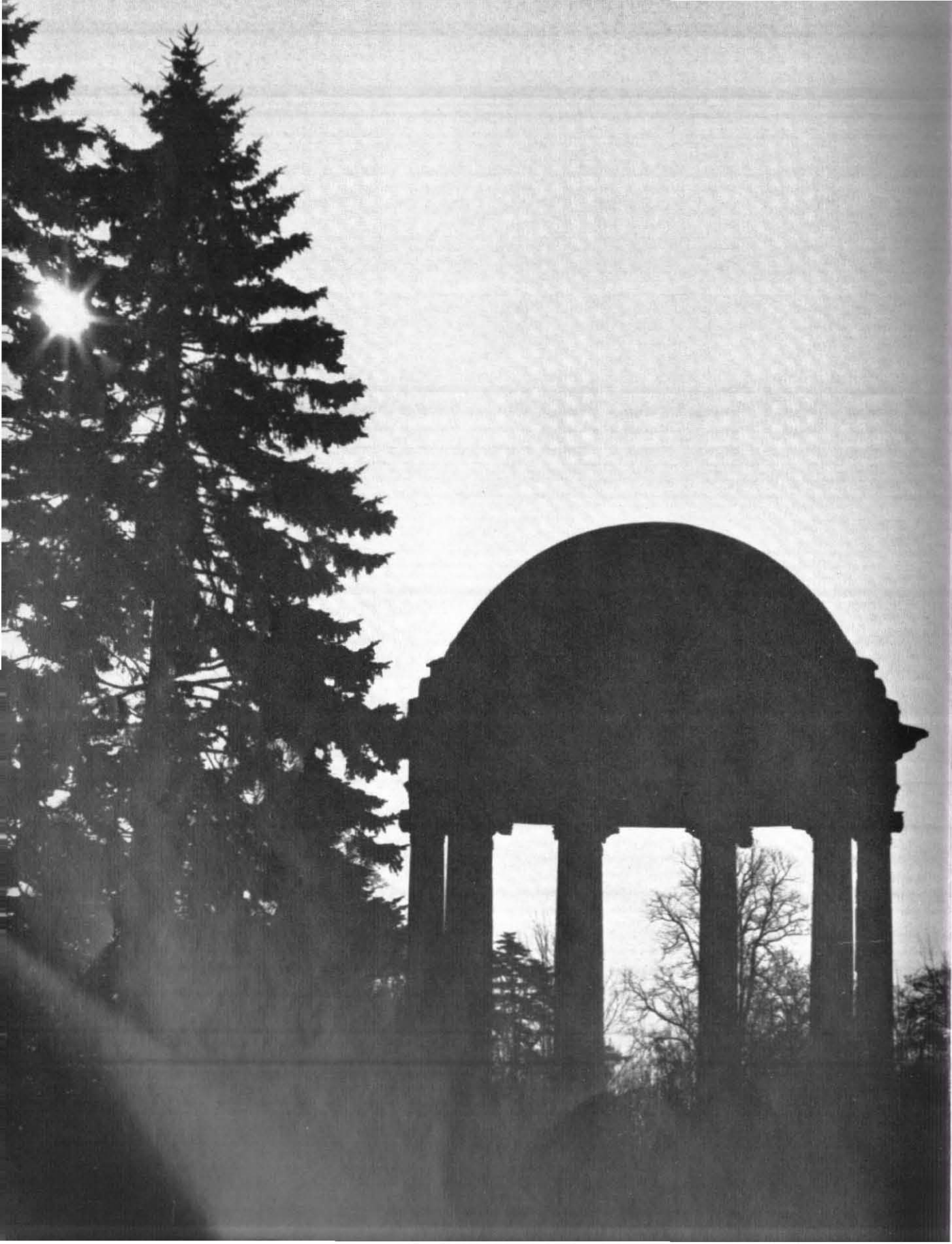


# THE STOIC

July 1969

Number one hundred and thirty nine





Vol XXIII  
Number 6  
July 1969

## THE STOIC

Stoica: T. B. R. Albery  
Society: P. A. Linsell  
Music: G. L. Harvey  
Sport: C. S. Edwards

## EDITORIAL

*"Lest we forget"*

June 6th was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Normandy landings. The following are extracts from letters written during the last stages of the war to *The Stoic* by Old Stoics in the Services—the first written on arrival in Normandy, the second by a liberator of Belsen concentration camp.

### ARRIVAL IN NORMANDY

"I thought I had seen a lot of shipping in the Clyde before the war but I had never seen anything approaching the multitude of ships collected off the beach. Our landing was lucky. We had been warned to expect a very wet one, and remembering Sicily we water-proofed our watches, wallets, cigarettes and matches in oiled silk. However, we got in further than we had been told we would and only had to wade up to our knees. We were pretty heavily laden. Besides our twenty-four hour ration-packs we carried a blanket and greatcoat rolled up in the form of a horse collar tied round our small packs. In addition, of course, we carried our arms and a pick and shovel each. When we got ashore we marched for about eight miles under a boiling hot sun. You can imagine how we felt at the end. The hot sun did not last. It is remarkable how soon the men learned to make a rainproof slit trench. Shelling is not very heavy, but we find that we are out of practice in judging what is going to come near us and what is going to pass over. However, it won't take long to remedy that."

### BELSEN

"The people in the camp are of all nationalities, French, Belgian, Dutch, Poles, Russians, Czechs and Hungarians, only about fifty per cent being Jews. Their condition was so horrifying that it made one's brain reel. Seven hundred to one thousand people had been crammed into one small hut, without any vestige of sanitation, and the dead were intermixed with the living—although in some cases a few of the living had had just sufficient strength to push the corpses through the windows. The smell of rotting faecal matter and of death spread for miles beyond the camp boundaries. I could go on describing such horrors indefinitely, but I won't. I can assure you however that there is nothing any journalist could find in this place which it would be necessary to exaggerate or distort in any way. In fact the truth is so frightful that no paper would dare print all of it . . . .

. . . . The typhus and the dirt are the result of Germany's collapse, but the gas chambers and crematoriums are, or were, part of the normal routine of these places.

Most of the inmates are mentally and culturally of a low type, although you find hundreds of exceptions. The head cook in my camp kitchen is an old lady of great dignity, the Countess of K———, whose only crime was that her daughter of eighteen wrote to a friend saying she disliked the Nazis. Because of this, her husband and son were sent to Buchenwald, her two daughters and herself to Belsen. One daughter has died of starvation and the old lady looks like death herself . . . .

I have a squad of Germans doing some of the dirty work for me in the other camp, and they, also, are very typical. They are very clean and work like the devil. When I ask them why they allowed their country to perpetrate these horrors, they shrug their shoulders and say:—"Herr Kommandant, it was nothing to do with us—and anyway these people are of an inferior race."

# STOICA

## School Officials—Summer Term 1969

<b>Prefects:</b>	<b>P. G. Arbuthnot</b>	Head of the School and Head of Chandos
	<b>R. E. T. Nicholl</b>	Second Prefect and Head of Lyttelton
	<b>R. C. B. Anderson</b>	Head of Temple
	<b>C. J. E. Bartholomew</b>	Head of Walpole
	<b>S. J. Fafalios</b>	Prefect of Library
	<b>G. A. Galyean</b>	Head of Bruce
	<b>G. L. Harvey</b>	Prefect of Chapel
	<b>I. P. Haussauer</b>	Head of Cobham
	<b>R. K. Hay</b>	Head of Chatham
	<b>A. A. Macpherson</b>	Head of Grenville
	<b>P. E. Smith</b>	Head of Grafton
	<b>N. J. W. Spurrier</b>	Prefect of Gymnasium
	<b>R. H. B. Stephens</b>	Prefect of Hall and Prefect of Mess
<b>Cricket:</b>	Captain, <b>R. E. T. Nicholl (L)</b>	Secretary, <b>N. J. W. Spurrier (C)</b>
<b>Tennis:</b>	Captain, <b>C. J. E. Bartholomew (W)</b>	Secretary, <b>I. A. Thomson (C)</b>
<b>Athletics:</b>	Captain, <b>P. G. Arbuthnot (C)</b>	Secretary, <b>H. B. J. Ormrod (C)</b>
<b>Swimming:</b>	Captain and Secretary, <b>J. S. S. Syrett (W)</b>	
<b>Sailing:</b>	Commodore, <b>N. J. Gilhead (G)</b>	Secretary, <b>D. B. Unerman (C)</b>
<b>Golf:</b>	Captain, <b>S. R. Barstow (T)</b>	Secretary, <b>S. A. McNair (G)</b>
<b>Shooting:</b>	Captain, <b>R. K. Hay (C)</b>	Secretary, <b>A. S. R. Groves (T)</b>
<b>Sculling:</b>	Captain, <b>C. R. M. Longstaff (W)</b>	
<b>Beagles:</b>	Master, <b>C. J. E. Bartholomew (W)</b>	
<b>Archery:</b>	Captain, <b>R. V. Craik-White (W)</b>	

We welcome the appointment of Mr. Anthony Quinton (T 1942), Fellow of New College, Oxford, as Chairman of the Governing Body. Mr. Quinton has served as a Governor since 1959, and he succeeds Mr. Peter Agnew, who has had to hand over owing to increasing business pressures. Mr. Agnew has been Chairman since 1964, and we are delighted to know that he will be remaining on the Governing Body.

The problem facing Stoics in the summer terms at Stowe is what not to do, as there is such a great variety of activities going on throughout the term. It is only with great difficulty that half the School manages to squeeze 'O' and 'A' levels into its timetable.

Even last holidays Stoics seem to have undertaken all kinds of activities. The sportsmen rushed off to all corners of the country. A hockey team took part in the Public Schools' Hockey Festival at Oxford, and Ian Thomson graced Exmouth with his presence only to win the National Under 16 Tennis Tournament, whilst Richard Carr won the Evans Cup, the National Under 16 Squash Tournament. Stuart McNair and his father also won the Fathers and Sons Golf Competition at Woking. Meanwhile two small groups disappeared into the wilds of Anglesey to work and revise for their 'A' levels amidst the twittering of birds, and amidst the chattering of teeth and the blowing of fan-heaters. The three Stoics who won places on the *Malcolm Miller* and the *Sir Winston Churchill* training ships seem to have had a hellish but extremely enjoyable time. We congratulate R. G. A. Westlake (B) and J. L. Thorogood (L) on winning flying scholarships.

A few masters hit the news as well last holidays. Mr. Watson, Mr. Edmonds and Mr. Bottone, three of our distinguished music staff, took part in the B.B.C. Beethoven Competition at Dartington Hall. The trio came fifth overall, much to their own surprise (although one cannot imagine why), against some very stiff competition. One of the three trios they played was broadcast on the Third Programme during the term, but Mr. Edmonds had some harsh things to say about

the quality of B.B.C. recording, and the announcer had much trouble in pronouncing such a simple surname as Bottone.

On the subject of masters, we sadly lose Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Brown at the end of this term (tributes to them are to be found later in 'Stoica'). Mr. Sparshott is also leaving to become Head of the Spanish Department at Taunton. He and his trilby hat, and his enormous green and red golfing umbrella, will be much missed by the Spanish side and by the cross-country men and the middle distance athletes, although the latter may be slightly relieved: their training looked enough to cripple any normal, sane person. In any case we thank him very much for everything that he has done for Stowe. Thanks also to Mrs. Hutchinson, who is retiring, and who has done much for the library during the last few years. Mr. Deacon is retiring, but only from being Housemaster of Bruce, where he has been for fifteen years.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. B. E. N. Fawcett, late Headmaster of King's School, Ely, who took over the History Side at Stowe during the war years.

The term itself has been full of events and happenings. There was the Sponsored Walk, Enzo Plazzotta's sculptures, Speech Day, the Bucks. Sports, the Wycombe Abbey Sixth Form Conference, Monteverdi's Orpheo in the Queen's Temple, the John Laing Management exercise, and the lecture on the Battle of the River Plate by Sir Eugene Millington-Drake, which resulted in a visit by three boys to Eton. There are articles on most of these events in the appropriate sections of this issue. This is probably the moment to apologise for the omission of the review of the Congreve Club play in last term's issue; this was due to an editorial oversight.

One happening which occurs unfortunately after we go to press is 'Moon Orbit', which promises to be a fascinating experience, it celebrates man's first attempt to land on the moon and is, as far as one can gather, a mixture of relevant poetry and music.

Apart from a break of two years, Mr. George Turpin has worked continuously at Stowe, mainly as a stoker in the boilerhouse, since the School began in 1923! Before that his father was employed as a carpenter on the estate. What splendid service, and we wish him a very happy retirement as he leaves Stowe this term.

The golf team won the Micklem Trophy for the second year running and we congratulate Jonathan Choyce, who has been chosen to captain an England Public Schools' Golf team on a tour of America, and Stuart McNair, who has also been picked for the team; by some strange coincidence, Mr. Morris is managing the team.

Congratulations also to our revered editor, Mr. Kirk, and to his wife on the birth of their son Timothy on March 25th; to Mr. and Mrs. Lennard on the birth of their son James on April 20th; and to Mr. and Mrs. Burley, who were married during the Easter holidays.

Talking of births or rather not talking of births, an Old Stoic, Mr. David Renwick (© 1955) has entered into the chastity belt industry; his chastity belts are genuine antique reproductions made out of hand-forged Sheffield steel, key and all. Militant suffragettes need not fear; most of Mr. Renwick's American customers use them to arrange their flowers in.

## D.I.B.

David Brown came to Stowe in September 1933. He was the first International rugby player to join the staff, but he was shortly to be joined by two others in John Tallent and Donald Crichton-Miller. This was, in fact, the time when the Captain of Oxford, John Brett, came to Stowe for a teacher's apprenticeship period and could be given no more honourable coaching than the second fifteen forwards. Tallent and Crichton-Miller left after a year or two and David Brown was left in charge of the school rugby. Here his success was swift and comprehensive. The three winter terms of 1938, 1939 and 1940, during which we beat Oundle twice, once on our ground and then on their's, and ended the series with a draw in 1940, mark the height of Stowe's rugby history. All this was achieved not only by a very thorough knowledge of the

principles of Rugby Football, but also by a kind of infectious gaiety and panache which produced great dash and confidence in the teams he coached.

These qualities were also apparent in his work as Housemaster of Cobham. He had a sense of humour which made it easy for boys to approach him, and he had any amount of time for every boy in his house. In 1941 he left Stowe to join the Fife and Forfar Yeomanry and eventually helped to end the war behind a flame-throwing tank. The idea of anyone facing David Brown plus a flame-throwing tank makes the mind do a great deal more than boggle.

Cobham must have been very glad to welcome him back, now with a wife and family, and he continued to rule his domain with a fine blend of tolerance and wisdom. It was typical that he should have been the first Housemaster to give House Colours for Music—to John Melvin, who has since shown how much he deserved them—and his translation of the Cobham House motto 'Quo non ascendam' as 'The sky's the limit' is as felicitous as it must have been unexpected.

As a teacher David Brown made a real name for himself in both Mathematics and Science where he helped a long line of lame dogs over the Certificate style. His understanding of problems, and sympathetic practical help in their solutions, caused one to hear so frequently the remark, 'I learnt it all from D.I.B.'

After his great first fifteen coaching days he has gone on working with junior teams in both rugby and cricket for long after most men of his years would have stopped, and he has been a most efficient President of Games for some years now: and in addition he has been a power behind the Pineapple and the much-enjoyed annual Golf week-end when the Masters play the Old Stoics.

Warmth, kindness and humanity are the qualities which come to mind when one thinks of David Brown. He has frequently been the motive power behind the raising of funds to show appreciation of the services of some loyal servant of Stowe whose work might easily have gone by apparently unappreciated but for his thoughtfulness.

A party with Sheila and David was always a most memorable affair. The wit, laughter and happiness they dispensed will not lightly be forgotten by many generations of Stoics. Thirty-six years is a long time, and they were years of solid achievement in many fields.

## W.H.B.

Walter Bradshaw, with his wife Peggy, came to Stowe in 1947, after spending some years in India, as a member of the Modern Languages staff and as Master in charge of Cricket. Since then he has taught French to several generations of Stoics, mainly in the Middle and Lower School—a task often needing much self-control and good humour, both of which, mercifully, he has. Very many struggling linguists owe their eventual triumph in the Fifth Forms to his firm and painstaking guidance.

As a double Oxford Blue, in Cricket and Soccer, as well as an accomplished golfer, he had both the skill and the prestige to take on the always exacting job of running the School Cricket, which he did very successfully for some years. Excellence at soccer being of little value at Stowe except in the relative obscurity of an 'extra', he adapted his talents with little difficulty to rugby.

In 1962 he took over the Housemastership of Chatham. His strict standards of discipline (old-fashioned in the eyes of some) have not always endeared him to the more selfish members of the community, but have been acknowledged by those who have the good of the place at heart as both fair and beneficial.

As loyal supporters of all School activities—they were seldom absent from any match, concert, or major competition—and as generous and delightful hosts, Walter and Peggy Bradshaw will be remembered with gratitude and affection. We wish them all happiness, and ample time for their favourite sport, in their retirement at Adderbury.

## ANNUAL PRIZES

Basil Williamson Memorial Prize	{ J. R. Priestley (C) P. G. Arbuthnot (C)
Hayward Prize for Reading	P. G. Arbuthnot (C)
Myles Henry Prize	C. G. N. Barclay (C)
Friends of Stowe Prize for General Knowledge	G. L. Harvey (G)
Capel Cure Prize for French	N. H. Harvey (G)
John Webster Prize for French	N. H. Harvey (G)
'Bene' Prizes	{ N. H. Harvey (G) P. I. Bellew (B)
Bryan Henshaw Prize for English Speech	P. I. Bellew (B)
	{ T. B. R. Albery (L) C. J. Kingsland (B)
'Bene' Prizes	{ M. J. D. Manley (T) J. C. B. Lucas (G)
Gilling-Lax Music Prizes	Woodwind: J. C. B. Lucas (G)
	Brass: P. J. Lankester (C)
	Violin/Viola: O. W. Richards (L)
Pearman-Smith Prize for Mathematics	O. W. Richards (L)
Gilling-Lax Music Prizes	'Cello: D. H. Longman (C)
	Organ: { D. H. Longman (C) N. B. S. Stewart (W)
	Piano: N. B. S. Stewart (W)
J. G. Riess Prize for German	N. J. A. Davies (L)
Basil Aimers Prize for Reading	N. J. A. Davies (L)
Gavin Maxwell Prizes for English	{ A. D. Mayfield (G) J. G. Eades (G)
Boosey and Hawkes Cup	M. B. Creighton (G)
'Bene' Prize	J. Moreton (G)
Charles Loudon Prize for Greek	J. Moreton (G)
J. F. Roxburgh Prize for Classics	J. Moreton (G)
Zafropulo Prize for Classical Verse	J. Moreton (G)
Anthony Pearce Prize for Latin Oration	{ J. Moreton (G) D. A. G. Ireland (B)
Quentin Bertram Prize for Latin Prose	{ D. A. G. Ireland (B) S. R. Barstow (B)
Wallace Prize for Geography	R. V. Craik-White (W)
Anthony Howard Prizes for Art: <i>Painting</i> :	Senior: S. J. Fafalios (C)
	Junior: E. H. Millner (G)
James Mayne Prize for Economics	{ R. K. Hay (C) A. W. Goodhart (C)
Friends of Stowe Prize for Natural History	J. L. Backhouse (T)
Choyce Prize for Biology	{ N. Downing (L) B. Helweg-Larsen (L)
Friends of Stowe Prize for Woodwork	{ G. D. Jones (C) D. W. Jones (C)
John Holland Prize for Metalwork	J. T. W. Smyth (C)
Harding Prizes for Reading	First: D. Portnoy (C)
	Second: { S. I. Allan (C) J. N. S. Bagshawe (L)
Hards Prize for Chemistry	D. E. Reid (G)
Hayward Prize for Chemistry	R. A. Jeavons (G)
J. F. Roxburgh Prize for English Verse	Senior: R. A. Jeavons (G)
	Junior: P. A. Linsell (C)

## CHAPEL

This term a census of the School's reactions to having Communion as the main Sunday service was carried out. It was thought of value to report in full the results.

### The questions:

1. Are you confirmed?
2. Do you regard yourself as a regular communicant?
3. Given one Sunday Service for the whole School, do you think it should be:
  - (a) usually Matins or Evensong?
  - (b) usually Holy Communion (as in the experiment)?
  - (c) both, equally often? Please give an honest reason or reasons.

### The Response:

420 unspoilt papers. (Some were playing games at the time, some did not wish to take part.

The sample seems representative.)

### For Matins or Evensong:

Forty-four (i.e. a fraction over 1 in 10); of these, several seemed to think they were arguing for a morning as opposed to an evening service. Reasons given varied widely, no single one having many adherents.

Ten thought Matins and Evensong better services than Series II Communion.

*I cannot reconcile myself to the bastardised Communion Service. If people wish to go to Communion they should be able to go to a proper service given entirely to Communion; quite apart from all other considerations, compulsory Chapel is a "school (secular) parade" and Communion is a service for Christians. The two cannot and should not be mixed, especially if such mixing is at the expense of the Holy Communion.*

Eight knew, understood or enjoyed these services because they were familiar.

Eight thought there was better participation for non-communicants; but of these, only four were unconfirmed themselves. This is tiny compared to the numbers (given below) of unconfirmed boys who preferred the Communion for the similar reasons.

Only nine thought the atmosphere better.

Four thought these services shorter than Communion.

Five preferred matins, etc., for more hymns, or less kneeling.

Three non-communicants thought that non-communicants did not really appreciate the Communion; again, more than offset by figures below.

Two commented that parents prefer Matins, etc. (But this provokes the reflection that there must be many communicant parents who, if the arrangements were to become permanent in some form, would be delighted to be able to communicate with their sons; thus giving the actual Communion a more "family" atmosphere).

### For "usually Holy Communion":

Three hundred and fifteen (i.e. exactly 3 in every 4).

Less than two thirds (196) gave brevity as a reason; and of these, many explained or amplified it.

*Matins and Evensong are unrealistically long for non-Christians, and only serve to increase their antipathy.*

*I like a short, sharp service with a point to it.*

*Holy Communion is short, sharp and to the point. To my mind, it is a compact service and as I am a semi-believer, it strengthens my flagging belief, because it seems to me more religious than the normal service.*

*It is shorter . . . you have less time in which to get bored. At the end of Holy Communion I am usually still paying attention to the service. At the end of Matins or Evensong I am not.*

*I find Matins boring . . . there is a great deal more to be thought about in a Communion service than in Matins.*

*. . . . Matins and Evensong are too long and I get bored . . . . during Holy Communion I might even be interested.*

*. . . . more seems to be done in Holy Communion in the time . . . .*

*It is shorter yet just as, if not more, meaningful.*

*I think the School take more interest in shorter services.*

*Matins and Evensong last too long, and I lose interest in the service, which I consider is bad.*

These are typical of many, and show that brevity as a reason may be very far from irresponsible.

One boy said he could concentrate for up to 40 minutes—an estimate accepted by the School on every other day of the week.

Fifty-two thought Communion had more "point", was more "useful" or "interesting". Of these *forty-two were unconfirmed*. From an unconfirmed boy:

*It is a service with a far deeper meaning than Matins.*

And from a communicant:

*From a Christian point of view the Eucharist is obviously more viable than the truncated nonsense served up under the guise of matins.*

Forty-two thought Series II was desirable as being fair to both communicants and others; of these, *thirty-five were unconfirmed*. One points out that it pleases the communicant by giving him a service at a suitable hour, and the non-communicant because he leaves sooner. He goes on:—

*It only dissatisfies the Christian non-communicant.*

Thirty-two felt it a better hour for Communion than the early morning; of these, 23 were non-communicant. (One or two of these did not see why a whole dormitory should be woken up by one communicant.)

*We have only one morning a week when we can lie in; I generally find I need this extra sleep by the end of a hard-working week. The present system means I can attend Communion fairly regularly. Must the Christian undergo hardships for the sake of hardships?*

Fifteen were glad—many very glad indeed—to sing less psalms.

Eleven said it would encourage boys to be confirmed—*Eight of these were unconfirmed*.

Ten said Communion should be the main service (three unconfirmed).

Nine said they could understand more, or participate better, in the Communion—and seven of these were unconfirmed.

Four like it modern.

### For both equally:

60 (thirty-five unconfirmed). (i.e. exactly 1 in 7.)

Thirty-two thought that variety was essential or desirable.

*The more services differ the more I take an interest and want to know what's happening.*

*If we had (Communion) all the time, to most people it would come to mean nothing, just as Matins has done, and thus I think it is important to have a regular change.*

(Editorial comment: "a regular change" is a pleasing paradox, and might be an excellent formula.)

Eleven thought this the fairest solution.

Five thought both services useful; or that, since both are in use elsewhere, boys should become familiar with both here.

### General features of the response:

1. A very large number of boys thought of others—communicants thought of non-communicants, and vice versa. This was really striking.
2. The opportunity was taken by some to air strong feelings. Most frequent and forcible were attacks on compulsory chapel, and services on Sunday evenings.

