



THE STOIC

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THE STOIC

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EDITORIAL

All seems to be change. The cover of the School magazine becomes more bizarre yearly; its companion, *Germ* even went so far as to change its name, yet both are much the same within their new exteriors. As ever before, there are campaigns for more luxuriant hair, more bohemian dress regulations and more freedom of tastes. Yet again, a fluctuating exterior reveals a consistent inside. A club for the drinking of beer at specified hours has proved to be something of a success, yet it could not be said that the consumption of alcohol is increased or decreased, the vast majority of Stoics still prefer their studies and own brand of drink. Likewise, last rugby season was championed by a determination to win. We did not win at all costs; we stumbled along much as before. Change is a highly unnecessary part of school life, because in fact there is nothing that radically needs changing; apart from a slight increase in numbers and buildings, Stowe is intrinsically the same as the day it was founded, and this is surely a good sign: it shows that there cannot be much outstandingly wrong with the place.

The fact is that it is only a tiny handful who are out to make the place different, largely in an attempt to whip up enthusiasm from a somewhat lackadaisical group of adolescents. Reading past editorials of *The Stoic* and *Germ* one can see their desperate attempts, branding the flock as lethargic and worse. The happy truth is, however, that there is very little new to talk about, and it should be the job of the modern Stoic not to say anything new, but to say it better than ever before. Let us heed the words of the wit who so sagely said: "Profundity is the last resort of the intellectually bankrupt."

DENZIL PUGH

Frontispiece:

A Saxon Deity by Rysbrack, probably Sunna from the runic inscription (photograph taken c.1910).

STOICA

To name this term the 'Easter' or 'Spring' term seems a poor joke; the weather and the atmosphere bewray little of either. Another nine weeks have passed towards the acquisition of an Old Stoic tie, with a few books opened and closed, some musical instruments played, hockey sticks wielded and some brief moments of vitality. When the weather is merciful, however, our environment provides some relief, despite the fir tree on the Bourbon Tower, the shrubbery on the figure of Ceres on the South Front, the moss-covered colonnades of the North Front and George's 'temporary' absence, while his horse remains encased in a tarpaulin and rusting scaffolding.

Black seems a suitable description of the term both metaphorically and literally: the school has had its share of power cuts to deepen the Winter gloom, causing the Saturday night films to run late and the curtailment, to the relief of some, of amplified miscellanies.

The Modern Language Department, however, has never had it so good with the charming presence of Mrs Manly, while Mr Manly takes his sabbatical term. We also welcome two masters, Mr McKittrick and Mr Pomphrey, who are both teaching Sciences, and two student masters, Mr Woodall, who is teaching French, and Mr Bach, a mathematician, who, while no relation of Johann Sebastian, plays with the school orchestra. Last term we said good-bye to Miss Hopwood and are now delighted to welcome her back as Mrs Lloyd. We send our best wishes for a full recovery from her recent illness. In the School itself societies have been in action, but have produced no earth shaking theories or decisions. True to form the Debating Society during three meetings proved that it prefers to say nothing rather than to risk speaking nonsense. In the sphere of politics it seems that it needs the notoriety of a man like Sir Oswald Mosley to provoke discussion again. A mysterious new club is rising in our midst, which glories in the name of Corkscrew and whose founder is none other than our Head of School, the nephew of a distinguished Old Stoic gastronome.

The Congreve Club has not performed this term and we have had to satisfy our dramatic appetite with two house plays from Temple and Lyttelton. Others are in rehearsal. Artistic creativity at Stowe, which received wide mention in the national press last holidays, has been represented in two house exhibitions. Academically the school had considerable success in the Oxford and Cambridge examinations: awards were won by J. R. Davis, S. S. Grant, D. A. Harper, S. Ram, T. R. Ryder and E. A. Verdon-Roe and places gained by fourteen others. On a more mundane level the hockey results have, so far, not been as pleasing as in some recent years.

The New Science Block is completed and ready for occupation, but perhaps the building of the Swimming Pool has aroused more enthusiasm amongst Stoics who remember early Summer days in the Eleven-Acre. A great hole has been dug, and large amounts of earth have been poured down the Walpole slope.

In some ways it is possible to see the light of progress. The inevitability, if not the principle, of voluntary chapel has been conceded with the release of Stoics from two morning services a week. One wonders, however, whether an educational system can ever change the attitude of its members to larger issues when it apparently supports a system that is rooted in individual competition and personal gain.

MURRAY SECCOMBE

THE SCHOOL SHOP

In the past two years more than £7000 has been distributed from accumulated profits. Of this amount £6000 has been given to the Swimming Pool Fund, and other school organisations that have received grants are the Stowe Beagles, the Sailing and Sculling Clubs, the Chandos Duckery and Stowe Community Service. Money has also been allocated towards the cost of an artificial cricket wicket for use in bad weather and "earmarked" to help in the construction of an all-weather pitch for hockey and other games. The Shop Committee has continued to award regular prizes for reading in Chapel and for contributors to *The Stoic*.

M. J. FOX

THE STOCK EXCHANGE FINANCE GAME

A team has been entered for the first time in this competition. It is organised by the London Stock Exchange, and so far the Stowe players have enjoyed their work. It is assumed that each team (there are 99 schools taking part) has won £25,000 in a Premium Bond draw, and they have about ten weeks in which to invest in Stocks and Shares quoted on the Exchange. At the time of writing we are at the half way stage and there is no way of knowing how Stowe is doing—all we can say is that so far about £900 has been added to the paper value of the assets.

P. G. LONGHURST

MUSIC

This has been another most interesting term, and the formation of a new String Quartet bodes well for the future.

It does seem a pity however that so few boys come to concerts. The standard of all of them is so high that each of them is an experience not to be missed. Some indeed have even said they are better than the rugby on the television!

TITUS GIBSON

Saturday, 11th December at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

SYBIL MICHELOW (*Contralto*)

DEREK LONGMAN (*pianoforte*)

THE STOWE CHORAL SOCIETY AND ORCHESTRA

Prelude to the Mastersingers

Wagner

Piano Concerto No. 1 in C

Beethoven

The Music Makers

Elgar

It was bold of David Gatehouse to choose as the main item of the Choral Society's Autumn Term concert such an unusual work as Elgar's 'The Music Makers'. It says much for the skill of all concerned that the choice was so well justified in the event.

To begin with though we were on more familiar ground. Toscanini is supposed to have said that 'The Mastersingers' has only one fault: it is too short. And even many of the most hardened Philistines, to whom the complexities of 'Tristan' and 'The Ring' are incomprehensible mysteries have been lured by this deceptively straightforward music into the dangerous workshop of the old Bayreuth Mastersinger himself. The Prelude is a wonderful drama in miniature and a good performance can be a frustratingly brief reminder of all the good things we are missing. One of the problems of this music must be to find the right tempo. If it is taken as slowly as at this concert it tends to stress the nobility of music, at the expense of the precarious balance between the small-town pomposity of the Guild and the real grandeur of their aims which the opening theme brilliantly conveys: it makes for more mellow music, but perhaps sacrifices some of the dramatic subtlety. Certainly on this occasion though the excitement of

the rising waves of melody and the incredibly elaborate counterpoints carried it through triumphantly, and if the brass was a shade heavy in places, the performance was as glowing and generous as one would wish.

The opening movement of a classical concerto on its own is a little unsatisfying and obviously inconclusive. Derek Longman made a very creditable shot at the Beethoven concerto, though I found the orchestral accompaniment limp and even a bit ragged here and there, and in general perhaps young performers are more at ease with the headier, more rhapsodic style of the romantic concerto, where clarity and firmness and steadiness of rhythm are less important than mood. All the same it was a spirited and musical performance and a fitting climax to a distinguished career in Stowe music. It would have been good to hear his account of the other movements.

It is easy to be scornful of the text Elgar chose to set for 'The Music Makers', and as poetry it is (to be charitable) banal, but Schubert and Brahms for instance got away with worse—or as bad—and composers haven't always found that their most inspired music has been put to stunning words. The poem must have appealed to Elgar because it allowed him to express certain aspects of his own elusive personality: the persisting elegiac mood, the lyrical and fervent mysticism, the sensitivity and loyalty to friends and the strong current of pessimism that pervades the nobility of the public moods of this complex man. The problem with this work—apart, of course, from the unnerving resemblance of the opening theme to Bing Crosby's old hit 'Where the blue of the night meets the gold of the day'—is that appreciation of it must surely imply love of Elgar the musician and the man and some knowledge of his compositions, and though Nicholas Kaye's excellent programme notes were a great help they couldn't altogether compensate for this lack. It is to his friends that Elgar is talking. This can't be helped, and the performance was a very satisfying one. The chorus were in excellent voice—perhaps too much so in some of the very quietest passages—and the orchestral playing was magnificent. Sybil Michelow, the contralto soloist, has a voice of great beauty and if at times she held back too much, the tone of her singing was a joy to hear.

These were all performances that made one eager to hear more of the composer's works. Isn't this what it's all about?

J. BAIN

Sunday, 23rd January at 8.00 p.m. in the Queen's Temple

Clive Brown (*violin*) Bram Wiggins (*trumpet*)
David Gatehouse (*piano*) Terence James (*piano*)

CANTORES IN CONCORDIA

Violin Sonata *Debussy*
Three Songs of Enchantment *Mansel Thomas*
Recitative and Allegro (tr. & pf.) *Defossez*
Five English Folk Songs *arr. Vaughan Williams*
Violin Sonata No. 2 in A major *Brahms*

Debussy's Violin Sonata, which opened this concert, was written late in the composer's career, by which time he had left his earlier impressionistic style far behind. Some of its subtlety and elusiveness was perhaps missed in Mr Brown's otherwise admirable performance, although he was not helped by the rather dead tone of the new Queen's Temple piano.

For me, at any rate, the highlight of the evening was the 'Three Songs of Enchantment' by Mansel Thomas, the contemporary Welsh composer. These songs were commissioned by the Cardiff City Corporation, and were first performed in July 1965; they consist of settings of three poems by Walter de la Mare, 'Dream-Song', 'The Song of Shadows', and 'A Song of Enchantment'. The composer himself was present to acknowledge the applause at the end. Defossez' 'Recitative and Allegro' was performed with customary skill by Mr Wiggins, although the tone of his trumpet is rather overwhelming in as small a building as the Queen's Temple. Ralph Vaughan Williams' 'Five English Folk Songs', which followed, after the interval, were marred by a slight discrepancy in the basses at the end of the second of the songs, 'The Spring

Time of the Year'. I particularly enjoyed the chorale-like 'The Lover's Ghost', and the very difficult 'Wassail Song', which is at times in seven-part harmony.

Mr Brown concluded the concert with a sensitive performance of Brahms' A major Violin Sonata, with the rich, warm and mellow tone which this work requires; one's appreciation of the performance was lessened only by occasionally faulty intonation.

FRANCIS WATSON

Saturday, 5th February at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

A CONCERT BY BOYS OF STOWE SCHOOL

Piano Trio in D major (first movement) *Haydn*
Hugh Joslin (*violin*), Andrew Pears (*cello*)
Titus Gibson (*piano*)
Aria from Cantata No. 77 *Bach*
Trumpet Tune *Stanley*
Mark Lankester (*trumpet*)
Sonata a Trois *Quantz*
Geoffrey Macleod-Smith, Peter Fraser,
Graham Aiken (*flutes*)
Allegro Appassionato *Saint-Saens*
Hugh Richards (*cello*)
Three pieces written for Musical Clocks
March—Andante *Haydn*
Minuet *Beethoven*
Nicholas Armstrong, John Lloyd Morgan (*oboes*)
Justin Shingles, Howard Goodall (*clarinets*)
Jeux d'Eau *Ravel*
Rhapsody in B minor *Brahms*
Francis Watson (*piano*)
String Quartet in C, K.157 *Mozart*
Hugh Joslin, Neil Bass (*violins*)
Teymour Boutros-Ghali (*viola*), Andrew Pears (*cello*)
Fantasietucke No. 1 in A minor *Schumann*
Andrew Scott (*clarinet*)
Sonata Op. 2 No. 8 (first movement) *Handel*
Hugh Richards, Stephen Marshall (*cellos*)
Two Slavonic Dances—in A flat and G minor *Dvorak*
Jonathan Guilford, Titus Gibson (*pianos*)
Tower Music for Brass Quintet
Intrada — Pavane — Galliard *Melchior Franck*
Chorale — Fanfare *Richard Drakeford*
Denzil Pugh, Mark Lankester (*trumpets*)
Hugh Spencer-Thomas (*horn*)
David Robinson, Oswald Hoskins (*tubas*)

It was disappointing that there was such a small audience for this concert. However the programme was enthusiastically received and a high standard was maintained throughout.

The Haydn piano trio was played with confidence and was notable for the sensitive interpretation, especially from the piano. The Aria and Trumpet Tune were performed with dignity, the quaver passages in the Bach being kept well in time. The flute ensemble was an unusual but attractive item; apart from slight problems of tuning and the tendency to hurry in the minuet, this piece was also played well, with overall balance being outstanding. Next we heard the 'cello solo, a beautiful and moving piece; the soloist showed great style and produced a beautiful vibrato. The only fault was a slight tendency to hurry in the opening phrases. There were problems of tuning in the Musical Clocks pieces, but this was an admirable performance from four young players. The first half of the concert finished with two piano solos which completely captivated the audience both by their beauty and by their sensitive interpretation. The Ravel was notable for the soloist's exquisite handling of rubato. Brahms' Rhapsody

provided such great contrast with the Ravel that perhaps it should have come first. Here again we heard a performance of great technical skill, with the scales superbly even and the climax well sustained.

The second half began with a Mozart string quartet. In the first movement, the answering passages between the 1st and 2nd violins were well controlled. The 'cello supplied a firm but lyrical foundation for the other parts to build on, and the syncopated passages in the 3rd movement were played with confidence. The Schumann is indeed a beautiful piece of music and was very well performed. The soloist maintained admirable tonal contrast through every register of the instrument. The 'cello duet that followed was effectively balanced and was well in tune, except on some of the high notes. Of the piano duets the duple time in the first Slavonic dance was perhaps rather over-emphasized, but the two pianists had obviously reached a mutual interpretation and always kept good ensemble. The second dance with its interesting cross-rhythms through the basic three-four time was brilliantly played. The brass quintet then concluded the concert with some true Elizabethan music and some not-so-Elizabethan music by Richard Drakeford.

The most noticeable and encouraging aspect of this concert with an outstandingly high standard of performance, was the players' ability and competence to play sympathetically and thoughtfully for the music rather than for themselves. A very satisfying and rewarding evening.

JONATHAN HERSHMAN

Sunday, 20th February at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

Clive Brown (<i>violin</i>)	Susan Reynolds (<i>violin</i>)
Anna Haxworth (<i>viola</i>)	Helen Dalby (<i>cello</i>)
David Gatehouse (<i>piano</i>)	
MARY VERNEY (<i>harpsichord</i>)	

Quartet in F major, Op. 59 No. 1	<i>Beethoven</i>
Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue	<i>Bach</i>
Chaconne and Variations	<i>Handel</i>
Sonatas	<i>Scarlatti</i>
Piano Quartet in E flat	<i>Schumann</i>

The first quartet of Beethoven's middle period music is a difficult work to play in any circumstances—in fact it is considered by many to be one of the most difficult quartets to perform in the musician's repertoire. Add to this the fact that the Roxburgh Hall lights were expected to fail at about 8 p.m., due to the power situation, and you are left wondering how such a technically difficult piece of music could be performed in these conditions. The performance itself was a highly creditable one, and besides the slightly suspect intonation at the beginning of the first movement, the quartet was performed with great confidence, combining superb skills as an ensemble in the Adagio, with the panache of the Russian theme in the last movement. Mary Verney gave a magnificent performance of Baroque harpsichord music (before and after the interval). The rich harmonies of Bach's Chromatic Fantasia were played immaculately while Handel's Chaconne and Variations was performed with the flamboyance that only Handel could have composed for. The two Scarlatti sonatas, works of undoubted virtuosity, were played with remarkable confidence, and the enthusiasm of the audience persuaded Mary Verney to perform a delightful encore.

Schumann's Piano Quintet was played with the sparkling exuberance that characterises the composer's early music. The vitality that is so important in this work was combined with rhythmic precision and good ensemble between the piano and the strings. The 'In modo d'una Marcia', a dead march, was played with great feeling; this movement was superbly contrasted with the last two. The double fugue in the last movement was executed with the youthful fervour that epitomises this music. The work formed a fitting climax to a very enjoyable evening's entertainment.

HUGH JOSLIN

THE MUSIC CLUB

In this rather short term we have managed to include three meetings. The first was a dress rehearsal for the scholars' concert. The standard of playing was generally very good. The second meeting was a paper by Hugh Joslin on 'The Genesis of Beethoven's late style'—a rather involved, but well planned talk, in which Beethoven's private life played an important rôle. The meeting ended in a heated discussion between Messrs Brown and James as to whether Beethoven's Grosse Fugue was in fact a real fugue—Mr James claimed that Beethoven must have been mad when he wrote it!

We look forward to the last meeting which will take the form of a concert given by members of the Club. One point of criticism is the low attendance of members at meetings; particularly at Hugh Joslin's interesting lecture.

Our thanks go again to Mr Wiggins for running the Club so efficiently.

TEYMOUR BOUTROS-GHALI

THE BAND

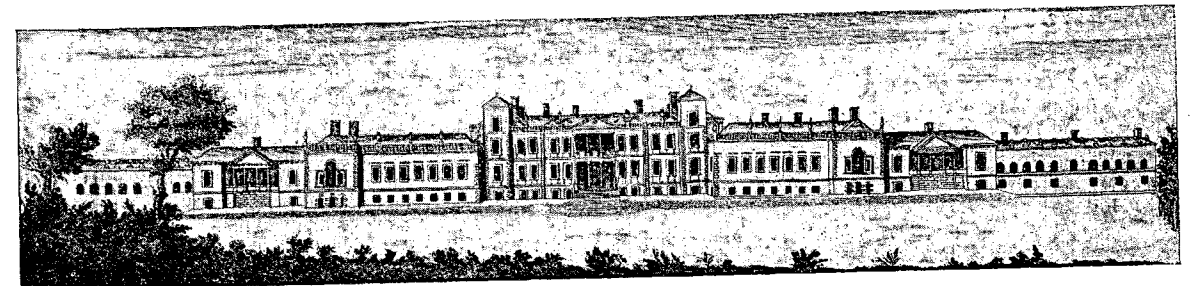
The concert at the end of last term was very well received by an encouragingly sizeable audience. The movements which went down best were two well known pieces, one from Tchaikowsky's 'Nutcracker Suite' and the other from Strauss' 'Emperor Walze'. This term it was decided to form a committee which should help in the organisation of the band and make suggestions regarding music to be played. We have been rehearsing recently for a concert on Speech Day and we hope for more luck with the weather than last year as we were cut off in mid song by rain!

GEOFFREY MACLEOD-SMITH
HUGH SPENCER THOMAS

THE GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

This term has been a more prosperous one for the Gramophone Society, and there has not been a recurrence of the troubles of last term, although many records are still missing. The Gramophone Room has been continually in use since the beginning of term; over a hundred pounds worth of records has been added from members' subscriptions, and membership has greatly increased on last term.

FRANCIS WATSON



THE HISTORY OF STOWE—XV

GARDEN ORNAMENTS

At the end of this chapter we bid adieu to that remarkable man, without doubt the greatest figure in the history of Stowe, Richard Temple first Viscount Cobham. We have run through the annals of the Temple family, described Lord Cobham's father's house and garden, and made a wide survey of Lord Cobham's own building activities and of his far-ranging gardens with their remarkable symbology. There remain however certain assorted oddments that ought not to be left out. This chapter is therefore a bran pie, and on dipping our hands in the bran we find the pie contains:—

1. Statuary.¹
2. Decorative painting.
3. Eccentricities.

Statuary

There have always been statues in gardens. The Ancients had them, of bronze and marble. Even we of today, in our less splendid circumstances, have our plastic gnomes and concrete bunny-rabbits. The statue population of European gardens at the end of the 17th century was immense. After that a decline set in until the landscape gardens of the later 18th century had perhaps two or three set in carefully selected "picturesque" situations. Lord Cobham's garden stood between these two extremes. Fewer statues, acre for acre, than at Versailles but far more than in anything of the post-Brown period. There were in fact quite a large number.

