

Stowe mail

TATLER
2023 BEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

V 14 I S S U E 4
16 DECEMBER 2022
NEWS FROM STOWE



Grease

As the lights dimmed in The Roxy for the matinee performance of Grease on Saturday 10 December, there was real anticipation in the air.

Stowe has built an incredibly strong reputation for its Senior Congreve performances, led by Director of Drama, Rebecca Clark and fantastically assisted by Laura Parker. The Stoics and Staff work very hard over the Michaelmas Term to put on these shows and the standard of performances would not be out of place

on a West End stage. As a School, we set the bar very high, so one always sits down with the thought that the cast could not possibly match the performance from the previous year.

In recent years, Stowe has been building up our number of Drama Scholars and it was wonderful to see so many of them play a role in this performance, alongside Drama Exhibitioners and Drama pupils in this Musical which was written in 1971 by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey.





Acting is one skill in itself, but to be able to act and sing is quite another, and this 50 strong cast proved without a doubt the talent in our pupil body.

The cast were led by the wonderful pairing of Danny and Sandy, Edward Mercer (Fifth Form, Grafton) and Katarina Zant-Boer (Upper Sixth, Cheshire), who gave such convincing performances of the star couple, with Edward ably supported by the T Birds and Sandy by the Pink Ladies.

There were so many strong performances to note in this show it is hard not to list them! Danny and Sandy lived up to their roles, playing them with confidence and conviction. Their rendition of 'Summer Nights' had even the most die-hard Musical cynic (the reviewer) tapping her feet. The troubled Rizzo gave an emotionally charged performance of 'There are worse things I could do'. And, no one could fail to be amazed by the ethereal execution of 'Beauty School Dropout' performed by Rafe Gordon (Upper Sixth, Winton) who superbly hit the high note at the end of the song.

It is hard to talk about this Musical without mentioning the forceful performances of the rebel and outcast T Birds, Roger, Kenickie, Doody and Sonny Latieri, played with grit and gusto by James Smith (Fifth Form, Winton), Oliver Lane (Lower Sixth, Temple), Tomisin Ibitoye (Fourth Form, Chandos) and Owen Gunn (Lower Sixth, Chandos).

The Pink Ladies, Jan, Marty, Frenchy and Rizzo represent the girls who did not conform to societal norms of the time and these were equally powerful and convincing performances by Sophie Lloyd (Lower Sixth, Nugent), Annie Flint (Lower Sixth, Queen's), Angelina Morton-Cutt (Upper Sixth, West) and Lila Hill (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton).

The creepy Vince Fontaine was played by Max James (Upper Sixth, Cobham), who reminds us that this show tackles some of the real teenage issues of the time, and the show did not shy away from these which were never far from the surface. A show that confronts the gritty working class subculture of the 1950s and tackles teenage pregnancy, grooming, gang culture, and largely immigrant children who are marginalised within their school communities. We witnessed these teenagers struggling to fit in and find their place in the school council, the cheerleading squads and sports teams, beautifully represented by the annoyingly proper Eugene, played by Charlie Cole (Upper Sixth, Walpole) and relentlessly jolly cheerleader Patty, played by Isabella Reed (Upper Sixth, Stanhope) and, of course, led by the prim and proper Head, Miss Lynch. Amina Aldabergenova (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) is a terrifying Headmistress in the making!

The wider cast provided the perfect chorus, and the energy on stage was electric as they ably danced and sang their way through some of the most recognisable

songs in Musical history. This show was really physical, and there was not a step out of place; the cast navigated the often packed stage, scene changes and the terrific choreography created by Kezia Clark-Jones (Queen's 18).

The set and lighting design created a sense of life on the margins, with such wonderful transitions between the diner scenes, the bleachers and who could fail to be impressed by the T Birds' car and workshop. Was I expecting a real car on stage (ably moved around the set by the cast)? Well, this is Stowe, so the answer is yes! Head of Art, Daniel Scott, was the mastermind behind the set creation and was ably supported by pupils and Staff who helped to create a dynamic and convincing set. In this, his last show at Stowe, Robert Parker supported by Keith Baker were the wizards behind lighting and sound design, with Rob overall Production Manager and Keith Set Realisation.

A Musical is nothing without the musicians, who expertly provided the instrumental support for the performers but also worked incredibly hard to ensure that the score was adapted for Stowe, ensuring smooth transitions between scenes and stage positions. Our band of musicians, led by the show's Musical Director, Emma Bryden, did not disappoint.

As the final scene played out and Sandy and Danny went through their respective transformations (huge credit must go to Dr Jo Riley for costume design), it was hard to stay in one's seat, and it was not long before the whole audience was up and dancing with the cast.

Each performance of the show was a sellout, and the cast even allowed an audience to attend the technical rehearsal, so not to disappoint those keen to experience Stowe at its finest. One must not forget the huge number of Staff from the Drama, Music, Art and other School Departments who support these performances backstage, and the incredible assistance of Stoics who helped to manage the stage. There was even support from the Stowe House Preservation Trust's Sadie Bull and Simon Wales, who managed the ticket office and front of house and without whom the show could not have opened. It is absolutely the case that these shows would not be possible without such goodwill and camaraderie!

For all those for whom this was their first experience of a Stowe Musical, it cannot have failed to impress. For the repeat audience member, this show has set the bar even higher, if that is even possible!

Bravo!

Tori Roddy, Group Director of Marketing and Admissions (and reluctant Musical convert)

A behind the scenes film of the production will be available to view in the New Year.



Prep School Art Festival

On Wednesday 9 November, the Art Department hosted its fourth Prep School Art Festival, inviting 70 pupils from 14 Prep schools to participate in a day of high energy creativity and experimentation.

This year's theme, 'Under the Sea', focused on the wonders of the oceans and all its inhabitants, challenging pupils to celebrate this rich and diverse world through sculpture, print, spray painting and virtual reality. Our Department Staff worked in steady carousel to make sure everyone experienced the different media on offer, culminating in an exhibition of over 150 works for pupils, Staff and Parents to enjoy.

We are indebted to the Art Department Staff, Stowe's Art Scholars and the Marketing & Admissions Team for helping make this day so enjoyable for all those who came.

Daniel Scott, Head of Art



Old Stoics A Royal Weekend in Edinburgh

Old Stoics gathered in Edinburgh on Friday 25 November, to celebrate the start of Stowe's Centenary Year. We began with an informal pub gathering at The Wally Dug, for Old Stoics under the age of 23, to bring together those who are studying in Edinburgh or living nearby. We were delighted to unite over 30 Old Stoics for the occasion, along with a handful of OS from other vintages who live nearby. A relaxed evening was enjoyed by all and continued until last orders! We would like to thank OS Rikki McCowen (Grenville 01), for kindly hosting us at his extremely popular pub.

The evening of Saturday 26 November played host to an entirely different occasion: sixty Old Stoics, Parents and Friends of Stowe came together for the Old Stoic Dinner in Edinburgh, aboard HM Yacht Britannia. Our guests were greeted by bagpipes before entering the Royal Yacht and enjoying arrival drinks in the Drawing Room. They were then able to explore various areas of the ship including the Captain's Quarters, Officers Mess and even the royal bedrooms! A pianist played throughout, adding to the luxurious ambiance of the evening. A delicious four course dinner was served in the State Dining Room with guests served local specialities including Scottish Salmon and Scotch Beef Fillet. After Dinner, our OS representative for Scotland, Adrian Laird Craig (Bruce 72) delivered the Loyal Toast. OS Chair, Luke Chauveau (Cobham 87), thanked everyone for attending and introduced our Guest of Honour, OS President, The Baroness Fraser of Craigmaddie (née Struthers, Stanhope 86).

Baroness Fraser delivered a lively and entertaining speech, reflecting on Stowe's links to Scotland: the last owner of Stowe as a private home was Scottish peer, Lady Kinloss, and our founding Headmaster, JF Roxburgh, was born in Edinburgh. She charted the history of women



at Stowe in relation to her being the first female OS President and continued to remember her own days at Stowe and how they had prepared her for her career in later life. She remembered particular friends in attendance at the dinner and reflected on the School reaching its Centenary.

A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all and we would like to extend great thanks to the staff at HM Yacht Britannia for their exemplary service.

Anna Semler, Old Stoic Director



Hockey

The headline news from the Hockey Club is that both 1st XI and the 2nd XI have won the Midlands' Leagues. This is outstanding and is the first time Stowe has managed this feat. The 1st XI beat the Tier 1 side Oakham 3-2 away on Saturday 3 December.

The 2nd XI have been on fire this season and have remained unbeaten against all other 2nd XI teams, their only loss coming against another schools 1st XI team. Mr Dingley, Captain Pia Glynn-Smith (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) and all the players have been fantastic throughout the season.

Well done to the U14B and C teams who also beat Oakham on Saturday 3 December.

Ben Scott, Head of Hockey

Rackets

Squash

The 1st team beat both Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe and John Hamden Grammar School 5-0 at an away triangular fixture on Wednesday 30 November.

It was nice to see five, out of the team of eight, squash players competing in their first inter-school match, travelling to St Edward's on Thursday 1 December.

Tennis

There has been a big increase in the amount of tennis being played this term, if you are keen to get some focused practice or lessons, please contact **Chris Hampton**.

Our boys' teams have been competing in the early rounds of the Area Cup Competition. We travelled to Amersham School on Wednesday 30 November and recorded a comfortable 10-2 win.