In view of the majority support for the main service Communion, they will be continued for the time being, and reviewed when the need arises.

On Speech Day Sunday the Revd. O. K. de Berry gave a forthright and challenging sermon on the subject of our responsibilities to our fellow men, which gave us much profitable food for thought, although a few of its points were highly controversial. Later in the term the Chaplain of Winchester College gave a short sermon and then answered questions from the School, which were collected during a short musical interlude. The shortage of time possibly occasioned a stricter selection of the questions asked, but the experiment was worthwhile.

Other visiting preachers were the Revd. T. Dudley-Smith, Secretary of Church Pastoral Aid Society, the Revd. J. Wordsworth, Chaplain of Sherborne School, and the Revd. R. Russell Twyford, Rector of Maids Moreton.

Collections have been taken for: the Muscular Dystrophy Group; Langley House; the Royal National Lifeboat Institution; Christian Aid; the National Deaf Children's Society; Stowe Community Service; the Lord Mayor Treloar College; the British Empire Cancer Campaign for Research; the Cheshire Homes; and the Children's Country Holiday Fund.

## OLIM ALUMNI

**Professor P. G. H. Gell** (T 1932), professor of Experimental Pathology at Birmingham University, has been made a Fellow of the Royal Society.

**J. S. B. Henderson** (C 1954) is the prospective Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for East Dumbartonshire.

**G. D. Inge-Innes-Lillingston** (C 1941) has been commissioned Deputy Lieutenant of Staffordshire.

**J. B. da Silva** (T 1932) has been made a C.M.G.

**A. C. Wolfe** (G 1966) was chosen for the English Universities shooting team against Scotland at Perth. He gained the second highest English score and was third overall.

## BIRTHS

To the wife of:

**J. M. E. Anderson** (C 1957) a daughter on July 25th 1968.

**D. J. Easton** (W 1959) a son on March 28th 1969.

**E. H. Jarvis** (C 1951) a daughter on September 12th 1968.

**J. B. da Silva** (T 1932) a son.

## MARRIAGES

**W. D. Blair** (C 1953) to Rosamund Anne Hanfray on October 5th 1968.

**J. M. G. Heynes** (C 1964) to Miss C. J. Wates on May 10th 1969.

**W. H. Jarvis** (C 1956) to Ann Rintoul on April 12th 1969.

## DEATHS

**P. J. Davies** (T 1941) in November 1968 after a motor-car accident.

**P. R. Head** (G 1929) on March 13th 1969.

**A. J. Perceval Maxwell** (B 1944) on March 7th 1969.

**G. A. Rowse, O.B.E.** (T 1926) on April 25th 1969.

## SPEECH DAY

The Headmaster decreed fine weather—and again it was so. Mr. Anthony Quinton, the new Chairman of the Governors, opened the proceedings by welcoming the Chief Guest, The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Cobham, and all the visitors. He then invited the Headmaster to give his annual report.

### The Headmaster's Speech

*(Since much of the content of the Speech is included throughout The Stoic what follows is an attempt to report a few otherwise unreported items by means of short quotations.)*

“I always look forward to Speech Day as, in a sense, this is the climax of the School's year, and I am delighted that some 1,500 of you are able to share in this occasion. I am particularly pleased to see Old Stoics here on this day, for not only do a good many of you entertain the assembled company with your cricket, tennis, athletics, shooting and golf, but you also provide a third of the parents and it is most encouraging for me to be able to tell you that out of the 2,209 boys on my list for future entry, 900 are the sons of Old Stoics. We also have 18 grandsons entered.”

“Perhaps the most encouraging thing of all is the continued improvement in academic results, especially in the 'A' Levels. This year there were 88% passes, which shows an improvement of 25% over the last six years. This year's results included 47 distinctions and is the best the School has ever achieved. There were, for example, 13 'A' grades in the General Paper, whereas last year there were none. We were also pleased to get 22 boys into Oxford and Cambridge—again, the best record since entries became so competitive after the war. Another encouraging thing is that we now have regularly over 100 boys applying for university entry, with about 75% success.”

“Although I hope we shall not, as some schools do, go into mourning if we lose a rugger match, I certainly feel there is a greater need for dedication and fitness, and a confidence born of a real will to win. A good deal in the future will depend upon an attitude of mind from our key players, who are not content to be good losers, and also upon the enthusiasm of younger masters being prepared to throw themselves whole-heartedly into the coaching of junior teams.”

“The C.C.F. contingent had a very good report last year; I quote: “A most impressive and smart parade”. I do not think any School Cadet Corps will ever be popular, but then the present climate of opinion which is abroad today would suggest that with some young men, anything which requires a bit of self-discipline will never be popular. The C.C.F. does provide an opportunity for training and leadership, smartness of bearing and in camps and arduous training in the holidays, a certain amount of toughening up, which will surely stand boys in good stead whatever career they choose to follow. There is, on the other hand, as an alternative, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme which is now beginning to build up as a sensible option for those who prefer it.”

“We have thought a good deal about the possibility of girls being accepted as pupils, but in such an isolated community I feel we should not, as some schools have done, accepted a limited number of boarders. What I would be quite happy to do would be to take in day girls for 'A' Level courses, if this would help locally.”

“Perhaps one of the most important things that happen at Stowe is the vast amount of Community Service which goes on. I regard this as a most valuable link with the surrounding neighbourhood, and a great opportunity for boys to give service to people less fortunate than themselves.”

“A word about school buildings and the future. In the last seven years, we have built a new boarding house, Lyttelton, new study blocks in Chandos and Cobham, repaired several monuments and temples, provided a running track and renovated a golf course. The greatest needs now are an efficient Science block and a covered and heated swimming pool. There are, of course, other needs such as a club room for the Sixth Form, project rooms, the modernisation of the kitchens, an all-weather games pitch, a new gymnasium, and more squash courts. Much of this must be considerably in the future, but I am pleased to say that we are now just about to go ahead with the first phase of the Science buildings—the Physics laboratory. And we have already designed and found a site for the swimming pool. I hope sincerely that these two major items will enlist your support for the Development Plan, which we hope to send out to you all in the course of this next year.”

“There is no reason why any boy should be bored, though there will always be a handful, even if we could arrange for them to live in a tent in the middle of Piccadilly Circus. We have the obvious disability here of being rather isolated, and it is good to see, therefore, that there are so many boys who are making things happen within the framework of Stowe, rather than letting life drift by and tagging on the end like a lot of sheep. We live in an age of change; of student discontent, of protest, of disagreeableness, with the constant cry of ‘freedom’ ringing in our ears. Words like ‘responsibility’, ‘obligation’, ‘loyalty’, make very little sense to some people nowadays, and the word ‘compulsory’ brings them out in a rash. This freedom—or licence, as I would call it—is a self-centred and destructive thing which shows absolutely no consideration for others.”

“Certainly we should change. But I hope it will not be ‘in the twinkling of an eye’, but in a more considered and leisurely way. Indeed, I hope we will make the changes and not be changed by politicians or the selfish minority. For in this changing world, we should be willing and able to adapt where there are sound educational reasons for doing so. If we do not change, we shall not survive, but we shall certainly not give way to the pressures of the few who demand everything and give nothing. We would, however, I think do well to remember that we hear far more from the noisy minority than we do about the excellent work done by such bodies as the voluntary service organisations and the tremendously positive and compassionate contribution made by most young people today.”

“Whatever faults we may have as a school, I would like to feel that the greatest contribution we can make to the education of the boys in it is that we teach them to grow, as well as to learn; that we teach them at all times both how to be individuals and yet not to forget consideration for others in the process; that we teach them to be tolerant of other people’s weaknesses, and that it is very rarely true that things are black or white, or that one man is completely right and the other completely wrong; above all, that we should teach them to be people of faith; I would say faith in God, but at any rate a faith in oneself, in one’s school and the way it is going.

Independent schools are out on their own. There is no State foster-mother to fall back on if things go wrong. It is therefore essential that we should be a community, not only held together by a common choice, but bound by a common responsibility and a common sense of purpose. In many ways I believe this to be true of Stowe.”

#### Lord Cobham’s Speech

Lord Cobham then presented the prizes and spoke as follows:

‘This is for me really rather like a lovely summer weekend spent at home. It is a great thrill to come back to Stowe after a long time and to hear bits of my family history so accurately and charmingly portrayed by the Headmaster. There is one piece which has so far remained unheralded and unpublished which I think might amuse you. That when my grandfather found himself elevated from the Barony of Lyttelton to the Viscountcy of Cobham, he was not all that best pleased because it meant having a great deal of lettering changed all over his possessions,

but even less pleased when his eight year old daughter, Maud Leconfield, my aunt, presented him with a pair of slippers which was indeed in existence quite recently, until nibbled by my son’s Labrador retriever, with C.O.B. on one and B.U.M. on the other.’

‘I was last here, I think, in 1933 playing for a team of irregular banditti known as the Cambridge Crusaders. Since that day, I have I hope improved in some respects and undoubtedly deteriorated in others, but I have certainly not so far improved as to be able to make a more notable contribution to the day than the sixteen runs I gathered on that occasion, nor I hope so far deteriorated as to refuse to attempt to do so’.

‘I have had to listen to an enormous number of speeches on occasions such as this and indeed my duties have led me to do the same thing more times than I can remember. Experience tells me that among the ladies and gentlemen here present, there is this afternoon one great prevailing and common bond which can be quite simply summed up in the biblical phrase “O Lord, how long”. Have no fear Ladies and Gentlemen, I promise to take heed of the splendid advice of the late Sir Winston Churchill when addressing young candidates for Parliamentary Seats in the Midlands, “Remember my children” he said “the head is wholly incapable of assimilating more than the seat can comfortably endure”, and I have long nurtured a strong belief that boredom brings to psychiatrists a good many more patients than distress does.’

‘It strikes me that old William James gave them best advice possible when he wrote “Be not afraid of life, believe that life is worth living and your belief will help create that fact”. There really is great truth in this. I have noticed all through my life, that people largely seem to get the luck they expect. Even in my cricket days, and I promise not to mention cricket again, I remember old Herbert Sutcliffe, who never expected to hit the ball when he missed it and that it never would hit the wicket when it did, and it never did. I have seen him play and miss at an outrageous number of deliveries on a beastly wicket at Worcester, when everyone else was getting a tickle, but there he was unruffled, placid and seventy not out at lunch time. I am sure that half the reason was that he knew perfectly well that he wasn’t going to hit one unless he meant to—and there we are.’

‘I was also glad that your Chairman mentioned my connection with the Outward Bound Movement, in which I am a profound believer, and one very intelligent young man wrote to the Warden after a course not long ago, “Worry is a series of electrons of inefficient thought orbiting a nucleus of fear. Your Outward Bound course disposes of nearly all fear and of a great deal of inefficient thought, thus it seems to me that it prepares the mind for life while at the same time it develops the body”. I think rather a remarkable statement from an eighteen year old. Rather more remarkable, but of rather a different character, was another letter we received from a young lady. We didn’t know that this young aspirant to Outward Bound honours was married, because we don’t usually take married men—and she was only sixteen. She wrote to the Warden and said “Since my husband went on an Outward Bound course, the improvement has been remarkable. P.S.—Please can he have another course before long?”’

‘There is certainly a good deal wrong with the world today, but I think what we all tend to forget is that there always has been. Most of our present evils stem from mankind’s perpetual inability to disassociate material prosperity from happiness, whereas the truth is that the poet writing immortal verse in his attic is very likely a far happier man than the millionaire wrestling helplessly with his latest tax return. Man has never been satisfied for long with purely materialistic values and long ago discovered that nothing is drearier in the world than the pursuit of pleasure alone. Thus it is, that as your Headmaster so rightly said, “Freedom without discipline lands people in a far greater slavery than that from which they sought to escape”. You simply cannot paint a picture on a limitless canvas. Just for one small moment to digress—I know very well the famous paragraph your Headmaster quoted from William Johnson Cory, he incidentally wrote that glorious Callimachus epigram “Heraclitus” as well and one thing he might have put in it is that you go to a great school also to put your thoughts into simple speech and into simple English.’

‘I know that a quite hopeless amount of my time is wasted first, by trying to decipher people’s signatures and secondly, by trying to read what my correspondent meant to convey. For instance,

the Civil Service of course and the Government draughtsmen are the worst sinners in this respect. They will not be simple. They think there is something great about being complicated and I will quote you just one, because I think it is the best of its bunch. The Ground Nut order of 1959. Some of you may be familiar with this, but it's really a towering piece of English. What the man wanted to convey was the fact that there were two kinds of ground nuts, nuts to grind in a grinder and nuts that you grow in the ground and all he had to do was to say that this order refers to nuts that grow in the ground — or vice versa, I have never been able to discover which. But no, that is far too simple, so he had to be complicated and try to achieve the same result by the use of an infinity of subordinative clauses, and the result was as follows, "In the nuts unground other than Ground Nuts order, the expression "Nuts" shall have reference to such nuts other than Ground Nuts as would, but for this amending order, not qualify as nuts unground".'

'Well, I know it's jolly funny but it's also a ghastly waste of time, because somehow one's got to answer that thing and if you write and say, what does it mean, they refer you merely to a worse paragraph of some other order. And, compare it, Ladies and Gentlemen, with the splendour of the Duke of Wellington's despatch to the Peer who had the honour at that time to be in charge of the army. I don't think he was called a C.I.G.S., but he wrote "I must remind your Lordship for the last time. For so long as I retain an independent position, I shall see that no officer under my command is de-barred by the futile drivelling of men quill-driving in your Lordship's office from attending to his first duty, which is so to train the private men under his command that they may, without question, beat any force opposed to them in the field"—good stuff.'

'That great and good man Adlai Stevenson, just before he died, made a fine speech in the United States in which he wrote—"I doubt if any society in History has faced so great a moral challenge as ours or needed more desperately to draw on the deepest source of courage and responsibility. Ours is the first human community in which resources are so abundant that almost no policies are beyond our capacity for purely physical reasons. What we decide to do, we can do. The inhibitions of poverty, lack of resources, lack of capital, lack of power, they do not hold us back; we can accomplish what we aim at. Thus perhaps for the first time in the world choice now means that ends and not instruments are decisive.'

'Ladies and Gentlemen, I think that it is high time that as a nation we began to wake up and flex our muscles. We have had too much of permissiveness and easy option. We have far too long extolled the virtue of tolerance. When St. Paul told us to put off the old man, he did not tell us to put on the old woman, and surely tolerance is a virtue or a vice depending on the situation in which it is exercised. We should be tolerant of other people's opinions, so long as they are honestly held by people of wisdom and good-will; always perhaps remembering that a man has no more right to an opinion to which he cannot account than to a glass of beer for which he can't pay. We should be tolerant of ways of life and customs provided that they are followed sincerely by good people, but to be tolerant of cruelty, evil and injustice is either cowardice or laziness.'

'There is no virtue too in mere open-mindedness, as that great old philosopher G. K. Chesterton once wrote, "The object of opening the mind as of opening the mouth is to shut it on something solid". The men who founded these great Public Schools intended to improve the condition of mankind by creating an inspirational type. They knew perfectly well, as old Ruskin knew, that the purpose of education is not to teach people things that they would not otherwise know, but to teach them to behave as they would not otherwise behave. They knew perfectly well that one cannot have excellence unless someone excels; that unless you give teeth something tough to bite on, the beastly things fall out. They know that human cells, like human muscles, grow through effort—spiritual, moral and intellectual effort. The modern egalitarian knows these things too, but he desires neither challenge nor excellence. He would like very much to run a four minute mile but he is damned if he is going to cut down on the calories and train to do it. He envies the excellence he can't achieve and so he does what he can to destroy the inducements to excellence in everybody else. Finally, of course, he is persuaded that other people's excellence is somehow injustice to himself and he gets a lot of other mugs to believe it too.'

'Let us then, Ladies and Gentlemen, in this glorious and historic place, echo the words of Washington and re-dedicate ourselves as we can do to putting this great country straight again. In the words of Washington, "Let us erect a Standard to which the wise and honest can repair—the event is in the hands of God"'.  
The Head of the School, P. G. Arbutnot, then thanked Lord Cobham on behalf of all present.

## "CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA"

*Principal members of the cast:*

Belzanor	Nick Spurrier
Persian	Rafal Zielinski
Nubian Sentinel	Methuen Cambell
Bel Affiris	Tim Albery
Ftatateeta	Peter Guest
Caesar	Rupert Wood
Cleopatra	Claire Hilsdon
Pothinus	David Macdonald
Theodotus	Alexander Pearce
Ptolomy	Peter Frazer
Achillas	John Cridland
Rufio	Morgan Manley
Britannus	Antony Jenkins
Lucius Septimus	Graham Morgan
Wounded Soldier	Ian Foux
Centurion	Paul Saper
Apollodorus	Oliver Croom-Johnson
Roman Sentinel	Howard Robinson
Boatman	Michael Campbell
Musician	Benjamin Emrys-Roberts
Iras	Alison Smith
Charmian	Mary Phillips

It is often wise in both literary and dramatic criticism to view a great work or performance in the perspective of time. The repeated successes of the Congreve Club under the direction of Mr. Bain are no exception to this rule: 1965—*Othello*, 1967—*The Tempest*, and Anouilh's *Poor Bitos*, and now 1968—*Caesar and Cleopatra*. The latter was something of an apotheosis. To begin with, for a period of about ten weeks Stowe appeared to have become Shaw orientated, and despite Stowe's many other laudable activities, anyone who was anyone was involved in some way or other; to the tune of some two hundred actors, stagehands, crowd-scene entities and other unseen back-stage artists. And it was not long before Buckingham itself became aware of "various oriental additions" to Stowe's erstwhile classical entourage. Inside, the heart of the whole activity was no less impressive as Lucette Cartwright's sculptures began to be embodied by the various magnificent sets designed by Mr. Dady and Stamos Fafalios and supported by the equally impressive raised stage assembled by Mr. Selby and that powerful but relatively anonymous body the Stage Workshops. Meanwhile at the other end of Stowe the sound-effects, which were to play such an important part in the final performance, were being practised and recorded in the Queen's Temple. Mr. Wiggin's trumpeting mingling with the clouds of incense, and the crowded magnificence of the Ptolemy court scene, produced the most memorable moment of the whole play. Indeed the "Egyptian" atmosphere, sustained throughout by way of anything from the intriguing ballet sequence to the less successful tinsel embellishments to the Egyptian ladies' head-pieces, was altogether fascinating—contrasted as it was with the singular appearance of the Roman contingent led formidably by Paul Saper; black pants and all.



Acting the Persian, Rafal Zielinski's native orientality (expressed both in his acting and in his tabla-playing off the stage) supplemented the play greatly—though perhaps not quite enough. Oliver Croom-Johnson's smooth and graceful inanities as Appollodorus contrasted amusingly, if in a sinister fashion, with the gruff and violent effusiveness of Peter Guest as Ftatateeta. Clare Hilsdon, on the other hand, lacked the necessary grace and youthful majesty of Cleopatra to bring out the maximum in her part. Rupert Wood, as a splendid bourgeois Caesar with his middle-class morality, and Morgan Manley, as his gruffly confident general, struck a magnificent partnership in demonstrating an English superiority over the vulgarity of the foreigner—to the extent of an apt anti-cultural sense of expediency. The English element of the play was further embellished by the hilarious appearance of Antony Jenkinson as Britannus, a type-cast of the first order, once again contrasted with the hard, cold brilliance of Alexander Pearce as Theodotus—most apparent in the court-scene where David Macdonald showed his ability as the evil and self-confident Pothinus and very nearly dominated the whole action with a few words.

Altogether then, even omitting to emphasise the complicated effects and hydraulics, the lighting and the overall lavishness of the whole enterprise, in this performance of *Caesar and Cleopatra* we have sufficient evidence to establish the Congreve Club as one of the foremost of Stowe's activities—despite its lack of official organisation, fortunately compensated for by the diligence of Christopher Edwards, the assistant producer (amongst other manifold duties), in his support for Messrs. Temple and Bain.

IB BELLEW

## THE "MALCOLM MILLER"

After a shattering walk as part of an attempt to arrive early I was greeted by the Chief Officer: "Are you a trainee? You were told to report between fourteen and fifteen hundred hours.

It is now twelve-thirty". "Oh, well sir, I er . . . ."

"Go below, get changed and report to your watch leader".

So my voyage began. From thirteen-thirty to fifteen-thirty I was left with another unfortunate early arriver peeling spuds; one soon learnt after the fifth bucket or so!

By 1600 all thirty-one of us had arrived. Before 'lights out' which was soon to become non-existent, we sampled our first meal (no complaints) and the rest of the ship's company who were introduced during the Captain's briefing. That evening was the quietest of the whole trip, time was just spent looking each other up and down. As always there were one or two people who tended to dominate everyone but as the trip went on one got to know people from completely different backgrounds.

The first twenty-four hours or so we were let off lightly, getting up at seven. Arising from a horizontal piece of canvas soon become a luxury. Being in a top bunk, one was never allowed to get out or stay in. We were shown around the ship and told what we had to clean and do; then in next to no time we put to sea.

From then on the lee rail seemed to be a fairly popular place. I for one spent most of my time there. After a week of agony I found the best way of surviving was to stay occupied. Before long you could work just like everyone else, and being sick did not really matter. Even so such orders as 'two-six-heave-heave-come up' were enough to send anyone running!

I took my first helm at four in the morning during a force seven gale. The nearest I've been to hell is being woken up at four in a rough sea, feeling really sick and having to put on wet boots and plastic smelling oilskins (over which people must have been sick many times before), in a dim light on a deck moving in almost every possible direction with absolutely no room to move for fear of falling on those more peacefully asleep.

Once at the helm, with the spray and bitter wind biting into one's face and numb hands, a ship heeling over at thirty degrees takes one's fair share of strength to keep a course the right side

of the compass. The next hour of the watch may have been on port lookout. Not a bad job if the heel is to port, you could just lie down; but as the visibility was no further than the next wave crest engulfed in red foam, there was nothing much to do but shiver. Towards the end of this hour, a tray of tea followed by a body comes out of the galley. Normally the cups start off threequarters full and by the time they've reached us are down to a quarter. On this particular morning there was no such luck—the body slipped and the whole lot went over the side; the weather was naturally far too rough to hear what followed. At the end of our two hours on deck we were allowed below and finally came off watch at eight. During the rest of the day the Bosun or someone was bound to find some pleasant little job like cleaning out the 'heads'; then there was all the sail work and maintenance—one soon learnt to work as a team.

Putting into port was a hygienic affair. People actually washed and shaved, clean clothes were produced from nowhere, the aftershave was used lavishly and within a matter of minutes all except the harbour watch were ashore. One didn't have to speak French to have a good time, though I have yet to find out how you explain just what happened, when reporting back on board, having sampled a good thirty bottles of perfume over one's body due to a very determined saleswoman—especially as I wanted toothpaste in any case.

Before our eight hundred and fifty miles were over we had called at Brest, Cork and Alderney but all too soon we were on our way back to Weymouth. It was a hard life at times but great fun, an experience I shall never forget.

JOHN GOODWIN

## STRIKE SURVEY

Having a spare month after their exam, the first Stowe law course decided, over orange squash, to conduct a statistical survey on the attitude of working people to the current clash between the Unions and the Government.

After 2½ hours hard work 149 people had been interviewed—with a varying degree of success! Thirty-five per cent of the Union members interviewed had attended half or more of the Union meetings held in the past six months—though some 36% did not know how many meetings had in fact been held! Some 36% felt that their Unions did not represent them adequately—such Unions as the T. & G.W.U., the A.E.U., and the A.E.F. Fifty-seven per cent felt that the T.U.C. would not be able to control them, and of this 57%, 72% supported the cooling-off period and 60% supported the secret ballot, as outlined in the recent White Paper 'In Place of Strife'. Out of a smaller sample of 25 Union members questioned, 52% would have supported the Government's recently dropped penal clauses—one member even thought that hanging should be brought back to remedy such cases! A hard core of militants, 6.6%, were adamant that most unofficial strikes were justified and should not be controlled in any way. 19% of Union members felt that they were not adequately represented by the Unions, but were not sufficiently interested to attend any meetings of the Unions concerned; though a further 9% had attended one or more meetings, but still felt that they were inadequately represented by their Unions. The questioners' general impression was that the majority of the men, whether Union or non-Union, had thought the matter over—the housewives, however, were found to be generally ignorant of the issues involved!

ROBERT ANDERSON

## ANGLESEY I

What would you expect to happen if eight Stoics came together at the end of the Easter holidays in an isolated house on Anglesey, well stocked with all the necessaries for an epicurean existence? Well it didn't. They worked. Revised.

I must admit that there was a little sailing, canoeing, fishing, involuntary sea-swimming, climbing, walking, eating and drinking, drinking and eating to fill in the gaps. And some time was spent dipping into the cornucopian deep-freeze, or satisfying the hunger of a dish-washing machine. There was the visit to the Thomas Crown Affair and Wylfa Atomic Power Station,

the swimming baths and the University of Bangor library, and the local, once or twice. Some lawns were mowed, a bush fire lit (and controlled).