At the beginning of the 18th century the leading makers of garden statuary in England were John Nost and his assistant, who later set up on his own, Andrew Carpenter.¹ Both were Flemings and their names were really Jan van Ost and Andries Carpentière. Lord Cobham employed both. Nost made the lead statue of George I for the North Front, which is in fact a replica of that he made for the Essex Bridge in Dublin in 1717. He was paid £150 in 1723. This seems a lot of money even for a life-sized equestrian figure, but Nost may have supplied more for the payment. The Parterre on the South Front had tall niches of clipped yew and in these were statues and vases. The statues were Apollo with the Muses and Liberal Arts, the vases were elaborate and Baroque and very much in Nost's manner. All may with fair confidence be ascribed to him. As the garden increased in size, so more statues were required. Carpenter had set up on his own by 1722 and from him, it seems, Lord Cobham ordered for the new Home Park area the groups of Cain and Abel and the Roman Wrestlers. In 1723 Carpenter submitted a long list of statues to Lord Carlisle for Castle Howard.¹ In the list appear Cain and Abel and the wrestlers, which Carlisle did not buy. However his friend Cobham chose to have them somewhat later. From Stowe Carpenter was paid £10 in May 1737.² He died almost immediately afterwards and in September a payment "in full" of £24-10-0 was made to his widow for "figures". The Castle Howard list also had a Venus de' Medici. A version of this famous antique statue, in lead, stood in the Rotondo at Stowe;³ so perhaps the previous £10 to Carpenter "for a figure" was for Venus. Almost certainly too the shepherds and shepherdesses appearing in Rigaud's view of the Queen's Theatre were by Carpenter. They seem to be just the same as the figures, known to be his, which still stand on the terrace wall at Powis Castle in Wales.⁴ The statuary of this earlier period, all in lead, must have added some splendour to the Bridgeman garden. Venus was gilt, so were the parterre urns⁵ and perhaps other things too. And the shepherds and shepherdesses were probably painted in natural colours, as such lighter-hearted statues often were at that time.

We have already noted in earlier chapters Lord Cobham's keen nose for the latest in art and artists. In 1721 arrived in England another young Fleming, John Michael Rysbrack,¹ who proved himself an extremely able sculptor in stone and marble. He soon attracted the notice of important patrons, one of the earliest of whom was Lord Cobham. Already in 1724 Lord Perceval had seen at Stowe the statue, on its tall column, of the Prince of Wales (later George II). This figure was brought down to ground-level at last in the 19th century and re-sited on the North Front, on the mound covering the ruins of Nelson's Seat. There it could be seen at close quarters to be a fine piece of work, characteristic of Rysbrack; so it seems that by 1724, long

before the disappearance of Carpenter, Rysbrack was edging his way into Stowe. It is not indeed absolutely certain that this statue was by Rysbrack, but there is no doubt about the first set of eight British Worthies and the seven Saxon Deities. All these were given to him in the notebooks of that very reliable recorder George Vertue. Finally there is Queen Caroline. She is somewhat weathered and difficult to look at on her high pedestal, but she is probably Rysbrack's too. By 1730 lead statuary was going out of fashion. Rysbrack's figures are all of stone and so is everything later.

During the 1730s yet another young sculptor, yet again a Fleming, caught the fancy of the building and gardening public. This was Peter Scheemakers, who was quickly taken up by Stowe. It was Scheemakers' statue of Shakespeare for Westminster Abbey that brought him fame and fortune. This was in 1740, but Lord Cobham was ahead again. By 1737 he had already ordered from Scheemakers, and paid £120 for, the four Ancient Worthies in Portland stone for the Temple of Ancient Virtue.² To Scheemakers too went the commission for the second set of British Worthies. At least the second set are by another hand, a hand in this instance distinctly less able than Rysbrack's. The earlier series has a certain Baroque swagger that is most satisfactory, and are fine as portraits though none can have been taken from life. The second set are stumpy and dull in comparison and are an inch or two larger every way than the first, which gives them a clumsy look. One of the second set, Inigo Jones, seems to belong to the first in style, as if he were the work of Rysbrack. And in fact we learn that when Kent's new Worthies' temple was built, the older set of busts, plus Inigo Jones, appeared in it before the later set were ready.⁶ Scheemakers' best work at the Worthies is Alexander Pope. He succeeded least with King Alfred and the Black Prince, whose appearance he could not know, best with Pope whom he could take from life. He was perhaps more dependent on a living model than Rysbrack. The Victoria and Albert Museum has a bust of Lord Cobham signed by Scheemakers, an admirable piece of portraiture in white marble, evidently taken from life. Probably this is Lord Cobham's portrait from the Temple of Friendship. It is uncertain if Scheemakers made all the busts of the friends, though probably he did. If Lord Cobham's is typical then the effect of all the busts together must have been very good.

Scheemakers is also said to have made the sculptured relief showing the four quarters of the earth bringing produce to Britannia, for the back wall of the Palladian Bridge. This can surely never have been satisfactory. If looked at from a distance, awkwardly from one side or other of the water, it cannot have been seen well. Or if close at hand, from within the bridge itself, it cannot have been seen at all, as the spectator was only a few inches from it. Small wonder that after his uncle's death Lord Temple, wishing to perfect the bridge, removed the sculpture and put it up again elsewhere, as shall be told in a later chapter. It is also likely that Scheemakers made the "crouching Venus" for the Grotto. The Venus is an antique figure which Scheemakers had copied when he was in Rome. He brought his copy home and from this he could have made the Stowe version. Vertue saw the copy and greatly admired it, noting that Scheemakers seemed to take more than usual trouble in studying the Antique. This no doubt is part of the reason for his great success, coming just when he did. Rysbrack was still Baroque, looking back to Vanbrugh and fitting in well with Bridgeman, but Scheemakers made his bust of Lord Cobham without a wig and looking like an ancient Roman. In short he was already Classical, chiming with the Elysian Fields and the Grecian Valléy, looking beyond the Rococco "French taste" —which incidentally was nowhere represented at Stowe—forward to the age of Adam and Flaxman and Wedgwood. We have already seen in Chapter XII how Lord Cobham became a pioneer in Neo-Classic architecture. An intent to do the same in sculpture explains his early employment of Scheemakers.

Another thing not to be forgotten is Congreve's monument, a delightful work of sculpture rather than architecture, a light-hearted counterpart to the obelisk-type monuments so often found in churches, comic masks and a cynical monkey taking the places of weeping women and cupids with torches reversed (Chapter XI, plate 8). It is supposed to be Kent's design, and the sculpture, though the guide-books are silent, may well be Scheemakers'.

A final sculpture group may be mentioned here, though it is uncertain whether it was at Stowe in Lord Cobham's time. This is Caius Gabriel Cibber's "Bagpiper and his dog", characters from

Defoe's *Journal of the Plague Year*. The group left Stowe at the 1848 sale and went to Snitterfield in Warwickshire;⁷ whence it has in recent years migrated to the V. and A. Museum. It now stands opposite Lord Cobham's portrait bust. The above survey is far from exhaustive. There must have been other things. There were two little lead sphinxes, probably Nost's, on either side the central pathway of the parterre opposite the South Front steps; there were "hugging cupids" in the shell temples by the Grotto; there were statues in one Boycott Pavilion; there were river gods and other figures at the cascade. The following catalogue contains all the statuary that is known of Lord Cobham's time:—

CATALOGUE OF SCULPTURE

Items of certain or probable authorship (a question-mark in brackets after the description of an item indicates that the attribution is not documented).

Sculptor	Work	Position at Stowe	Present whereabouts
JOHN NOST	George I	North Front	Stowe
	Apollo and the Muses (?)	1st: Parterre 2nd: Spring of Helicon 3rd: 6 on Temple of Concord 1 on Grenville Column	Two at Stowe Four at Anglesey Abbey near Cambridge Remainder ? ? ?
	Vases (?) Sphinxes (?)	Parterre Parterre	?
ANDREW CARPENTER	Cain and Abel	facing the Temple of Venus	Anglesey Abbey, where they are called Samson and the Philistine
	Roman Wrestlers Venus de' Medici (?) Shepherds & Shepherdesses (?)	near Vanbrugh's pyramid the Rotondo Queen's Theatre	Anglesey Abbey ? ?
	The Saxon Deities	1st: near Nelson's Seat 2nd: round the Gothic Temple 3rd: in the Wood between the Gothic Temple and the Cobham Pillar	Friga at Port Merion Tiw at Anglesey Abbey (where he is called Father Time) Remainder ?
J. M. RYSBRACK	Nine British Worthies	1st: Gibbs' Building (without Inigo Jones) 2nd: Elysian Fields (with Inigo Jones)	Stowe
	George II (?)	1st: near the Queen's Theatre 2nd: North Front	? ?
	Queen Caroline (?)	1st: Queen's Theatre 2nd: Former position of Gibbs' Building	Stowe Stowe
	4 Ancient Worthies 7 British Worthies (?) Bust of Mercury above the British Worthies (?) Relief of Britannia, etc.	Temple of Ancient Virtue Elysian Fields Elysian Fields	? Stowe ?
PETER SCHEEMAKERS	Crouching Venus (?) Portrait Busts (?)	1st: Palladian Bridge 2nd: Temple of Concord (?) Grotto Temple of Friendship	Stowe Stowe ? Lord Cobham—V. & A. Museum Lord Bathurst—Cirencester Park (?) Remainder (?) Stowe
	Congreve's Monument (?)	near the Octagon	Stowe
	CAIUS GABRIEL CIBBER	The bagpiper and his dog (possibly not at Stowe in Lord Cobham's time)	Upper flower garden

Items of unknown authorship

Work	Authority for existence at Stowe	Position at Stowe	Present whereabouts
Set of Bacchic terminal figures	Information kindly communicated by Lady Hesketh	?	Easton Neston, Northants
Lead statues of Cicero, Marcus Aurelius, Faustina, Livia	"1735 Tour" (B.M. Add: Mss: 15776. ff. 1-10)	S.W. Boycott Pavilion	?
Busts	"1735 Tour" (B.M. Add: Mss: 15776. ff. 1-10)	Temple of Venus	?
River gods and other figures	"The Triumph of Nature" in The Gentleman's Magazine Summer 1742	the Cascade	?
"Hugging Cupids"	Bickham, "Beauties of Stowe"	Shell Temples by the Grotto	?
Headless figure of Sir Robert Walpole	Bickham, "Beauties of Stowe"	Temple of Modern Virtue	Rubbish heap (?)
Figure of Hercules	Chatelain/Bickham views of Stowe, 1752/3	On the Grenville Column, which stood at that time in the Grecian Valley	?

Decorative Painting

Outdoor decorative painting is scarcely to be found in England. At Stowe there was none absolutely out of doors, but much in porticos and other semi-protected situations. Two decorative painters seem to have worked for Lord Cobham: first Francis Nollekens who was, like the sculptors, a Fleming and in fact the father of a sculptor, the more famous Joseph Nollekens; and second Francesco Sleter, of uncertain ethnic origin but evidently, so far as his painting goes, a Venetian. Nollekens painted the interior walls of the lake pavilions with scenes from Guarini's *Pastor Fido* and the interior of the Brick Temple, which changed its name in consequence to the Temple of Bacchus, with Bacchic subjects. On the walls he put "the Triumphs of Jollity and Drunkenness" and on the ceiling "the God Bacchus of an enormous Size". In 1729 he was paid £30-13-7d "for Oyle & Colour"⁸ and this seems to have been the end of him. He was succeeded by Sleter, who had been in England at least since 1719, when he did some work for the Duke of Chandos at Canons. His first appearance at Stowe was in 1735, to decorate the Temple of Venus.⁹ Lord Cobham's account book shows that he came again at Midsummer 1740, in company with the architect Leoni, and was paid £50 in November.² He must have been at Stowe at other times too, as the amount of his work, in house and garden buildings, was surprisingly large.

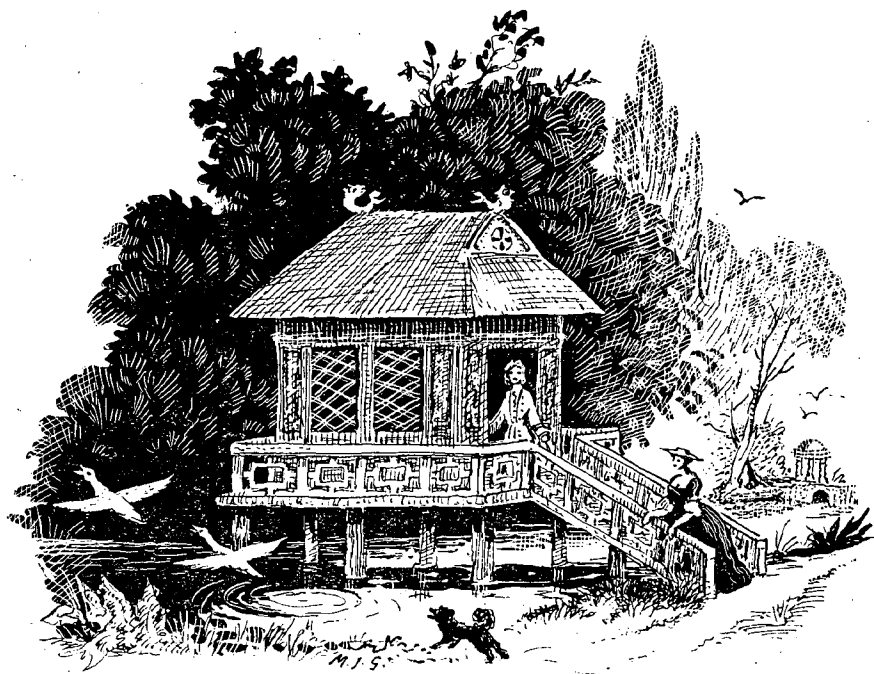
By the time Lord Cobham began to require decorative paintings for Stowe, Verrio and Laguerre were dead and Thornhill had retired to the country. These masters, dating back even to the reign of Charles II, had decorated huge walls and ceilings with "History", that is to say with scenes of life-sized figures. The Venetian painters who succeeded them continued, at first, with the same kind of subjects, though painted in the freer, more sketchy style of Venice. But the scale of things tended to diminish. By the mid-1730s the heroic style of Verrio was in fact quite out of fashion. Nevertheless Lord Cobham, for once a little behind the times, caused Sleter to go on with large-scale figure painting, so far as there was room for it in garden buildings, for another decade. Thus Sleter decorated the Temple of Venus with scenes from Spenser's *Faerie Queene* and, on the ceiling, a "naked Venus"; thus somewhat later the Temple of Friendship with emblems on the walls but a full pictorial ceiling;¹⁰ thus later still the room in the Lady's Temple with scenes of "Ladies at their amusements", which were music, needlework, painting and "shellwork", one amusement per wall. In the cramped space of the Imperial Closet he did a trio of Caesars: Vespasian, Trajan and Marcus Aurelius. And on either side of Scheemakers' lump of sculpture in the Palladian Bridge he painted a figure, on one side Sir Walter Raleigh and on the other William Penn. These probably were in monochrome. Sleter was a skilled *Quadraturista*, a painter of *trompe l'oeil* buildings and statues, and these figures were probably meant to look like sculpture. Finally he painted the outside of the Chinese House.

Unfortunately nothing whatever remains today in the garden buildings of any of his work nor for that matter of Nollekens' either.

Even so there was yet more painting. Dido's cave—the "Randibus" of West's poem—had Dido and Aeneas attended by putti with hymeneal torches, Nelson's Seat and the Sleeping Parlour had decoration with Classical subjects. None of this has been attributed to Sleter but it all sounds like his work and probably was. There was, and indeed still is, the armorial painting in the ceiling of the Gothic Temple, certainly not by Sleter. And there was curious work in the Witch House, which leads us to the final section of this chapter.

Eccentricities

The Witch House. This belongs to the Bridgeman period. It stood in the "mazy wood" of West's poem, just south of the church. This shrubby region in fact appears as the "Witch Wood" in a garden bill of 1723. This was in Vanbrugh's lifetime and there is some reason to think, apart from the likelihood in any case, that the odd little building was his work. The School library has a copy of Seeley's guide of 1745, much annotated in an 18th century hand. Against the Witch House the owner has written "Lady Vanbrugh's sketch". This suggests that he had seen Vanbrugh's drawing for the building in Vanbrugh's widow's hands. The visitor of 1735⁶ described the Witch House as "a little square room, irregularly built. Ye inside is painted with odd representations of witches by one Thomas Ferrand, a servant of Ld. Cobham's." Bickham,¹¹ writing in 1750, thought the house a "Master Piece". The paintings were by "the late Lord's Gentleman" and were taken from the engravings by "the famous Gillot, call'd his Dreams". The "penciling" however, he felt, was "not of the most elegant".



The Chinese House c.1745

St. Augustine's Cave. The exact date is not known, but the so-called cave was there by the time Seeley began his guides in 1744. It was not in fact a cave but a "root house", or "Polish hut", hidden in a dense shrubbery between the Pyramid and the Temple of Bacchus and constructed of roots and moss. Well might it be hidden, for within, presumably written on boards, were

some most displeasing verses making fun of the saint's heroic efforts to subdue the lusts of the flesh. The verses were at least in "Monkish Latin" which ladies, of course, did not understand. But alas, Seeley and Bickham provide translations.

The Chinese House. "Situat in a pond", that is to say in that wide part of the Alder river where the Chandos ducks and geese now disport themselves. It stood of course on piles and was approached by a little Chinese bridge. Seeley describes it. The outside was painted "in the Taste of that Nation (the Chinese) by Mr Slater (*sic*)". Inside was "India-japann'd Work" and here was discovered an effigy of "a Chinese Lady, as if asleep". Altogether it must have been one of the most delightful ornaments in the whole of the Stowe garden. Outside, Seeley says, it was "cover'd with sail cloth to preserve the lustre of the paintings", but this no doubt only during the Winter.

Signor Fido's epitaph. "On the Backside of this Building" (the Temple of British Worthies) says Bickham, "is the following Inscription"—

To the memory of SIGNOR FIDO, an Italian of good Extraction; who came into England not to bite us, like most of his Countrymen, but to gain an honest Livelihood.

The panegyric continues for some considerable space, and ends with the words—

Reader, this Stone is guiltless of Flattery; for he to whom it is inscrib'd was not a man, but a Grey-Hound.

Most of the statuary, all the paintings except those in the Gothic Temple, and all three of the whimsical little buildings have vanished from the scene. Had the buildings any ideological purpose? Probably none. There is a story that Lord Cobham's successor a century later, the second Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, when told he ought to economise and that he might begin by dismissing his pastrycook, replied, "Demmit, a man must have a biscuit!" A man may perhaps likewise be allowed a few meaningless buildings in a garden otherwise somewhat overburdened with symbology. Nevertheless St. Augustine's Cave poses something of a question. In the course of Christian history St Augustine has turned out to be a Protestant rather than a Catholic worthy. His ideas on original sin and predestination were so valuable to Calvin that ever since Calvin's time the Catholics have tended, if one may so express it, to soft-pedal St Augustine. It is odd that so fervent a supporter of the Calvinist King William as Lord Cobham was should choose to deride St Augustine. One would expect him rather to be disagreeable about St Ignatius. Probably the simplest explanation one can think of is the best. Lord Cobham wanted a joke-building for once in a way, with an anti-clerical flavour. Ignatius began life as a soldier, as Cobham himself did. Augustine was a mere university don, a much better subject for jokes.

The Cave and the Witch House have long since fallen to pieces but there is good reason to hope that the Chinese House still exists elsewhere.¹² It was built during the 1740s, but so Rococco an ornament began almost at once to go out of tune with the beginnings of Neo-classic harmony in the garden. Lord Temple, coming into the property in 1749, did away with it very soon. The Grenville family property was at Wotton Underwood near Aylesbury and here Lord Temple's brother George Grenville took up residence when Temple moved to Stowe. There was at Wotton until lately a Chinese House so like the Stowe house as to make it almost impossible to believe that the two were not one and the same house. What must surely have happened was that Lord Temple, wishing to remove but not to destroy the house, gave it to his brother. Within the last few years the house has been removed again from Wotton and has gone beyond the sea this time, to Harristown House in County Kildare. It is sad that it has gone so far from Stowe, but at least it has not, like the papers, gone to California and it is pleasant to know that it still exists and is cared for.

This has brought us to the year of Lord Cobham's death and indeed beyond it. He died at Stowe in the autumn of 1749 and there he was buried. There is nothing put up to his memory in church or churchyard, and this may be by his own wish. His monument is of course the great column standing on the eastern boundary of the garden, set up by order of his wife. Strangely,

it was built during his lifetime. At first there was merely a short inscription above the doorway—
*To preserve the memory of her husband Ann, Viscountess Cobham, caused this pillar to be erected
 in the year 1747.*

At the end of the century, when the base was added to the column, four more considerable
 inscriptions were cut facing each way to the four quarters of the earth. Two were apt quotations
 from Pope, one addressed to Cobham himself, the other to the genius of Stowe. The third
 was from Tully's *Offices*. The fourth was an epitaph—

*Ricardo Vicecomiti de Cobham, exercituum Britannicorum Marescallo, qui in castris, et in
 Negotiis Rempubliam sustinuit;*

Et elegantiori hortorum cultu, his primum in agris illustrato patriam ornavit. MDCCXLIX.

The stone, as with "Signior Fido", is "guiltless of Flattery". Few words are here and all of
 them are true.

M. J. GIBBON

Acknowledgments

I have to thank the Huntington Library for permission to use material from the Stowe papers in their keeping.
 I have likewise to thank the Metropolitan Museum, New York, for permission to reproduce Rigaud's drawing
 of the view from the Queen's Theatre, Mr Bruce Bailey for his photograph of the George I statue, and my brother
 Benjamin Gibbon for his photographs of the British Worthies. Also the National Trust for leave to reproduce
 the photographs of statues now at Anglesey Abbey.

