan (Upper Sixth, Grafton) and Josha Mital (Lower Sixth, Winton).

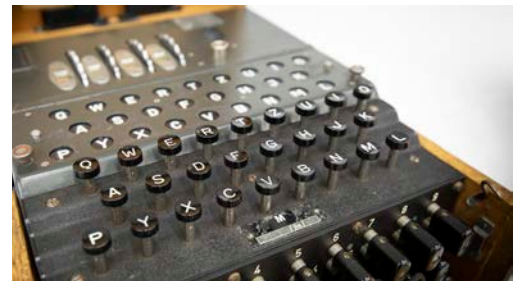
Benedict Hartigan gave an overview of how he taught himself to code in Python and used numerical methods in calculus to simulate the orbits and motions of free bodies in space.

Benedict aspires to being able to plan the trajectory for a mission to another planet and the highlight of his work so far is how he modelled the very eccentric orbit of a comet;

those spectacular cosmic snowballs that leave visible trails stretching out for millions of miles.

Josha Mital ended proceedings with a light-hearted repurposing of the Drake Equation, normally used to analyse the probability of there being extra-terrestrial life, to the problem of finding love, before he talked us through the motion of bubbles in Guinness and why the shape of the glass is so important.

**Dr Charles Adkins, Teacher of Maths**



## Kimi Chen Published in Chalkdust Magazine

Kimi Chen (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) has published an article in Chalkdust Magazine, telling the story about how Polish cryptographers broke the Enigma code. You can read the article, 'How Polish cryptographers first broke the unbreakable cipher' in Chalkdust Magazine [here](#).

**Dr Charles Adkins, Teacher of Maths**



## Lower School Inter-House Literary Challenge

The final rounds of this year's Lower School Inter-House Literary Challenge took place on Thursday 3 March on World Book Day.

Each House sent two representatives from the Third and Fourth Form and they were challenged with five different rounds, from general knowledge to a picture round where they had to use their wits to work out the name and author of the book.

It was a close competition with Cobham winning in the last round. In second place was Nugent, and third was Queen's. To work out the overall winners of the competition, the combined scores from both the Third and Fourth Form, and previous Fifth Form challenge were calculated.

Congratulations to Cobham who are this year's overall winners of the Lower School Inter-House Literary Challenge (with 98 points). Second were Nugent with 94 points and third Queen's with 84 points.

Well done to all the pupils who took part, and thank you from the Library to all our Stoic Librarians, Library Prefects and Teachers who came along to support the event.

**Lucinda Stockley, Assistant Librarian**

*Stowe* mail

## Middle Eastern Languages Talk

For our third Languages Society event of the Lent Term, our guest speaker was Jim Sheppe, the new Head of the Classics Department at Stowe.

Mr Sheppe presented on Middle Eastern languages, mainly Arabic, Turkish and Persian. His passion for Middle Eastern languages started when he met his neighbour, who he later went on to study Quranic Arabic with.

We learnt that the way words and phrases are formed in Arabic is completely different from Indo European languages. For example, the word "book" has the same root as the word "library", as they are all based on the root word "to write".

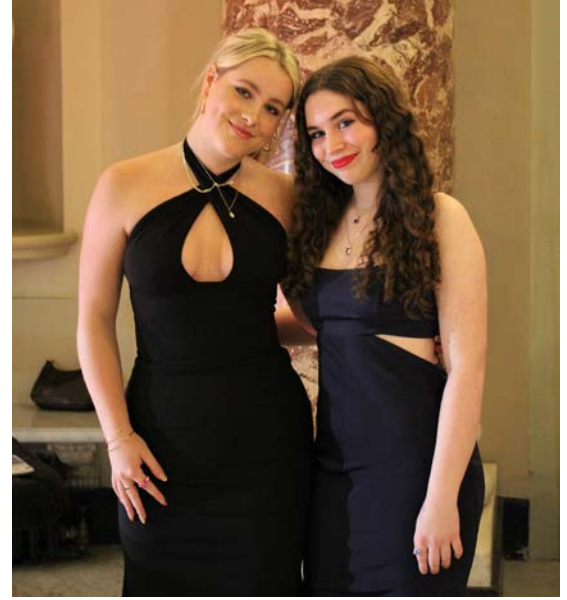
What was surprising, was the multitude of Arabic dialects that exist amongst North African and Middle Eastern countries, meaning a Moroccan speaker can't really talk to an Iraqi speaker.