A little academic work was done. I managed to write some revision notes between being asked what I wanted to drink (I thought he'd never ask). All this by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. John Goodwin, with Mrs. Goodwin seeming to flourish on the daily problem of feeding a family of ten. A big thank you there and . . . can we come again ?

R. J. DENNIEN

## ANGLESEY II

Blissfully unaware of what lay in store for us, we set out with high expectations and vaunts of the amount of work we were going to do. Peter Arbuthnot, Ghassan Bedas, and myself arrived at the house of Major Verney first, and set ourselves the task of reconnoitering the interior of the house before the rest of the party arrived, consisting of Tim Albery, Chris Edwards, Graham Morgan, John Odei, and Neil Weston. Mr. Manly, who had volunteered willingly to supervise this party, soon arrived bringing the 'goodies' and we all sat down and had a jolly good cup. By nightfall everyone else had arrived, and we prepared the house for a week's stay. The next morning, at the crack of dawn we set to work in earnest. Thus we sweated till lunch-time; in the afternoon we took exercise in the form of football which brought out the latent skills of Mr. Manly in particular, who hovered around the enemies' goal-mouth ready to pounce with the agility of a panther, and to thrash the leather sphere past the groping hands of the goal-keeper. After football, we sat down and worked until supper.

Here I must make mention of the excellent catering, which included Mr. Manly's speciality, Chow Mein. Ghassan Bedas and myself would like to congratulate ourselves on the excellent washing-up we did. Neil Weston showed considerable talent in his capacity as 'waiter extraordinaire'. The evenings were whiled away in bridge, in which Mr. Sparshott and Mr. Manly showed themselves to be of international talent.

Work has paid a very small part in this report but the benefit we gained from it cannot be too highly stressed. Proof that all our time was not spent in football, bridge and food can be cited in Mr. Manly's immortal words: 'More work was done this year than in any other reading party'.

DAVID IRELAND

## WYCOMBE ABBEY SIXTH FORM CONFERENCE

On Saturday, 17th May, a small group of Stoics girded their intellectual loins and departed at great speed in a minibus to attend a Sixth Form Economic Conference at Wycombe Abbey. Arriving slightly shaken we were fed scalding coffee and led into the main hall to hear the speakers. Most of those present produced notepads and tried to look intelligent; we had no notepads and so just looked intelligent.

The conference suffered slightly from a bias to Managerial speakers, this being particularly evident during a talk on Labour Relations, but for the layman the talks were, no doubt, instructive. The afternoon was spent conducting imaginary board meetings, in small groups, of the hypothetical Wycombe Abbey Machine Tool Co. and each group reported back to the main conference after tea. Only R. M. Withinshaw was asked to speak amongst the Stoics and it was unfortunate that his views were not shared by the majority, as he soon found out.

The day was rounded off by a short dance in the evening, ending at 9.30, and this was felt to be a suitable, if slightly curtailed way of confirming any friendships begun during the day. I believe that some people learnt a small amount about economics as well.

ANTHONY KINAHAN



*The Upper Styx Project*

N. A. Geach



*Duke of Edinburgh Expedition*

R. J. Dennien

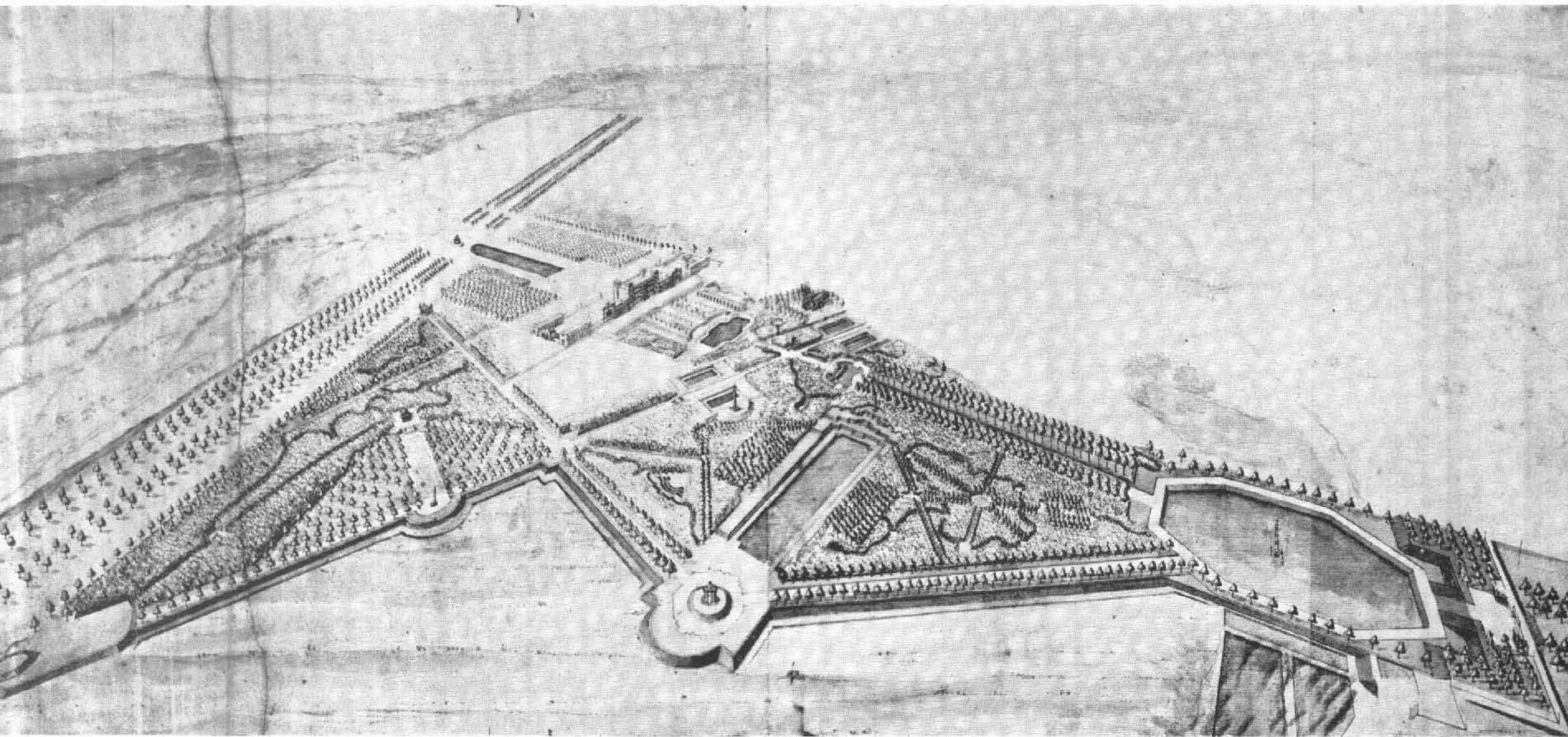


Plate 1—Bridgeman's low-oblique view of Stowe, here dated to the winter of 1719/20, when he was submitting the proposals for his great design. This would explain his unusual choice of view-point, for the Rotondo's key position in the design is emphasized by its being placed in the centre foreground of the view, while the house is relegated to the middle distance.

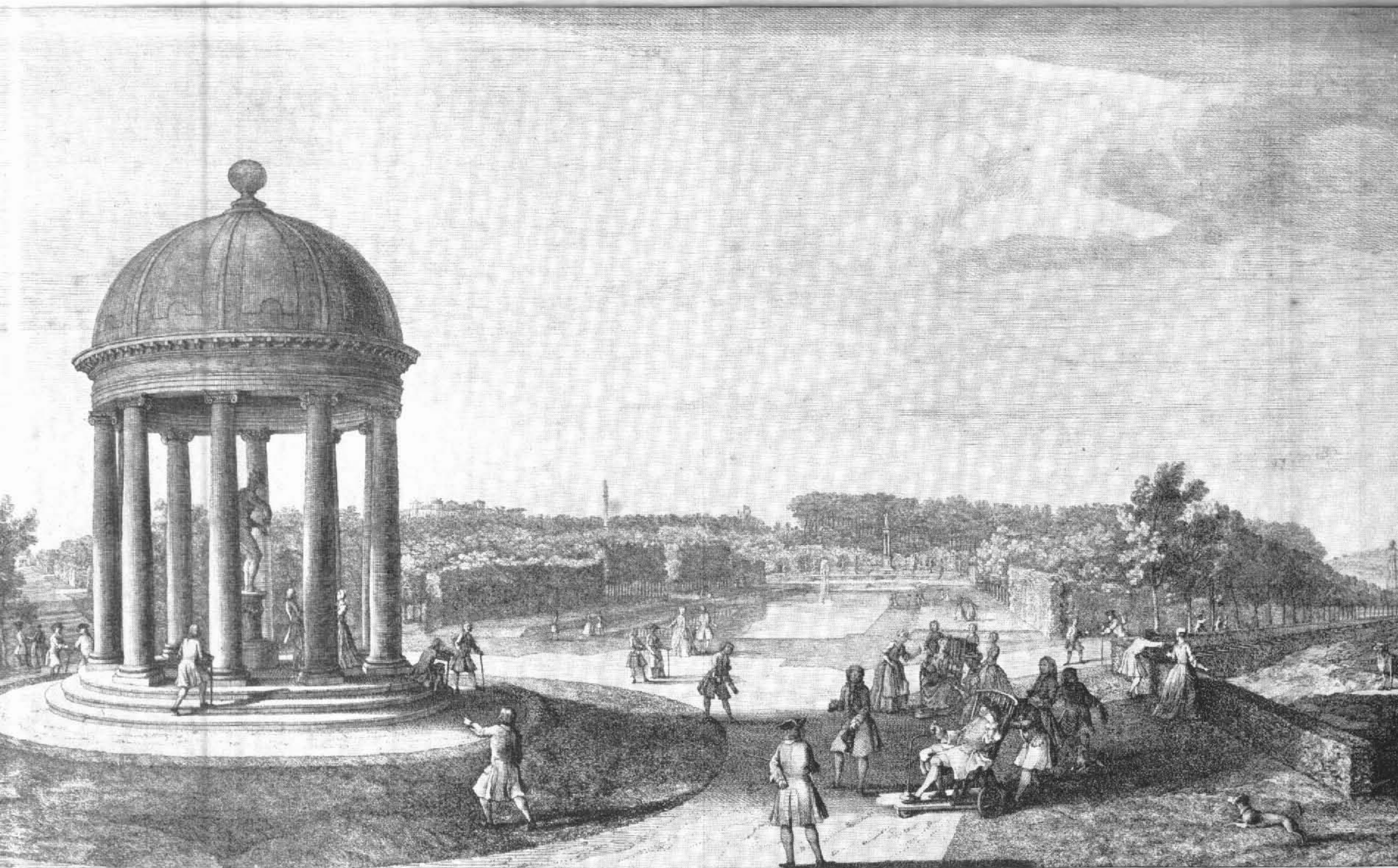


Plate 2—Engraving after Rigaud's view of Vanbrugh's Rotondo and its radiating vistas: on the left, up Roger's Walk to Nelson's Seat; in the centre, across the pond to Queen (formerly Princess) Caroline's statue; on the right, down Gurnit's Walk to the Obelisk in the Octagon. Within the line of the ha-ha all is formality and elegant society; beyond it, cattle and rough pasture. Lady and cow stare at each other with mutual wonder.

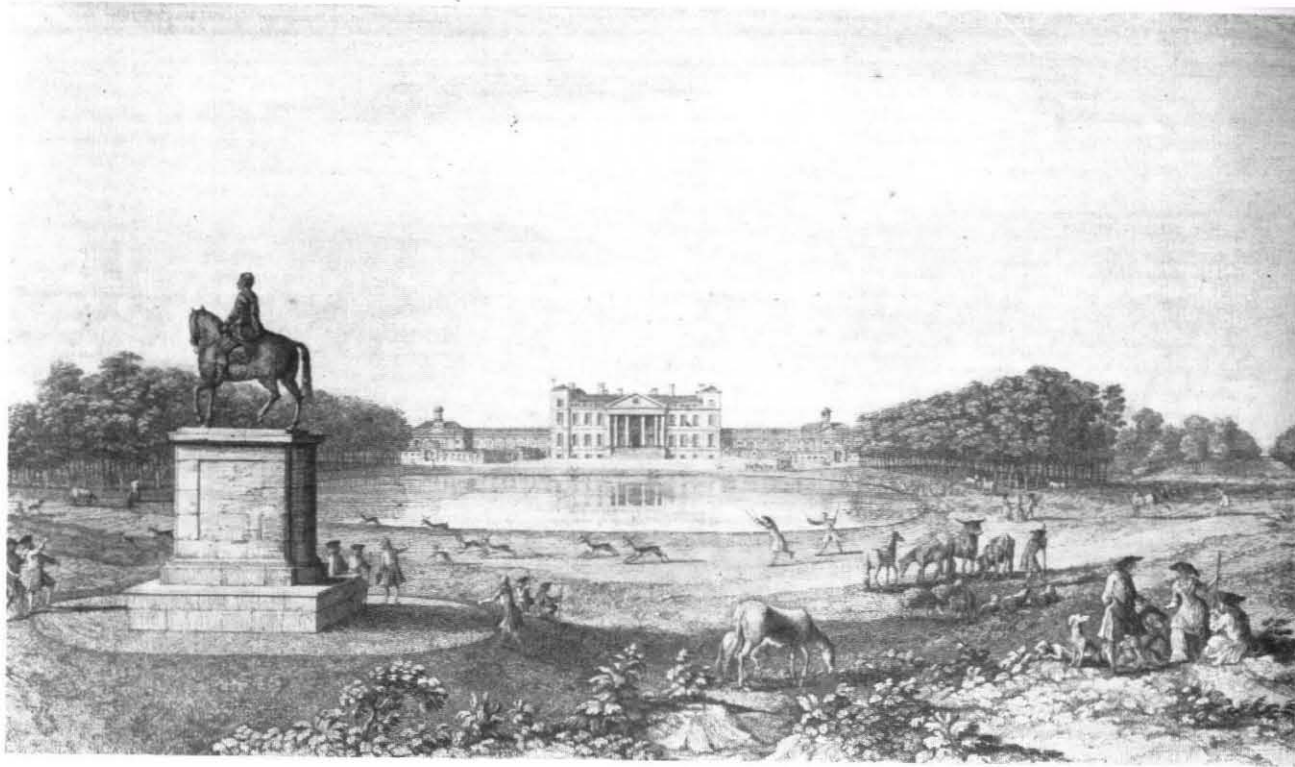


Plate 3—Engraving of the North Front and its Canal, with George I on the old mount

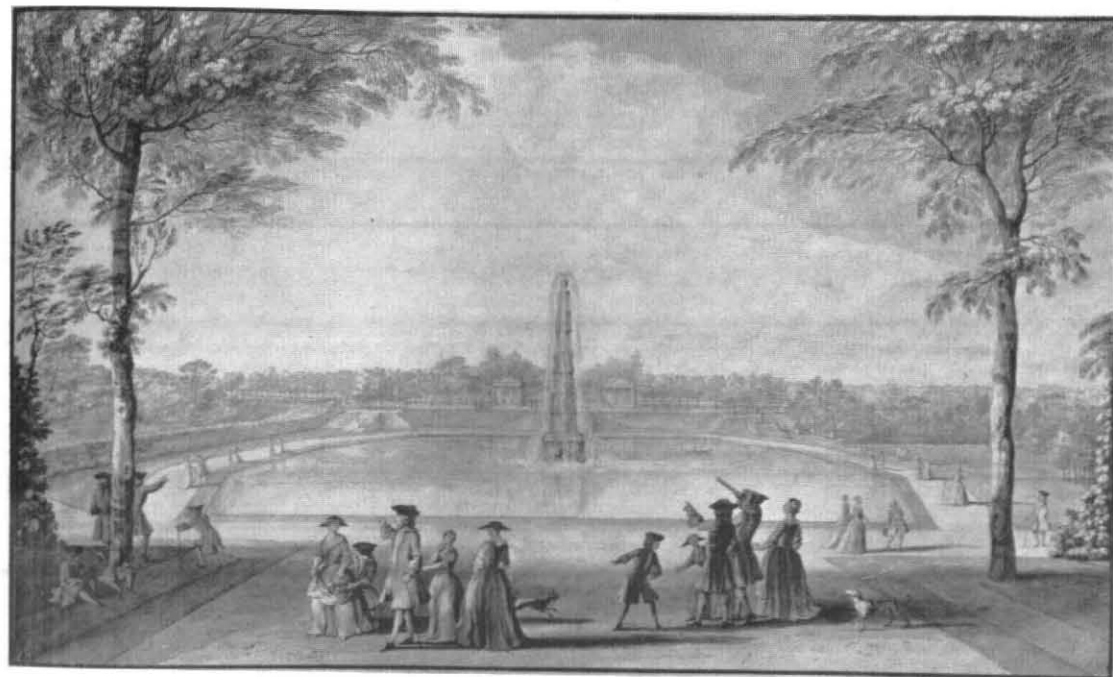


Plate 4—Rigaud's original drawing of the Octagon Lake from the bottom of the Abele Walk

## THE HISTORY OF STOWE—VII THE VANBRUGH-BRIDGEMAN GARDENS

*“What is, is the great guide as to what ought to be. The making of a fine plan for any place unknown is like Bays’s saying that he had made an excellent simile, if he did but know how to apply it.”—Joseph Spence.*

Lord Cobham had always been a keen gardener, and when, early in the reign of George I, he decided to add a princely setting to his house at Stowe, he engaged the best men he could find to do it. Charles Bridgeman, just then emerging as heir apparent to Henry Wise, was commissioned to plan the lay-out, and Sir John Vanbrugh, already at the head of his profession, to design the buildings that were to embellish it. Since they were working together at Eastbury for Cobham’s cousin, George Dodington, the choice may have been an obvious one; but, whatever the reason for choosing them, the partnership of Vanbrugh and Bridgeman proved outstandingly successful. As early as August 1724 Lord Perceval, after a visit to Stowe, wrote that it had “gained the reputation of being the finest seat in England”, and he went on to give a detailed description of the gardens and temples. A month later Pope was there, perhaps not for the first time, and thereafter hardly a year passed when Stowe was not included on the summer rambles he made round the country houses of his friends. In 1725 he wrote that he had been “above a Month strolling about in Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, from Garden to Garden, but still returning to Lord Cobham’s with fresh satisfaction”. Lord Perceval’s enthusiasm was that of a typical aristocratic tourist. Pope’s was rather more. Not only was he acknowledged as the foremost living poet and an arbiter of taste, but he was also an experienced gardener in his own right. So when, in his *Epistle to Lord Burlington* of 1731, he cited Cobham’s gardens as the standard of excellence in that art and praised them as the epitome of true taste, Stowe’s fame became country-wide. To satisfy the demand for information a topographical poem celebrating the gardens was published in 1732 by Cobham’s nephew, Gilbert West, and two years later Jacques Rigaud was commissioned to engrave a set of perspective views, afterwards published by Sarah Bridgeman with an accompanying map. Poem, engravings and map were all done by men with first-hand knowledge and all were authorized by Cobham himself, so that it has been possible, with additional information from the guide books of the 1740s, for sympathetic writers to describe exactly what the gardens of Stowe were like in 1732—that is, at the end of Cobham’s first major phase, when Bridgeman’s lay-out was complete.

This brief recital covers, with one exception, all the important evidence that has hitherto come to light for this period of Stowe’s development. The exception is the low-oblique view of the gardens, unsigned and undated, but generally agreed to be from the hand of Bridgeman himself (Plate I). It is closely related to what Lord Perceval saw in 1724; so closely, indeed, that it has been taken as an illustration of the gardens almost contemporary with his visit and dated a year or so earlier. This assumption, however, presents a number of difficulties. The south portico of the house was built quite differently from what is shown in the view, and the service courts were altered; nor is there any indication that pinnacles were added to the parish church. Furthermore, the equestrian statue of George I was erected facing east, not south towards the house; and the platform on which the Rotondo stood was constructed in a much less elaborate form. There are also some surprising omissions. No architectural feature appears on the bastion at the left-hand bottom corner, a key point which terminates two vistas; and there are blank spaces where the Sleeping Parlour and the Cold Bath were later to stand, though the surrounding areas are depicted as already carefully planted out. Each of these differences can be accounted for by itself. Taken together they seem inexplicable, unless the oblique view is considered not as a record of work done but as a projected design for work not yet started. On other grounds too this seems more probable. Nowadays an enterprising improver can hire a helicopter and take an aerial photograph to send on Christmas cards to his friends; but it seems unlikely that Cobham would have asked Bridgeman to make such an elaborate drawing of gardens which were obviously not quite finished. However, if the oblique view is regarded as a project, all the difficulties melt away. Cobham and his wife were amateurs, not architects accustomed

to examining plans; before sinking huge sums of money in improvements they would want to have a clear idea of the finished result, and this is just the kind of artist's impression that a designer might prepare to convince his wealthy patrons. Carefully preserved by Cobham, the drawing has survived in remarkably good condition, whereas Bridgeman's working plans, which would show the modifications made during the period of construction, not unnaturally disappeared after the work was completed.

Seen in this light, the oblique view takes on a key role in Stowe's development, so that it becomes essential to try and fix its exact date and its relationship to the previous lay-out. If these two points could be established, the evolution of the gardens at Stowe—and, indeed, of English landscape gardening at a critical moment—would be brought into clearer focus. Evidence that has recently become available from the family papers makes it possible to put forward tentative conclusions on both points.

Part of this evidence is the sequence of garden plans made for Sir Richard Temple (senior) in the 1680s and described in a previous article. These reveal the lay-out when Sir Richard Temple (junior), later to become Lord Cobham, inherited Stowe from his father in 1697. Three levels of parterre stretched from the south front of the house for some 700 feet to the lane, which ran diagonally across the vista about half way down the slope to the stream. West of the lower parterres lay the square walled garden, and westward again was a semi-circular, more informal area, planted out with lime trees and containing criss-cross paths; at its northern end there was probably a mount and a summerhouse. The gardens proper ended at the lane, but beyond it there are suggestions on the plans of an avenue continuing the line of the axial vista across the eastern side of Home Park. Almost certainly this avenue of poplars, later known as the Abele Walk, was planted by the elder Sir Richard, for large numbers of faggots were cut there in the winter of 1715, and this could not have been done unless the trees were well established. But how far the avenue extended is not known; it cannot have been as far as the stream, for at the bottom lay the meadow and enclosure belonging a few years later to Richard Earl, who lived in a house nearby and looked after the fish ponds and water pump. Little is yet known about the remaining parts of the estate. Barns and farm buildings stood to the east of the house not far from the church, and the livestock must have been driven along the lane to their pasture in Home Park. It seems that the pigs too were kept in the park, for a muddy pool, called the Hog Pond, filled the dip below the kitchen garden. On the north side there were enclosed courts and an open area of grass paddock, beyond which was the deer park; a bank and palisade kept the deer from encroaching too close to the house.

These seventeenth century plans are the only plans that have so far been found among the family papers in the Huntington Library. The rest of the new evidence, also from the same source, is less direct and often very difficult to interpret, consisting of the accounts, bills and receipts that passed through the steward's office. About 3,000 of these documents, a minute proportion of the whole collection, have been examined on microfilm, providing a patchy but useful record of operations that were being undertaken between 1711 and 1730. Nothing before 1711 has been looked at, for Sir Richard was kept too busy during the war years to pay more than fleeting visits to Stowe, and he cannot have made any significant alterations. But from the end of that year, when he was dismissed from his army command in Flanders, he had time on his hands and could devote himself to the improvement of his estate. It has sometimes been assumed that Bridgeman was called in at this point or soon afterwards, an opinion supported by an undated bill for £1 2s. 6d. paid to "Mr. Bridgeman's man" which has turned up in a bundle of 1714 accounts. But even if 1714 is the correct date—and the bundles are so mixed that there is little warrant for such an assumption—the bill must be the payment to a surveyor or some other member of Bridgeman's team for a specific piece of work, not a professional fee to Bridgeman himself. The actual name of Bridgeman does not occur again in the papers until the end of the decade, and then his opinion is deferred to with respect. "My Lord would not have it donn," commented the steward about a construction job that one of the gang foremen had started, "till Mr. Bridgman Coms, and then iff donn John Lee promes that this bill shall go as in parte of ye 10 poundes." In marked contrast to this is a letter Sir Richard wrote to his steward in 1714: "The ground that comes out on the side next the kitchen being very dry will do very well to raise the Middle walk by laying it under the gravel. As to the yeughs under

the terras William may [plant] them spreading as they are now or raise [them] as he thinks will be best . . . [I will] be down in ten days and will then give directions about the step." The assured tone of this letter is that of a man planning developments himself and guiding them personally with a firm hand.