**Chris Hampton,
Director of Racket Sports**

**For weekly reports
on all Stowe Sports
visit our website
www.stowesport.co.uk**

CROSS COUNTRY

National Finals of the English Schools' Cross Country Cup

The Stowe Intermediate (Third and Fourth Form) girls' cross country team came Second in the National Finals of the English Schools' Cross Country Cup!

On Saturday 3 December, five girls travelled up to The Grammar School at Leeds to compete in the team format of the English Schools' Cross Country Competition. The individual format is next term. The top four runners count and their places are added up with the school with the lowest total winning. That honour went to Guildford High. Stowe were second and Millfield were third.

Cross country is a sport where state schools compete alongside private schools, so second in

the country really is out of all schools.

155 girls ran in this category, our team was Katie Webb (Third Form, Cheshire) 4th place, Lauren Webb (Third Form, Cheshire) 10th place, Elsie Jacobs (Third Form, Cheshire) 16th place, Charlotte Hall (Fourth Form, Cheshire) 46th place and Ella Kingston (Third Form, Cheshire) 133rd place. Four of our team were competing against girls a year older than them and will run in the same category next year.

All these girls train in the evenings on top of their sporting commitments at Stowe and their extraordinary dedication has enabled them to perform at this hugely impressive level.

We are very proud of their amazing achievement!!

Craig Sutton, Director of Sport



Rugby

The 1st XV put on their best performance of the season in a superb match against an extremely strong Ipswich School on the North Front on Saturday 3 December. Well done to the Stowe team who showed excellent composure in a hugely intense match getting a narrow 30-26 win, with Archie McParland (Upper Sixth, Temple) scoring a couple of outstanding tries.

Oakham Fixtures - Saturday 3 December

Our U14A team are starting to show some real promise, winning all their matches since September, and continuing this with a comfortable win against Oakham.

Well done to the U16B team who are probably the fittest team at Stowe, and who also had a win in this block fixture.

A special mention must go to Mr Geyton's 3rd XV team who had not lost a single match going into Saturday's showdown, unfortunately, however they had their dreams shattered when they were just beaten in the last few minutes. Well done to all the players and their Captain Milo Chauveau (Upper Sixth, Cobham) who has led them to a superb season.

Grant Seeley, Head of Rugby



GOLF

Ed Davis Scholarship Success

We are delighted and immensely proud to announce that Golf Scholar and Captain of Golf, Ed Davis (Upper Sixth, Bruce), has been awarded a highly sought-after four-year Golf Scholarship at Queens University of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Ed will play Division One Golf in conjunction with his academic studies and have access to the PGA Tour University, the newly formed development pathway that enables student athletes to progress from college golf to a career within the professional game.

Gaining a Division 1 Golf Scholarship in the US is a fiercely competitive process with many talented young golfers competing for places from across the globe. Ed has dedicated himself wholeheartedly to the task in hand and during the last four years has left no stone unturned in his unwavering pursuit to gain recognition from North American university scouts and coaches. Working with a wider team of specialist coaches, Ed has developed all aspects of his golf game to a very high level.

In addition to consistently leading and representing Stowe's golf team as Captain, Ed has represented Stowe in many flagship school golf tournaments such as the HMC National Strokeplay Championship, the ISGA National Grand Finals at Worsley Park Golf Club in 2021 and at Formby Golf Club in 2022, the ISGA AQ Invitational World Amateur Ranking Event at The Forest of Arden in 2019, Celtic Manor in 2021 and St Pierre in 2022, along with The Gerald Micklem Trophy - an extremely prestigious and high-profile Public Schools' Golf Tournament in which the top five golfers from the top eight public schools in the UK compete against each other over three intense days - at Woking Golf Club in 2019, 2021 and 2022.

Outside Stowe, Ed has also competed at the highest level of the amateur game in a range of nationally and internationally recognised tournaments including The McGregor Trophy (England Boys' U16 Championship), The Carris Trophy (England Boys' U18 Championship), The R&A British Boys' Championship, The Peter McEvoy Trophy, The French International Boys' Championship (Michel Carlhian Trophy), The German International Boys' Championship and The English Men's Amateur Championship.

This is a significant moment for the Stowe Golf Scholarship Programme as since its inception in September 2017, Ed becomes the inaugural Stowe Golf Scholar to navigate through the talent development pathway and depart Stowe with a Golf Scholarship to a Division One University in the US.

We wish Ed every success in the next chapter of his educational journey when it begins.

Andrew Hancox, Head of Golf



Lacrosse

U15A v Tudor Hall

On Friday 2 December, the U15A team travelled to Tudor Hall to face their 1st team under the lights, in what would be a spectacular show of skill and determination in chilly conditions.

The game started with a quick draw control by Sofia Comino (Stanhope) who moved the ball nicely to Tatiana Riviere (Nugent) and back to Sofia to get the first goal of the game, making it 1-0 to Stowe. Sofia remained dominant throughout the game and the girls looked strong in the first quarter. Hannah Campbell (Nugent) gave a lovely assist to Bella Timmis (Stanhope) to make it 2-0 to Stowe. Tudor then got the ball in their attack but were stopped three times by Annabel Lloyd (Stanhope) saving it. They did sneak one in just before the quarter time whistle, making it 2-1 at the break.

The second quarter started and although Tudor were a lot more physical, our girls outplayed them with Sofia picking up multiple draw controls, which resulted in another goal, followed by a wonderful whole team transition goal to make it 4-1. Tudor managed to hold it in our defence for a while, but this was made very difficult by Immy Embley (Queen's), Domino Flint-Wood (Queen's), Gina Longsdon (Queen's) and Lara Hughes (Nugent) who didn't let their attackers in at all. If they did get through, Annabel was there to stop them, making another five saves! Millie Colebrook (Queen's) was next on the score sheet to make it 5-2 at the half.

In the third quarter, Tudor used their physicality for the better and managed to get two past us, but Ruadh Mccarthy-Wyler (Cheshire) wasn't going to let them get ahead. She got the ball behind goal, stepped 3, played and slotted it away to make it 6-4.

The final quarter showed this team of Fourth Formers at its best, with Bella winning some excellent draws, and finishing with a wonderful goal by Sofia to end the game 7-5. It was an impressive display of U15 lacrosse and a very gritty game.

Well done to Bella and Gina who were voted Most Valuable Players on the day.

Rob Ingham Clark, Head of Lacrosse

LIBRARY

Halloween Flash Fiction Competition

The Library held a competition to see which one of our pupils could write the scariest story in only 500 words.

Some wonderful pieces of creative writing were created, but the winner was Raphael Viecei-Mellor (Fourth Form, Winton) for his story '2100'. Second place was awarded to Michael-Aleksandar Ibrustankov (Third Form, Chandos) for his story 'The Clown' and third place was Henrietta Gee (Third Form, Stanhope) for her story 'The Cult'.

Congratulations to everyone who entered!

Lucinda Stockley,
Assistant Library

Raphy's Winning Halloween story

As the clock strikes midnight in the year 2100 the significance of Halloween is merely a reminder of a luxury that humanity can no longer afford. Peering through the splintered boards in my bedroom window I can just about decipher the buzzing sound emanating from below, the flies, the locust and the rats all keep me company, they are the only living animals which have been able to live through both the pathological crisis and the environmental apocalypse.

My brother who is currently lying on the doorstep, his vermilion flesh spotted with those foul flies that gorged themselves to death on his decaying body, my brother who was once the only being able to maintain my sanity died 28 days ago, my supplies are running low, and heat is only becoming more unbearable, soon I will be forced to gather supplies, only every now and then I can still hear the growls of the unknown entity which mutilated my innocent kin.

Taking a deep breath, I prepared myself for the possibility of death, an experience which is unfortunately so familiar in the new century, I decided to depart during the night, the only appropriate time given the scorching heat which is so persistently present during the day. Slipping through the dilapidating door, I very quickly

encountered the supernaturally vile smell of my brother's body, after carefully avoiding the pile of limbs below I made progress diligently, walking with menace as if to scare anything which may have been watching my escapade down the dark, despondent streets of Milton Keynes.

Suddenly I heard a noise, a sound that lacked the ability to be human but maintained the same sinister undertone of that which ravaged my brother's flesh. I bolted for the nearest door to me, slamming it behind me like my life depended on it, because it did. Running up the stairs I heard the door slam behind me, hitting the wall like a hand smacks an ass, instantly shattering the wall behind, I ran faster, scaling the second flight of stairs with ease, I scrambled to the floor lying under the bare frame of a bed, the panting grew louder, the creature sounded hungry, not for food, but for my pain, for my soul.

After very limited contemplation I knew what I would do, I would give in, there is nothing left for me in this world, so I will leave it, I stood up, and I ran towards the balcony in a desperate attempt to commit an act of cowardice, as my feet left the balcony the feeling of freedom rushed through my veins, in the year 2100 death is a luxury.

FUTURES Degree Apprenticeships A Guide for Sixth Form Pupils



Over the past month, nationally more than 8,500 Sixth Form pupils and their parents have watched a special **programme** on degree apprenticeships, produced by High Fliers Research in October for schools and sixth form colleges across the UK. For Stoics and Parents who like to know more about degree apprenticeships, this is a must see.

There is also a free resources page that accompanies the programme, with details of many of the UK's top employers who will be offering degree apprenticeships in 2023 - the link to this is on the programme's YouTube page.

The programme explains how degree apprenticeships can provide a debt-free alternative to the traditional university experience, whilst still leading to degrees from many of the UK's most prestigious and sought-after universities.