Mr Sheppe then went on to present the Turkic languages - which are spread from Turkey all the way to Siberia, and the Persian language - spoken in Iran and Afghanistan but which unlike Arabic, has European roots. The word for thank you, for instance, is "mersi" - like the French "merci".

Lastly, we listened to a typical Arabic song and watched a video on "tarof", an Iranian tradition of politeness and good manners.

Mr Sheppe's enthusiasm and love for the Middle East was obvious, and we would like to thank him very much for taking the time to share his knowledge with us.

**Tom Gibson (Upper Sixth, Cobham)**



# Casino Royale Sixth Form Ball

**On Saturday 26 February, the Service@Stowe Conservation Project hosted the first ever Casino Royale themed Sixth Form Ball.**

The event itself was a night to remember with games of Blackjack, Poker and Roulette proving very popular amongst Stoics, and the DJ and music brought an amazing atmosphere to the Mable Hall.

We sold over 270 tickets and were delighted to fundraise over £4,300. The funds will support a number of activities the Conservation Project, is running in partnership with the The National Trust. These include:

- Creating an interactive nature trail, which incorporates an Augmented Reality App designed by the Stowe Coding Club, where young children follow the story of different woodland animals around Stowe and learn more about them.
- Building a treehouse by the lake in the Stowe grounds, which acts as an Educational Centre.
- Setting up wildlife cameras to show live video feeds of the animals living in the Stowe grounds.
- Hosting a Nature day in the Summer Term, inviting primary school children

and local elderly groups to engage in environmental activities, such as listening to talks, debates, poetry and music, bush craft skills, doing butterfly counts, exploring nature trails and pond dipping for invertebrates.

We hope everyone who attended the Ball had a wonderful time. The games created a competitive spirit and there were some impressive winning streaks! There can however only be one winner who was Rafi Mahmood (Upper Sixth, Walpole).

Many hours were spent planning the Ball and delivering the event on the night, and the Committee learnt a huge amount about team work and event planning. We were delighted to receive a multitude of positive remarks from other Sixth Formers.

With this invaluable experience under our belt and the feedback from our peers, we aim to make this event even better next year, which we very much look forward to.

The Lower Sixth Fundraising Committee: Casey Lo (Stanhope), Phoebe Achmann-Mwanza (Stanhope), Sienna Bettany (Stanhope), Kristy Achmann-Mwanza (Lyttelton), Luke Evans (Cobham), Rory Baker (Grafton), Alice Scheffey (Queen's) and India Baillie (Queen's).

# Knit and Natter

**Coffee & Conversations with guests from Gradwell**

On Monday 7 February members of the Visiting the Elderly Team hosted a "Knit and Natter" session at the Stowe National Trust's New Inn.

Five lovely residents, from the Gracewell Care Home in Chackmore joined Stoics for an afternoon of conversation, crafts and tea.

The event was success, and the Visiting the Elderly Programme plans to continue to host "Knit and Natter" sessions throughout the year.

The Visiting the Elderly Team would like to thank The National Trust for allowing us to gather in their lovely community space, as well as for generously providing the tea and coffee at the event.

**Andrea Westmoreland, Service@Stowe**



# HOUSE NEWS



**Liam Copley and Rachael Scott-Copley will be stepping down as Houseparent and Matron of Chatham House at the end of the Summer Term 2022, as Liam will be taking up the post of Senior Deputy Head of Stowe when Mark Wellington retires at the end of this academic year.**

Whilst congratulations go to Liam on this well-deserved promotion, it is also a source of sadness that Chatham will be losing such a talented Houseparent and much-loved Matron. Liam has led Chatham with commitment, expertise and care for nine years after joining Stowe from The Leys School, Cambridge, where he was Director of Sport and Head of Geography. In that time, Liam has transformed Chatham by rediscovering its original ethos; encouraging inclusivity, tolerance and respect; while balancing sport, drama and music to make Chatham the House of all talents. Rachael's friendly greeting to every Chatham boy will be remembered fondly for a long time to come.