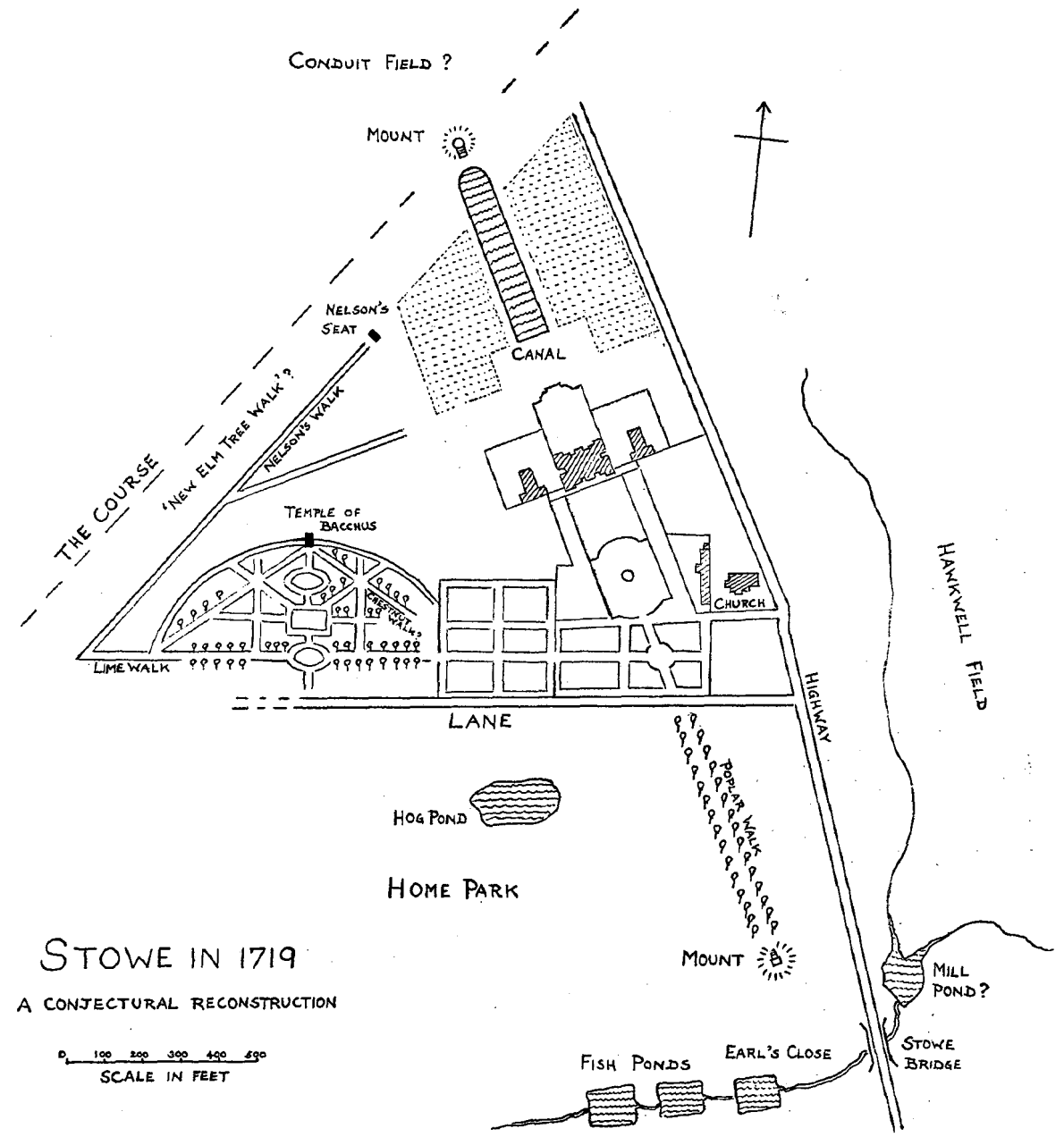
The first stage of his improvements covered the years between 1711 and 1715. During this period the number of men on the garden staff remained almost constant, varying with the season but never rising above twelve. Until 1713 the steward was Mr. Claridge, who was then succeeded by his competent assistant, William Jacob. Jacob's place was taken by a new man, described as "servant and Gardener" to Sir Richard and paid an annual salary of £18. According to his signature his name was William Wagesfelt, but its spelling was beyond most people at Stowe. Whereas the vicar came fairly close in the parish register with *Wagonsvelt*, several more distorted versions appear in the accounts, and it is once, astonishingly, anglicized to *Willie Beckhamsfeilde*. Where he came from is not known, but a Dutch or German origin seems likely, which suggests that at the end of Queen Anne's reign Sir Richard's notions of gardening were thoroughly conventional. The accounts indicate this too. The old yew and beech hedges were removed, and though some were replanted, most of them seem to have been superseded by stone walls, some of them in ashlar. Flights of new stone steps were built and old steps reset; paving stones replaced some of the gravel. The garden ornaments also became more architectural in character. Two arbours were demolished and statues set up instead; sixteen urns, mounted on stone bases, were bought for flowers; and pedestals for bay trees were put in the parlour garden. Decorative ironwork was purchased from the craftsman John Montigny, and this probably included the wrought-iron gates which were hung from new gate piers at the entrance to the Lime Walk. Every year at least one more pond or fountain with a worked stone surround was constructed. Associated with one of these must have been an arcade or colonnade, for the builder's account included "36 holes for setting ye pilars". Another elaborate feature was a classical garden pavilion, whose architrave rested on columns with fluted shafts; inside may have hung the cages of birds which are mentioned in an allied bill. Though most of the building materials for these alterations came from the estate, the local stone-pit at Ladymead could not provide good freestone, and this was supplied chiefly from the quarry at Helmdon, but also from Headington and Hornton.

While these extensive changes were taking place within the seventeenth century gardens, large numbers of trees were being planted in the surrounding areas. There is no mention of any in Home Park, but on the east side, in Hawkwell Field, 81 young trees were cased by the carpenters against cattle, and on the west a "new Elm Walk" was planted. On the north too, in Conduit Field, trees were cased, an operation which may have been connected with "taking up pales between deer park and lawns at laying open the lawns". The purpose of this was to allow the deer to graze right up to the forecourt on the entrance front and possibly along the whole length of the Course, at the end of which a "ditch bank" was dug at the same time. The contrast between the two sides was no doubt intentional. The deer on the north, ranging free on the lawns and glimpsed between the trees, evoked memories of the chase, while the trim gardens opposite reflected the elegance of polite society. In its way it was charming, and Queen Anne would certainly have approved, but no one could claim that it was a very original idea.

Sir Richard's position had changed radically by the winter of 1715/16, when the second stage began. Raised to the peerage as Baron Cobham and committed irrevocably to the Hanoverian cause, he had recovered all his old appointments and gained several new ones as well. His political future was secured by the collapse of the Jacobite rising in November 1715, and after his marriage that autumn to the only daughter of a millionaire he had no shortage of money; both wealth and status called for improvements at Stowe on a grander scale. Cobham lost no time: plans were laid, more labour taken on, extra tools and equipment ordered. Evidence of all these appears in the accounts. Between December 1715 and March 1716, for example, the blacksmith made the ironwork for no fewer than 30 new wheelbarrows, a number which implies the intention of shifting vast quantities of earth. His first project was to make the entrance front more impressive by digging an artificial lake, and in January 1716 preliminary work was done "on ye north side for the cannall". Among those paid for doing it was William Nelson,

mentioned then for the first time; John Gurnit, another of the men who were to become foremen of construction gangs, made his first appearance in March. Clearly things were moving, but the increase in the scale of operations can be seen most obviously by comparing total garden wages bills for successive years. The main period for construction work was during the winter, between Michaelmas and Lady Day, when fewer hands were needed on the farms and labour was cheaper—8d. per day for an unskilled workman instead of 10d. In 1713/14, when the garden staff averaged about half a dozen, the total bill for the six winter months was £41 3s. 7d.; by 1718/19, when the staff had risen to near thirty, it had climbed to £194 0d. 3d.; in 1720/21 it reached the colossal sum of £665 1s. 0d. (nearly £10,000 in modern terms), the rise being due not to an increase in the garden staff but to the number of large construction jobs that were put out to contract. In 1721/22 the total fell to £395 8s. 2d., but it rose again to £587 5s. 7d. in the following year. The spending of such large sums of money demanded careful accounting, and Cobham's experience on the Board of General Officers and the Army Clothing Board must have been invaluable to him in dealing with the problems that arose. Delays in payment were one of the scandals of public life at the time, notoriously so in the army, where contractors' bills and soldiers' pay remained unsettled for years on end; but in the Stowe accounts it is noticeable how promptly, even by modern standards, the bills were paid. Cobham's old comrade-in-arms, Sam Speed, helped to check the accounts, countersigning some of them, but the successful financing and carrying through of the development plans was largely due to the efficiency of the steward, William Jacob, one of the unacknowledged creators of Stowe. Another was Edward Bissell, who succeeded Wagesfelt as gardener some time after April 1716. Hardly any garden accounts have been found between that date and September 1718, but from October 1718 there is a mass of detail, usually entered by Bissell in stitched booklets rather than on loose sheets of paper. These show him supervising operations all over the gardens, estimating the price of jobs that were to be "let by ye great"—that is, contracted out at a lump sum—to the gang foremen, tipping parties of workmen who merited it, and trimming inflated bills from suppliers. In October 1718 he had a nasty accident, after which "Goody" Spatcher was paid for "12 days and 6 nights . . . looking to Mr. Bissell when his Legg was brok". For two or three weeks he was immobilized; then the blacksmith nailed four iron bars "on a Chear for ye Gardener to be Carred in to Luck after his men". By January he was able to ride a horse, but with a specially enlarged stirrup. He was a competent, meticulous man and a person of some social standing, for at his marriage in the following April the entry read "Mr." Edward Bissell, a title given to no one else in that decade except the vicar.

The acceleration of activity in the winter of 1715/16 might suggest that this was when Vanbrugh and Bridgeman were called in, especially as some of the work in hand can be identified on Bridgeman's low-oblique view. But if this was indeed the moment, several unlikely things occurred later. To explain the problem it is necessary to set out the sequence of operations that followed. Work on the North Front canal, begun in January 1716, dragged on for over three years. The carters were still removing loads of earth and bringing clay to line the sides and bottom of the canal during the summer of 1718, and it was not until the following spring that the surrounds were levelled and turf could be laid. One of the difficulties was disposing of all the earth that was excavated. No doubt a good deal was needed to level off the North Front, especially on the east side, where the ground falls away. Some of it is known to have been carted to the Lime Walk and the Chestnut Avenue during 1716, and more still must have gone to Nelson's Walk when that was constructed during the next two years. But there remained an enormous quantity to be disposed of, and the accounts show that it was used to make two new mounts, one on each side of the house, features hitherto quite unsuspected in the gardens. The site of the mount on the south side can be fixed from references to "ye mound at ye end of ye avenew" and "ye mound next Chackmore field"; it was at the end of the poplar avenue just short of the present Octagon Lake. The other is referred to less specifically as "ye north side mound", but it is inconceivable that it can have been located anywhere else than beyond the canal on the main axis of the house. Bills from the sawyers and carpenters in the winter of 1716/17 suggest that both were of the same conventional design, with steps up to a railed platform. Certainly the northern one, and probably both, were turfed round the sides and had seats on top.



STOWE IN 1719  
A CONJECTURAL RECONSTRUCTION

While the gardeners and construction gangs were busy on these tasks, the building programme was also getting under way. In July 1717 the New Inn was started, and this absorbed most of the available resources for the next two years; but in 1718 a "greenhouse" was put up, a two-storeyed building with large glass windows, which was fitted with its stove in November, before the winter frosts. In 1719, as the completion of work freed craftsmen and materials, four more building jobs were put in hand. The first two, new stables and a coach-house, do not concern this article. The others were named by William Stockley, one of the masons who built them, as "the little house" and the "Sumer hous". The former was Nelson's Seat—"ye sete in nellson walke" for which the blacksmith was supplying cramps in October 1719—and was completed the following year. The summer house can be almost certainly identified as the Temple of Bacchus, for some of the stone was supplied by Stockley, who mentions "steps . . . cornish . . . fesho . . . 2 Kestones . . . 2 banisters and 2 half banistares and a windoslob", all of them recognizable features of the temple. Both these buildings were by Vanbrugh, and as he is known to have been at Stowe in June 1719, it is just possible they were designed then and started in the autumn. But since the walls of the Temple of Bacchus had been raised at least as high as the cornice by December 1st, when the plumber was fitting the lead flashes, it is more likely that they had been started before June and that Vanbrugh came then to inspect progress. He also found a lot of other activity, including the digging of "ye first stockeade ditch", the prototype of the ha-ha, which John Lee and his gang were constructing along the side of the Lime Walk. In a letter a few weeks later Vanbrugh wrote that Cobham was "much entertain'd with (besides his wife) the Improvements of his House and Gardens, in which he spends all he has to Spare." He might well make such a comment, but the cost of these improvements was nothing compared with what Cobham was to spend a year later.

The twelve months following Vanbrugh's visit seem to have been the critical period of decision. Since 1715 Cobham had attained new heights of success in his personal career, becoming a Privy Councillor and a Viscount. The breaking of the entail encouraged him to spend what he wanted on his estate, and the purchase for him by his father-in-law of the neighbouring manor of Boycott enabled him to bring some of his farmland within the gardens. Finally, the successful conclusion of the Vigo expedition in the autumn of 1719 gave him the opportunity of doing something really spectacular at Stowe. Up to that time, though ambitious work had been put in hand since 1715, it was confined to the North Front and the western extension of the gardens, and these two areas had already assumed the general appearance shown in the oblique view. But the parterres below the house remained just as they were, except that yet another fountain had been added; nothing at all had been laid out south of the lane except the poplar avenue, planted twenty years earlier, and the avenue mount, which was not incorporated in Bridgeman's great design. The construction programme which was to carry the gardens southward into Home Park and make Stowe famous, a programme as massive and concentrated as a military operation and costing £665 in the first six months, was launched in the autumn of 1720. In July, shortly before it started, Bridgeman himself was at Stowe supervising his own men, who were presumably marking out the ground for the operations that were about to begin. So Cobham's decision to go ahead must have been taken in the spring or early summer, and Bridgeman must have been working on the plans during the previous winter. It is not improbable that he and Vanbrugh went to Stowe together in June 1719 to discuss with Cobham future "Improvements of his House and Gardens", and that this was Bridgeman's first visit.

It remains to be considered why the gardens developed in just the way they did. As they existed in the autumn of 1719, they had two basic faults. The first, an inherent weakness of the lay-out, was that the limbs of the design tended to fall apart, and any expansion would aggravate this tendency. The vista which led south from the house could be lengthened almost indefinitely, but it was incapable of being developed with any complexity because of the highway which ran parallel a few yards to the east. Out to the west lay the newer part of the gardens, linked satisfactorily to the North Front and capable of extension down the line of Nelson's Walk. But between the two was the heavy clay pasture of Home Park and the square obstruction of the walled kitchen garden. While the gardens were made up of separate compartments, this did not matter; but as soon as the prospects were opened and the vistas ex-

tended, it became of crucial importance. Somehow everything had to be brought into a single design.

The second fault was a lack of style, which can be seen most obviously in the persistent use of mounts as decorative features; a princely setting demanded more grandeur than a parlour garden, and Stowe's style had not kept pace with Cobham's career. The north side mount was an adequate though unimaginative way of terminating the vista, but it was functionally pointless, since an equally good view of Dadford could be gained by walking a few yards further to the edge of the hill. If the northern mount was unexciting, the southern one was absurd. A mound of earth was the last thing that should have been put at the bottom of a narrow avenue: it merely blocked the vista. And the view from the top can hardly have been worth the walk. The marshy stream below Stowe bridge cannot have been very attractive, nor can Chackmore Field beyond; if the visitor were lucky, he might have caught a glimpse of Old Earl tipping grain into the fish ponds, but that was the most he could hope for. This lack of creative invention points to an amateur or provincial designer and must absolve Bridgeman from having any hand in it, unless his work suffered a sea-change between 1715 and 1719. In the great design, however, all was transformed. The northern mount, or part of it, was used as a base for the equestrian statue of George I—"High on a Mount" as Gilbert West described it and as it can be seen in Rigaud's drawing—loyally terminating the main vista and the vista along the Course (Plate 3). The southern mount disappeared completely, its place at the end of the avenue being taken by an obelisk set in a formal octagonal pond and backed by twin Doric pavilions; it was an architectural conception, like walking down a Roman street towards a distant piazza (Plate 4). But though the mound of earth was removed, its idea survived elsewhere. For the splendid Rotondo was really another version of the humble English mount with seat and rails, transmuted by Vanbrugh into garden architecture. Its traditional function was fulfilled perfectly: situated at the edge of the garden it was a vantage point from which the visitor could look inwards over the man-made garden and outwards over the natural countryside; and it also had the picturesque quality characteristic of Vanbrugh, who, as Sir Joshua Reynolds observed, used the eye of a painter to set off his buildings to their greatest advantage (Plate 2).

If it was Vanbrugh's genius which solved the problem of the mounts, it was Bridgeman's which cured the weakness of the whole design, and not only cured it but turned the difficulties to triumphant advantage. By interpreting his oblique view in the light of what is now known to have existed before, it is possible to conjecture what he was trying to do. On the main vista he broadened the treatment of the parterres south of the house and carried the poplar avenue to the bottom of the hill, where the Octagon was made. On the west he did little more than open up the prospect in front of the Temple of Bacchus and re-align the walks leading from it. To provide a lateral axis he extended the Lime Walk eastwards to the boundary of the gardens near the church, cutting straight through the obstructive walled garden. And to link the diverging arms of the lay-out, he sited the Rotondo in Home Park about midway between the Octagon and the western salient, on a knoll near the hog pond, turning the pond itself into a formal basin. In all this Bridgeman was inventively exploiting existing features and the lie of the land, but it must not be forgotten that he was—at any rate by training—a formalist belonging to the school of Le Nôtre, and that he was used to thinking out his problems with instruments on a drawing-board. This is what seems to have happened with the Rotondo, whose position can be fixed by geometrical construction. If a line is drawn joining the centre of the Octagon with the point where Nelson's Walk and the Lime Walk meet, one locus is established. If a second line is drawn from Nelson's Seat to pass through the rond-point where the Lime Walk crosses the Chestnut Avenue, and this line is projected southwards, that provides the second locus. The Rotondo is sited where the two lines intersect. This was more than a neat mathematical figure. For by his inspired geometry Bridgeman had not only tied together the sprawling limbs of the gardens, but also constructed a new central point where it was least to be expected, on the very edge of the lay-out. The vistas radiating from the Rotondo interpenetrated every sector of the gardens and locked together the whole design. He had "turned a Blunder into a Beauty", as was said of Pope in a similar context. And Pope himself, viewing Bridgeman's achievement

with an informed and critical eye, used it to point his advice to would-be garden designers. "Consult the Genius of the Place," he told them, and "follow Sense" at all times.

"Start e'en from Difficulty, strike from Chance;  
Nature shall join you, Time shall make it grow  
A work to wonder at—perhaps a STOW."

Once Bridgeman's design was accepted, Cobham pushed the whole programme through in one continuous operation, and the details of the work can be traced, stage by stage, through the accounts. By the summer of 1724 it was sufficiently complete for Lord Perceval to describe it with delight: "You think twenty times you have no more to see, and of a sudden find yourself in some new garden or walk, as finish'd and adorn'd as that you left. Nothing is more irregular in the whole, nothing more regular in the parts, which totally differ the one from the other. This shows my Lord's good tast." But Cobham was also a man of good sense. He must have known how much he owed to Vanbrugh and to Bridgeman for bringing order and beauty out of what had become an intractable muddle.

#### Acknowledgments

My debt to Mr. Christopher Hussey and Mr. Laurence Whistler will be evident to all who know their published works, but I wish also to record my appreciation of their personal encouragement and generous criticism.

I am indebted to the librarians of the Huntington Library, California, for permission to use material from the Stowe Papers; to Dr. Peter Willis and Mr. Geoffrey Beard for allowing me to use their notes on the Stowe Papers; to Bodley's Librarian for leave to reproduce Bridgeman's low-oblique view of Stowe (MS Gough Drawings, a. 4. Fol. 46); to the Director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, for leave to reproduce the original drawing by Rigaud (Harris Brisbane Dick Fund, Accession No. 42.79); and to Mr. David Sumpster for his research on the eighteenth century lay-out.

Lastly I owe a debt of gratitude to three of my pupils: to Jeremy Lucas and John Moreton, who have helped me read and transcribe the microfilms; and to Guy Harvey, whose acuteness at mental arithmetic has frequently made sense of accounts that would otherwise have remained mere ciphers.

G. B. CLARKE

## CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of *The Stoic*.

Dear Sir,

I find myself much in sympathy with your correspondent, Mr. D. A. Keeling, but, I fear, I must take issue with him.

Certainly to have Stowe's 750 acres as a reserve for the country's hard pressed wild life is an ideal, but in aiming at this much more is involved than simply the curtailing of shooting. If one encourages animals to use a particular area then one incurs a moral duty to protect them from the predations of man. There are, sadly, some at Stowe who still delight in egg collecting, despite the fact that this is now illegal, and in the vandal-like destruction of nests and other habitats. The mere disturbance occasioned by some 600 people roaming the grounds must do much to discourage breeding by the residents that do settle. Thus short of denying Stoics the use of the grounds the ideal is unobtainable. The N.H.S. is attempting to run a small part of the grounds as a true reserve but it is too early to say how successful this will be.

There are, I believe, two important issues involved in Mr. Keeling's letter.

The first is that if the Chandos Duckery seeks to draw wild birds to breed then some measures must be taken for their protection. Every effort should be made by those involved to keep the area of the Elysian Fields peaceful from April until June, especially away from the paths.

This is a matter for education and must concern all of us involved. I doubt whether in so public a place much success can be achieved.

The second issue is concerned with the practice of shooting for sport. While this may seem

distasteful to some it is a deep-rooted and traditional sport in this country. Many Stoics will be involved in shooting both during and after their school careers. Stowe attempts to provide a wide basis of opportunity, surely the need here is to educate not to prohibit.

It has saddened me, since coming to Stowe, that this sport takes place on such a casual basis. The motto seems to be "If it moves, shoot it!". This is certainly contrary to modern game-keeping practice. I believe there is a need to exercise proper conservation of game, to rear pheasant and to shoot over selected areas in the normal controlled way. I do not believe there is any place for the rough, casual shoot in an era when the countryside is under such pressure. As a method of pest control it is a proven failure and the irritation caused to other users of the area is often considerable.

I realize that there are problems involved in game-keeping on an estate such as this but I cannot believe that they are insuperable. It seems strange to me that those who enjoy the sport cannot organise it in the only way that can really justify its existence. If this is the case then they stand indicted by their own casual attitude and I must agree with your correspondent. Surely here is a field where something positive can be achieved?

Yours faithfully,

A. J. E. LLOYD

## MUSIC

To say that music is one of Stowe's most flourishing qualities is only to state the obvious, but it is perhaps salutary to examine the peculiar causes of its continued success against the ravages of time, tide, and 'B' Band—whenever the members of the latter can be bothered to turn up, that is. Why is it that for many of us Stowe is music over and above all else? To begin with, we are of course very fortunate in our music staff, and it must be a source of great confidence to the faint-hearted string player to see the Dartington Hall results and of considerable encouragement to the new composer, slightly ashamed of opus I, to hear of Mr. Wiggins' composition achievements. But the music staff alone cannot inculcate such a tremendous gusto into the whole sphere of activity; there must be another reason to be found. Nor is this supplied by individual talent—there are no Menuhins or Judds at Stowe (this is indeed almost certainly an advantage as all are given a chance to excel and each star is not outshone by any one prodigious Nova). No, we must look beyond actual individuals and the material facilities offered. For one of the few things one can cavil about at Stowe as far as the music is concerned is the ridiculous way in which the various groups are diluted to all ends of the school. Of course the two of us are divided here—one has had it cushy all along in the Roxburgh Hall, while the other has shivered and sweated for five years in the subterranean labyrinths of the Queen's Temple, that little-known corner of Stowe where on various days different part-time music staff of the wind species can be seen and/or heard plying their ancient crafts. What is it then that gives music throughout the school that measure of application which, the Headmaster warned us on Speech Day, is so sadly lacking in the games field, that provides a quarter of the student body to play instruments? What is this divine afflatus which inspires the normally lethargic Stoic to produce such a Speech Day concert? It is purely and simply the amount of opportunity offered here for all to appreciate what is perhaps the greatest of the Arts. Music appreciation classes on all levels, both beginner and advanced, provide a keen theoretical background, which is quickly painted in by the Music Society concerts, Music Club and Gramophone Society services, and of course the orchestra, band, choir and their offshoots. There is a very healthy musical presence at Stowe and one feels that the Genius of the Place can rest assured that whatever may happen in the future to the public-school system in the nature of 'sit-ins' or 'sit-ons', the sound of pipe and string will long be heard echoing through our colonnades and porticoes.