The 75-minute programme includes:

- An interview with Clare Marchant, Chief Executive of UCAS, talking about how Sixth Form pupils can use UCAS to find out about degree apprenticeships.

- Four presentations explaining 'What is a degree apprenticeship?', 'Which degree apprenticeships are available?', 'University or a degree apprenticeship?' and 'Where to find out more information on degree apprenticeships'.
- An employer showcase of 50 major UK employers in different industries & business sectors who will be offering degree apprenticeship programmes in 2023.
- Tips, advice and guidance from Lloyds Banking Group and BDO on how to apply for degree apprenticeship and the selection processes that employers' use.
- Interviews with current degree apprentices at Dyson, PwC, Royal Navy and Rolls-Royce.
- Information on how solicitor apprenticeships offer an alternative route into the legal profession, from law firm Eversheds Sutherland.

The programme is presented by Martin Birchall, Research Director for the Department for Education's Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers and Levi Jouavel, presenter on BBC Three and a former BBC Apprentice.

Inter-House Library

The Upper School Inter-House Literary Challenge was again hotly contested this year. There were two separate events, one for each year group, with the scores from the Upper and Lower Sixth events added together to find the over-all winner. All Houses with Sixth Form pupils took part, sending two pupils from each year group. At the beginning of the challenge, teams had to decide on their Joker round, meaning double the score for the chosen round would be received.

The Upper Sixth went first on Thursday 13 October with five rounds in each section, including a picture round. After the Upper Sixth challenge, the scores were pretty much neck and neck, with Lyttelton just ending up the winners. Joint second were Queen's and West, and third Bruce, with Temple, Chandos and Grafton close behind.

That left all to play for in the Lower Sixth challenge on Thursday 20 October; the same format, with five rounds each section including a picture round. Again, this was hotly contested, and good humoured. The winners of the Lower Sixth were Bruce, with Nugent a close second, and Chandos coming third by half a point from Cheshire.

All the scores for each House were added together and the overall winners were proclaimed as Bruce. Queen's and West were second and Chandos third.

Thank you to Mrs Borman, Mrs Ackroyd, Mrs Eisenhut and Sholto Eisenhut, and Dr Webber, for being terrifying in the horror round!

Lyn Foden, Librarian



Stowe CCF Christmas Inter-Section Tug of War Competition

Stowe CCF's Annual Christmas Inter-Section Tug of War Competition was held, fittingly, on Monday 12 December, on the first day of snow we have had this year at Stowe and it has to be said, a rather bracing one.

Always a popular and hotly contested event in Stowe CCF's calendar, the -2 degrees impressively did absolutely nothing to dampen the focused and competitive spirit of the Cadets, anxious to get their teeth around the largest Toblerone known to be produced. Weighing in at 4.6kg, those chocolate triangles are not so dainty!

The Army, Navy and RAF Sections gathered on the South Front, flexing their muscles and 'talking the talk', as they psych'd themselves and each other up, for the physical challenge ahead.

Under the watchful control of Competition Umpire Captain Andrew Arnold, a series of heats took place with sinews straining, some slipping and sliding with boot heels desperately digging in, to the snow-covered, frost crisped, mud-greased leaves, seeking traction. As part of the rules, every Cadet has to take part in one round, so strategy was brought into the mix for the Cadet NCO leaders, considering who to use, and when.

There was a great spirt and atmosphere, as sections eliminated each other, cheered on by loyal team supporters chanting loudly.

Cadet vocal chords (some already afflicted by winter bugs) were strained, along with warmed muscles, as Cadets clung and heaved heavily on the ropes.

In a fiercely contested Semi-Final, Army 2, led by Cdt Sgt Theo Hahn James (Upper Sixth, Cobham) narrowly defeated Army 5, led by Cdt Cpl Ela Shah (Lower Sixth, Cheshire). Army 2 went on to face Army 1 in the Final, led by Cdt Sgt Nikita Nedoshovenko (Upper Sixth, Walpole). Both teams put in huge efforts, with Army 1 emerging victorious.

2022 CCF Inter-Section Tug of War proud winners were Army 1 Section, led by Sgt Nikita Nedoshovenko, with Cdt Sgt Paddy Potts (Upper Sixth, Chandos), Cdt Cpl Vasyil Omelchenko (Upper Sixth, Grafton), Cdt Cpl Tom Smith (Fifth Form, Temple), Cdt Cpl Ben Sutton (Fifth Form, Winton), Cdt Cpl Rosie Blythe (Fifth Form, Nugent), Cdt Cpl Toby Gross (Fifth Form, Winton), Cdt L/Cpl Luca Natella (Fifth Form, Cobham), Cdt L/Cpl Xavier Nylaendae (Fifth Form, Bruce), Cdt L/Cpl Archie Trotman (Fifth Form, Cobham), Cdt L/Cpl Isobel Cox (Fifth Form, Cheshire) and L/Cpl Oliver Giffard-Lindsay (Fifth Form, Grafton).

All Stowe CCF Cadets rose to the physical challenge, with various degrees of mighty muscle and technique success. 'Endeavour and Effort' prizes were awarded to the teams with a little less brawn and weight.

After the prize giving, Sgt Major Abbey was on hand at the top of South Front steps with all the major food groups required by hungry Cadets - mince pies, hot chocolate, and more chocolate for all Cadets and CCF Staff to enjoy - a happy and energetic afternoon to end a successful and enjoyable term.

Lt Colonel Jan S de Gale,
CCF Contingent Commander



Lacrosse

Cheltenham Ladies' College Fixtures

Stowe Lacrosse hosted Cheltenham Ladies' College for a fantastic afternoon of lacrosse on Saturday 19 November.

1st X

The November sun was specifically booked for this game and the South Front was looking excellent. Hattie Goodrich (Upper Sixth, Nugent) opened the scoring for Stowe, followed up by Emelia Brett (Fifth Form, Queen's), while Cheltenham were able to get their eye in too. Emelia and Joint Captain Hannah Bewes (Upper Sixth, Queen's) both caused big turnovers by intercepting long clears from the Cheltenham goalkeeper.

At the back, 1st X debutant Emily Watson (Lower Sixth, West), Mila Ratcliff (Fifth Form, Queen's), and Jemima Roberts (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) all came up with a lot of groundballs. Another 1st X debutant, Fourth Former, Annabel Lloyd (Stanhope) made a fantastic doorstep save in the closing minutes of the quarter, leaving the score line tied at 2-2.

In the second quarter, Stowe capitalised expertly on the pitch orientation, with the late Autumn sun shining directly into the Cheltenham goalkeeper's eyes, helping Stowe to score six goals from just seven shots. Joint Captain Lyla Mulcahy (Upper Sixth, Nugent) scored a hat-trick, while Emelia managed to pick up a loose ball and convert it, then Hattie got two for herself. The latter of Hattie's goals however was perhaps the goal of the match; driving from the right hand side of the pitch, beating her player then having passed the goal, she was able to deliver a back-handed shovel shot past the goalkeeper's stickside hip into the back of the net - a very technical shot which drew the crowd's raucous cheering. Emelia must also be applauded for winning all but one of the draw controls. Stowe went into the half time break 8-2.

The third quarter was a battle of attrition, with neither team gaining a clear advantage. Emelia Brett shot at the goalkeeper, which deflected, hit the ground, and then was scooped up by Jemima who fed a very neat pass over a Cheltenham defender to Emelia who buried it. Annabel made three massive saves, including one from a free position, while Milly Davis (Fifth Form, Cheshire) led the way in ground balls at the back to leave the score 9-3 after three quarters.

In the last quarter, Stowe again capitalised where they could, but by now the sun had gone down so the advantage of the sun was diminished. Nevertheless, Emelia netted two, Mila Ratcliff scored from a free position, and Lyla put the last one in, with two assists from Hattie and one from Hannah.

To focus on just a few players would be unfair, as

every player on the team showed up and were exceptional. This was the first home win against Cheltenham since the spring of 2017, and the team left for their open weekends with big smiles and plenty to celebrate.

2nd X

The first quarter of the 2nd XI match saw Stowe go down 2-1 in the first couple of minutes. However, we fought back to go in at the break 2-2.

The goals scored by Jemima Hammond (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Martha Blake (Lower Sixth, Cheshire) - a common occurrence in this team!

The second quarter saw Stowe crank up the pressure and take control of the game going into the second half 7-3 up. Two goals apiece were scored by Jemima and Martha while one of our Fourth Formers, Sofia Comino (Stanhope), scored as well. It was great to see how deadly the girls can be on goal with all ranges of goals being scored.

The third quarter was 4-2; two goals for Jemima and one each for Martha and Freya Embley (Lower Sixth, Queen's), which meant the girls went into the last quarter 11-5 up. This was a great reward for Freya as she was incredible all over the pitch demonstrated by the four assists.

The final quarter saw a comeback by Cheltenham and they won the last quarter 4-1.

Overall, the girls were fantastic and you could really see all the hard-work paying off from the extra training sessions. The defence were disciplined and they sustained long periods of attacking threat from Cheltenham. Particular highlights were Lucy Willmott (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Greta Loughran (Lower Sixth, West) commanding the defence during clears, Angelina Morton-Cutt (Upper Sixth, West) making a free-position save and Fourth Form defenders fitting in seamlessly to Senior lacrosse - Lara Hughes (Nugent), Domino Flint Wood (Queen's) and Imogen Smith (Queen's).

