

**Diamond Jubilee Issue**

# THE STOIC



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## THE STOIC

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Frontispiece:  
The First Arrivals.

## EDITORIAL

The editorial in the issue of *The Stoic* which appeared in the term of the School's 50th Jubilee anniversary noted that 'essentially it is the Summer Term that has stolen the limelight with its glorious weather and important occasions'. In our 60th Jubilee Year we have had our share of important occasions; as far as the weather is concerned this term may have been happy, but it has hardly been glorious. The first of our two major dates, May 11th, was mercifully one of our better days, but it was a great pity that the second, May 28th, was so badly disrupted. Later in these pages we report on these days and other memorable events of the Spring and Summer Terms.

In the closing weeks of a celebratory Jubilee Year the eyelids of even the most ardent alumnus may begin to emulate the weariness which Pater found in those of the Mona Lisa. In the mild hope rather than confident expectation of combating such lassitude we have thought it best, not to produce some trite observations on the virtues of the Public School System, but rather to draw our readers' attention to various reflections about Stowe in the following pages. They range from the Archbishop of Canterbury's sermon on May 11th to an Augustan parody by a present Stoic: they include also the Headmaster's Speech on May 28th: reminiscences of 'the First Day' by one of 'the First 99'; notes on John Piper's *Stowe* and Nattes's *Views of Stowe*; a study by a French scholar in his native tongue of T. H. White and *Mistress Masham's Repose* (set, as every schoolboy or schoolgirl knows, in the grounds of Stowe), and an account of a meeting of Old Stoics in New York. We conclude this section of the magazine, and could equally well have begun it, with a moment from the days before Stowe became a school, the last journey from Stowe House of the Comte de Paris.

Stowe's next Jubilee will be forty years hence:  
*perstet et praestet.*

J. E. Burkinshaw

# SPRING AND SUMMER TERMS 1983

Head of School	<b>R. C. Thorpe</b>	Head of Temple	<b>S. R. Glennie</b>
Second Prefect	<b>N. F. V. Ash</b>	Head of Lyttelton	<b>D. Hockley</b>
Head of Grenville	<b>R. V. Aswani</b>	Prefect of Chapel	<b>R. J. H. Jory</b>
Head of Chandos	<b>J. M. A. Bewes, ma.</b>	Head of Walpole	<b>J. B. Price</b>
Head of Cobham	<b>R. J. A. Bridgwood</b>	Prefect of Roxburgh Hall	<b>C. D. Rose</b>
Prefect of Grounds	<b>D. W. Brown</b>	Prefect of Defaulters	<b>W. J. Rossiter, ma.</b>
Head of Bruce	<b>K. A. Coni, ma.</b>	Prefect of Mess	<b>P. H. M. Swire</b>
Prefect of Library	<b>W. J. R. Craig</b>	Head of Chatham	<b>D. M. W. Thomas</b>
Assistant Prefect of Mess	<b>J. F. Derry</b>	Head of Grafton	<b>M. G. Tinsley</b>
Head of Stanhope	<b>Fiona R. Gibbs</b>		

1983 has seen the Jubilee celebrations begin in earnest. The Spring Term, although a short one, proved to be laden with activities of every kind. A series of sports held matches with Canford, a twin sister of Stowe, if perhaps less beautiful, including the hockey game at Lord's as a preliminary to the 'Varsity match on January 23rd. Two concerts of note were performed: on February 12th, the School Concert, and an excellent Jubilee Concert of Beethoven's **9th Symphony** and Bruckner's **Te Deum** in the Chapel to herald the end of term. We were very honoured by speeches from Mrs. Mary Whitehouse, C.B.E. and Mr. Victor Lowndes, former head of Playboy (her opponent) at a Jubilee Debate on February 15th.

At the beginning of February, Revd. David Prior of Oxford led the Lenten Addresses programme, which included a review by the Oxford University Christian Drama Society. March saw the climax of very hard work in every house with the House Drama Festival, most constructively "commented" on by a team of professional actors and a theatre critic. And the Sixth Form Colloquium is very grateful to Mr. G. B. Clarke, a mine of Stowe knowledge, for his excellent talk on "The Lady with a Squint".

Despite rather unattractive weather, the summer has been a no less entertaining term, what with plays performed by the staff, "**H.M.S. Pinafore**" and Britten's "**The Little Sweep**", a success combined with the pupils. At the time of printing, the curtain has been raised on the Junior Congreve's enchanting performance of "**A Comedy of Errors**", and the applause is soon to ring for the Lower VI plays of Peter Shaffer's "**Equus**" and Neil Simon's "**The Odd Couple**".

The term has also seen a C.C.F. Open Day attended by an army of senior officers led by General Sir Frank Kitson (O.S.), Commander-in-Chief of the British Land Forces; the Nattes exhibition of "Views of Stowe" in the Aurelian Room; and a series of Appeal meetings for parents and one later in the term for Old Stoics — the Jubilee Appeal, for a new Bruce House, is, I believe, well on target.

We offer our congratulations to the following on winning either awards or places at Oxford or Cambridge in the Autumn Term:

**Awards:** C. I. Cox: Scholarship, Clare, Cambridge (Natural Sciences).  
 G. R. Critchley: Savory Exhibition, Corpus Christi, Cambridge (Natural Sciences).  
 Jane E. Knowles: Savory Exhibition, Corpus Christi, Cambridge (English).  
 N. D. Leapman, Exhibition, Lincoln, Oxford (Natural Sciences).  
 S. T. Lunt, Exhibition, St. Peter's, Oxford (Natural Sciences).

**Places:** R. H. Astley: Brasenose, Oxford (Natural Sciences).  
 Catherine W. Brown: St. Edmund Hall, Oxford (Geography).  
 A. J. N. Coats: St. John's, Oxford (Modern Languages).  
 Sarah J. Hobday: Brasenose, Oxford (Natural Sciences).  
 C. S. Morley: Sidney Sussex, Cambridge (Natural Sciences).  
 Mary Emma Smith: Trinity Cambridge (History).  
 R. J. C. Wicks: Trinity, Oxford (Natural Sciences).  
 C. B. H. Woolley: Balliol, Oxford (Natural Sciences).

Last term we said farewell to Mr. Taylor and to Mr. Wynne-Jones, who had been Chaplain for seven years and also been in charge of a successful shooting team. This term Mr. Fox is leaving after very many years of service, as are Miss Madge Phillips and Miss Mary Scott, after their long custodianship of the "North Hall", and so are Mr. Grimston, Mr. McLanachan, Mr. Milne, Dr. Stiff and Mr. Watson. We are losing also Mrs. Goddard, Miss Cree and Mrs. Elliott. They all have our best wishes for the future.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Watson and Mr. and Mrs. Crowder on the birth of a daughter and son respectively.

We hope it is a happy omen for the continuing prosperity of the School that the Conservative candidate was successful in the School Election organized by Mr. Grimston!

Finally we wish the 'A' and 'O' level candidates success, and hope that some of them will do well enough to justify their return to sit the Oxford or Cambridge Examination next term.

**J. B. H. Harris**

We comment below on the two major occasions of this term, May 11th and May 28th.

## MAY 11th

On Foundation Day, May 11th, the weather, as already noted, was kind to us, and it was a very happy occasion enjoyed by everyone. The day began appropriately with the arrival of the Archbishop of Canterbury by helicopter to preach at the 12 noon Service of Thanksgiving in Chapel. The Headmaster and Governors then entertained the Archbishop and some of 'the First 99' to lunch. In the afternoon an inter-House "It's a Knock-Out" competition was held in an ideal spot, by the Eleven Acre near the Temple of Venus, organized by Mr. Dobinson. Various members of the staff will remember this — with duckweed in their mouths! There followed a Model Aeroplane display by the Avon Society and a Jubilee Feast in the evening, and the day was excitingly completed by an excellent concert on the South Front given by the up-and-coming group "Marillion".





“ IT’S A KNOCKOUT ”



## OPEN DAY AND OLD STOIC DAY:

### MAY 28th

What should have been a highly festive occasion was somewhat marred by weather atrocious even by the standards of this term. After opening addresses by Lord Chelwood and the Headmaster a ceremonial planting of walnut trees took place on the East side of the South Front: one was planted by Lord Chelwood in commemoration of Stowe's Diamond Jubilee, the other by Mr. Peter Sherwood in memory of Peter Salamon, Old Stoic and Governor, who died on 13th October, 1982.

Out-door sporting events had to be abandoned, but the proverbial ill wind was a blessing to the School Concert (not the jubilee concert), which was attended by an audience probably larger than on any previous similar occasion; many, in fact, could not find seats in the Roxburgh Hall. An account of this appears later in the Music section. The various fine exhibitions were likewise well patronized, but even so many parents and Stoics were no doubt somewhat relieved when five o'clock came and they were able to leave for the Exeat. For Old Stoics the day was rounded off by the traditional supper in the Garter Room.

#### The Headmaster's Speech:

At about 6.30 in the evening of Friday, May 11th, 1923, a young man called J. F. Roxburgh stood at the top of the North Front steps to introduce himself as their Headmaster to the first 99 Stoics. At noon on Wednesday, May 11th, 1983, 27 of those boys returned to Stowe to join their youngest successors in a celebration of 60 years of achievement and experiment, ebullience and disappointments, growth, imagination and expansion. Together we thanked God for allowing Stowe to exist. Together, inspired by an address from the Archbishop of Canterbury which struck chords in us all, we dedicated ourselves to the future. J. F. Roxburgh wrote on the first page of the first edition of *The Stoic*: "If we have a character of our own we do not claim praise on that account. It is due to our surroundings and to our youth, and we owe neither of those to our own exertions". I trust we have not lost our humility; but at 60 we have reached an age of accountability. Have we used our opportunities worthily? Have we justified our freedom?

Today is our Open Day. Stowe, supported by the presence of our Governors, opens its gates to Stowe parents, to all Old Stoics and to our local friends — most especially to you, Mr. Mayor, our senior citizen; to you, Lord Lieutenant, representing Her Majesty the Queen, in this county. In 60 years Stoics have penetrated every continent in the world, every calling available in the civilised world. They have fought and died in the most terrible war of man's history: they have sung, played, acted, written, built, painted, carved and spoken with an inspiration and a clarity famously their own. They have been sensitive to progress yet tenacious of the highest human values. There has never been a typical Stoic. One will be a man of faith in action, nursing his fellow men back to hope and dignity, from despair and neglect; another the born entertainer of irrepressible gaiety; another a superlative sportsman, writer, war hero; another a leader of men and courageous man of business. In the Falklands affair, typically, Stowe was represented by our Ambassador in Washington, by the man who masterminded supplies, by a captain of a warship and by young officers on the ground — one of them wounded in action.

Stowe today need not be ashamed of its fidelity to its inheritance. Enterprise and initiative have always been conspicuous among the qualities of Stoics. This is no less true today than when, 50 years ago, one of the first 99 crossed Greenland, or three years ago when David Scott Cowper sailed single-handed round the world. Today's generation of Stoics in but twelve months have been doing original research, exploration or community service in Ghana, Belize, Bangladesh, Nepal, Kenya, remote islands in the West Indies and the outback of Australia. But

this has not been at the expense of our immediate neighbours: witness the PHAB holidays here in the summer and the almost daily community service. Nor have games suffered — with an unbeaten Hockey XI and Under 14 Rugger XV and the Micklem Trophy coming to us three years running, nor scholarship with six Oxbridge awards in the year and a run of successes in A Level Physics probably unrivalled in any school; nor Drama and Music — the Roxburgh Hall began the year with 'Peer Gynt' and will this afternoon explode with the 1812 Overture.

We are marking this great day by planting an English tree on the South Front of Stowe. The ground for it was cleared by Stoics. The planting is a symbol of our faith in the future and of our identity with the living beauty which inspires us here. Stoics have fought our battles in the past. Stoics will have to fight in the future but, as we plant, let us pray that our coming battles will be against poverty, disease, jealousy, prejudice, selfishness, narrow-mindedness, and that their battles will be in order to foster a deep and sensitive understanding between men and the responsible nurture of the world of which we are stewards.

It is a joy to us, my Lord President, that you will plant this tree for us. Your own career has spanned the lion's share of the School's history. You represent that generation which defended us sacrificially forty years ago and which has served the emerging Third World in the post-war years. You have governed in Parliament and helped to create the nation's wealth. You have governed the School. You have found time in an over busy life to preside over the Old Stoic Society this Jubilee Year. Welcome back to Stowe.

It is especially fitting that, as soon as you have planted our Jubilee tree, the Salamon family will plant near it a memorial to your former fellow Governor, Peter Salamon, who loved and served the School with unique devotion.

The theme of the Archbishop's address two weeks ago was Freedom. He did not know at the time what your headmaster, J. F. Roxburgh, had written on the subject. I will close with J.F.'s words as he looked forward to the future from those exciting days of 1923. They are specially apt on the eve of a General Election: "We have to see not only that we do not lose our liberty but also that while we have it we do not abuse it. Liberty always involves a risk . . ." As true Stoics, we relish that risk.

### The Archbishop of Canterbury's Sermon

Stowe opened its doors sixty years ago today. It was started by a group of pioneer individualists who wanted to create a new style Public School — your first Headmaster, your architect, and those vigorous new boys who are with us today.

They were all ahead of their time — and so, apparently, is the *Daily Mail*, which announced this morning that this service took place yesterday.

I am not at all sure that your pioneers would have approved of such a traditional and formal figure as the Archbishop of Canterbury singing their praises; but they might have applauded my somewhat bumpy, last minute descent by helicopter into your beautiful grounds. Stoics in my experience have always had a taste for the dramatic — sometimes for the flamboyant — and have certainly never been predictable cardboard cut-out characters.

The products of this school, like those who began it, have always been a fairly rich mixture. I refer, of course, not to their incomes but their human variety.

All this sense of freedom and fresh air gives me a theme for a Jubilee sermon. I want to suggest that a school like this exists to give you your freedom.

Dragged into Chapel and addressed by a togged up ecclesiastic, you may not feel particularly free, but give me a hearing and let me put my case in a more personal way.

Suppose that I am one of those who will be leaving at the end of this term. In what sense has the place changed me? I will know more than I did about the life and literature of this and other countries. I will know more about the disconcerting habits of atoms and neutrons. Also I will take away an increased power of analyse, and criticism. What I know will be no longer bulk without shape. I will be able to distinguish what is more important from what is less and thereby order what I know into some sort of intelligible pattern. But this increase of knowledge, this increase of power to analysis, is not the end of the matter. Our knowledge, our powers of analysis and criticism are the means by which through life we appropriate our freedom, the ability to discover for ourselves what is true and enjoy what is worthwhile. For that you are equipped by your time at school, but it will always remain something which requires effort.

The effort, for instance, to resist the pressure of mass opinion. That is a fairly easy thing to do in a place like this. It becomes gradually more difficult as one settles down to a job and finds oneself surrounded by people who accept uncritically what is written in the more respectable newspapers — those who have influenced me most in life have often been people of unorthodox, original and even eccentric views. Doubtless there are still some curious characters tucked away in Stowe. Treasure them. They will teach you to have an independent mind, and an independent mind is a great freedom.

But there are other pressures to be resisted beside that of mass opinion. There is the snob appeal of the latest fashion — the 'in thing'. Of the two, the latter is more insidious because it has the superficial appearance of enlightenment. 'What are you reading?' asks a character in one of Aldous Huxley's early novels.

'What are you reading?' She looked at the book — 'Rather second-rate, isn't it?' The tone in which Mary pronounced the word 'second-rate' implied an almost infinite contempt. She was accustomed in London to associate only with first-rate people who liked first-rate things, and she knew there were very few first-rate things in the world and that they were mostly French.

It is not difficult to suppose one is being terribly clever, trendy and with-it when in fact one is only behaving like an affected parrot.

Not being at the mercy of the latest cliché which poisons the spring of truth — that is a great freedom.

Another pressure to be resisted is that of over-simplification. A training which develops our critical faculties should make us aware of complexity and cautious about the vast generalisations and blanket statements which people make. There are always those who are ready to say that 'happiness is just a matter of money', 'sex is just physical satisfaction', 'the trouble with industry is the workers' or 'the trouble with industry is the management' — lazy over-simplifications, and people get enslaved by them.

If you can go away from here and keep yourself free from these pressures, you will enjoy a sort of freedom. This very freedom, however, has its own peculiar dangers.

'You, my friends, are called for freedom. Only use not your freedom to indulge yourselves but through love be the servants one of another'.

The dangers are two-fold.

There is first the moral danger of using our freedom for self-assertion — thinking your education has put you above the common herd. Educated but selfish. A free man can be a menace if he uses his freedom in contempt for his fellows and in rejection of the values of his community.

To learn to be the loyal members of a community at the same time as we learn freedom should be the strength of a school like yours. Loyalty to a school can easily be laughed at, and when it is narrow or pompous or stuffy it should certainly be mocked; but at its best it can be a nursery for our affections which need to be deepened as well as to expand in scope through service to a wider community.

One of the most attractive things about your generation as compared with my own is that they cast the net of sympathy much wider — for people in other parts of the world or who are suffering or who have had a raw deal in life; but it is important that we don't combine this care for people in distant parts with an inability to get on with our family, the neighbour next door, the stranger in our midst, or the dim little man who figures in every school.

The second danger is intellectual. Our freedom may lead us into cynicism. The beliefs and principles which direct the lives of others are sneered at and the attempt to put anything in their place is abandoned. The character who should have become strong through freedom has only become flippant. In the crucible of criticism, all opinions are equally dissolved and only a number of points of view emerge. Look what this did for Pontius Pilate. He wanted to evade his plain duty of administering justice to a Galilean peasant and he found it in his freedom. 'What is truth?' he asked. If nothing can be believed, what does anything matter? But questions of truth, the existence of God and the purpose of life are real questions and we dodge them or sneer at them at our peril.

Clever but selfish — clever but cynical — are not these real threats to freedom? They can distort it and finally deny it to us.

Freedom, balanced by a sense of loyalty and service to others. Freedom, balanced by a respect for the deepest convictions of life. Is not this the purpose of our being here?

'You, my friends, are called for freedom. Only use not your freedom to indulge yourselves'.

Discovering our freedom and our identity is the most human thing about us all.

The Christian religion centres upon Jesus Christ, the truly free man — free to love, free to accept, even in death free to turn it into a triumph. Of no man else can it be said — 'Circumstances never mastered him, he mastered circumstances'.

That is why this training place for freedom is also a Christian school. That is why this most original and memorable Chapel is at the heart of your life.

It is the right place in which to celebrate our thanksgiving for Stowe — and to find fresh inspiration and prayer for a greater future.



## AFTER MIDNIGHT

Darkness pauses, momentarily timid  
Before the bright but fading coloured beams,  
And then descends, unhindered,  
Revels in its untamed power, turns,  
Engulfs all in potent blackness.

The falling valley, mist collecting  
In its fluid depths, departs  
From human realms, to find a hazed  
Moonlight world, where all moves  
But merges into stillness.

Silence, aged by futile noise,  
Rises with the twice ringed moon  
To shine, and light an instant  
Captured by a breath, no more  
Real than this sigh, now past.

Yet in that moment all sound  
Is known within my mind, recalling  
Earlier darkness, other transient mists,  
And those whose fear will sway me  
To the black of other silver nights.

## INADEQUACY

Words, so useless in expressing thoughts, are used by all to avoid the threat of genuine communication. They provide barriers behind which all can shelter, whether in the form of the antagonistic monosyllable, or as a loquacious flood, drowning all opposition. Meaningless, and yet imbued with all accepted human knowledge, the words are used, abused, and dropped into the inevitable mire of other ears, re-emerging distorted and transmuted into an alien form. These inanimate consequences are mangled versions of an inner truth which cannot be subjected to the indignity of the voice, yet they comprise all expression, negating emotion. The feeling that cannot be spoken of, is infinitely more powerful than that which is painfully distilled, detail by tedious detail into the glass case of language, but it is not known. It may be that something within each person is waiting, sometimes patiently, at other times in a tormented longing to escape; a passion that cannot be subjected to spoken restraint, Human inability to express this is called sanity; insanity is the frowned upon attempt to tell.

Fiona R. Gibbs

### **M.J.F.**

Michael Fox came to Stowe in 1948, and so has served under all five of the School's headmasters, teaching Mathematics throughout the School. He was under housemaster in Temple for many years, and also undertook the exacting task of Master in charge of G.C.E. entries. He helped, as do most masters, with games in a general way, but it was from his contact with the services and in the C.C.F. that he has been most at home and made his special contribution outside the class-room. He took over the R.A.F. section in 1950, having previously assisted in its running, and later became the C.O. of the contingent. This led to his extending his interests to all three services, and called for some familiarity with section battle-craft and Adventurous training, as well as the complexity of Army Forms, which are so much more complicated than Air Force ones. The early seventies were a time of some anti-militarism among young people, and fewer masters coming to teach had had experience of National Service. It shows Michael's achievement that he guided the C.C.F. successfully through these difficult years. One of his first acts was to make the C.C.F. voluntary, and to negotiate with the Headmaster and others how this should be done. This change allowed those who wished to avoid C.C.F. to find other homes, and let others who chose C.C.F. to carry out its activities more enjoyably. Indeed, some, who in the first flush of freedom had left the Corps, returned two terms later. Under his care many have found worthwhile activities. In addition to his functions as Wing Commander he also for many years successfully organised the School Shop — as well as starting Athletics matches! Since January 1982 he has been Local Secretary of the Old Stoic Society.

Singing, both in the select Queen's Temple singers, and in the larger Choral Society, was one of his delights; though he had strong preferences for his music one will not find him singing Gilbert and Sullivan. He gave the basses a strong line, and was an invaluable guide to boys or masters whose ability to follow accurately a score was not so great. Sometimes he sang solo, and his giant, Polypheme, in *Acis and Galatea* is a happy memory for those who heard it.

Michael is a generous and friendly man, always interested in those whom he meets, whether boys or colleagues, and with an astonishing memory for names, faces, and what Old Stoics have been doing — or what their fathers did. He can make a formidable sound when angry — rudeness or presumption particularly infuriate him — but his wrath does not generally last for long. His generosity and courtesy return.

Having lived so long at Stowe, Michael will find his move to Thame, where he has bought a house, a great change. Our good wishes go with him, and we hope to see him in the future.

**C.D.M.**

### **MISS MADGE PHILLIPS AND MISS MARY SCOTT**

Stowe sustains a severe double loss with the retirement this July of Madge Phillips and Mary Scott. Known to countless Old Stoics and parents, they have together served Stowe in running the telephone exchange and post office and acting as receptionists for a period longer than the age of the School.

Madge arrived in 1947 and has served with all Stowe's Headmasters. She particularly recalls the kindness of J.F. who used, not infrequently, to dine in the Matrons' Mess and entertain the members with amusing anecdotes. Unlike some of his successors, J.F. had an intense dislike of telephones. Madge will be especially remembered for her charm, unfailing patience and extraordinary helpfulness. Nothing seemed to put her out of her stride, even when her Mini was found neatly parked inside the Chapel.

Mary joined Stowe in Eric Reynolds' time, ten years after Madge and straight from the Wrens. I, incidentally, have happy memories of treading the boards with Leading Wren Scott in "See How They Run" a few years before she joined Stowe. Equally helpful and conscientious,

Mary tended to be the 'business' partner who operated the post office accounts with meticulous accuracy. With great stamina and determination, Mary ran the office virtually single handed at a particularly busy time recently for an extended period while Madge had unavoidably to be away.

Despite improvements over the years, they feel the pace of life seems hardly to have diminished. At least classes are more regular now; Mary recalls that when they had to ring the bells for class changes by hand occasionally boys would call in to thank her for ending classes 20 minutes early.

The predominant feeling of both is the universal friendliness of everyone. Certainly all at Stowe will miss them enormously. Madge retires to Buckingham and Mary to London. They go with our best wishes for their future happiness.

Both have been excellent ambassadors for Stowe. As they are the first people visitors usually meet, Stowe could not have been more fortunate in their personifying the first impression.

**M.K.B.**

### **HUMILITY**

No feeling in the heart is roused so soon to hide  
As self-importance with the crashing of the tide:  
The foam is raised up high upon the waving crest—  
But melts, as from the beach the sea starts to subside.

A red spider-crab new crawling forth from its lair  
With claws striking out struggles through the sea-blue air.  
Always reaching its throne above mortals below,  
Daily toppled, usurped, having taken its share.

The dusk and the shadows, the harbingers of night,  
Herald forth the moon in a greyly-tinted light.  
With its company of stars, that flicker behind,  
It too must be surrendered to losing all sight.

The rays of burning gold that glare into the eye  
Now sparkle on the bed of sand, radiant — dry.  
The myriads of crystals consuming its heat  
Are empty of substance, but for light passing by.

Of qualities that raise a man above the world  
I found a lowly mind when arrogance is furled;  
No ruined tower to a weak and crumbling race,  
But a neck round which love's embracing arms are curled.

**J. B. H. Harris**

## THAT FIRST DAY

*The Stoic* of the School's 50th Summer term published my letter written to my parents in 1923, full of a boy's enthusiasm at his new surroundings. Sixty years on, what memories of that first day still remain?

Croft and Mayhew, transferred from Lancing to be prefects, were the only ones who knew each other among the trainload of 13 year olds when it pulled into Buckingham station on that May afternoon sixty years ago. We were wearing our week-day grey suits and those strange tweed hats, bred one supposes on some distant grouse moor, soon to be ridiculed into oblivion; we were told to call them "browns".

The avenue was then in the glory of its full growth of elms and beeches; we had heard from the media that the Old Etonians had presented it to the new school. The oak gates at the Buckingham Lodges were not yet in position. The Duke of Connaught handed the deeds over twelve months later; now, already, they have decayed and gone.

The bus heaved over the hump of the Oxford Bridge which was almost hidden by massive old ivy. The lake below was totally obscured by water-weed; pied wagtails flew from their nests under the arches.

Set down at the North Front Steps we carried up our Gladstone bags to be greeted at the top by J.F., The Rev. Earle and Mr. Cross. I rather think the Rev. Warrington was also there in his gaiters.

I was in Bruce. Our dormitories were in the old bedrooms over the Garter Room which was then the only dining room, big enough for all 99 boys and the staff together. In those days in the South corners of the hall were two powder rooms. Mr. Ratcliffe, my maths. master, had his study in one of them. Bruce house-room was in the painted Music Room, East of assembly.

The smell of fresh cement and plumbing red lead permeated the lower regions of Plug Street and Egypt. The wooden racks where the Duke of Buckingham's yeomanry kept their muskets were still in evidence on the walls.

The library shelves were nearly empty. The shine on the new tables and green seated arm-chairs caught the last light of evening, and as one looked out down the superb stretch of turf towards the Corinthian Arch, a multitude of rabbits and grey squirrels stretched out from the flanking beeches on either side, nibbling and hopping, an unbelievable number, undisturbed for a decade or more.

In what are now the pathways and gardens leading to Chatham stood a vast forest tree close to the Temple of Bacchus. There we wheeled our new bicycles. The site is now graced by the Chapel; our services were then held in the cedar-lined family chapel where Grinling Gibbons' bas relief carving flanked the gilt lettering of the Ten Commandments over the altar.



The whole school did not take up much room grouped on the South side of the Assembly Hall for daily prayers. As we looked around at all the strange faces and the dusty Roman procession above us, the North Hall doors opened and J.F. strode in to stand under the centre dome. With a gesture he would take off his mortarboard and with precision hold it in front of him and place his open prayer book on its flat top. His long M.A. gown was pulled around him so that only the knife-edge crease of his Saville Row trousers could be seen and the light reflected from the polish of his hand-made shoes. Each morning of the week his example of fashion displayed a different suit. I wonder how many early Stoics tried to emulate this suavity and elegance, but as he would have said, "Oh my dear fellow, what nonsense".

Sixty years have past. What does one still retain as a heritage? A sense of the value of freedom from those open spaces and the lack of bounds: the spirit to search for the beauty around one which we came to expect as the normal thing; the ability to live such life as you may be granted to the full, and to react to it and its vicissitudes with all the joy and gratitude of which one is capable.

Yes, I am still glad I was there.

**Ronald A. Andrews**  
(Bruce 1923)

## PARADISE FOUND

Bodies rest, dreams adrift,  
Recovering and tranquil;  
In their own dreamworld they sleep,  
Step outside and enter another.

The artist never satisfied with his work,  
Always changing, altering perfection.  
Trees depicted against varying shades,  
Intertwines branches, dark and forlorn  
As hope forms a fragile backcloth.

A cooling, refreshing wind  
Lulls you awake.  
Determined not to pinch yourself and end it all  
You wander, aimlessly creating amorphous patterns  
On the indifferent dew.

The sun peeps through the trees  
Adding, to the perfection.  
A quite different aspect  
As I glide back, momentarily stuck  
Between the next world and heaven.

Again the artist, forever restless, changes the tone  
Deftly and quietly turning the lights on.  
Bodies begin to stretch and yawn  
Breaking the spell.

**W. R. McLellan**



## JOHN PIPER'S STOWE

A book with this title is being published later this year by Hurtwood Press in association with the Tate Gallery to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Stowe School and the eightieth birthday of the distinguished artist John Piper. As he has written in the Foreword, John Piper has executed the drawings over a period of nearly fifty years, and his response to the rich variety of the Stowe buildings and grounds has produced not only a delightful record but an outstanding example of the topographical art in which he has for so long excelled.

There will be no more than 300 copies printed and for those who subscribe before publication their names will appear in the book if they so wish. A proportion of the price of the book will be contributed to the Roxburgh Trust of Stowe School for the preservation and conservation of the fabric which inspired the drawings.

The book is to be printed by Westerham Press on a specially made paper. Its size will be 19¼ × 15½ inches (490 × 390 mm), and it will have 48 pages with 52 illustrations. The text is to be set in Monotype Baskerville series 169 and the illustrations will be printed in four or more special colours working direct from the original drawings. Several styles of binding will be available: to this end the book will be supplied bound in elegant boards, decorated by the artist. Alternative more elaborate binding styles are available to personal choice at increased cost.