Notes

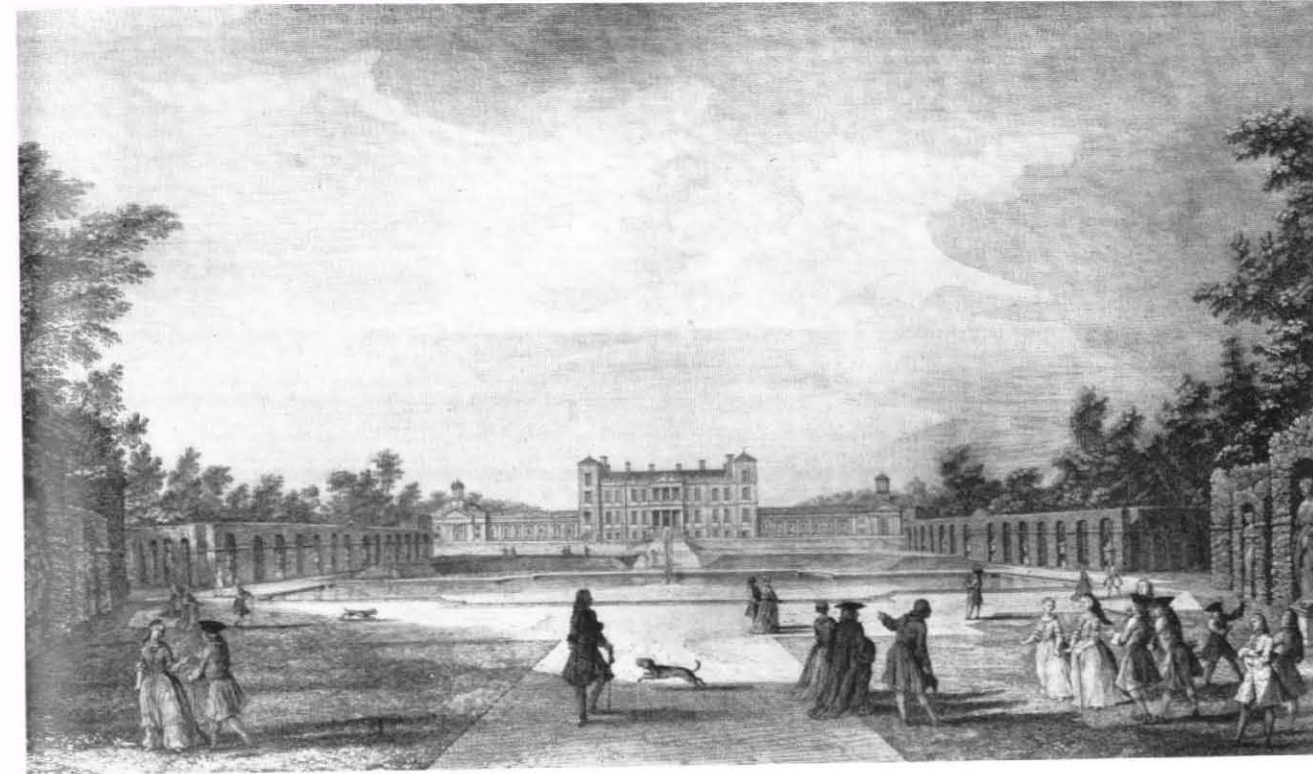
The chief sources of information about the ornaments of the garden are of course the guide-books, Seeley's series
 beginning in 1744 and George Bickham's *Beauties of Stowe*, first published in 1750. With reference to any item
 I have sometimes mentioned these authorities in the text, sometimes not. The reader may take it that I have made
 extensive use of them throughout.

1. See Rupert Gunnis, *Dictionary of British Sculptors, 1660-1851*.
2. Lord Cobham's account-book, 1736/41. In the Huntington Library.
3. See Rigaud's view, Seeley's guide-books, etc.
4. See Christopher Hussey, *English Gardens and Landscapes, 1700-1750, Country Life, 1967, Plate 37*.
5. See Gilbert West's poem on Stowe, 1732, footnotes to his descriptions of the parterre and the Rotondo.
6. See "An Account of the Journey yt Mr Hardness & I took in July 1735", British Museum Add: Mss: 15776
 ff 1-10. This anonymous manuscript is a "Tour of Seats" in which Stowe is described in considerable detail.
7. See the souvenir catalogue of the great sale at Stowe in 1848.
8. Stowe building accounts, in the Huntington Library.
9. Description of the Temple of Venus by the anonymous tourist of 1735 (see note 6). "It (the main room
 inside) has a cove ceiling, wch was then about to be painted by Slaughter (sic)."
10. See Chapter X.
11. *Beauties of Stowe*.
12. See Edward Croft-Murray, *Decorative Painting in England, 1537-1837, Country Life, 1970, Vol. II, Plate 62*.

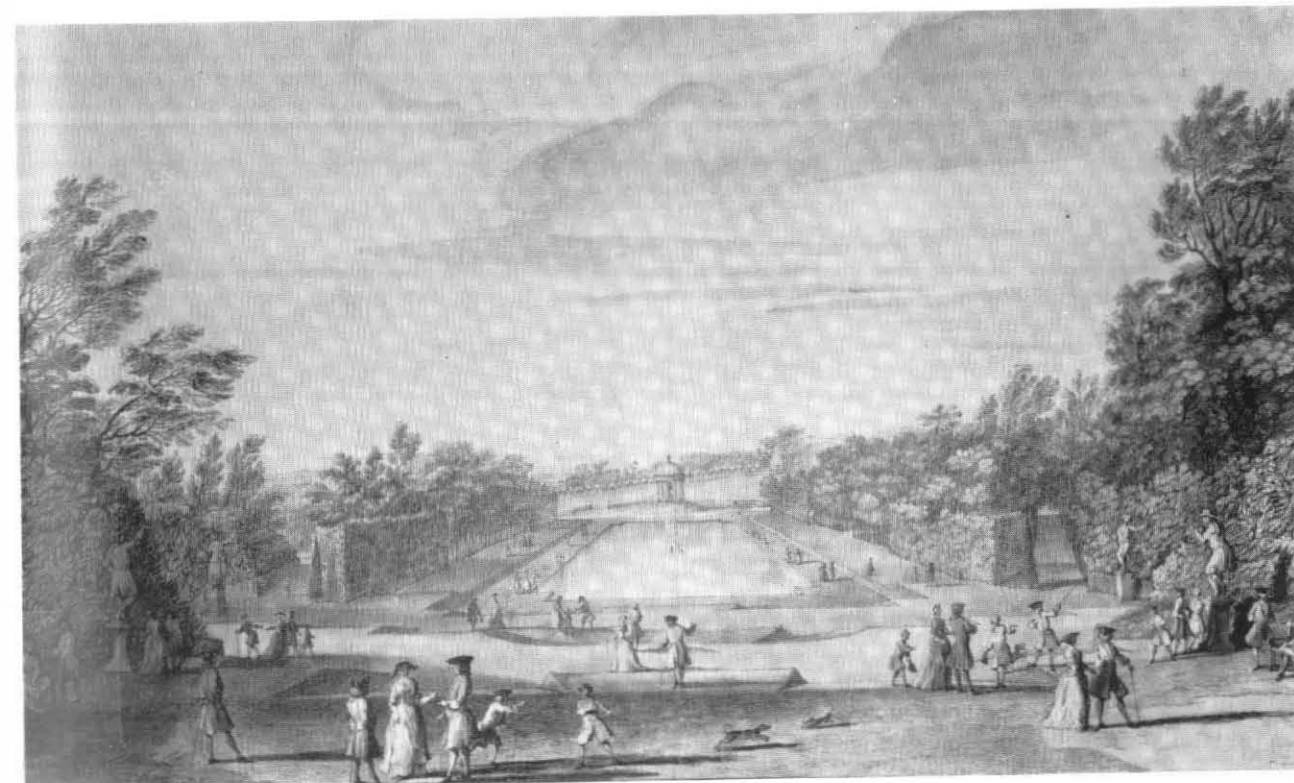
Sculpture

Going to press, I find that Anglesey Abbey have in addition to those I have listed, a statue of Father Time
 incorporating a sundial, which is said to have come from Stowe. There is no record of its having been at Stowe,
 but there was a part of the Bridgeman garden, close to the church, which was known as the "Sundial parlour".
 If therefore this statue was at Stowe that is probably where it stood. It is indeed of the right period, being very
 like a figure still standing in the garden at Duncombe Park in Yorkshire and attributed by the late Christopher
 Hussey to John Nost. I have to thank Major G. K. F. Reed, custodian at Anglesey Abbey for the National Trust,
 for calling my attention to this figure.

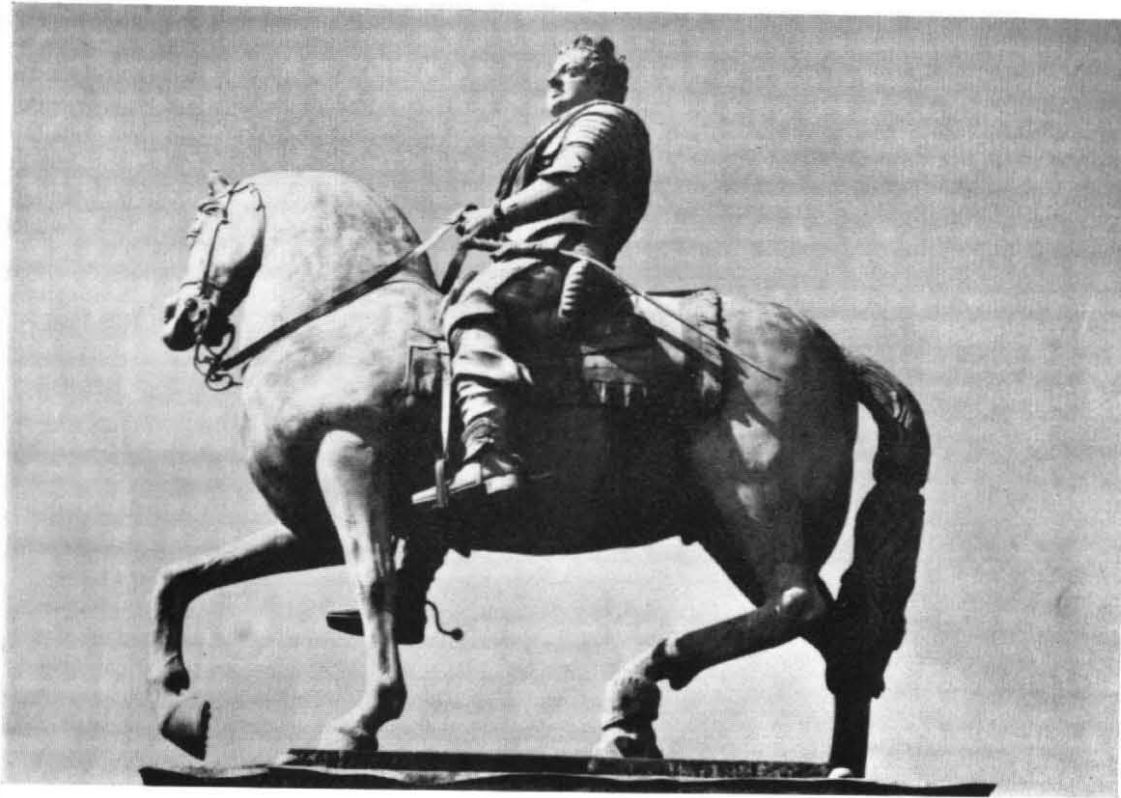
It is at Duncombe that there stands a Rotondo almost exactly like the Stowe Rotondo in its original form. This
 suggests a connection between Stowe and Duncombe, by way of Vanbrugh.



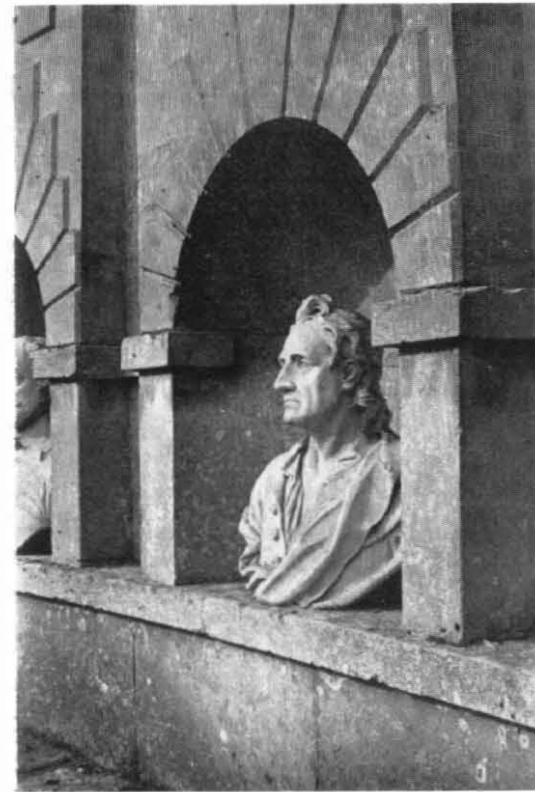
The Parterre, showing the statues and vases in topiary niches. Engraving after Jacques Rigaud's drawing.



View of the Queen's Theatre, showing the shepherds and shepherdesses, probably by Andrew Carpenter, from Rigaud's drawing.



King George I by John Nost.



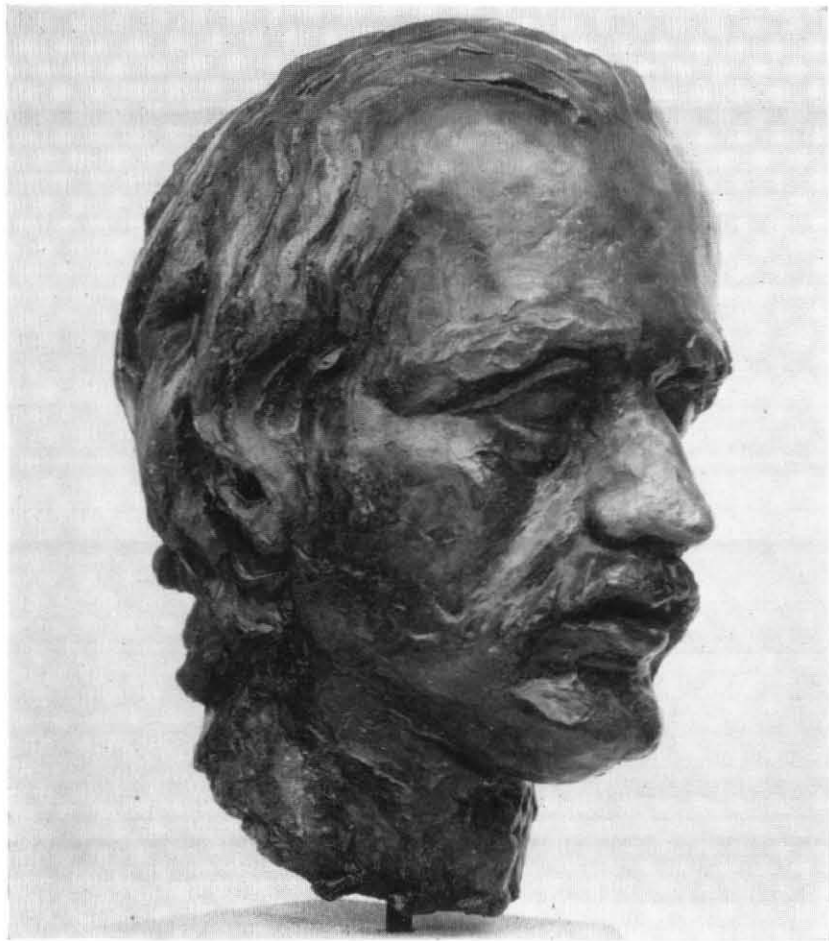
THE BRITISH WORTHIES

Above—John Locke and John Hampden, by Rysbrack.
Below—King Alfred and Sir Francis Drake, probably by Scheemakers.

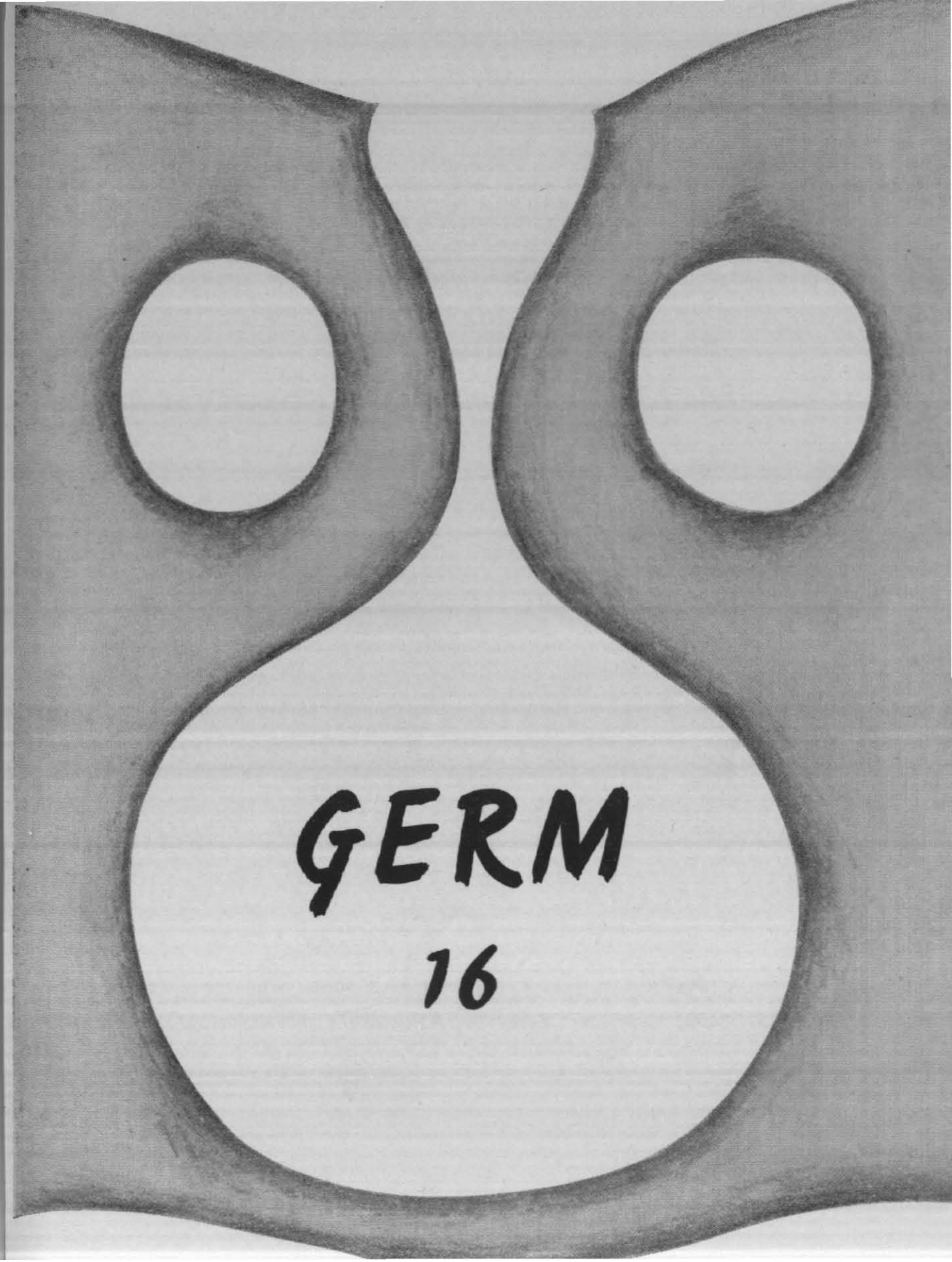


A Liberal Art and a Muse from the Parterre, now at Anglesey Abbey. Probably by Nost.





Two sculptures by
Etienne Millner
Opposite: Male Head
Below: Tina, recently
exhibited at the
Chenil galleries.



EDITORIAL

It is very easy to insult *Germ*. The articles within it provide a constant source of amusement to those who have not contributed, and without doubt they are all very amateur. But it is far more easy to criticise than actually to write anything constructive. The so called "revolutionary" spirit of the earlier editions of *Germ* was almost scorned into defeat, and the large quantities of formless and sometimes meaningless poetry have now dwindled. More prose is being written in its place, but good prose is even more difficult to write than good poetry, and it is to be expected that it should receive almost as much derision as its predecessor. It was hoped that with the collapse of the earlier form of *Germ*, which was the rostrum for no more than a tiny handful of contributors, most of whom were editors of the magazine, *Germ* would assume the rôle for which it was originally intended: the mouthpiece of the whole school. But what is everybody's business again turns out to be nobody's business, and members of the school, who must have some intelligence to come here in the first place, are so much employed with fine speculation or criticism, that a more positive line of action is wholly neglected. It would be a pleasant change if such as have real capacities for original thought were to employ themselves in broadcasting these thoughts to others. Such is not the case, and as before, it is only a small group of Stoics who are prepared to make use of *Germ*. It can never hope to become a real success unless everyone is prepared to use it, rather than brush it aside with a glib comment.