The midfield was relentless at both ends of the pitch. The draw was controlled by Harriet Perris (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) and Marth Blake (Lower Sixth, Cheshire). As well as controlling the draw Harriet was excellent in turning the ball over with precise checks and teamwork to get the ball into a Stowe stick. Ally Ter Haar (Fifth Form, Lyttelton) was vital in midfield when transitioning the ball up and making runs ahead of the play to be an excellent option.

The attackers were not only ruthless in front of the net but displayed good lacrosse IQ to do some on field subbing to allow the midfielders a rest.

The game was excellent and it was so good to see so many relatives and friends come and watch!

Rob Ingham Clark, Head of Lacrosse



ROWING

This term's rowing concluded with the participation in Walton Small Boats Head on Saturday 10 December. This is the last National Open Event of the year and was our highest standard competition of the term. The event attracted over 600 boats, from 52 clubs, from Lancashire to the South Coast.

Although the Stowe team was reduced by illness and faced racing in sub-zero temperatures, seven Stoics rose to the challenge.

About a dozen Third Form boys have been learning to row this term. Hecco Harrison (Third Form, Temple) and Ben Cousins (Third Form, Bruce) were the first crew from this group to race. They coped with the challenging conditions and produced a very competent race, beating some local crews. Ari Lewis (Fourth Form, Walpole) and Max Cowper-Hart (Lower Sixth, Winton) also raced in

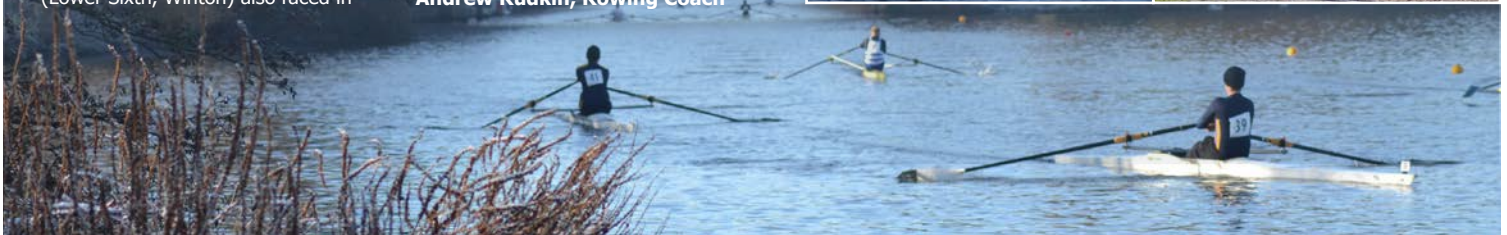
doubles, going about their task with enthusiasm. Hugo Comerford (Upper Sixth, Chatham) and Ed Whitbread (Upper Sixth, Cobham) raced in singles. For Hugo, it was a first ever singles race. They then raced again, in doubles, and were our fastest boat.

As the sixth fastest U18 girl at the competition, within 5% of the winner, Amelia Hine (Upper Sixth, West) produced Stowe's best result of the term.

The whole team approached the day with willingness and cheerfulness and were a credit to the School.

Many thanks to the Lewis, Edwards and Harrison families, who supported at Walton. And thank you to Ms Atkinson-Wood, Ms Abbott, Mr Arnold, Mr Grimble and Mr Bainbridge for helping the team this term.

Andrew Rudkin, Rowing Coach



SWIMMING

Every swimmer knows that short course racing in a 25m pool is a lot easier than long course (50m). So, as a first for some Stowe swimmers, it was a tense gala in an Olympic size pool. Oundle welcomed Stowe and Uppingham to their facility on Tuesday 29 November, for a competitive block of races.

Our U16 girls won their age category and Stowe finished second overall. Everyone swam their hearts out, but a special shout out to Olive De Courcy-Ireland and Tatiana Riviere (both Fourth Form, Nugent) who stepped up to swim at breaktime on the day of the gala. The boys all swam well and cheered each other on throughout, it was a great atmosphere and wonderful comradery.

Two days later on Thursday 1 December, we were back at it against Radley and St Helen and St Katharine who had joined together to make one squad. It was the first time we have swum all three age categories of U14, U16 and U18 since before Covid, so it was lovely to see all our new Third Form swimmers in the pool. Relays were mixed to add an extra dimension to proceedings and the swimmers did us proud in what was a very close gala. It was great to have Hannah Campbell (Fourth Form, Nugent) back in the pool, bringing smiles to the U16 girls' squad faces.

With 12 new swimmers stepping up for Stowe over the two galas, they were all keen to impress and they didn't let us down. Stars of the two meets were Isobel Cox (Fifth Form, Cheshire), Isabella Bawden (Third Form, Stanhope) and Johnson Sun (Third Form, Bruce).

Andy Pynegar, Acting Head of Swimming

GOLF



Golf Scholar Miki Khursheed (Fifth Form, Bruce) qualified to compete in The Junior European Golf Championship "Champions Week" Finals held over the Alcaidesa Links and Alcaidesa Heathland courses on the Costa del Sol, Spain, from Monday 24 to Thursday 27 October. This event is supported by Sky Sports, with notable past finalists including Luke Donald, Justin Rose and Bronte Law.

Miki's preparations for the event were significantly hampered by a lower back injury and it was very much touch and go as to whether he would receive the green light from the doctor and physiotherapist. Thankfully, courtesy of plenty of isolated stretching, treatment, rest and determination, Miki was able to travel to Spain and compete in the event.

The opening day's play was contested over the Links course and Miki's game stood up extremely well to the test as he played some excellent golf in very tough conditions to record a solid round of 75 (one over par) to finish in second place out of a total of 140 players.

Miki continued to battle throughout the tournament week and made the cut to compete on the final day, again held on the Links course, with Sky Sports filming all of the action. Miki recorded a final round of 80 (six over par) to finish tied in 12th position - a fine achievement given the uncertainty surrounding his fitness in the run up to the event.

Andrew Hancox, Head of Golf



MUSIC

Lunchtime Concert

The final lunchtime concert of the term took place on Thursday 8 December and Stoics acquitted themselves with some excellent performances. There was a lovely mix of festive favourites in the programme to get the audience in the Christmas mood. In addition, Stoics performed some well-loved classics from the world of rock, classical and musical theatre.

Hayden Smith (Fourth Form, Winton) opened the concert with a lyrical and spacious performance of Chopin's 'étude in E minor'. Sebastien Harper (Fourth Form, Grenville) then gave a lyrical rendition of a movement from Schuman's Kinderszenen. Aurora Flanigan (Lower Sixth, Stanhope) gave a polished and confident performance of 'It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas' and this was followed by a wonderfully powerful recital of Barber's 'Sure On This Shining Night' by visiting singer Anastasiia Vasyliuk.

Grace Hodgetts (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) and Annabel Hodgetts (Fourth Form, Cheshire) delighted the audience with a serene arrangement of 'Silent Night'. This was followed by a self-assured performance of 'Santa Baby', by Isabella Pratap (Upper Sixth, Nugent).

Jerry Liu (Fourth Form, Chandos) made full use of the excellent acoustics in the Ugland auditorium, with 'Somewhere' from West Side Story on the saxophone. This was followed by a technically accomplished rendition of a piano work from Cimarosa on the piano, performed by Gilbert Xu (Fifth Form, Chandos). In what was a lovely contrast, Flora Baxter (Fifth Form, Nugent) played Lenny Kravitz's 'Are You Gonna Go My Way' on the drumkit with plenty of gravitas. Grace Nasmyth (Fourth Form, Queen's) sang 'Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas' with a lovely sentimental feel and Flora Peppiatt (Fourth Form, Queen's) expertly performed 'Winter Wonderland'.

Emily Garwood (Fifth Form, Cheshire) performed a lovely Christmas piano duet medley with yours truly! This was followed by a captivating performance by Ruby Cooke (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton), who creatively used a loop pedal to perform her own song 'Ego'. Ruby layered up several instruments including, guitar, percussion and even tubular bells (well it is Christmas after all)!

Thank you to all performers to took part in the festive concert.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard & Accompanist in Residence



CCF Military Equitation Competition

On Sunday 20 November, I was asked to represent Stowe at the CCF Military Equitation Competition held at the Light Cavalry Company, in Windsor Great Park.

Competing against 20 other schools, we were split into groups of four and asked to perform a display together on their cavalry horses, as directed by one of their Light Cavalry members. We were judged on our ability to adapt to a new horse and how well we rode the commanded moves such as, half figure of eight, riding on a diagonal individually and as a ride.

It was an amazing event and an incredible experience to be able to ride the Light Infantry Cavalry's horses. I enjoyed learning a lot about the different styles of riding using just your left hand and fingers to control the horse, leaving your right hand free to un-sheath their swords easily for battle. We rode in the actual military tack with an incredibly un-comfy saddle and two sets of reins. Overall, it was fascinating to learn about a military way of riding and some of the history behind it. Watch the video of the event [here](#).

Cadet Cpl Toby Bursnall (Lower Sixth, Grafton)





FUTURES

Undergraduate Peter Wood didn't initially plan on setting up a podcast.

In June 2019, when he walked out of Chatham House and the gates of Stowe into the big wide world, Peter wasn't sure what he wanted to do or where life would take him, except he knew that he would take a Gap Year to experience some of what life had to offer.

Now a 22-year-old final year History student at University College London (UCL), Peter followed his passion to launch a podcast, 'The Graduate Guide', in an attempt to find his dream career. He shares advice and lessons learned from his guests and in the process, he is helping other graduates find their dream careers.

It all started with a question: What next and how do I get there?