The whole of the edition will be signed and numbered by the artist and will have an original print drawn on the plate by the artist for the signed, numbered colophon. There will be fifty special copies with two original prints produced, signed and numbered by the artist and inserted in the back of the book.

Copies of the main edition will cost £195 before publication (£230 afterwards); and the special edition will cost £345 (£405 afterwards).

Please write to the Hurtwood Press, London Road, Westerham, Kent for any further information.

G. B. C.

### JOHN PIPER'S FOREWORD

'I first went to Stowe in the early nineteen-thirties, exactly which year I cannot remember, but in any case it was less than ten years after the school was founded. I think I must have gone there to look at the church, and I certainly saw the house, the Palladian Bridge and the Temple of British Worthies. There was much more untidiness, more dilapidation of buildings and more 'pleasing decay' than I have ever seen since. The two big sale catalogues of July 1921 and October 1922 — especially the latter with its gorgeously gloomy, brown photographs of the Doric Arch, The Temple of Ancient Virtue, The Grenville Monument and so on, all clutched by unlopped branches and approached across the foregrounds of unmowed grass — recall the atmosphere at that time powerfully.

'Next, I went with Mervyn Horder of Duckworths, the publishers, in 1939 or early 1940. He had just published my book of Brighton Aquatints, and it had sold well, and he suggested another book on the same plan, a limited edition with hand-coloured aquatints and a rather bigger edition with the pictures uncoloured. I suggested Stowe. The war prevented any quick pursuit of this plan and very little progress was made until the early fifties when he and I made several long-day picnic excursions. I did a good deal of sketching, armed with my pass from that great and kind man J. F. Roxburgh, the first headmaster, which said, 'Mr. Piper may go where he likes in the house and grounds, and is not to be molested', or words to that effect. The spell of Stowe stayed with me, but the likelihood of a book seemed to dwindle.

'As I got closer to a visual understanding of the great house and its menagerie of attendant buildings, I also changed in my whole attitude to architecture, not to mention my attitude to painting. I had been, and had then stopped being (five years later) a purely abstract painter, and the production of another book of aquatints was by no means first on my list of priorities.

'But I went on visiting Stowe, and I don't think a year has passed since then without at least one visit. And in the course of time, when the Gothic Temple had ceased to be the school Armoury, and John Smith had wisely annexed it for the Landmark Trust, my wife and I rented it for two short spells and gained a familiarity with quite new views over the well-known terrain: from the windows, of the Cobham Pillar and the distant Triumphal Arch with its wide, dark petticoat of trees; and from the roof, of the magical shadow on the grass below of the Temple itself, at five o'clock on a sunny May afternoon.

'Those dark embracing arms of the elm avenues as one approached Stowe from Buckingham by way of the Triumphal Arch, or by the road dipping to the main west gate, have gone for the time being (I hope they are faintly recalled by the drawings here) but the whole place keeps its amazing personality and influence.

'Though I was not at school there, Stowe has been a great education to me.'

### EXTRACT FROM MARK GIROUARD'S COMMENTARY

Stowe has always fascinated me, because it exists on so many different levels. The whole history of the eighteenth century garden is there, layer superimposed on layer, so that it can be read exactly like a palimpsest, with the semi-formal script of Bridgeman and the Rococo twirls of William Kent still distinguishable beneath the smoothly flowing hand of Capability Brown. Architecturally it is an epitome, almost a museum, of Georgian styles: where else can one savour Vanbrugh, Kent and Gibbs, and move to and fro from Baroque to Palladian, and to Neo-Classical, so effortlessly and enjoyably within a few square miles? But an equally interesting aspect of Stowe is that it is not just a collection of buildings, or a splendid house in a beautiful garden, but a statement of political and social attitudes. The political programme that overthrew Walpole and created the British Empire, the ideals and models of the Whig aristocracy are all expressed in it; the relevant points are made by a building, a statue or an inscription, carefully related to each other. It was at the same time deeply serious, designed as a springboard for action (effectively so, for it was the elder Pitt who sprang into action from it), but also for recreation, enjoyment, and entertaining. The temples and grottoes were used for picnics and alfresco meals, Pope and other friends of the house fished the lakes, dips were taken in the Cold Bath, the greyhound Fido coursed up and down the long rides and ended up with a monument of his own, and every few years the glades glowed with illuminations, there were floating lights and music on the water, a midnight entertainment in the grotto and 'nothing was seen but lights and people, nothing was heard but music and fireworks, and nothing was felt but joy and happiness'.

The human story of Stowe is also an extraordinary one, moving inexorably from the high ideals of the mid-18th century to arrogance and ostentation in the early 19th, and the final Nemesis which led to Stowe being cleaned out in the great sale of 1848. The terminal tragedy, or tragi-comedy, when an intensely disapproving Queen Victoria was entertained with quite extraordinary ostentation while the duns were almost literally waiting in the wings, has always seemed to me to deserve being made into a play. Then came the long twilight, when there was fortunately not enough money to do anything, and the final arrival of the school — in its way an equally extraordinary story.

But of all the aspects of Stowe the one which I personally find the most fascinating is its role as a re-creation of Paradise, Arcadia, Elysium, the Golden Age — or whatever other names human beings have used to label their vision of an ideal world, beyond and above the imperfections of actual life. When Mrs. Montagu wrote in 1744, 'Stowe is beyond description. It gives the best idea of Paradise that can be; even Milton's images and descriptions fall short of it,' she was not just a gushing lady, she was simply expressing Lord Cobham's pursuit of the ideal. And the amazing thing about Stowe is that he and his successor Lord Temple, aided by time and nature, succeeded. One needn't know anything about Stowe's background to feel transported into a secret and enchanted kingdom as one crosses its boundaries. The unique and unforgettable atmosphere of this kingdom is one which words cannot adequately describe, or photographs illustrate; but it is evoked with extraordinary intensity in John Piper's wonderful series of drawings.



## NATTES'S VIEWS OF STOWE

Though most people have heard of John Piper, very few had probably even heard of John Claude Nattes until recently. His views of Stowe are first mentioned at the sale of the library of Stowe House in 1849, almost half a century after they had been drawn. They then remained virtually unknown for nearly another hundred and fifty years; not until 1980 did they become available to the general public at the Buckinghamshire County Museum in Aylesbury.

The hundred and five drawings, mostly in wash, grey or sepia and grey, provide a fascinating, nostalgic picture of Stowe as it was in the early years of the 19th century. The Stoic, past or present, will recognize many of them, however altered in detail, and will be no less charmed by the views of a building which has now vanished, the Temple of Bacchus.

An exhibition of the drawings was held during May in Milton Keynes, and as one of the events marking Stowe's Diamond Jubilee year an exhibition of reproductions was held in the Aurelian Room this term. At about the same time Buckinghamshire County Museum and Stowe School jointly published fifty plates from the collection, arranged by C. N. Gowing and G. B. Clarke, with notes on each drawing in the two volumes of the catalogue. As they point out in their introduction, the drawings not only have a special appeal for anyone who has spent part of his life at Stowe, but are of particular interest also both to the local historian, for whom they provide much new evidence, and to the landscape designer and conservationist, for whom they picture Stowe in its prime, 'in those magic decades between immaturity and decline'.

The volume is available from the Stowe Bookshop at £8.95 (hardback) and £3.50 (paperback), inclusive of postage.

B.S.S.

## T. H. WHITE: Merlin l'enchanteur à Stowe

It was surrounded by Vistas, Obelisks, Pyramids, Columns, Temples, Rotundas and Palladian Bridges, which had been built in honour of General Wolfe, Admiral Byng, the Princess Amelia, and others of the same kidney. (p.9)<sup>1</sup>

Cette description est celle du domaine de Malplaquet qui sert de cadre au roman de T. H. WHITE, *Mistress Masham's Repose*, mais les familiers de Stowe n'ont aucun mal à reconnaître tout ce qui fait le charme de l'ancienne demeure de la famille des Temple.

Terence Hanbury White (1906-1964) entre à Stowe en septembre 1932 où il avait été nommé responsable de la section d'anglais. Après avoir fait ses études à Cambridge, il avait tout d'abord enseigné dans une "prep-school" (St. David's) à Reigate.

Pendant ses quatre années à Stowe, White acquit très rapidement une solide réputation d'original auprès de ses collègues et de ses élèves qui se souvinrent longtemps du professeur qui parcourait les allées de l'école au volant de sa "Bentley" noire et qui en un instant abandonnait sa tenue d'enseignant pour celle qui lui permettait de rejoindre au plus vite l'équipage des Grafton:

Coming out of school on a Saturday morning, pulling off his grey flannel trousers and revealed in breeches and hunting-tops before jumping into his Bentley to join the Grafton.<sup>2</sup> . . . . .

Le poste de responsable de la section d'anglais lui permit de bouleverser quelque peu les listes d'auteurs alors au programme de l'école et de recommander la lecture de D. H. Lawrence et Gerard Manley Hopkins tout en exigeant de ses élèves qu'ils s'inspirent des ouvrages de I. A. Richards et du mouvement de critique littéraire de Cambridge.

Avant d'entrer à Stowe, White avait déjà publié plusieurs ouvrages: un recueil de poèmes, *Loved Helen and Other Poems*, en mars 1929 avait été choisi par la "Book Society". Avec R. McNair Scott, il avait écrit un roman policier, *Dead Mr. Nixon*. *Darkness at Pemberley* avait été publié en 1932 et la même année, sous le pseudonyme de James Aston, *They Winter Abroad*<sup>3</sup> avait été bien accueilli par la critique. *First Lesson*<sup>4</sup> qui fut également publié en 1932 sous le nom de James Aston fut à l'origine d'un petit scandale à Stowe car un parent d'élève, après avoir lu les aventures du professeur de Cambridge amoureux d'une jeune Italienne découvrit la véritable identité de l'auteur et alla se plaindre auprès du directeur. J. F. Roxburgh ne désavoua pas son professeur, mais White fut obligé d'écrire une lettre dans laquelle il promettait de ne plus écrire de tels livres:

The headmaster . . . wants me to give him a written recantation condemning *First Lesson* as an "undergraduate scrape", and promising that James Aston will write no more such books.<sup>5</sup>

En plus de son enseignement, le jeune professeur prenait plaisir à s'étourdir dans de multiples activités: chasse à courre, apprentissage du pilotage d'un avion, pêche, concours de fléchettes dans les "pubs", chasse aux serpents avec ses élèves pour les ramener dans sa chambre, longues promenades avec Brownie, son setter roux. Les neuf carnets qui constituent autant de journaux intimes et qui décrivent avec beaucoup de minutie la campagne aux alentours de Stowe furent utilisés plus tard dans *England Have my Bones*.<sup>6</sup>

White avait attendu de se trouver en Irlande pour écrire ce qu'il avait tout d'abord prévu d'intituler "Black Maria". Avant d'être publié aux Etats-Unis en 1946 où il fut choisi par le club du livre du mois, puis en Angleterre en 1947, *Mistress Masham's Repose* avait connu trois versions différentes qui subirent d'importantes transformations.

A première vue, le plan dessiné par l'Irlandais Raymond McGrath, sur les pages de garde du roman, semble correspondre assez fidèlement à celui de Stowe. Un examen plus attentif montre

que, si la ressemblance reste frappante, White et son illustrateur ont pris plaisir à modifier l'emplacement de certains monuments et surtout à changer le nom. Une comparaison entre le plan de Malplaquet et celui de Stowe fait penser à un jeu de miroirs déformants dans lesquels se reflètent un modèle et son image à la fois identique et différente.

Dans un autre ouvrage, *The Scandalmonger*,<sup>7</sup> White consacra à Stowe un chapitre entier intitulé "A Private Paestum" dans lequel il décrivait la célèbre demeure telle qu'elle avait pu être admirée par Horace Walpole en 1753:

After leaving the Triumphal Arch, the Buckingham avenue swerved through the deer-park to the West, joined the Oxford avenue at the Boycott Pavilions, and made its way to the North Front. Here there was an equestrian statue of George III . . . .<sup>8</sup>

C'est cette même statue, et non pas celle de George Ier qui orne la façade nord de Malplaquet dont les lignes harmonieuses sont semblables à celles que peut toujours contempler le visiteur de Stowe. L'obélisque qui fut élevé peu après 1759 pour commémorer la mort du général Wolfe fut dédié par White à l'amiral Byng, condamné à mort pendant la guerre de Sept ans pour n'avoir pas pu tenir tête à la flotte du marquis de La Galissonnière devant la base de Minorque. White avait été tellement révolté par la mort injuste de ce bouc émissaire fusillé le 14 mars 1757 à bord du *Monarque* qu'il lui consacre tout un chapitre ("A Perfect Tragedy"), dans *The Age of Scandal*.<sup>9</sup> Celui dont Walpole avait écrit: "Admiral Byng's tragedy was completed on Monday — a perfect tragedy",<sup>10</sup> méritait bien son monument à Stowe! Lord Temple, comme William Pitt, n'avait-il pas cherché à plaider sa cause?

Il n'est guère difficile de reconnaître dans le plan de McGrath la vallée arcadienne et le monument élevé à la gloire de Newton qui ne sont autres que la vallée grecque et la colonne Cobham, tandis que le temple de Neptune est une réplique très fidèle du temple de la Concorde et de la Victoire se trouvant à Stowe. Quant au célèbre pont, copie de celui qui fut construit au dix-huitième siècle à Wilton à la manière de l'architecte italien Palladio, d'après les plans de Lord Pembroke et de Roger Morris, il occupe la même place dans le plan de Malplaquet's et dans celui de Stowe.

À un premier niveau, *Mistress Masham's Repose* se présente comme une suite des *Voyages de Gulliver*: "It is about a decayed palace like Stowe where a small girl finds some Lilliputians which had been left behind by Swift".<sup>11</sup>

Le thème central du roman, dont l'action se situe à l'époque contemporaine est, en effet, la découverte par la petite héroïne de toute une société en miniature constituée par les descendants des habitants de Lilliput et de Blefuscu qui avaient été amenés de force en Angleterre par le capitaine Biddel. Après avoir été montrés comme des phénomènes de foire, ils étaient parvenus à s'échapper et à se dissimuler dans une petite île, "Mistress Masham's Repose", où ils avaient vécu, génération après génération, dans le plus grand secret.

Le roman peut également être considéré comme une fable ou une longue parabole dans laquelle un vieux professeur, porte-parole de l'auteur, entreprend l'éducation d'une petite fille.

Stowe constitue un cadre exceptionnel et il est facile de comprendre comment White a pu choisir d'y faire vivre une petite fille comme Alice au pays des merveilles. Il y a une disproportion presque hallucinante entre les routes étroites du Buckinghamshire, les petites fermes isolées et leur chemin de terre, les hameaux et les villages et l'arrivée à Stowe: ses longues allées, la profusion de ses monuments dans un parc immense et la majesté de la demeure avec ses portiques et ses colonnades. Le contraste est tel et les échelles sont si différentes entre deux mondes aussi distincts que, la grille franchie, il ne semblerait pas tout à fait impossible de se trouver soudain en présence d'un des petits personnages oubliés par Swift.

Dans "A Private Paestum", White rappelait les dimensions colossales de Stowe à l'époque où Horace Walpole s'y était promené. Les marches qui menaient à la célèbre demeure étaient

plus nombreuses que celles du "British Museum", la table de la salle à manger avait une surface égale à celle d'un terrain de cricket et quatre-vingt quinze invités pouvaient s'y asseoir, tandis que quatre cents jardiniers étaient chargés de l'entretien du parc.

Dans son roman, qu'il avait dédié à une enfant, Amaryllis, fille de son ami David Garnett, White s'est contenté d'accroître encore la taille démesurée de ce décor et de multiplier le nombre des monuments pour lui donner une apparence presque surnaturelle.

De même que l'enchanteur Merlin pouvait défier le temps, White s'est ingénié à jouer avec l'espace en isolant sa petite héroïne au milieu d'un domaine si gigantesque qu'elle se trouve dans la même situation que Gulliver à Brobdingnag. La demeure de Malplaquet, avec ses trois cent-soixante-cinq fenêtres, est quatre fois plus spacieuse que le palais de Buckingham. Elle compte cinquante-deux chambres à coucher et douze chambres d'amis. Les couloirs sont si interminables que la cuisinière doit utiliser sa bicyclette pour répondre aux sonneries! Avant d'avoir été vendu, le mobilier était à la même échelle: si la table de la salle à manger avait bien la surface d'un terrain de cricket, le billard avait les mêmes dimensions qu'une piscine. Quant à la cuisine, elle faisait inévitablement penser à celle d'un ogre dans un conte de fée: "the kitchen . . . had ovens, spits, and ranges suitable for serving a twelve-course dinner to one hundred and fifty persons". (pp. 20-21). Ce palais des merveilles avait connu des jours meilleurs mais, faute d'argent, avait été pratiquement laissé à l'abandon. Seules, quelques pièces pouvaient encore être utilisées, ce qui lui donnait le charme décadent et légèrement inquiétant d'un univers désert, froid et endormi.

C'est en jouant seule dans le parc que Maria fait la découverte qui va bouleverser sa vie d'enfant et qui va permettre au professeur de lui donner une leçon aussi passionnante que celle de l'enchanteur Merlin au jeune roi Arthur.

Profitant de l'absence de ses tuteurs, Maria décide, en effet, de partir en expédition et d'explorer un des lacs de son domaine. White indique très clairement qu'il s'agit d'un des deux grands lacs de Stowe situés de l'autre côté des pelouses. Au lieu de "Eleven Acre Lake" ou "Octagon Lake", l'auteur a choisi de le rebaptiser sous le nom plus mystérieux de "The Quincunx". Au cours de ses recherches pour la traduction de son bestiaire,<sup>12</sup> White avait fait l'acquisition d'une première édition de l'oeuvre de Sir Thomas Browne et le jardin de Cyrus<sup>13</sup> (ou Quincunx) avait dû enflammer son imagination.

L'accès au Quincunx est rendu extrêmement difficile car les abords du lac sont encombrés d'arbres énormes plantés à l'époque de Pope: aulnes, bouleaux, séquoias et cèdres; la surface est envahie de nénuphars. Maria, dans sa petite barque à fond plat, cherche à aborder dans la petite île protégée par une végétation extrêmement dense qui constitue un mur impénétrable qu'elle ne peut franchir que grâce à un vieux mélèze tombé au milieu du lac à l'époque du décès de Lady Masham. Cet arbre mort est un lien entre le présent et le passé car personne n'a mis pied dans l'île depuis la mort de la reine Anne. C'est également ce pont improvisé qui va permettre à Maria de découvrir une civilisation oubliée depuis l'époque de Swift.

Comme la haie d'épines entourant le château de la Belle au bois dormant, un véritable enchevêtrement de ronces, de buissons et d'orties protège le centre de cette île minuscule parfaitement dissimulé.

Après avoir donné au domaine de Malplaquet les dimensions d'un univers de géants digne de Brobdingnag, habité par une petite fille, White faisait faire aux lecteurs une plongée impressionnante dans l'univers de l'infiniment petit en utilisant des objectifs de plus en plus grossissants: le lac du Quincunx, la minuscule île de Mistress Masham de la taille d'un court de tennis avec, au centre, un tout petit temple:

. . . . on the island, there was a plastered temple in the shape of a cupola, or rather, to give it its proper name, of a monopteron. It as a dome like the top of an eggshell, raised on five slender columns . . . . (p. 12).

Même si White a transporté ce petit temple au milieu de l'île, il s'agit pourtant bien de la rotonde de Stowe, construite en 1721 sur les plans de Vanbrugh et modifiée par Borra in 1752.

La lentille grossissante était ensuite mise au point sur la première marche entourant le temple, puis sur une ouverture d'une vingtaine de centimètres et sur une minuscule porte à la base de chacun des piliers. Un dernier gros plan à l'intérieur d'une moitié de coquille de noix révélait à Maria un secret qui avait été gardé pendant plus de deux siècles:

... she saw that there was a walnut shell, or half one, outside the nearest door ...  
She went to look at the shell — but looked with the greatest astonishment.  
There was a baby in it. (p. 16).

Afin d'échapper à la méchanceté et à la cruauté des hommes, la petite société des Lilliputiens ne devait son salut qu'à une retraite extrêmement secrète et dissimulée sur une véritable Atlantide en miniature où avait débarqué une nouvelle Arche de Noé. De génération en génération une existence nocturne et souterraine leur avait permis de survivre et de conserver leurs traditions.

Dès que Maria s'est frayé un chemin lui ayant permis de percer le secret des petits habitants de l'île, ces derniers s'empressent de combler derrière elle cette brèche dangereuse les reliant au monde extérieur et reconstituent l'écran de végétation qui leur donne sécurité en les camouflant:

... the path, which she had broken down, had been blocked up. The brambles had been pulled into place again, and woven together, to make a screen. (p. 30).

En offrant ainsi à sa jeune héroïne l'exemple de cette société entièrement repliée sur elle-même, la leçon de White semble traduire un besoin profond d'isolement. Ce petit monde protégé n'a pu se perpétuer qu'en coupant tous les liens risquant de la mettre en contact avec l'espèce humaine qui ne pouvait que lui apporter le malheur. Il s'agit même d'une double régression qui est ainsi proposée à la petite fille puisque les Lilliputiens, obligés de vivre en vase clos, ont peu évolué même s'ils se sont adaptés depuis le jour où un premier homme-montagne était venu rendre visite à leurs ancêtres. Isolée dans l'espace, cette micro-société l'est également dans le temps, puisque ses coutumes et ses traditions amènent l'élève du professeur à faire une incursion dans une époque qu'elle ne pouvait connaître que par ses lectures.

A travers Maria et Amaryllyis, White ne propose-t-il pas à ses lecteurs de tourner le dos à un monde contemporain malfaisant, cruel et hostile pour remonter le temps jusqu'à une époque plus favorable? L'univers des Lilliputiens est également celui de l'enfance; parfaitement dissimulé, clos et rond, protégé de tous côtés par ses barrières de végétation exubérante sous la coquille formée par la coupole du temple de Mistress Masham au centre d'une petite île. C'est un paradis oublié par le temps dont la petite fille parvient à percer le secret grâce aux sages conseils du professeur. Retour à la sécurité du sein maternel et régression dans le temps, l'initiation de Maria est achevée à la fin du roman.

Le dernier chapitre est le retour triomphal de la petite fille et de son sauveur le jour de Noël. Pendant les cinq mois qui se sont écoulés tous les problèmes ont été résolus: les méchants ont été punis et l'éducation de Maria a été officiellement confiée au professeur. Sous l'Arc de Triomphe qui n'est autre que "The Corinthian Arch", où ont été disposées des bannières, tous les Lilliputiens, dans le costume de leurs ancêtres, accueillent les héros de la fête selon les plus pures traditions d'un Noël ancien: fanfare, chants, toasts, discours, cadeaux accrochés dans le sapin décoré. Le narrateur s'adresse enfin à Amaryllyis pour l'inviter à aller se coucher puisque cette histoire arrive à son terme. Avant de la quitter, il conseille à sa petite lectrice de bien observer autour d'elle si elle a l'intention de se rendre à Malplaquet. Elle y verra un domaine parfaitement restauré, aux pelouses soigneusement tondues, sera accueillie par un bedeau en grande tenue et par un grand nombre de domestiques. Chacun aura repris sa place dans un système très hiérarchisé et des centaines de jardiniers heureux la salueront tandis qu'elle

traversera un parc parfaitement entretenu. Pourtant une seule question restera toujours sans réponse car les innombrables laquais ont tous juré de ne jamais révéler le secret de Maria:

But go you down past the Quincunx, Amaryllyis, as you wind your long way home, and you might see a newly varnished punt, looking bright upon the water of the lake. You might even catch the flash of a skirt, or the twinkle of a long white beard, among the slender columns of Mistress Masham's Repose. (p. 204).

Ce secret semble avoir été parfaitement gardé même si, depuis l'époque de T.H. White, d'autres professeurs et de nombreux élèves se sont promenés au bord des lacs de Stowe, près de la rotonde, en se demandant parfois ce qui pouvait bien se dissimuler au centre de cette petite île protégée par un épais rideau d'arbres et de végétation ...

Françoise Gallix

1. *Mistress Masham's Repose* (London: Cape, 1937). C'est l'édition de poche (Puffin) qui sera utilisée dans cet article.
2. Sylvia Townsend Warner, *T. H. White: A Biography* (London: Cape with Chatto and Windus, 1967), p. 60.
3. *Loved Helen and Other Poems* (London: Chatto and Windus, 1929).  
*Dead Mr. Nixon* (London: Cassell, 1931).  
*Darkness at Pemberley* (London: Gollancz, 1932).  
*They Winter Abroad* (London: Chatto and Windus, 1932).
4. *First Lesson* (London: Chatto and Windus, 1932).
5. *Letters to a Friend: The Correspondence between T. H. White and L. J. Potts*, edited and introduced with notes by François Gallix (New York: Putnam's, 1982), p.58.
6. *England Have My Bones* (London: Collins, 1936: édition de poche, London: Macdonald Futura, 1981).
7. *The Scandalmonger* (London: Cape, 1952).
8. *Ibid.*, p.120.
9. *The Age of Scandal* (London: Cape, 1950).
10. *Ibid.*, p. 183.
11. *The White-Garnett Letters*, edited by David Garnett (London: Cape, 1968), p. 152.
12. *The Book of Beasts* (London: Cape, 1954).
13. Sir Thomas Browne, *The Garden of Cyrus, or The Quincunx* (1658).

A passing thought on the mind of eternity,  
A flash of light on the rippled lake.  
We are no more than this; yet who brags more?  
Do the mighty legions of trees smell the crisp spring  
air that ruffles their leaves?  
Do the birds and the bees know what is beauty,  
Or the magical nightingale hear its joy?  
Do the silent mountains of always marvel at the  
sun that is always theirs?  
Who then are we, to ask with such incalculable  
ingratitude:  
'What is the meaning of life?'  
Life is the very gift itself.  
Mortal things we are, but we have seen what the  
immortal never will,  
And those poor souls that seek another life commit the  
ultimate sin,  
For we have looked on eternity.

R Rees

## DECLINE AND FALL

In powerful splendours rested peaceful Stowe,  
'Till one grim May (but fifty years ago)  
There came at last the rav'ning hordes of youth,  
Who beauty marred in manner most uncouth;  
Wept Royal George, and Venus sadly mourned,  
As o'er Stowe's degradation they sojourned.  
    Whilst Ancient Virtue grieved in silent prayer,  
    Cried Vanbrugh's tortured ghost, in wild despair:  
"O Gods! Why do you let me suffer so,  
To see my beauteous gardens steeped in woe?  
My colonnades and arches, tall and fair,  
Now crumble into ruin, disrepair.  
Where once the noble Buckingham would roam,  
And 'midst Venetian splendour make his home,  
Where Cobham strolled in quiet solitude,  
Alas! A rude and vulgar mob intrude.  
In dining-halls, proud Granby's tonsured head  
At feeding Stoics pales, with utter dread—  
Where nobleman their ladies once had flattered,  
Now butter-pats and orange-peel are spattered.  
O sacred Mother — Goddess, wise and fair,  
I humbly do implore thee, hear my prayer!"  
But by the lake, amongst the shady eaves,  
The sighing, weeping willow lonely grieves.  
For now lies Stoic splendour in decay,  
Bold Vanbrugh's classic beauty's had its day.  
For Stoic Philistines are here to stay.

J. E. Burkinshaw

## THE PASSING OF ROYALTY— IN BUCKINGHAM

Old photographs always have a fascination. Ninety years ago Buckingham photographer, Mr. Varney, had premises in Bridge Street and his skill earned him a Warrant of Appointment to royalty — to the French royal house of Bourbon.

Living then in exile at Stowe was His Royal Highness Louis Phillipe Albert d'Orleans, grandson of the 'citizen-king' Louis Phillipe of France, but known in England as the Comte de Paris. His grandfather had been proclaimed king on 9th August, 1830, but had been forced to abdicate the throne of the Bourbons when the imperial family of Bonaparte's descendants resumed power on 24th February, 1848.

The Comte de Paris was born at the Tuileries in 1838. Only four years old when his father's carriage horses had bolted and thrown him to his death, the young comte remained heir-apparent for six years only until his mother was forced to take him to England.

The lot of exiled royalty is never easy. Louis-Phillipe spent his teens in Surrey and was married at Kingston-on-Thames to a German, and Protestant, Princess — an alliance regarded as unworthy of a Bourbon — and their first two children were born at Twickenham.

The Comte and his younger brother served on the Federal general staff during the American civil war, and were allowed to return to France to play a minor part in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870. The defeat of France led to some talk of a restoration of the French monarchy, but the prospect faded, and the Comte and his family were finally expelled from France in 1886. This time he was allowed a part of his family's private fortune, and he took his departure from the small harbour of Tréport aboard an English vessel on 21st June of that year. During the passage the master of the *Victoria* flew the *tricolor* at the masthead and, as his royal passenger disembarked, pressed the flag on him as a souvenir. During his last exile the Comte is said to have kept it above his mantelpiece.

Aged only 48, the exile still cherished some hopes of restoration and visited the Channel Islands, traditional home of French emigrés, to receive deputations from supporters in 1888.

Nothing came of this, and in the following year, when Richard Plantagenet Campbell, third and last Duke of Buckingham and Chandos died, the Comte took the lease of Stowe. He was a sick man during most of his stay in Buckinghamshire, nevertheless, the great palace with its Adam façade and the temples by Kent in the gardens was maintained *en grande tenue*; the Buckingham photographer secured a fine photograph of the visit of that great francophile, the Prince of Wales, in 1893. The Comte won the regard of the local people by his liberality and generosity to the charities of the town. Franciscan friars re-establishing themselves in the town received visits and encouragement in their house in Chandos street leading to the railway station. A charming memento of the Comte's stay at Stowe is the dogs' cemetery in the grounds: two of the gravestones are still to be seen under a tulip-tree.

The Comte's death, after a short illness, on 8th September, 1894, involved Buckingham in tremendous ceremonial. He died on a Thursday morning of 'an intestinal obstruction and exhaustion' and on the Friday the Prince of Wales arrived by special train from London to condole with the family, returning the same day. Between three and four hundred French residents in London followed in the next few days, severely straining the small town's resources.