DENZIL PUGH

CONTRIBUTORS:

GEOFFREY MACLEOD-SMITH	A Term Off in Joinville
MURRAY SECCOMBE	In Praise of Cynicism
ROBERT LIES	Vandalism
DENZIL PUGH	Lines on the Elysian Fields Meditations on the Generation Gap Goodlier Foot
NICK ABEL	The Tramp
MARTIN VEY	London 197? — A Parody
PETER MACKAY	I am but an Average Stoic
CHARLES WITTS	Co-Education at Stowe
JEAN-MARC DE BORMAN	Co-Education? Here?? At Stowe???
CHARLIE CHESHIRE	We should be O.K. if we did not have to start it
TIM LANCASTER	The Public Schools — A Preparation for Life
BRUCE WOODALL	A Newcomer's Impressions of Stowe

ART:

ADRIAN LAIRD-CRAIG
BOBBY BLAIR

A TERM OFF IN JOINVILLE

On the twelfth of September I set off for Joinville in the department of Haute Marne which is in the Champagne region. I had already arranged to stay with a family and to attend the local Lycée. This I managed to do through a certain Monsieur Georges Poteau who was a member of Roxburgh's staff before the war. In point of fact he taught both R.V.P.A. and J.E.C.N. Mr Adams, my housemaster, contacted him and asked him to arrange my stay which he very kindly managed to do. Monsieur Poteau was the force behind the twinning between Joinville and Buckingham, and he brought a party of students to see Stowe a few years ago. He seemed to know a great amount about Stowe which seemed strange in the heart of France.

The family were extremely kind as they put up with me for three months as a guest. They owned a steel foundry in the area. The Lycée was most interesting as they work eight hours a day plus a certain amount of 'devoir'. The hours of the Lycée were as follows: 8.30-12.30; 2.15-6.15. Only on Thursday and Saturday afternoons were there no lessons. Limited games took place on a Thursday afternoon and were voluntary. I thought it was a pity the pupils could not participate in other activities such as drama, art, music and a variety of sports. The pupils do not have the chance to experience being in authority which again is a disadvantage of the French system of education. However, their co-educational system can be envied and the atmosphere was easy, one could smoke outside class and there were no dress regulations. Hair on boys was of reasonable length though there were no strict limits. The pupils showed quite an interest in England and rather envied our pop-music and certain aspects of our system of education such as the predominance of sport. The teacher-pupil relationship was reasonable as the teachers have little authority and they have the respect of their classes. There was a predominance of young teachers which must surely be an aid to good teaching. My French teacher was particularly kind and had taught French in a school in Scotland.

I was lucky enough to see certain towns within the area. I spent a weekend in Paris and a day at Strasbourg where I was struck by the beauty of the German architecture; I saw the cathedral at Reims with its awe-inspiring stained glass, La Place de Stanislas by night in Nancy which was delightful, the birthplace of Jean d'Arc in the Vosges at Donremy, and the grave of General de Gaulle at Colombey-les-Deux Eglises. Joinville itself is a small town of about four thousand inhabitants on the main road from Calais to Lausanne in Switzerland, and in the first few weeks of my stay I saw a number of British returning home.

On my departure I was presented with gifts by my class which I found most touching and which illustrated the kindness shown to me throughout my stay. I advise anyone who has the chance to spend a few months in France to do so as it is not only beneficial to one's French but also one's life in general.

GEOFFREY MACLEOD-SMITH

IN PRAISE OF CYNICISM

*But to what purpose
Disturbing the dust on a bowl of rose-leaves
I do not know.*

We want to change it, and will
probably fail, and will
(like Father) live without them for twenty years.

“ Beth sate apart, I recall, beyond the slaves
“ Heaving like sourges on a Cornyshe coaste.
“ Distant she wast, the virgin bristle-back’d;
“ Sowr’d I lefte, revolted, and was hang’d
“ In Beth’s colde yce-stopt hart.”

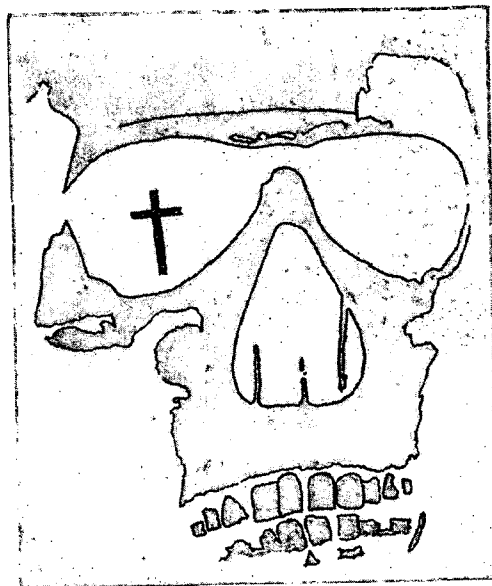
O come! approach me now my lovely Delia
And fill my life with happiness!
Upon my breast let me caress
The sweetness of your lips, their gentle whisper!
Let your arms blossom with dappled flowers;
Spread o’er your lap bright golden bowers!

One sick; one a syllabic jig-saw of armchair fury;
signifying so much of the
greyness of incommunicado.

You cannot see the streets on the opposite slope
in a fog which the gods refuse
to lift just as Father and Mother did not see—
until the lengthening of shadows.

We want to live before then, and, beyond the
shape, to find the mind which we are now
and, I think, will always be denied,
except for eight summer weeks—
but since we are preoccupied
just with the body, the bitch hound reeks.

MURRAY SECCOMBE



VANDALISM

It is a pity, when one of the main purposes of coming to Stowe is surely to cultivate an appreciation of beauty, to see full scale vandalism by the command of the very authorities who should be setting an example. The Temple of Bacchus, of which now only pictures remain to testify to its beauty, was looked upon as the ideal site to place an unwanted reminder of earlier twentieth century nihilism, the Stowe Chapel. Malicious intent can be the only reason why this spot was chosen, but this was not to be the end. It seemed like a good idea then to rip the pillars out of the Temple of Concord, support the roof by a hastily assembled wall of lurid red brick, and proudly show the ill-gotten spoils in the new chapel, where they joined the beautiful panel-work recently purloined from the Aurelian Room. It must have seemed an exciting experiment to Sir Reginald Blomfield to view his chapel interior, with its neo-Grecian pillars, Norman arches and eighteenth century woodwork. Exciting the experiment might have been, but it was certainly a failure, and a very expensive one, not only on account of the cost of the chapel, which might be looked upon as a necessity but also through the irreparable blow dealt to a past age. These villains do not stop here, however. The Temple of Friendship has stood as a Romantic Ruin for over a hundred years. It was a building conspicuous for its charm, albeit a charm slightly lessened by its forecourt of bright red tennis courts. It is now no longer romantic or a ruin; it has been crowned with a handsome concrete monolith, for what purpose nobody can divine. It cannot have been for safety, as the top of the building had already fallen off, and would be sore pressed to fall any further.

Science blocks go up, swimming pools go down, all under the cry that the school is progressing. A slim reason indeed. Someone is desperate to have his name linked with those of Kent and Gibbs as a key figure in the development of Stowe. He tries occasionally to disguise his megalomaniacal intent by the restoration of what buildings have not already been razed to the ground. The Lake Pavilions have recently been repainted, an eye shattering orange, hardly in sympathy with eighteenth century standards of good taste. The Gothic Temple has been made habitable, to be occupied by exhausted business men tired out by years of extortion in the city, and the foresters relentlessly continue with their good work of levelling anything which grows. There can be little time left before a vista of seven hundred and fifty acres of concrete, with new hard hockey courts, new Slavonic studies buildings, and new, bigger, better squash courts as eye relief is all we are left.

At this very moment what hideous brain child there must be lurking in the mind of him who knows there will always be money pouring in to sponsor his fiendish ideas! Can nobody stop this, or has everyone become obsessed with the idea of a landscaped garden unmarred by a single tree?

ROBERT LIES

LINES ON THE ELYSIAN FIELDS

Bucolic Muse, inspire my infant pen
To sing the splendours of this shady glen.
There British Worthies vie with stony gaze
Who is the finest from the past's arrays.
Where Ancient Virtue holds its regal seat,
Where pagan cedar and Religion meet.
Where Jakob Cook, custodian of the way,
His marble features wan, (his nose astray),
Weary he fills his role now long began,
His bicentennial guard o'er Shelly Span.
Where Scylla's doleful grotte commands the source,
Whence playful waters ply their dimpled course;
Where Nature, to its best advantage dress'd
Joins hands with Art; the Beauteous and the Best.



THE TRAMP

There is a tramp who sits in Hyde Park every day from dawn until dusk. Every morning he is the first there, and every day he resumes his watch from the same bench. He has been keeping his lonely watch for nearly fifteen years; he does not have any strong inclination to change his way of life. Every day during the summer the hardened earth will groan under the obeisance of its unwanted courtiers, pleased to nestle within its guard of flats, and every day the sun lingers, before plunging behind the arrogant houses of Kensington. To see the thronging children, wholly absorbed with a ball or a dog, is enough for the solitary watcher. To see their excitement is to be part of it. He will become one of them. He too will leap for their ball or be chased by their dog. He too will sail their boats, or throw bread to the ducks; and he too will lose himself, become oblivious of the world outside, the cars and tomorrow. Winter is no deterrent to him; wrapped in his coat and his newspapers he is too preoccupied with nothing to notice how cold and hungry he is. He has been thinking by himself for many years, and has never reached a conclusion. He has seen the doleful sun entwined in a November mist and has not been greatly moved, he has seen the snow falling, and has never asked himself where they come from. He is blissfully happy, and has not cared about anything since he started to sit in the park. He has been alive for as long as he can remember and he knows there is a strong chance he will be alive tomorrow. "What a shock when one day they find me dead." "Look it's old George, he's dead." "Looks pretty much the same to me." "He's been dead for years." "Death is the ultimate insult to pay to life; that and boredom, they are the only things life have no control over."

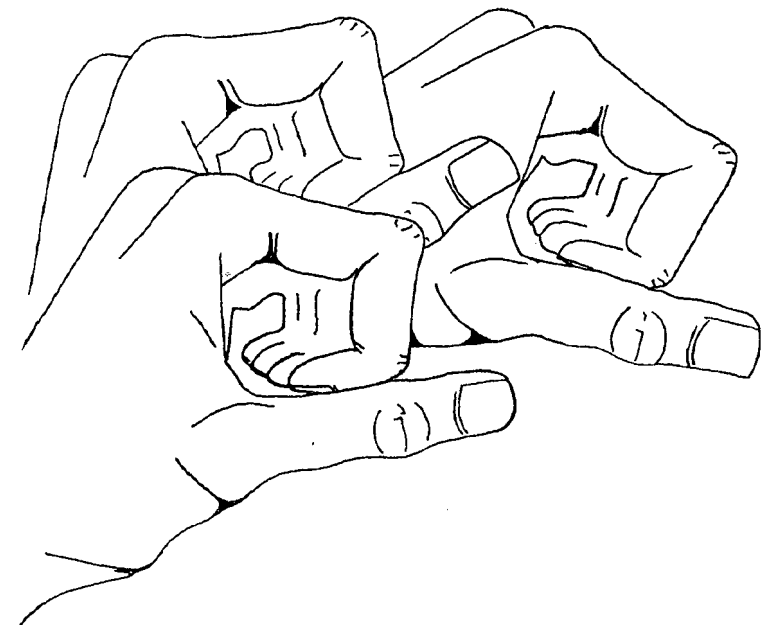
NICK ABEL



MEDITATIONS ON THE GENERATION GAP

The scythe of Time, afore it tweaks
Our meagre span, doth cleave the fetters
Betwixt the gotten and their getters.
'Tis through this gap that passion leaks.

DENZIL PUGH



An Adaptation of ' Kubla Khan '

by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

In England did Mr H
A slumming citydom decree:
Where Thames, the oily river, ran
Past junkyards measureless to man
Down to a filthy sea.
So twice five miles of infertile ground
With blocks and towers were girdled round:
And there were car-parks bright with glitt'ring screens,
Where blossomed many a car-thief's wizardry;
And here were factories ancient as the hills,
Enfolding sunless spots of drudgery.

A damsel with some opium
In a vision once I saw:
It was a pretty British maid,
And with her opium she played,
Singing, praising mounting abortion.
Could I revive within me
Her sadness and her wrongs
To such a deep wrath 'twould win me,
That with hippies gay and long,
I would build that colossus in air,
That ebon colossus! Those eyes of ice!
And all who heard should see It there,
And all should cry, Beware! Beware!
Its flashing eyes, Its waist-length hair!
Weave a circle round It thrice
And, close your eyes with fearful dread
For It on opium hath fed
And drunk the milk of ' paradise '.

MARTIN VEY



' I AM BUT AN AVERAGE STOIC '

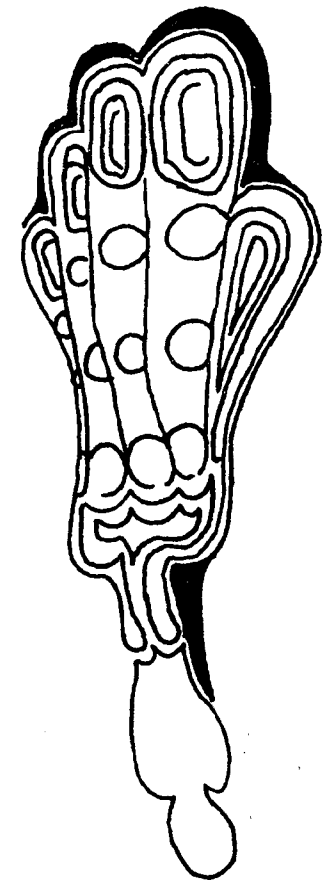
' They ' talk of lethargy and more lethargy
And even apologise for mentioning it,
Of constants found in the Welfare State
Sense x Intellect x Spirit.
Of Little Miss Muffet's admiring
Aesthetically titillating navel
In a new dimension,
And call it the Tragedy of Inflation of Bad Taste
(with a little quote, how chic!)
' They ' talk of educating God
And even mention the other sex
(Permissive Posters only) .
But intellect have I,
For I can quote:
' I am a Bear of Very Little Brain
And Long Words Bother Me ''.

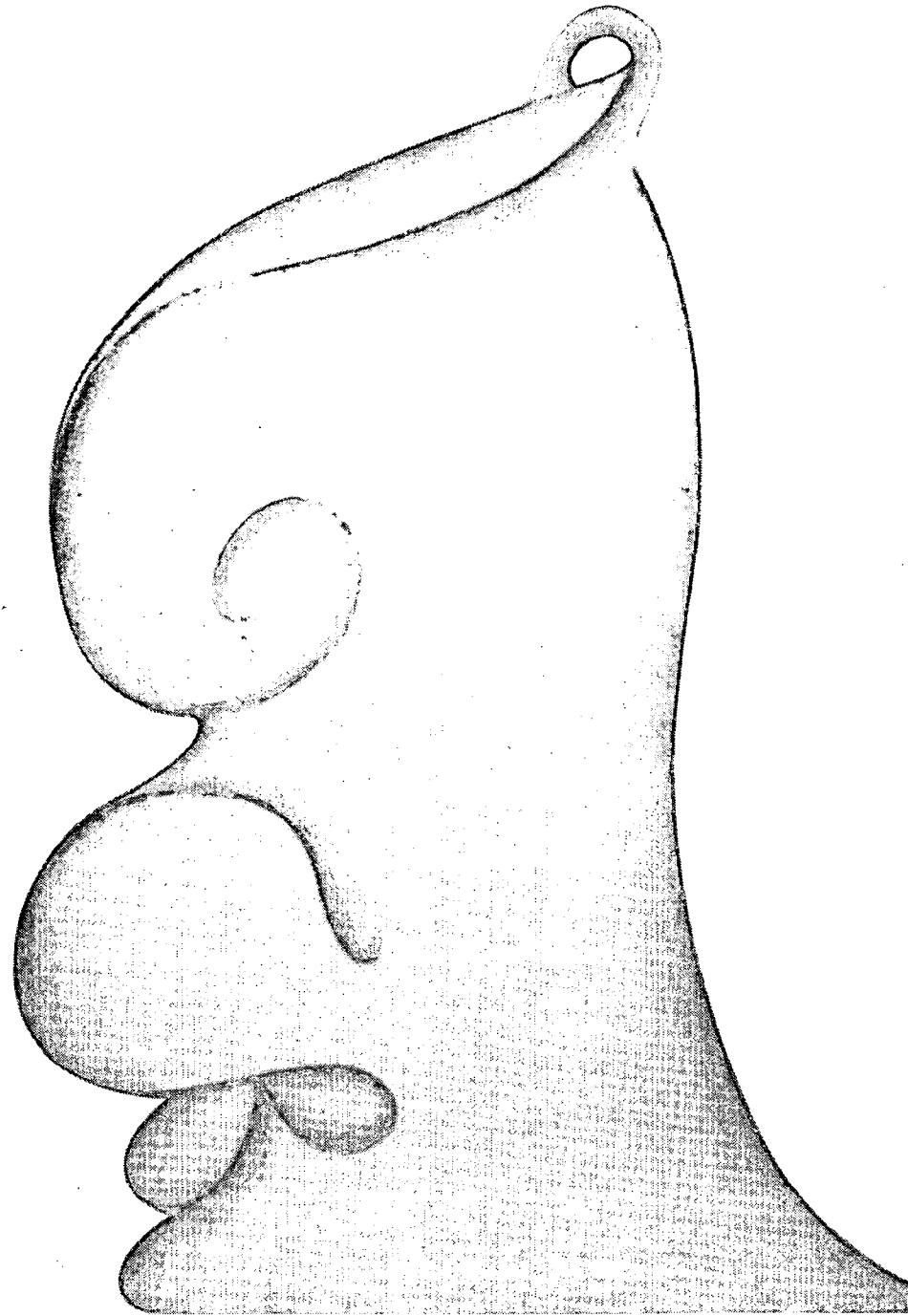
PETER MACKAY

GOODLIER FOOT

A Goodlier foot I ne'er did see
As that which so adheres to me.
Through length and breadth and all proportions
It mocks me with its wild contortions.

DENZIL PUGH





CO-EDUCATION AT STOWE

As the Headmaster said, the age of tradition at Stowe has been and gone. If we were to turn co-educational, we would have to dissolve any traditional items in school life that still exist. I will bear out the Headmaster when he says that there are now very few traditions at Stowe. One of the traditions that still remains is that the school is exclusively male.

At the moment I am afraid to inform the Stoic that the age of co-education is a mere speck on the horizon. For a Headmaster who takes this step will inevitably provoke unrest amongst the generation of parents who wallowed in the supposed elegance of tradition at public schools in their youth. As the standards of entry have risen, I can only presume that there is a growing amount of competition for the number of places of entry among our own sex.

When co-education does come, the Stoic's life will be drastically affected. No longer will he be able to hide in his all-male society, lounging in his carefree manner. He will become better mannered, if he has any self-respect. He will raise his mental age of behaviour. To do so he would have to alter radically his way of life, because I feel that the school is suffering from a wave of incredible 'immaturity', although I have reservations about using this word. No longer would the Stoic need a period of re-adjustment at the beginning of each holiday. He would subsequently remain a normal person and not relapse into the typical customs and habits of someone who lives in a male society.

However, before Stoics embark upon lengthy sex appeal courses it might well occur to them that the opposite sex may have no desire to join our community. The academic standards are the first off-putting factor: many girls, especially in state schools, are accustomed to take 8-10 'O' levels at a time; regrettably something that the average Stoic is denied. Secondly the 'immaturity' of the Stoic is another factor deterring from its attraction. Would the poor unfortunate girls want to be gloated on continually by the opposite party?

So I am afraid that the School is not ripe for co-education. In fact any Stoic who reads this will most likely be unable to benefit from a life of a co-education at Stowe. Life, however, at Stowe is like that. We asked for a swimming pool, but some shall not be here to benefit from it, because they totally misread our plea and gave us a monstrosity of a science building instead.

CHARLES WITTS



CO-EDUCATION? HERE?? AT STOWE???

Perhaps my views on co-education are different from those of the average Stoic, because I went to a co-ed. school in London for eight years before coming here. The main difference between the two schools is the vast contrast in atmosphere. On the one hand you have the boring, frustrated atmosphere of a single-sex school, on the other you have the pleasant, easy going ambience of a mixed sex society. The striking thing on transferring from a single-sex school is that everybody is far less happy. People here seem more pre-occupied with rules and routines. I feel that if Stowe went co-educational the school would become less frivolous in its approach to life, and at the same time a more natural environment would be created here.

The argument against co-education has always been that females distract boys from their work. This is in some cases valid but one must remember that the girls will teach the boys a lot in other fields that they would not otherwise know about. For instance, people going into business would have a better insight into the female mind and temperament. Another noticeable thing about my last school was the better manners and tidiness of appearance of the boys (and girls). This, no matter what the reason, is surely a good thing.

For all this to work out properly our present system would have to be altered. Girls would be brought in at sixth form level, having taken 'O' levels at a different school. I feel that their introduction would not only bring about a renaissance on the games field, but would also produce a more sensible attitude in the sixth form—a thing being sought after by the Headmaster.