GUY HARVEY  
OLIVER RICHARDS



## VERDI'S 'REQUIEM'

In the Roxburgh Hall, Sunday, March 16th

Doreen Price (*soprano*)

Elizabeth Bainbridge (*mezzo-soprano*)

William McAlpine (*tenor*)

Richard Angus (*bass*)

THE STOWE CHORAL SOCIETY AND AUGMENTED ORCHESTRA—*Leader*, Jürgen Hess

Conducted by Mr. Watson

Angus Watson's presentation of the Verdi Requiem on the last Sunday of the Spring Term was not just a fitting climax to the Musical Society's major programme; it was a triumph. Six years ago the Requiem was performed in Chapel; this time it was given in the Roxburgh Hall and the audience were much more closely involved indeed. They felt themselves an integral part of the work. In any case it is arguable that the stage is the best platform for so theatrical a work as this, where the aftermath of Aida smothered some of the deeper religious motives of the Requiem.

Angus Watson's conducting gave full rein to this most dramatic of Verdi's works and there was a good balance between voices and orchestra. The demands made by the composer on the orchestra are considerable and immense agility is called for. That this was not lacking is a tribute both to the painstaking efforts of many weeks of rehearsal, and a compliment to the orchestra which relied on outside help to a smaller extent than ever before in a major production. Particular mention must be made of the brass section, especially its spectacular three-dimensional effect in the Tuba mirum. The strings deserve credit for their well modulated playing, and this performance was so much one of musical teamwork that it was a pleasure to accept it as a whole.

Among the soloists it is no faint praise for the others if Elizabeth Bainbridge is singled out for her outstanding mastery of the part, and Doreen Price for the effortless ease of her high notes. Their duet Recordare was a moving interpretation of pleading and followed by William McAlpine's searchingly plaintive Ingemisco.

The chorus sang with precision and achieved more effective contrasts in tone and in volume than they sometimes have in the past. Rex Tremendae was magnificently rolling and spacious. Later in the work the Sanctus revealed a slight loss of conviction but there was more than adequate recompense for this in the atmosphere of the final chorus.

On the technical side of the production, the use of a sound reflecting board suspended at an angle over the chorus successfully overcame the natural tendency of the proscenium to prevent the chorus from being fully heard over the orchestra.

The dramatic impact of the Requiem has a high potential, and in this performance full justice was done to it.

J. M. HUNT

## THE MUSIC SOCIETY

In the Roxburgh Hall on Saturday, April 27th

THE G.U.S. FOOTWEAR BAND *Conductor*, STANLEY BODDINGTON.

Sons of the Brave

*Bidgood*

Overture: Carnival Romain

*Berlioz*

Entracte: Little Lisa

*Haysom*

The Tops

*Powell*

Bugler's Holiday

*Anderson*

Waltz: The Grenadiers

*Waldteufel*

Suite: Songs of a City

*Wiggins*

An American Patrol

*Harries*

Beautiful Colorado

*Boddington*

(*Euphonium*: Trevor Groom)

Allegro Spiritoso

*Senaille*

Selection from 'The Sound of Music'

*Rodgers*

Czardas

*Monti*

(*Xylophone*: Jack Miles)

On the Track

*Simpson*

Overture 1812

*Tchaikovsky*

This term began with a band, not a whimper. From its first entry we realised why this group has acquired such a high status. Throughout the programme the tone was fluent and effortless, matched only by the enthusiasm of each member of the band. Individual items do not easily single themselves out for praise, but no report could be complete without mention of the fine solos which all received well-earned encores—Trevor Groom's playing especially was of the highest order throughout the evening with really smooth sound. All showed themselves equally at home in the realms of light music (the captivating *Little Lisa*) and of more substantial pieces such as the Berlioz. The 1812 was played with a zest and sparkle which is so often missing from orchestral performances of this work; the fire-cracker and the general volume of the band at the climactic moments were astounding. To Stoics at least Mr. Wiggins' new suite was one of the evening's most delectable highlights and the account of it by the band was staggering. One's mind was immediately transported to Elgar's *Cockaigne* or Vaughan Williams' London Symphony by the frenetic energy of the first two movements. The almost sub-Lelouche pasty of the third movement was reminiscent of Aaron Copland's New York and moved greatly. The pageantry of the fourth included a rich theme, grand after the fashion of Elgar, Walton or Bliss, and brought a very fine work to a delightful conclusion. It would be difficult to find fault with the evening's concert—for band devotees this was a real red-letter day.

In the Roxburgh Hall on Sunday, May 11th

Neil Black (*oboe*)

Mr. Weight (*baritone*)

Mr. James (*organ continuo*)

Lesley White (*violin*)

Elizabeth Watson (*viola*)

THE STOWE PIANO TRIO

Mr. Watson (*violin*)

Mr. Bottone (*piano*)

Mr. Edmonds (*cello*)

Cantata No. 82 for baritone, oboe and strings (*Ich habe genug*)

*Bach*

Piano Trio in E flat, op. 1, no. 1

*Beethoven*

Piano Trio

*Rawsthorne*

Oboe Quartet

*Gordon Jacob*

To start an evening with this performance of *Ich habe genug* was, to say the least, unfortunate, for the level of inspiration was never exactly high. The accompanying strings and oboe played well with finely judged phrasing and tone, especially the latter's splendid colouring, but the music seemed here to outstay its welcome. Mr. Weight's singing was as precise as usual, and yet the tessitura seemed too low at times, several passages being marred by an unnecessary tonal swelling on some individual notes. The result was a rather pedestrian account of what can be a moving piece. The Beethoven provided us with a display of the musicianship which got the trio so far in the B.B.C. competition. This showed signs of careful rehearsal and the poise of the whole piece was stunning. The tone too was luscious and the contrast of expression was well conveyed. The rippling conversation between each instrument was only offset by the noise of birds outside—a pastoral obligato which would have been more suited to the Jacob than to this piece of early Beethoven which on this occasion proved to be a pleasant, if slight, work with many fingerprints of Haydn: when played like this, however, few could fail to be captivated by its charm and grace. By comparison the Rawsthorne was completely at the other end of the scale, a highly astringent work with no apologies to convention. The trio went straight to the heart of this uncompromisingly disturbing work, and in a mere twelve minutes managed to translate the expression of some Promethean ideal. To follow this the Jacob was a highly refreshing and lightweight work with considerably less significance and an air of spontaneous gaiety. It was gently nostalgic and the throw-away virtuosity of all concerned was exhilarating—it made a pleasant end to an evening of mixed quality.

GUY HARVEY

OLIVER RICHARDS

In the Roxburgh Hall on Saturday, May 31st

THE CHAPEL CHOIR: *Leader*—Guy Harvey, *Pianist*—Mr. James, *Conductor*—Mr. Bottone

BRASS ENSEMBLE: *Leader*—Christopher Edwards, *Conductor*—Mr. Wiggins

STOWE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

STOWE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

*Leader*—Neil Bass

*Conductor*—Mr. Watson

Jeremy Lucas (*oboe*)

Nigel Stewart (*piano*)

Ian Ritchie (*bass*)

Fanfare for Brass Ensemble  
 Oboe Concerto in D  
 Brandenburg Concerto in G, No. 3  
 Introit, Kyrie, Libera me (from the Requiem)  
 Piano Concerto (1st movement)  
 Overture, La Clemenza da Tito  
 Symphony No. 8 (1st movement)

Burton  
 Albinoni  
 Bach  
 Fauré  
 Haydn  
 Mozart  
 Beethoven

Mr. Watson's programme notes described the concert on Speech Day as a rather bitty affair; this definition was quite justified, as the programme ranged from excerpts from Fauré's Requiem by the choir to the first movement of Beethoven's Eighth Symphony. But as Mr. Watson went on to say, the sole aim of the concert was to represent a cross-section of the School's musical activity, and although many perhaps prefer a more balanced programme, it is only right that the Speech Day concert, whose audience consists mainly of parents, should allow as many different musical groups to perform as possible. The problem that this 'bittiness' presents the reviewer is that it is not possible in most cases to consider the performance as a musical entity.

The Albinoni Oboe Concerto, The Fauré Requiem, and the Haydn Piano Concerto certainly gave the more advanced players a chance to shine. Jeremy Lucas' performance of the Albinoni was very accomplished indeed, even if some of the more intricate solo passages in the Allegro were slightly hurried; Ian Ritchie confirmed the opinion that he has a fine bass voice in the Fauré; Nigel Stewart's piano playing in the Haydn was polished and controlled, at its best in the intricate, but gently-flowing cadenzas.

The Chamber Orchestra dealt with their complex interwoven parts in both the concertos without the aid of a conductor and yet without loss of intonation or timing.

After the Fauré both the audience and the performers seemed strangely surprised by the singing of the choir; indeed quite a few found this the most enjoyable part of the programme. Mr. Bottone may perhaps have found the reason when he said: 'As soon as you get them out of the Chapel . . . .'

The Brass Ensemble left only a fleeting impression with the Burton fanfare as I had scarcely settled in my seat before it was all over. But although there was some susceptible tuning now and then, it was sufficient to leave me with a feeling that the brass section is much improved both in attack and intonation, a feeling which was strengthened later, especially in the 'Titus'.

The string section in the Brandenburg had few problems of any kind. Again the absence of a conductor did not lead to any lack of co-ordination, and the tempi remained bright and sparkling throughout.

Of the two large orchestral pieces Beethoven's Eighth Symphony was the least satisfying. Somehow the tempo and rhythm were too heavy and stilted for such a gay movement, and the intonation was doubtful at times particularly amongst the woodwind. On the other hand the Titus overture was attacked with great gusto and Mozart's rousing music resounded through the hall.

The fact that one can make any minor detailed criticisms seems to indicate the overall quality of the performance and although I am one of 'those who prefer their music whole' I feel certain that every parent present should have gone away convinced that, whatever else is good or bad at Stowe, music is one of the school's greatest attributes.

TIM ALBERY

## BEETHOVEN VIOLIN SONATAS

In the Queen's Temple on Saturday, May 2nd

Sonata No. 2 op. 12/2 *Beethoven*  
 Two Pieces, 'From the Homeland' *Smetana*  
 Sonata *Debussy*  
 Sonata No. 10 op. 96 *Beethoven*

With the Beethoven recitals coming to their close, Mr. Watson and Mr. Bottone played a completely contrasted programme. They started with Beethoven's second sonata, which Mr. Watson played brilliantly as regards technique, contrasting the light-hearted and legato passages

most subtly, even if the tone may have been a little husky in places. In the Smetana, however, he certainly came into his own; the tone, aided by the acoustics, was rich and the whole was packed with emotion and rubato. The second of the two pieces was definitely the more taxing but even so the vitality and liveliness which he produced riveted everyone's attention. The Debussy too was filled with tension, though, as one of my neighbours put it, thematically it was a trifle sporadic. From this we arrived at the tenth Sonata which I considered to be under-rehearsed, but I suppose that is excusable in its being so soon after Dartington. Mr. Watson's tone was rather misty with the occasional gap piercing through it and the intonation of some of the double-stopping was somewhat doubtful. The overall effect however was pleasing and Mr. Bottone's accompaniments were, as always, particularly creditworthy.

OLIVER RICHARDS

In the Queen's Temple on Saturday, June 21st

Sonata No. 6 op. 30/1 *Beethoven*  
 Sonata in F *Dvorak*  
 Sonata No. 9 op. 47 *Beethoven*

Mr. WATSON (*violin*)

Mr. BOTTONE (*piano*)

It was opportune that Mr. Watson and Mr. Bottone should complete their series with this highly imaginative programme. Beethoven's Sixth sonata suffered from nerves but after a somewhat hesitant start it developed into a sensitive and finely judged performance. In the Dvorak Mr. Watson again displayed his natural affinity for the full-blooded, emotional idiom of Eastern Europe, and was ably accompanied, both in the vivid dance rhythms of the outer movements and in the luscious serenity of the *poco sostenuto*. The highlight of the evening's recital was, however, the *Kreutzer*, arguably the zenith of all sonata writing, and this was a more than generous rendering. Mr. Watson seemed in full control of the romantic bravura and his profound yet flamboyant interpretation was matched only by his accompanist's dexterity. This was an occasion when a performance caught fire and few can have failed to have been moved by the sheer brilliance of sound. It was a worthy finish to an absolutely splendid series, and the performers fully deserved the standing ovation which they received.

OLIVER RICHARDS

## QUEEN'S TEMPLE CONCERTS

'A Concert for the Summer'

In the Queen's Temple, Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th June

Mr. Weight (*baritone*) Paddy Guilford (*soprano*)  
 Patricia Mason (*soprano*) Michael Tansley (*bass*)

Orchestra led by Lesley White  
 THE QUEEN'S TEMPLE SINGERS  
 Conducted by Angus Watson

L'Orfeo *Monteverdi*

To me the field of early opera is almost a complete novelty, but this performance of Monteverdi's "Orfeo" was certainly a welcome break just before the summer exeat and had a deep personal impact. Romanticism coming in the middle of a very classical era seems somewhat out of place, but it assuredly has its effect. Here Monteverdi seems to be experimenting with sound effects, just as we are now doing, only in a different fashion, by using *senza vibrato* and various 'loud noises' to make the whole affair rather onomatopoeic. The work started light-heartedly enough, but on Eurydice's death the mood changed quite dramatically. All the soloists sang well, but Mr. Weight, as Orfeo, was particularly outstanding and interpreted the different emotions most expressively. Even though it was a romantic work it still had a semi-medieval air, well created by the organ, recorders and harpsichord. The instrumental playing was of the highest, unobtrusive while accompanying, but in the solo passages individuals certainly came into their own—if anything, even more so on the second night than the first. It would be a serious omission to leave a rendering of such a calibre without mentioning the chorus who displayed the changing moods so well, and I can only look forward to the next such performance.

OLIVER RICHARDS

## THE MUSIC CLUB

The Club has had three meetings this term. At the first, we were hosts to the Borehamwood Grammar School choir which gave us a magnificent evening's entertainment (a separate report of this meeting appears below). Before leaving the School, the choir tested the acoustics of Assembly (doubtless many Brucites were gently lulled to sleep by some unexpected singing!). The second and third meetings consisted of items played by members of the Club. There have been some outstanding performances at these two meetings and generally the standard has been consistently high. It is hoped the fourth meeting of the Club will take place in the last week of term when the School choir, joined by that of Beachborough Preparatory School, will give us a performance of Fauré's Requiem.

CHRISTOPHER EDWARDS

In the Queen's Temple on Saturday, May 9th

STOWE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

BOREHAMWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL CHOIR

John Adams (*violin*)

Jeremy Lucas (*oboe*)

Nigel Stewart (*piano*)

It is unusual to write a review of a single Music Club concert but then it is unusual for any one concert to combine so many players and to reach such a high standard of performance. The two items by the Chamber Orchestra were a success, although balance in the oboe concerto was a little dubious—these pieces are discussed more fully in the report on the Speech Day concert. Of the various solos, *Czardas* gave us an ample display of John Adams' technique and the charming recorder duettists easily took us back to Elizabethan England. The vocal solos were mainly good but it was the congregated choir that undoubtedly stole the evening. Their scope was limiting and with the sole and successful exceptions of two expeditions into whimsy—with Mozart's *ABC* and the *Goslings*—they chose pieces where the luscious tone colour of their singing could provide the most beautiful washes of sound. For any school to produce a choir such as this is quite a feat, and intonation, tone and musicianship was matched only by their obvious spontaneity. Of all their numbers I especially enjoyed *Sometimes I feel like a motherless child*—a ravishing performance! All in all a most memorable evening.

GUY HARVEY

## HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITIONS

For the first time the inter-house music competition was not decided on the adjudication of a single concert but rather on a system of points, awarded for performances over the year—thus giving a truer sense of the corporate and preventing a house winning through the use of a mere handful of senior musicians. The final results showed a broad degree of diversification but all houses did creditably and even those low on the list could sometimes boast individual prize-winners to their name. The cups were presented to Grenville and Walpole in the Speech Day concert by Mrs. P. B. Lucas.

1. Grenville	110 points
2. Walpole	96 points
3. Cobham	83 points
4. Lyttelton	82 points
5. Chatham	80 points
6. Chandos	59 points
7. Temple	42 points
8. Bruce	34 points
9. Grafton	25 points

GUY HARVEY

## THE BAND

The Band's two public performances this term were on General Inspection Day and Speech Day. I think it is fair to say that things went very much better on the second of these two occasions. Perhaps the members of the Band do not find the military atmosphere one which stimulates their musicianship; anyway, whatever the cause, there was more than a little disorganisation, but fortunately aircraft and other noises muffled what should not have been heard. Speech Day was, however, a much more professional and musicianly an effort—indeed several people said that they thought this was one of the band's best performances in recent years.

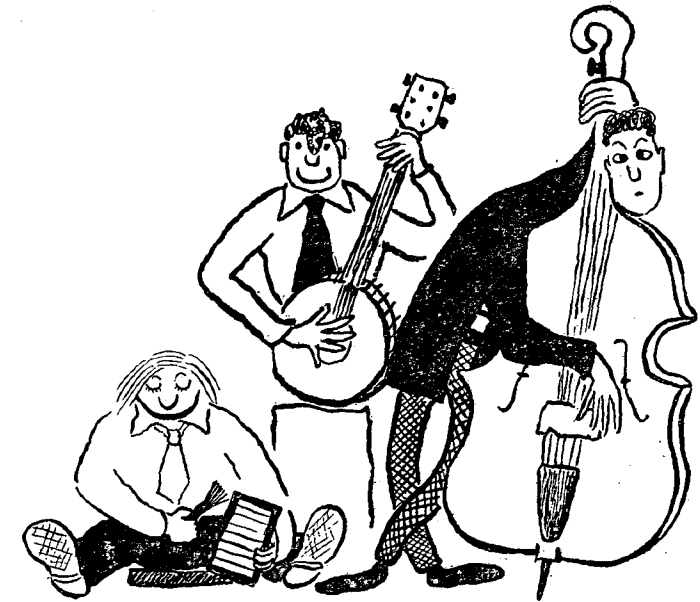
JEREMY LUCAS

## THE GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

This has been an especially good year for the Gramophone Society. Even by Christmas we had exceeded last year's record number of members and by this summer, membership is well over 200. Although the Society does not function as a normal "society" (the name may be changed to Gramophone Library) still the records are used very considerably, and losses have decreased considering that so many records are borrowed. The classical repertoire is now as extensive as it is possible to be without catering too much for minority tastes, and although there are still notable gaps in the jazz repertoire, all the major artists are represented; further additions to this section can now be made with exciting artists.

For some time, we have considered improving our equipment (consisting of one portable record player!). We have bought a fine Heathkit speaker unit and next year's funds will contribute towards a new turntable and small amplifier. In this respect, Mr. Ridge has promised to give us some advice. These additions will become permanent fixtures in the Gramophone Society Room. We would finally like to thank Mr. James for everything he has done to improve the Society over the year in bringing it to the level at which it now stands.

NIGEL STEWART



## SOCIETY

Societies exist. Some enjoy them. Others do not. Your Society editor is dying. So is your Stoica editor. And your Sports editor. Compared with the time that the dinosaurs were on earth you too will die soon. Or sooner. I suppose it's sad. But when you and I and he and him and them are all dead, Society will be forgotten. So will you. And most of all the editorial. Because this is it.

P. A. LINSELL

Secretary of XII Club:  
Secretary of the Debating Society:  
The C.C.F.: *Senior Under-Officer:*  
*Under-Officers:*

*Contingent Sergeant-Major:*  
*Coxswain:*

Leader of the Orchestra:  
Leader of the Choir:  
Band Representative:  
Art School Monitor:  
Community Service Secretary:  
Captain of Chess:  
Captain of Bridge:  
Secretary of the Classical Society:  
Secretary of the Modern Language Society:  
Chairman of the Historical Society:  
Secretary of the Sedimentarians:  
Secretary of the Science Society:  
Secretary of the Nucleus:  
Secretary of the Natural History Society:  
Secretary of the Archaeological Society:  
Secretary of the Music Club:  
Secretary of the Film Society:  
Secretary of the Gramophone Society:

R. A. Jeavons (G)  
S. D. Moss (B)  
M. P. Kayll (W)  
C. S. Edwards (W)  
R. V. Craik-White (W)  
R. G. A. Westlake (B)  
E. H. Bainbridge (W)  
N. Downing (L)  
N. A. Bass (C)  
G. L. Harvey (G)  
C. S. Edwards (W)  
T. M. Patrick (C)  
N. R. Spurrier (S)  
P. A. Saper (C)  
W. S. Croom-Johnson (T)  
S. R. Barstow (B)  
T. B. R. Albery (L)  
P. G. Arbuthnot (C)  
A. M. Sladen (W)  
M. Hoyle (S)  
J. Choyce (C)  
M. J. D. Manley (T)  
R. M. Seccombe (B)  
C. S. Edwards (W)  
P. I. Bellew (B)  
N. B. S. Stewart (W)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Perhaps this has been our most successful term. Certainly there was no shortage of assistance for we managed to cope adequately with a larger programme. There were an additional seventeen gardens to cultivate and visits from the mentally handicapped of the Bletchley Industrial Unit and sufferers from the High Wycombe Branch for Muscular Dystrophy. Our fund raising has beaten all expectations, with the Sponsored Walk raising over £1,500—a magnificent contribution from parents and Stoics. Ideas about what to do with the sum are not in short supply. Old Age Pensioners in particular will receive support. Mains water is to be supplied to two cottages, electric Sadia heaters to three; heating is to be made more effective for many of the 80 O.A.P.'S we visit—some will receive free coal and paraffin heaters. We are even considering the installation of bathrooms in some of the cottages. We have found that there is a real need for the construction of teaching aids for the mentally handicapped and there are plans for a camping centre for the physically handicapped. We will be building our own workshop and greenhouse for the horticultural side of C/S. And so on, and so on . . . A progress report will be published at the end of next term, showing how the money has been allocated.

This term has also seen the culmination of many other activities. Visits to O.A.P.s have been extended and this has been supported by the work of the Horticultural Section. Thirty-eight



*Camargue Horses*

*Enzo Plazzotta*



*The Hand*

*Enzo Placotta*

**GERM**

9



*Poetry · Art · Opinion*

Violence is the last  
resort of the incompetent.  
*Asimov*

**EDITORS:**

**TIM ALBERY  
PETER LINSELL  
GUY HARVEY**

**EDITORIAL**

The main danger in publishing a magazine such as *Germ* incorporated in *The Stoic* is that we may become a part of the Established order of things in a way never intended by us or by our predecessors, the original founders. Mr. Gibbins in his letter thinks that we already have—to him we can only reply that we hope not. Art is never conventional but it is at the same time scarcely ever immoral; it merely looks forward, perhaps further than the average eye can scan but nevertheless into the visible distance. What Art promulgates in one generation is often an accepted commonplace in the next and this point is of crucial value in any estimation of the worth of much that we call Art today. The young of today are subjected to tremendous criticisms on all sides and it is hardly surprising that many are forced to adopt the role of rebel-rouser which they have been pushed into by our modern society. But perhaps there has also been mixed up in all the unrest the blossoming of some of the most life-giving forces seen for over a century. Certainly there has never been so much voluntary work done by the young and there are many such as the late John Kennedy, who had the foresight and faith to trust his young people, to support our cause against the blanketing shell-fire of the tabloid press. The whole crux of the issue is simple but seldom understood; whereas in the past the old have rightly seen the difference of the ages to lie in their varying aspects to Sex, Money and God, we have now a different and far more personal challenge to examine. The real barrier between the ages today is that of authority and one's search and quest for the problems of youth have their basis here. To the older generation Authority is a word denoting class and an inherent superiority of one over another through breeding and education. To the young this is not good enough since the ordinary material values of life are now so much more transient than ever before—the spread of technology has led to that. They are not prepared to accept as an authority anything which cannot prove its own worth as an authority. In so many words Authority now has to be almost charismatic. For us the generation that produced Hitler, the War, the Bomb and every other conceivable atrocity has betrayed that very mankind which it strove so feebly to keep alive. The young of today may do no better, but, they feel, they can do little worse.

TIM ALBERY  
PETER LINSELL  
GUY HARVEY

**POETRY:**

**CHRISTOPHER DAVIS**

Prejudice is the reason of fools.

*Voltaire*

**DAVID MACNAGHTEN**

**ADRIAN SELBY**

**IB BELLEW**

When the finger points at the moon,  
the idiot looks at the finger.

*Old Chinese Proverb*

**TIM HORNER**

**NICHOLAS KAYE**

**ANTHONY KINAHAN**

**TIMOTHY KINAHAN**

Middle age is said to begin when a  
man's broad mind and narrow waist  
first appear to be changing places.

*Aitken*

**PETER LINSELL**

**GUY HARVEY**

**RICHARD JEAVONS**

How do you know but every bird that cuts the airy way  
Is an immense world of delight closed by your five senses?