To Peter, "It feels kind of weird coming back to Stowe to give career advice as I wasn't exactly always the model pupil, but hopefully, these tips will show how I went from not knowing much about careers or what my future was going to be, to this point where I'm excited about the future, enjoying university and looking forward to graduating."

While at Stowe, Peter studied A Level Economics, Politics, and History and undertook an EPQ. His love of history has continued to this day. When asked about his time at Stowe, he remembers with gratitude his teacher Mr Copley who nurtured and stuck with him, and he recalled with fondness the all-day breakfasts he would consume in the evenings. As a student, he "makes do with whatever is available".

In retrospect, Peter wishes he had made more of what was on offer at Stowe. "Don't overthink things and stop yourself from taking advantage of what is on offer." His advice is to participate in as much sport as you can to reset your brain and for your mental health. Walk around the grounds to clear your head and reflect. Attend clinics and develop your relationships with the teachers.

"Ask the right questions, and they do all the hard work for you." Striving for success can sometimes be overwhelming, so make use of counselling to help you stay on top of things. These opportunities are not as readily available at university.

When questioned about what Sixth Formers should be doing now to improve their career prospects, Peter recommends entering essay competitions, doing work experience, Spring weeks, Summer internships, and embracing projects in the field you want to study. "The more you do now, the less you have to do later. People generally want to help, so don't be intimidated."

Find your passion and know what makes you happy. For Peter, it is DJing, exercising and podcasting. Don't be afraid to be different, it is what will differentiate you. Set yourself short-term goals, which are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. It will keep you going towards your longer-term goal. Be clear about why and what you're doing and stick with it. Keep a healthy work/life balance. Most of all, surround yourself with the right people, so you can relax and be yourself, and they can spur you on. "Enjoy every last minute of the day - all too soon, it is over."

After finishing at Stowe, Peter took a gap year, moving to Majorca and taking a bartending course, he then found a job in hospitality and learned a new language, before moving to Canada as a Ski-Instructor. With the COVID lockdown, Peter returned to

the UK where he went from the hectic activity before, to doing nothing. Mentally it was tough. However, now that we are out of it, Peter is trying to make the most of things, embracing life and adding to his experiences. Lockdown taught him to embrace new experiences and not fear them.

Unsure of the career he wished to pursue, as the end of the gap year drew close, Peter decided to study for a transferrable degree in a subject he loved, at a good university, and opted for History at UCL. "I can't recommend studying in London highly enough, it is full-on, intense and there's always something happening." However, it is very expensive but there are grants and schemes to help. In his second year at UCL Peter was lucky enough to find a mentor, a History Professor who offers guidance, holds him accountable and acts as a sounding board for his ambitions as he tries to decide what next.

Peter didn't initially plan on setting up a podcast. Uncertain of the career path he wished to pursue or how to find a way in, he started asking questions of people in industry. Peter found that people are happy to talk and share their insights. These conversations grew into the podcast 'The Graduate Guide', as it occurred to him that there was a gap in the market for a podcast where successful people held open and honest conversations about their paths to success. He has had some interesting guests on his podcast. For example, Sam who is in his final year at London School of Economics, but has already achieved so much, having started a start-up valued at £1.4 million but has opted for a career in consulting with McKinsey. Shani on the other hand started a career in investment banking and has moved into the start-up sector. The businesses are all different but what his guests have in common is that "They have real purpose and are really enjoying their lives."

He has an eclectic mix of individuals lined up and ready to offer their advice in upcoming episodes. They include the Managing Directors of Google and Blackrock Investment, DJs, and the boxer Johnny Fisher.

Peter said he definitely hopes to develop the podcast further while he continues to follow the conventional career route of applying to graduate schemes. It is important for him to have the security of a graduate job while developing the podcast.

As we move out into the world, Peter advises, "It is complicated out there. You are not always going to get it the right first time, but it shouldn't stop you from trying."

Click the links to watch the recording of Peter's presentation on **YouTube** or **Spotify**.

Iona Ibe-Spence
(Upper Sixth, West)

The Unexpected Podcaster: Reflections on how to get the best out of your time at Stowe School.

A presentation by Peter Wood (Chatham 19)



LSAS

LSAS Visit to Chelsea Physic Garden

Over the course of the first half of the Michaelmas Term, the Lower School Academic Scholars explored the philosophy, mathematics and aesthetic pleasure of the landscape garden. We started our journey in the political garden of ancient Rome where Cicero plotted and planned Republican ideals; moved on to the cloistered walls of the Medieval garden; stopped for a time in the ornate parterres of France; reflected on the religious references in the 17th Century gardens of Thomas Tresham and wandered through Capability Brown's 'natural' garden here at Stowe in a sweeping history, that culminated in a visit to a little known gem in the heart of London, The Chelsea Physic Garden.

The engagement of the pupils and their interest in the topic is best articulated in their own reflections on the visit:

Gaia Mesonero-Perez (Fourth Form, Lyttelton) waxed lyrical with "On a sunny Thursday (13 October) we took a bus ride to London to visit the Chelsea Physic Garden. To commence our tour, a lovely lady began to unravel the history behind the garden itself, explaining how the garden had its own microcosm which makes it a perfect place to grow medicinal plants. It was really like stepping into 'The Secret Garden' in the midst of the business of London."

Paula Sanchez Podesta (Fourth Form, Cheshire) focused on the wider benefits of being a part of LSAS. "LSAS is so special as its not just a normal lesson - it opens your eyes to the wonderful and truly beautiful hidden treasures of this world. It really makes you aware of how nature and other topics can surprisingly change your perspective on life and further your knowledge and understanding."

Nada Shamsuddin (Fourth Form, Cheshire) and Jonelle Famutimi (Fourth Form, Cheshire)

were both interested in the collections of specimen plants, especially cotton. They both were able to touch the flower and asked questions about the colonial impact of plants. They learned about George Washington Carver, who was an African American scientist who discovered that alternating the planting of cotton and peanuts would balance the properties in the soil.

Greta Brogden (Third Form, Queen's) "LSAS this term has certainly been a highlight, I have found botany so interesting despite my initial scepticism. Our trip to the Chelsea physic garden was amazing, we all learned so much. My favourite part has to be seeing the plants that can heal you but also hurt you. I also particularly enjoyed exploring the beautiful grounds we are so lucky to have here at Stowe."

Carlo Galliani (Fourth Form, Bruce) "A really stunning and exotic place full of things that I have never and may never see again. I really loved how everything was so meticulously taken care of and how the whole idea was there to help spread knowledge. The fact that it had its own microclimate and walls that have been there for three-hundred years really is quite amazing and incredibly unique. Four acres of land full of palm trees, ferns, flowers, and all other kinds of flora really isn't something I thought I'd be seeing in the heart of Chelsea and resting on the Thames."

Our day was rounded off with a walk over Chelsea Bridge to Battersea Park. The pupils marvelled at the beauty of the Thames on a sunny afternoon and learned a little about popular culture when Dr Webber stopped the group to pay homage to the Battersea Power Station.

Heather Eisenhut, Teacher of English and Film Studies

'If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.' Cicero



Monday Afternoon Allotment Activity

This term we got back from the Summer holidays and the garden was in full bloom. There was an assortment of different produce ready to harvest, such as tomatoes, potatoes, red and yellow raspberries, courgettes and an array of rainbow carrots.

So far, we have been digging in some more beds in which we have filled with vegetables and plants. In these new beds we have planted kale, rocket, tulips, onions, beans and garlic. Before preparing and planting some of the beds we had to dig up our potatoes that we planted the term before. There were A LOT of potatoes, which we tested out in a delicious potato salad.

Our aims for the rest of the term are to finish digging up other beds around the allotment, then we plan to plant some more fruit and vegetables to enjoy during the Summer Term. If anybody has any requests for something to plant, or any spare seeds, feel free to let us know!

Martha Robertson and Lula Packshaw (Lower Sixth, Stanhope)

Service@Stowe

First Aid



Qualifications

As part of the Service@Stowe Programme, Stoics worked towards their First Aid at Work qualification. By completing this, they are now able to support anyone who is in need of medical assistance and truly be of service to others.

Ally Ter Haar (Fifth Form, Lyttelton) stated that: "Over the First Aid Course, I have learnt a variety of new skills such as CPR, what procedure to do if someone is choking, handling wounds, burns and more. What I liked about the course was being able to get to work in a team to solve problems. It taught me lots about medical issues in the real world, how to tackle them and how to not stress yourself out when there is a lot of chaos. As well, I feel much more secure knowing that I can potentially help someone and in a rare case potentially save someone's life. It also helps when trying to apply for jobs, that you can offer First Aid on a CV. I think a lot more people should start to do the course as you will never know when it can come in handy."

The benefits of this course were also recognised by Jamie Leelapojsan (Lower Sixth, Stanhope) who said, "This course will be useful to me because now I am educated to the point of doing proper first aid and this will build up my confidence when facing situations requiring this skill."

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all who successfully passed the course:

- Ally Ter Haar (Fifth Form, Lyttelton)
- Aurora Flanagan (Lower Sixth, Stanhope)
- Daniel Flames (Lower Sixth, Cobham)
- Freya Embley (Lower Sixth, Queen's)
- Luke Ralph (Lower Sixth, Bruce)
- Gus Deliss (Lower Sixth, Bruce)
- Isabella Reeder (Lower Sixth, Cheshire)
- Jamie Leelapojsan (Lower Sixth, Stanhope)
- Jasper Calkin (Lower Sixth, Cobham)
- Leyla Baser (Fifth Form, Lyttelton)
- Michael Cullens (Lower Sixth, Bruce)

Fran Shah, Service@Stowe



Visiting Primary Schools

On Thursday afternoons, the Visiting Primary Schools activity sends around 20 Stoics to local primary schools; Buckingham Primary School and Roundwood Primary School in Tingewick.