*The White Hart* was then owned by Alderman W. J. Gough; both it, *The Three Cups* and another hostelry known as *Mrs. Wheeler's* were packed full. Fifteen extra waiters were hired from a London caterers and the overflow of entertainment was transferred to the Town Hall, described by a local correspondent as 'converted to a First Class Dining Saloon'.

Throughout the Saturday the bells of Buckingham and Dadford churches tolled. On the next day the Vicar of Buckingham's sermon commended to the prayers of the local congregation 'members of that Royal house, lineal descendants of the kings of France, who are in mourning for the brave life that has been taken from them'. As a tribute the organist played Alphonse Maily's *March Solennelle*.

On the Sunday afternoon members of the general public were admitted to Stowe to view the body lying in state. Between two and three thousand people paid their respects, entering through the 'Egyptian' entrance to the side of the closed main doors of the North front.

The mourners went up the short staircase, turned along the corridor, passed by what was then the billiard room and entered the Hall where the body lay. The catafalque was surrounded by four enormous candle holders, with other smaller candelabra round the walls. The coffin itself was draped with a pall of deep rich blue velvet, and the pillars were swathed with similar-coloured hangings. Over the pall was the same tricolor which had been flown on the Comte's last voyage into exile.

Between the columns the wreaths and flowers were piled, traditional Bourbon white and gold lilies made up the towns-people's wreath, and the local paper correspondent listed the flowers used by Mr. Tailby, the florist: Niphotos roses, *lilium Harisii*, *pancratium caribaeum*, chrysanthemums, tuberose, camelias *alba plena*, *lilium lancipolium album*, carnations and two varieties of fern.

The burial was to be held in Surrey where the Comte had spent his childhood; the memorial can still be seen in the church of St. Charles Borromeo in Weybridge, a bare five minutes walk from the railway station. Early on Wednesday, 14th September the funeral cortège assembled outside Stowe North Front. Six horses drew the hearse, all bedecked with tossing black plumes, while sixteen carriages of mourners followed the coffin down the main avenue and the game-keepers in blue and gold Bourbon livery marched alongside.

In the town the dignitaries were waiting to join the cortège: Lord Addington, Lord High Steward of Buckinghamshire, the Vicar, the Mayor and the Corporation, with the macebearer, were all arrayed in their robes. The 1st Royal Bucks Rifle Volunteers' third company mounted an escort into West Street, through the Market Square, down Bridge Street and along Chandos Road to the railway station. There — to quote the local paper — 'an immense congregation' saw the funeral procession board a special train to Weybridge where the burial took place.

**David Beaumont**



## DESERT SCENE

To look out over the melting-pot  
Of sun and sand, and see the wind  
Make ripples in the dust and shift the dunes  
As lonely waves might wander,  
Is a melancholy mood; eyes  
Blinded by the candid purity of light  
Strike deep into the body,  
And we know we are alone against the  
Sky; sky-blue, bottomless well.

Abandoned desert child, too brave  
To understand the raging heat  
And cruel murders of the sun, forever running  
To that misty lake the horizon never affords—  
Your bones lie dried, here, on the sand,  
Bleached white against this skin  
Of Earth like an open wound without blood;  
And this calcium cage makes shelter  
For a sleeping lizard, dwarfed  
By the sea of undulating, endless grains.

About this sea there's nothing to describe—  
But for that essential barrenness,  
That is so chilling even in the heat,  
And the desolation, on which only  
The lonely can feed, and kill themselves;  
No bird here, no life — only nature's forces  
Utter the battle-cry, and await  
A foolish man's departure from a water-hole;  
They sting and burn,  
And do not know mercy.

Yet, there is a strange beauty  
In this harsh and formless sea—  
And its emptiness fills the mind with questions  
We never thought to ask ourselves,  
In the lush fields of the North;  
So the desert can be loved as a child  
Loves its mother, and these skeletal remains are  
Not so sad, dying in its mother's lap—  
This abyss, tortuous expanse of sand,  
This surface of Earth that can always change;  
It teaches us to know ourselves.

**Clyde**

## GREENLAND JOURNEYS

In the summer holiday of 1982 I enjoyed the experience of crossing the Greenland Ice Cap, with five companions. The crossing was made using three sledges, which we man-hauled behind us, and for the larger part of the journey we were on ice. On occasion we were able to use sails on the sledges, when we had a following wind. The journey was of some 430 miles, and took 44 days to complete, coast to coast. For the larger part of the time we were out of sight of land and, having no radio, were very conscious of our own isolation.

The most difficult part of the journey was probably the first part, when the ascent to the ice cap, from the East coast, proved very demanding on both strength and time. Initially we were carrying some 1100 lbs. of supplies and, on ascent, had to cope with a lot of crevassing plus extensive areas of melt water and slush. It took us some 14 days to get to a height of 3500 feet where, above the snow line, we could use the sledges effectively.

Our halfway point across the ice cap was at a height of over 9,000 feet. The descent down to the West coast was of course quicker, as the gradient was in our favour, and because a substantial part of our weight, in the form of food and fuel, had been used up. One conceptional challenge of the journey was the need to rely on this greater speed on the second half of the journey. On the first half of the crossing one had to accept the slow, upward progress, watching food and fuel being used up at a rate more than proportionate to the distance made good.

To benefit from the best surfaces we would typically get under was at about 2.00 a.m. just before sunrise. Breaking camp, in half light, in temperatures down to  $-20^{\circ}\text{F}$ , particularly on windy mornings, was not always enjoyable, but we were compensated by some magnificent sunrises, often with beautiful displays of sun dogs and solar haloes.

Perhaps the biggest seeming risk we took was with out navigation: The West coast of Greenland has a wide belt of mountains, between the ice cap and the sea, which is deeply dissected by fjords. It was important that we came down from the ice to the right fjord — Sondre Stronfjord. This we were able to manage with surprisingly little difficulty, considering that the only navigational aid we had was the hand-held, Silva compass.

The expedition was fortunate to have as one of its patrons one of the first Stoics, Andrew Croft, who himself had crossed Greenland in 1934, as a member of a small party of three under the leadership of Martin Lindsay.

Andrew Croft's crossing was to the North of our own and went from West to East. The aim was to strike the East coast mountains in the vicinity of the high peaks sighted by Gino Watkins' 1930-31 expedition, and then to map and to photograph the mountains, following them Southwards, until the expedition came down to the East coast, at a point close to the departure point of our 1982 party. This programme was successfully carried out, the overall mileage of the journey being very much longer than that of ours, at some 1,180 miles, of which the actual crossing was some 480 miles. Dogs were employed for the journey, and Andrew Croft had the major responsibility of travelling out to West Greenland, ahead of the other two, of wintering there, and of buying the necessary sledge dogs — forty-three in number. He had to acquire some familiarity with Danish and Greenlandic and moreover he had to learn to drive sledge dogs. He did all of these things and throughout the expedition was the driver of the leading dog team.

The Greenland journey of Lindsay, Croft and Godfrey was a great achievement. It took place against the opposition of a part of the geographical establishment of the day, and was unable to secure the approval of the Royal Geographical Society, all of which increased the problems associated with early planning. In the field the expedition had some help from Greenlandic porters on the West coast but for over 1,000 miles the party was entirely unsupported — by which I mean that the air drops available to modern parties could not be

employed, and that there were no earlier depôts on the ground that could be relied on. The journey compares very well with the great journey by Amundsen to the South Pole in 1911-12, in terms of the unsupported distance covered by dog sledge, and of the heights at which the parties travelled.

Martin Lindsay wrote a notable book about the journey. It is called very simply, 'Sledge', and was published in 1936. The book is beautifully illustrated with photographs by Andrew Croft and there are many extracts from his diary. Hardly had he returned to England from Greenland than Andrew Croft was off again, this time to Spitzbergen and North East Land. His own book, 'Polar Exploration', published in 1939, is fittingly dedicated to sledge dogs.

W.S.L.W.

"WHAT, ALL MY PRETTY CHICKENS AND THEIR DAM  
AT ONE FELL SWOOP?" (MACBETH)



"NO, MY LORD, AT:"



Jane McAlpine

## STOIC ALUMNI IN MANHATTAN

On Wednesday, 30th April, 1983, some thirty Old Stoics, parents and friends of Stowe gathered in the Commodore's Room of the New York Yacht Club to enjoy the wine and food, the company and reminiscences of former, possibly happier days, and to listen to lively speeches cajoling us to dig deep into our pocket-books for the Diamond Jubilee Appeal.

This was the first overseas occasion of Stowe's Diamond Jubilee, and those present ranged from Old Stoics of pre-war vintage to one present Stoic, thus representing more than fifty years of Stowe history. In fact, our host, Mr. Christopher Turner, was one of the most recent to be captivated by the genius loci.

George Gaines, a member of the Appeal Committee, had kindly arranged the whole evening. After reminding us of J.F.'s assurance that any boy who had been to Stowe would know beauty when he saw it for the rest of his life, he introduced the Master of Ceremonies for the evening, J. Carter Brown, Director of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, who reflected how different Stowe must be with girls as full-time students; he recalled his own misgivings on viewing the beves of pimply 'dates' imported from various schools. He also hoped that a collection of the former contents of Stowe before the great sale of 1922 could be included in an exhibition of Treasures of Great Britain which he was organizing to be held at the National Gallery in 1985. He then introduced the principal speaker of the evening, Lord Quinton.

Lord Quinton reminded us of many aspects of school life, commenting that anyone who had mastered the art of sailing on the eleven-acre lake with its gusts of wind from any direction should indeed be a worthy member of the New York Yacht Club. He recalled also how the English tradition of fagging had at Stowe been given the more Ciceronian title of 'officing', a system he thought must have some merit, as he had been succeeded as Chairman of Governors by his one time 'officer'.

Mr. Turner then explained the purpose of the Appeal, to provide Stoics with the essential facilities of a modern school while still retaining its heritage of beautiful surroundings. He gave specific details of the proposed fund, namely to build a new Bruce House between the Chapel and the workshops, and to create an endowment fund to enable children whose parents could not otherwise afford it to be educated at Stowe. Slides illustrating the proposed plans were shown by George Gaines and met wide support.

We offer our thanks to Mr. Turner, George Gaines and Carter Brown for an entertaining evening, and to the Club for its hospitality, and we wish the Appeal Fund every success.

Mark Nightingale (Grenville 1952)

## A CANADIAN EXCHANGE

It seemed strange to be spending three months in a Canadian private school that was 135 years older than Stowe, for King's-Edgehill, in Windsor, Nova Scotia, is the oldest independent school in the Commonwealth. Originally known as King's College, it merged with the neighbouring Edgehill Girls' School in 1976 and now boasts 180 pupils of whom all but a handful are boarders.

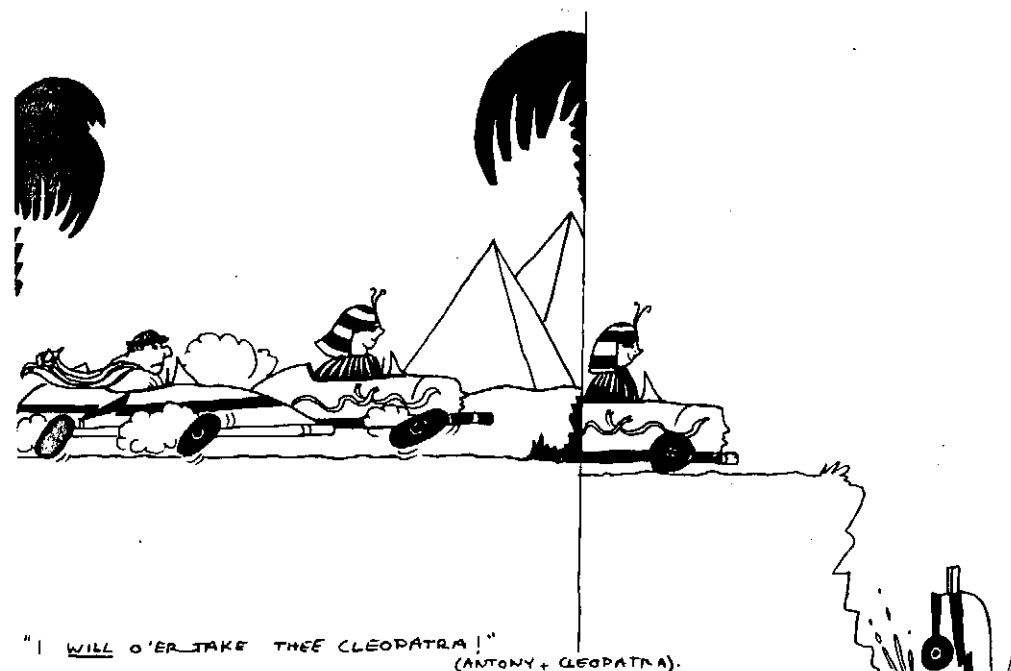
Arriving at Halifax airport on January 5th I was greeted, as everyone had predicted, by a keen and bracing wind. But the welcome from John Kennedy and family could not have been warmer, and we were both glad of the few days' overlap before his departure for England. There was much to discuss, and, inevitably, a wealth of adjustments to make. The campus seemed stark on first sighting, its occupants hearty, perhaps brusque, but apparently redolent with confidence. A few days were sufficient to show that with many of them this self-assurance was somewhat brittle. But their readiness to say what they thought was a tonic, and

no class could have been described as dull. Grades 11 and 12 (our Lower and Middle Sixth) were particularly stimulating, and the challenge of preparing them for the Intermediate Bacca-laureate, to me a more demanding and thought-provoking exam than 'A' level, proved a strong one. Smaller classes were a delight, not only because they meant less marking, but also in that they enabled me to come to know the students better.

And there were some characters: a captivating girl in Grade 12 with a penchant for Hardy, a boy from the Caribbean who beamed from January to April, the son of a local pharmacist who had perhaps the sharpest intellect at K.E.S., a rebel with one lung, who proved colourful in the extreme, an illiterate but charming Chinaman, two sets of twins in a set studying 'Twelfth Night', the daughter of Windsor's resident mortician and many more. The staff were young, helpful and, I thought, unusual, ranging from the loquacious headmaster's wife, who taught pottery to remedials, through the erudite biologist and good-humoured Maths mistress with a predilection for Dacquari cocktails to Henri, the Head of French, a former Toronto waiter who brought panache, esprit and élan to all he undertook.

Memorable moments will remain with me in the future; shooting off the icy track en route to ski in January, searching for a car abandoned on the highway by one of the students who was intercepted by the R.C.M.P. on his way to supper, coming last to a Lhangenlauf event, the 'Honeypot' invitations to an early morning run when the snow was piled against our houses and the dawn far from breaking, and the cadet camp, where it was minus 14° and everything froze in a manner that made D. of E. seem rather tame. There was the opportunity to enjoy Canadian literature, to visit Ottawa and Toronto, two very different pulses of North America, to meet a good range of people outside the school environment and, not least, to set things in perspective. These opportunities, I know, were relished by John Kennedy at Stowe, and the chance to compare notes in England on completion of the exchange was one that we both appreciated. Looking back, it was an experience for which I feel intensely fortunate—in the Canadian vernacular, "It was real".

C.R.H.



"I WILL O'ERTAKE THEE CLEOPATRA!"  
(ANTONY + CLEOPATRA).

Jane McAlpine



## GEOGRAPHY FIELD COURSE

On the 26th March about 32 Lower Sixth Geographers made a 350 mile journey by coach, train and ferry to the Isle of Arran on the West coast of Scotland for this year's field course. This was the first year any Stoics had been to Arran and no-one knew quite what to expect. Our destination was to be a purpose built Geography Field Centre at Lochranza. It provided excellent work facilities, adequate board and all the isolation necessary for full concentration on matters academic!

The aim of the Field Course was to increase our understanding of a number of aspects of physical geography including glaciation, geomorphology, hydrology and coastal processes. In addition to this, on our last day we ventured into the field of Human Geography by examining settlement patterns and population growth in Arran.

Over a period of a week detailed studies of the geological features of North East Arran, the glacial landforms of Glen Catacol, the fluvial geomorphology of Glen Chalmadale and the coastal features of the Lochranza-Catacol beach were undertaken. Each study involved us in a large amount of data collection and analysis combined with statistical tests and graphs which daunted the best of us.

We only had to suffer one day of very wet weather which luckily happened to fall on the river study day when most of us were wet anyway.

The course, which was very intensive with field work during the day followed by lectures and data processing until at least 10.00 p.m., generated many moans from the Stoics. But without exception I think that everyone of us has obtained a great deal of useful knowledge that will aid us in our Geography 'A' level studies. The Arran course led by D.R.F. and N.C.G., was a departure from recent tradition. P.J.S. however, returned to Snowdonia with a smaller group and directed an intensive and highly successful course.

**Alison Nightingale**



## CUILLTEMHUC

Cuilltemhuc is the name of a bothy in the Cairngorm Mountains, which the School has acquired for outdoor education purposes, mainly with the needs of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in mind. The bothy is in the Forest of Atholl and the Duke of Atholl has generously made the building available to the School at what is essentially a peppercorn, annual rent.

The building is a small one, its external measurements being some 33 ft. × 16 ft. For some years the bothy had been in use as a hay store, and so as to get more hay into it the joists and floor had been removed. Thus while the outer shell of the building was essentially sound a lot of work had to be done by the School to make the building into a habitable expedition hut. The Atholl Estate co-operated in this work, providing timber from the estate, to the hut, at an attractive price, and a small team of School carpenters, led by the Clerk of the Works, Brian Martin, put in five days of intensive, hard work at the bothy. The timber from the estate provided the new joists and floor for the loft, plus various shelving and partitioning, while a new door and window frames, constructed by the carpenters at Stowe, were taken up to Cuilltemhuc in one of the School's Transit vans.

The work described above was done in June 1982, but throughout the period from June 1981, when negotiations with the Atholl Estate about Cuilltemhuc commenced, small parties from Stowe have been active in the area, getting to know the ground better, and investigating various routes for future use. One of these excursion parties included the Bursar, who was in Blair Atholl to negotiate with the Factor of the Atholl Estate, and to see the hut for himself.

Cuilltemhuc is situated at a height of some 1200 ft. and is 4½ miles up Glen Bruar from the A9. It is reached by a rough, estate road. This road is gated at its junction with the A9 and the School has been provided with a key to the gate so allowing us vehicle access. The bothy can be reached on foot in some two and a quarter hours from Blair Atholl station.

The Forest of Atholl is a deer forest and the School has undertaken not to use the bothy from 1st August to 15th December, so as to avoid the stalking season. The deer are present in herds of considerable size and for much of the year can be observed grazing in close proximity to Cuilltemhuc.

The Cairngorms are of course a long way from Stowe, but the hut has already been used by a party on a Field Day weekend! This is made possible because of the availability of the night sleeper service from Bletchley. The train can be boarded at 10.30 p.m. at Bletchley and one leaves it at Blair Atholl at 08.30 a.m. the following morning, just in time for breakfast at the Blair Atholl Arms! The return journey is similarly convenient.

Other Stowe parties have enjoyed Cuilltemhuc under Scottish winter conditions, at the New Year and at Easter.

Glen Bruar is a part of the Minigaig Pass route through the Cairngorms, this being an old drove road, running roughly parallel to the Pass of Drumochter which is used by the modern A9. The country each side of the Minigaig provides splendid excursions amid relatively unvisited mountain scenery and between Cuilltemhuc and Glen Tilt to the East are a number of Scottish Munros (peaks over 3,000 ft.), remote from the road, that offer valuable opportunities to members of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at Stowe.

**W.S.L.W.**

## KATHMANDU — CITY SCAPE

### SUNRISE

Rubbing her eyes, yawning widely at the dawn  
The child arises for another day,  
Her tiny brother, lifted, still asleep,  
She places one brown foot on the cool, grey,  
Of the city stone.

A first, hazy, mellow beam glistens gazing  
On the topmost temple, golden mirror  
Of the dawning sky, becoming azure, deep  
Beyond the murmuring town the white birds soar  
Careless of the sound.

And all below the temple and the sun's dominion  
Rise in a wave of fresh tomorrow.  
Wooden doors are opened, their humanity waits  
Watching for the blessing of many gods, who  
Sit, aloof, adorned.

The momentary stillness is in memory, the city  
Heats, feverishly throbbing with its pulse of people;  
And the brightening rays of a lightening sky  
Reveal its glories to convert the unbeliever  
Who observes.

Fiona Gibbs

### NOON

Gleaming tarmac shimmers in the haze  
Of midday heat, as many feet float past  
The dusty postered walls. All glaring, all  
Assaults the untrained eye which seeks relief  
And cooling dimness in a holy place.  
But yet the road reverbs with stalling cars  
That intermingle with the sacred cow  
Lying immune, aloof, oblivious in  
Her privilege of central lane, main street.  
Narrowed darkness leads behind the day  
To a constant twilight sight, where gleams  
Of many eyes, unseen, but felt, enquire  
A strangers right to look on hallowed ground.  
The brilliant colours of the sacred scene  
Where gods in many forms alight, are more live  
Than those around them, staring, struck by awe.  
For one half instant I see in the sad eye  
Of a tiny living goddess, adored, aloof,  
Alone, the spirit of the city's name  
Mysterious, contrasted, the ancient and the new.

Fiona Gibbs

## MUSIC

### THE MAURIZI STRING QUARTET

with Timothy Rowe (baritone)

Sunday, 27th February, 1983 at 8.00 p.m. in the Music Room

For his song recital with the Maurizi String Quartet Timothy Rowe chose two settings of nineteenth century verse: Fauré's *La Bonne Chanson*, a setting of nine poems from Verlaine's anthology of the same name, and *Dover Beach*, a setting of Arnold's poem by the American composer Samuel Barber. *La Bonne Chanson* was performed in the version with piano quintet accompaniment. After the interval the concert should have closed with a performance of Schubert's *String Quartet in A minor*, but there was a departure from the published programme (an unexplained departure) and instead we heard the *String Sextet in B flat major* by Brahms. Brahms is a composer with whom the Stowe Music Society has a mysterious obsession.

Fauré began his song-cycle *La Bonne Chanson* in 1892, and it took him two years to complete. In this period, first with the *Cinq Mélodies de Venise* of 1891 and then with *La Bonne Chanson*, he completely transformed the character of French song. From being a sequence of disconnected melodies, sung to (usually) piano accompaniment, the song-cycle became, in Fauré's hands, a work of symphonic structure and power. *La Bonne Chanson* is constructed around five main themes, stated by the piano (or, in the version which we heard this evening, by piano and strings). These themes are purely musical: they are not related to recurrent images or ideas in Verlaine's poetry and have no similarity with Wagnerian leitmotifs. In the final song, 'L'hiver a cessé', all five themes are restated and reworked. Fauré found the first eight poems relatively easy to set, but the ninth proved much more difficult and it was 'L'hiver a cessé' which delayed completion of the work until February 1894.

For his performance of *La Bonne Chanson* Timothy Rowe was joined by Paul Drayton (piano), Ruth Fourmy and Madeline Whitelaw (violins), Dennis Wood (viola) and Nicholas Gethin (cello). It was a very disappointing performance in which the voice was overwhelmed by the accompanying instruments. Timothy and the players in the quintet are not to be blamed for this: the fault lies with the piano quintet version itself. Fauré wrote it for a private concert in London in 1898, and afterwards repudiated it as a mistake. A composer may often be a bad judge of his own music, but in this instance one would certainly want to agree with him. One wonders why the piano quintet version was chosen for this evening's concert, in preference to the original version with solo piano accompaniment (Paul Drayton would have played this beautifully. At times the singer and players succeeded in overcoming the problems inherent in the work which they were performing: in 'Puisque l'aube grandit', 'La lune blanche', and 'N'est-ce pas?' the balance between voice and instruments was about right, and we were able to appreciate Timothy Rowe's fine baritone voice. It is a 'salon' voice, with a rather bare and austere quality inappropriate for opera but admirably suited to Lieder singing. At times Timothy might have helped himself by projecting it a bit more; one felt that the voice had more to give.

Samuel Barber's *Dover Beach*, written in 1931 when the composer was a young music student in Philadelphia, is scored for voice and string quartet. The players were Ruth Fourmy and Madeline Whitelaw (violins), Dennis Wood (viola) and Lorraine Nagioff (cello). A much better balance was achieved here between voice and instruments, but the work is not nearly so interesting as the one which we had just heard. The players in the Brahms sextet were Ruth Fourmy and Madeline Whitelaw (violins), Robert Secret and Dennis Wood (violins) and Nicholas Gethin and Lorraine Nagioff (cellos). This performance was very variable. There was some fine viola playing in the second movement, but in the first and in the final 'Rondo' movement the violas were too aggressive and went badly out of tune. There was some lovely solo work in the cellos in the opening movement, and the ensemble was most together in the third movement, marked 'Scherzo'.

G.McL.

CONCERT BY PUPILS OF STOWE SCHOOL  
 Saturday, February 12th, 1983 at 8.00 p.m. in the State Music Room

PROGRAMME:

- CLARINET ENSEMBLE: Dominic White, Richard Rudd, Matthew Skeate, Mark Gardner  
 "Bounce" ..... *Gerald Sears*
- Violin Sonata in D ..... *Handel*  
 Georgina Sober  
 Affetuoso - Allegro - Larghetto - Allegro
- MADRIGAL GROUP: Fiona Gibbs, Sara Howell-Williams, Nicholas Bewes, Niel Nicholson  
 Since first I saw your face ..... *Ford*  
 My Love's an Arbutus ..... *Stanford*
- Notturmo ..... *Grieg*  
 Benjamin Bolgar, piano
- Adagio and Allegro ..... *Schumann*  
 Niel Nicholson, Horn; David Arkell, piano
- Sleep ..... *Gurney*  
 Au bord de l'eau ..... *Fauré*  
 Fiona Gibbs, soprano
- CHAPEL CHOIR: Almighty and Everlasting God ..... *Gibbons*  
 Lo, star-led chiefs ..... *Crotch*

INTERVAL

- BASS TRIO: Peter Jarvis, Niel Nicholson, Benjamin Bolgar  
 The Nightingale ..... *Byrd*  
 Waltz ..... *Maurice*
- STANHOPE CHOIR  
 Conducted by Victoria Needham; with Debra Blackman, guitar;  
 Rebecca Thompson, flute; and Lois Sparling, piano  
 "Scarborough Fair" ..... *arr. Simon and Garfunkel*
- Adagio from Concerto No. 1 for clarinet ..... *Weber*  
 Mark Gobby
- Impromptu in G flat major ..... *Schubert*  
 David Arkell, piano
- Andante from Concerto in E flat ..... *Haydn*  
 Peter Jarvis, trumpet; David Arkell, piano
- Study in E minor ..... *Tárrega*  
 Richard Biffa, guitar
- QUINTET: Angus Fairbairn, oboe; Guy Adams, clarinet; Niel Nicholson, horn;  
 David Arkell, bassoon; Lois Sparling, piano  
 Rondo in E flat, from K.452 ..... *Mozart*

It would be invidious to comment on individual performances as, on the whole, the standard of most of them was very high, but Richard Biffa's beautiful performance of the Tárrega Study was, for me, the highlight of the evening. It was an example of how a simple piece played really well can make a musical effect of the highest quality.

It is probably best not to comment too fully on some of the ensemble items as they included one or two all time lows for this particular event! However the Madrigal Group and the Chapel Choir more than made up for whatever shortcomings might have occurred elsewhere. Lest this sound over-critical I should point out that the working at and performing of chamber music is of inestimable value to those taking part. If things do not always work out on the day as well as the participants know they should, this is more to do with a need for the experience of performing than to do with individual inadequacies.

R. J.S. S.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Imagine a flag — red, white and blue,  
 Big blocks of colour, representing unity.  
 Imagine a street — full of people  
 Big blocks of happiness, representing humanity.  
 Multiply the flag ten million times,  
 Receive a picture, an impression  
 On a canvas, of the world.  
 A microcosm of one person's joy.  
 The millions who hold these fluttering symbols,  
 Hold freedom in their hands.

The red is for the blood that had to be shed,  
 Or poppies and their seeds of sorrow,  
 Or roses with their thorns.  
 The white is for the purity of mankind,  
 Or trees in blossom, signifying spring,  
 A new dawn.  
 The blue is for the sky and sea,  
 And where they merge, two shades,  
 Of one colour, becoming one — a unity  
 Between hearts, minds, bodies  
 And souls.

Louise Cox

## DRAMA

### THE DRAMA FESTIVAL

Each year's Drama Festival has given us a fresh insight into the excitement and creative tension of four days of concentrated theatre. In 1981 the crackling atmosphere that permeated the new venture was tangible and, perhaps to many, unfamiliarly rewarding. Last year the spirit of uncompetitive co-operation that went into productions that strove nevertheless for excellence, had effects which reached way beyond stage and auditorium. No midnight visits that year to repaint the opposition's set in the preferred colour! The original refusal to declare a winner or award a cup was amply justified.

This year we had as wide a range of productions as ever, as the ensuing reports suggest, and an imaginatively varied use of setting. To suggest that in a way the novelty of it all might have worn off a bit is to say no more than that all creative art needs boldness and exploration if it is to remain vital — and this thought was at the heart of John Elsom's provocative commentary. Quite rightly he was not going to allow us too much self-congratulation — a lot of people got rather hot under the collar and the ensuing debate was lively and constructive. Mr. Elsom's challenging acerbity was complemented by the imaginative and friendly involvement, the enthusiasm of Clive Francis and Polly James. To complete the quartet of commentators Old Stoic Chris Villiers was a welcome visitor for the second time — there aren't many schoolmasters who can command a full house at a voluntary (honestly!) extra class at 12.30 p.m. on a Saturday morning.

R.M.P.



"H.M.S. PINAFORE"



"THE LITTLE SWEEP"

## THE 1983 STAFF PLAYS

### THE LITTLE SWEEP

#### H.M.S. PINAFORE

Friday and Saturday, 6th and 7th May

Double bills are hazardous things. They run the short story's risk of lacking substance through brevity and — much worse — one may be embarrassingly better than the other. Neither of these propositions could be maintained of these two operas, which further precluded comparison by their almost total dissimilarity: almost total, for both have in common some aspect of 19th century society, treated sentimentally in one, satirically in the other, amusingly in both. The blend of pathos and comedy in the Britten showed up all the more strongly in contrast with the conscious parody and tongue-in-cheek rhetoric of the Gilbert and Sullivan, which in turn was all the more diverting after the often poignant tone of the Britten.