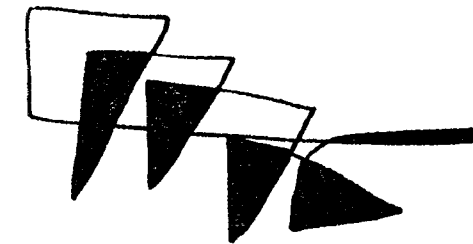
*Blake*

He who follows the part of  
himself that is great will  
be a great man;

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**HOWARD GIBBINS**

**NICHOLAS KAYE**



**ART:**

**HOWARD GIBBINS**

**RICHARD JEAVONS**

**IB BELLEW**

**ROBERT WRAITH**

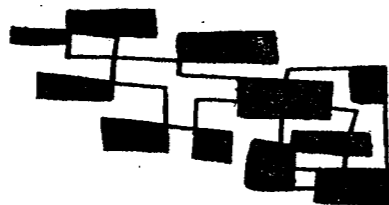
He who follows the part of himself  
that is little will be a little man.

*Chuang Tze*

### SORROW

Long-armed, long-fingered,  
Long-haired, long-toothed,  
Long depriver of mental freedom.  
Mental murderer.  
Suicide commissioner.  
Sorrow.

TIMOTHY KINAHAN



### NIGHT-LIFE

Life-like on death-dark ceiling,  
Flickering patterns of white  
Screening the tree life of night  
Produce of wind, window and sight

ANTHONY KINAHAN

God is everything—  
Even a lousy hypocrite.

He pretends that He believes  
That He exists.  
Like a couple of million other Christians

But He ruined the fishing industry  
At Galilee.

And in the next twelve months  
More than one thousand students  
Will commit suicide.

The rest will set themselves  
On the road to destruction.

While twenty-five thousand  
Angry middle-class housewives  
Campaign for decency—

Eighty-seven per cent  
Are sterile,  
The rest are lesbians,  
But two, who have previously  
Posed naked for  
*Playboy* and *Parade* respectively.

Two big-shot little pseudopoets  
Write frantically in  
Creation-folders for  
Confirmed atheists.

While a little devil squats  
On the shoulder of  
One of them and eats  
The meat left on the end  
Of a torn-off nigger-femur.

He spits a piece of gristle  
At the poets ear,  
Who writes another phrase  
As the thought strikes him  
In the lobe.

Mercury's head is missing  
From the array of  
Greasy publicity-hogs  
And rich men who  
Could afford to pay

Public-relations men or  
Found Royal Exchanges.

The ancient philosopher,  
Orator, soldier, and poet  
Are all missing.

But Latin write-ups remain.  
Though uninterested peoples'-imps  
Do not bother to make their charges  
Translate them.

The danger is past as  
The door opposite shuts

The eyes are growing tired

And the cricket-pitches  
Wither and die at  
The glance of a thousand  
Anti-hearties stupidly engendered  
By thoughtless establishment sportsmen.

The rigger-posts rot  
And Oxford sinks

(Though Cambridge proves the stronger anyway).

But the next day  
They toss again,  
And now the water's  
Not as rough . . .

PETER LINSELL

To the Editors of *Germ*:

Dear Sirs,

I might, under some circumstances, feel apologetic for the attack I am about to make on Mr. Peter Linsell's article "Lord Forgive them for they Know not what they do", thinking that those who shared my opinions are mentally mature enough to sustain themselves from the often hypocritical practice of hitting at someone else's personal feelings. However, as Mr. Linsell hit at mine, I feel justified in pointing out that the blow did not just feebly knock me unconscious, but instead bound me with energy for a reply.

Firstly, it is the "... for they know not what they do", that makes me slightly anxious. How, Mr. Linsell, do you not know that we in fact do know what we are doing? How do I not know that it isn't just you who don't know what you are doing?

As for the U.N. Bill of Human Rights, what for the law that children up to general school leaving age must attend one daily act of worship? And what for the fact that if someone wants to be a Hindhu all he has to do is to go to a school which is founded upon the philosophies of Hinduism? Is this not where the "Human Rights" bit comes in?

In fact, to hear you talk in this way makes me wonder whether you happen to feel that you "are sent to Stowe" rather like a young boy might be "sent to the grocer's".

There is no need to loll upon the opposite extreme that "when in Rome you do as the Romans do", simply conforming to everything for the sake of it, but surely if you come to a school which is built on the Christian faith, you must be prepared to tolerate it? If you remove the faith of a Society, are you not removing its very foundations?

Yours faithfully,

N. P. KAYE

To the Editors of *Germ*:

Sirs,

The *Stoic* and especially *Germ* are meant to be a rostrum for the opinions and artistic aspirations of Stoics. In the light of this and the recent influx of, admittedly, inferior magazines from various corners of Stowe, may I suggest that both the typographical form of the magazine and the editor/censors should be reformed. If this is not possible at least it should be realised that as an official organ of the 'system' it has a necessary stultifying effect on the identity and expressions of the victims of that system, and you should cease to publish *Germ* in conjunction with the *Stoic*.

I am yours, etc.,

HOWARD GIBBINS

### ' ULYSSES AND PENELOPE ' IN THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

What was really in your mind?  
Did you feel yourself in Ithaca,  
nude upon a bed of captured Trojan gold,  
and did you catch your husband's scented hair,  
breathing the orient spices in, as quick  
as Paris to be perfumed;  
and when his hand strayed, wafting the purple cloak  
like a stained dove—softly-stealing  
upon your intoxicated sense,  
did you feel Ulysses, home at last,  
and long to die in beds of asphodel,  
clutching your husband in ecstasies of love?  
Or did you feel outraged, bored and tired,  
your marble skin blotched by tears of sweat  
under the heat of the peeping sun,  
embarrassed by the different nudities you shared?  
And did your nostrils twitch,  
sniffing disconsolately at your lover's breath,  
knowing your back grew cold  
against the bareness of those frigid boards?  
Did you think day groaned as slow  
as Primaticcio grinning wide and ghastly?  
Did you sense all this, or were you never there,  
except in soul alone, pinned like some timeless butterfly  
onto a dead canvas with the village priest?  
I wish I knew, Penelope.

GUY HARVEY

### ARE YOU THERE, HAN YU ?

Not a twig or leaf on the old tree  
but an empty aura of silence,  
where the light of a candle can almost frame  
the gaudy plumage of half a golden kingfisher.  
(Perhaps there was some truth in what the Romans said  
about right and left). A long way off  
the bough stands stiff and sad,  
accepting nature stoically enough as the last fungus  
scurries off across the fields, abandoning.  
The tree waits for birds but somehow feels  
that none will ever come to such a place.  
(Perhaps the *ficus Ruminalis* lives as yet in Rome  
below the Aventine). But now the evening draws  
its light back from the land and shadows play  
and flicker in the wind. Not so the tree, erect and still  
content to be as yet a soul for men to think on  
beneath the freedom of its broken shell.  
(Do Heracles and Cacus still dance about the flocks  
and Hermes play the lyre?) At last the wick is trimmed  
but ashes fall before a tear can dry.  
The flame dims on the candle and the kingfisher  
is extinguished to a void of black.  
Meanwhile the tree weeps silence to itself.  
The soul dies. (Did Caesar really cross the Rubicon?)

GUY HARVEY



## DAFFODILS

Feeling high,  
There's no fear.  
Loose-limbed float-swing  
Through the woods;  
See the bitchy woman  
With that underfed dog.

Watch her go  
With a smile;  
'Lousy patrol,  
Knew she'd be there.'  
Heightened perception  
They call it.

Picking their hazy wild daffodils.  
'I'm going to clean this place out.'  
But at sixty-one  
The greed fails.  
'Leave the rest,  
Pick a bunch for the funeral on Friday.'

Leaving now,  
But rest on tree.  
'No come-down nausea, no !  
Running across the paddock  
With my sunlight-sparkling spear,  
Hand-held Olympiad light-torch.

The verdigris grey-green  
Carpet pigeons  
Rise up like a corrugated underfelt  
As they catch  
The mirror flash  
Of my yellow, blood-clot club.

Run, run on,  
Through the rain,  
No sweat,  
And the nice smell,  
Clothes-in-wet-rain-horrible  
Smell.

Somewhere some  
Mother's sheets  
Are getting wetter  
On the line  
Of time-extended  
Iridescent rainbow-water.

Then a key-fumbling,  
Clicking moment,  
And the over-warm room  
Absorbs me in an anti-trauma  
Of a warm, cloying homosexual's kiss  
To a hetero.

The daffodils  
Are put into a vase,  
Where, despite the water  
They instantly polymerize their character  
And become; 5 doz. plastic daffs.  
(Plus one free gift).

PETER LINSELL

## MAN

Like, Rhesus negative, man.  
He was an accident.  
Like, a bum condom, man.  
Grow up.  
Like, don't ask me, phone City Hall, man.  
He's on bum kicks.  
Like, hell-kid, man.  
Pissing in the shower.  
Like, death, man.  
Traumatic.  
Like, throw out, clean up, man.

Quis vivit, moritur  
Apathyrike,  
Hellrike,  
Deathrike,  
Quis vivit, moritur.

Oh hell !

PETER LINSELL

## SHARDS OF LIFE

My face, pugnacious,  
Fights the wind;  
Soft, malevolent, and remorseless.

A sheep-skeleton lies,  
Unseeing, expressionless;  
Not grinning at me,  
But indifferent, implacable.  
Its bones, so clean,  
Spell out the only word  
The moors have ever known—

A yellow flower  
Urinate its message  
To the wind;  
It picks it up  
And whistling, calls it round the hills.  
One word the message says  
Yet just one word suffices;  
The message spells the only word  
The moors have ever known—

The grey, unsmiling sky  
Unlooks at me, again indifferent,  
As a raven,  
Tattered wing-tips twisting,  
Blows past, silent, empathic,  
Responsive to my mood.  
But then a dozen  
Smooth the sky's rough edges  
With their rasping cries,  
Spelling out the only word  
The moors have ever known—

The sheep is dead,  
But dead men never die,  
And now the shades,  
Undead but living not,  
Blow past,  
Slanting with the rain.

An iron-age warrior, long-dead  
Is dashed against me—  
His spirit passes,  
But passing leaves a message,  
Spelling out the only word  
The moors have ever known.

PETER LINSELL

### THE HOT MOORS

They pass under my feet,  
Continually slower,  
Until they stop.

A wall, warm and stony,  
Prevents me.

The sun smiles down,  
I think.

The air is still.

My strength is disappearing.

Until the sheep's bark-bleat  
Undeafens me,  
And they clatter-scatter,  
Heavy-footed, stalk-legged,  
Impassively away.

They will be dead,  
But aren't  
Just yet.  
And still they're just as senseless.

God, I hate them.

The old, wise and clever,  
Scarcely deigning  
To waste even their  
Cold, unfeeling state  
On me.

The arrogant young  
Have life.

That's all.

But that's enough,  
They think,  
And sneer.

God, it's hot.

A buttercup  
Smiles up at me  
With a yellow, glaring  
Sadistic gleam  
Of hatred.

It sucks.  
So does the sun.  
A slapping,  
Clickering,  
Glitter of a tantalizing  
Rivulet  
Flickers past.

Bouncing off it,  
Stabbing light-daggers  
From the hateful sun  
Impale my eyes.

But unshining,  
A smooth, thumb-thick  
Water-layer  
Darkly swells to a youthful breast  
And breaks  
On the vaginal stone  
To a pubis  
Of sparkling hairs.

Now the spirits are asleep.

Hiding in the dark dells  
In the green light  
Where a sudden cold  
Sucks out a thousand goose-pimples  
On bare arms.

The death is still here.

The only life is double,  
Death is lonely.

And they still hate.

PETER LINSELL

### TO LIVE IS NOT ALWAYS TO THINK

A hundred seconds might have two of worth,  
A thousand years might progress a day,  
A million people might inhabit earth,  
And then decay.

A thousand men might die,  
An empire be brought to nought,  
A million men might try  
And ten men might have thought.

NICHOLAS KAYE

### THE INNER VOICE

Oh why are men's minds hid by fearing pride ?  
By foolish politeness we should not abide,  
Why should we let our inner selves sink,  
And say not what we should think ?

Sometimes through the misty trees of morning,  
I hear a voice within me calling,  
Sometimes through the silent stars of night,  
I sense a light.

Sometimes quite alone to walk and walk,  
I hear a voice within me talk,  
Sometimes I feel, though I shall not say,  
The secret of night and the secret of day.

Now and then and here and there,  
I feel a care,  
Sometimes burning deep and forcing through,  
I feel what's true.

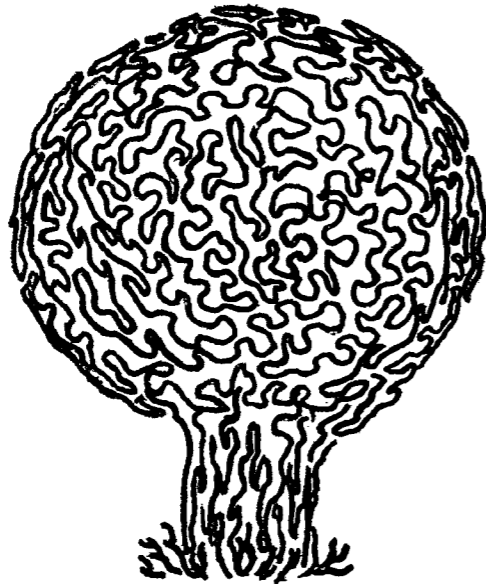
Sometimes in a dream of desert, I lie,  
Sometimes in the fog of night I cry,  
Sometimes in the illusion of day I sigh,  
" O lead me to the rock that is higher than I ".

NICHOLAS KAYE

(Winner of the J. F. Roxburgh Prize  
for English Verse)

A dazzling megalith of floating fire,  
A second sun on earth, of brighter hue,  
Arising, monstrous, djinn-like, conjured through  
The mind of Man, who might through this acquire  
A race of thoughtless slaves who never tire,  
And, serf-like, power him, Adam, to renew  
His Eden, make his earth-bound dreamings true.  
But no, not thus does fallen Man aspire.  
Destruction, agony and earthly Hell  
Are all his earthly wisdom bids him make;  
And thus shall e'en this workman earn his hire  
By serving Man's imagined wants too well,  
And merely for a paltry quarrel's sake  
Convert God's earth to Adam's funeral pyre.

RICHARD JEAVONS



### LA REFORME OUI, LA CHIENLIT NON

'Let them eat cake,' said the Queen with a laugh,  
the court laughed, the king laughed and sipped his wine,  
all France laughed, but not the people who had no bread.  
Theirs were simple throats, theirs simple needs,  
they really wanted loaves but could not buy them,  
not with oaths of allegiance or money of maturity,  
yet bread there was as well as cake.  
Bread was royal, bread was great,  
the people poor and only honest,  
not enough for bread, just cake.  
'Give us bread' they cried and still the court was deaf;  
'Give you bread,' they said, 'Why soup is good enough,  
you have no butter, only lard, you sans-culottes.'  
(Before the days of Bryanston this was, you see).  
The people left the court and sat at home and thought.  
The cake seemed tempting (and yet, bread—just think).  
They took the cake and praised the wealth of princes, counts  
and district sires (which was of course the nobles' sole desire).  
But soon the cake began to stick, their dripping cloyed  
and one day a petit canaillard cried, 'I want bread'.  
The Queen threw cake, her crown, her jewels, body,  
dress, her whole estate, but still he wanted bread—or blood.  
And so he strick at Paris' heart for food and gained its life.  
The court stopped laughing as their heads began to roll  
and some, Chauvelin-like, found a hidden penchant, never yet disclosed,  
for simple honest loaves; the rest could not: the rest were dead.  
And all because the people lacked their bread.

GUY HARVEY

### WATER-GLASS

I saw it in the water-glass  
Through violence and through love.

I looked at it for many years:  
For ages past and present  
Cannot alter this reflection

I turned around, and bravely  
Glanced at this fast-moving light.  
I saw my own reflection  
Mutilated a thousand times

And half-died.

My ways and means were different then,  
My life was strangely twisted,

But I saw it in the water-glass;  
Straining me.  
Examining and surveying me,

But judging me.

CHRISTOPHER DAVIS

### THE CREATURE

You cannot be captured,  
You hold our greatest respect,  
Without a doubt  
We probably worship you.

You condemn us,  
But we do not understand  
Our condemnation,  
You change the flow of life,  
But for you nothing changes.

You will always be self-reliant,  
Yet when the chase is on,  
You elude us.  
Why?

CHRISTOPHER DAVIS

They fled from the  
 wrath of the people  
 who wanted  
 to chop off their heads  
 their rage was  
 as red as the dawn as they  
 fled to Varennes  
 but the people  
 caught them and chopped off their heads  
 and their heads  
 were carried in buckets around  
 the square while  
 their torsos were thrown  
 in a pit

The people are eating  
 royal flesh in the  
 courts and the  
 sun still shines  
 in the fields and the rain still  
 falls in the road  
 and the sparrows still chirp in the  
 afternoon and you  
 still walk to  
 school all mixed up  
 with the fifteen  
 handsomest schoolboys  
 as the school buildings  
 collapse in ideas  
 of glory with  
 men in odd  
 gowns and things drowning  
 in melting sandstone  
 and the gulls  
 are singing in the courtyard

ADRIAN SELBY

Lost in solitude birdsong  
 lapping me  
 so perfectly beautiful  
 the water gently slaps  
 the lakeside  
 but something is  
 wrong the Coot  
 swims across  
 the lake but the  
 grass snake has already eaten its  
 eggs  
 I remember that time  
 not long ago when I knew you well  
 and your fingers clutched  
 me and taught me  
 about myself the  
 Robin's song blinds  
 my brain to sadness how  
 oppressed are its children ?

ADRIAN SELBY

### HOOT

Owl hoots in silence of deep  
 night, existence  
 stands  
 still, except for lovers  
 screwing in the park,  
 I listen to the leaves, which  
 are talking to the moon  
 about their conceptions,  
 and all the naked love which  
 has gone among their roots.  
 The fear crackles  
 through the ether when  
 I run to see life, but it is  
 nowhere to be found, there  
 is a vixen having  
 cubs by the dead cow which  
 was shot because of Foot  
 and mouth by the farmer who  
 lies and buried it by  
 the trees. The little birds  
 are singing in the gardens, and  
 we know that it is dawn  
 and time to go to work.

ADRIAN SELBY

### POS. PEW. OWL

Haltingly  
 through the blindness of night  
 groping its way  
 between the gaunt and outstretched straws—  
 a funereal silhouette—  
 the barn nests the russet cry and rustle of a screeching  
 owl, blazing,  
 flames rolling among mice and men  
 (All we like sheep have gone  
 a  
 s  
 t  
 r  
 a  
 y).

For God's sake, world, light us a match or the fire will go out !  
 Howl, owl, howl,  
 shriek your soul to its solitary damnation  
 or let mortals forget  
 the winging cry of fear  
 which struck across the grain-crossed floor  
 and tolled  
 doom, Laocoon, die  
 the snakes,  
 the owls  
 embrace,  
 screech  
 death  
 and the still-born barn  
 howlet-dead as  
 well

GUY HARVEY



### THE POET

Wandering through the flames  
stirring the embers of a symbolic life  
they thought of calling him a martyr.  
Ashen-eyed they loved him  
iron-fingered they collected up his bones  
they scabbled R.I.P. across his skull  
and all was well forgot.  
But as they wandered off a shadow grew  
and a long, happy, unfaltering, laugh  
grew gently out, swelling and unchecked.  
And in that laugh they heard a voice,  
a voice they thought had finally gone:  
I had time to live to wander and to die  
I loved and lived and laughed  
Beyond your streets and behind your walls  
within you and without you;  
until it all became a symbol  
and the laugh died and the tongue stiffened  
and went into print.

IB BELLEW

### GENTLY FALLING

It is autumn and the words are falling.  
Half-hearted syllables and gentle inarticulations  
simper underfoot. Isolated letters tap sharply  
on the pavement as they land.  
For it is autumn.  
It is winter and the word lies cold upon  
the stone. Where the phrases used to grow I stand,  
my own grey syntax running off the surface  
or curling into death-rings;—for the poetry is gone  
and it is winter.  
It is spring and a strange feeling grows  
with the green monologues and straining voices  
in the act of birth. The syllables begin to form again  
and the gentle whisperings breathe of ancient tongues  
returning in the wind. Strange—there lies a decay  
in the spring like a seasonal swan-song.  
For summer will come.  
It is full summer and the weak over-ripe  
pregnancy of the archetypal fruit lies heavy on my lips  
and a meaning floats over the haze and I run  
to meet its promised fullness—out of breath—  
but like a girl too fond of life I cannot hold it.  
And yet it is full summer.

IB BELLEW

### "IMPROBE AMOR, QUID NON MORTALIA PECTORA COGIS" ?

The clay head grins alone, inane—  
insanely a pirouette of dust rises,  
stupid in the horsehair of the bloody plumes.  
A child groans yet ? Perhaps it was just wind  
pushing through the tassels on the shield and spear,  
garlands to deck the bride, when Death is groom.

The clay is wet with rain, but grins moronic  
in the silent mud where lazy flies  
lie drowned. A greave and the tunic flutter  
in the acid breeze which stirs the dead girls' hand,  
but yet the doll smiles still, aware of Fate  
and not above a silent tear—of blood.

The tears flow freely now—a bird has pecked  
the young child's breast and death pent up  
spills out to procreate with dust; madly  
the head still grins, still shows its wooden smile  
as a fly lays furtive eggs on its ochred eye  
and the sun beats down upon its silly skin.

Above the doll, a clay head smiles, inane,  
and yet triumphs in life, in death, in man.  
The blood has flowed again and people died  
to prove the myth of clay a truth.  
But Doll or God is not its name,  
though both its attributes. Love is its name—  
its name is Love.

GUY HARVEY

### A VIRGIN HAD A BASTARD

A virgin had a bastard  
—A legal bastard he—  
In a little town of Judah  
South of the Syrian Sea.

To Man he was a Bastard  
—And legally he was—  
But in the eyes of Christians,  
His father was a God.

His mother was a Virgin,  
His father was a God,  
And He, a saving martyr,  
Was crucified in blood.

His crucifixion saved us,  
—Though few say such a thing—  
The Galilean bastard  
Is now our God and King.

TIMOTHY KINAHAN

### WAR-LORD

Big Shot;  
You make your living out of death.  
You make your money out of guns;  
And your guns out of money.

But peace would be a disaster  
For you. Because  
You have grown to love War.  
Its sounds,  
Its sights,  
Its smells.

The very feeling of War  
The very sound of this  
Twisted, tortured word,  
Brings a shooting smile to your  
Fairground face.

I hate you, Big Shot.

CHRISTOPHER DAVIS

### THE CLOCK

Stop and think,  
As the bell strikes the hour,  
Of all the power  
And the cogs  
And the wheels  
And the bells,  
Needed for this  
Excellent chime.  
For this insinuous chime  
Bids the old hour out,  
The new hour in.  
Now let me praise  
The inventor of,  
This congealable mess  
Of cogs and wheels  
And a bell that peals.  
At the hour,  
Each day,  
Twelve times two  
It rings on the air.

DAVID MACNAGHTEN

### NO BATTLE

The Red and White figures  
Sat and brooded over  
Their ornate games board  
Which looked suspiciously  
Like a large Vietnam  
On the board were pawns  
With guns, grenades  
And stubbled chins  
New ones with old  
All by each other  
There were just pawns  
No bishops, no castles  
No kings or queens  
Just pawns.

DAVID MACNAGHTEN

### A DEAD HERO

I suppose that considering, you  
Would say he was everything, that  
You wanted to be, and yet  
When the bullet hit Him, and the gas  
Choked Him, You realised then  
Everything was really Nothing.

You found no resemblance, in the blood  
Covered face, and the first time  
Downcast eyes. Then, maybe you  
Stopped considering, that life  
Might really be worth living  
If you were in His place.

TIM HORNER

### TO HER, WHO MUST BE

The mole does not see his way,  
He is alive.  
God, I do not know your face.  
Friend, come closer, so I may see  
your eyes, reflecting, my eyes  
to the sun.

Into the blue sky .  
Rain, flying over the mirror . . . .  
Let me take your hand and let us  
run together through the tunnel, until,  
you get tired, then you will leave  
my hand

limp as the one you left.  
Christ, your face is masked.  
I see that you  
Are climbing  
Into the sky  
Into the sun  
Into the Heat,  
away from me . . . .

I look down and take my hand  
Out of the sky.

TIM HORNER



hanging baskets of flowers have been distributed and under the general guidance of the Head Gardener, Mr. Head (whose assistance has been invaluable), the vegetable garden thrives. Nearly 3,000 bedding plants have transformed many of the gardens in our care. We have taken the case of a local man suffering from multiple sclerosis to our M.P. and as a result he now has two days' employment a week and free taxation for his car. This should make some difference to the young family he has to support. We have entertained the mentally and physically handicapped to lunch, to a concert, and to a barbecue tea; and we have staged a concert for an East End Settlement. We have cut up tons of logs.

Green Shield Stamps are always welcome, and they are just as acceptable loose, as in books. If you have completed a book and would like another, contact Community Service at Stowe and one will be sent by return.