JEAN-MARC DE BORMAN

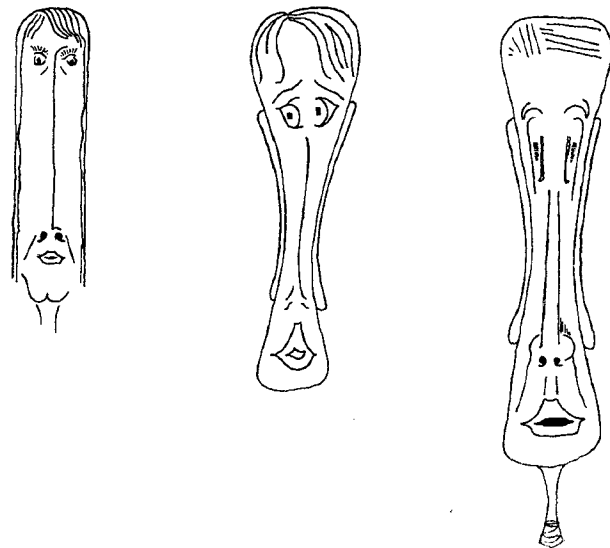
" WE SHOULD BE O.K. IF WE DID NOT HAVE TO START IT "

The co-educational system is a difficult idea for a governing body to accept in schools where male and female have been separated for so long that it is, at first glance, unthought of. Modern sexual relationships and the typical Stoic's thoughts discarded, does it not seem insane to separate the two sexes, when sooner or later male and female relationships become the strongest bonds in life? Socially co-education is essential—for if both sexes are educated together while maturing physically, surely they are going to mature mentally much faster, since sexual opinions develop gradually rather than all at once at the end of the school?

In the school as it is, the preliminary consequences of any progressive moves will always be dreaded, but, once these are over, we will never regret that such an advantageous step has been taken to form adult attitudes while still at a school.

So " let's get on with it " and forget this non-sensical ' common-sense ' !!!

CHARLIE CHESSHIRE



THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS — A PREPARATION FOR LIFE?

On entering this world the human being is basically a savage; it is the environment that he grows up in that will determine his attitudes, his morals and largely how he lives. Thus all cultures must have some way of educating their young, whether this involves teaching how to grow one's own food or how to translate the Odes of Horace, depending on the needs of the civilization involved. As such, I believe the Western system as we know it to be basically successful. I do feel, however, that the system of educating the typical upper-class English schoolboy, (perhaps 80% of all Stoics), is wrong and a great deal of change is needed and is on its way. Though excellent academically, the cloistered life of the average public schoolboy can be extremely dangerous emotionally and as such is no just preparation for life, which is the whole point of education. This system tends to create, particularly during adolescence, people who are shy, inhibited and who have little self-confidence, especially in the company of different ethnic groups or the opposite sex, to whom they have not been exposed.

The average boy now at Stowe was probably sent away to board at an all-boy preparatory school, sometime between the ages of seven and nine. From that time till sometime after the turbulent years of adolescence it is unlikely he will be able to grow up in a natural relationship with the opposite sex, with minority religious and racial groups, and in many cases with his parents. Instead of being simply people, they will be ' them ' and ' us '. If he boards at any distance from his home he will be unable to strike up any lasting friendships at home and those he makes at school will be broken off when he moves on to public school. So we often find at the age of thirteen, a prejudiced, lonely and shy, and often very frightened public school entrant. His body tells him that girls attract him, yet he does not know how to approach one, much less talk to her. This stage lasts in the vast majority of boys, for at least two years, in some cases it lasts much longer. I used to find it incredible that anyone would actually be looking forward eagerly to coming back to Stowe—I enjoy myself here to a certain extent but I always hate leaving home and look forward to going back. In fact there are many who are so lonely and shy at home that they can hardly wait to return to Stowe where they feel secure and know they have friends.

The trouble I find with my friendships here, friendships which I value highly, is that they are conceived in the very constricted and false atmosphere that the public school as it is must have. Virtually everyone I am exposed to is male, fairly well-off, has Tory parents and largely stereotyped views on race, religion and other moral issues, views which are usually inherited and as such are often bigoted and prejudiced. There is no mixing with people of different cultures, backgrounds and social status, not to mention different sex. This is what life is all about: meeting and working with people. Is it any wonder that industrial relations break down when chairman and shop-floor steward have never mixed with each other as they grew up? Public schoolboys are often regarded as sex-starved, which many are. It is scarcely surprising, not having seen a girl since he was eight, that he sees one not as a person, but as an object for sex. How can we call school a preparation for life if it is so restricted and élitist?

Thus it can be seen that my main arguments against the British public schools and their deadly breeding-grounds, the preparatory schools, are these: that the absence of any day-to-day contact with the opposite sex and people of different backgrounds, and a restricted home life and absence of close ties at home, tend to produce insecure, inhibited and badly adjusted adolescents. This constricted atmosphere of the expensive all-male boarding school in the country does nothing to prepare one for life.

I am not making these charges wildly without having thought about the problems of changing the system and all the difficulties involved. However I believe my proposals are practical and that they will have to come about, at least in part, within the next two decades, when we are bound to witness a massive upheaval in methods of education.

My proposals are these. Firstly, so that at the age of thirteen, the age at which Stowe receives most of its entrants, the English schoolboy would be well adjusted, with close home friendships, and used to a perfectly natural relationship with people of all sorts, particularly the opposite sex, the boarding prep. school would be abolished. Instead, every boy (and girl) would attend a co-educational day school, hopefully with a large extra curricular programme, whereby mixing would occur quite naturally. At the age of thirteen, in order to enforce stricter working conditions, the average boy would move on to his boarding public school, though not as we know it today.

This leads me on to my proposals for the reform of the public schools, so as to create a more natural and life-like atmosphere. I feel boarding schools are very necessary to create independence, give undistracted working conditions and develop such qualities as leadership and responsibility. However they should provide a wider basis for preparation for life. For this I would propose the establishment of a Stowe School for Girls, situated perhaps in Chackmore, as a sister school. Both sexes could mix in expanded extra-curricular activities (dances, clubs on the lines of the present sixth form club etc.), and this would culminate in a co-educational sixth form. In order to provide a more balanced social group in the school I would propose a system on the lines of the one presently used at Millfield, where fees are raised for the wealthy, so as to provide scholarships for those not so well off. In addition, day students could be admitted, opening up an ever wider range of social groups. If everyone had grown up and gone to school together when younger there would hopefully be no prejudice against varied social groups if they were introduced here. Going even further one might envisage this carrying on in life and perhaps class barriers could be broken down completely.

I feel I am not asking too much of the English schooling system. All I want is an atmosphere where people can grow up in natural relationships, where a miner's son isn't looked on as an alien, and where a girl isn't regarded simply as an object for sex. The present system I believe builds barriers and inhibitions between people and life depends on breaking down barriers, so why build them in the beginning?

TIM LANCASTER

A NEWCOMER'S IMPRESSIONS OF STOWE

The position of a student-master is something unique: you are not a fully-fledged teacher like the rest of the staff, nor are you a permanent feature of the landscape, though after some weeks you feel like both. The following is a kind of pot-pourri of things that my imagination connects with the School.

Those of you who are reading this in the hopes of finding dramatic revelations of how the staff really live, how much they drink, and what kind of language they use when aroused (as if you didn't know) are likely to be disappointed.

People's reactions when they hear I am at Stowe are two-fold, namely:

(a) Oh yes, a charming town in the Cotswolds! (It is my fate to go to schools who have a better-known namesake).

(b) Those magnificent grounds!

Indeed, on my first visit to Stowe in the Autumn term the Headmaster, wishing to dispose of me for a short time while he did some Dreadful Administrative Deed or Dealt with a Parent, suggested that I should take a stroll around the grounds. Apart from anything else the sheer size of them is disconcerting and it is very easy to get lost amid the Temples, Valleys, Reservoirs, Bourbons and Rotondos, not to mention a drive so long that one despairs of ever reaching the School when on one's first visit. One definitely needs a car.

However, owning a car at Stowe is a hazardous occupation. Mine no sooner set foot (tyre?) in the school grounds than things started to go wrong. To date I have had two flat tyres, faulty steering, a flat battery, a dud starter-motor, and an injured head (mine, not the car's). This means that, despite the magnificent pushing efforts of Vc and others, one has little enough time to indulge in the popular sports of Jumping the Bridge and Rallying on the Mud-Tracks.

One of the ways in which Stowe differs from the other two public schools with which I have been acquainted is the fact that to some extent it plays down the importance of the twin gods Sport and the Corps. Here I must confess to being biased, as I am no sportsman and my exper-

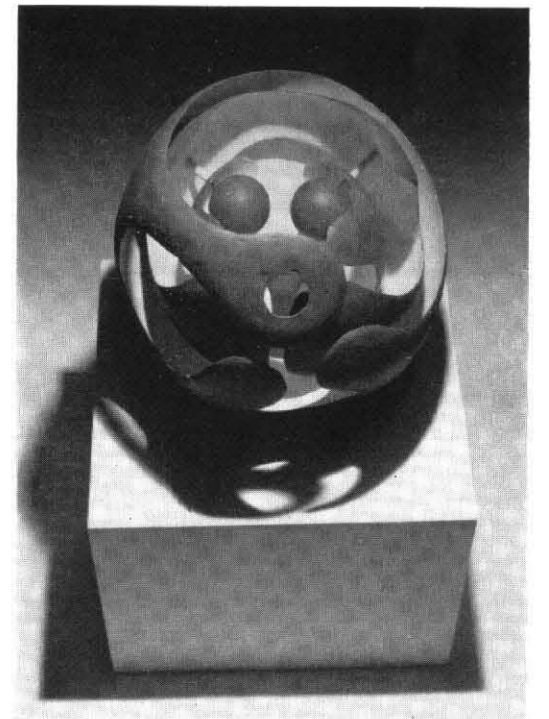
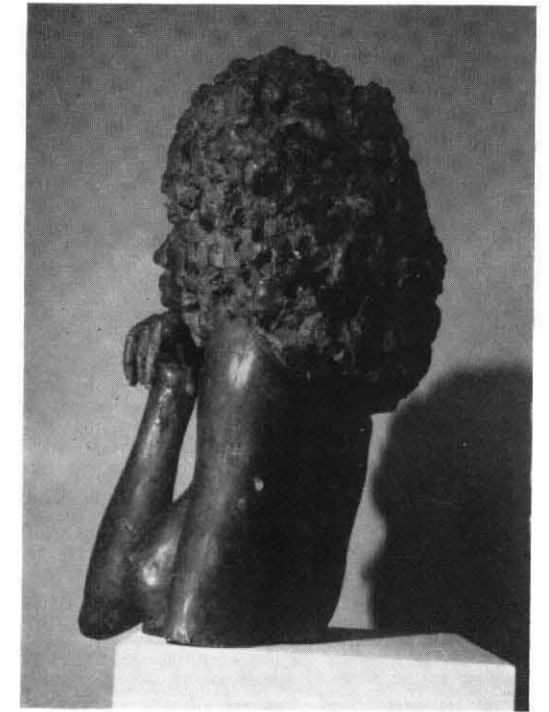
iences of my own School Corps were too horrible to repeat here. Nevertheless I have witnessed one or two hockey matches. This game is new to me and is reminiscent of the antics of twenty-two frustrated golfers having a punch-up. One factor that remains constant, however, in any school sport, is the splendid ritual of the Housemaster injecting enthusiasm into his side. The Housemaster usually arrives a quarter of an hour after the game has started (I'm speaking of preliminary house-matches), squats on a shooting-stick, glowers at the players, ascertains the score, and then starts bellowing incomprehensible phrases such as " Ring it! Face it! Kill, kill! " etc. This goes on until either the match ends or the Housemaster becomes hoarse, or bursts a blood-vessel.

Stowe is well-known for its Community Service, in which the author of this article quickly became involved, no doubt to the detriment of its functioning and the despair of its organizer. This worthy institution affords opportunities for many talents, such as navigation, organization of deliveries, gardening, chatting up old ladies (not to mention the girls from the Latin School), sawing, chopping, and splitting wood, digging trenches, and, of course, driving; navigating a self-willed half-ton van through the crowded streets of Buckingham demands skill, physical strength, and a well-developed vocabulary, and Jumping the Bridge at 50 m.p.h. in a loaded minibus is an experience not to be missed.

If I may be serious for one moment I would say that C.S. has been for me the most impressive aspect of Stowe, run a fairly close second by the musical scene; Stowe musicians seem well-equipped, sometimes of excellent quality, and always keen (though music teachers assure me that this is not so!) I cannot say more as I am singing in the Brahms Requiem!

Lest I should be treading on anyone's corns let me insist that the above represents the entirely personal view of someone ill-qualified to judge. Other school institutions should be mentioned: the kitchens (they do a good job, even during power-cuts), the languages lab. (I hope one day the IVth Form will succeed in sabotaging it completely!), the Chapel (it was nearly a week before I came to a service on time and I got quite used to the squeezings and blowings that go on in the organ loft); and the School Motto (I hope that whoever invented this ghastly pun has passed into well-deserved obscurity); but if I mentioned these I would never know where to stop. When I was first accepted to come here I thought—" As a school, it's a good stately home ", now I know it is more than that. Perstet et praestet.

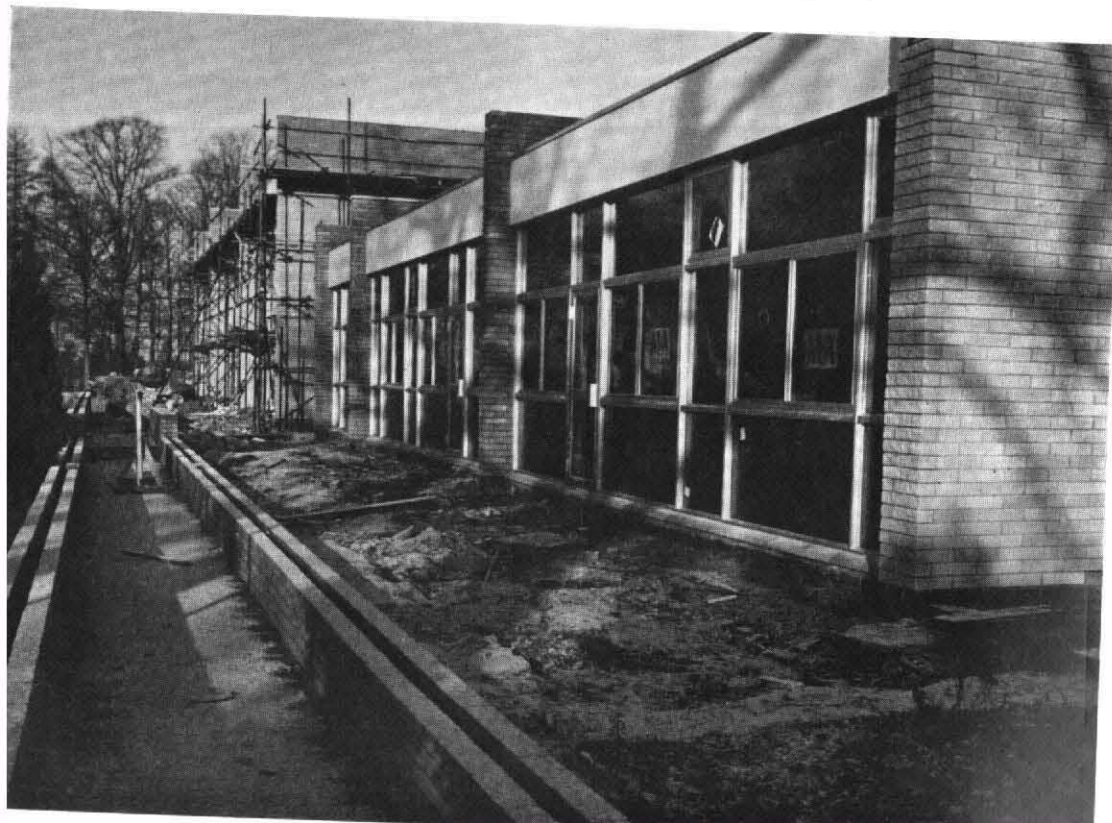
BRUCE WOODALL



Four sculptures by Rafael Zielinski.



The foundations of the Science Laboratory in February 1971 (above) and the nearly complete building in December 1971 (below). The laboratory is now complete and ready for occupation.



DRAMA

THE CAINE MUTINY COURT MARTIAL

The majority of the action of Herman Wouk's stage adaptation of his prize-winning novel "The Caine Mutiny" takes place in the General Court Martial Room of the Twelfth Naval District, San Francisco. The time of the play is February 1945. Lieutenant Stephen Maryk stands accused of unlawfully relieving Lieutenant Commander Philip Francis Queeg, captain of the U.S.S. 'Caine', of command in the midst of a typhoon. Maryk believes that during the crisis, Queeg was psychopathic and directing the crew and ship to destruction. The judge advocate, Lieutenant Commander John Challee, has the heavy weight of naval tradition on his side, and at the end of the first act, after medical experts, and naval personnel including Queeg have given evidence, the odds appear to be quite definitely with the prosecution. The defence counsel, Lieutenant Barney Greenwald, seems to make little headway on the surface; his unorthodox methods and apparent lack of interest in cross-examination procedure astound the court and leads Maryk to question his competence. But Greenwald remains confident of achieving victory in a case which he was reluctant to take on. In the second act, Challee skillfully reveals that Maryk's knowledge of psychiatry is based only on various books he had read as part of what Challee describes as an 'intellectual hobby'. But when Queeg is recalled to the stand as a witness for the defence, Greenwald succeeds in laying bare his paranoid personality. As Queeg's character disintegrates, the outcome of the case is left in no doubt. Maryk is acquitted, yet Greenwald's image as 'the conquering hero' is one of which he is evidently ashamed. At a party thrown by Lieutenant Thomas Keefer to celebrate the success of his novel, Greenwald's true feelings are revealed. As a Jew, he expresses his admiration for men like Queeg who fight to keep the Germans at bay, and his contempt for cowards like Keefer who use 'big dumb fishermen' like Maryk to achieve their own ends. Greenwald was thus forced 'to murder Queeg' because 'the wrong guy was on trial'. Keefer it was who invented the idea of the commander's paranoia, who 'fed Maryk psychiatry books' and encouraged him to make his report to Admiral Halsey, only to abandon him at the final moment and avoid implication in the affair.

The dangers of underestimating the difficulties of producing a play such as this are very clear. Compared to other recent Congreve Club productions, Wouk's work may well be more straightforward in setting and plot, but there are obvious problems which the producer must surmount, the greatest being that of holding the audience's attention on an action (of dialogue) which takes place almost entirely in one room. This was undeniably achieved in this most recent Congreve production by a variety of means.

In the first place, the decision to perform the play in the Queen's Temple rather than the Roxburgh Hall meant that the audience was made to feel very much part and parcel of the court proceedings as if in the rôle of jury. This move did mean a painful sacrifice of comfortable seating, but it was certainly a sacrifice worth making to remove the barrier normally separating actor and spectator.

Secondly, and undoubtedly most important, the standard of acting afforded quite the most polished performance I have witnessed during my time at the school. The part of Greenwald was taken by Tim Lancaster, and it was extremely difficult to find fault with any part of his interpretation. His sense of timing was quite magnificent, and Greenwald's calm, collected manner and continual confidence in the face of apparently overwhelming odds were convincingly portrayed. None of the mystery of Greenwald's inner self, his reluctance to take on the case, his feeling of shame at the way he treats Queeg in court and his contempt for the self-satisfied characters like Keefer, was lost. Dick Taylor gave an excellent portrayal of the experienced judge advocate, carefully sifting the evidence presented in court and yet so noticeably aware of the impending collapse of his case in the second act. The paranoid tendencies of Queeg were ably revealed by Simon Ayre; outwardly he seems the epitome of the correct naval officer, yet inwardly he suffers from a deep-rooted inferiority complex and a consequent desire to assert

his authority. The way in which the external shell of Queeg gradually falls away to lay bare his emotional disturbances was well brought out by this actor, although at times I felt that his facial expressions and gestures were a little overdone. Maryk's uprightness, devotion to duty and gullibility were also readily evident in David Reid's performance. Here indeed was a young lieutenant believing implicitly that he was doing his duty, yet so easily duped by the clever and cunning Keefer. The audience was left in no doubt as to the odiousness of this smug character after Richard Cottier's interpretation of the part. The rôles of Urban, Keith and Southard, all of whom gave evidence in the first act, were clearly defined by Jeremy Kreeger, Patrick Filmer-Sankey and Richard Halvorsen respectively. I remember Jeremy Kreeger particularly for providing a convincing picture of a young naval signalman unaccustomed to court procedure and terminology and comically embarrassed in these overawing surroundings. Simon Fields tackled the rôle of the eminent Dr Forrest Lundeen and successfully portrayed his scornful attitude towards the proceedings and his condescending treatment of Greenwald when the latter apologised for having no detailed knowledge of psychiatric terms. This trait was also evident in John Lloyd Morgan's performance as the young intellectual Dr Bird; his poise and facial expressions, especially once his total lack of experience to pass judgment on Queeg's mental condition had been revealed, were excellent. The parts of the stenographer (Clive Withinshaw) and the orderly (John Bainbridge) deserve a word of praise, as the difficulty of non- (or practically non-) speaking parts is all too easily forgotten. This is also true of the members of the court (James Campbell, Robin Dillon-Mahon, Tom Emanuel, Oswald Hoskyns, Chris Leyland and Ravi Sandu), ably headed by Keith Falconer in the role of Captain Blakely. It was at times rather strange that a startling piece of evidence brought little reaction from these, but the danger of distracting the audience in this manner is apparent.