Though the programme title was something of a misnomer, as only the cast of 'Pinafore' was entirely 'staff', the innovation of combining the generations was highly successful. In fact, the essence of 'The Little Sweep' is best served if, as Britten intended, the older rôles are sung by adults and the younger by persons at any rate slightly nearer their ages. Tony Selby, Juliet Rudolf and Ruth Harrington have often charmed us in the concert hall or the Roxburgh Hall, and it was an enjoyable experience to see them all together in a dramatic performance. But what most impressed about this production was its sheer vitality and freshness. Not for a moment did the pace slacken or the interest flag. Group movements and set pieces were beautifully executed, and it would be wrong to single out any of the generous, affectionate 'children' whose spontaneity and clear enjoyment of their parts so ably supported the leading figures. It was indeed a triumph for Malcolm Grimston to produce a work so exuberant and yet so tender, requiring the manipulation not only of a constantly shifting group on stage but also a host of assorted 'birds' off stage. A tiny orchestra, also conducted by Malcolm Grimston (with Paul Drayton in general charge of the music) gave a sensitive and duly controlled rendering of Britten's delicate score.

The parts of the children were played by the following: Juliet Brook - Victoria Needham; Tina Crome - Lois Sparling; Hughie Crome - James Sparling; Johnny Crome - Piers Stradling; Sophie Brook - Sonya Mackintosh; Guy Brook - Nicholas Bewes; Sam Sparrow - Adam Atkinson.

Gilbert & Sullivan are not everyone's cup of tea and seem, sadly, to be even less so nowadays, a fact underlined by the passing of the D'Oyly Carte company. The slick, obvious patter of 20th century clowns has dulled the capacity to appreciate a form of humour in which serious satire is conveyed by a blend of verbal wit, tunes too melodious to be popular nowadays, and a deliberately outrageous burlesque of normal emotions and situations. Charles Rainer is well known as a devotee of Gilbert and Sullivan. Some of us remember his spirited performance in 'Iolanthe', and it was good to see him disporting himself again so effectively in a rôle closer to his early career, as First Lord of the Admiralty. The Gilbert and Sullivan aficionado waits eagerly for familiar arias and choruses (perhaps herein lie both the strength and the weakness of the genre), and of these there were plenty. To Juliet Rudolf as Little Buttercup, in very different vein from earlier in the evening, fell the lot of singing probably the best-known song in the whole opera, and her confident tone made an apt and pleasing contrast with the bashful, plaintive timbre of Lois Houghton-Brown as Josephine, whose reluctance to conform to her father's wishes is the mainspring of the plot. The reverberating baritone of Ian Small as Captain Corcoran was likewise nicely balanced by Andrew Rudolf's more timid, soulful voice as Ralph Rackstraw. John Dobinson's Dick Deadeye was appropriately bloodcurdling in voice, gesture and appearance. As in 'The Little Sweep', the producer, Charles Rainer, had the task of controlling not only his leading characters but also the highly organic 'crew' and 'female relations', whose an-

tics and songs provide (as usual in these operas) a fair proportion of the entertainment. Here, too, everything went at a brisk pace, with all highly enjoying themselves — or at least giving the appearance thereof! Paul Drayton again directed the music, played on two pianos by himself and David Gatehouse. Credit for the visual success of the production (as of 'The Little Sweep', too) falls to Guy Scott and James Ewens and their numerous helpers.

It was a happy inspiration to produce two such contrasting yet not wholly unlinked operas, enabling such a very large number of people, performers and audience, to enjoy a tuneful, nostalgic evening, even though, on the first night at any rate, the laughter was at times unpleasantly tinged with mockery. In his programme note Malcolm Grimston suggested that we are reluctant to accept a less 'sophisticated' world. I hope his inverted commas mean that that world was more sophisticated, not less, than ours.

B.S.S.



### CHANDOS HOUSE PLAY

#### 'Journey's End'

by R.C. Sheriff

It was widely agreed that this was one of the best acted and most memorable of the Drama Festival plays. It was evident that a great deal of time and effort must have been put into the production and the actors and director were rewarded with a very polished performance.

Fergus Wylie surprised everyone with his very powerful performance as Captain Stanhope in charge of a small company near the front line in the First World War. Lieutenant Raleigh, who had idolized Stanhope since childhood, was very well portrayed by James Patrick. Other commendable performances were given by Hartford King as Lieutenant Osbourne and Ben Harris as Trotter. Harry Gibbs added the comic relief to the play in his rôle as Mason, a batman to the company.

It was not only the acting that was above average though; the set was very good, as was the sound and lighting.

Martin Downer, director and actor, must be congratulated on producing a very successful play.

Alison Nightingale.

## CHATHAM HOUSE PLAY

### “Hotel Paradiso”

(Georges Feydeau)

Chatham's reputation for producing excellent plays in House Drama Festivals was enhanced with this year's offering.

Despite the obvious difficulties of producing a farce so that it is both funny and effectively conveyed to the audience, the Chatham cast, under Rory Burke's direction, expertly translated the humour from script onto the stage. The result was a hilarious production.

Especially commendable were Nick Farah as Boniface, and Patrick White as his nagging wife, Angelique. Rupert Mackenzie-Hill was excellent as the pompous Cot, and Philip Jarrett as his long-suffering wife Marcelle, also gave a very good performance. Nick Masters' portrayal of the seductive maid, Victoire, was most alluring, and was matched by Sebastian Alexander, as the object of her charm, Maxime.

Also very good were Guy Foster as M. Martin, the Lawyer (amply making up for his lack of height), and Matthew Mackenzie-Hill, Gregory Curtis and Richard Bensa as his three extremely pretty daughters; Alasdair Moore as Anniello, the harrassed hotel owner, was also very good.

Under Rory Burke's direction and Craig Williamson's technical direction, the cast combined to produce an excellent play.

J. E. Burkinshaw

## COBHAM HOUSE PLAY

### “See How They Run”

by Philip King

Not wishing to break with tradition, Cobham this year produced Philip King's ‘See How They Run’, a hilarious tale of mistaken identity in a country vicarage.

Despite a few problems on the first few nights, the final production was free of missed cues and collapsing French windows.

Amongst the more distinguished characters in the cast was Hugh Taylor, as the ‘basic’ maid, Ida, Tim Hall, as the pious Lionel Toop, Guy Murray, playing the unpleasant Miss Skillon, Charles Hastie, as the dashing Clive Winton, Hugo Critchley, the sinister German intruder, Tim Smith, intrepid director and disapproving bishop, Innes Roxborough, as the third Arthur Humphrey, and Simon Else, as the bully sergeant. We should mention also the luckless Noel Durlacher who fell ill the afternoon of the play and was replaced at the last moment by Rupert Morgan, the hero of the hour, who played Penelope Toop. Thanks must go to all these people as well as Marc Browse and Ross Attwood who mastered the technical side of things, and A.J.E.L. for the make-up.

The plot involves, basically, a lot of real and false men of the cloth chasing each other round the vicarage assuming that one of them is a German intruder, and also assuming that everyone else is totally mad. As you can imagine things got suitably confused, and only ended when the German had to confess everything to the Sergeant.

Among notable occurrences was the attempted murder by drowning by one of our lead actors, a very revealing dress and a wig with a mind of its own.

This was a play not of dynamic acting, as the audience will testify, but one of sheer enjoyment by all who watched or participated.

Tim Smith

## WALPOLE HOUSE PLAY

### “The Homecoming”

Harold Pinter at his best combines a mixture of satire, the absurd, and disillusionment which is often disturbing and difficult to interpret. Walpole House chose a play which was one of the most daring productions in the Drama Festival. Colin Jackson's direction with the help of a perfectly filled cast rendered a polished example of the Theatre of the Absurd.

The outstanding members of the cast were Peter Williams and Nicholas Tembe. The latter was perfectly suited to the intimacy of Walpole's House Room and created a subtly humorous characterization. Peter Williams again proved his ability to appreciate his character, and controlled his audience with professional confidence. Giles Inglis-Jones dominated the scenes both physically and vocally, and provided some of the most dramatic moments, concluding with his death at the end of the play.

The supporting cast showed great enthusiasm in a play which would intimidate many more experienced actors. It is to their credit that they were at all times believable.

J. D. Carlile

## GRAFTON HOUSE PLAY

This production of James Goldman's “The Lion in Winter” was an excellent rendering of an intriguing story of shaky and self-centred relationships. The individual characters were brought across very convincingly: Belinda Evison as Queen Eleanor and Matthew Walley as King Henry showed great power, and were ably supported by the comparatively inexperienced Georgina Sober, James Baker, William White, Jamie Woodward and Mark Flynn. The set evoked the dark and dank atmosphere of a medieval castle very clearly, and all was admirably directed by John Carlile.

J. B. H. Harris

## TEMPLE HOUSE PLAY

“Absurd Person Singular” by Alan Ayckbourn was acted with such straight faces that the jokes came over to the audience extremely well. Vanessa Morrison's “Jane” was a wonderfully irritating housewife, and her acting is even more to be commended since she took over her part late. Her husband in the play, James Woolley, matched her in his pedantry. In good comparison to this happy, simple couple were the Jacksons; Dale Saunders as the suicidal wife and Steve Booth as the misunderstanding husband. The Brewster-Wrights, Charles Whitmore and Katie James, were another beautifully matched couple. Especially memorable was that “classical” ballet of Katie's and Charles' marvellous gormless expression as he was treated for an electric shock by having underpants pulled on his head.

In spite of various problems, including an unstable set, James Burkinshaw, the director, succeeded in providing the drama festival with a genuinely funny play.

Belinda Evison

## THE BRUCE HOUSE PLAY

### "Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street"

by C. G. Bond

The idea of gushing blood, "meat" pies, romances, revenge and bitter irony made the play an invitation not to be refused. However, there were certain difficulties which had been overlooked in the initial burst of enthusiasm. The barber's chair, for example, posed a major problem, as did the quantities of pies, both false and real, which were required. The former was solved by the hard work and skill of the stage crew led by Simon Everett, and the latter by the long hours and culinary-cum-modelling craft of Mrs. Waldman and Mrs. Wharton.

The play itself enabled Mark Prestwich to play our hero Sweeney Todd with his usual deft touch, and after certain casting difficulties the rôle of Mrs. Lovett was taken on by Edward Lewis and performed with great verve and style. Todd's unwitting aide, Tobias Ragg, provided an excellent vehicle for the undoubted talents of David Nicholson, whilst Todd's scapegoats, the Beadle, the Judge and the barber Alfredo Pirelli were played with villainous ease by Paddy Stubbs, Tim Macmillan and Dom Burgess respectively.

A little romantic relief was provided most ably by Simon Tyrrell and Jane Miller as the two lovers. The rest of the cast performed with as much vigour and enthusiasm as the two principals, contributing strongly in the building of a fine, all-round piece of melodrama.

E. R. Lewis

## GRENVILLE HOUSE PLAY

### "The Ascent of F.6"

(Auden and Isherwood)

It is all too easy for a house to put on a straightforward, popular or farcical play, that it knows will appeal to a Stoic audience without needing that much effort involved. In the 1983 Drama Festival Grenville decided to attempt something different. "The Ascent of F.6" is a play open to endless meanings and interpretations; it is a play about people striving for a meaning to life, encountering their good and dark sides in doing so, and perhaps most of all, ambition. It is a play seldom performed because it is almost technically impossible to stage, but in the Roxburgh Hall we were able to get rid of the traditional 'boxed' set. With the dedication of our under-Housemaster, Mr. Ewens, we constructed an awe-inspiring 'open' stage, with no scenery for the actors to hide behind but a central tower symbolising a physical and psychological mountain. With few props and tremendous lighting, we aimed at creating a variety of atmospheres, often 'moving' or 'disturbing', enhanced by superb all-round acting.

After a slow start and a change of directors (which led to the play being delayed by two weeks) the cast took off with incredible energy and enthusiasm, rehearsing long hours with admirable patience and temperament.

All members of the cast should receive equal recognition for their effort, especially James Wood, Roger Cazalet, Guy Foster, Paul Andrews, Adam Atkinson, Robin Oliver, Peter Freeland and perhaps most of all our two 'guest' actresses, Alison Nightingale and Serena Morton, who were a delight to work with and gave up much of their time (and sleep!) An amazing rapport and good feeling was generated amongst us, and I cannot begin to thank the top technical 'men' and the majority of the House for helping in every way to re-establish Grenville so high in House drama.

Perhaps a few members of the audience walked away from the performance not quite grasping the full meaning of the play (and many of the cast too!) but none could escape its impact, and perhaps we have encouraged a more adventurous approach to House drama.

R. B. Carruthers

## THE LYTTTELTON HOUSE PLAY

### "Barefoot in the Park"

This year it was the turn of a Neil Simon play to be transferred to the Roxburgh Hall stage through the efforts of Lyttelton House. The production in question was "Barefoot in the Park".

I am pleased to say that Charmian Davies's and Matthew Wood's performances were a credit to the hard work they put in, with Charmian memorable as the extrovert, yet in the end caring, wife and Matthew in a class of his own as a drunken lawyer, despite the fact that their acting experience had previously been limited.

At this point I must mention Andrew Stevens, well known in various guises on stage, but now turning his abilities to directing. He produced and polished, in the words of one of the visiting critics, "the best entrance in the entire Drama Festival". His handling of the, at times, tricky anglicizing was praiseworthy, and the few discrepancies were invisible to any but the most observant eye.

Along with Charmian Davies, our other Stanhopian colleague was Jo da Silva, who portrayed very convincingly the attractive and elderly mother, whose heart was closed to real love; that is, until she met Victor Velasco, characterized in a unique way by John Young, whose mastery of an Italian accent added immeasurably to the part's authenticity.

Gareth Evans and Matthew Riley as the somewhat unsuspecting telephone and delivery men, were also appreciated.

Of course praise must go to the stage hands, led by Denzil Baldwin and Simon Osman, for a good set and admirable scene-changing. The sound supervisor and prompter, Graham Strong, also deserves mention. The play, arguably difficult in places, was a success through the hard work and co-operation of all involved, and thanks are given to Mr. Macdonald for his support.

G. A. Evans

## ALONE WITH SENTIMENT

Moments recall memories now cherished and framed.  
A lingering smile brought forth  
As the sun softens and settles to the west.

Dreams touch reality but remain deeds undone  
As the cheers are drowned by the  
Now beckoning silence.

This tingling silence encroaches  
As the shadows lengthen  
And wander behind.

This eternal twilight striving to uphold clarity  
Succumbs and replaces it with dreams as  
Sentiment relishes solitude.

I quicken my pace towards  
The ever-setting sun as  
Tears greet the lingering smile.

W. R. McLellan

## SONG THRUSH

The sound of song holds my sorrowing mind  
In timeless motion, moulding movement into silence.  
I bathe in borrowed joy, for that instant of beauty  
A captured cadence, never completed.

High above, the song hides from harmful sight,  
My gaze corrupts, can only make it earthly  
Where varied images create a visionary view,  
Surpassing the pictures of mere perception.

A tone transports me to the transformation  
Of my weary world into a blossoming wave,  
A place of promise, no longer, plundered  
By the suicide of self doubting silence.

Momentary madness seizes me in mind  
Restraint is raised from fearful eyes  
I see the sunlight without screaming  
For the single safety of a shadowed room.

The sound ceases, the sopor lifts its strain  
From the growing flame of foolish thoughts, fermenting.  
Consciously I plague my peace, create my pain  
And sleep to sorrow at another sunrise.

Fiona Gibbs

## DANAË

Velvet darkness soothes a lowered gaze  
Which shies from the star-bright rectangle  
Of casement, gleaming with the malice  
Of unfulfilled dreams.  
The half moon shadow of a silent form  
Composes sorrow into waiting fate.  
Future moves past, inexorably creating  
The transmuted present.  
Her eyes startle, lips fly apart  
The shower of gold descends  
Into her waiting soul, opened  
By the sun of eternity.  
Diana turns her face away, departs  
Bedazzled by a shining ray of omnipotence.

Bound to fortune's wheel, Acrisius can only wait  
For the thunderbolt to fall.  
Powerless against a child's existence,  
The spinning death stroke begins.

Fiona Gibbs

## SOCIETY CHAPEL

We have welcomed the following preachers in Chapel in recent months: The Ven. J. F. E. Bone, Archdeacon of Buckingham; The Revd. K. W. Habershon, Church Youth Fellowship's Association; The Very Revd. B. D. Jackson, Provost of Bradford; The Revd. M. C. Stanton-Saringer, Curate of St. Mary's, Bletchley; The Revd. P. A. Crowe, Rector of Breadsall and Diocesan Missioner, Derby; The Rt. Revd. Cuthbert Bardsley, former Bishop of Coventry; The Very Revd. R. A. Bird, Dean and Vicar of Battle; and The Revd. R. H. Lloyd, Precentor of Christ Church, Oxford.

Perhaps the most impressive and moving occasion was our Diamond Jubilee Thanksgiving Service on May 11th at which the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Revd. and Rt. Hon. Robert Runcie preached, and Andrew Croft, second Head Boy of the School, and a distinguished Old Stoic, read a lesson. At this service were present nearly thirty of the original 99 Stoics, as well as our Governors.

The Lenten addresses were conducted by The Revd. D. C. L. Prior, Vicar of St. Aldate's, Oxford, who was assisted by a theological student, Chris Pouncey, and an Oxford drama group (C.A.D.S.) led by Tim Mayfield. The Confirmation Retreat was most helpfully conducted by The Revd. Graham Dow from Leamington for some forty-five candidates who were confirmed in Chapel at the beginning of March by The Rt. Revd. Simon Burrows, Bishop of Buckingham.

After seven years of devoted service to the School we said goodbye to the Chaplain, Nick Wynne-Jones, Harriett and the children at the end of the Spring Term. We wish them all the very best at Great Clacton, where Nick is now Vicar. He is being succeeded by Maurice Stanton-Saringer in September whose wife Pauleen is no stranger to us as she taught here until the end of last summer. During the interregnum I have been most grateful for the help of colleagues, particularly James Larcombe who has borne the brunt of taking Sunday Chapel services while I have been otherwise engaged in Stowe Church. The variety of experience and insight expressed by colleagues who have taken chapel services during this Summer Term, and indeed at other times, has been one of the indirect benefits of the interregnum — and the same must also be said of members of the School who have contributed in this way.

M.D.D.

## CHAPEL CHOIR

Over the last two terms the choir has continued with its successful and varied programme.

Early last term we sang two items in the Pupils' Concert, which was a great success. These were: "Almighty and Everlasting God" by Gibbons and "Lo, Star-led Chiefs" by William Crotch. These were done very well and confidently, and it was decided that we should sing them on two Sundays in the middle of the term.

So far this term we have sung all our anthems from the organ-loft. This idea has been very successful, so much so that the organ-loft may be extended so that we can all have seats, instead of a piece of floor.

We started this term by singing "O Lord the maker of all things" by Joubert. This was closely followed by Britten's "Jubilate Deo" which was sung on Jubilee Day. Both these went very well indeed. A week or so later we sang "Come, Holy Ghost" by Thiman. This also went very well and we are now preparing for our last anthem this term: "Stanford in C". This is a very demanding piece of music, but the choir is coping well and I'm sure a lot of people will appreciate it in the Evening Prayer, near the end of term.

This year the choir have improved tremendously and we are singing many more demanding works. I hope it will continue to do so, with some new and enthusiastic members next term.

W. R. Nicholson



## THE LIBRARY

A variety of new light reading has been provided over the last few years, with the Lower School in mind. It came as quite a surprise, on analysing the Spring Term's entries in the Register, to find how few people, throughout the School, actually borrow from this category. A boy in IIIe had the top score of 12. Well done! Many pupils never enter the Library, let alone borrow books. It would be good to see more people availing themselves of the fair selection offered.

Thanks to very helpful requests and suggestions, the English and French sections have benefited greatly, and the turn-over in the enlarged and re-arranged medieval history section is rewarding. More geography and geology books are needed and young biologists would be helped by suitable reference books to use when doing their prep. Can we have some suggestions please!?

Of the latest 19 gifts received, four, all very different, came from Old Stoics. The first ever enrolled Stoic, C. Braimer Jones (Grenville 1926), in his "**Not Forgetting the Elephants**" will surely ring bells in the minds of readers who lived, worked and fought in and for the Outposts of Empire in the Far East. His Honour Judge Irvine's (Temple 1942) edited Diaries of his great-great-aunt, Helen Graham, "**Parties and Pleasures**", takes us back to the early 19th century, to a life in which Jane Austen's characters would have felt at home. David Wynne's (Grenville 1943) "**The Messenger**" is a detailed record, in words and pictures, of every stage involved, to the final unveiling, of a commissioned sculpture. Antony Miall (Bruce 1963) compiled, with Richard Baker, "**Everyman's Book of Sea Songs**", a collection of 60 of their favourites, words and music, with introductory notes.

Governor Canon Burgess gave the Library "**The Secret War of Charles Fraser-Smith**", a tale of secret intelligence in highly sensitive projects, and in helping individual agents, partisans and prisoners in World War II. Victor Lownes' "**Playboy Extraordinary**" reveals enterprise of a totally different kind! Victor Edney's "**Practical Philosophy**" is described as "a book for everybody" bringing "philosophy into everyday life", and the ten books kindly given by The Sufi Trust introduce their special brand of beliefs and ideas. Rosemary O'Day's "**Economy and Community: Pre-Industrial England 1500-1700**" may have a more familiar ring to its title. Finally, G.B.C. has given us a copy of "**Views of Stowe**", being his and C. N. Gowing's book describing John Claude Nattes's drawings, made between 1805 and 1809. There are 51 Plates in the book, some of them showing less well-known corners of Stowe.

All these books are gratefully accepted and acknowledged, and I thank all the donors for their kindness in sending them for the Library. Gifts of their own writings from Old Stoics are particularly appreciated.

A special grant from the Scott-Gall Bequest enabled the purchase of Vol. IV of "**English Historical Documents, 1327-1485**". Since last reporting, we have also had from this Bequest "**Crown and Nobility 1450-1509**" by J. R. Lander, "**The Statesman and the Fanatic**" (Wolsey and More) by Jasper Ridley, Anthony Goodman's military history of "**The Wars of the Roses**", and Bertram Wolffe's "**Henry IV**".

Mrs. McDouall joins me in thanking our Prefect and Monitor, and all the House Monitors, for their steadfast help in retrieving borrowed books, and in seeking out those which have figured on Missing Book Lists. Having a Prefect and a Monitor is a real advantage. That they should be as interested and conscientious as Rod Craig and Catherine Burke have been is a bonus. The efficiency of the House Monitors has shown up clearly in the response they have evoked from members of their Houses, when books are due for return. Only 31 books were unaccounted for at the beginning of the Summer Term, and already nine of these have been recovered.

**Prefect:** W. J. R. Craig, who also covered his own House, Grenville.

**Monitor:** Catherine D. E. Burke, who took care of Stanhope as well.

**House Monitors:** J. D. Taylor (1), H. T. Kinahan, Spring Term and A. S. Horn, Summer Term (2), D. A. Steward (4), W. R. McLellan (5), P. A. Campbell (6), M. R. Downing, Spring Term and J. D. Carlile, Summer Term (7), J. B. Cunningham-Reid (8), A. J. McFarlane, Spring Term and M. J. C. Dudley, Summer Term (9), A. J. G. Stirling (Nugent).

C.W.L.C.

## MUSIC SOCIETY

It is pleasing to report that concerts have, on the whole, been well attended this year especially by a loyal nucleus of junior boys. It was therefore disappointing that the Pupils' Concert, which fell on a Saturday, should have to compete with a film (and a fairly dubious one, at that) and that a major play rehearsal was fixed to coincide with another concert. However, on Old Stoic Day the School Orchestra performed to possibly the largest audience ever in the Roxburgh Hall!

Two major concerts marked the Stowe Jubilee, an all Tchaikovsky concert and a performance of Beethoven's Choral Symphony. The orchestra for both concerts consisted of local and London based professional musicians aided by some Stoics.

The first concert included a magnificently played account of Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto with P.C.D. as soloist. In view of P.C.D.'s busy schedule as both a teacher and composer it was amazing that he was able to play well up to the standard of many full time concert pianists. The concert started with a slightly scrappy account of 'Romeo and Juliet' but ended with a thrilling performance of Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony.

In the second Jubilee concert the Stowe Choral Society rose to the challenge of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with some exciting singing at the climaxes. The orchestra coped remarkably well with the first three movements of this taxing work — a credit to D.F.G.'s ability as there was only one orchestral rehearsal — and played wonderfully throughout the Finale. The only weakness in the performance was that the soloists were just not up to the task. The first half of the concert consisted of a performance of Bruckner's Te Deum which, in the writer's opinion, suffered from misjudged tempi and one of the greatest non-entries from a chorus ever heard (or rather not heard!)

Niel Nicholson was the fine Horn Soloist in the performance of the Franz Strauss Horn Concerto on Old Stoic Day, producing some fine phrasing in the slow central section. The school orchestra coped with the awkward and often ungrateful orchestral parts with a fair degree of success in this rarely heard piece.

In the 'Carnival of the Animals' the orchestra was joined by Jonathan Kreeger (O.S.) and Francesca Kay (O.S.) who recited verses by Ogden Nash. David Arkell and Benjamin Bolgar were the piano soloists and 'The Swan' was beautifully played by Tristram Besterman (O.S.).

In the 1812 Overture the orchestra was augmented by a number of past members. Jos Nicholl (aided and abetted by R.J.S.S. — Stowe resident pacifist) provided the explosive effects.

One other musical item which more than deserves comment was the combined staff and Stoic performance of Britten's 'Little Sweep'. The moving performances, coached and produced by M.C.G. and P.C.D., were a musical highlight of the year. Putting this on before the Staff Gilbert and Sullivan production was possibly a mistake — Britten's inspired writing tended to show up Sullivan's banalities even more than is usually the case! Let us hope to see many more staff/pupil musical productions — on this showing they have a bright future indeed.

Florestan

## CENTREPOINT

"My son, be attentive to my wisdom, incline your ear to my understanding" — maybe this proverb would be more appropriate in the classroom, but certainly at Centrepoint during the last two terms, we have had many gifted speakers who have been well worth listening to, and have supplied much wisdom and understanding to everyone. The spread of ages at the meetings has been good and it is always encouraging to see new faces from the younger side of the school.

During the Spring Term we worked through Paul's letter to the Philippians, which is concise and packed with much useful material. In February, David Prior and his team came to Stowe to give the Lenten Addresses, and Centrepoint members had a chance to meet and talk to them. Peter Wells came in March to show some slides of the Christian holiday parties he helps to run in Dorset, and on the last Sunday of term Mr. Wynne-Jones gave us an illuminating talk, before moving to his new parish in Essex.

This term we are looking at some of the parables, both familiar and unfamiliar, and I, for one, have found the talks very rewarding. We are extremely grateful to Mr. Marcuse who devotes a lot of time preparing Centrepoint, with a range of speakers that includes Old Stoics, undergraduates, bishops, graduates, schoolmasters, and even the Stowe Chaplain! I am sure many more Stoics would appreciate our weekly meeting — you are all very welcome.

David Arkell

## THE FILM SOCIETY

Reconciling a number of different, and sometimes conflicting, requirements is the main concern of the selection committee when assembling the season's programme. Paramount is the need to choose eight films which are suitable for showing to a predominantly Sixth Form audience, films of demonstrable artistic merit and not merely commercial successes. At the same time the Society's books must be balanced and this is not such an easy task at a time of rising rental and transport costs. Finally the films should be representative of the work of leading directors from a wide range of countries and should not have been screened recently either in the commercial cinema or on television.

The 1982-83 season did not succeed in providing as varied a programme as the selectors originally intended, although the weighting in favour of American films was caused by factors largely beyond our control. Every year a number of worthwhile films are deleted from the distributors' lists for reasons which leave the film enthusiast frustrated and indignant. As the majority of these films are old, often of considerable historical interest and relatively cheap to rent, film societies are progressively being forced into showing more recent films which are both expensive and (of greater importance to the dedicated cinephile) hardly to be rated as major works in the genre. Half of this season's films were made within the last decade and this threw into exaggerated relief the lack of technical sophistication in Hitchcock's nevertheless splendid "**Murder**" (1930) with which the season closed. It had opened in September with "**Modern Times**" (1936), arguably Chaplin's masterpiece and an ironic prelude to 1984 and the prospect of even higher unemployment.

Most of the Society's members seemed to find something to their taste despite, or perhaps because of, the imbalance in the season's screenings. One or two features of the Society's meetings nevertheless still occasion disappointment, both to the selectors and to the more discriminating members who seriously wish to learn more about *le septième art*. One is the resistance of a minority to films in black and white or to sub-titled films in a foreign language. The other is the restlessness with which films of more demanding artistic or intellectual content are sometimes met. Only when these reactions are a thing of the past will we be able to convince would-be critics of the Society that we are what we set out to be — an organisation with serious cultural pretensions.

J.A.B.

## STOWE MOUNTAINEERING AND CAVING CLUB

The Club has enjoyed a very wet season. The rock climbing trips to Froggatt Edge and Wintour's Leap met with torrential rain, which did not prevent Rick Rainbow, Rob Wild and Mark Prestwich from climbing several slippery severes.

During the Spring a party visited Snowdonia. G.M.H. and M.S.R.H. 'camped' in the minibus while the rest of the party braved the gale in tents. The group was blown up the Devil's Kitchen path onto very icy Glyders. We were rewarded, when spindrift let us open our eyes, by some unique views of the Snowdon range. It was quite exciting to be involved in calling out the Mountain Rescue for another party, which had got into difficulties on Glyder Fach.

January saw the first ever party from Stowe at our Cairngorm retreat in winter, under the leadership of Clint Eastwood (W.S.L.W.) During the long cold evenings we learnt of some of his adventures last summer, when he led the second ever British trans-Greenland expedition with no radio and only a compass for navigation.