## C.C.F.

The main event of the term has been the annual inspection, carried out by the Chief of Military Intelligence Services, Rear Admiral G. A. Henderson, C.B., with his team of staff officers and Sub-Lieutenant C. C. G. Sharp (W 1966) in attendance. We were fortunate in having one of the few fine days up till then; it was cooler for the parade itself and only one or two cadets passed out.

In the afternoon the admiral had a variety of experiences; he watched the R.N. Section at varied training, he participated, somewhat damply, in the crossing of the lake first in the bosun's chair and subsequently in the whaler; he saw the R.A.F. section, too, afloat; after seeing a section attack by the Advanced Infantry platoon which involved scaling the cliffs of the quarry, he finished his day by watching a commando landing accompanied by all manner of covering fire and explosives, which incidentally blew out some of the Estate workers' more obstinate tree stumps. Many of the pyrotechnic effects were produced by the Royal Marine Reserve from White City with Lieutenant S. P. S. Coulter (W 1955).

The following month was occupied as usual by the Coldstream Cup and its practices. The Lieutenant-Colonel commanding the Coldstream Guards, Colonel Sir Ian Jardine, Bart., came in person to judge and present the cup; with him were Captain G. A. Philippi (C 1956) and the Regimental Sergeant Major.

Results:	1. Walpole	(13½ pts.)
	2. Cobham	(19 pts.)
	3. Lyttelton	(22½ pts.)
	4.=Grenville	(29 pts.)
	4.=Chandos	(29 pts.)
	6. Grafton	(33 pts.)
	7. Chatham	(40 pts.)
	8.=Bruce	(42 pts.)
	8.=Temple	(42 pts.)

Arduous Training at Easter enjoyed almost ideal walking conditions, very firm underfoot with the frost but with a biting wind on two days. Snow lay thickly on the moors, and we took refuge in army huts at the Warcop training centre as our main base. A full account appears elsewhere. Members of the R.A.F. section went to camp at St. Mawgan during the holidays. Congratulations to R. G. A. Westlake (B) and J. L. Thorogood (L) on winning R.A.F. scholarships.

Over a hundred boys are expected from all three services at Renney Lentney Camp, near Plymouth, at the end of term.

We lose two officers at the end of the term who have done a great deal towards the success of our activities: Captain M. A. B. Kirk has run a Proficiency Company for many years, and Lieutenant A. R. Sparshott has given almost every boy in the School an introduction to many military and other mysteries. Mr. Kirk will continue to run the .303 shooting team—our thanks to both for all their help.

On laying down command it seems appropriate for me to summarize for the interest of members of the School what in my view the function of the Corps and related activities should be

in the school. Firstly I may say that our prime objective is not to produce soldiers, sailors or airmen, although the services are beginning to regard C.C.F.'s as their only potential large pool of officers, so low are the country's reserves. Indeed the main objectives of the Wednesday's activity can be perfectly well achieved through the Duke of Edinburgh's scheme. Many boys are going on to Regular or Short Service Commissions or service with the Reserves and Territorials, but our function in the School should be educational in the broad sense, giving boys the opportunity to develop in a different way than in the classroom or the games field. The way in which the Corps can do this, is by giving a sense of responsibility and by developing self-confidence both physically and morally. Appointment as an N.C.O. is obviously the first opportunity for much of this; the actual military subjects, as well as being of interest in themselves, also act as a vehicle of instruction. Obviously activities like the assault course and camping are very much a part of this training.

Although plans can be made to keep the activities as reasonable and relevant as possible, most of the benefits to be obtained depend on the willingness of the participants. It seems to be that the majority of boys do accept and benefit from it, and I should like to thank all those who have worked hard for it in the past few years.

R. C. RAWCLIFFE

The following appointments and promotions were made this term:

**R.N. Section**

Appointed <i>Under Officer</i> :	C. S. Edwards (W)	
Promoted <i>Coxwain</i> :	N. Downing (L)	
Promoted <i>P.O.</i> :	J. T. W. Smyth (C)	R. M. Withinshaw (S)

**Army Section**

Appointed <i>Senior Under Officer</i> :	M. P. Kayll (W)	
Appointed <i>Under Officer</i> :	R. V. Craik-White (W)	
Appointed <i>C.S.M.</i> :	E. H. Bainbridge (W)	
Promoted <i>C/Sergeant</i> :	P. J. Lankester (C)	D. F. M. Stileman (C)
	C. R. M. Longstaff (W)	
Promoted <i>Sergeant</i> :	B. H. Emrys-Roberts (C)	R. W. Cressman (C)
	J. R. James (G)	

**R.A.F. Section**

Appointed <i>Under Officer</i> :	R. G. A. Westlake (B)	
Promoted <i>Flight Sergeant</i> :	J. W. Goodwin (W)	R. K. Hay (C)
Promoted <i>Sergeant</i> :	M. J. Wolfe (L)	

**Arduous Training 1969**

Over the last two years I have felt that this write-up has been sadly diminished to a few inconspicuous lines, so to remedy this a short narrative ensues:

This year, despite rumours that the Welsh were to be the victims on the Brecon Beacon, we "pitched" our camps in Westmorland. The advance party of three boys and several officers debated the pros and cons of pitching tents and setting up our own camp, but the eventual con was the weather which forced us to retreat into some Nissen Huts on the edge of Warcop Battle Camp. This was indeed a luxury, as two years before in Scotland we were camped just under the snow line, and last year we fought marshy ground.

On arrival the main party were allowed the traditional five mile walk to camp, "to wear in their boots and rucksacks," during which we caught our first glimpses of the snow-bound moors and forbidding peaks, in which we were to spend the next enthralling week.

During this week we camped out twice, once in the training area and once in the Lake District, where we had a delightful two day exercise which included the renowned Striding Edge at Helvellyn, as well as Haweswater, Ullswater and Thirlmere.

Also we included, for the culture vultures amongst us, a striding along the Edge of Hadrian's Wall which impressed upon us the might of the Roman. Here Major Rawcliffe was in his element and oft were the troops harangued to gaze upon some ancient edifice with a fresh outlook.

Eventually all good things must come to an end, and so it was with a sad eye that we stowed our kit, donned "civvies," and climbed into the truck, that had so skillfully dumped us in the

wilds, with the aid of R.S.M. McKeown's steady hand, that was to bear us away from this happy place.

And so the tanned, tough cadets dispersed to their homes with a first-hand knowledge of the fells and mountains in this desolate land.

B. J. EMRYS-ROBERTS

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

With the advent of the 'Hire Scheme' we are now well off for most items of camping equipment. Some of these were put to the test during our Field Day training in the Peak District when nearly all of our 30 Senior Wren tents were borrowed.

The Field Day exercise was very varied with continual rain and poor visibility for the first day over Blackden Edge. Certainly it provided a useful experience in compass work. The second day entailed traversing Alport Moor and Bleaklow Head but the weather was kind with plenty of sun and good visibility. It was a tough trek and all of the 60 boys involved withstood it well. The Summer Camp has received a good response with over 50 boys attending the six day training session in the Lake District. If the results prove satisfactory many boys should be receiving Awards before the end of the year.

R. C. THEOBALD

## THE ART SCHOOL

In spite of the preoccupation with exhibitions this term members still continued to find time to do a substantial amount of painting. Three house art exhibitions were held—by Grenville and Walpole in their houses and Chatham in the Roxburgh Hall. Grenville achieved a certain quality in the very good painting of a junior member, E. H. Millner. Walpole offered a well planned display predominated by the paintings and drawings of M. P. Kayll and W. G. D. Greenwood. Their effort was most commendable. Chatham, represented mainly by A. G. Henry and T. E. Maclaren, exhibited one or two very good pieces but lost effect from these by a rather scrappy presentation and layout. We have been joined by several junior members this term. Their enthusiasm is refreshing, and we look forward to their achievements in the following years.

The Art School exhibitions and the Sculpture exhibitions opened almost simultaneously. There was more involved in putting up the displays this year and the willing help given by many boys was very much appreciated. A lot of work went on behind the scenes of the Enzo Plazzotta exhibition and we were grateful to the work of the bookshop and the ladies of North Hall for their interest and attention to visitors' enquiries. Our sincere thanks to Mrs. Vera Bowerman of "Nutley", Hillesden, for her able and delicate handling of preview lists and invitations—a big operation to which the preview owed much success.

The exhibition was opened at 5 p.m. on Friday, 30th June by Major J. D. Young, the Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire. We are particularly grateful to Major Young for his encouragement and his sincere and personal interest in this exhibition.

W.St.A.R. DADY

### Art School Exhibition

This year the Speech Day exhibition was presented differently, with the new method of hanging paintings proving to be efficient and easy to handle. By using this method, however, the atmosphere of previous exhibitions was lost and the now larger space in the main studio proved difficult to fill.

Unfortunately the work was provided by a limited group of boys—mostly taking 'A' levels—J. R. C. Arkwright (C), D. F. M. Stileman (C), S. J. Fafalios (C), S. A. L. H. Alsen (C), W. G. D. Greenwood (W), and A. R. J. Nicholl (B 1967). There was also a considerable amount of work from the local Buckingham residents who attend Wednesday evening classes. The junior work was undoubtedly dominated by E. H. Millner (G).

S. J. FAFALIOS  
D. F. M. STILEMAN



### Enzo Plazzotta's Sculptures

A visitor to the Marble Saloon or to Chapel Court in June might be forgiven for feeling that he was intruding on a private collection rather than visiting an exhibition. One really felt that the statues belonged. The siting of the works, carried out by members of the School with the artist and Mr. Dady, was so excellent that it will take some time to adjust to their absence. Meeting the sculptor was a most stimulating experience and he very kindly found time to talk to a number of groups of boys about his work. He spoke to my Sixth Form Physical Science set on his use of clay, wax and marble and on the techniques of bronze, pewter and silver casting. He made us realize very quickly just how much there is to producing a finished cast of even the simplest work. It certainly added a new dimension to my respect for the sculptures.

Of the sculptures themselves the professionals have had much to say. 'The fluency of the handling and the solution of the most difficult of anatomical problems proclaims an Italian origin based on the best of Florentine tradition. This is not to say that Plazzotta is a copyist, indeed whilst working inside the canon he still shows originality and can ally form and symbol. The violence of *Carmague Horses* is matched by the tension of *Falling Icarus* and contrasts with the introspection and vision of the self-portrait!

And again, ' . . . he surrounds his feminine figures with a sensual calm, . . . brings out the tenderness of young mothers towards their babies when he deals with the theme of motherhood'. Each one of us has, by now, discovered something special 'for ourselves' in one or two works. For me the subtlety of expression in *Jamaican Girl* and in *David*, and the sense of balance and power in the Nureyev sculptures are memorable. And, not least, of course, the combination of movement, emotion and drama so skilfully evident in the two falling horses has a special attraction. Certainly, I think that I am very fortunate indeed to have been able to buy the last of the nine casts of *Barbara's Horse*.

R. J. DENNIEN

## WORKSHOPS

One of the attractions on Speech Day was the exhibition of wood and metalwork in the workshops.

It was an excellent opportunity to appreciate the results of a great deal of hard work, much of it calling for an immense amount of patience.

The focal point of the exhibition was a 'Fireball Dinghy' made by G. D. Jones and D. W. Jones, this was awarded the 'Friends of Stowe' prize. It was an outstanding example of skill of a professional standard. A very fine steam engine by J. T. W. Smyth gained him the John Holland Prize.

Z. D. Berry exhibited a desk and cabinet and J. R. Davis contributed a desk in polished uille. These items, and a table in the style of the Regency period, made by A. J. Breakspear, gave a feeling of good design and competent craftsmanship.

Great interest was shown in a Harmonograph completed by I. P. Haussauer, who also exhibited a very attractive and well made coffee set in copper. This had gained him the John Holland Prize in 1968 but had not previously been shown.

The success of the exhibition was reflected in the enthusiasm of the visitors who were pleased to see so much evidence of so varied creative work, showing that the fullest use is made of the facilities provided.

M. F. ACTON

## THE FORESTERS

The Forestry party has managed both to keep pace with the summer growth and to break new ground.

The grass between the Temple of British Worthies and the Lower Styx has been regularly mown by W. G. C. Maxwell (G) while other areas recently cleaned, such as the Elysian Fields and the Terrace Walk have been kept in order by the estate staff.

The small larch plantation behind the statue of Queen Caroline was thinned at the beginning of term without seriously inconveniencing the wild life. This operation was considerably helped by the use of the power saw which we obtained last winter. The trees removed are available as fence posts and other uses on the estate and some have already been incorporated in the Chandos Duckery Extension.

For a long time we have been working round to the problem of opening up the view from the Rotundo over the Eleven Acre Lake so that the whole of the Temple of Venus can be seen. This vision was brought a stage nearer on Field Day when the Royal Marines blew up some large alder stumps on the lakeside. Their efforts, although not entirely successful, will simplify the removal of these obstacles.

The view of the Temple of British Worthies has been much improved by the removal of the Elder and Sycamore self sown scrub which had grown up behind. This has involved much hard work with the mattock but this has been well worth while.

The last project of the term has been to start the removal of the 'reed bed' along the North edge of the Octagon. This consists of a floating mat of Sedge that has grown out over many years. Gradually, at the expense of many a full gum-boot, this has been cut away and hooked out. Although the technique has taken some time to perfect steady progress is now being made. The results of the Foresters' labour may be seen by the visitor who penetrates the scrub behind the second tee. Although the work will not be finished this year we feel we have begun an improvement which could, in time, really improve the lakes. Our eventual aim is to make Monkey Island an island again!

A. J. E. LLOYD

## THE LIBRARY

The end of this term will see the retirement of Mrs. Hutchinson who has served so well as Librarian for five years. She has worked indefatigably to establish a sound system in all respects there and the compiling of meticulous lists has ensured as far as it is possible the constant care of all the books we hold. Taking trouble has been her forte, whether it has been in finding a book for a junior boy, or collecting more unusual titles from the County Library, with which she established a useful relationship, or in just keeping the room tidy, orderly and often cheered by fresh flowers. Above all, she has always taken an intense pride in the Library and set very high standards. I, in particular, will miss her help and advice and thank her for all her service.

We have now added a magazine rack, suitably chosen to blend with the surrounding furniture, and which seems to be widely appreciated, even if inevitably there is not entire approval of the periodicals taken: 'Country Life', 'History Today', 'The Geographical Magazine', 'Encounter', 'Time' and the "informed weeklies" feature there at present, but the tight budget may be stretched a little further.

Since January we have added 76 books to the shelves and our most recent acquisition is the 1969 edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica in 24 volumes to replace the older edition now thoroughly worn and torn.

Gifts to the Library include 'Raven Seek Thy Brother' by Gavin Maxwell (Q 1930), 'The Hanslope Park Tragedy' by Lt. Col. E. G. French, D.S.O. and 'Love One Another' by Raoul Follereau—each presented by the author; 'Merchant Ships 1940' and 18 novels presented by C. H. Matthews, Esq.; 'Canada Year Book 1968' from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics; 'Contemporary Observations on Security from the Chubb Collectarea 1818-1968' by Noel Curren-Briggs, presented by Chubb and Sons' Lock and Safe Co.; Old Stoics have made valuable presentations to the Stowe Collection: Michael E. Chapman (Q 1933) has given from the library of his father, the late R. W. Chapman of the Oxford Press, a copy of the 1783 edition of the Seeley Guide; J. S. W. Gibson (W 1952) has given 'A New Pocket Companion for Oxford or Guide through the University'—this book "printed for D. Prince & J. Cooke near the

Clarendon Printing House" in 1789 contains a section on "the magnificent House and Gardens at Stow".

Lastly tribute must be paid to those who help with our general administration, in particular to the successive Library Prefects, Galyean and Fafalios, but also to our longer serving monitors, James, Orr-Ewing and Syrett who have been outstandingly helpful.

B. H. MEAD

**Prefects of Library:** G. A. Galyean (B), S. J. Fafalios (C).

**Monitors:** C. J. Kingsland (B), M. A. M. Davies (T), J. J. S. V. Lloyd-Williams (T), J. R. James (G), D. W. Bond (C), D. F. M. Stileman (C), H. C. A. Robinson (C), C. R. Orr-Ewing (G), J. S. S. Syrett (W), H. D. Gibbins (L).

## THE XII CLUB

If the XII Club can be said to possess any public image it is probably one of a monthly party for a highly exclusive clique. This is unfortunate, and, moreover, untrue. The Club was founded in October 1925 "with the purpose of reading papers, primarily on political and historical subjects". Although it has widened its brief to include a broader range of topics it is essentially unchanged, and hence it is an institution of considerable antiquity compared with many other aspects of school life (Hockey was started officially in 1940). It is thus irrefutably respectable. The idea was and is that the twelve most eligible members of the School, together with a president and vice-president (members of the staff) and the Head of the School (*ex officio*), should meet regularly to exchange ideas about a subject on which one of them has first given a paper. The intention is that the Club should provide a focus for the intellectual activities of the school, just as the first eleven is the figurehead for its sporting endeavours. Unfortunately, there is no prepacked set of twelve most eligible members of the school to form the Club, and hence certain nominations must inevitably be open to discussion. This effect is accentuated because, unlike the membership of a sports team, the successful XII Club nominee is elected for the remainder of his sojourn at Stowe (which possibly explains our lesser need for identification symbols). However, the system of self perpetuation at least ensures that any resultant feuds are between boy and boy, rather than boy and master, and hence that they are much less bitter. To any critics we would submit that the XII Club, for all its imperfections, is better than no "Athenaeum" at all.

Since the last report was written we have had three excellent papers. At the end of last term, G. A. Galyean gave us a paper on the life and works of Mark Twain, which he illustrated with passages from *Huckleberry Finn*. This term T. M. Patrick talked on "The Development of the English Chair", and submitted to us some superb line drawings of particular specimens which he had sketched. At the last meeting before going to press B. Helweg-Larsen gave a stimulating paper on Yoga, which he declined however to demonstrate. At the final meeting of the term we are to be visited by Helen Foley, the novelist, who will talk on her approach to writing.

R. A. JEAUVONS

## THE DEBATING SOCIETY

Since the last edition of *The Stoic* there have been three interesting debates. The first was at the end of the Spring Term when the House opposed the motion: "This House would rather send guns to Biafra than rockets to the moon", despite the Treasurer's protestations that the House could do neither. The other two debates were held this term. Firstly it was established that "This House believes that advertising is a social menace"—with apologies to that advertisement showing a certain Cynthia who was apparently pantie-less, a fact which members seemed to have delighted in with undue relish! Two weeks later the House decided that it did not consider that "Culture is fighting a losing battle against the scientist", despite all the cultured manifestations and all the verbal diarrhoea that is often found to be typical of those 'great' classicists.

Floor speeches have been especially commendable, although comments like: "... the Gnomes of Zurich flying about on radioactive toadstools surveying the world economy" might at first sight appear to be utterly meaningless.

The only disappointment I feel has been the rate of attendance which has been slightly lower than is usual. This, I am sure, is not because of any lack of oratory talent or any nervous apprehension of speaking at meetings; but rather that, despite many members' eagerness to attend, debating meetings have to compete with the School's academic activities and the considerable pressure of the 'O' and 'A' level exams this term which most members are obviously eager to pass.

Finally many thanks to the main speakers this term, the floor speakers, the committee and our illustrious President and Chairman, Mr. Arnold, for all their valuable contributions in and out of meetings.

S. D. MOSS

## THE MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

The Society has only met once so far this term. Jan Karpinski delivered a paper on "The Seventeenth Century". He took a singularly avant-garde historian's attitude, claiming that the power of Louis XIV has been very much over-estimated and that in fact he had little control over his people. This line of argument was somewhat shattered by our forceful president, Mr. Manly. There will be two more papers delivered this term.

There were also three outings to see plays in Oxford and London. We saw two French plays: Racine's 'Berenice' by the Theatre de la Cité at the Aldwych and Molière's 'Le Misanthrope' in Oxford, and one German play: Bertolt Brecht's 'Der Kankasische Kreidekreis'.

T. B. R. ALBERY

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

At the end of the Summer Term, Mr. Ralph Davis, Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, told the Society how to be a medieval king. He explained that the basic qualifications for the job were to be descended from Woden and to get elected. Then, to be successful, it was necessary to wear suitably regal clothes, keep on the right side of the Church, keep the laws unchanged, and, above all, win battles.

In the first meeting of the Summer Term the Revd. Dr. Gareth Bennett, Chaplain and Fellow of New College, Oxford, spoke about "The Restoration of Charles II". He argued that it was not so much a restoration as a rebellion. The seventeenth-century landed gentry wanted a constitution with a balance between King and Parliament. So in 1640 they had rebelled against the tyranny of Charles I. Their hopes were frustrated by civil war and the new tyranny of Oliver Cromwell. So in 1660 they rebelled again, and in the Restoration achieved the aims of 1640.

With Dr. Christopher Holdsworth, Senior Lecturer in History at University College, London, we returned to the Middle Ages. He spoke on the attitudes to the Norman Conquest of men writing within a generation of the event. There are several enthusiastic Norman accounts of Duke William's achievement. Anglo-Saxon writers say less, but clearly felt that defeat was a judgment of God on "the sins of the people". Outside Normandy and England, "situated", William of Malmesbury tells us, "as it were on the edge of the world", few writers had any views at all. There was general agreement only that 1066 was the year of a great Norman victory and of the comet.

At the last meeting of the term, Dr. Henry Meyer-Harting, Fellow of St. Peter's College, Oxford, is to talk to the Society about "The Marriage of Figaro".

D. J. ARNOLD

## THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The Society has met twice this term. On the first occasion G. L. Harvey read a very interesting paper on Spartan Education, in which he showed that the lack of individual imagination of the Spartans had led to their country's eclipse, just as the nineteenth-century English Public Schools had proved themselves incapable of educating the twentieth century in their unchanged form. At the second meeting Mr. H. D. Marcuse gave us a revealing paper on divination in Greek and Roman times, illustrated by many fascinating examples.

S. R. BARSTOW

## THE MUSE

Last term Terpsichore gave a lecture on "Ornamentation in Music", with special emphasis on the Baroque era. Excerpts from records of the music of Telemann were played, as well as a selection of songs, sung by the famous coloratura, F. Foster Jenkins. The next meeting took the form of a discussion on the subject of Comedy through the ages, following the reading of a paper by Thalia. Owing to examinations, this term's meeting has been postponed to the last week of term, when various pieces of music will be performed, including works by Loeillet, Beethoven, Mozart and Schubert.

CLIO

## THE FILM SOCIETY

Societies are built on reputation, and frequently on either undesirable or undesired reputation at that. This term the Film Society has been no exception. Treating its members successively to the violent screenings of Bunnel's "Los Olvidados," a harsh picture of the poverty and squalor of Mexico City, "The Pawnbroker", the nightmarish life of a Jew in New York, haunted by his memories of Nazi concentration camps, and the famous "Zorba The Greek", the Society has acquired a vague association with the treatment of our violent, passionate and cruel world—which few of us would otherwise encounter—in hard, realistic terms, and this is perhaps no bad thing. All three films are intensely moving in their own way, yet at the same time vividly compelling, and this would seem to have been much appreciated by the majority of members.

However, if a certain number of the members demonstrate their childish inability to appreciate any but the most superficial forms of the cinema's art, by walking out or creating a deliberate disturbance during the films—to the annoyance of the vast majority—at this time the Society would be in danger of becoming redundant. Simultaneously it would gather the reputation of serving as a "mere extra luxury amongst so many that Stowe has to offer", and consequently under attack "for impeding education and wasting Stoics' time". The Society can only continue to function if it can guarantee to be a valid and cultural activity, as well as an entertainment. Otherwise, it could be entirely replaced by the Saturday night film shows, and if the behaviour of even a small number of members makes it impossible to defend on such vaguely serious grounds, the whole position becomes untenable. We can only hope that the Stoic in general may be able, for brief periods of time, to act a little more maturely. This granted, we hope to show three equally interesting films next term: "Un Homme et Une Femme", "Never on Sunday", and "Witness for the Prosecution". If the sentimental and intellectual maturity of Stowe has gathered any weight over the summer term these should prove a highly entertaining selection.

P. I. BELLEW

## THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

This term has again seen the Society in the throes of great activity, and much valuable work has been undertaken and completed.

At the beginning of the Easter holidays, Dr. Oliver Dansie (C1946) came with his nets and a band of helpers to trap some of the Stowe Muntjac. Altogether four animals were caught, two bucks and two does, and coloured stigs were placed in their ears prior to their release. This marking will aid the Society in observing and tracking the deer as they move about within the grounds. On the 26th April, a joint meeting of the Bucks, Berks and Oxfordshire Naturalist's Trust was held in the Roxburgh Hall. Various lectures and films were shown to the audience of about 100, who were also taken on conducted tours of the school grounds. The meeting was highly successful and greatly enjoyed by all who participated.

On Expedition Day the Society made the long trek across to Norfolk, to the Wildlife Park at Great Witchingham. A fascinating morning was passed looking at British Wild animals at close quarters. In the afternoon the party split into two sections, one group visiting the Bird Reserve at Hickling Borad, and the other going to the Dune system at Winterton.