In all, I found the performance of Wouk's play stimulating and thoroughly enjoyable. Producer Joseph Bain and his assistant David Temple deserve full praise for the excellence of this most recent Congreve production; the thoroughness with which they tackled the presentation of the play was evident throughout. If the reactions of audiences to other recent Congreve plays have been ones of bewilderment, those provoked by "The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial" appeared to be of praise alone.

D. J. MEE

TEN LITTLE NIGGERS

Ten strangers alone on an island together. All of them were cut off from the mainland. All of them were to be murdered except one. Who was that one person?

With the 'Ten Little Niggers' Temple attempted a highly ambitious undertaking and one which made a refreshing change from the classic House Play 'farce'. The problems of presenting a thriller of this sort are great. For the most part however they were excellently overcome and all credit must go to the director, Anthony Dawton, for not only a superb production but for a superb piece of casting as well.

Mr and Mrs Rogers (Stephen Brann and Nicholas de Salis) were very suitably played in their rôle as servants. Narracot (James Cunningham) as the boatman, Anthony Marston (John Williamson-Noble) as a rich young snob, and Emily Brent (Jonathan Metcalfe) as a very upright Victorian lady all made good entries. However I could not help feeling that there was a lack of speed and gusto in the first act, in which the earlier murders were less dramatic than one might have perhaps hoped.

With the murder of General Mackenzie (Jeremy Metcalfe), whose dreamy acceptance of his inevitable fate exasperated Vera Claythorne (James Roxburgh) and terrified the weak-nerved nerve specialist, Dr Armstrong (Stephen Wilcox) the play really came to life. This and the precise judicial monotone of Sir Lawrence Wargrave (Robert Mills) set everybody's nerves on edge. Upon his supposed murder the tension reached a peak which was maintained brilliantly right through until the end.

There was no real weakness apart from the lack of speed in the first act which was admirably concealed by the quick wit of William Blore (Jonathan Dunn) and Captain Lombard (David Scowsill), to whom the success of the play owed a great deal, and around whom it was based. But the main value of this production was the effort that the actors put into it, whether their part was big or small.

My congratulations to Temple for an excellent production and for attempting such a bold venture! I hope future House plays will take a lead from this.

DAVID REID

ONE WAY PENDULUM

Lyttelton's choice of "One Way Pendulum" by N. F. Simpson proved to be an excellent one. The play is more than—to borrow the judge's words—a farrago of psychological poppycock. It raises serious questions, for instance, about man's incapacity to communicate with his fellow beings, whether it be the eccentric Arthur Groomkirby and his wife Mabel, or the frustrated, disillusioned daughter Sylvia and her brother Kirby.

But in this production, inevitably, it was the farcical, the absurd and the bizarre which came across best and which the audience enjoyed most. The ludicrous conducting of the weighing machines in the Hallelujah Chorus gets the comedy off to a good start and Kirby (Howard Goodall) played this at just the right pace. Tim Beevor's Aunt Mildred was quite effective and he maintained throughout, with his tremulous voice and senile shake, the illusion of a decrepit old woman living in a world of globe trotting fantasy. Myra Gantry (James Dawes) gave us a laugh with his formidable eating feat but it tended to distract one from what was being said elsewhere. However, his timing of joke-lines was quite superb.

Detective Sergeant Barnes (Mark Harrison) achieved a degree of casual familiarity with his audience and gave a competent performance. Arthur (John Johnstone) carried on doing his thing as if there really was nothing or nobody outside his own private world. Sylvia (Clive Withinshaw) sounded as if she meant what she was saying apart from one or two lapses, and was most convincing in her attitude to her mother and the rest of the family. Stanley Honeyblock, her unassuming boyfriend, is not an easy part but Peter Mackay achieved some success with it. But of the Groomkirby household, the outstanding performance came from Mabel Groomkirby, the mother (John Lloyd-Morgan). His ability to carry on doing things, like clearing away cups and ironing handkerchiefs, while speaking at the same time was impressive and his manner was precisely that of a practical, middle-aged housewife. He also looked remarkably like a woman—a tribute, presumably, to the make-up department!

Of the law court characters, the outstanding performance was that of Nicholas Bagshawe as Prosecuting Counsel with his sneering condescension, though he overdid the grimacing a little. The Defending Counsel (Michael Langdon) bumbled nicely and was just right as a foil to his learned friend. The Judge was a difficult part to play but Johnny Guilford rose to the occasion admirably and was credible even in his longest speech. In fact, one was impressed throughout by the confident manner and precise articulation of all three, judge and advocates alike. The other persons present in the "Old Bailey" were the Usher (Antony Ussher) and the Policeman (Mark Harper) and they both looked their parts.

Clearly, much painstaking work went into this production and all concerned, especially the producers R.M.P. and Andrew Tucker, are to be congratulated. The set was well designed and a special commendation goes to the sound effects department for its contribution to the play's success. Happily the least busy man on the night was the Prompter (only needed once, and he was sitting confidently in the audience). One final word: I should like to report that Mr Longhurst's skull, kindly lent for the play, was returned undamaged to its owner after the last performance.

R. DAVIES

SOCIETY

Too many new societies are still-born, dying from lack of initial support. It is also said that the older, more established societies are becoming increasingly passive and inert, happier to listen and watch than to create or discuss.

If this problem really exists there is a possible solution. One afternoon a week now being used for compulsory games could be cleared so that members of the school could, if they wished, opt out of games and join a society which would meet on the same afternoon.

Objections will probably be raised from the usual quarters. But when a teacher-trainee can answer the question, "Who wrote 'War and Peace'?" with the reply, "Winston Churchill", we must ask ourselves whether Stoics are here to win matches or receive an education.

CHRIS DAVIS

CHAPEL

This term has seen the inauguration of a new chapel system. There is still the same compulsory Sunday service and Saturday practice, but now there are only two weekday services—one of which, in alternate weeks, is a lay service. This system has produced a generally favourable response from within the school, although many of the more serious thinking members of the community agree that the object of Chapel has been diminished. Chapel is, for example, the only place where the school as a body meets to express its feelings regularly, and the new pattern imposes limitations on such a purpose. Generally throughout the school sincerity about Chapel has slackened off, and I feel this may only be rectified by introducing voluntary worship on the days when it is not compulsory.

The new Bishop of Oxford confirmed 35 boys, whose average age was $16\frac{1}{2}$; the course continues until the middle of next term. This year's group seems to have a pleasant and serious approach to this vital once-in-a-lifetime transaction.

Visiting preachers this term have included D. R. Wigram, Esq., the former Headmaster of Monkton Combe School; the Revd H. E. Roberts, Vicar of St James the Less, Bethnal Green, (who also spent three days in the school during Lent); the Revd W. E. G. Payton, Vicar of Abingdon; the Revd R. Crosthwaite, Youth Secretary of the Church Missionary Society (who also led the Confirmation Retreat); and Mr Peter Mills, M.P. Offertories have been given to the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, the Invalid Children's Aid Association, the British Red Cross Society, the Asert Hawariat School in Ethiopia (where Timothy Kinahan, (T 1971), is teaching for a year), Rehab, Oxfam, Stowe Community Service, the Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust, the Buckinghamshire Fund for the Blind, and the National Deaf Children's Society.

ALAN HODGE

THE CHAPEL CHOIR

Once again the choir produced a term's work of anthems with considerable success. The attitude of the members is at last beginning to settle down and a fair amount of work was put into the rehearsals. Mr Brown, as dogged as ever, led the singing with amazing perseverance. Owing to this renewed enthusiasm from the older members of the choir, the tendency to over-sing in the bass line is acutely felt, especially by the tenors. All we need now is for the altos to gain a little confidence and we shall have a highly competent singing body.

Our thanks is strongly offered to Titus Gibson and Mr James for the work they put in with the organ.

OSWALD HOSKYN

THE XII CLUB

With a visiting Professor from Oxford, who will be talking on Shakesperian comedy in general and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" specifically, expected later on in the term, the Club has already held two meetings. The first, a symposium around the subject "Manners Maketh Man" was conspicuous for the volume of noise and quantities of irrelevances aired. After speeches and readings from all present it was eventually decided that Manners are indeed the making of Man, if one was prepared to assume that this did not include, as was pointed out, physical defects. Gregory Choyce had astounded all by attributing the decline and fall of the Hapsburg Empire to the outstanding ugliness of its rulers. Some three weeks later the Club was to converge again, on St Valentine's day, to mourn the passing of Al Capone. A paper read by the secretary traced this legendary figure from his obscure origins to his heights of power and decadence, and thence to his eventual death at the hands of syphilis. Some of what was said was pronounced to be inaudible; the reader was too choked with emotion over the tragedy to raise his voice above a whisper.

DENZIL PUGH

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The speakers at the first two meetings this term were both from inside the school. The members left the North Hall for the second meeting shortly after 8.00 p.m., local British Standard Time, and arrived in Dadford at 7.15 p.m., G.M.T., thus demonstrating that it was possible for William of Orange to arrive in England in 1688 a few days before he left Holland. The third meeting had not yet happened at the time of going to press.

Denzil Pugh addressed the Society on "An Example of Neo-philiac Tendencies in the mid-Nineteenth Century". He described life in the Deep South of the U.S.A., giving an impression of a civilized society where traditional standards were maintained. And he pointed the contrast with the industrialized states of the North, swamped by boorish immigrants who loved new things and scorned traditional values. Conflict between these different societies, he suggested was inevitable. But it had nothing to do with slavery. The anti-slavery campaign was mere camouflage. The real issue was the destruction of civilisation in the South by the materialistic, acquisitive, industrial North.

Mr J. C. A. Brown read the Society a paper on "Some Effects of the Renaissance and Reformation on English Life". He pointed out that while the Renaissance gave new life to the arts in England, the Reformation reduced the extent to which they could have ecclesiastical expression. Polyphonic music, for example, was driven from many churches and so had to find a secular outlet. The combined effect of Renaissance and Reformation was to extend the influence of the arts in the secular life of the nation.

D. J. ARNOLD

THE BRIDGE CLUB

The bridge team's results this year have been extremely good; matches have been won against Mill Hill, R.G.S. High Wycombe (twice), and Eton. In addition to this, the team has shown a distinct lack of chivalry by inflicting both home and away defeats on St Helen's School, Abingdon. However, class has told on other occasions when the Masters won a very close team-of-eight match last term, and a strong local team-of-four won a well contested match earlier this term.

The finest hour was in the Bucks. and Berks. Junior Pairs at Slough in early February. Unfortunately, Stowe had been unable to play in the qualifying round for the final proper because it was held during Exeat last term. Thus, six Stowe pairs played in the "Consolation" Final, and M. Boyadjiew and Ram distinguished themselves by winning it. Maybe it was reaction

from this that led our team of Ram, Boyadjiew, Oliveira and Bruce to perform somewhat below par in their heat of the *Daily Mail* Cup, with the result that they failed to qualify for the semi-final.

On the domestic front, the Bridge Cup is now awarded for a Pairs competition, rather than for teams-of-four, and in its first year as a Pairs cup, the Boyadjiew brothers won it, to keep the cup in Chandos.

Three of the team will have left us by this time next year, so we are fortunate that there are so many keen and promising young players in the school, and in the last week of this term, it is hoped to hold a Middle and Lower School Pairs competition, from which future stars will emerge.

Finally, I would like to thank M. Boyadjiew for his services as captain, and Oliveira for being such an efficient and enthusiastic secretary.

C. S. JUNEMAN

The following have represented the School at bridge this year: T. R. D. Asserson (G), A. D. Barratt (W), P. Boyadjiew (C), C. A. I. Bruce (G), N. A. G. Butt (C), J. A. W. Cheyne (C), M. D. M. Davies (T), T. L. Dore (C), C. E. Furness-Smith (G), S. B. Hopkins (C), G. M. I. Miller (C), S. Ram (W), P. B. Salmon (G), P. S. A. T. Stheeman (W), J. H. A. S. Vivian (C).

THE LIBRARY

We are very grateful to Mrs Close-Smith who kindly presented five of the original library busts (of Homer, Demosthenes, Horace, Newton and Bacon). Now, once again, these can be seen on top of the bookcases by the windows, and it is hoped to track down that of Cicero to complete the set.

A report on acquisitions will appear in the next issue.

H. D. MARCUSE

THE MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

The Society has met twice so far this term, the first meeting taking place on the 25th January. On this occasion a paper on Menorca was delivered by Mr D. W. Donaldson, dealing with the geographical, the historical and the cultural aspects of this island. Having visited the island during his sabbatical term last year he recounted his experiences among the inhabitants there. At our second meeting on the 23rd February a paper entitled "Spanish Golden Age Theatre" was delivered by Mark Harrison. Starting with the origins of this particular literary genre, he went on to describe the actual stage and the life of the actor of the day, and terminated his paper with comments on four great Spanish playwrights.

We look forward to hearing Mark Massucco's coming paper on "Modern French Theatre".

NICHOLAS BAGSHAWE

THE NUCLEUS

The only paper so far this term was given by M. Boyadjiew on "Aquanautics", this being a subject of which he had some personal experience. He explained in some detail the various methods for underwater research, including the history and problems of submarine design. Unfortunately the fact that the meeting was held during a power cut prevented him from illustrating the techniques of underwater photography as much as he would have liked to, but the paper was still very interesting and informative. The discussion at the end was largely concerned with the effects of high pressures on the human body and the possibility of living underwater for an extended period.

We hope to have a paper from Dr Hornby towards the end of term on a subject not yet decided.

SANJEEV RAM

THE SCIENCE SOCIETY

The Science Society has had two meetings so far this term. The first was an illustrated talk given to senior members by Dr Randall, from Lanchester Polytechnic, on the subject, 'Where have all the Units gone?' He gave an account of how the concepts of units evolved and how natural standards were replacing man-made ones. He also mentioned a paper given by G. B. Brown which did away with the concept of Mass as a basic unit, therefore expressing everything in terms of Length and Time only.

Two films were shown at the second meeting, 'Power From Fusion; The Principles', and 'Electronics'. The first explained the principles of nuclear fusion, including the problems of producing fusion reactions, and the uses of Plasma in neon lighting and mercury rectifiers. The other film gave a broad view of how electronic engineering in Britain is applied in a variety of fields, from television to space research.

A third meeting is planned towards the end of term, in which two films, 'Atoms for Peace: Medicine', and 'Change of State' will be shown.

NEIL BASS

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The term started with a general film meeting at 5.30 p.m. in the biology labs. on Tuesday, 18th of January. The film, the Fauna Preservation Society's "Escape to Sambura" showed the wild life of this East African reserve.

Due to the great success of the Sunday expedition to the Falconry Centre at Newent last term, we followed this up by sending a party to the W.A.G.B.I. duck decoy at Boarstall on Sunday, 23rd January. We were given an excellent tour of the Conservation Centre and shown how the decoy functioned. We are most grateful to the Decoyman, Mr Jim Waragan, for this. A group of Y.O.C. members went to an outside film meeting in the Festival Hall, London, on Saturday the 12th of February to see the R.S.P.B. film premiere, 1972. The films included an excellent study of the rook and a most moving appeal for the wilderness of our vanishing estuaries.

So far this term we have had only one visiting speaker, G. Cansdale, Esq., who gave us an excellent talk on "Bird Migration in the Holy Land". However, he did not confine himself just to birds, and the lecture was of great interest to other members of the Society, apart from the ornithologists. It was an honour to be addressed by such a distinguished man and we are fortunate to have him as a governor of the school. His continued interest in our work is much appreciated. Our final meeting this term will be a talk on the work of the Bletchley and Milton Keynes N.H.S. by some of its members on Tuesday, 17th March. Also, there will be a trip to the joint R.S.P.B./B.B.O.N.T. meeting in Wolverton on the 10th of March, when the two films "The Lonely Levels" and "Kites are Flying" will be shown.

Thursday Societies have once again been run this term. A series of films have been shown, including "Sea Bird Summer", a film partly about Skokholm, the island where the biology field trip went in 1971. Also, several interesting talks have been given by members of the Society. Trouble has been caused for aquarium keepers during the recent power cuts, but despite this L. J. Hydeleyman has succeeded in breeding some species of gourami. 'A' level projects have been proceeding rapidly this term during Monday Extras as they have to be finished before the end of term. The analysis by the B.T.O. of the 1971 common bird census has shown a continual increase in many resident species but a drop in the woodland warblers. This coming season will be the fifth year of our participation in the volume. It is now becoming increasingly interesting to plot the changes during this time in our 250 acre census area. N. C. de Salis has been keeping a group of stick insects flourishing and a number of members look after the gerbil colony.

Considering that this is the shortest term, and, from our point of view, the least active, we have managed to include a relatively large number of meetings, expeditions and visiting speakers.

Much of our outdoor activities has been concentrated on the Nature Reserve as the following report shows.

DAVID OLIVEIRA

NATURE RESERVE

Since we are losing older members of the Society it was realised that a little encouragement was needed to acquire new conservational enthusiasts. Since the first meeting this term we have had such a number of volunteers that some of us have to walk down to the Reserve on Monday afternoons. On top of that there are small parties working in the afternoons during the week, including Wednesdays.

Even with about thirteen workers, none has been unemployed, with fencing as a major occupation, both de-fencing along the old boundary and the laying down of a fence across below the Oxford Water.

Five old railway sleepers were transported to the top of the lower Copper Bottom and floated to the end of the latter for bridges for a loop path there. General path clearing both there and near the trout hatchery, and the erection of three styles will make the Bird Census, next term, more of a luxury.

A hide, erected some years ago, was removed due to its untidy appearance as well as being unnecessary. On the other hand, a tree-hide is being constructed to overlook the fighting pools and reed bed.

Brambles have been cleared below the dam to allow for bluebells to grow up in the spring. The same general clearing has been done below the pines, oaks and thorns near the high seat—maintenance which is carried out every five years to a plantation which needs little disturbance. More thorns have been planted in the New Piece.

At the moment more bird boxes are being nailed up, including an owl box, making the total up to about 35.

Various projects are starting up now but there will always be plenty of maintenance work to be done throughout the year.

Thanks to Mr Lloyd, Mr Dobinson and Dr Hornby, and to the usual gang of Jeremy Spencer-Cooper, Pete Mumford, Alistair Gossage, Joe Binns and Colum Scott and of course to the many junior volunteers, for their great help and co-operation.

CHARLIE CHESSHIRE

THE TROUT HATCHERY

From the two dozen eight-inch trout we purchased in June last year, we have made several observations. We have also discovered that rainbow trout are not suited to the water although they grow at twice the rate of the brown trout. The rainbows also suffered from an attack of blindness and later an attack of fin-rot to which the brown trout seemed to be immune. However, from the quick growing rainbows, we were able to strip 2000 ova in early February, and these are now developing in the laboratories along with the 3000 brown trout ova purchased in January. The browns are doing well with a current 3% mortality rate, about 10% under last year.

Our efforts to find good quality spring water near the Hatchery unfortunately proved fruitless, so we are having to continue to use the Oxford Water as our supply.

We plan to purchase a stock of five-inch brown trout this year and to keep the remaining rainbows only for stripping purposes.

We are happy to announce that from March this year, an 'A' level biologist will be using the facilities of the Hatchery for project work.

KEITH FALCONER
EDWARD CORBETT

THE UPPER STYX PROJECT

Not many changes have taken place inside the duckery this term.

We continue to keep a small collection of ducks and geese on the lake and it is hoped that next term some breeding might take place. However, it is felt that the time has come to have a proper duckery, with not just a small collection, but a definite, purposeful one. With our duckery at the moment, several major disadvantages have become apparent.

The Landscape Committee has stated that a fence would spoil the view of our site and so we are not able to have one. Apart from this, it was stressed when the project was first started, that once work on the grotto had begun, there was a danger of the duckery being closed down permanently, and work on the grotto is due to start soon.

These and other matters have led us to look for another site to start again, where the Landscape Committee will not have such a strong influence and where there will be a generally more peaceful and suitable piece of landscape to harbour a duckery. There is a lot of support from boys in Chandos and provisional talks have started. If a really good collection of wildfowl can be established at Stowe, it will be a collection to be proud of. This is still not definite, and it is hoped that by next term, more certain news will be available.

RICHARD NEUFELD

THE FORESTERS

A surprising amount has been achieved by the Foresters and the Wednesday Estate Parties in this short, damp term. By mid-March we hope to have completed our work in Wick Quarter, on the fringe of Home Park west of Caroline, in the boskage by the Rotondo, and in front of Concord. For a month we prepared these areas for the experts, digging round the roots of unsightly trees (most of them scrubby, self-sown elms), lopping the lower branches and clearing the undergrowth. Then two W.M.A. foresters spent half a week pulling down the trees with a winching tractor, sawing up the trunks into manageable lengths and extracting dozens of large roots. For the rest of the term we have been burning the debris and piling the cord-wood for the Community Service to take off to their wood-shed.

Special mention must be made of a Wednesday party led by M. H. C. Anderson, who dug round—and under—two gigantic old stumps by Concord. Working knee deep in clay and water they severed a dozen big roots, with the happy result that both stumps could then be conveniently winched out. Afterwards they dug trenches for piped land drains to replace an old stone one unearthed below the larger stump. When it has been grassed over and mowed for a season, the foreground to the Temple of Concord will regain some of the idyllic appearance intended by its creators, and the herculean efforts of this party will be forgotten. It is one of the inevitable conditions of landscape gardening that if you do your job properly, no one will ever realise you have done it. Their achievement should have at least this record.