With the departure of M.S.R.H. the reins of the Club have been handed over to a Politburo of N.C.G., G.M.H., K.H., R.M., G.L.P. and W.S.L.W., who between them can help with anything from walking in the Chilterns to Alpine Expeditions. They only need to be asked in good time! The Cavers have now joined forces with the Mountaineers, which accounts for the title of this article.

Last July, the Cavers had two separate trips into Baker's Pit at Buckfastleigh, as well as a short walk round the cave under Chudleigh rocks, from which we had retreated in the rain. Regular readers of this column will recall that the entrance to Baker's Pit used to be through an active rubbish tip. Not anymore, I think. In the middle of a green field stands a well-like structure down which one goes for forty feet to reach the cave. This is a 'dry' system, so one emerges covered in mud. There are several large chambers, the floors of which are littered with large blocks. We crawled into a few dead ends, but were not allowed to squeeze through into the extension beyond one of these, where are said to be the best formations. In Judge's Chamber we climbed a muddy wire ladder and then had to jack-knife into a narrow tube. The only way of getting along this was with caterpillar movements and much use of elbow.

Skye, in July, should have some friendly little holes if we can be spared from the big mountain scene.

M.S.R.H.  
G.M.H.



## CAVING

This year we were lucky enough to have three expeditions to Derbyshire kindly organised by Dr. Hornby.

Last Autumn a group of mixed ability went down Giant's Hole, an exciting cave and good for the beginner, containing a series of waterfalls in the lower streamway and some slightly more testing traverses and crawls, plus a ladder pitch.

The second trip in the Spring Term was to P8 (Jackpot), again a small streamway fitting a lot of variety into a shorter time.

On both trips Mr. Small very generously allowed us to use his cottage in Monyash which saved travelling and caving on the same day.

Field Day this term gave us another opportunity to venture further down Giant's Hole, the D. of E. camp providing an excellent base in beautiful countryside around Castleton.

All three trips were great successes, and we look forward to more in the near future.

The intrepid speleologists on the last expedition were: Sonya Winner, Sarah Power, D. N. Bosdet, A. E. G. Atkinson, E. N. Coombs, Mr. Grille, Dr. Hornby.

E. N. Coombs

## FORESTRY

Useful work has been done in several parts of the estate during the past year. More clearance has been completed in the wood behind Queen Caroline, the remaining spruce have been removed from between the chestnuts along Nelson's Walk, and some overgrown beech have been rescued in the young spinney opposite the Bursar's office. The professionals have pushed ahead with their programme for thinning the plantations South of the Oxford Water and in Duchess Dale.

But the most exciting and encouraging developments have been two projects on the East side of the main vista. In the open woodland between Walpole and the parish church a picturesque old walnut was uprooted by a winter storm. Though a good price was obtained for its timber, which went to a French gunstock maker, it was a sad loss, and we felt that it ought to be replaced as soon as possible. So a few other older trees and stumps were removed, and a beginning has been made with planting young trees in their place. Of the six so far in position two are walnuts (*Juglans regia*). As reported elsewhere in this issue, one of these walnuts has been planted to mark the sixtieth birthday of the School, and the other to commemorate the life of Peter Salamon and his long service to Stowe.

Further down the South Front lawn the jungle undergrowth has been cleared along the bank of the Octagon, so that, as you walk past the Doric Arch, you now have an oblique view down the lake and over to the Pebble Alcove beyond. With great generosity the friends of Jonathan Avory (Temple 1959), one of Stowe's outstanding tennis players, who died last year, have adopted this scheme as a memorial to him. They have provided all the trees that are to be planted, and on Saturday, March 5th, Jonathan's family and friends met at the site, planting all twenty-nine trees themselves. It is intended to recreate a path along the edge of the lake, with a wooden seat half-way for weary walkers. It will not be a formal straight-back-and-sides seat cut from the timbers of some old ship of the line, but a circular seat designed to fit snugly round a large tree, like the seat in Nattes's picture of the Elysian Fields. The curved rails have to be steam bent, but luckily there is a practising wheelwright on the workshops staff, Mr. M. A. Carpenter, who can undertake this. The seat, too, is being provided by Jonathan's friends, and the path, named after the fashion of other paths at Stowe, is to be called 'Avory's Walk'.

G.B.C.

## THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Although the Classical Society has had but one lecture this term, its members have been hard at work, creating colourful projects for the annual exhibition. The lecture itself, attended by some twenty Stoics, was given by Mr. Braun, Dean of Merton College, Oxford. His topic was the fascinating one of Mapmaking in the Ancient World, which proved both informative and extremely interesting. Several of the exhibits in the Open Day Exhibition were inspired by his talk.

Meanwhile, the Lower Vi Greek set have been interviewing various people about Michael Ventris, the Old Stoic renowned for his work on Linear B. Their work is now complete, and we hope it may be published in some form. So, although the Society may seem somewhat dormant upon the surface, the good work continues at all levels of the School.

P. A. Campbell

## GRAPHIC EXTRAS

Graphics and printing, although new to the Workshop, are not new to the School of course. There is an eloquent account in the March '72 issue of *The Stoic* when "The Stowe Press was standing by" to print that very issue if our local printers were shut down by the power cuts of that year, to which Stowe was immune.

However, once the fine old Heidelberg printing press had been sold off in 1980 the art — or is it a science? — lapsed, to be revived this term.

The equipment collected for the operation is best described as mature and experienced; indeed, some of it dates from the very time that Eric Gill was revolutionising typography with his superb new types. One item at least probably predates Gill himself. It is a fine old process camera, performing now as well as on the day it was made. We have overhauled it and added two modifications, made in the Workshop, which are only just available on the most expensive print cameras sold today. (For initiates of the cult, these are suction negative and copy holders) and the result is a beautiful image, undistorted by the usual plate glass copy-holders.

The press is a sturdy offset-litho machine which again has undergone some modification and repair in the Workshop and is at the moment performing perfectly. The last and most important ingredient to this venture is a sprinkling of Stoics who have taken so easily to the various skills that I am left wondering why it took me so long to learn. It takes a particular burst of energy to get a new activity off the ground and much praise is therefore due to James Bowman, Matt Wollard, Sapphire Browne, Justin Anderson, Richard Davies, Hugh Fottrell and Sonya Winner.

Technical skills are one thing, but the world of graphics also needs creativity. Despite the geographical difficulties I have been pleased to see developing, a steady traffic between the Workshop and the Art School with a resulting improvement in origination and design. Our thanks to the Art School are the more so for the "permanent loan" of a small, hand letter-press printing machine with many founts of type which we hope to get going next term.

Another bonus to the activity has been the kindness of Dr. Jones, who agreed to allow the group to design and print *Middle Voice*. Work on this is going ahead very well and the members of the School seem determined to seize the graphic possibilities that this offers and to produce a paper which leans toward an unfettered *Stoic* rather than a junior's *Private Eye*. I am sure that members of Staff will be prepared to give helpful criticism where they see we have gone wrong.

J.E.E.

## STOWE DEBATING SOCIETY

Occasionally in life one has intimations that one is perhaps living through a "Golden Age", and this feeling has been very strong throughout the last three terms of the Debating Society.

One of our finest debates in terms of overall quality and argument was held in November, when Sarah Hobday chaired the rather unwieldy, "This House Believes that Her Majesty's Government should Take the Initiative in Abandoning Nuclear Weapons Unconditionally". The School Proposers were Guy Foster, Ian Stone and the President, Mr. Grimston, and they were Opposed by Tamara Louthan, Jonathan Bewes and David Barrow. After complimenting Proposer and Opposer, Professor John Ferguson, Master of the Selly Oak Colleges, gave a moving and powerful speech in favour, which was parried by General Christopher Popham (sic) Chairman of the British Atlantic Committee. When this motion was discussed two years ago the voting was 23 to 88: this time it was a more promising 22 to 27, with 12 abstentions.

Then came our big guest debates, which although they were not dignified with the status of official Jubilee events were nevertheless two of the most exciting happenings of an exciting year.

The first, in February, had as motion; "This House Regrets that Sex and Violence have become Consumer Products". The President chaired, and the motion was supported by Christian Rose, the Rev. Wynne-Jones, and Tamara Louthan (at five hours' notice! — Victoria Needham being sadly ill), and Opposed by Rick Thorpe, Mr. Cain, and Martyn Downer. These were followed by Mrs. Mary Whitehouse, C.B.E., in favour, and Mr. Victor Lownes, former boss of the Playboy Empire, against. The two had crossed swords on similar motions within the previous two years at both the Oxford and Cambridge Unions, and it is a measure of the strength of speaking at Stowe at present that Mr. Lownes should say (with the agreement of Mrs. Whitehouse, the only thing on which they did agree all evening) that the 'supporting' speeches were better than on either of their previous meetings. Perhaps Mrs. Whitehouse spoke rather too much to the motion rather than to the House, but on closing at 10.40 p.m. the House voted down the motion by 94 to 253.

The second was in complete contrast: "This House would rather have a Full Bottle in Front o'me than a Full Frontal Lobotomy" was proposed by the charismatic Chairman for the term, Bill Elliott, with support from Jim Price, Ian Keith (a former member of the Committee two years ago), Mr. Potter and the Rev. David Johnson, an ex-President of the Cambridge Union and surely one of the funniest speakers in the country, who fitted Stowe into a schedule that had included an army event the previous night and a Cambridge Presidential debate the following. Against spoke Jane Miller, Huw Jennings and Bob Miller (both ex-Chairmen), Mr. Small and Nicholas Parsons, the radio and television personality. The appreciative House carried the motion 114 to 56.

The General Election interrupted plans for the Third Jubilee Debate, at which John Gummer, junior minister for Employment in the last Government, was to have discussed the Public Schools. At time of writing attempts are being made to reorganise this.

In public competitions Stowe has also enjoyed some success, though perhaps not as much as could have been achieved had the events been taken rather more seriously. Andrew Keith was best Chairman in the Oxford branch final of the English Speaking Union inter-schools competition; Guy Foster was runner-up in the Milton Keynes Junior Chamber competition; Phillip Holland and Philip Wilson reached the semi-final of the Banbury Rotary Club Junior Debating; and in the Inter-House Competition for the Green Plastic Elephant Trophy the heats had an entry of over 50 Stoics for the first time, and the final, of a very high standard, had Walpole (John Stopford, Giles Wordsworth and Julian Whicker) defeat Stanhope (Victoria Needham, Charlotte Colfox and Tamara Louthan) on the motion "This House would Rather have been a

Stoic in 1923", by 157 votes to 100. and judges (the three Old Stoics in the Second Jubilee) support this decision. The star of the performance was without doubt the Third Former Wordsworth — surely a good omen for the future!

This term witnesses the departure of the Society's President, Mr. Grimston, a staunch supporter for the last few years. It is questionable whether the standard of speeches will be so high without his swift pen and whether anyone will be able to equal his enthusiasm that has been most evident and productive over this last year. His familiar figure will be sorely missed in the President's chair.

**Tamara Louthan**

## THE ENGLISH SOCIETY

In the Spring Term of 1983 the English Society met once in late February to see a film of the B.B.C. production of *Antony and Cleopatra*. Although the acting was good and the film constructive, it was generally felt that the play did not translate well onto the silver screen, particularly as the production was 3¼ hours long and the seats in the Roxburgh Hall are far from comfortable for anyone over 4 feet high. This term's meeting was a great success, however, as we were lucky enough to have Professor J. A. Burrow of Bristol University to speak to us on the subject 'The Wife of Bath was a goose'. This apparently obscure comment becomes more meaningful when we consider that Professor Burrow's aim was to link the 'Parlement of Foulys' and 'The Wife of Bath's Tale' (the two Chaucer 'A' level set texts) by comparing the character that the goose stands for amongst the 'foulys' to that of the Wife of Bath. Professor Burrow not only succeeded in drawing an interesting parallel between the two texts; he also provided helpful and constructive information on both texts and answered fully any questions that arose from his lecture.

**R. Bridgwood**

## THE DUCKERY

The Duckery is now in its eighth year at its present site between the Worthies River and the Octagon Lake. The aim is still as it was at the beginning, namely to breed wildfowl of a variety of species and to allow as many as possible free flight on to the lake, thereby increasing the number of birds at Stowe. In this we have had some success, and one year were able to release some 45 mallard. A succession of Stoics have looked after this venture and all have learnt a great deal about the problems and satisfaction of breeding birds. They have had to contend with vermin in the form of rats and crows, with vandals when on one occasion a hole was cut in the wire and many of the birds escaped, and of course with all the problems of learning the trade. The collection now has some 25 birds, all resident U.K. species, including Carolina and Mandarin. There are three small ponds and a few bantam hens which are used to brood the eggs that are not taken for incubation to the Biology Laboratories.

The last twelve months have been quiet ones. A number of repairs were carried out to the internal fencing and to the nesting boxes. Breeding began extremely early and there were Mallard and Carolina eggs laid before the end of the Spring Term at the end of March. These were in fact infertile, but we now have birds of both species sitting again and have high hopes of the Pintail, Widgeon and Pochard which have not bred successfully for two years. No doubt the breeding season will have as many surprises in store for us as usual, but at this moment we are full of hope of success. Visitors to the Open Day Exhibition were able to see some products of this in the form of Mallard ducklings at least.

The Duckery could not flourish without the support of a number of people in addition to the Stoics who run it, in particular those members both of the teaching and estate staff who help with the feeding in the holidays, and to them we are most grateful.

**N. R. Nicholson**

## ART SOCIETY

The Art Society has been active during the Spring and Summer Terms. Three talks have been delivered to the Society and any other Stoic interested in Art. These meetings were all quite different: one was Mr. Mann's talk on watercolours, the next Jonathan Kenworthy's on 'Kenworthy's Kenya', and Stuart Rose's on stamps.

Mr. Mann gave a delightfully illustrated account of watercolour painting, including at least a hundred examples of his own work. He also gave us a glimpse into Spanish rural life where he had spent much time painting. After talking Mr. Mann was available to talk to members of the Society, many of whom took the opportunity to enlarge their knowledge of the technique of water colours. This was very useful as the Water Colour Prize will be awarded at the end of this term.

Jonathan Kenworthy's talk on 'Kenworthy's Kenya' was extremely successful. He brought a film about how his work in Kenya is ultimately developed into bronze sculptures at his studio in Surrey. The untainted beauty of African life is accurately expressed in all his work. The Society was particularly impressed with his ability to capture 'movement' in everything he saw. Jonathan brought valuable examples of his work with him, and talked for almost an hour to those individuals who persisted in firing questions at him on casting, sketching, Africa and its endangered tribes and his present projects.

Stuart Rose gave us an inside view of the world of stamps. This was most interesting for those studying graphics and design. He talked about the development of postage stamps from the Penny Black to the present day, giving a brief history of each stamp. This, as were all the meetings, was a great success.

The Art Society has had a good year, with a steady increase in the number of meetings and of the number of attendants. Next term also looks like being extremely productive as several talks are now in the process of being organised.

Sonya Winner

## BRIDGE

With the final departure of J. Gray and C. Morley, the standard of bridge has settled down to a more normal level. In the Autumn Term S. Lunt did an excellent job as Secretary and with A. Lockwood retained the House Pairs Cup against strong opposition. Cobham retained the House Teams Trophy in March.

Results in School matches have been mixed, with draws against Harrow and Radley and a loss to Bedford to balance against a good win over St. Edward's. But we have not dominated these matches as we sometimes have in recent years. Part of the problem is the pressure of other commitments on our players, which prevents them putting in regular practice and acquiring the necessary discipline. M. Berner and T. Naish have been more consistent than most, winning the Pairs league. The School lost its match against the masters.

We did not win either of the big Inter-School events, though younger players did well.

**Oxfordshire School:** 2nd R. Marsh, A. Parker; 4th J. Gumpel, J. Hobday; 6th M. Berner, T. Naish.

**Berkshire Schools:** 4th J. Gumpel, J. Hobday; 6th S. Lunt, C. Morley.

We have taken part in a couple of Simultaneous Pairs events which are run all over the country or county.

**Junior International Simultaneous Pairs:** 3rd M. Berner, T. Naish; 4th N. Blakesley, M. Yallop.  
(132 Pairs).

**Oxford Bridge Association Simultaneous Pairs:** 35th J. Gumpel, J. Hobday, 44th M. Berner, N. Blakesley.  
(152 Pairs).

The Masters (M.E., G.M.H.) had the embarrassment of winning this last competition outright, having only joined in to make up numbers!

M.E.  
G.M.H.

## SLIPPING AWAY

Take a look at the left,  
Take a look at the right,  
We're never going down without a fight.  
But the people are so confused,  
Abused,  
And mistreated,  
I know that the fuse is burning,  
And I know we're always turning from the truth.  
But nobody's right if anybody's wrong,  
We've got nowhere to run, nowhere to turn to  
now.

The world that we once knew is slipping away,  
There'll be no tomorrow: we'll live for today,  
And if they're mad enough to do it then the  
Nation will cry, and an uproar will surge forward,  
"We're going to die"  
From where I stand,  
I can see the mushrooms in the sky.  
And then the nation will die . . . .

We're living in terror, we're living in fear,  
That the day of the holocaust will soon be here,  
But there's nothing we can do to stop it when it comes  
All we can do is just sit there and pray,  
And pray to our maker, our giver and taker,  
That we'll live through today.

We're slipping away . . . .

Take a look at the people,  
They don't know what's going on,  
It was over in a flash and it's been and gone.  
The world will never be such a beautiful place,  
And I know that it's curtains for the human race,  
But I knew it all along,  
And now we've got nowhere to run.

We're slipping away . . . .

R. M. Biffa  
(Third Former)



ANTHONY HOWARD PRIZE FOR SCULPTURE

A. M. Parker, Rem. C (Grenville)



ANTHONY HOWARD PRIZE FOR POTTERY

N. H. Groves, III d (Chandos)

## THE ART SCHOOL

Art examinations at A level were taken by the largest group of painters for many years, and we anticipate some excellent results. Art to O level was introduced into the lesson timetable this year and twelve boys in the Fourths embarked on the course. To meet further demand for O level from boys in the Fifth and Lower Sixth, extra sessions are arranged at weekends.

Exhibitions of work in the Art School on Jubilee Day, 11th May, and Open Day, 28th May displayed not only the work of examination sets but examples of ceramics, graphics, print-making and photography done by the Third Forms and the whole range of pupils who take art as an out-of-school activity. The Anthony Howard Prize was awarded as follows: Painting—Samantha Rowe, Sculpture—A. M. Parker, Pottery—N. H. Groves, Junior Art—A. J. Farquharson. (We are pleased to mention that A. J. Farquharson has been awarded an Art Exhibition. This is the first time that a boy has won an internal award for work in this subject).

A prize for painting in watercolour was offered by Richard McDougall (O.S.), of Clarges Gallery, London, to mark Stowe's Jubilee. The technique of painting in watercolours has been much neglected in recent years. Mr. McDougall's stipulation that entries for the prize should be in pure watercolour motivated a departure from routine Art School activities and several pupils have enjoyed tuition in watercolours on Sunday afternoons from Bob Read, a local watercolourist. An exhibition of the watercolours will be held at the beginning of the Autumn Term.

This year saw a revival of the Art Society. A variety of visiting speakers and artists were entertained. (See separate report). Many meetings owed their success to the work and enthusiasm of Sonya Winner as Society Secretary. At the Society's invitation, Buckingham Gallery is arranging an exhibition of watercolours near the end of this term in the Aurelian Room.

The Congreve Plays, House Plays and Staff Play involved the Art School in set design and construction both in and out of School time. Within the limitations of the fast scene changes necessary for the House Drama Festival, J. C. Downer's design for the Chandos Play, "**Journey's End**", was particularly inspired. Mr. Scott's settings for the Staff productions, "**H.M.S. Pinafore**" and "**The Little Sweep**" contributed to some most entertaining evenings, and his "pantomime graphics" involved most of the Fourths O level art set which worked with utmost enthusiasm for countless hours of preparation for the Junior Congreve production of "**The Comedy of Errors**".



With so many events taking place this year, House Art Exhibitions have been arranged later than usual. We look forward to exhibitions in Grenville, Chatham, Chandos, Grafton and Walpole before term ends.

In this Jubilee Year we turned our thoughts to the display of art in the main School. The new display unit, recently acquired complete with lighting, was first put to use in the Aurelian Room on the 28th May for the exhibition, "Views of Stowe" by John Claude Nattes. The unit has been employed daily since. Fifteen picture frames, designed for easy exchange of work, have been made to exhibit pupils' drawings, paintings and prints in the corridor leading to the dining hall servery. Plug Street — designs are at last in preparation to make some visual improvement in this unattractive, though interesting area. It is intended to fit illuminated display cabinets between the Egyptian Entry and Masters' Mess in the recesses between the main arch supports.

W.St.A.R.D.

### SUNSET

Ancient forces hold sway  
Over the city, when sun  
Sinks and moon  
Rises, from behind  
The distant yet  
Ever present peaks.  
Weird shapes present  
Their fulness against  
A blood red  
Sky. Spires shine  
In the last gleams  
Of the dying day.  
A hush of magical movement  
Enfolds the painted walls,  
And prayer flags  
Flutter  
Sending unknown messages  
To unknown ears  
An undertow of movement  
Is hidden by faint  
Twinkling lights, no  
Brighter than the lightning  
Stars;  
And rickshaws carry  
Strangers  
In a reverie  
Indulging in a  
Life not theirs  
Which repulses, beckons  
Yet does not show  
Its heart.

Fiona Gibbs

## SCIENCE FAIR

During the weekend of May 14th — 15th Sixth Form science students from Stowe, Royal Latin School, Buckingham; Sponne, Towcester; and Magdalen College School, Brackley were involved in a Science Fair. The event was centred on a number of Sixth Form workshops on the theme of light. Each workshop consisted of informal discussions, demonstrations and experimentation.

The fair was opened by the Headmaster, who welcomed the leaders of each workshop and the visiting Sixth Forms to Stowe. A short introductory talk was then given by Mr. B. Wilson, the Chief Scientist at Plessey Research. He had chosen 'The Future of Science in Britain' as his theme. In twenty minutes he attempted to introduce his Sixth Form audience to the changing pattern of scientific research in the 1980's.

The three science subjects all staged workshops. The theme of light provided a common strand to these five experimental sessions. In the Biology workshop, led by Dr. D. Chapman from Imperial College, London and Dr. J. Chapman from Queen Elizabeth College, London, photosynthesis provided the theme for experimentation. Students worked with radioactive carbon dioxide and followed the movement of photosynthetic assimilates through the plant using a variety of techniques.

In Chemistry students had a chance to choose between a workshop on Fast Reaction techniques or Photochemistry. These were led by Dr. M. Ledger from Kodak and Dr. J. Coyle of the Open University respectively. The use of really quite sophisticated instrumentation attracted a large number of students to these workshops.

In Physics, Fibre Optics and Holography provided the basis for two workshops. Dr. W. Stewart from Plessey Research ran a most stimulating session on Fibre Optics. This gave students first hand experience of the rapidly expanding field of fibre optics communication. The subject of Holography was presented by Mr. N. Phillips from Loughborough University. He is accepted as one of the leading authorities on Image Projection and his workshop provided a unique opportunity for students to produce their own holograms. After the workshops Mr. Phillips delivered a more general talk on Holograms to an audience of Sixth Formers, parents and staff.

The overall impression of the Science Fair seems to be favourable. Students found it a stimulating and enjoyable experience.

It appears to be an experiment worth repeating.

Vanessa Morrison  
Julian Hobday

## ELECTION '83

The tense but expectant audience of a few hundred Stoics, gathered on the South Front steps, went quieter as they heard the words for which they had been waiting: "I, Malcolm Charles Grimston, as Returning Officer for the Stowe Constituency, do hereby declare that the votes cast for the candidates in the election held on June 9th were as follows . . . ."

The campaign had run for three weeks. The candidates represented Conservatives, Labour, S.D.P. Alliance, Anarchist, Ecologist, British Imperialist and Monster Raving Loony, and in an opinion poll held on May 26th the Loony, with 9% ran second to the Tory's 71%. The word was out — Stowe could not be considered a "key marginal!"

But as the campaign proceeded, vigorous canvassing by the British Imperialist, whose manifesto included commitment to "an aggressive foreign policy — to restate our historic claims to France" — showed the effect that hard sell can have in electioneering — not to mention the rather worrying right wing influence in many schools. The second poll on June 2nd put Conservative 45%, Imperialist 23%.

Then came the hustings, "Question Time" sessions, and meetings by the candidates. There were lighter moments: a manifesto for the Apathy Party appeared on the Manifestos Board—good of them to take the trouble, if somewhat hypocritical! — the Ecologist candidate denied that nuclear weapons had kept the peace in Europe for fifty years (an exaggeration, at best), and the Loony Manifesto centred around the compulsory introduction of soft toilet paper throughout the School. But with the final poll showing Tory 46%, Imperialist 17%, Loony 13% and S.D.P. 11% polling day came.

The first lost deposit was Apathy — 561 votes were cast, a turnout of 86%, far higher than the real thing. Once again, the polls were found to be lacking, with strong showings from all but the S.D.P., Ecologist and inevitably Labour — whatever happened to the carefree Leftism of schoolboys? The full result, then, was as follows:

<b>Michael S. W. ANDERSEN</b> (Imperialist)	120	(21.6%)
<b>Richard B. CARRUTHERS</b> (Ecologist)	26	( 4.7%)
<b>Martin B. DOWNER</b> (S.D.P. Alliance)	31	( 5.6%)
<b>F. Guy FOSTER</b> (Conservative)	181	(32.6%)
<b>Thomas A. D. HOWARD</b> (Labour)	9	( 1.6%)
<b>Alistair R. MOORE</b> Anarchist)	76	(13.7%)
<b>James B. PRICE</b> (Monster Raving Loony)	113	(20.3%)

If the campaign lacked sparkle, perhaps it was because, as in the country as a whole, the result was never in doubt. But the exercise was interesting, and the question of the shape of things to come was raised by the corresponding vote in the Common Room between the Party Agents, which was taken by Charles Milne for the S.D.P., whose 7 votes pushed the Loony there (Bob Marsden) into second. Perhaps the 33% turnout was a factor!

M.C.G.

### A PRAYER

Let me not live to be lifeless  
 Water for blood in my veins  
 Sluggish or stupid or strifeless  
 Weighed with invisible chains.  
 God, give me grace to be guileless  
 Simple and honest and true  
 Better by far to be tireless  
 Than knowing and cynical too.  
 Render me always as restless  
 Fighting and tugging for more  
 Never quite quiet or questless  
 But biting the day to the core.

Rather, Lord, let me die running  
 Feeling the rush of the wind  
 Laughing and living and loving  
 Gripping the hand of a friend.

Kill me while yet I am breathing  
 Let me not feel myself end.

Lois Sparling

## VERDICT ON THE SHROUD

This is a summary of the findings of the forty scientists who in 1978 formed "The Shroud of Turin Research Project" (STURP). While it is a valuable book for anyone interested in the Shroud, presenting the technical results in terms understandable to the layman, it is not the definitive book on the STURP testing that it appears to be.

The image on the Shroud lacks sharp boundaries between image and non-image areas and this, together with the faintness of the image, makes it much easier to see at a distance than at close range. It is a superficial image, that is, only the very topmost fibres in each thread are discoloured: in most places, the yellow discoloration extends only two or three fibres deep into the thread structure.

Microscopic examination also revealed that the image is monochromatic: the yellow discoloration of the fibres is the same colour throughout the image. What the eye sees as differences of colour are actually differences in the density of the discoloured fibres. In other words, the "darker" areas of the image are not yellower. They appear darker because they contain more discoloured fibres than the lighter areas. These density differences are mathematically related to the distance between the cloth and the body underneath. (Page 77).

This fact lies behind the most intriguing of their findings — the discovery that the Shroud image contains three dimensional data.

The image is brightest in areas where the body touched the cloth — for example, the nose, forehead and eyebrows. The image is less intense in areas where the body did not touch the cloth — for example, the side of the cheeks and the recessed areas of the eye sockets. This discovery indicated that the Shroud image was formed by a three-dimensional object. It also means that the Shroud could not have been formed by direct contact, as by placing the cloth over a corpse or statue which had been heated or treated with pigment. The mystery was that parts of the body not in contact with the cloth also appear on the image, and the brightness of these non-contact areas varies according to their distance from the cloth. (Page 64).

It is this which gives a photograph of the Shroud an inbuilt three-dimensionality unknown with any other photograph.

How, then, was the image formed?

The image on the Shroud is, of course, a negative image and that alone makes it extremely difficult to imagine it to be the work of a 14th century forger. Not only is there the question: "How could he create such an image?" but also "Why would a forger take great pains to produce an image the full significance of which could be appreciated only when photography had been invented?"

The scientists first of all examined the possibility that the image was a painting. They specifically tested Dr. Walter McCrone's thesis that there were traces of iron oxide on the Shroud, characteristic of paint, which led him to say that the whole image was painted or that the existing image had been enhanced at a later date. The battery of microscopic and optical tests decisively disposed of this theory, no particles of pigment being found on the Shroud under 50× magnification. Making use of the same computer-assisted techniques used to study Mars, the scientists could find no "directionality" to the image. 'Any hand application of paint, dye or any other foreign substance by a forger would have shown a characteristic pattern, no matter how carefully the artist painted or tried to cover his work'. (Page 65).

McCrone's theory was finally disposed of by X-ray fluorescence and visible light examination of the Shroud, and by micro-chemical studies . . . these tests determined that there was not nearly enough iron oxide on the cloth to account for even an enhancement of the image. (Page 83).



After rejecting two other possibilities they turned their attention to the theory that the image was the result of a scorching of the cloth. Under colour spectroscopic analysis the scorch marks from the 1532 fire and the image markings were found to be virtually of the same intensity. 'The ultraviolet and visible light reflectance tests showed that the image and the fire scorches reflected light in a similar way. The image and the scorch areas also reduced the background fluorescence of the cloth at a similar rate'. (Page 91). After a number of other tests their conclusion was that 'a scorch would account for the vast majority of the known characteristics of the Shroud image much better than any other theory.