Every week, we alternate visits to the Schools, and take part in activities such as reading, singing, playing and games. One thing that has been really nice about joining this is being able to connect with the younger pupils over the weeks we are visiting. Furthermore, doing this

activity does not only contribute to the childrens' development in reading and other activities, it gives us the opportunity to develop our skills in teaching and interacting with younger children. This is a skill that many of us will be able to take into the future.

We hope to continue to foster connections with the two schools throughout the year and we look forward to continuing our visits next term.

Grace Barnett (Lower Sixth, Cheshire)

Safeguarding at Stowe



Parents' Guide: Managing Exam Stress

Exams are a stressful time for any young person.

Mood swings and outbursts are more likely to occur during this period. Look out for other signs that your child may be struggling, including poor sleep patterns or a change in appetite or behaviour.

It's worth preparing ways of supporting your child during exam weeks and thinking about how you will react and respond on the day if they don't get the result that they, or you, are hoping for.

Things that can really help:

- Work with your child to find what revision style works for them.
- Encourage your child to take revision breaks and find a balance between studying and doing things they find enjoyable and relaxing.
- Make sure they are eating and drinking at regular intervals.
- Encourage them to take some time after

revising to wind down.

- Reassure them - reinforce that you are and will be proud of them no matter what happens.
- Remain positive and hopeful!
- Plan a treat or an activity together to mark the end of the exams.
- Set aside one to one time so that they can talk to you about any worries.
- Let them know their feelings are valid and normal, but also offer support and solutions where possible.

Anxiety is often worst at night and this means it is useful to encourage a good bedtime routine.

Work with them to develop relaxation techniques.

If anxiety and stress start impacting their day-to-day life, please seek help from your GP.

Mike Rickner, Deputy Head Pastoral, Designated Safeguarding Lead

Stowe mail



DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH



Stowe Disability and Neurodiversity Awareness Week

From Wednesday 16 November to Wednesday 16 December 2022 it was UK Disability History Month. The SEN Team worked hard to prepare our very own Stowe Disability and Neurodiversity Awareness Week and to spread understanding and inclusivity. An array of activities were prepared that aimed to engage Stowe pupils.

On the morning of Friday 3 December, four members of the team, Jemima Dare (Lower Sixth, Queen's), Ruby Colebrook (Lower Sixth, Queen's), Izzy Pratap (Upper Sixth, Nugent), and Grace Hodgetts (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) gave an engaging presentation to the Sixth Form, in which were explained the difficulties people with disabilities and neurodiversities may face. In the presentation, they aimed to inform the pupils about different disabilities and the effects they have on people. To engage the pupils, a couple of fun activities were incorporated, which included signing their name and putting them in situations people with disabilities - for instance with cerebral palsy and various motor neurone differences - experience on daily basis.

The assembly was supplemented by an informative Lower School Tutor resource created by Amelia Morgan (Upper Sixth, Nugent) and Willow Kenlock (Upper Sixth, Nugent).

Another member of our SEN team, Scarlett Wates (Lower Sixth, Queen's), created a whole School questionnaire, to get an understanding on how much pupils at Stowe know about disabilities. Through this survey we found that the pupils had good grounding in the topic, however that there are also aspects that we could further delve into.

NOT ALL DISABILITIES ARE VISIBLE



EMPLOYMENT

More than 4.7 million disabled people are in work. The employment rate of disabled people is 53%. Compared to 82% of non-disabled people



PREJUDICE

32% of disabled people and 22% of non-disabled people feeling there is a lot of prejudice against disabled people.

15% OF THE POPULATION



It is estimated that people with disabilities represent at least 15 per cent of the world population or more than 1 billion individuals. One in five of us will be affected by disability at some point in our lives.

1 IN 7 ADULTS IN THE UK ARE NEURODIVERSE



EDUCATION

65 million primary and secondary school age children globally have a disability. At least half of these (30 million) children do not have a school place.

CELEBRATE NEURODIVERSITY

In addition, to increase the visibility of the event, we created posters and placed them around the School to further raise awareness of the Disability Month.

Finally, we organised a fundraising competition, where we put boxes in each House to see who could raise the most money to give to our chosen charity: a special educational school in Warwick with whom we forged links last year. The greatest amount of money raised was by Cobham and we are very thankful for their, as well as all the Houses', contributions.

Overall, Stowe Disability and Neurodiversity Awareness Week helped to show the Stoics a different side to unique individual differences, made them more aware, and actively engaged them in a discussion about the topic.

Jemima Dare and Ruby Colebrook (both Lower Sixth, Queen's)

Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday 24 November marked the celebration of Thanksgiving in North America. The International Society held a dinner to allow all Stoics from North America to spend time together in a style similar to how they would when with family.

For the first time ever, we also invited pupils from Winchester House School to join the celebration. Luke Evans (Upper Sixth, Cobham), an International Prefect, did a fantastic job of welcoming these younger pupils and making them feel at home.

The Catering Department laid on a fantastic meal, made up of turkey and all the trimmings, with an excellent apple pie to finish. Matthew Thomas, the Harvard Fellow, gave a heartfelt speech, reminiscing about Thanksgivings he has spent with family, and

being thankful for having a second family here at Stowe. This was followed by a speech from Isabella Elliott (Upper Sixth, Stanhope), an International Prefect, who reflected upon how gratitude and thanks can allow us to live a more positive life. The evening's entertainment was provided by Nikita Nedoshovenko (Upper Sixth, Walpole), the final International Prefect, who had put together a quiz about the history of Thanksgiving, which brought out the competitiveness between all attendees.

The night was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, with a request from the pupils from Winchester House that they can return next year!

Fran Shah, Head of International Pupils



FUTURES

Third and Fifth Form Activities

Since September, individual Third Form Tutor Groups have attended an introduction to the career platform Unifrog. The platform helps pupils with the whole progression process - from exploring their interests and recording the great things they've done, to finding education and training opportunities and drafting university applications. Unifrog offers advice on careers or higher education-related topics, whether university degree courses in the UK or abroad, apprenticeships, labour market information and, from January 23, psychometric assessments.

During our twilight session, Third Form pupils also discussed how to choose GCSE subjects and completed a work environments quiz to see which career options they might want to research further. This was also the first opportunity for Third Formers to meet our careers advisor and discuss potential plans for their time at Stowe. Pupils can access Unifrog throughout their time at Stowe and beyond.

Also, this term, 160 Fifth Form pupils were invited to discuss their A Level subject options during individual meetings. Pupils

can choose three A Level or BTEC subjects plus one elective from over 30 A Level and BTEC options. It was wonderful to see so many pupils considering how their A Level and BTEC choices can impact their university options. We also had some queries regarding international applications. Support for preparing to apply to US colleges starts in the Lower Sixth Michaelmas Term.

Please download our **Sixth Form Courses Guide** here to find more detailed information about individual subjects, Oxbridge and university application procedures.

Please speak to **Dr West** for UCAS, **Mrs Guntner-Jones** for international universities or **Mr Elwell** for A Level queries.

Parents who would like to look ahead to university applications should visit the **Futures** pages of the Stowe website where you will find information on UCAS, personal statements, international applications, apprenticeships and more.

Dr Gordon West, Head of Futures



NATIONAL ADMISSIONS TEST FOR LAW

Preparing for the LNAT

As part of the Law Societies' Michaelmas Terms 'Introduction to Law' series of talks, Adaora Okoye (Upper Sixth, West) recorded a Law National Aptitude Test (LNAT) preparation **video** to help Fifth and Lower Sixth Form pupils understand and prepare for the LNAT.

Adaora recently sat the LNAT, so her advice is based on her journey towards the test. Adaora offers useful advice to those considering applying to Law schools that require the test.

The LNAT is designed to test your intellectual abilities rather than your knowledge about a particular subject and pupils are strongly advised to practice and prepare for the test. There are no facts to learn in preparation for the test, however we strongly recommend you make use of our preparation materials which will help you concentrate on exercising the relevant parts of your brain, and on familiarising yourself with the test format.

The LNAT is a 2¼ hour test in two sections. Section A consists of 42 multiple choice questions. The questions are based on 12 argumentative passages, with three or four multiple choice questions on each. You are given 95 minutes to answer all the questions.

For Section B, you have 40 minutes to answer one of three essay questions on a range of subjects.

Dr Gordon West, Head of Futures



Law Clinics at Stowe

On Thursday 1 December, Stowe welcomed Julie O'Shea from the University of Buckingham Law School to a series of Law Clinics in the Music Room,

Stoics met with a law professional for a one-to-one Clinical Legal Consultation to discuss professional practice career pathways. Pupils used the opportunity to ask questions about their suitability to study law and how to best prepare to apply to law at university or via the conversion route.

Topics discussed include:

How to prepare a competitive application for law

- Academic preparation and extension to help present a competitive UCAS personal statement and reference
- How to source work experience
- Any questions you may have about working in non-UK legal systems after graduation

Understand what is involved in becoming a Trainee Solicitor

- The Solicitor Qualifying Examination (SQE)
- Training Contracts/Qualifying Work Experience
- Private Client/Commercial Services practice areas

How to qualify as a Barrister

- The Bar Professional Training Course (BTC)
- Inns of Court
- Pupillage

How to prepare for employment in the sector

- Application Forms/Interviews for Insight Days/Summer Internships

Thank you to Julie and the Law School for this wonderful opportunity.