G. B. CLARKE

ART

Stowe at The Public Schools Art Exhibition,
Chenil Galleries, December 1971

The advantage of having 49 public schools exhibiting under one roof is that we can see what is happening in different art departments in totally different environments throughout the country. But this exhibition had one great disadvantage: there just was not enough space for all the 49 schools to exhibit their eight paintings or drawings and their eight pieces of sculpture or pottery per school. Thus the whole exhibition was cramped.

However, Stowe was well represented in everything except pottery, which is regrettably only done by the lower school nowadays, despite the tempting facilities. Paintings by Giles Henry

(© 1969), Peter Karpinski and Bobby Blair showed a distinctive approach to colour, spoilt by bad framing. The drawings by Etienne Millner and Rafael Zielinski showed considerable draughtsmanship. Sculpture also by Millner and Zielinski was greatly admired and was illustrated in both the *Times Educational Supplement* and the *Daily Telegraph*. But again, their work was spoilt by bad display.

Indeed the main criticism of the exhibition is that in attempting to show a representative cross section of 49 different art departments they sacrificed the layout and display of the exhibition as a whole. But the ruthless selection of work, in order to display it with more care, as suggested in the *Arts Review*, would be a great loss. We do not want to see what a small committee of art masters want us to see, because they have decided it is the best. We want to see a fair cross-section of what all 49 schools have to show, and judge for ourselves.

PETER KARPINSKI

CORKSCREW

Corkscrew or The Wine Society is a new organisation which has begun this term.

Our first meeting, when Mr F. S. Price from Dolamore Limited and Mr C. Morny (B 1932), Secretary to the International Food and Wine Society, will be coming down to speak is being held on 14th March and it is hoped they will give us some advice on the running of such a Society. The Corkscrew will be essentially of educational value to give an insight into the origin and types of Wine and very basically the use and flavour of different Wines.

I hope it will be a Society which will be of worth while value and will last for some time at Stowe.

ZAIR BERRY

THE FILM SOCIETY

In this short term there is time to show only three films. The first film, "Paris Vu Par . . .", consisted of five French directors' interpretations of famous parts of Paris. The film realistically depicted a large range of the city, varying from light-hearted situations to the macabre. The photography was not consistently up to the standard of the humour, however, and occasionally the acting left something to be desired; but despite this, it was generally considered a very enjoyable film. The second film, "Beware Automobile", was a Russian satire about cars. However, the humour was too melodramatic to be fully appreciated. The third film, yet to be shown, is "Rashomon", a Japanese mystery thriller directed by Kurosawa, where diverse accounts of the same murder are propounded by witnesses, thus impeding the course of justice. Two foreign films have already been booked for next term, and an English one will also be obtained. Unfortunately the membership was less than last term, but we hope to increase our support again next term to augment our bank balance.

ADAM CREEDY-SMITH

THE GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY

The main event this term was a sixth form conference arranged at Stowe by the School of Oriental and African Studies of London University on the theme of the problems of development in Africa. The conference was attended by about 90 people from neighbouring schools and was addressed by two distinguished experts on Africa, Professor Hodden and Dr Rathbone. It was interesting to note that these two specialists appeared to disagree on nearly every point that was raised which only goes to show how complex the African scene has become. Their different viewpoints provoked very stimulating discussions on a wide range of issues and made it a most interesting and enlightening day.

The now annual visit to Corby steel works again took place but only just, as they were fast running out of coal and in fact closed down the next day.

As seems to be inevitable we are going to press before many of the term's activities have taken place so perhaps this is the moment to mention the visit at the end of last term by Dr D. I. Scargill of the Geography Department at Oxford who talked to the Society about the Common Market. What a pleasure it was to hear a really clear explanation of the community's activities from a geographer as opposed to the confused picture we get from the media and the politicians. With the geographers this Easter holidays going to France, perhaps next term we will be able to discuss this subject with more practical experience on which to base our arguments.

A. M. MACOUN

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This term we welcome Mr D. Temple as the new Head of the Society. Since our last report appeared in *The Stoic* some new equipment has been purchased, including a Durst enlarger. The darkroom has also been modernized and electrically refitted.

We hope to have a visit later this term from Miss Sally Soames, the well known freelance photographer.

An exhibition of members' work is planned to take place over Speech Day next term, but this is still very much in the planning stages. We hope to see an expansion of the Society's programme in the near future.

JOSEPH ASSAD

THE POLITICAL CLUB

This has been a somewhat frustrating term. Many M.P.s who had promised to speak to the Club have not been able to due to the pressure of the Common Market Debate. However Mr Henry Longhurst, the golfer, journalist and ex-M.P. has promised to come and speak to us in March on a subject as yet undecided. We are also hoping to have a visit from Norman St John Stevas, M.P. (Cons.) next term, probably in June. A rather indignant Old Stoic (G. Shirley-Bevan, G 1969) has written complaining of the right-wing bias of the Club. He has promised to come in the summer to give the left's point of view.

NEIL DAVIDSON

THE STOWE PRESS

We have been making further progress this term, and have been very successful with a number of orders. Customers have ranged from Stowe Community Service to Temple House, whose play tickets we printed, and the Political Club, who ordered notepaper; we have also produced stationery for several individuals. Our more recent recruits have improved their skills throughout the course of the term. L. M. Werth has now started producing some truly first-class type-setting, while S. K. T. Ulyett has been learning the secrets of the Heidelberg press.

Fortunately, Stowe has not been hit by power cuts on Monday afternoons, when we operate, so we are now awaiting the order to print *The Stoic* if Hilliers get cut off!

SIMON SHNEERSON

LA SOCIÉTÉ GASTRONOMIQUE

Due to the miners' strike the first meeting had to be cancelled—however it is hoped that two more can be arranged before the end of term.

This Society is now in its second year and remains popular among its members under the guidance of Mr T. James. We are however still anxious to hear from anyone who is interested in joining, for we feel that it is a useful opportunity for practical experience in such an interest.

MARCEL MAURY

THE STOWE BEAGLES

At the end of last term the pack was having a successful season, and over Christmas the Kennel Huntsman carried on hunting in our absence. The weather was reasonable and he was able to have several excellent days including a meet on the South Front of the School on Boxing Day, when a large 'field' of followers was able to see some fine hunting.

During the last week of the holidays, by kind permission of the Masters of the Meynell Foxhounds and the Derbyshire Beagles, and through the generosity and good-will of Mr and Mrs D. J. McGee, the hounds and several members of the hunt staff enjoyed a visit to Derbyshire. Meets in that county and in Staffordshire were plagued by fog but none was cancelled. After moving-off from one meet, the fog came down rapidly and so the hunt staff and followers adjourned to a local pub. After some time and several pints we set off once more in high spirits to have a very enjoyable day's hunting.

Back at School again after the beginning of term, the hounds settled in to serious hunting. As always during the spring term, the weather conditions were against us at first, but the pack showed great determination at all times. This season we have opened up several new meets throughout our country, and these, especially the ones in the north, are proving to be very popular with our followers.

All of our puppies are back from "walk" now, and consequently the pack is a bit too large. This year's first pups are now a few months old and are a very fine litter.

The Stowe Beagles were founded in 1962, and in the ten years since then the pack has acquired nationwide fame on both the hunting and the breeding scenes—all credit to the Kennel Huntsman. If anything in the School has been "putting Stowe on the map", it is the Beagles.

The Master and Huntsman this term was N. C. M. Renny (C) with A. D. McGee (L) as first whip. Other whippers-in were A. O. Bell-Irving (C), R. M. Gibson (T), D. M. E. Heathcote (C) and R. G. Pooler (T). Our thanks to D. M. Salmon and H. J. G. Curwen for help at the kennels throughout the term.

NICHOLAS RENNY

C.C.F.

Training has followed its customary pattern and, at the time of writing, is building up to the climax of Field Day which will include a Proficiency Exam. for nearly 90 candidates.

It is pleasant to record that Mr Pomphrey has joined the contingent and is at present sharing his enthusiasm and experience with the R.N. Section.

M. J. FOX

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

The award cycle begins again in the Spring term and most people have been involved in getting their Public Service qualification. Unfortunately the Bletchley Fire Brigade was unable to continue its course and a more limited choice has therefore been available. Sergeant Smith from Bletchley has taken over from Sergeant Dudley and he has provided an interesting and varied course on the Police, and Community Service has once again provided worthwhile courses at all levels.

There are five new members this term. Field Day is to be spent in the Mendips again, and preparations for the Summer Camp, probably to be held in north east Scotland, are under way.

R. M. POTTER

SPORT

The Stoic has had many letters in the past from concerned, hard playing sportsmen, mostly dealing with the priority, value, importance of and more particularly with awards for achievement in sport at such an institution as this. But what is sport, and what its use? Some can pass by admirably without doing any at all, some partake just for the amusement of seeing how far they can go without the referee noticing, and to others sport, in all its variety, is an essential part of life; but overall, it is up to the player what it means: whether it is a way of obtaining a different coloured tie, or whether it is the main thread and theme of school life—it doesn't matter; as long as the majority of people keep themselves ticking over physically, their minds will tick over probably better than if encouraged otherwise by slow vegetation in an armchair patch; but this of course is solely a matter of personal preference. Play or don't, walk outside or don't; but realise the need for activity.

ADRIAN LAIRD CRAIG

HOCKEY

THE FIRST XI

With the season not yet half completed it is difficult to provide a sensible or worthwhile account. A report will appear in the next edition of *The Stoic*, when it will be possible to write a balanced and reasoned résumé of the whole season. Suffice it to say, at present, that our hockey has been fairly successful (played 9, won 5, drawn 2, lost 2) in spite of the appallingly wet conditions that we have had to suffer. We have missed numerous practice sessions because of the dreadful state of the pitches and the first XI matches with one exception have taken place on pitches that were virtually unplayable.

However it appears that boys are still enjoying their hockey and playing all the time with a healthy competitive spirit.

J. S. M. MORRIS

1st XI is being chosen from: R. G. L. Cheatle (Capt.) (W), M. H. Prescott ma. (C), H. C. Mytton-Mills ma. (W), M. J. Guest (B), J. Rawlinson (W), R. J. McDonald (C), P. H. Morris (L), M. E. Harrison (L), M. D. Linnell (L), G. R. Ratcliff (L), M. G. Flawn-Thomas (G), N. R. T. Ireland ma. (B), C. K. Bond (L), A. L. Garber (C), A. J. C. Richings ma. (W).

THE SECOND XI

The old nursery rhyme said 'rain, rain, go to Spain and never come back again' and how we wish saying this would have given us good weather for hockey. As it was, preparation for the early games took place on all sorts of surfaces other than grass—isn't the case for an all weather area now invincible if hockey is to be a suitable game for the Easter term?

M. F. Paltenghi has been an excellent Captain, and he has had to endure the necessity of almost never having the same team twice—a common fate of those who have occupied this position because of the constant demands of the senior team on account of inevitable injuries and illness. In the circumstances it can be said that the team has done quite well. There was plenty of talent among the players, but not everyone lived up to his potential. The approach and build up play was reasonable, but the finish was not there and time and time again chances went untaken by the forwards—usually because of too much caution. Indeed at all levels it seems that the Stoic who will take a chance immediately he is in a scoring position is a rare one, and it is hard to understand why this is so. The full back pair of Palmer and Manners from last year's Colts XI were very sound; but if they are to progress to the 1st XI they will have to curb a tendency to hit too many balls without thinking where they are trying to send them. They were extremely good in defence and were rarely beaten, however, and held the side together well. The half back line has been varied, but Linnell has usually been in good form, and will obviously be a near certainty for the 1st XI next year assuming normal progress in the meantime. Harrison

has been a very reliable left half, and plays a sound game and covers well. His steadiness was an asset to the team. The forwards were clever and made many chances, but did not produce the goals they were worth. Ireland or Flawn-Thomas were good centre-forwards who harried their opponents and both had useful shots on occasions. J. Paltenghi worked well at inside left, and will be an asset next season when he has got a little more strength to shrug off the tackles when he is going through the defence. Aiken and Benson usually played very skillful hockey, and Lucas, when he finally turned up for matches showed touches of very good play. Seccombe tried hard and got some good centres across as did Jackson who sometimes found it difficult to stand up on the wet grounds.

All in all it could be said in summary that this team never did itself justice. It lost two matches it could have won, and won matches by a small score which it should have won by huge margins. The moral for all the players is surely that chances in hockey are only 'on' for a fraction of a second and if missed then, they are usually missed for ever. 'When will they ever learn?' was the title of a popular song a few years ago; the words when used in the connection with Stowe hockey are very relevant today. If the motto of Stowe is translated as 'I stand fast and I stand first', could not the hockey players adapt it to be, 'I shoot fast and I shoot first'?

P. G. LONGHURST

Results: v. Aldenham School	Home	Lost	0—1
v. Dean Close School	Away	Won	1—0
v. The Leys School	Home	Won	6—5
v. Brafield College	Away	Won	2—1
v. Radley College	Home	Lost	0—1
v. Royal G.S. High Wycombe	Home	Won	2—0
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Away	Won	2—0

THE SIXTY

Dreadful weather and persistent illness have meant that the Club has had good practice for seven-a-side games in tundra or swamp conditions and we eagerly await their appearance on a true hockey pitch. Only one match has been played, a cheerful, bloodless 1—1 draw against Radley. Capron, commandingly reliable at right back, captained a side which began to attack with penetration in the last quarter and which promises keen and spirited matches in the future.

J. M. TEMPLE

The following were members: R. F. A. Dobbs (B), S. L. Evans (B), M. D. Kneeshaw (B), R. A. Pilcher (B), P. J. Westeng ma. (B), A. B. Dawton (T), R. J. D. Metcalfe ma. (T), J. C. Staib (T), S. M. Wilcox (T), I. D. Elliott (C), M. J. Peplow (C), P. Anand (C), H. J. A. Joslin (C), S. P. J. Potter (C), J. R. L. Wilkes (C), M. H. Duckworth mi. (C), T. O. Mytton-Mills mi. (C), D. J. L. Robinson (C), A. D. Capron (C), D. C. Hopping (C), C. E. Sidi ma. (C), A. D. Sidi mi. (C), N. M. Metcalfe (W), S. R. Chilton (L), J. J. G. Dawes (L), R. H. M. Mitchell (L), M. G. P. Rossdale (L).

THE COLTS

Despite 'flu and the very limited number of practice days, the Club's record to date is highly satisfactory. Much of the credit must go to D. P. Scowsill who has proved to be an able captain and an inspiration in his own high standard of play. His mid-field dominance in most matches has taken considerable pressure off the defence and given added effectiveness to the forwards.

Apart from the game against Radley the defence has been able to withstand opposition attacks with a coolness and maturity seldom seen at this level of hockey. M. D. Langdon has yet to meet his "better" and he is always likely to be found on the heels of his own forwards as a good right-half should. P. A. Pike and P. G. Clarke have developed considerable understanding as the full back "pair", and A. N. Buchanan in goal looks at least as good as his brother.

M. G. Lockhart-Smith has certainly been the most effective forward having scored five of the team's eight goals. His hat trick in the opening game against Aldenham was most impressive but subsequently he went into semi-retirement! Happily he has now re-emerged and

is using his undoubted talent with new resolve. M. J. A. Ritchie and D. M. S. Fyffe have improved considerably during the term but alas both these wingers have seen all too little of the ball so far. G. I. L. McCall and P. G. Dawson have adapted themselves well to their new positions of centre forward and inside left respectively and McCall has scored two valuable goals.

There have been several other members of the Colts 'A' Club who have come close to regular first team places and S. C. P. Ireland mi., P. R. Low, N. McCulloch and J. J. Wan should be valuable members of the School 1st XI squad in the next two years.

The Colts 'B' Club has been very active this term and J. C. Withinshaw and A. J. Henry particularly should be contenders for at least 2nd XI hockey next year.

C. J. G. ATKINSON

Team from: A. N. Buchanan (W), P. A. Pike (C), P. G. Clarke (L), M. D. Langdon (L), D. P. Scowsill (T) (Capt.), M. G. Lockhart-Smith (C), M. J. A. Ritchie (T), D. M. S. Fyffe (B), G. I. L. McCall (C), P. G. Dawson (C), S. C. P. Ireland mi. (B), P. R. Low (C), N. McCulloch (B), J. J. Wan (T).

Results: v. Aldenham	Away	Won	3—0
v. Dean Close	Away	Won	1—0
v. The Leys	Away	Lost	0—1
v. Bradfield	Home	Won	2—1
v. Radley	Away	Lost	1—4
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Home	Drawn	1—1

THE JUNIOR COLTS

After nearly a fortnight of term the Junior Colts were in the unenviable position of having played more matches than practice games and we played a very ragged opening match on the hail-swept plains of Aldenham. Recently however the team has begun to shake down and the forwards are beginning to look dangerous as they appreciate the value of a hard shot and a swift follow up. It has proved difficult to find a satisfactory combination of strength and experience in the defence so that the opposition's offensive movements are always rather alarming. However V. W. R. Hill, the Captain, has done well to hold his team together as well as showing real talent himself at centre-half.

There are several skillful players in the club who have not been given a chance to show their real potential on appalling surfaces—stickwork has often been an impossibility. However, given a dry last three weeks of term and, hopefully, better conditions next year, there is the makings of an excellent Colts side.

R. M. POTTER

Team from: J. H. G. Carr (C), H. J. Carnegie-Arbuthnott (B), J. M. Hayward (C), V. W. R. Hill (G) (Capt.), C. D. M. Hughes (G), F. J. Johnstone (L), M. A. Knight (C), C. J. Mallett (C), J. P. Paterson (L), C. T. Rolls (L), N. P. Staheyeff (C), N. S. Vans Agnew (T), J. R. Wadsworth (L), D. J. M. Ward (W), P. S. C. Wood (C), J. L. Young (B).

Results: v. Aldenham	Away	Lost	1—4
v. The Leys	Away	Lost	0—4
v. Bradfield	Home	Won	5—2
v. Radley	Away	Won	4—1
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Home	Lost	1—3
v. Pangbourne	Home	Won	4—0

THE UNDER-FOURTEEN XI

The season, starting as it did, meant that the Under 14s were slow to get under way, but it was soon obvious that this year's intake provided some useful hockey talent.

Our first two matches resulted in easy wins against Winchester House Preparatory School and Bradfield. Even so, our weaknesses were exposed, in particular, a lack of talent on the wings and an over-eagerness of the backs to commit themselves to the tackle. The goalkeeper's job, never an enviable one, was, this year, taken by C. J. C. Boardman and P. D. C. Vyvyan-Robinson. Both have a lot to learn, but did their best.

The side was very ably led by T. M. Corbett, who showed much ability and leadership potential. His position at centre-half was ably supported by M. R. Scantlebury and C. M. Johnstone mi. The forwards worked together well and the inside trio of T. G. Cameron mi., M. S. Parker and M. H. C. Harvey mi. scored several fine goals in the early part of the season.

Matches against Radley Under 15 B and M.C.S. Oxford were lost although the team always showed determination to fight back, and in the latter match the ball did not run for Stowe at all. The backs, R. A. Brown mi. and A. N. Jamieson played well for most of the time but were prone to the occasional error which let through an opportunist opposition.

We still have two matches to play and hope that these will be comfortable wins for Stowe.

J. B. DOBINSON

Team from: C. J. C. Boardman (B), P. D. C. Vyvyan-Robinson (G), T. M. Corbett (C), (Capt.), M. R. Scantlebury (T), C. M. Johnstone mi. (C), T. G. Cameron mi. (C), M. S. Parker (C), M. H. C. Harvey mi. (C), R. A. Brown mi. (W), A. N. Jamieson (G).

Results:

v. Winchester House	Away	Won	4—1
v. Bradfield	Home	Won	5—0
v. Radley Under 15 'B'	Away	Lost	1—2
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Home	Lost	0—3

CROSS-COUNTRY

One would have predicted a bad season for the Club considering its small size (21 members) and the fact that many valuable members were unable to run owing to influenza and injuries at the height of the season.

However, this has definitely not been the case, as can be seen by the 1st VIII team achieving 4 wins, 2 second placings and only 1 defeat to date.

The main problem has been lack of manpower to provide a Colts VIII.

The Club has trained well and consistently mainly due to the interest and enthusiasm of the Captain R. J. G. Dillon-Mahon and the very efficient Secretary C. N. Barbour.

We are very grateful to Mr McKittrick for his help and encouragement this term.