But if the image was a scorch, how did it get on the cloth? This question proved to be very difficult to answer in scientific terms. The problem was finding what they called a 'technologically credible image transfer mechanism', a phrase which ought to win a prize of some kind. 'Not all the scientists agreed with the scorch thesis, and many members of the scientific team stopped well short of imagining that a corpse emitted enough light and heat to scorch a burial shroud'. (Page 92).

Up to the present time, therefore, a **completely natural explanation** of the image of the man in the Shroud has eluded the scientists. As a team, the Shroud of Turin Research Project avoided the question of the identity of the man in the Shroud; nevertheless their research provides 'considerable evidence that the image was formed by a real corpse in a real tomb. (Page 95).

One might wish that Stevenson and Habermas had left it at that; providing, perhaps, in the second half of their book, more technical details for those who would have liked to read them. Unfortunately they leave the realm of science, on which they are eminently qualified to speak, and turn to scripture and apologetics, which gives a curiously uneven balance to their otherwise very readable book.

Martin Haigh, O.S.B.

Ampleforth Abbey,  
York.



Catching practice at St. Peter's (Adelaide)



Our opening partnership v. Pembroke (Adelaide)

## THE STOWE JUBILEE CRICKET TOUR OF AUSTRALIA 1983

Nine a.m., Thursday, 31st March. The months of waiting and planning were over. Gatwick was buzzing. Amongst the crowds a small group of blue-blazered boys lingered expectantly alongside anxious parents. With twenty-eight hours of flying ahead of us, the nervous tension was evident. Still, Bahrain is pleasant at this time of year!

Formalities were over, baggage checked in, team photo with an airport backdrop, prolonged farewells and up in the air. What were the films to be? Not 'Gallipoli' unfortunately Mr. Marsden! The Alps were an impressive sight below us, their snowy peaks and slopes dazzling in the sun. Then onward via Bahrain to Hong Kong. Six hours of waiting there — a chance to shop? A shower even? Not a bit of it. Mr. Yue (Godfrey is in the third form) had arranged a whistle stop tour of the island including a ferry trip, underground, rooftop views, a twelve course meal Chinese-style, and a bus trip. He had really excelled in helping us to begin our tour in tremendous style. Our warmest thanks go to him for his generous hospitality.

Perth Airport is an experience. Being sprayed with "anti-illegal" immigrant spray is one thing, but a jumbo-jet full of passengers queuing while three immigration officials check you in, is quite another story! Our hosts were very patient, especially at midnight! The boys departed, the only instructions being to relax, sleep, and report in first thing Tuesday morning. (It is now Friday!). An anxious manager watched as one by one each boy vanished with kind hosts, perhaps never to be seen again? However, when Tuesday came all was well, great times had been had by all, only one came back later in the evening — he was sheep shearing 300 miles away! Acclimatisation to Perth was easy. Everyone had slept, swum and sunbathed and some had indulged in prawn fishing, water skiing, seeing kangaroos and koalas, visiting dolphin-ariums and other exciting activities.

Our first game was on Tuesday, April 5th against a school situated further up the Swan River, Guildford, a beautiful setting to begin our campaign. We batted first, and dry mouths and parched thirst monopolised the thoughts of our early batsmen because all looked as though they wanted to return early to the pavilion. Some very ill-advised strokes were demonstrated — acclimatisation to the heat and conditions (33°C) was going to be more difficult than I imagined. Only Douglas Steward, the captain, coped, looking more comfortable as his innings progressed. A fine maiden century allowed us to declare at 154 - 9. His opposite number, Tom Moody, proved to be a class batsman as well as bowler and he took a lion's share of Guildford's reply, surpassing our total for the loss of only 3 wickets.

Another hot day saw us at Aquinas, a school in North Perth, set on a high promontory with the delightful Swan River flowing round all but one side. What a pity our cricket did not match the superb environment — we slumped to 74 all out. What followed was an amazing session of fielding, when we caught well and bowled intelligently. With twenty runs left and only 3 wickets standing Aquinas too were struggling, but then a safe stand saw them past our total without further loss. An exciting game.

Our hosts for the week, Wesley College, were due to play Aquinas on the following Saturday in the exciting final game of the Darlow Cup, the Perth Public Schools Cricket Competition. Guildford were a strong challenge but our loyalties were firmly with Wesley. Our game against them, however, was an opportunity for them to rest a few key players, but even so their batting was strong and they declared at 182 - 6. We never really looked like getting close to this despite a commendable half century from the captain. Some very friendly hosts allowed our two young batsmen to finish with a flourish finally at 134 - 4. A feature of this day was our meeting with the Australian captain, Kim Hughes, who came to lunch and was introduced in turn to all the boys. With only an hour to go before he too was due to meet the Princess of Wales at a garden party, he was still chatting warmly and enthusiastically to the boys. A real gentleman.

Ashley Morrison batted well at Hale, our Friday opponents, but on a damp, rain affected wicket we could only muster 126 - 9. Hale won with a few overs to spare, losing only three wickets in the process.

Our visit to Perth was drawing to a close, yet we still had many things to see and do, including our third massive barbeque thanks to our very kind family hosts, a son et lumière of Wesley, a visit to Rottnest Island (don't feed the quokkas — they bite!), the trotting races (Chris Ruddock knew the form!), the wind-up party (double celebrations as Wesley had won the Darlow Cup for the first time for many years) and other very enjoyable occasions. Goodbyes were emotional, our stay had been wonderful.

And so to Adelaide on Sunday, 10th April. After landing (a bumpy flight) fine planning by our host organised the boys into families quickly and efficiently, and once more we settled in ready to do battle. But first a sight-seeing tour. Colonel Light's statue, panoramic view over the city, Adelaide Oval, the Arts Centre, a close-up tour of the fire-damaged hills — an indescribably devastating sight — and an inspection of Kay Bros., wine producers, were all included in what proved to be a tiring, though very stimulating day.

First match against our hosts, St. Peters, on the Tuesday proved no match. Their main oval was too wet and we played on a very fast, though true, artificial wicket. We were soundly thrashed by the strongest team we were to meet on the tour, as our batsmen could not muster any defence whatsoever. Spirits were not too down, for the following day we were to gain our first victory of the tour. Scotch College scored 90 all out and thanks to an uncompromising 60 not out from the captain we passed the total with plenty to spare. Acclimatisation was getting easier as we were experiencing wickets similar to our own early season ones at home and this contributed to our success. However, our senior members were still struggling to find form with the bat. Our bowling and fielding were fine; it was just our rather brittle batting that was

causing problems. Most of the cricket we were choosing to experience involved limited overs, or timed declarations, or some other modification to the game as we know it — the only possible result a win or loss at the end of the day, never a draw. Therefore scoring runs was crucial.

Proceedings were curtailed at Prince Albert's when an exciting finish seemed likely. Chasing 134 we were 85 - 5 when darkness brought play to a close. Australia has no twilight, it seems — in mid-over the sun can disappear and make play impossible! The day did show how the youngest member of the party, Sean Morris, was emerging as a stylish batsman who was not willing to forsake his wicket easily.

Ashley Morrison, too, was proving the main attacking force in our bowling and produced a very good spell ending with 4 for 47 in 28 overs against our final opponents in Adelaide, Pembroke. He was definitely 'man of the match' as he went on to score 41 which helped us pass the Pembroke total of 120 with three wickets left, and so gained our second victory. Saturday was spent watching all our opponents racing at the head of the river Regatta on a man-made lake near Adelaide, which could stage eight crews abreast. What an exciting final — this time our hosts did not win!

Our time in Melbourne, which we reached on Sunday, April 17th was all too brief for us to form a complete picture of the character of the city. Carey Baptist Grammar School hosted us superbly, except on the field when for the second time on the tour our batting demonstrated its frailty. Unfortunately this coincided with about six important catches being missed and the resulting win to a very young Carey side was well deserved. Tuesday's visit to the Kookaburra cricket ball factory, and the Melbourne Cricket Ground amply made up for any disappointments we may have had the previous day.

So too did the evening spent with the Old Stoics at the Melbourne Club. This was a highlight of the tour, an evening to savour and remember. The spontaneous rapport between young and not-so-young was a delight to behold. We were extremely grateful to the Old Stoics, in particular Peter Howson, Edward O'Farrell and John Simpson for their superb organisation and most generous hospitality.

Wednesday, 20th April and the final stage of our journey was upon us. A well packed mini-bus took us from the Airport to Parramatta twenty miles out of Sydney. With bated breath we waited for our first glimpse of the harbour bridge and opera house. It was everything we expected, and more. A truly magnificent sight. King's School, too, has a marvellous setting and we were extremely glad that we had changed plans and come to visit Sydney. To go home without this opportunity would have been very disappointing, in retrospect.

Our game too, was to be our best performance of the tour. Perhaps we were encouraged by the environment or the knowledge that our hosts had been playing rugby for a fortnight already, or maybe the boys saw it as the one final chance to do well. Whatever the motivation, the effort, determination and enthusiasm demonstrated by the team was very commendable. Ashley Morrison scored a fine half century which allowed us a modest total to bowl at. Chris Ruddock produced the fastest piece of bowling seen on the tour, collecting five wickets (the broken stump is now a household trophy I hope!) and the match was won.

The barbeque after the game was a most exciting occasion and it was particularly pleasing to see several Old Stoics so obviously enjoying the renewed contact with the School. We were particularly indebted to George O'Farrell and Richard Miall for giving a number of our boys such an exciting day's outing in Sydney. At the luncheon too, the following day, further links were forged in a most happy atmosphere. I hope the Old Stoics enjoyed the occasion as much as the school party did.

Sightseeing included a ferry to Manley, views from the Centrepoint, the Rocks, Pier One and many other areas too numerous to mention. Judging by the number of photographs taken we should have a fascinating few hours at the reunion supper.

Leaving Sydney on Sunday, April 24th was not the end however. Yet again in Hong Kong we were to receive some excellent hospitality and organisation from Struan Robertson, an Old Stoic. A superb day's coach trip to the New Territory, a glimpse of China and many other places of interest were features of the day. The boys particularly enjoyed the opportunity of haggling and bargaining with the shopkeepers for cameras and Sony equipment. Sadly it all had to end as the homeward journey was upon us. Gatwick loomed again (Bahrain hadn't changed at all) — and once again Mr. Marsden was to be denied 'Gallipoli'.

Our grateful thanks go to everyone who so generously entertained us and helped make our visit so enjoyable, our host parents, Old Stoics, families and friends. In particular may I thank the host organisers who made life so very easy for the management. I do hope some of the schools we visited can come to England soon so that we can try to return their most generous hospitality. Finally may I congratulate the boys on playing so bravely, for being such good ambassadors, and for making the tour so very enjoyable and straightforward for all of us?

Thank you.

L.E.W.

### MATURITY

A time will come  
 A time will be  
 When nothing more  
 Will frighten me.  
 Mine be the hand  
 They grasp in fright  
 When they see faces  
 In the night  
 And I'll be their security.

The time will come  
 As sure it must  
 When it's in me they  
 Place their trust—  
 I the one  
 Who leads the way  
 From blindness into  
 Purest day  
 And out of their obscurity.

The time will come  
 (Too soon it may)  
 When all my blacks and whites  
 Are grey  
 When all my feelings  
 Merge as one  
 When all impulses  
 Are gone  
 And then I reach Maturity.

Lois Sparling

## SPORT CRICKET THE FIRST XI

Atrocious weather has ruined any prolonged enjoyment on the cricket field. It has been a credit to the ground staff that we have played any matches at all in between the monsoons. The boys who toured in Australia at least have the satisfaction of having played half a season, already in glorious sunshine.

Finding form on soggy wickets has been hard, and because most of the games have been low totals definite conclusions have been reached. The first game was the only drawn game so far. A strong Free Foresters side, with a fine century from our captain's uncle, set a good target and almost bowled us out in our reply. However, some useful practice at the wicket was very beneficial. Chasing a modest total at Mill Hill, Thomas and Claydon helped us reach 96 for 2 and a close finish seemed very possible. Disaster was to follow and the remaining wickets fell for seventeen runs, the last one on the last ball. An exciting game, though one which, had we been concentrating on run rate a little more we should never have lost in that way.

After a good start at Bradfield we again slumped to 129 all out. When Bradfield were 48 for 3 the game looked to be in the balance, but we could not maintain the pressure and they romped home with time and energy to spare. So to Canford and our Jubilee game. Having watched the heavy roller resembling a speed boat with a bow wave in the outfield, one wondered whether any play was going to be possible. However, a fine sunny day, a superb setting, some very generous hospitality, a captain's innings of 72 ("Steward found the leg side boundary with monotonous ease") and an encouraging spell of seam bowling from the youthful Whitmore, all combined to make the day very special. Our first victory and one thoroughly deserved.

Two days later we came down to earth. We allowed Bedford to escape from 90 for 9 to 121 all out which just put the total out of our reach in those conditions. They caught and fielded even more crisply and devastatingly than we had earlier, and this was the deciding factor in our middle order batsmen again slumping under pressure. Were we too confident perhaps?

That to date is the cricket story. We have watched a lot of wickets getting wetter; we have used the indoor nets in June! I hope to report on sunnier things for the remainder of the season.

L. E. W.

### SECOND XI

At the time of writing, the weather has allowed us only two matches. It is to be hoped that the next issue of *The Stoic* will carry a much brighter report about the climate as well as the cricket.

C.J.G.A.

### JUNIOR COLTS

Remarkably, only three of the nine matches to date have been lost to the monsoon. The 'A' Team has beaten Mill Hill and the Royal Latin School, lost to Bucks Juniors and Bedford, and drawn with Bradfield. All the team have fielded extremely well — indeed, they catch as well as any Junior Colts team we have seen. Carpenter and Hegarty have bowled with promise and occasional penetration, while A. J. Phillips has the makings of a class batsman. Quite the most promising player was Morris, who batted and bowled so well in the first three matches that he was promoted to the Colts. J. M. J. Phillips has proved an able, inspiring and popular captain.

In its only match, the 'B' Team lost to Bedford. Recruited from the Water Polo squad, Boghos was in his element and scored some swashbuckling runs, while Harrison aquaplaned through five of the opposition. The lifeguard has not so far been required.

D.G.L.  
 A.G.M.

## HOCKEY

In this Diamond Jubilee year it is very pleasing to be able to report that hockey has flourished. In comparison with other years, when the weather has been miserable, only one day of matches was lost to snow, those versus St. Edward's, Oxford. The senior sides have enjoyed a particularly successful series of results with the 1st XI remaining unbeaten in all their matches, the 2nd XI losing only one and the 3rd XI only two. The Colts have fared well with several good wins to their credit and the younger groups have experienced mixed fortunes. We say thank you and bid a sad farewell to Peter Stiff and John Watson, who have contributed so much to Stowe's hockey. We welcome a new groundsman, Norman Crowder, who has already helped to improve the quality of the grass pitches. We thank Roy Lewis and the catering staff for all their help in a busy, short term.



## THE FIRST XI

The foundation was laid in the Autumn term with the opportunity to coach the potential 1st XI once a week. It was a rare and strong advantage at the start of a season to be able to train a select squad of twelve players. A second unusual factor which contributed to the unbeaten season was the match against Canford in the middle of the fixture list. The importance of the Lord's match had a wonderful effect on the concentration and commitment of the side throughout the term. A third exceptional factor was the absence of any old colour, which led to immediate cooperation amongst the side to play for one another rather than individually. Congratulations go to David Hockley for his ability, as Captain, to motivate those around him. He gained the unanimous respect of the team, both as a player and as a leader on and off the field. Likewise, the other more senior players, Douglas Steward, Julian Claydon and Rupert Bevan all set a magnificent example in every department of the game, without which success would not have been possible.

The psychological preparation for matches was good. There was a team pride and the right amount of confidence. The tactical understanding of the game was clear; there were five forwards with two wide wingers, an attacking right half, a centre half who was never afraid to support the six forward players and two full backs who covered properly. The fitness of the team was sufficient to absorb the pressure from attacks on our defence and to sustain pressure through our own forward play. Post-match discussions helped players to avoid making the same mistakes and built up team spirit. The willingness to support the player with the ball became more evident as time went on.

Lastly, four players deserve special mention. Julian Brown must be considered the best goalkeeper that Stowe has seen for many years, if not ever. He showed outstanding ability at critical moments in every match. In all the strongest contests he was called on to make match-saving feats and he achieved them. Julian Claydon at centre forward was a very sharp opportunist goal scorer and a tireless, selfless runner. Douglas Steward, at left back, inspired confidence with resolute tackling and extremely hard hitting. Julian Stocks, at inside right, possessed the most skilful stick work of anyone and must be considered the most improved player. This is not to say that others lacked talent in various directions and some reference to their contributions is made in the match summaries.

## THE MATCHES

The opening game against Oundle was rather typical of early season matches with some uncertainty about tactics and too much play down the middle of the pitch. There were touches of fluent hockey which gave an indication of things to come. Playing away against Dean Close was altogether more difficult and it was a much faster game on their all-weather pitch. It was hard work to retrieve a break-away goal against us, but Claydon produced a spectacular shot after we had shown the superior forward pressure. Bradfield provided a gentlemanly side of little experience and the large amount of possession we had should have led to a bigger score. The short corner drill worked effectively through Stocks. Bedford were quite a different proposition with a strong physical presence. It was good that we did not simply sit on our record. Stopford played a mature game as replacement for Carles, who was concussed. Claydon and Bevan were particularly memorable in the goals they scored and the defence showed composure. The Aldenham match was a frustrating example of unconverted chances leading to an unexciting end except for a late goal by Lockwood, who arrived as if from nowhere. He repeated this style of scoring several times from the left wing later on in the season.

After Exeat came the Canford match at Lord's. We showed a professional approach to the occasion even though most players were in awe of Canford's reputation; no bad thing. Against the team's expectation, Stowe played better hockey in the first half and were elated to go one up with twenty minutes remaining. The rest of the match turned out to be totally defensive with

Brown, Bevan and Steward superb in defending short corners, twelve in all. A draw was a fair result, albeit a little disappointing on a day when over three hundred Stowe supporters cheered for more.

Inevitably the following game versus Cheltenham felt anticlimactic, but Claydon scored convincingly early in the game and we were able to keep our heads up well. The old form returned against Pangbourne, when there was the best exhibition of quick, close passing and accurate finishing seen all term. Elmitt showed exceptional control of the ball and he has a marvellous potential as he has two more years in the 1st XI. To play Radley away on grass was another daunting fixture and the defence saved the day once more. Our forwards were not allowed to build up attacks that amounted to anything more than an outside chance of a goal. It was considerable relief to play a young Mill Hill team so efficiently on our own grass and to achieve a score that will be difficult to surpass. The last school match was an unknown quantity as it was the first ever fixture with Rugby. It turned out to be an exhilarating performance with the strongest spell of sustained pressure by our forwards in the second half of any of the matches in the term. The penetrating right wing play of Roxborough was missing but Bevan proved his equal. MacKinnon marked out any danger on the left side and Carles played consistently well at right back, but with little to do in the second half.

Other matches against club players included an impressive win over a Cambridge University Wanderers XI. It was an opportunity to hit the ball very hard and never to give up hope against older and more experienced players. The Old Stoic match was rather the opposite from the boys' point of view and it was a mistake to play on such wet grass. The Old Boys deserved to win and were unlucky not to.

In conclusion, it is interesting to list a few more contributing factors to the success of this group. As matches were won the team believed in their own abilities more and more as well as respecting one another's abilities. There was a will to win and an equally strong dislike of losing. They had their fair share of luck which is needed to a certain extent to remain unbeaten in any sport. They only used twelve players all term which was unusual and a great help for consistency in team selection. They created a cheerful atmosphere which made everyone feel the better for it and had a happy influence in the school away from any hockey pitch.

### The Oxford Hockey Festival

The squad spent a thoroughly enjoyable three days based at St. Peter's College at the start of the Easter holidays. Sadly, we did not have the services of Stocks or Bevan, but the numbers were made up by Thomas, a 1st XI player from last year, Jarvis and Burrough, both 2nd XI players and Tembe, mi. from the Colts XI. The results were varied. A fairly easy win over Repton, two excellent draws against Felsted and Bangor, Northern Ireland and two rather tired and unnecessary losses against Wellington and Sherborne.

**J.M.L.**

**Team:** J. J. Brown, D. A. Steward, D. W. R. Carles, A. M. MacKinnon, D. Hockley (Captain), R. C. M. Bevan, A. A. Lockwood, R. M. C. Elmitt, J. H. M. Claydon, J. G. Stocks, I. J. Roxborough, C. J. Stopford.

**Results:** Played 13; Won 9; Drawn 4; Lost 0; Goals for: 32; Goals against: 8.

v. Oundle	Home	Won	2—0
v. Cambridge Wanderers	Home	Won	2—0
v. Dean Close	Away	Drawn	1—1
v. Bradfield	Home	Won	3—1
v. Bedford	Home	Won	3—2
v. St. Edward's, Oxford	Away	Cancelled	
v. Aldenham	Home	Won	1—0
v. Canford	Lord's	Drawn	1—1
v. Cheltenham	Away	Won	1—0
v. Pangbourne	Home	Won	5—1
v. Radley	Away	Drawn	0—0
v. Mill Hill	Home	Won	8—0
v. Rugby	Away	Won	3—0
v. Old Stoics	Home	Drawn	2—2

### Housematches

The Junior Competition was won by Walpole, who defeated Temple 3—1. These two teams were considerably stronger than all the other houses.

The Senior Competition was also won by Walpole, who beat Chandos 3—0. The other good team was Lyttelton who lost to Chandos in the semi-final on penalty flicks after extra time. Thanks go to Muir Temple for organising the House League Competition once more this term. As has been so often the case the wet and snowy weather made it impossible to produce an overall winner.

## THE COLTS

The side showed encouraging potential in numerous of its matches, but on occasions played with less than full commitment. Both the best and the worst of the play was evident in the Oundle match, and we were lucky to equalise in the last minute. Two matches later, a seven goal tally against Bradfield saw players attacking and scoring goals with enthusiasm and skill. However, by the Bedford match the following Saturday, five of the 'A' XI were unavailable for various reasons, and an inexperienced side performed commendably against skilful opposition. The midfield players learnt the lesson of positive tackling in this match, which proved very valuable, notably in the well-deserved win against Cheltenham.

Unfortunately a casual performance against Pangbourne led to a 2—1 defeat, but the short corner team restored confidence with a goal to draw with Radley. Two wins followed against Mill Hill and Rugby to end the season in pleasing style.

The consistent players of the season were: Rigg at sweeper, Bartlett, learning all the time at centre back, and Tembe showing all-round skill at centre midfield. Keith, Fairbairn and Osman also showed fierce goal scoring ability.

The nucleus of this team should help to make some capable 1st XI sides in the future.

**Those who played:** M. Campbell, J. P. Rigg, J. R. Sinclair, M. J. Bartlett, M. J. Hughes, C. J. Rotheroe, S. M. Tembe, A. C. Fairbairn, S. S. Osman, P. S. Keith, J. A. S. Sparrow.

**Also played:** G. E. C. Marton, T. E. Perei, H. J. Ripley, J. M. Gumpel, A. J. M. Hardie.

### Results:

Results: v. Oundle	Away	Drawn	3—3
v. Dean Close	Home	Won	2—1
v. Bradfield	Home	Won	7—1
v. Bedford	Away	Lost	0—3
v. Aldenham	Home	Lost	0—1
v. Cheltenham	Home	Won	2—1
v. Pangbourne	Away	Lost	1—2
v. Radley	Home	Drawn	1—1
v. Mill Hill	Away	Won	3—0
v. Rugby	Home	Drawn	2—2

**J.P.W.**

## JUNIOR COLTS

A crowded fixture programme of ten matches was reduced to seven by the weather, and of these three were won, three lost and one drawn. Any team coach looking back over a season can reflect on what the record might have been if only . . . ! The Junior Colts season in 1983 was certainly marred by the loss of practice days and the coach himself was mainly responsible for not using the days we had more effectively. As a result, the team only played to its potential on few occasions and generally lacked confidence in its own ability, especially up front where a bit more aggression must have brought more goals.

Hencher was usually reliable and has improved his goal-keeping technique considerably. Boghos and Cherry at full back were stalwart defenders and were only put under severe pressure in the second half of the Cheltenham match. Yeoward was the "find" of the season and, although some of his technique looks a little unorthodox, he was a remarkably effective right half. Weller at centre half is a skilful player and a good captain, and when he adopts a rather deeper position in defence he will be a very complete player. Phillips' problem at left half was the dangerous practice of over-committing himself in the tackle and under-committing himself in recovering. Curtis, who eventually replaced him, looked more solid all round but both have the potential to aspire to greater things in the future. The forwards looked strongest when the wingers Carpenter and Rushton were in full flight in combination with their respective insides Oliver and Morris. All four are skilful players and will become increasingly effective when they learn to use the square ball more often and thus switch the direction of their attacks. The other player who would have benefited from more variation in attack was Jarrett at centre forward, who too often found himself closely marked when the ball had been channelled down the left or right.

However, there were plenty of promising signs for the future which would have been even more obvious if just a few of the many opportunities up front had been converted into goals. All members of the team contributed to an enjoyable season that was so nearly an outstanding one.

#### C.J.G.A.

**Team:** R. A. W. Weller (Captain), R. P. Boghos, T. J. Carpenter, P. J. Cherry, G. B. Curtis, N. E. Hencher, P. R. C. Jarrett, R. S. M. Morris, J. R. C. Oliver, T. D. D. Phillips, N. A. C. Rushton, J. C. J. Yeoward.

**Also played:** M. J. R. White.

<b>Results:</b> v. Dean Close	Won	3—1
v. Bedford	Won	1—0
v. Cheltenham	Lost	1—4
v. Pangbourne	Lost	1—2
v. Radley	Lost	1—2
v. Mill Hill	Won	3—2
v. Rugby	Drawn	1—1

Matches v. Bradfield, St. Edward's and Aldenham were cancelled.



### Stowe versus Canford at Lords

It was on the occasion of their joint Diamond Jubilee that Stowe and Canford met at Lord's as a curtain raiser to the 'Varsity Match on Tuesday, 22nd February. Both schools came to Lord's with unbeaten records in this season's school matches.

The day was cold, clear and gloriously sunny with the hallowed turf looking immaculate albeit a little long for some. Both schools had mustered support of over five hundred shouting friends, and the occasion was almost greater than the players. The first half was unspectacular with Stowe having the sharper attacking line but unable to finish with a goal. Claydon penetrated the Canford circle with the most speed and opportunism but Daubeny, at sweeper, controlled the defence with maturity.

Fifteen minutes into the second half, Stowe scored against the run of the play through Stocks as he converted a penalty flick. Thereafter, Canford showed the more fluent Hockey with frequent ploys down the left wing, McLaughlin pressed and helped to gain numerous short corners. It seemed inevitable that the equaliser would come and it did so through a well-taken shot in open play by Rutledge.

This left twenty minutes of rather nervous Hockey in which Canford pressed the more effectively, but Stowe looked threatening on the counter-attack. Northwood worked well for Canford yet Bevan and Steward were resolute and unbeatable in the set pieces, and the goal-keeping of Brown was almost faultless. The honours were shared much to the relief of both parties as the hospitality that followed during and after the 'Varsity match was the better for a draw!

What of the quality of school Hockey nowadays? If these two schools are representative of others in general, then Hockey is in a healthy state. David Pattison, Canford's coach, is to be congratulated on the list of representative players at County and Divisional levels. The boys owe much to his experience with the England Juniors. James Larcombe, Stowe's coach, gives credit to the H:A. Course at Lilleshall last summer, and recommends such courses to others for an injection of new ideas into training programmes at school level. Canford's manager, Mike Elmitt, was at Lord's celebrating twenty years on from one of his own Oxford Blues, but he had mixed feelings about the schools match as his son, Richard, just sixteen, perhaps played too well for Stowe in the first half to give Canford a chance! Whatever the outcome on such occasions, it is certainly beneficial to see so much interest being shown in the game amongst schoolboys, who, after all, are the future internationals.

**Teams: Stowe:** J. J. Brown, D. A. Steward, D. W. R. Carles, A. M. MacKinnon, D. Hockley (Captain), R. C. M. Beavan, A. A. Lockwood, R. M. C. Elmitt, J. H. M. Claydon, J. G. Stocks, I. J. Roxborough. Subs: C. J. Stopford, T. M. J. Burrough.

**Canford:** R. A. Skeil, R. W. Daubeny (Captain), K. J. Harris, M. D. Smith, R. A. Jones, E. J. Daubeny, P. R. Norris, P. B. Rutledge, J. A. Norris, C. J. Northwood, T. R. McLaughlin. Subs: N. K. Jones, J. B. Balls.

### THE SECOND XI

Results are often the means by which teams are judged, and on this basis the Seconds can be extremely proud of their season. Only one goal prevented the season from being an unbeaten one. My memories of the season, however, are of the spirit engendered by the players. Nowhere was this seen to better effect than in the game at Cheltenham. We were a goal up after ten minutes, but at half-time we were 3-1 down. Fifteen minutes into the second half Cheltenham scored their fourth and this was about the last time they touched the ball. In a breath-taking spell we struck three times to gain a remarkable draw. Bedford were the best team we faced, and in a closely fought match we played our best hockey of the term.

The team consisted of: Gurney in goal, who began to find the authority he needs to play at this level; Thorpe, the Captain, marshalled the defence with assurance and made many penetrating thrusts into the oppositions' circle; Burrough, McLellan and Stopford gave their forward opponents a hard time. In the attack the unlucky P. J. Boardman missed most of the season with pneumonia, but we were indebted to Bewes for making the adjustment from squash to hockey so effectively. Wooley and Chelton were always capable of getting behind the defence down the wings and Keith and Howell-Williams were efficient and aggressive inside-forwards. Jarvis played a most effective role as an attacking right half.

I thank them for making the season so enjoyable — but why did it have to be Radley?

P.J.S.