Dr Gordon West, Head of Futures

FLiX

FILMS OF THE YEAR 2022

Dr Webber reflects on the movies that made an impact post-Covid

Around this time of year I am usually asked by pupils which films are the "best" of the year but, to be honest, it would be fair to say that unfortunately 2022 has been a pretty fallow year for cinema.

Cineworld has gone bankrupt in the US and cinema attendances, post-Covid, have been down on previous years. The problem is three-fold: Covid meant that more and more people utilised (and are now used to) streaming services for entertainment purposes; increasing numbers of movies are now opening directly on platforms like Netflix and Mubi (for example the recent 'Knives Out' sequel 'Glass Onion') and the lockdown meant a lot of films had their productions postponed - meaning cinemas have now got increasing competition at the same time as less product to show. The multiplexes, especially, depend on a regular stream of "product" and when this dries up their future looks increasingly uncertain.

Unfortunately, "re-releasing" older movies to celebrate nefarious anniversaries (this year I re-watched, amongst others, 'Poltergeist', 'Avatar', 'Jackie Brown', 'The Godfather', 'Get Carter', 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service' and 'Jaws', on the big screen) has not really attracted audiences and some of the heavy hitters ('Black Panther', for example) have been duds. All is not well in cinema land - although, hopefully, all is not lost.

Naturally, all hopes are now pinned on the 'Avatar' sequel which opens in December - and, in January (Oscar season), there are a number of new movies coming out which centralise the experience of going to the cinema and/or creating movies (for example Sam Mendes' 'Empire of Light', Spielberg's 'The Fabelmans' and Damien Chazelle's 'Babylon') which may get audiences to return to the spaces movies were designed for, if we are lucky.

However, in spite of these caveats, there have been some good times to be had for those of us who still believe that cinema is important; that watching films outside of the home on a big screen, in the darkness and away from distractions, is an essential part of life and who still like the idea of paying for a ticket, taking our seats and waiting for the lights to go down (as Pauline Kael once put it).

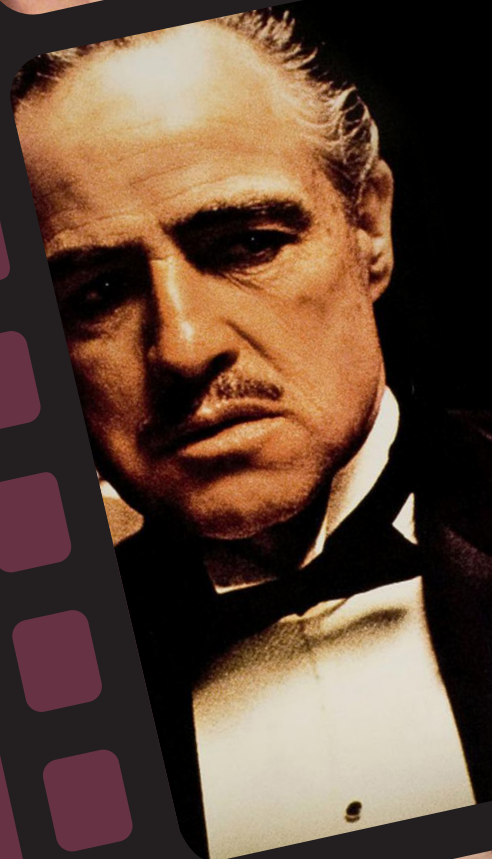
So, best film of the year? That will be Paul Thomas Anderson's 'Licorice Pizza' by a country mile. What's not to like about a brilliantly mounted 70s LA set, off-beat teen romance with musician Alana Haim, Philip Seymour Hoffman's son and Sean Penn as William Holden? Kenneth Branagh's semi-autobiographical 'Belfast' is pretty good stuff too - these are both films I saw twice just to make sure I read them right and they were even better on the second watch. I also enjoyed Joachim Trier's zeitgeist capturing comedy drama 'The Worst Person in the World' and Tom Cruise's 'Maverick' demanded to be experienced at the cinema, as did 'The Batman' with Robert Pattinson as the eponymous hero. Jordan Peele's 'Nope', which I almost didn't bother with, after slightly lacklustre reviews, is much better than 'Us' and, whilst not a horror film per se, is an impressive visual tour de force - the kind of movie designed to be seen on the biggest screen possible. 'Moonage Daydream' is a far too long, but engrossing, documentary about David Bowie, which reminds you of how much a pop performer can shape our lives and 'The Banshees of Inisherin' is an unusual but beautifully mounted black comedy with great acting from its leads.

Major disappointments this year included the afore-mentioned 'Black Panther', tedious 'Emily' about the author of Wuthering Heights which managed to be little less than a Mills and Boon style take on her life story, and the unpleasant 'Bones and All' which really couldn't work out how to make cannibalism sexy, somewhat unsurprisingly.

All told 2022, which we hope won't go down in history as the year the cinemas died, turned out to be not too bad after all for us movie goers and, as ever, we remain optimistic about what the new year may bring. 'Mission Impossible', 'The Barbie Movie', the latest Indiana Jones and Christopher Nolan's 'Oppenheimer' being the heavy-hitters I am most optimistic about.

But we shall see...

Dr Andrew C. Webber, FLiX Co-ordinator



GOLF



3D Motion Capture & Biomechanical Analysis

On Monday 5 December, we were thrilled to welcome Dr Mark Bull to the Stowe Golf Academy to spend a full day working alongside Head of Golf, Andrew Hancox, to deliver cutting edge 3D Motion Capture and biomechanical analysis for our Golf Scholars.

Dr Bull is the world leading authority pertaining to 3D Motion Capture and golf biomechanical analysis with a particular emphasis upon understanding the "how" and "why" in relation to a golfer's global movement patterns throughout his/her golf swing motion. Dr Bull regularly works with golf professionals within the Top 50 in the Official World Rankings and for many years worked in conjunction with the late, great, Ramsay McMaster, an incredible man who was revered by many as the world leading authority relating to golf specific training and physiotherapy.

Stowe's PGA Professional Andrew Hancox, is a highly regarded golf swing expert analyst and has worked alongside Dr Bull for many years as part of a wider research project to unravel the inner biomechanical workings of a golfer's swing mechanics and movement patterns. This analytical focus explores the main kinematic sequencing within the golf swing with close attention being paid to the important segments within the system such as head/neck, ribcage, pelvis and foot/ankle. The detailed 3D Motion Capture reveals how and why a golfer moves in a very specific way and throughout the course of Dr Bull's visit there were some fascinating findings on display for our Golf Scholars to witness.

Dr Bull was hugely generous with his time and during the 1:1 analysis sessions we were joined by various members of the Sports Department, including Cheryl Davis, George Coote and Jack Kirkpatrick as the entire day provided some wonderful learning opportunities for Staff with wide-ranging topics covering sport science, athletic development, talent development, physiological and anatomical screening pertaining to adolescent golfers and postural awareness, postural restoration, postural endurance, contralateral and cross pattern training and sport specific training and subsequent recovery.

Amidst the myriad of technical, postural and biomechanical findings, the data clearly showed a number of central themes that were evident with many of our Golf Scholars.

Whilst each golfer presented with their own unique golfing identity and displayed different postural imbalances, the role of the pelvis and the way in which it behaves throughout a player's backswing proved to be a central theme throughout the sessions.

High performing adolescent golfers subject their anatomical frames to high volume and high frequency movement repetitions in order to perfect their golf swing motions. Often during a golfer's adolescent phase, they simply haven't yet sufficiently developed their deep tonic postural control system and therefore we witness a lack of pelvic rotation throughout the golf swing. A common adaptation is to compensate by introducing lateral pelvic sway and this has a chain reaction effect on the other segments often leading to pain and injury.

Dr Bull will now work with Andrew Hancox and George Coote to design and implement a range of bespoke individualised training programmes in order for our Golf Scholars to develop their strength and conditioning to the most appropriate level in conjunction with technical swing progression.

Overall, the day was a huge success, and we very much look forward to welcoming Dr Bull back to Stowe next year.

Andrew Hancox, Head of Golf



MUSIC

Winter Concert

The programme for the Winter Concert on the evening of Friday 2 December reflected the diversity and breadth of celebrations and observances which occur during this season. The items presented by our instrumental ensembles ranged from traditional Christmas Carols and popular festive songs to African inspired compositions, Film Music and music of the Western Classical Tradition.

The concert was a culmination of hours of rehearsals under the supportive and inspirational guidance of the Music Department Staff, both permanent and visiting, and our thanks go to them all for their continued support of the Stoics under their care and the musical life of the School as a whole.

Live performances offer a reciprocal exchange of expression and interaction between those performing and their audience, which builds a community with a shared experience. This sentiment was perhaps best elucidated by the English composer Malcom Arnold who said, "Music is the social act of communication between people, a gesture of friendship, the strongest there is."

We thank all those who attended for joining us for the concert, and for being a part of the wider musical community at Stowe.

Emma Bryden, Acting Director of Music



ROBOTICS

On Wednesday 30 November in the Chung Music School, Stowe hosted 20 robotics teams in a regional event. Stowe's Senior Team qualified first out of the 20 teams and Stowe's other five teams also competed well.

Sadly a technical issue saw them narrowly lose the Semi-Final, but they showed they are capable of the win.

They now get ready for the next regional event in North London, in the hopes of qualifying for the National Finals.

Paul Thompson, Head of Robotics

Voice for Life Awards

Having recently become affiliated members of the Royal School of Church Music, the Music Department were delighted to award the first "Voice for Life" medals and certificates to our talented and committed choristers.