Results: 1st VIII: v. Abingdon and Bradfield (at Abingdon).
 1, Stowe 53 pts 2, Abingdon 55 pts 3, Bradfield 67 pts
 v. Bradfield and Charterhouse (at Bradfield).
 1, Bradfield 44 pts 2, Stowe and Charterhouse 67 pts
 v. U.C.S., Thames Hare and Hounds, and Haileybury (at U.C.S.)
 1, Haileybury 38 pts 2, Stowe 68 pts 3, Thames 74 pts U.C.S. 145 pts
 v. Rugby and Uppingham (Home).
 1, Rugby 44 pts 2, Uppingham 58 pts 3, Stowe 70 pts
 v. Radley and Cheltenham (at Radley).
 1, Stowe 53 pts 2, Cheltenham 57 pts 3, Radley 71 pts
 v. Oakham and Leys (at Oakham).
 1, Stowe 36 pts 2, Oakham 63 pts 3, Leys 88 pts
 v. Marlborough (at Marlborough).
 1, Stowe 26 pts 2, Marlborough 52 pts
 v. St Edward's (at St Edward's).
 1, Stowe 36 pts 2, St Edward's 46 pts

Colours: 1st VIII re-awarded to: Dillon-Mahon; **awarded to:** Kingsley, Eastgate.

2nd VIII awarded to: Falcon, Robinson, Bagshawe, Bonner, Claridge, Tobin.

Colts VIII:
 v. U.C.S. and Haileybury (at U.C.S.)
 1, U.C.S. 21 pts 2, Haileybury 72 pts 3, Stowe 86 pts
 v. Marlborough (at Marlborough).
 1, Marlborough 38 pts 2, Stowe 40 pts
 v. St Edward's (at St Edward's).
 1, St Edward's 36 pts 2, Stowe 43 pts

Inter-House Races

The competition was run in three age groups and the weather was fair. The course was very muddy in parts.

Our special thanks must go to the Headmaster who took much interest in the race and presented the prizes.

The winner of the Open event was R. J. G. Dillon-Mahon in a time of 26 minutes 27 seconds, followed 20 seconds later by A. D. McGee. Four out of the first five places were taken by members of the Cross-Country Club. The Under 17s was won comfortably by M. Falcon. Again the first five places were taken by members of the Cross-Country Club with R. A. Claridge and C. C. Brooking taking second and third places. B. T. Robinson won easily the Under 15 race to be followed by C. J. Barling.

Results:

<i>Open (4½ miles)</i>	<i>Under 17 (3 miles)</i>	<i>Under 15 (3 miles)</i>
1. Lyttelton 91 pts	1. Cobham 87 pts	1. Temple 73 pts
2. Cobham 104 pts	2. Lyttelton 161 pts	2. Lyttelton 125 pts
3. Bruce 118 pts	3. Grafton 162 pts	3. Walpole 142 pts
4. Grafton 120 pts	4. Walpole 167 pts	4. Cobham 170 pts
5. Chatham 164 pts	5. Temple 171 pts	5. Bruce 181 pts
6. Walpole 165 pts	6. Grenville 175 pts	6. Chatham 191 pts
7. Chandos 235 pts	7. Chatham 199 pts	7. Grafton 212 pts
8. Temple 270 pts	8. Bruce 234 pts	8. Grenville 242 pts
9. Grenville —	9. Chandos 256 pts	8. Chandos 242 pts

P. M. A. LUFT

FIVES

This term the teams have had to face difficult opposition mostly away from home. In these circumstances they have done surprisingly well. The Juniors have been very active with the Junior Fives Leagues operating throughout the term and a number of new school fixtures which have proved to be a bit taxing and they were all played on strange courts in away matches.

The first Senior pair of Brann and Linnell have again shown that when on form they are a good school pair. At Uppingham under terrible conditions owing to heavy rain, they were able to more than hold their own against more practised opponents but unfortunately did not have the stamina to last the fifth game. Perhaps the best result was against the Old Citizens when Brann and Bagshawe managed to take two games off very experienced opponents, one of whom is in the finals of this year's National Championships. Although they lost in the end, this was an outstanding effort for a schoolboy pair. Bagshawe generally gave a good account of himself in matches and found able support from a wide range of other players in the team. Manners and Riddick again proved to be a competent school pair although at Uppingham they lost their unbeaten record in school matches. Macleod-Smith improved quite noticeably and with Rossdale made up the numbers in the first team. This team had two particularly good wins: the first at Oakham where they won on what must be the weirdest courts in the country and later they destroyed Mill Hill at Stowe with ridiculous ease, so avenging the defeat of last year. The Colts played all their matches away from home this year which is a great disadvantage. Nevertheless they gained good experience and played with determination.

The Junior Colts and Under 14 pairs are for the most part very new to the game but have shown that by playing regularly they can improve themselves very considerably and certainly in the future there must be more matches for these Juniors to encourage them to play at an early age. At the end of last term Lyttelton easily won the Senior House matches beating Walpole in the final.

A. M. MACOUN

Senior Team from: W. S. Brann (T), M. D. Linnell (L), J. N. S. Bagshawe (L), A. P. Manners (L), G. E. G. Riddick (W), M. G. P. Rossdale (L), G. L. Macleod-Smith (W).

Colts Team from: M. D. A. Stanley mi. (C), J. A. M. B. Campbell (W), P. W. Burke (G), J. M. Shirley-Beavan mi. (G), M. J. A. Ritchie (T), N. K. Park (T).

Junior Colts from: S. J. F. Douglas (W), S. K. P. T. Greenley (W), M. S. Hoppen (C), T. J. Rollit Mason (B).

Under 14s: J. D. Hanks mi. (C), P. A. Miles (S).

Results:

Seniors:	v. Oxford University Peppers	Home	Drawn	1—1
	v. Uppingham	Away	Lost	0—3
	v. Oakham	Away	Won	2—0
	v. Mill Hill	Home	Won	3—0
	v. Old Citizens	Home	Lost	0—2
Juniors:	v. Uppingham	Away	Lost	0—3
	v. Oakham	Away	Lost	0—2
	v. Eton	Away	Lost	0—6
	v. Mill Hill	Home	Won	1—0

SQUASH RACKETS

The Inter-Schools National Tournament for the Bath Club Trophy 1972

As the holders of the Trophy, and on account of the results in school matches before Christmas Stowe were the favourites to win the cup again. We were fortunate to obtain a bye in the first round, and then easily defeated Wellington College 3—0. King's School Canterbury, recent winners themselves, put up a tough struggle before being overcome 2—1, their Number One beating the Stowe Captain in a tense match. Later in the week we had to play the semi-final round against Peckham Manor School. We knew before the match that the Peckham Manor Number One player, O'Connor, would win his match as he was the most experienced person in the competition, and we also were sure that the Stowe Number Three would beat the younger of the Hermanstein brothers. It all rested on the result of the match between the Number Twos, and on paper Stowe felt that they were likely to win. Guest began well, and playing some of the best squash he had played in his life, was soon leading by two games to one, and 7—2 in the fourth. It was all over bar the shouting, or so we felt! But a few careless shots by Guest and a few good ones from the Peckham Manor boy soon altered the picture, and the Marker was calling 7 all. Everything from now on seemed to go wrong for the Stowe player and it was not a long time before the match was over and we were out of the competition. It was a case of 'might have been' but in spite of the loss, all credit should be given to the team for getting so far—but nevertheless we should have won!

Team: R. G. L. Cheatle (W), M. J. Guest (B), P. H. Morris (L).

At the end of last term after going three and a half seasons without conceding a five-a-side match, Marlborough defeated us at Marlborough by the narrow margin of 3 games to 2, and so Stowe were eager to show in the return that it was a lucky win! It was therefore very pleasing that in fact Marlborough were beaten 3—2 at Stowe, and all the Stowe matches were won quite easily in the first three strings. All other first team games have also been comfortably won, but it has been noticeable that with Hockey taking precedence during this term, insufficient time has been available for hard practice. All the team are to be congratulated on their play, but having now won 64 out of 65 consecutive school matches the time must come when there is a danger of complacency creeping in amongst the players—so far this has been resisted, and it is to be hoped that it will continue to remain so. R. G. L. Cheatle has been a good Captain of the team, and has been ably supported by P. H. Morris as Secretary. M. J. Guest has always played his best at second string throughout the year, though it is to be hoped that he will learn to vary the pace at which he plays a little more in the future. D. G. Choyce has been a reliable Number Four, and when playing well he plays a really intelligent game—he would be well advised to play with more caution in the early stages of matches he knows are going to be close. A. L. Pyfrom and R. Turner have continued their constant rivalry for the last place in the team, and any other team would be glad to have either of them very high in their order, and it has been a great pity that they have not both been able to play in every match. It is hoped that Turner has enjoyed playing on the English courts. All in all it can be summed up that this has again been a most successful season—and there are four matches still to be played, including one against the 1972 Bath Cup Winners, the result of which will be known by the time these notes are read.

Colours were awarded to: P. H. Morris.

We had one 2nd Team match against Oundle and this resulted in a good win by Stowe—it is a great pity that more schools do not field such teams.

The Colts have had a very good term, and they have won all their matches except one by convincing margins. P. Low as Captain has had a most useful team to support him, and is himself gradually improving his standard of play. All the others have another year in the team, and we shall expect another good season next September at this level.

There have been two Junior Colt matches this term, and both were easily won, and J. Hayward, J. Wadsworth, J. Ward, J. Carr and P. Saunders formed a very formidable team from which we shall hope for much in the future.

P. G. LONGHURST

Results:

1st Team:	v. Marlborough College	Home	Won	3—2
	v. Haileybury College	Home	Won	4—1
	v. Eton College	Away	Won	5—0
	v. St Edward's School	Away	Won	4—1
	v. Mill Hill School	Home	Won	4—1
2nd Team:	v. Oundle School	Home	Won	4—1
Colts Team:	v. Marlborough College	Home	Lost	1—4
	v. Haileybury College	Home	Won	4—1
	v. Eton College	Away	Won	4—1
	v. St Edward's School	Away	Won	3—0
	v. Mill Hill School	Home	Won	2—1
Junior Colts Team:	v. Mill Hill School	Home	Won	2—1
	v. Oundle School	Home	Won	5—0

RUGBY FOOTBALL

House Matches

Senior

For the first time for a number of years all the matches, although spread over nearly seven weeks, were played in reasonable weather. The Bye and First Rounds provided no surprises. Lyttelton had their narrowest win, against Temple, but the Bruce pack showed its power against Cobham. The Semi-Finals provided a clear cut victory for Lyttelton, who although weakened by the absence of Oxbridge candidates and territorially at a disadvantage, managed some fine attacking three-quarter movements; Bruce, however, had a gruelling struggle against Grafton, and only won in the third stage of extra time. This was also unfortunate for them because two days later they had to play the final without a centre three-quarter and a hooker.

The Final was evenly fought out in the early stages. Both sides failed with penalty kicks, but Bruce, with the wind, were unable to take full advantage of it. Some good Lyttelton movements weren't quite finished off, and Ratcliff had the agonising experience of losing the ball when actually over the line untackled. This, however, was redeemed only minutes later when, from a scrum inside the Bruce twenty-five, against the head, Lyttelton passed down to Bagshawe who slipped the ball back to Harper who dived over.

After half time Bruce came back with some good loose scrummaging, only to find themselves penalised when a centre was offside. Linnell made no mistake with the kick. The final score came when Ratcliff, half-tackled, managed to pass to Harper who again dived over.

It was a magnificent game in which some of the best three-quarter movements of the term were seen, as well as some grand tackling by a Junior Colt, Paterson. It was also a historic game, because Lyttelton, after only four and a half years of existence, won the most coveted of the many cups at Stowe, and discovered it held 18½ pints.

	Bruce	}	Bruce 14—3	}	Lyttelton 11—0
	Cobham		}		
	Grafton	}			
	Walpole		}		
Temple	Lyttelton	}		Walpole 9—6	
Grenville	Temple 38—3		}		}
	Chandos	}			
	Chatham				

Teams:

Lyttelton: M. G. P. Rossdale; M. W. Sherwood, G. R. Ratcliff (Capt.), M. J. Harper, J. N. S. Bagshawe; M. D. Linnell, N. A. Seymour; M. J. J. Maury, J. P. Guilford, P. A. Natar, P. Mackay ma., A. P. Manners, J. D. A. Nicholl, J. J. G. Dawes, A. J. F. Tucker.

Bruce: R. A. Pilcher; R. A. Dobbs, J. P. Paterson, N. R. T. Ireland ma., R. H. F. Tyler; M. J. Guest, S. L. Evans; C. J. Leyland, S. C. P. Ireland mi., F. H. P. Osborne, A. W. G. Reed (Capt.), A. J. Laird Craig, M. D. Kneeshaw ma., P. G. Naish, L. J. Hydleman.

Junior

Too often these matches can be won by the House with one or more large and heavy players. It was all the more encouraging when Temple won through to the final with a very diminutive scrum half and Walpole were able to use their useful passing movements to give good runs to their frail wing, Robinson mi., as well as their larger one, Rose.

It was particularly unfortunate that Temple could not play D. P. Scowsill in the final as he had been a superb general, an accurate kicker and a penetrating runner in their previous rounds. As it was the first Walpole score came from an orthodox movement in which Robinson scored a classical try, which his young brother was unable to convert. Then Bainbridge joined in the line and scored on the left and finally Rose ran through and round some weak tackling. In the second half, against the wind, it was a different story, but only Park, with the first of his penalty attempts, scored, and Temple were unable to penetrate or look like penetrating the Walpole defence.

Lyttelton	}	Grafton 42—0	}	Bruce 14—0	}	Walpole 12—3
Grafton		}		Walpole 52—0		
	}		Temple 9—0			
		}		Cobham 12—0		

Teams:

Walpole: J. H. Bainbridge; P. H. Robinson mi., K. C. Naylor, D. J. M. Ward, P. A. Rose; W. R. M. Kilroy, S. K. P. T. Greenley, J. A. M. B. Campbell, J. S. Shepherd-Barron, S. J. Gornall, W. G. Tyser, G. C. M. Fenwick, B. T. Robinson mi., W. H. B. Beeton, T. R. Lancaster.

Temple: N. K. Park; M. J. A. Ritchie, P. S. Carter, J. B. R. Metcalfe mi., H. L. Stafford; D. M. Brockwell, S. C. Heald; P. N. Nelson, J. J. Wan, J. M. Bray, J. M. Cunningham, S. A. Saunders, J. V. Mumby, E. O. Bailey, M. D. M. Davies. (Absent: D. P. Scowsill (Capt.))

J. E. C. NICHOLL

FENCING

With some strong fencers available for this term, we seemed likely to have a good season. Cottier and Millner have formed the base of a useful team, and since Cottier won, perhaps luckily, the Individual Foil competition he has proved this term the more effective of the two. We were, perhaps, unfortunate to meet for the triangular match two good teams from Rugby and Uppingham, and when bad light in the first power-cut stopped play Uppingham were ahead by too large a margin to be caught in the remaining three bouts which Stowe and Rugby each had to fence.

Against Radley, Filmer-Sankey found the confidence and aggression which he had not been able to show before, and won all three of his bouts in the foil, as did Jones in the sabre, and Cottier in épée. N. T. Campbell achieved distinction by only being hit twice in winning his victories in the second foil team.

Millner and Cottier both competed in the Schoolboys' Foil Competition. They reached the final pool of six in the Berks., Bucks. and Oxon. counties round, and came 5th and 4th. The previous best we have achieved has been sixth. They then went on to the Southern section round, where Cottier reached the last six again, but there the competition was too fierce, and he managed one win to come sixth. Both learned a great deal, and did well to get used to the electric weapons which are very heavy.

Unfortunately, they could not fence against Marlborough, and nor could Filmer-Sankey or Jones, and we were decisively defeated. Allen, expecting to fight only second foil, was also called upon to brandish sabre and épée, weapons which he has scarcely wielded in anger until this term. He was not put to shame, however.

The middle ranks of the Club flourish, but could improve the precision of their technique with profit, and there is an eager crowd of novices. Many of our fencers are young, and we should have useful teams in the future.

There is one match, against St Edward's, to fence.

C. D. MULLINEUX

Results: Individual Foil: R. J. Cottier (G); Runner-up, E. H. Millner (G).

Matches:	v. Rugby and Uppingham:	Uppingham 10; Rugby 6; Stowe 6.
	v. Radley:	Won 18—6 (Foil 6—3; Sabre 6—3; Epée 6—3). (2nd Foil 9—0).
	v. Marlborough:	Lost 2—16 (Sabre 1—8; Epée 1—8) (2nd Foil 2—7)
	v. St Edward's:	Won 16—11 (Foil 5—4; Epée 4—5; Sabre 7—2)

R. J. Cottier was 3rd in Southern Section Schoolboys' Epée Competition and goes on to the National Round in May.

There have fenced for the First Teams: E. H. Millner (G) F, S; R. J. Cottier (G) F, E; A. W. G. Reed (B); S, E; A. R. Jones (C) S; P. D. Filmer-Sankey (C) F; R. M. Lies (G) E, S; P. R. J. Allen (G) E, S.

SAILING

As usual, due to the unfailing efforts of C.W.O.R., the Graduates, their masts, sails and gear are all in tip top condition for the season's racing at Banbury. We have sold G.130 and bought our third new "Supergrad" for the coming season. We hope to sell the Ken II dinghies which are used on the lake, thus stopping any lake sailing in Club boats.

At the beginning of the term the B.C.S.C. dinner was attended by R. H. Steavenson and H. C. Davis. Their A.G.M. was held later in the term and we are proud to announce that C.W.O.R. has been elected Commodore of Banbury Cross Sailing Club.

The Club saw three films this term and we look forward to more next term.

HOWARD STEAVENSON

SCULLING

There has been very little activity this term due to the weather but a small amount of training on the lake has been managed along with some in the gym.

A grade system was decided upon at the beginning of term which should be brought into effect when the badge and tie arrive. Next term should, I hope, bring out the enthusiasm which has been shown during the past winter months.

ZAIR BERRY

SWIMMING

It is with a considerable sense of achievement that we can now, at last, see a modern indoor swimming pool actually in construction at Stowe, rather than another batch of proposed plans pinned on a notice board. With the swimming pool fund at a figure of £40,000 last term we were then the very fortunate recipients of an anonymous gift which raised the total to £83,000, the final contract price including Architects' fees.

The construction is being undertaken by the firm of Gilliam, one of the foremost names in this specialist field of building, and work on the site commenced during the first week in February. Basic excavation is now complete and with concreting due to be finished before the end of term, work is moving ahead on schedule with the expected completion date in December of this year.

F. A. HUDSON

INGRESSI 1971

- Bruce:** (*Spring*) H. M. Campbell (i) (N), N. T. Campbell (ii) (N), M. P. Patel (N), M. C. Porter (N), T. J. Rollit Mason (N), S. L. Westeng mi. (N); (*Summer*) J. L. Abelson (N); (*Autumn*) C. J. C. Boardman, D. A. Bowman (N), J. W. H. Fitzherbert, W. M. Graham (N), A. J. Highwood*, R. L. Law*, I. A. W. Nasatir, C. J. Terrett.
- Temple:** (*Spring*) N. C. De Salis*, J. B. Kermodé, J. R. B. Metcalfe mi.*, J. V. Mumby ma., J. C. Roxburgh ma.*, S. A. Saunders*; (*Summer*) P. N. Nelson ma. (N); (*Autumn*) S. C. Bartlett*, R. W. Bickerton, J. M. Cunningham ma.*, P. C. A. Grint, A. V. John, D. de B. Kinahan*, A. S. Marsh, The Hon. A. M. Stuart, G. H. B. Sugden, J. P. Wheeler mi.
- Grenville:** (*Spring*) W. R. E. R. Easey, A. H. Hudson ma., R. P. J. Lea; (*Autumn*) N. P. Armstrong, A. D. Barker*, G. A. Bell, P. M. Bradfield mi., G. H. Charlton, J. de B. Crossley*, D. B. Fransen, A. N. Jamieson, C. F. Peto, M. P. Tobin mi.*, P. D. C. Vyvyan-Robinson, R. R. Turner.
- Chandos:** (*Spring*) J. A. W. Cheyne* (N), J. D. I. Barker* (N), M. S. Hoppen (N), A. C. L. Wiseman (N); (*Autumn*) A. C. Bowden, N. A. Coates, P. C. B. Forbes, P. D. E. Guest, J. D. Hanks mi., M. S. Parker, M. A. Sacks, N. A. G. Butt (N).
- Cobham:** (*Spring*) J. R. C. Harris ma.*, R. N. H. Reynolds*, P. J. A. Rhodes ma.*, (*Summer*) E. J. Browne; (*Autumn*) P. Anand, R. D. Austin, A. A. Blanch, A. Q. D. Cornforth, P. D. Harmer, W. H. Hollinshead, M. J. T. Reaney, D. J. Salvesen, D. C. H. Taylor min., J. M. Yeomans, D. J. N. Curzon.
- Chatham:** (*Spring*) H. M. Bakewell ma., J. J. R. Bissill ma. (N), T. L. Dore (N); (*Summer*) J. H. G. Carr mi.*; (*Autumn*) T. G. Cameron mi.*, A. Falcon mi.*, H. N. J. Gray*, T. Gregson-Williams, R. F. Grove, C. M. Johnstone mi., R. G. Monk.
- Grafton:** (*Spring*) D. A. A. Bagley, C. F. Pearch, D. S. Sandhurst, P. Symes, M. J. A. Willcox; (*Summer*) C. J. Bushell, M. R. Tadgell; (*Autumn*) E. M. G. Arnold*, D. B. Conway (N), T. M. Corbett, S. T. G. Guyer*, J. M. Hayward*, P. A. Miles, D. P. Mills (N), M. E. Porter, P. S. C. Wood*.