<b>Results:</b> v. Oundle	Won	1—0
v. Dean Close	Won	1—0
v. Bradfield	Won	4—0
v. Bedford	Won	1—0
v. Cheltenham	Drawn	4—4
v. Pangbourne	Won	2—1
v. Radley	Lost	2—3
v. Mill Hill	Won	5—2
v. Rugby	Won	1—0

## UNDER 14 XI

This was not an easy season at this level. A large proportion of Stowe entrants do not come from hockey-playing schools and, the main requirement for boys of this age is a good playing surface on which to learn the skills of the game. This was certainly not available in 1983, because in spite of having the hard playing area, and even though J.M.L. was scrupulously fair in allocation of time to the age groups, what with snow, frost and rain sometimes only the sports hall was fit for use. Seven matches were played, two of which were won, three drawn and two lost, but it is probable that the results would have been a little better had three matches not had to be cancelled as by chance they were against teams we would normally expect to beat.

A few brief comments may be made about the players, bearing in mind that not all were able to play in every match because of illness or injury — a fact that militated against improvement. S. H. Spencer took over the goalkeeper's place after one match and got better with every game. He is a courageous player and if he is prepared to learn all he can about the position he will become a competent senior player — particularly if he remembers to use correct footwear for the various playing surfaces which nowadays have to be played on! H. R. Thomas and J. R. Jones-Perrott were a useful pair of full-backs (a conventional 5,3,2,1, system was used) and they eventually built up a close understanding of each other's strengths and weaknesses so that some excellent covering was seen. Thomas hit the ball accurately and a long way whilst Jones-Perrott must develop a stronger hit — but it was his first full year in the game. D. St. J. Jepson at centre half was the lynch pin of the defence and always played tirelessly. He wanted to be in the forwards, but it was clear that his particular ability could best be used in defence and in ball distribution to the attack, given the rest of those available. He was a fine Captain and built up a happy atmosphere in the team. He should go far in the game. B. L. Bannister played at left half and in his first season's hockey made his mark in the team because of his potential. He learnt to time his tackles well, always gave of his best, and when he develops a stronger hit he should keep his place in future teams. J. R. Hazell was right half, and if he can eliminate a tendency to commit himself to the tackle too early and become more accurate he will benefit considerably, as he is a hundred per cent effort player. Amongst the forwards C. B. Boardman showed that he has the most skill in the team. He moves well off the ball and has the knack of creating space for himself. I hope he will become more aggressive in the future in front of goal so that he can make half chances into goals. O. Q. Ripley played well when roused and made up for lack of experience by determination. I suspect that he will play in a defensive position in future years,

rather than at inside right as he was this season. J. R. Adams at centre forward played with the heart of a lion and, as another of the players new to the game he deserves to be congratulated on his dedication — he was prepared to practise at any time or place whether told to do so or not. I hope he keeps up this attitude in the years to come. J. E. Harris and M. E. Lawrence were the wingers for most of the matches and proved that they have potential. They could both beat a man and get respectable centres across, and if they could adopt an attitude of mind that will allow them to enjoy practice which requires moves to be repeated again and again without becoming bored then they should retain their places in the higher teams. J. E. Mierins played several matches (particularly well against Pangbourne) and showed promise, as also did J. O. Bendell who, if he could harness his strength with control, should also do well in senior hockey.

In summary it must be said that it was a season of 'might have beens'. Some careless errors gave goals away and some slow thinking and moving in front of goal allowed many opportunities to be lost. I hope that things go better for the players in the future — but that is the best characteristic of team games — you can always get better however good you are, both individually and collectively.

P.G.L.

**Team:** S. H. Spencer, H. R. Thomas, J. R. Jones-Perrott, J. R. Hazell, D. St. J. Jepson (Captain), B. L. Bannister, J. E. Harris, O. Q. Ripley, J. R. Adams, C. B. Boardman, M. E. Lawrence, J. E. Mierins, J. O. Bendell.

<b>Results:</b> V. Dean Close	Home	Drawn	3—3
v. Bradfield	Away	Cancelled	
v. Bedford	Away	Won	3—1
v. St. Edward's	Home	Cancelled	
v. Aldenham	Home	Cancelled	
v. Cheltenham	Home	Lost	0—2
v. Pangbourne	Away	Drawn	2—2
v. Radley	Home	Lost	1—2
v. Rugby	Home	Drawn	1—1
v. Dragon	Home	Won	3—2

## TENNIS LEAGUE

After much high-level wrangling following the departure of A.J.W. last year, the Tennis League programme, designed for those who were not selected to play for the team groups, was re-organised to allow full participation by a larger number of prospective Wimbledonians, much aided by the excellent new courts at the Palladian.

Grafton were unable to raise a team, and so the other eight Houses fought out a close competition. Early leaders Chandos were gradually overhauled by the perhaps greater overall consistency of Bruce and Cobham, though not without a fight: the Chandos first pair, Julian Hobday and James Patrick, fell 7—5 to Bruce first pair Mark Bayliss and John Snyder, but came from 2—5 down, saving four match points, to beat Cobham 1 (Chris Wolfe and Rick Cleland) 11—9 in the finest match of the tournament. Other close sets included two 9—7 scorelines. One other pair that merits a mention is the first Walpole pair, William Lund and Jamie Brown, who won all but one of their matches, five by a 6—0 score.

The battle between Bruce and Cobham ran to the last match of the competition, and with Cobham ahead, Bruce won 6—3, 6—2, 3—6 to give a dead heat at the end; a satisfying result for two teams that had played so well throughout. Walpole came third, Chandos fourth, followed by Grenville, Temple and Chatham (all of whom should have done better had they been efficiently captained), and Lyttelton, who suffered from having so many of their best players in the team groups. A word of thanks should go to the Captains, John Snyder (Bruce), Julian Hobday (Chandos), Darius Oliaji (Cobham), William Lund (Walpole) and Andrew Stevens (Lyttelton). Their unfailing enthusiasm contributed to the excitement.

M.C.G.

## LAWN TENNIS

This report is being written at about the half-way stage in the season so that the remainder will appear in a future issue of *The Stoic*. Only two of last year's six came back to school this year and so a great deal of team building had to be done. As is so often the case the most difficult part of the process is to get the pairings of the available players into effective combinations, and a lot of experimentation had to be done under match conditions before things were stabilised. One thing for which we were very thankful was the fact that although it rained almost every practice and match day the courts were always playable, and although conditions were not ideal, at least we were very much more fortunate than the cricketers who had to sit and watch the rain make their wickets unusable day after day!

To summarise the season up to the present time it has to be said that there have been some very disappointing results. All the matches lost were lost by only one point, i.e. they were 4—5 scores, and apart from Merchant Taylors who were a better team than ours, the other three teams were almost of exactly the same ability and every match went to the last game of the last round, and on each occasion the opposition got the vital point because of the inability of the Stowe players to rise to the occasion. However, one learns from experience and it is my belief that all the team have emerged as better match players as a result of these defeats because they now realise that mental attitudes and character strength always win close games, and as four of the team are due to be here next season I anticipate that they will do very well next year. It was a great pity that so many away matches had to be cancelled because of rain, but having won the two most recent matches we are hoping to win the remaining four or five games which will make the overall season's results more acceptable.

Comments on individual players will be made in the next report.

**Team:** D. Hockley (Captain), M. P. Stradling, H. M. King, J. P. Gerbet, H. T. Kinahan, J. P. Frost, G. E. Marton.

<b>Results:</b> v. Merchant Taylors	Lost	4—5
v. Westminster	Won	6—3
v. Eton	Lost	4—5
v. Marlborough	Lost	4—5
v. Uppingham	Rain stopped play with Stowe leading in all ties	
v. St. Edward's	Lost	4—5
v. Oakham	Cancelled (Rain)	
v. RGS High Wycombe	Cancelled (Rain)	
v. Old Stoics	Won	6—3
v. Bradfield	Won	9—0

### Colts VI

This was rather a young team (two of this age group were playing in the 1st VI) and having been unbeaten for three years at this level it was not surprising that this run was ended during this season.

**Team from:** R. J. Boardman (Captain), J. P. Frost, G. E. Marton, W. M. King, D. S. Green, J. W. Allday, A. D. Read.

<b>Results:</b> v. Merchant Taylors	Won	8—1
v. Westminster	Won	8½—½
v. Eton	Lost	4—5
v. Marlborough	Lost	4—5
v. Uppingham	Rain stopped play with Stowe leading in all ties	
v. St. Edward's	Won	6—3
v. Oakham	Cancelled (Rain)	
v. RGS High Wycombe	Cancelled (rain)	
v. Bradfield	Won	8½—½

A full report of the matches and comments on players will appear in the next issue of *The Stoic*.

### Under 14 VI

Some promising players have played in these matches so far, and a full report will be in the next *Stoic*.

<b>Results:</b> v. Westminster	Won	6—3
v. Eton	Drawn	4½—4½
v. RGS High Wycombe	Cancelled (Rain)	
v. Bradfield	Cancelled	
v. Dragon	Won	5—4

**Team:** J. P. Robinson (Captain), A. P. Craig, J. F. Gerbet, A. B. Whitcombe, C. H. Perring, J. D. Robertson.

P.G.L.

### REAL TENNIS

A small group of boys has continued to play this great game by courtesy of the authorities of the Oxford University Tennis Court, but as they were unable to let us have more than one hour at a time it was not possible to play any matches. Negotiations are in hand to increase our court time next season when we hope that fixtures will be resumed.

**Players:** J. M. Bewes, C. J. Rotheroe, R. S. Morris and J. P. Rigg.

P.G.L.

## BADMINTON

The Spring Term got off to a rather inauspicious start, with the Sports Hall out of action through re-flooring and our ebullient mentor, Chris Haslam's absence in Canada on an exchange visit. Squad runs around the estate became the order of the day, and soon began to take their toll of the masters-in-charge! This led to a frantic search for temporary alternative accommodation (the Marble Hall proved too slippery!), and the discovery of the excellent new courts of the National Badminton Association almost on our doorstep at Milton Keynes. So the squad soon found themselves "bussed" to this venue for some much-needed match practice.

Fixtures which had to be cancelled could not all be re-scheduled, and few schools seemed to have sufficient depth to field a Colts team. Uppingham paid a visit and were trounced by both the Seniors (6—3) and the Colts (8—1). However, neither Davies (Captain) and King, or Gerbet and Boardman (standing in for Stradling) could eclipse their hitherto unbeaten top pair. Holland and Wolfe made up the Seniors, and the Colts were: Grice and Adams, Allday and Hill and Riley and Evans. Mander (Captain) was unable to play. Our usual hard fight against Oakham turned out to be an easy victory (6—3) for the Stowe Seniors, Oakham fielding a scratch third pair. Perhaps the most memorable match of the season, and a must for future fixture lists, was an evening friendly against the Stowe Estates Club, who also use the Sports Hall. We lost 6—3, but not without absorbing struggles between Gerbet and Stradling against their top two pairs. So enthused were the participants by this contest that further challenge matches continued late into the evening.

B.H.O.  
G.St.J.S.



# SQUASH RACKETS

## 1st V

This season has again been a very successful one for the 1st Team, with only one defeat, against Haileybury, in the regional semi-finals of the National Premier Products Schools competition. With no Felsted festival, nor the Northwood Squash Club's Schools' tournament taking place this year, there were fewer matches than usual, but nevertheless a number of interesting matches were played.

The team got off well to a good start beating Aldenham 5-0, and then followed this by beating Mill Hill by a similar score. They then played Warwick (who had two nationally ranked Junior players) and we had to be content with a 3-2 win. Next was Hatfield who fielded last year's National Under 16 two and we were pleased to achieve a 4-1 win. The Easter term was a difficult one as every member of the team was heavily committed to playing Hockey in one of the School teams, and for this reason it was not possible to fit many matches into the timetable, particularly as practice time was obviously limited. Nevertheless results were creditable. Worksop were entertained and beaten 5-0, whilst Harrow were beaten narrowly by 3 matches to 2. These wins were followed by a good win by 5-0 against a strong Bedford School, a 4-1 win against Marlborough, and a 5-0 win against Radley. However we were to meet our Waterloo against Haileybury in a match which we expected to win, but for the first time everyone except the Captain played below par and we were deservedly beaten on the day 4-1 by a rather surprised Haileybury side.

It should be said that J. M. Bewes has been an excellent Captain, not only because of his fine play (fitting in Buckinghamshire Under 19 County games when possible) but because he encouraged his team both by example and also by sympathetic appreciation of individual difficulties and playing problems. C. J. Rotheroe improved considerably during the season, and, in addition to representing the Berkshire Under 16 team when he was available, he had some excellent wins. J. H. Claydon played in all the matches and won most of his games, as did H. R. Jarvis, and the younger of the Bewes brothers, N. C. Bewes. As three of the team are coming back next year we shall expect a good run of wins in the season to come. Finally I would like to thank Jonathan Bewes for his help over the last five years — he is a hundred per cent person, and I am sure that if he can maintain his enthusiasm in the future he will not only achieve a lot of success in the game, but he will also have a great deal of fun and camaraderie as well, which is what many people would say is the *raison d'être* of taking part in sport.

<b>Results:</b> v. Aldenham	Won	5—0
v. Mill Hill	Won	5—0
v. Warwick	Won	3—2
v. Hatfield	Won	4—1
v. Worksop	Won	5—0
v. Harrow	Won	3—2
v. Bedford	Won	5—0
v. Marlborough	Won	4—1
v. Radley	Won	5—0
v. Rugby	Won	5—0
v. Haileybury	Lost	1—4

## COLTS V

The Under 16 group was a particularly strong one, and in addition to having three members in the 1st V they still managed to remain unbeaten throughout the season. We hope that this will mean the continuation of the success of the 1st Team next season. J. P. Frost, G. E. Marton, R. M. Elmitt, and R. S. Morris comprised this very talented team and the only worry about the future is that they are all Rugby Football players and their main difficulty will be in being able to combine both games in the same term with availability for both practice and matches in both sports. I very much hope that they will be able to achieve their full potential at both games, and particularly in Squash Rackets.

<b>Results:</b> v. Aldenham	Won	5—0	
v. Mill Hill	Won	2—1	
v. Harrow	Won	3—0	
v. Bedford	Drawn	1—1	(Bedford had no third player)
v. Haileybury	Won	2—1	
v. Marlborough	Won	3—0	
v. Radley	Won	3—0	
v. Rugby	Won	3—0	

## JUNIOR TEAMS

Both the Under 15 and the Under 14 Teams were unbeaten throughout the season, but not many matches were played at these levels as the schools we play against do not all have teams to play at these age groups, but at least the results of those which were played show that the future of Stowe Squash is in good hands.

P.G.L.

## ETON FIVES

It is a pleasure to be able to report a very successful second half to this year's season. Three fine wins have made it so: first against Marlborough (away) on 25th November, when Dutton, Guest, Reed and Scott defeated their opposing pairs; then against King Edward's, Camp Hill (away) on 6th February, when Horn, Kinahan, Adam and Maskell won their matches; and finally against Westminster (home) on 3rd March, when Horn, Kinahan, Glennie and Thomas beat their opponents. In the House competition which was played this term Thomas and Farquhar won for Chatham in the senior section, and in the junior section Dutton and Guest for Lyttelton.

### Teams:

**Seniors:** A. S. Horn, H. T. Kinahan (Captains), S. R. Glennie, S. J. Gilbey, D. M. W. Thomas, S. S. Osman.

**Colts:** R. H. O. R. Dutton, R. G. Guest.

**Junior Colts:** A. D. E. Reed, O. R. A. Scott, P. A. Maskell, ma., A. R. Adam.

### Results 1982/83

		Seniors	Colts	J. Colts
v. Marlborough	Away	0—1	1—0	1—0
v. Old Citizens	Home	0—3		
v. K.E.S. Camp Hill	Away	1—0		1—1
v. K.E.S. Five Ways	Home	0—2		0—1
v. Uppingham	Home	0—1	0—1	0—1
v. Westminster	Home	2—0	0—1	
v. Old Stoics	Home	1—2		

G.McL.

## GOLF

After the outstanding teams of recent years this Spring and Summer has been a period of relative decline. Jeremy Robinson in his year as Captain, and one of the outstanding boy golfers in the country, was prevented by illness from playing at all in the Spring Term and left us prematurely at the end of that term. He will have some eighteen months playing the amateur circuit, including being number one in the England Boys' team, before going to an American University in September 1984. His ineligibility to play in the English Aer Lingus Schools' Championship Finals at Nottingham, coupled with the absence of Chris Ruddock in Australia, meant that we were without our two best players in the team of three which qualified for the Finals. The inexperienced team of David Ewbank, Adrian Jones and Jon Taylor not unnaturally found the pressure of the occasion difficult to handle, and we finished in a lowly position two from bottom. In the Micklem Trophy we won our first round against Harrow 4—1, but lost Chris Ruddock to cricket in Australia for the semi-finals, succumbing to Wellington after a close match 3—2.

Losses have outnumbered wins in the season to date, but no less than six of the best twelve golfers in the school are in major hockey or cricket teams and have seldom been available for golf matches. We are in a rebuilding period, but there is much talent coming up the school—David Douglas winning the Penfold Cup in his first year at Stowe being symptomatic of this with a very good round over the High Course at Moor Park in difficult conditions. Given the availability of the best players with some regularity I would expect a strong team in a year or two's time.

**1983 Results up to June 2nd:** Won 5; Halved 2; Lost 9.

**Team:** C. M. Ruddock, D. C. B. Ewbank (Joint Captains), R. A. Jones, J. D. Taylor, B. Jenkyn-Jones, M. C. Gobby, P. J. T. Cooper, J. E. Hopley, C. Yeoward, J. G. Stocks.

**Also Played:** N. M. McAleer, C. K. Williamson, D. J. M. Douglas, H. R. P. Jarvis, M. R. A. Gardner, P. A. Williams, A. J. Phillips, G. P. Hickman, J. M. J. Phillips, P. A. Maskell, M. R. Downing, J. C. O. Hutchinson, E. W. Jarrett, J. I. Sinclair, R. A. Hill, S. P. Chauveau, A. C. H. Bath, J. S. M. Henderson.

**M.D.D.**

## CROSS COUNTRY

New to the business of writing Cross Country reports, I looked back to those of my predecessor and found advice in his opening paragraphs; when he refers to injury, illness and their influence on the success of the School teams.

This has been an extremely successful year for the Club, both in terms of the number of Club runners and also the victories recorded by the School teams over other Schools. Fortunately the team members avoided illness and injury, almost to a man; when we did lose a runner our results suffered.

The Senior Team had a remarkably successful year, for the runners were not particularly gifted; however they constructed for themselves a winning season, competing against 14 Schools in matches and losing to only 2. The most outstanding victories of the season were at Uppingham (where the 1st VIII and the 2nd VIII both won their respective races) and in the

defeat of Cheltenham and St. Edward's at Cheltenham. The one defeat came immediately after Exeat at Harrow. It was the only lack-lustre performance of the season, but that defeat was to provide the team with much food for thought about what might have been, had we won the match.

Whilst the team lacked depth in talent, M. B. Walley, the Captain, was outstanding. He won all of his School matches (except for the opening one at Bloxham) and it was his consistency of performance which inspired his team-mates to run so well. The tenacity of A. J. P. Woodward and T. J. M. Bliss's running at two and three, and P. C. Grindey, S. G. Streeton and M. G. Tinsley running at four, five and six was greatly admired. D. de S. Barrow, S. Else, J. B. Price shared the seventh and eighth positions in a variety of combinations, and if not with great success in terms of match placings, then at least with a great understanding for fashion, humour, and the spirit of the sport!

The Intermediate team finished the season with a one hundred per cent record competing against Bloxham, Bradfield, St. Edward's, Harrow, Cheltenham, Radley, Wellingborough, Oundle and The Royal Latin School and defeating them all.

As U.15's they had shown signs of promise, and most of them competed at the Intermediate level last year, so some success was expected. Nevertheless the manner of the victories was most pleasing. Only W. M. King, mi. succeeded in winning an Intermediate race outright during the season. However, the packing of the team which was invariably led by E. J. A. Smith-Maxwell proved to be decisive in all of the matches. Against Bloxham and Bradfield 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10. Against Cheltenham and St. Edward's 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8. Against Harrow and Radley 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 14 and against Oundle and Wellingborough, which was the most outstanding result of the season 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 12. S. M. Hallam, J. Hogan, J. A. R. Hutton and W. M. King, mi. generally occupied positions two through to five in the team, whilst six, seven and eighth positions were filled by S. P. Ferrand, N. Baskett and D. J. Adams, along with J. W. Salamon and E. Farquhar from time to time.

A young 1st VIII represented the School in the Midland Public Schools Championships which were held at Denstone in March. M. B. Walley came in 12th out of a field of 156, the most impressive performance by a Stoic in recent years. The team placing of 13th was very disappointing, but only Walley and Tinsley will be unavailable to run next year in the same event, so all was not lost.

It has also been a successful year for the Junior Team, with eight of the ten Schools which we have competed against being defeated. Most encouraging has been the fact that the talent which has emerged has not always been 'kidnapped' from the Hockey 'A' Club. S. B. Nicholl broke the existing School course record by over thirty seconds. He was more than ably supported by C. B. Boardman, L. Chauveau, J. C. Darnborough, P. A. Dobinson, P. S. Gladstone, C. R. J. Hutber, N. J. Kennally-Smith, I. D. Mattingly, J. H. A. Perris, G. R. S. Preston, J. D. Rossiter, P. R. A. Shackleton, S. C. Todd.

Without masters as experienced in the 'art' of Cross Country running as in previous years, there was always a danger that when the rain came, the wind blew, and the snow fell (and the Hockey Clubs disappeared indoors to the warmth of the Drayson Hall), the Cross Country teams would find it difficult to motivate themselves. It says much for the character of the runners and the Captains, M. B. Walley and E. J. A. Smith-Maxwell that the teams remained highly motivated.

Thanks must go to those masters who helped with the running of the Club on a day to day basis, Mr. P. J. Emms and Mr. K. R. S. Hoyle (who will both coach the Club next year), Mr. S. Woolley and Mr. J. Kennedy.

**N. G. Taylor  
C. W. Milne**

## INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

### JUNIOR:

1st Nicholl	Cobham	16.02 (Record)
2nd Lawrence	Walpole	16.26
3rd Boardman	Grenville	16.40
4th Dobinson	Walpole	17.02
5th Perris	Walpole	17.05
6th Morris	Walpole	17.22

### INTERMEDIATE:

1st Hutton	Grafton	18.47 (= Record)
2nd Smith-Maxwell	Cobham	19.03
3rd Hallam	Grafton	19.45
4th King	Chandos	19.59
5th Sweet	Chandos	20.12
6th Hogan	Temple	20.20

### SENIOR:

1st Walley	Grafton	24.30 (Record)
1st Bevan	Lytelton	24.30 (Record)
3rd Claydon	Walpole	25.02
4th Woodward	Grafton	25.44
4th Bliss	Lytelton	25.44
6th Thorpe	Walpole	26.14

1st Walpole	37 points
2nd Lytelton	87 points
3rd Cobham	159 points
4th Temple	169 points
5th Bruce	215 points
5th Grenville	215 points
7th Chatham	226 points
8th Grafton	230 points
9th Chandos	301 points

1st Chandos	297 points
2nd Grafton	299 points
3rd Cobham	314 points
4th Walpole	373 points
5th Bruce	451 points
6th Temple	503 points
7th Grenville	593 points
8th Chatham	675 points
9th Lytelton	807 points

1st Grafton	97 points
2nd Walpole	98 points
3rd Lytelton	117 points
4th Chandos	137 points
5th Chatham	139 points
6th Cobham	201 points
7th Bruce	208 points
8th Grenville	246 points
9th Temple	297 points

## OLD STOIC MATCH — Saturday, 12th March

The Jubilee Cross-Country Match brought twenty-two Old Stoics and a dog to the start, and all finished the course in grand style, winning both the First Team and the Social Races. Special efforts had been made to travel to Stowe for the Jubilee Match and it was good to see so many familiar faces from the past. It was unfortunate that several Old Stoics could not make it because of illness — including the Captain, Nigel McLoughlin, who has won the race for the past few years.

The winner this year was Christopher Mallett, who got around the course in 26.45 minutes, nearly a minute ahead of the next runner, the School Cross-Country Captain, Matthew Walley, who himself ran a personal best time of 27.38. These two were followed by Old Stoics Marc Hope and Mike Tresise in 27.52 and 28.16 respectively. The Social Race was won by A. M. Hale for the School in 16.44, followed by two other Stoics, with Anthony Shillington the first Old Stoic home, in fourth position.

**Results:** 1st VIII Match 1st Old Stoics 42 2nd Stowe 49  
Social Match 1st Old Stoics 30 2nd Stowe 31

In the evening a very pleasant meal was enjoyed by some 20 Old Stoics and their wives, daughters and girl friends in a local hostelry.

After the success of this year's race it is to be hoped that as many or more Old Stoics will reserve Saturday, 10th March for the race next year.

**Old Stoic Competitors:** E. Bainbridge (8) 1969, J. Farrer (4) 1970, A. Fletcher (2) 1947, S. Hanley (5) 1968, M. Hope (5) 1979, N. Harvey (3) 1970, J. Hough (2) 1981, M. Lecchini (7) 1981, T. Lenon (2) 1980, A. Macpherson (3) 1970, C. Mallett (7) 1974, D. Miller (3) 1981, J. Mills (7) 1982, A. Morison (3) 1957, W. Sharp (9) 1980, A. Shillington (6) 1961, C. Smith (4) 1969, R. Thynne (3) 1970, M. Tresise (9) 1979, J. Todd (7) 1980, N. Walley (7) 1980, R. Wilson (8) 1982.

A.S.

## SCULLING

In the Spring Term there was no sculling on the lake. Instead we undertook a programme of essential repairs on the boats. We were able to make use of the Community Service storeroom in the Stone Yard for this purpose — a building long enough to accommodate a sculling boat, and with heating and lighting. A number of boats were successfully renovated.

Two boats that needed expert attention were repaired by Raymond Sims Ltd. at Nottingham, and three additional, second-hand boats were purchased from Westminster School. These latter are fibreglass, clinker pattern boats — sister boats to two already possessed by the Sculling Club. The Club now has a sufficient boat provision, for the advanced novice, on the lake, for a few years to come. Including the two A.R.A. playboats, the Club now has ten boats. Some thirty-eight boys and girls are sculling on one, two or three afternoons a week.

A major advance is that a small number of boys have been sculling at Northampton. To the West of Northampton, and to the East of Northampton, the River Nene is narrow and winding, but at Northampton, the Anglian Water Authority has completed a major widening and straightening of the river, which appears to be largely for flood control purposes. There is now a stretch of about 1½ miles of good rowing water there. This stretch has attracted a new rowing club, Northampton Casuals R.C., and the School has made an arrangement with Northampton Casuals for the use of its landing stage and clubhouse facilities and also for the use of a small number of sculling boats. The Northampton Club has been kind to us and we hope that the relationship will flourish.

The Sculling Club is hoping to keep a number of its own boats at Northampton and one of them is there already. The broad plan is that as the Sculling Club obtains boats of its own, suitable for modern racing, these will be kept at Northampton, and that the more competent and enthusiastic of Stowe's scullers will be able to scull there, on perhaps two days a week.

For the immediate future we hope to make modest regatta entries toward the end of the Summer Term, and next term we anticipate making entries in a number of the Autumn processional Head races.

W.S.L.W.

## FENCING

Over the last two years fencing activity has been revived somewhat in that we have begun to have matches with other schools and to enter local competitions again.

At first we did not have much success, losing to strong teams from Oundle, Uppingham, Radley and even Tudor Hall, but the experience which was gained proved very valuable.

In the Spring of this year we won our first match against Tudor Hall in the 1st Foil but lost in the 2nd Foil. We also beat Headington Girls School, Oxford. The high point of the term was when M. Kitto, N. Anderton and D. Marshall entered a Berks, Bucks and Oxon U.16 sabre competition at Eton. N. Anderton did well to win the silver medal, earning his colours, and Kitto won the bronze. We also entered the U.20 foil competition immediately afterwards when M. Kitto missed the bronze by a single hit.

This term, despite certain disappointing cancellations, we have had one match against Tudor Hall, the 1st Foil winning 10-6, the 2nd losing 6-10. Magdalen College School came from Oxford to fence and we won in the 1st Foil 6-3 and at Sabre 5-4, but lost in the 2nd Foil 4-5.

Next year we are hoping for even more fixtures and are fairly optimistic.

**The following fenced for the 1st Foil:** M. Kitto (Captain), N. Anderton (Secretary), J-M. Holland, T. Burrough, H. Taylor.

**2nd Foil:** C. Farmer, C. Royds, H. Lyall.

M. Kitto

## SHOOTING

This year has been a transitional period for the Club, with the departure at the end of the Spring term of Mr. N. W. Wynne-Jones, to whom we owe much gratitude for his years of encouragement and coaching. The Easter break also saw the arrival of the ten new Parker-Hale 7.62 mm cadet target rifles, which have replaced the "old faithful" 0.303 in weapons in Bisley style competition. They are splendidly accurate, but have not unfortunately, been without their teething problems, in terms of bolt and safety catch operation, and sighting. However, with these snags sorted out we look forward to many seasons of tight grouping!

### Small-bore

This section of the Club has continued to flourish, with five teams entering leagues in both the Autumn and Spring terms for the British Schools Small-bore Rifle Association competitions. Two teams overcame tough opposition to win their divisions: in the Autumn term Team D: M. Seabrook, N. Munyard, A. Roads, A. Fairbairn, D. Beverley Jones; and in the Spring term Team C: M. Seabrook, N. Munyard, C. Neve, T. Priestley, R. Pollock. Also in the Autumn term our team of eight reached the final round, and were placed a very creditable third position in the national competition:

R. Bucks, A. Briant, D. Baldwin, V. de la Rue, A. de la Mare, R. Pollock, T. Priestley, N. Roe.

### Full-bore:

We sent a team of four to the S.E. District Skill at Arms meeting in October, and they fired snap, rapid, and military targets with 0.303 rifles and L.M.G. Cadet team: R. Bucks, A. Briant, D. Baldwin, N. Roe.

This Summer term has seen us busy familiarising ourselves with the new target rifle, but unfortunately we have experienced difficulty in booking army ranges for sufficient long range practice. Nevertheless we have performed reasonably in the London and Middlesex, Oxford and Surrey championships.