Stowe is delighted, however, to announce that Patrick (Paddy) Dias,

## Chatham Houseparent Change



Acting Head of Sports Science and Assistant Houseparent of Grenville House has been appointed the new Houseparent of Chatham.

Paddy joined the Department of Sports Science at Stowe in 2020, a year after his wife, Vicki, who, currently, is on maternity leave. Paddy taught at Durham School for 11 years and during his career there was Head of Boys' Games, a Resident House Tutor, Junior Houseparent and Head Cricket Coach. Paddy has also played elite rugby for Newcastle Falcons. Paddy is a popular and respected role model and Tutor and brings the best out of those under his care.

We wish Paddy, Vicki and their baby son, Teddy, happiness and success in their move to Chatham, and best wishes to Liam in his new role.

## Not an average day as a Matron

In September 2021, Lisa West joined Stowe as the new Matron of the growing Day House Winton.

It is common knowledge that Staff and pupils have an active life at Stowe and as evidence, according to Lisa's Apple Watch, on Thursday 3 March, Lisa walked just over 13 miles and climbed 34 flights of stairs!

It should be noted that 3 March was beyond an average day as the Winton Fifth Form enjoyed a late-night chilli/nacho feast to celebrate Thomas Mayo's 16th birthday, which was conceptualised by Owen Merrison (Fifth Form, Winton) and executed by Matron with homemade Mexican food, a movie and some well-deserved fun.

Thank you to all Stowe's Matrons for working so hard. Our pupils, Parents and Staff appreciate your dedication and professionalism.



- 26,441 steps
- 13 miles
- 34 flights of stairs
- 100% fun!

SOUTHSIDE 2022

# TOM WALKER & LULU

SOUTHSIDE 2022 Friday 27 May Tickets £40

BOOK  
TICKETS  
NOW



**TOM WALKER**, Brit award-winning breakthrough artist in 2019, and the incredible musical legend **LULU** will headline this year's SOUTHSIDE 22 concert.

After two years without a SOUTHSIDE concert, we are back with a bang!

Book tickets online at  
[www.stowe.co.uk/southside2022](http://www.stowe.co.uk/southside2022)  
or call 01280 818282

As always, picnics are welcome but great festival food and drink will be available to purchase on the night. Join us from 5pm onwards, the music will begin at 7.45pm. Please note, it will not be necessary to book tickets for current Stoics.

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@RIPphotographyUK

**if you have tickets from the previous Tom Walker concert, they are still valid!**



# STREET CHILD

## STREET CHILD SPRING GALA DINNER

As Co-Chair of Street Child, Dr Anthony Wallersteiner invites parents to the first ever Street Child Spring Gala Dinner on 21 April 2022 at Pan Pacific London.

There will be a superb three course dinner, silent and live auctions with unmissable prizes. The dress code is black tie and tickets can be purchased [here](#).

Street Child stands with children and families in Ukraine and has, therefore, launched the Charity's first Crisis Appeal in Europe, with 100% of donations made to the [Ukraine Crisis Appeal](#) being directed to local organisations in Ukraine.

Street Child believes that all children deserve an education. The Charity's core purpose is to see all children safe, in school and learning, especially in low-resource environments and emergencies. Since 2008, they have reached more than 650,000 children to provide them with services such as direct access to education and mental health provision. They are experts in education, economic empowerment and child protection programming; working in conflict and post-conflict regions and are often the only organisation offering targeted support to children in these tough environments. Among the places Street Child works are Liberia, DR Congo, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Nepal, South Sudan, Mozambique, Nigeria, Cameroon and Burundi.

Anthony hopes that you will be able to join him for what promises to be an unforgettable evening.



# Support for Ukraine

Ukrainian pupil Nikita Nedoshovenko (Lower Sixth, Walpole) spoke in Assembly on Monday 28 February: "As you know war has broken out in Ukraine, and as a result, hundreds of thousands of people are fleeing to the west to seek refuge. Most have fled with barely anything, some of them by car, others by foot, walking to the borders of Romania, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary and having to wait in line for days to be able to cross borders that were ordinarily open to them.