In recognition of their longstanding service and dedication to the Stowe Choirs, Ruby Cooke (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) and Matthew Ryland (Upper Sixth, Bruce) were named as Head Choristers for the coming year with

Jemima Pearson-Gee (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Rafe Gordon (Upper Sixth, Winton) being awarded the positions of Deputy Head Choristers.

The Department looks forward to assisting all Choristers in working through the different levels of the RSCM Awards, and congratulates all of those who gained an Award this term.

Emma Bryden,
Acting Director of Music



VEO at Stowe

Over the Michaelmas Term the Stowe Sport and Sport Science Departments have brought a new level of technology on board, in the form of four VEO Cameras. These cameras have two optical sensors, set at 90 degrees from one another, meaning they can film the entire pitch all at once, without needing somebody to operate the camera by panning left and right to follow the action.

Furthermore, the software package that comes with it is automatically able to process the footage and in some sports follow the action automatically, as well as recognise when something like a try is scored or a short corner is set up. This can save hours of clipping time for Staff, and this gives another level of analysis to players' own technical games as well as the wider teams' tactical awareness.

If you see one of these green triangular cameras on a large tripod, don't be alarmed (though you may be on film!). They have already been used for hockey, rugby, lacrosse and netball, as well as essential filming for Sport Science GCSE and A Levels, and will likely be used for further sports from the Lent Term.

These cameras only really work effectively for team invasion games; however cricket is not left out, as they are using the NV Play Live system for their match footage and analysis.

Rob Ingham Clark, Head of Lacrosse



The First Stowe Group Monologue Slam

On Tuesday 15 November it was our great pleasure to host a new event - our first Stowe Group Monologue Slam. The evening was an opportunity to showcase and celebrate the acting talent at Stowe, Swanbourne House and Winchester House. The monologues and duologues performed were originally prepared for a range of purposes, including scholarships, LAMDA examinations, drama school and university interviews, and so it was a great privilege to give this work a sizeable audience and recognise the extensive preparation that goes into these endeavours. We were also treated to a performance of 'The Highwayman' by some of Stowe's Lower School Drama Scholars.

Our guest judge for the evening was the hugely experienced actor, singer and vocal and confidence coach, Sheridan Coldstream, who has recently achieved

fame on TikTok, 'duetting' with Billie Eilish. Sheridan awarded the prize for the Best Prep School Performer to Daisy Irvine from Winchester House, who did a superb and energetic performance of an extract from 'Whistle Down the Wind'. The prize for the best Stowe Performer(s) went to Arabella Williams (Fourth Form, Stanhope) and Annabel Lloyd (Fourth Form, Stanhope) for their gripping and believable portrayal of two teenagers in Ann Cartwright's 'Fault'. Finally, the award for the Best Overall Performer went to Owen Gunn (Lower Sixth, Chandos) for his thoughtful and mature interpretation of an extract from 'Lungs' by Duncan Macmillan.

A huge well done to all thirty wonderful performers for making it such an inspiring evening.

Lucy Miller, Drama Department

Stowe Presents...

EXCITING NEW EVENTS FOR 2023



A new initiative for 2023 will be the launch of a series of public events which we hope will appeal to a wide range of audiences in our local area, and also within the Stowe community.

Following the former Arts at Stowe programme (which ended in 2020), we are launching our new series called 'Stowe Presents'. Making use of our excellent on-site facilities including the Ugland Auditorium in the Chung Music School, the Roxburgh Theatre and the Chapel, Stowe will be presenting a broad programme of music, drama, art, talks and more.

Some of the programme will be Stowe School's own events and activities, with recent examples including the performance of Mozart's Requiem and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.4 in the Chapel, to launch the School's Centenary Celebrations. This concert attracted an audience of 600, which is the largest audience we have ever welcomed for a classical concert, according to the Head! We also promoted the Senior Congreve performances of the musical Grease to a wider audience, and all the performances this December were sell-outs.

On Thursday 20 April, we welcome the return of National Theatre Live to the Roxburgh, commencing with the live screening of 'Good' by C P Taylor, starring David Tennant in his much-anticipated return to the West End in a blistering re-imagining of one of Britain's most powerful political plays. We are delighted to be partnering with the National Theatre again and we look forward to presenting all their live screenings.

On Saturday 4 June we will be presenting acclaimed theatre company Wrongsemble in 'The Not So Grimm Twins'. We are keen to present a varied and high-quality programme for our younger audiences and we hope this will be the first of a regular series of children's theatre.

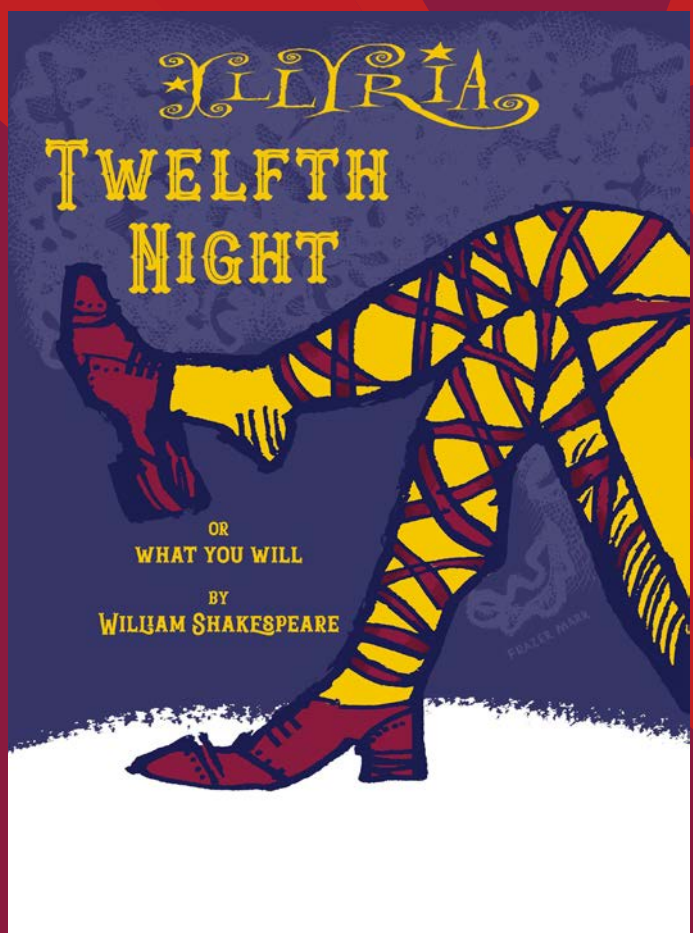
On Thursday 24 August, Shakespeare will return to the grounds of Stowe when we host theatre company Ilyria and their production of Twelfth Night. Taking place on the South Front, with the dramatic backdrop of Stowe House, Ilyria will present an evening of yearning romance, music and sheer joy - all performed on a stage inspired by those of the Elizabethan touring troupes.

We are developing a new email list for everyone interested in being kept up to date as the programme develops, and there will be a dedicated section for Stowe Presents on The Stowe Group website, to be launched shortly.

If you would like to join the mailing list, I would be very pleased to hear from you, please do drop me an **email**.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Stowe Presents series!

Simon Wales, Director of the Stowe Presents Programme





Old Stoic Century

Ben Duckett (Grafton 13) became the first Old Stoic to score a test century for England in the first test versus Pakistan in Rawalpindi on Thursday 1 December. This was his comeback test match having last played for the England test team in 2016. We wish Ben well for the remainder of the series.

James Knott, Head of Cricket



Stowe 100 Racing Club

The STOWE 100 RACING CLUB is now up and running. With much excitement members of the new racing syndicate, established in celebration of Stowe's milestone year, were treated to a representative in a top-class race with their first runner FAGAN racing in the valuable Becher Chase over the Grand National fences at Aintree on Saturday 3 December.

Trained by Alex Hales (Chandos 92) and ridden by Grand National winning jockey Derek Fox, Fagan soared around the famous Aintree course - where the likes of Aldaniti, Red Rum and Tiger Roll have proved victorious. Although he would have preferred softer ground, he ran with credit and finished a most respectable tenth of twenty-two in the Becher Chase - importantly filling the last position that offered prize money.

The members who attended were treated to a delicious lunch, a walk of the famous course, access to the parade ring to see Fagan and to meet the trainer and jockey before racing - what a thrill we had!

The 100 Club has three horses in training - Fagan and then two flat horses, who will be racing in 2023 trained by Old Stoics Edward Bethell (Cobham 12) in Middleham, Yorkshire and Jonathan Portman (Chatham 83) in Lambourn. Some shares are still available, and anyone connected to Stowe is warmly welcome to join and dip their toe into the magical world of racehorse ownership. We have a real mix of past pupils, current and former Parents, and Staff already signed up with numerous social events including stable tours, drinks evenings and stud tours all included in the share price.

For further information please **email** the Racing Club Manager, Henry Kimbell (Chandos 04) or call him on 07979 522744.



Advertise in The Corinthian

Each year, the Old Stoic Society publishes The Corinthian, which chronicles news from Old Stoics around the world, along with a collection of features and articles from our members. All Old Stoics and Stowe Parents receive a hard copy of the magazine.

We are currently working on our Centenary Collector's Edition and are delighted to offer a range of advertising opportunities to those who may like to promote their company to the Stowe Community.

Click [here](#) to view the Media Pack.

To book advertising or discuss rates, please contact The Editor, **Arron Quinton** 01280 818063



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