A highlight of the term was C.C.F. Open Day when the Club ran a 25 yard competition, using the new rifle, for the visiting officers and Old Stoics. The cadets thoroughly enjoyed explaining to the Brigadiers and Admirals how to handle the new weapon, and coaching their charges!

The Captain of Shooting this year has been R. Bucks, and A. Briant has been appointed Club Secretary. Congratulations to the following boys who have been awarded shooting colours: M. Seabrook, N. Roe, T. Priestley.

The following boys have shot regularly for the full-bore team this term: R. Bucks, A. Briant, M. Seabrook, J. Voelcker, P. Methuen, N. Roe, N. Munyard, D. Beverley Jones, N. Llewellyn, M. Beaufort, J. P. Bodourian, S. Godden, J. Mackintosh-Gow.

S. O. Collins



## C.C.F.

After another successful Adventurous Training Camp in Wales we were pitched into a hectic few weeks of preparations for our Jubilee Open Day. A Guard of Honour grew almost overnight under R.S.M. Brannan and Sergeant Patrick's supervision. The Guard were outstanding on the day with Weller, Herrington and Harvey as the three best cadets. Under Officer Stirling rustled up a Tornado and some parachutists and our sponsor units rose to the occasion with a good selection of displays.

On the day we were able to welcome some 40 guests, mostly serving Old Stoics and including General Sir Frank Kitson and Admiral Sir James Kennon. Somehow the weather cleared, the Tornado arrived on time, the parachutes opened, the section attack found the enemy and no one got an N.B.G. in the shooting competition! The latter was won by Brigadier Fletcher who was last seen driving off with General Kitson and a Jereboam of champagne . . . .

We have already said goodbye to Captain the Revd. Wynne-Jones (promoted just a few days before he left). He always kept his uniform in immaculate condition — hanging up at home! The shooting flourished under his control and we are lucky that Mr. Collins has so enthusiastically stepped into his shoes. We have just taken delivery of some new target rifles.

We shall miss Mr. Watson when he leaves Stowe at the end of term and are hoping to find an officer to replace him as well as someone to take on the Assault Course and M.T. Section. Under Officer Stirling's willing help on the administrative side will be sadly missed as will Warrant Officer Smith's assistance with all sorts of practical jobs. Under Officer Savage has achieved excellent results with a large proficiency company, assisted by Colour Sergeant Barrow and a good team of N.C.O.'s.

Our cadet training team have given us good support during the year, finishing with an exciting Field Day on Salisbury Plain. The exercise had a touch of realism as we were sandwiched between the opposing sides of a brigade exercise and a straying sentry risked meeting a tank at night or some real soldiers if he ended up in the wrong copse. The last platoon attack took in a rapier battery with three or four Chieftain tanks manouevring in the distance.

The R.N. Section hope that some cadets will be able to go to sea in *H.M.S. Arethusa* at the end of term. Twenty Army cadets are off to Minden as guests of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers at the end of July. We continue to be thankful for the opportunities that the services offer and the enthusiasm of a number of our senior cadets. This enables us to continue with a full programme in spite of a shortage of officers.

M.E.M.

## ARCHERY

As in 1982 when we lost our only match with Finchley Albanians, this year's Archers are comparatively inexperienced but an enthusiastic Junior Team seems to be in the making. There is one match arranged later in the term.

A.A.V.R.

Team: Acting Captain: M. F. Berner, A. P. Bush; M. G. Robertson (Secretary).

## LIFE SAVING

Life saving has been a regular event at Stowe for over ten years. Many boys have achieved the wide range of awards the Royal Life Saving Society (R.L.S.S.) has to offer. Some have done well enough to gain a teaching award. Away from the awards an innovation at Stowe has been an entry into competitive life saving, and at our first attempts we have achieved success.

Competitive life saving requires the demonstration of two essential aspects for any rescue; speed and accurate execution of the required skills. Whilst every life saving award allows for a margin of error and issues few time limits, the competitive life saver cannot afford to make mistakes or act slowly because marks (and supposedly lives) will be lost. The top marks to be gained are based on displaying the highest degree of excellence — that is expected in a true-to-life situation.

As a member of the Thames Valley Branch of the R.L.S.S., Stowe have competed at two age levels of their championships.

### Glow Worm Trophy

Whilst only in their first term, in December 1981, five boys competed in the U.14 event for the Glow Worm Trophy at Oxford. They were O. R. A. Scott; P. A. Maskett; N. E. Hencher; M. P. Adams and J. C. I. Telegdy. Their ability was put to the test over five different events from which a cumulative score was obtained. The events were:

1. *Resuscitation.* Here they had to demonstrate the correct methods of resuscitating an apparently unconscious person, and the aftercare of the person once consciousness is regained.
2. *Rope Throw.* Here they had to coil a rope, throw it and tow a casualty 12 metres to the side, under the pressure of a stopwatch.
3. *Reach Rescue.* A quick and effective rescue must be made using correct R.L.S.S. technique.
4. *Straddle entry, submerge and swim.* After the required entre a brick is retrieved from a depth of 2 metres and life saving backstroke is used to complete 25 metres, again under the pressure of a stopwatch.
5. *Incident.* This involved the competitor emerging from the changing room to be faced with an incident which might be found at the seaside, lake or river. He must use all of his life saving knowledge and skills to rescue the casualty in the most simple but effective manner. As is the case in any pressured situation only the correct techniques must be applied on demand. Points are deducted for mistakes.

Well over thirty competitors were present and the Stoics made their presence felt by all being placed in the top two-thirds. Our highest rankings were by P. A. Maskell, sixth; and O. R. A. Scott, third. This was especially commendable because the majority of the competitors were from life saving clubs and not from schools.

In 1982 we entered ten boys in the competition. Again over thirty competitors were present and we further improved our performance with J. Rossiter coming second; C. Boardman, fourth; A. Sugars, Sixth; J. Hazell, seventh and M. Williams, ninth.

### Branch Championships

During the Summer Term of 1982 the U.16, U.19 and Open Branch Championships were held at Bracknell. Unfortunately the timing of this event was too close to 'O' and 'A' level exams and only two Fourth Form boys could spare the time to enter. In the U.16 schoolboys age group G. Inglis-Jones (who had an 'O' level maths. paper the following morning—he passed) and D. Black entered and won. The format of their competition was very similar to that of the U.14s in the Glow Worm Trophy. The main exception being that their individual points

are totalled to give a combined score. Also, the incident event involves the pair collaborating to rescue two casualties who simulate a very realistic and much more difficult drowning situation. I saw higher age groups attempt the same situation but not one pair completed it with the competence of the Stoics. In October they went forward to the regional qualifying round which includes the South and South Midland Area of England. A mistake early in these championships cost them a place in the National Championships. They came third and only the top two pairs were to qualify. Still, it is not everyone who gets to the semi-finals of the National Championships at their first attempt. Well done.

Again in 1983 this event was close to exams and so we took two Third Formers to take on the best of the branch U.16's. C. Boardman and J. Hazell earned second place and hence a chance to compete in the Regional Championships in October 1983. Good luck.

### Junior Incident Competition

The scene for this Autumn Term competition, held at Oxford, was set, theoretically, at a gravel pit. 'A young man falls down a steep bank into the cold deep water. A passer by dives to the rescue, but suffers a heart attack in the process'.

The competitors are signalled out of the changing room to be faced with this unknown situation. A spectator wandering into the pool might well think the whole situation true as the casualties display a fantastic level of authenticity. Make-up is used to add to the effect of injuries and lack of body oxygen.

At our first attempt in this U.17 competition Stowe's regular life savers D. Black and G. Inglis-Jones were well beaten by newcomers R. Dutton and J. van-Gemerem. Both pairs scored good marks at this incident-only event and with age on their side they will hopefully be placed in the top three this October.

In our first two years of competitive life saving Stowe has been firmly stamped on the map. With life saving now a regular feature on the Third Form physical education syllabus we hope to continue with the fine examples already established.

Cyanosis

## THE STOWE BEAGLES

Last season was the twenty-first since the foundation of the Stowe Beagles. The pack was started in 1963 largely on the initiative of the then Headmaster, Mr. Crichton-Miller, and his secretary, the late Miss Rosemary Hill. For the first ten years the Kennel Huntsman was John Atkinson, and the early success of the pack, indeed its continued existence, was due to the efforts and enthusiasm of John and the succession of Stoic Masters of the pack. During these early years the pack became well established in its country and built up a strong body of local support; it also became nationally known as a result of a series of holiday visits to Dumfriesshire, Northumberland, Dorset, Hampshire and other areas. At the same time John Atkinson's breeding policies began to bring great successes in the show ring, culminating in the winning of the Peterborough Championship in 1973. When John Atkinson left for the Westerby Bassets his place was taken by John Thornton, who has continued to be very successful in the show ring (including Peterborough champions in 1978 and 1979). The holiday visits, usually to Northumberland, have continued and major improvements have been made to the kennels.

Some very good hunts were had during the course of the 1982/3 season, and the tally of 18 brace was the highest for some years. A 21st Anniversary dinner was held at Stowe during the Easter Term exeat; about 140 people attended, amongst whom were a number of ex-Masters and whippers-in, including one of the first joint-Masters Mr. S. D. E. Parsons.

Throughout the season hounds have been hunted by the Master, C. R. Hamilton-Russell; official Whippers-in have been A. C. Neve (First Whip); J. G. B. Portman; N. J. Glendinning; R. S. G. Oliver; J. E. P. Macmillan; M. H. S. Watney and R. V. D. Hall.

A.R.P.

## FOOTBALL 1982-3

The end of the season was greeted with mixed emotions. It contained several very satisfying and enjoyable moments but it finished on a note of regret. One of the 'highs' was a convincing victory over the Old Stoics. The 7-2 score was a true reflection and the 1st XI managed to play very well despite the wet conditions. Not only was it the first time we had beaten an Old Stoic XI in 7½ years but Andrew Mckinnon scored his first and last goal for the 1st XI! Victory by 4 goals to 1 against an East Anglian XI is worthy of special praise and it was a game when commitment and no little skill won the day against physically bigger opponents. The inter-house 7-a-side competition was won by Chandos, who beat Cobham 8-7 on penalties after the game had finished 2-2 after extra time. Those two teams and Chatham deserve much credit for making it such an exciting tournament.

Sadly though, with the end of the season came the departure of Mr. Taylor. After coaching very successful rugby teams he still admitted that he was most qualified to coach soccer and I am only left with the feeling of what might have been. He was always a great help and, like all those who played for the 1st XI, I enjoyed his football tremendously.

On the playing side I would like to thank Andrew MacKinnon and Douglas Steward for not only their remarkable enthusiasm but the effort and skill they have provided over the last two years. In my opinion Doug Green was the player of the season. Hartford King, if only through his enthusiasm, will prove a sound captain next year. Daniel Thomas, Alastair Macdonald and Piers Stradling deserve praise as well.

We now have a football kit, albeit made up of cast-offs from other teams and two applications have been made to the Bursar for our own kit.

After playing for the 1st XI since the 3rd forms and being captain for the past two years I shall be leaving football at Stowe with obvious regret. But in the words of one Old Stoic we 'now try to play football rather than just trying to dribble past everyone on your own!' It is a change which I hope I have influenced. Rather than the goals, commitment and tremendous enjoyment, that hope gives me greatest satisfaction.

**W. R. McLellan**

## SAILING CLUB

**Commodore: S. J. Walker. Secretary: D. de S. Barrow.**

It has been a mixed season with some good results. The future looks promising since two of the Team helmsmen, J. R. Sinclair, mi. and M. B. G. Yallop, are drawn from the lower half of the School. Simon Walker ably held the team together with his experience and tactical knowledge. David Barrow, although not sailing as much as we would like (i.e. never), organised the matches and more mundane activities efficiently.

We are very sad to lose Mr. C. W. O. Rainer from the Sailing Club as he has always given us good advice on racing tactics and has maintained the boats in an excellent condition even after some eventful races. But I am glad to say that Mr. M. J. Bevington and Mr. P. J. Emms have contributed valuably to the success of the team.

**D. de S. Barrow**

<b>Results:</b>	v. Radley	Away	Lost	2—0
	v. Merchant Taylors	Away	Won	2—1
	v. Canford	Away	Lost	2—0
	v. Aldenham	Home	Won	2—0
	v. Bloxham	Home	Won	2—0

## GIRLS' SUMMER GAMES

Most girls have played two sports this term as Swimming has been an alternative to Rounders. All have played Tennis and many Lower Sixth girls have had extra coaching in the sport. Although the season is not yet completed, results are already on the credit side.

In Rounders, Mrs. Taylor has nurtured a fairly formidable squad of players, led by Sara Howell-Williams. The team has had three very convincing victories and no losses. In the match against Bloxham, Lizzie Brown scored 10 of the 18 rounders — which must be a record for Stanhope.

In Tennis, three matches have been won and two narrowly lost so far. Denise Thwaites-Lastra has captained the team and Georgina Sober and Joanna da Silva have been a determined and successful 1st Pair. The Marshall Tennis Trophy was won last summer by Kate Page (O.S.D.).

**J.A.N.**

### Footnote:

As already expressed by Mrs. Taylor in these reports, our thanks must go to Sara Howell-Williams who, as Stanhope's Games Captain this year, has made an enormous effort to encourage her colleagues.

**J.A.N.**

## GIRLS' HOCKEY

We started off the season on an enthusiastic note with a very good influx of first year Hockey players who strengthened and completed the existing team.

Team spirit and co-operation were evident during every match and we enjoyed reasonable success. The final scores did not always indicate the closeness of the play. 2 matches were won, 1 drawn, and 3 lost.

Mention must be made of Samantha Rowe who as goalkeeper fought bravely on after injury during the match against Canford.

**Full Colours:** Sara Howell-Williams (re-awarded).

**Half Colours:** Jane Miller, Sarah Power, Lorraine Lamb, Ann-Louise Jones.

Our thanks to Sara Howell-Williams's excellent leadership and example throughout the season.

**B. Taylor**

## GIRLS' LACROSSE

Thanks to increased numbers and a pitch on which to practise regularly, we have had a very successful season. Five matches have been won, one drawn and two lost. We are still facing the problem of trying to compete with schools whose VIth Form is very much larger than our own. Despite this factor, morale and ability have been excellent this season and all team players have displayed an unflinching tenacity.

**Full Colours:** Denise Thwaites-Lastra (Captain).

**Half Colours:** Claire Beaumont, Joanna da Silva, Sapphire Brown, Tamara Louthan, Louise Cox.

**J.A.N.**

## OLD STOIC NEWS

**R. C. Appleby** (Lyttelton 1979) has been awarded a half-blue for Polo at Oxford University (1983).

**J. T. R. Baines** (Chandos 1956) is Chairman of the Molyneux Roche Corporation (1983).

**T. H. Barclay** (Chandos 1941) is High Sheriff of Norfolk (1983/1984).

**J. V. Bartlett** (Temple 1945) is President of the Institute of Civil Engineers (1983).

**R. M. Bartlett** (Temple 1947) is President of Surrey R.F.U. (1983).

**A. d'A. Bellairs** (Temple 1935) is Emeritus Professor of Vertebrate Morphology in the University of London (1982).

**J. D. Boldero** (Cobham 1977) is A.D.C. to the General-Officer-Commanding Cyprus (1983).

**The Hon. T. P. J. Boyd-Carpenter** (Chandos 1956) was promoted Brigadier on 31st December 1982.

**B. D. Bramley** (Walpole 1954) has been appointed to the Board of British American Tobacco Co., he was formerly Managing Director of B.A.T. (New Zealand) (1983).

**A. F. M. Chance** (Chandos 1970) has been leader of the Chance Band since 1973 and has now formed Gibson Chance Music.

**The Lord Chorley** (Grafton 1948) is a member of the new Ordnance Survey Advisory Board (1982).

**D. J. M. Cole** (Lyttelton 1974) gained a "Highly Commended" Award in the *Sunday Times* Garden Design Competition (1983).

**L. G. Darling** (Grafton 1939) was appointed Chairman of the Council of the Australian National Gallery in June 1982; the gallery was opened by H.M. The Queen in October 1982. L. G. Darling and his wife loaned their home at Woomargama to T.R.H. The Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince William during their tour of Australia in the Spring of 1983.

**A. J. R. Dixon-Green** (Bruce 1944) has been appointed to the Court of Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers (1983).

**H. S. L. Dundas** (Walpole 1938) is Chairman of the Newspaper Press Fund Appeal for 1983.

**A. S. Durward** (Walpole 1953) is Chief General Manager of the Leicester Building Society and a Council Member of the Building Societies' Association.

**J. R. C. Elmslie** (Cobham 1938) and **N. N. Proddow** (Chandos 1947) are Joint Chairmen of the Pearl Assurance Company (1983).

**M. A. Ferguson-Smith** (Grenville 1949) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and a Member of the John Hopkins Society of Scholars (1983).

**Sir Robert ffolkes Bt.** (Bruce 1963) is leading a Save the Children project to Ladakha which was featured in an ITV "Village Earth" programme in March 1983.

**J. A. Fingleton** (Chatham 1966) is a Director of the Royal Automobile Club (1982).

**A. A. Gale** (Walpole 1947) has been appointed Head of the School of Architecture at Plymouth (1983).

**J. D. R. Hayward** (Grenville 1942) is General Secretary of the Diocese of London.

**Sir Nicholas Henderson** (Grenville/Walpole 1937) is Adviser to Hambro's Bank (1982).

**J. C. V. Hunt** (Walpole 1960) was awarded the O.B.E. in the New Year Honours List 1983 and is Deputy Commander of 49 Brigade (TA).

**J. R. Hunt** (Cobham 1959) is a selection officer on the Design Council.

**C. B. Jones** (Bruce 1926/1st 99) has published his memoirs "Not Forgetting the Elephants" (1983).

**R. Kee** (Grafton 1937) was a presenter on the first programme of ITV "Good Morning Britain" on 1st February 1983.

**J. E. C. Kennon** (Grenville 1943) was created K.C.B. in the New Year Honours List 1983.

**M. A. B. Kirk** (LAM 1978) is to be Headmaster of the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, Suffolk in September 1983.

**Sir Frank Kitson** (Chandos 1944) is A.D.C. to H.M. The Queen (1983).

**M. A. Knight** (Chatham 1975) was awarded an Army Rugby Cap against the R.A.F. at Twickenham (1983).

**G. P. Lloyd** (Bruce 1944) was made C.V.O. in February 1983.

**M. J. Lloyd** (Chatham 1950) is the R.C. Chaplain at Brunel University.

**R. H. Lloyd** (Cobham 1951) has been appointed President of the American Chamber of Commerce (UK) (1983).

**R. E. Lloyd-Morgan** (Temple 1966) took the Baritone lead in the Jubilee Choral Concert at Stowe (March 1983).

**P. J. Le Vay Lawrence** (Bruce 1951) is President of the International Wax Federation.

**A. Miall** (Bruce 1963) has opened his own firm of Communications Consultants — Miall Metcalf (1983).

**J. R. S. Michell** (Grafton 1939) is an Honorary Canon of Winchester and Rector of Hale, Near Fordingbridge.

**Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk Bt.** (Chatham 1937) is co-author of "Debrett's Royal Scotland" (1983).

**C. C. H. M. Morgan** (Temple 1938) has been appointed to the Parish of St. Margaret's, Lothbury in the City of London (1983).

**M. D. Mumford** (Grenville 1946) is Priest-in-Charge of Therfield and Kelshall in Hertfordshire (1983).

**P. A. Natar** (Lyttelton 1973) is Managing Director of PAN Products and Home Garden Products.

**A. R. Negus** (Bruce 1963) conducted the first professional performance of 'Parsifal' outside London for fifty years for the Welsh National Opera (1983).

**J. R. Perriss** (Chandos 1959) is Managing Director of Suntours of Witney Ltd. (1983).

**A. M. Quinton** (Temple 1942) was created a Life Peer in December 1982.

**P. W. I. Rees** (Temple 1944) was appointed a Privy Councillor in the Birthday Honours List and Chief Secretary of the Treasury in the new Cabinet (June 1983).

**S. D. M. Robertson** (Bruce 1947) is Director of the York Mystery Plays (1983).

**J. G. S. Robinson** (Temple 1983) toured America with the Public Schools' Golf Team (1983).

**J. H. Ross** (Bruce 1982) and **R. J. C. Wicks** (Lyttelton 1982) undertook an ornithological expedition in the Royal Chitway National Park in Nepal (1983).

**T. A. A. St. Johnston** (Cobham 1960) is Vice-President International of the Bussman Division of the McGraw-Edison Coy. in St. Louis, USA.

**B. E. Toye** (Grafton 1956) is a Warden of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers Company (1983).

**J. L. Warner** (Grenville 1946) is Managing Director of Sigma Coatings Ltd., and Director of Petrofina (UK) Ltd. (1981).

**R. F. Wraith** (Grafton 1969) has been commissioned to paint the Emir of Qatar (1983).

**P. N. T. Yapp** (Temple 1962) has published "Travellers' Dictionary of Quotations" (1983).

## GENERAL ELECTION 1983

The following Members of Parliament were re-elected at the General Election and now represent the constituencies shown for the Conservative Party:—

**J. S. B. Henderson** (Chatham 1954 — Fife North East.

**N. W. Lyell** (Grafton 1957) — Bedfordshire Mid.

**R. J. Maxwell-Hyslop** (Chatham 1949) — Tiverton.

**P. W. I. Rees** (Temple 1944) — Dover.

## COMMISSIONS

The following have been commissioned into the Regiments stated:

**N. D. F. Jackson** (Temple 1978) 14th/20th Hussars—April 1983.

**P. N. Orr** (Grenville 1978) Queen's Own Hussars—April 1983.

## BIRTHS

**P. G. Arbuthnot** (Chandos 1969) a son on 5th November 1982.

**R. F. Argles** (Chandos 1971) a son on 10th January 1983.

**P. L. A. Ashcroft** (Cobham 1967) a daughter on 27th June 1975.

**W. G. Ashcroft** (Cobham 1971) a daughter in December 1980.

**D. C. Ashworth** (Walpole 1973) a son on 17th January 1983.

**M. C. Bailey** (Chatham 1972) a daughter on 5th May 1980.

**R. A. J. Bennett** (Grenville 1968) a son on 22nd July 1980.

**R. D. G. Carter** (Lyttelton 1970) a son on 25th January 1983.

**J. E. Colbeck** (Temple 1942) a son on 18th July 1982.

**J. N. Dixey** (Bruce 1966) a daughter on 4th May 1983.

**M. D. D. Duckham** (Walpole 1967) a son on 17th August 1982.

**D. F. Gomme** (Grenville 1964) a daughter on 8th November 1982.

**M. D. Goodwin** (Cobham 1958) a daughter on 12th March 1983.

**A. E. Hopwood** (Grenville 1959) a son on 25th December 1980.

**S. G. Jones** (Chandos 1962) a son on 9th April 1976 and a daughter on 27th January 1979.

**C. J. Karpinski** (Grenville 1969) a daughter on 20th January 1983.

**C. W. Le Hardy** (Walpole 1958) a daughter on 27th November 1982.

**R. A. Nassim** (Bruce 1969) a son on 20th September 1980.

**P. A. Natar** (Lyttelton 1973) a son on 19th November 1981.

**J. R. A. Nisbet** (Temple 1966) a daughter on 2nd December 1982.

**J. R. Priestley** (Chandos 1968) a son on 5th December 1982.

**J. A. J. Roderick** (Cobham 1970) a daughter on 18th February 1983.

**D. R. Sabberton** (Temple 1962) a daughter on 4th April 1981.

**T. A. A. St. Johnstone** (Cobham 1960) a son on 3rd December 1982.

**C. C. G. Sharp** (Walpole 1966) a son on 14th November 1975, a daughter on 28th May 1977 and a second daughter on 25th August 1982.

**M. S. Soames** (Cobham 1968) a son on 30th May 1983.

**M. E. Sperling** (Grafton 1963) a son on 19th March 1980.

**F. N. Stewart-Wood** (Temple 1964) a daughter on 27th April 1983.

**A. S. Thomson** (Temple 1965) a son on 17th February 1983.

**J. D. Ward** (Chatham 1972) a daughter on 29th January 1983.

**J. L. Warner** (Grenville 1946) a son in 1956 and a second son in 1963.

**R. G. A. Westlake** (Bruce 1970) a daughter on 29th October 1978, a son on 8th August 1981 and a second son on 23rd October 1982.

**J. P. W. Yerburgh** (Bruce 1970) a daughter on 24th July 1982.

## MARRIAGES

**R. F. Argles** (Chandos 1971) to Vanessa Nightingale on 5th June 1980.

**J. T. R. Baines** (Chandos 1956) to Condessa Nicolau de Almeida Reid on 22nd January 1980.

**R. A. J. Bennett** (Grenville 1968) to Sara Julianne Campbell on 18th March 1978.

**I. W. J. Birchall** (Grafton 1972) to Janet Wendy Quedsted Rogers on 2nd October 1982.

**P. S. Carter** (Temple 1974) to Sandra Ann Batty on 17th July 1982.

**A. A. Dawson** (Temple 1931) to Pamela Gwyneth Ward (née Owen-Williams) on 8th February 1983.

**P. E. Dawson** (Walpole 1967) to Marie Valerie Braddell on 5th November 1976.

**A. J. Dixon-Green** (Bruce 1944) to Susan Falkener on 11th July 1981.

**A. S. Drew** (Bruce 1974) to Caroline Bell on 12th September 1981.

**M. D. D. Duckham** (Walpole 1967) to Sally Fair on 6th August 1977.

**W. M. Graham** (Bruce 1977) to Susan Clare Micklethwaite on 1st August 1981.

**J. F. A. Hope** (Temple 1962) to Ann Mary Mitcalfe on 5th March 1983.

**S. G. Jones** (Chandos 1962) to Diana Hazel Kinsey on 4th August 1972.

**C. J. Karpinski** (Grenville 1969) to Melanie Kennedy-Sloane.

**C. W. Le Hardy** (Walpole 1958) to Jennifer Ford.

**Dawn M. McLean** (Stanhope 1979) to Robin Browne on 7th May 1983.

**R. J. D. Metcalfe** (Temple 1974) to Margaret Vivienne Haviland on 23rd April 1983.

**A. M. Mitchell** (Grenville 1978) to Kate Haddow on 22nd January 1983.

**R. de C. S. Montagu** (Cobham 1974) to Claire Strettel on 30th April 1983.

**P. A. Natar** (Lyttelton 1973) to Louise Jayne Day on 30th May 1981.

**D. R. Sabberton** (Temple 1962) to Sandra Elizabeth Felton on 4th June 1977.

**P. B. Salmon** (Grenville 1975) to Amanda Cohen on 16th December 1982.

**C. C. G. Sharp** (Walpole 1966) to Morag Xavier on 2nd May 1975.

**K. B. Thapar** (Chandos 1974) to Nisha Alvarez Meneses on 3rd December 1982.



**T. C. Thompson-Royds** (Chatham 1967) to Anne Hedley (sister of **N. E. J. Hedley** (Walpole 1980)) on 23rd April 1983.

**A. S. Thomson** (Temple 1965) to Felicity-Jane Stafford-Tucker on 22nd May 1982.

**J. D. Ward** (Chatham 1972) to Lesley Pringle in 1978.

**J. L. Warner** (Grenville 1946) to Ulla Maria Friberg in 1954.

**R. G. A. Westlake** (Bruce 1970) to Elaine Margaret Porter on 28th February 1976.

## DEATHS

**P. K. A. Andrews** (Chatham 1932) on 9th February 1983.

**T. Q. Annan** (Temple 1931) on 15th December 1981.

**T. P. Aumonier** (Temple 1938) on 1st April 1983.

**J. J. R. Bissill** (Chatham 1974) in 1980/1981.

**H. W. Blyth** (Chatham 1929) on 8th April 1983.

**J. M. Browne** (Bruce 1940) in 1980.

**G. G. D. Carter** (Grafton 1934) in 1982.

**C. B. Cash** (Grafton 1936) on 12th December 1982.

**E. R. Cox** (Temple/Grenville 1925/1st 99) in 1982.

**J. A. Cutforth** (Grafton 1938) on 7th May 1983.

**T. Doherty** (Staff 1964-1965) in April 1983.

**N. Forbes** (Chatham 1930) in 1982/1983.

**R. K. Kurk** (Grafton 1945) in 1982/1983.

**I. Mackintosh** (Grafton 1949) on 9th January 1983.

**D. H. L. Magnus** (Chandos 1927) on 26th August 1982.

**J. F. Marshall** (Temple 1928/1st 99) between 1970 and 1980.

**J. C. Monteith** (Grenville 1933) on 22nd April 1983.

**S. J. Murdoch** (Grenville 1925) in 1976.

**R. W. B. Newton** (Temple 1929) on 25th July 1982.

**D. L. Reeves** (Chandos 1932) in April 1982.

**The Lord Sherborne** (Bruce 1927) on 25th December 1982.

**C. G. Stebbing** (Chandos 1940) on 26th February 1980.

**V. J. Sykes** (Temple 1928) on 30th May 1982.

**M. J. Taylor** (Chatham 1932) on 18th November 1981.

**G. W. Thornton** (Bruce 1933) on 2nd June 1982.

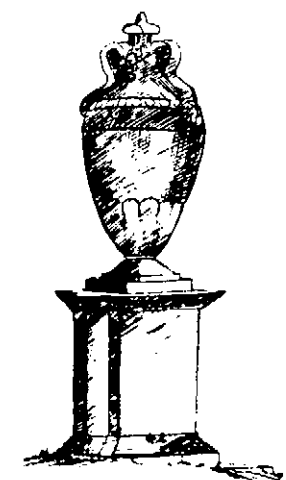
**A. N. Ventriss** (Temple 1961) on 21st May 1983.

**N. Ward** (Chatham 1938) on 28th February 1983.

**J. N. Weiler** (Temple 1929) in July 1982.

**J. J. White** (Bruce 1944) on 29th August 1982.

**J. S. Whitty** (Temple 1981) on 19th February 1983.



**Hillier Designs  
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