I am sure that all of you will have been shocked and touched by the events in Ukraine that you have seen in the news and will show your support by participating in various events that are being organised across The Stowe Group in the coming weeks, to help support the people of Ukraine and those affected by the conflict.

God save Ukraine."

### Home School Clothes Day

Home Clothes Day took place on Wednesday 2 March. Those participating were encouraged to wear blue and yellow, the colours of the Ukrainian Flag, to continue to raise awareness about the crisis in Ukraine.

£2 from pupils' pocket money was donated to the British Red Cross "Ukraine Crisis appeal" with donations helping someone affected by the conflict to receive food, water, first aid, medicines, warm clothes and shelter.

### Laptop Collection

Unused (but functioning) laptops are being collected to donate to refugees (from a range of countries). Particularly useful for facilitating English-learning programmes, Stowe is supporting a collection that is being organised locally.

If you would like to donate a laptop please contact [Nicola Borman](#).

### Donations

The School is keen to provide physical support, as well as monetary support, for those affected by the current crisis, and as such a collection was made of donated items such as toiletries, sanitary products, new underwear, thermals, sleeping bags, toys, first aid items, baby formula, baby food, dummies for babies and milk bottles, to help the refugees arriving in neighbouring countries.

If anyone has contacts in neighbouring countries to Ukraine e.g. Slovakia, Poland could they please reach out to them, and ask if they know of any local churches or organisations to which we could send further items. Please contact [Andrea Westmorland](#) or [Fran Shah](#) with any details.

# Safeguarding at Stowe

**Thinkuknow** has launched **#AskTheAwkward**, a resource for parents and carers of secondary-aged children, to help them have regular conversations with their children about online relationships.

The resource includes three short films and a series of help sheets covering themes raised in the films, including: exploring sex, sexuality and identity online; starting new relationships online; sharing nudes and semi-nudes; and unwanted sexual contact online.

#AskTheAwkward - help to talk with your children about online relationships.

[thinkuknow.co.uk](http://thinkuknow.co.uk)

**Mike Rickner, Designated Safeguarding Lead**





## Dylan Announces

Fantastic news for the music success of Old Stoic Dylan (AKA Tash Woods (Queen's 18), who announced on Tuesday 8 March, that she will be supporting Bastille on their upcoming UK tour.

In addition to Bastille, in support of the Teenage Cancer Trust, on Saturday 27 March at the Royal Albert Hall, Dylan announced that she would be supporting Ed Sheeran!

This is a huge milestone and hopefully a big upwards trajectory to pop superstardom!

## Stowe Allotment Help

The allotment activity run by Service@Stowe has asked for help to collect any donations of any old or unneeded tools or gardening equipment.

If something comes to mind and you are certain that it will not see another useful day - we can assure you that the pupils will find it a pleasant purpose.

Any donation would be very appreciated but there are some things particularly sought after. If you have any of the following please email

**Angela Bristow:**

- Topsoil • Gardening Gloves
- Forks • Spades • Trowels
- Fleece • Shed
- Seeds / Plant Starters
- Manure • Wheelbarrow
- Weeding Knives • Water Butts



# FLIX

## and... ACTION!

In the last edition of Stowemail, we invited Parents, friends of the School, Old Stoics and Staff to loan film and media related items to our **and... ACTION!** exhibition, which will be taking place in March 2023 as part of the School's 100-year celebration festivities. The aim is to display anything from autographs and posters, to press cuttings and costumes and props.

The exhibition will be in the Watson Gallery and will tie-in with a planned short series of film screenings and a film conference for Sixth Formers.

So far we have had several offers from readers – many thanks, but we are keen to hear from more of you.

If you have anything you would like to put on display, please contact **Anna Semler** of the Old Stoics' Society who is compiling a list of possible contributors.

**and... ACTION** already looks set to be a highlight of my year, help make it one of yours by getting involved.

**Dr Andrew Webber, Film Studies Department**

### Stowe Bike Servicing & Maintenance

For all servicing and repairs please contact:

Nick Zammit 07801 106842 or

[nzammit@stowe.co.uk](mailto:nzammit@stowe.co.uk)



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