The term's "magnum opus" was the second edition of *the Grebe* and the accompanying Speech Day Exhibition. All 220 copies of the magazine were soon sold and requests for copies have been so great that a second printing is in preparation. The exhibition too was a great success and the continuous slide and film shows proved to be most popular.

The reserve has had its 'close' season this term, although C. B. Scott (T) has continued invaluable work with his nest boxes. Towards the end of term the dam across the Paper Mill Lake began to leak badly and plans are now afoot to repuddle, with clay, the bottom of the lake close to the dam. Next term should see, once again, the Sunday afternoon mud-caked contingents returning from a day of conservation work in the reserve.

The Society seems to go from strength to strength and is, we hope, doing a worthwhile job preserving some of the wildlife in North Bucks.

M. J. D. MANLEY

## THE UPPER STYX PROJECT

At the beginning of term, plans were made for the extension of the Duckery up to the Grotto, and for the construction of a six-foot high compound to house the whole colony of ducks and geese during the winter months. Both these plans were finalised, and work on the extension began in May, whereas the construction of the compound was scheduled for the early part of next term. The lake beneath the Grotto was heavily silted, and work also began to dredge these upper reaches of the Styx. After the dredging was completed the extension was finished off and now the ducks have a very large area of cover in which to breed.

Two nests were laid during the course of the term, but only one hatched, leaving us with four small ducklings on Speech Day. Unfortunately only one of these survived, the others dying within a week of being hatched. Speech Day gained us plenty of interest and appreciation for our work, but it was a pity that the weather was not as good as in previous years.

The volume of work achieved this term has been far greater than in previous terms, and it is hoped that by the end of this term, the leak, which is reducing the flow of the lake, will have been dug out and blocked.

By the end of next term this project, it is hoped, will be finished and will have provided an area where ducks can inhabit and breed freely.

N. A. GEACH

## THE TROUT HATCHERY

Progress this year has been better than we hoped.

The brown trout were hatched in the Biology Laboratories in January and moved down to the hatchery at the end of March. Up to this stage losses had been very low. The very cold weather caused serious losses over the Easter holidays.

During the Summer Term all has gone well and the brown trout are three inches long and in excellent condition. There has been no recurrence of either blue sac disease or the tapeworm—both of which were contracted by the rainbow trout last year. Now that we have succeeded in rearing the trout in fair quantities from the egg, we will be pleased to give any 'A' level biologists the facilities of the Trout Hatchery for project work. J. K. R. Falconer (W) has given us extensive help during the year and will be taking over the Trout Hatchery after we have left.

D. E. REID  
R. W. CASTLE

## THE SCIENCE SOCIETY

With examinations in the second half of term, activities had to be held mainly in the earlier weeks. Among the usual films we had two excellent lectures. The first, given by R. D. G. Carter of the Lower VI and entitled 'General Principles of Aircraft Design', was particularly well prepared and presented. The President hopes more boys will volunteer to expound on their favourite branches of Science. The second lecture, by Dr. P. Barton, of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, dealt with 'Metallurgy'—as a technology and a science worthy of consideration as a challenging career.

We were lucky enough to be given permission by the Director, to visit the Rocket Propulsion Establishment, Westcott. This was a superbly organised trip: two test firings were 'tailored' to coincide with our visit and were well explained before hand, we had the benefit of brilliant demonstrations of the basic chemistry involved not to mention the use of the betatron as an aid to fault detection in the metal castings used.

Current project work was exhibited on Speech Day. Those who saw it may be interested to know that the hovercraft has now flown for something like ten hours and is ready for further development work. The technique of evaporating aluminium under high vacuum onto Grant's mirror has now been fully mastered, but the day of launching 'Photoris I' looks as though it may have to be postponed until next term.

A. P. SELBY

## THE STUDY GROUP

This term's programme has been split into two parts, during the first half of the term Paul's letter to the Philippians has been used by speakers as a basis for talks on the theme of 'Practical Christian Living'. The second half of the term has been rather a mixed bag—tea in London with Mr. Fletcher, a curate, a joint meeting with Radley for a discussion of 'Religion in Public Schools', led by Rev. J. N. Wordsworth, Chaplain of Sherborne, and a filmstrip about Dr. Livingstone—amongst other things!

Meetings are held every Sunday, either at 12 o'clock, or if there is evening Chapel, at 4.15, usually in Mr. Vinen's flat in Temple. New members are always very welcome.

R. C. B. ANDERSON

## THE GUN CLUB

There has been a marked revival of interest in clay-pigeon shooting recently after a lean period following the introduction of new regulations about shot-guns. The annual shoot against the Old Stoics was held on Speech Day, much of the proceedings being conducted in pouring rain. The match resulted in a convincing win for the Old Stoics, particularly good scores being made by N. J. S. James (L 1967) and J. E. Crowther (C 1967). A fairly informal match against a team of Masters augmented by a couple of friends was won by the Masters and at the time of writing the Princess Galitzine Vase competition has still to be held as does a match against Prince Galitzine's team.

Most members of the Club at present are very young and perhaps are not at their best in the presence of spectators—the standard of shooting at the regular Monday shoots has been unusually high this term and this augurs well for the future.

A. R. PEDDER

## THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This term has seen a great amount of activity among members. From the more senior members work was done for House exhibitions. S. B. Bedford (G) and W. C. Wright (G) put on a photographic exhibition and C. J. Karpinski (G) contributed to his House Art Exhibition. Both efforts were ambitious and of very high quality. New equipment was purchased for the darkroom which is now in good working order.

R. R. MENZIES  
W. C. WRIGHT

## THE STOWE PRESS

Despite the fact that we have not had a very busy term, we have managed to maintain our normal standard of production. We have printed several private orders, including some visiting cards and letterheads. Our other jobs have included the cover for the *Stowe Journal* and some work for Community Service.

N. P. Kaye has been taught the basic techniques of the machine and has had some opportunity for practice.

On Expedition Day a party visited Bradley's Printing Works at Reading, where booklets and small magazines are printed. This was most enjoyable and we wish to thank Mr. Bradley for inviting us and also for letting us swim in his private heated swimming-pool.

S. L. SHNEERSON  
N. P. KAYE

# SPORT

It is reasonable to say that there is some natural sporting talent in every age group in the School. However a quick glance at the sporting record of the Junior part of the School would seem to refute this. Granted, it is difficult to win school matches when it is apparently more important to play for one's house than represent the School. However, as the Headmaster has often said: no team can hope to be outstandingly good without applying itself wholeheartedly to its sport. Look at the Squash team: their dedication and regular practice gave them an undefeated record.

The record at the top of the School is admittedly only mediocre but many of those in the Senior teams are about to leave. Application is the key to success.

CHRISTOPHER EDWARDS

## CRICKET THE FIRST XI

Last year's report ended with the sentence, "Some of the younger ones will have had useful experience for next year, which at least cannot be wetter—can it?" The truth is that—yes, it can, and it has. May shed its liquor in heartless torrents, and the players have become quite adept at sniffing out rain clouds. At Bradfield spectators could see fielders and batsmen racing for the pavilion before a single drop had fallen. We had all watched the storm sweeping across the landscape obliterating it, field by field, from view. Five fixtures in all went down the drain. Having said that, the team can look back on this season with some satisfaction. Only three players remained from 1968; two colours, Nicholl the captain, Spurrier as wicket-keeper, and Carr. The first match was auspicious enough with a win over Buckingham, who admittedly were not a strong side. Shirley-Beavan had an encouraging debut with an analysis of 4 for 29. Nicholl too bowled well to take 5 wickets, and Carr was the top scorer with 40 well hit runs. The next two fixtures never began, to face us with a formidable Oxford Authentics team. This was skippered by Old Stoic Jeremy Allerton who honoured us by bringing six University side players. The game was lost fairly convincingly, but it taught our batsmen the necessity of watching the ball. Bond batted well to make 26, largely against two good spinners, and was only out after some time, caught and bowled at ankle height driving hard.

The Bradfield match did not last long enough to be conclusive, but Stowe batted quite soundly to make 80 odd for 3 on a slow wicket. Carr and Spurrier were both looking strong with 38 and 25 respectively when play stopped. The following Saturday at St. Edward's, Oxford saw 11.30 come with the covers in operation, but play able to begin after lunch, and thanks largely to a long spell of accurate bowling from Rowe and Nicholl St. Edward's were all out for 127. Each took 4 wickets. Eades gave us a good start with an innings of 38, but time was drawing on. To the spectators Choyce and Wright were running all too slowly. It was now a question of the last over and six to win. A single, a four, and one more ball, one run to win. All but the batsmen seemed to realise the position. Only a huge roar from the Stowe team galvanised the two into the vital run, a four wicket victory.

When the day of the Radley match came Stowe had already been set alight by the stunning win of the Templars over the Radley Rangers two days before in the Cricketer Cup. The excitement was terrific only five overs from the start, when Nicholl had captured 3 Radley wickets for only 11 runs. It was too cruel that the storms chose this moment to break and prevent any further play. The Speech Day Templar game saw the arrival of Cheatle from the Colts. An intelligent left arm spin bowler, he did well to get three wickets, which might have been more if catches had been held. Rain again stopped play, this time in the School's favour.

The match against a strongish Free Forester side was noteworthy for some particularly impres-

sive bowling from one of the 'visitors'. Rowe, dropped from the 1st XI, had been asked to stand in at the last minute for the Foresters and proceeded to regain his place with an analysis of 4 for 12. Spurrier offered the greatest resistance with a sound innings of 36. The following game against Bedford provided in many ways the highlight of the season. Both Nicholl, with a broken finger, and Spurrier, with a temperature, were absent, and, presented with the challenge, Stowe scored 183 runs and then bowled the opposition out for 98. Carr, as substitute Captain, fully lived up to his new rank by bowling a hat-trick just when victory seemed unlikely. Wright batted well to score the first 50 of the season from any batsman. It would have been good to report a third school victory against Oundle, but for some reason things did not go well. Stowe bowled and fielded untidily. Several catches were put down, and Oundle were allowed to score 211 before declaring. Although Bond and Eades made a good start, the run rate dropped behind and we finished up with 154 for 4. If concentration in the field had been more determined the match might well have been in reach, but the reserve was not there.

At the time of going to press only the M.C.C. match remains to be played. The season has been quite encouraging, particularly as the majority of the team will be here next season. Nicholl has come on very well as a bowler to test any schoolboy bat. His captaincy has been encouraging and shown an increasing awareness of field handling. Spurrier has provided volume behind the stumps and at times taken some agile catches. He has most improved as a bat, and if he could bring a greater degree of tenacity to this he could make a good number of runs. Bond and Eades have gained in confidence as openers, and one feels that if the season were to go on they would both make a packet of runs. Eades, with some technical limitations, has shown a commendable perseverance, and this is something most players in the school could do well to imitate, to value their wicket highly and to enjoy time at the crease.

The team, as a whole, has been a fairly strong batting side, with everyone able to make runs. The bowling received a greater balance with the arrival of Cheatle. All the players have made visible progress over the season, and those returning should be in a good position to build on their experience. Trevor Bailey, commenting on the last Test match, spoke of Boycott's determination to improve on his weaknesses, particularly in the field. Any cricketer who takes his game seriously should be prepared to do some self-analysis, and work at his faults. Carr and Bond have shone in the field. Given enough application any player can do this well. The matches we failed to win were given away in the field.

Once again Mr. Oakes' experience and coaching have been invaluable, and thanks too to Sid Jones for providing wickets which have been the envy of many.

**Team:** R. E. T. Nicholl (Captain) (L), N. J. W. Spurrier (C), R. G. G. Carr (C), D. A. H. Wright (T), D. W. Bond (C), R. T. B. Eades (G), R. G. L. Cheatle (W), J. Choyce (C), G. J. M. Lucas (C), J. G. Rowe (C), M. E. Shirley-Beavan (G).

**Also played:** S. M. B. Dixey (G).

**First XI Colours so far awarded to:** R. G. G. Carr (C), D. A. H. Wright (T), D. W. Bond (C), R. T. B. Eades (G).

<b>Results:</b> v. Buckingham	Won by 4 wickets
Buckingham 135 (R. E. T. Nicholl 5 for 56)	
Stowe 139 for 6	
v. Oxford University Authentics	Lost by 87 runs
Authentics 230 for 5	
Stowe 143	
v. Bradfield	Rain
Stowe 77 for 3	
v. St. Edward's	Won by 4 wickets
St. Edward's 127	
Stowe 128 for 6	
v. Radley	Rain
Radley 11 for 3	
v. Stowe Templars	Rain
Templars 163	
Stowe 34 for 4	

v. Free Foresters  
Free Foresters 170  
Stowe 103 for 9 (all out)  
Lost by 67 runs

v. Bedford  
Stowe 183 (D. A. H. Wright 50)  
Bedford 98  
Won by 85 runs

v. Oundle  
Oundle 211 for 7 dec. (R. E. T. Nicholl 5 for 80)  
Stowe 154 for 4 (R. T. B. Eades 53)  
Drawn

v. Corpus Christi, Oxford }  
v. Cryptics } Abandoned because of rain

v. Wellingborough Away  
Stowe 171 for 5 dec. (Brain 57, Rooke 34)  
Wellingborough 51 (Spiering 6 for 22)  
Won by 120 runs

v. Bedford Away  
Bedford 119 for 9 dec. (Lloyd Williams 3 for 23, James 3 for 32)  
Stowe 92 for 2 (Lloyd Williams 38, Richards 30 not out)  
Drawn

v. Oundle Home  
Stowe 53  
Oundle 54 for 2  
Lost by 8 wkts.

v. Radley Home  
Stowe 148 (Richards 42, James 33)  
Radley 151 for 8 (Russell 4 for 42)  
Lost by 2 wkts.

## THE SECOND XI

In a season with the 2nd XI's usual wild fluctuations of form, the balance of success and failure has been unfavourable: we have suffered three clear defeats, had one handsome victory, and won the honours in one of two draws. We struck form on two fine June days, firstly when we had little difficulty in compiling a large total at Wellingborough and then skittled out the opposition, and then when Bedford struggled through two-thirds of the afternoon to a mediocre score leaving us inadequate time to reach it despite a late flurry of quick running. At home strangely there have been indifferent performances: against Halton and St. Edward's our batsmen seemed incapable of playing a sound innings and relapsed into supine defence far too readily against moderate bowling; the Templars were far too strong and having been well contained in the morning they scored too many runs thereafter and we were only saved by an opportune thunderstorm. Against Oundle, admittedly on an 'interesting' wicket from the bowlers' point of view, the batting again failed, and Oundle's batsmen showed what positive strokes can do to avert largely illusory hazards.

The overall results are thus disappointing for a team, most of whom played with spirit for much of the time, breezily and at times belligerently admonished and encouraged by James who rarely lost heart or the will to win. Lloyd-Williams has given the team a centre of gravity in opening the batting with phlegm and taking 17 wickets for 8 runs apiece—even then he was underbowled, perhaps inevitably as a left-arm spinner. Russell, James and Spiering shared the rest of the bowling, taking 8 wickets apiece, but never—apart from Spiering at Wellingborough—achieved enough penetration to bowl a side out cheaply enough. The batting has suffered the usual frailty but Brain has shown that with a little more technique he has the application to be promising; Rooke has not yet learnt to judge a ball on its merits, but despite his right-hand bias has contributed a welcome aggressiveness; Richards has grafted well but lacks scoring strokes. In the field, the sprightly Cheshire has kept wicket efficiently but has still had too many lapses; the fielding has been of a reasonable standard, constantly stimulated by their captain whose best remark of the term was a loud "Well appealed!"

**Team:** J. R. James (G) (Capt.), M. J. Brain (T), J. J. S. V. Lloyd-Williams (T), C. C. K. Rooke (C), D. E. Richards (W), P. J. G. Simmons (C), M. J. Cheshire (C), A. J. M. Russell (T), A. W. Goodhart (C), J. J. Spiering (C), M. W. Whitton (B),

**Also played:** S. M. B. Dixey (G), N. J. A. Davies (L), G. D. Jones (C).

**Second XI Colours Awarded to:** James, Brain, Lloyd, Williams, Rooke.

**Third XI Colours Awarded to:** Richards, Russell, Cheshire.

**Results:** v. R.A.F. Halton Home  
R.A.F. Halton 142 (Lloyd-Williams 3 for 17)  
Stowe 62  
Lost by 80 runs

v. St. Edward's Home  
St. Edward's 104 (Lloyd-Williams 5 for 28)  
Stowe 41  
Lost by 63 runs

v. Stowe Templars Home  
Templars 171 for 9 dec. (Russell 3 for 55, Lloyd-Williams 4 for 43)  
Stowe 40 for 6  
Rain

## THE THIRD XI

The temptations of white balls, either small and dimpled or large and furry, having lured away many of our potential cricketers; we began the season with an XI of nine. However, after seeking volunteers and persuading passers-by in corridors the numbers grew to some sixteen and the team seemed to have better potential than in previous years, but with lack of practice and of real determination we have had three defeats, though we only just lost to Bedford.

Against St. Edward's the fielding was very poor and any ball which was not hit direct to a fielder was unstoppable. They set us 128 to make in some two hours on a fast outfield, and that we were out for a mere 63 was due to lack of batting sense. The early batsmen made no attempt to go for runs; the later ones tried to score instantly and got out. There was plenty of time if it had been used wisely.

Against Bedford we made 129 all out, batting first on a good wicket. This was rather too slow and too few, and they made it in the last over, losing five wickets. The fielding was much improved and much good work was done. Particularly notable were a 50 from Croom-Johnson, batting soundly and steadily, a sparkling innings of 33 including two sixes and four fours in sixteen minutes from Perigo which ended only when he felt he was pushing his luck too much and should hold back. He did so, and holed out to square leg. Morgan bowled well and effectively taking 3 for 21 in 9 overs. Trelawny batted resolutely and Saper delighted himself and us by scoring two boundaries.

The match against Oundle was lost by 8 wickets, the opposition reaching our 82 easily, losing the first wicket only at 71. The pitch was lively and we found it hard to score, but again there was not universal determination. Croom-Johnson and N. Davies ran some good singles in a stand of 23 for the second wicket.

**Team from:** R. W. Cressman (C), R. F. T. Perigo (C), N. J. A. Davies (L), W. S. Croom-Johnson (T), G. E. S. Morgan (C), G. D. Jones (C), T. W. Bird (C), D. W. Jones (C), W. S. Millar (C), J. R. Trelawny (C).

**Also played:** D. W. Muschett (C), P. A. Saper (C), J. A. J. Roderick (C), M. A. M. Davies (T).

**Results:** v. St. Edward's Home  
St. Edward's 127 for 8 dec. (Perigo 4 for 29)  
Stowe 63  
Lost by 64 runs

v. Bedford Away  
Stowe 129 (Croom-Johnson 50, Perigo 33)  
Bedford 130 for 5 (Morgan 3 for 21)  
Lost by 5 wickets

v. Oundle Home  
Stowe 82 (Croom-Johnson 17)  
Oundle 85 for 2  
Lost by 8 wickets

v. Radley Away  
Radley 223 for 6 dec.  
Stowe 51  
Lost by 172 runs

## THE COLTS

This Colts team has undoubtedly been one of the better ones of recent years and it is a great pity that the weather continued its more recent run of form and prevented us playing our first three games. More frustrating than ever was the fact that we scarcely lost a practice day only for the heavens to open on days of matches.

The most noticeable thing this year has been that practice sessions both in the nets and in the middle have been enjoyed. There has been a willingness on the part of every member of the team to take these practices seriously without losing a sense of humour. It is no good thinking in cricket that it will be all right 'on the day' and that practice is only a routine bore.

We began the term with soft wickets both in the nets and the middle and while this was no inducement to stroke play, nevertheless it meant that people were learning to watch the ball on to the bat and perhaps for the first time in their cricketing career really having to think about playing a turning ball. The one aspect of defensive play that seemed particularly bad was a tendency to back away to square leg immediately a ball of more than slow medium was bowled and the deplorable positioning of feet in the playing of the back defensive shot. Cricket is a 'sideways' game and can only be played properly if this is remembered.

The best aspect of the team's play has been its fielding. There have been moments when the ground fielding has been ordinary but it has never been bad and although we have latterly dropped a catch or two, the catching in general has been first class. The St. Edward's match was distinguished by excellent catching on both sides, Bailey making four catches, two of which were exceptional. There could have been no better example to illustrate that fielding wins matches. In this match too Cheatle played a fine innings and was well supported by Phillips. Against Bedford we again batted first and steadily ran up a useful score with Harper taking the honours and after dismissing their dangerous batsmen early we had a second easy victory. The match against Oundle was played on a beautiful batting wicket but a faster one than we had previously encountered and against a more hostile attack. But thanks to a good innings from Smart with steady support from Darby, Harper, Linnell and Macleod-Smith we were able to declare at 138 for 9. Unfortunately we had not left ourselves quite enough time to bowl them out and had to settle for a draw with their last pair surviving the final two overs. There remains a final fixture against Radley.

The batting has been steady, Darby and Brann usually providing a reasonable start and all the batsmen have scored runs if not in great quantities in one match or another.

The bowling has been varied and fairly steady; Smart and Linsell comprising a steady and at times hostile attack, well supported by the different types of off-spin of Macleod-Smith and Potter.

Phillips has captained the team well, keeping a watchful eye on his field and changing the bowling intelligently. As a wicket keeper he tends to snatch at the ball when standing back but has made three very smart stumpings off the slow bowlers.

With a successful 1st XI this year, this year's Colts should produce another good eleven next year. It would be a very great pity if several competent cricketers among them feel that 2nd XI cricket is beneath them. Stowe cricket needs depth at the top and next year I would expect to see all this year's Colts side playing 1st and 2nd XI cricket.

**Team:** S. N. Phillips (L), R. G. L. Cheatle (W), W. S. Brann (T), A. N. d'E. Darby (B), M. J. Harper (C), B. B. Smart (C), M. C. Bailey (C), G. L. Macleod-Smith (W), S. Potter (C), P. A. Linsell (C), I. S. C. Ritchie (T), H. C. Mytton-Mills (W), D. H. P. Luddington (C), P. H. C. Furness-Smith (C).

**Results:** v. Bloxham Cancelled  
v. Oakham Cancelled  
v. Bradfield Rain  
Stowe 28 for 1  
v. St. Edward's Won by 78 runs  
Stowe 153 for 9 (Cheatle 53)  
St. Edward's 75

v. Bedford Won by 67 runs  
Stowe 146 for 8  
Bedford 79  
v. Oundle Drawn  
Stowe 138 for 9 (Smart 47)  
Oundle 83 for 9  
v. Radley Lost by 9 wkts.  
Stowe 108  
Radley 109 for 1

### Second Eleven

The results this season speak eloquently for themselves. Played 3; Lost 3. The side, apart from two or three boys, played appallingly badly, and without an ounce of determination. Batsmen who sometimes looked the part in the nets lost their heads in the matches, bowlers threw the ball down without thought of line or length and fielders simply stood about. Daniels, behind the stumps was particularly ineffective, usually flapping feebly at balls which the batsmen missed, rather than trying to get two hands behind the ball.

Ritchie bowled well for a few overs against Bedford and the batting of Campbell against St. Edward's and Furness-Smith against Oundle was refreshingly aggressive. Seven wickets for 12 runs against Oundle, and 6 for 11 against Bedford illustrate that the majority batted as if they fully expected to be out every ball.

To my mind though the worst feature of this depressing season was the shameless defeatist attitude that many displayed; no attempt was made to think about the job in hand, no efforts made to practise especially hard. People seemed to be interested only in finishing as soon as possible and returning to studies where time was wasted sitting around drinking coffee and listening to endless records.

The jeering of opponent's mistakes, the ironic cheering of boundaries scored by their own side and the never-to-be-forgotten moment when the wicket keeper pleaded with the opponent's batsmen to "get the runs quickly, so that we can go" are incidents that still remind one of a side that never really tried to win, nor enjoy themselves.

**Team:** P. H. C. Furness-Smith (C), M. J. Campbell (C), M. W. Sherwood (L), B. R. W. Sparrow (T), N. Daniels (C), J. F. Gurrey (T), N. J. Rice (L), R. T. N. Ferguson (W), R. J. G. Dillon-Mahon (B), M. J. Matthew (C), R. F. Argles (C), H. D. J. de Burgh (G), A. D. Capron (C).

**Results:** v. St. Edward's Lost by 6 wickets  
Stowe 103 (Campbell 49 not out)  
St. Edward's 106 for 4  
v. Bedford Lost by 2 wickets  
Stowe 47  
Bedford 48 for 8  
v. Oundle Lost by 38 runs  
Oundle 121  
Stowe 83 (Furness-Smith 48)  
v. Radley Lost by 5 wkts.  
Stowe 76  
Radley 77 for 5

## THE JUNIOR COLTS

The Junior Colts have had an unsuccessful season, chiefly because the batting was extremely weak. Everyone in the Club had fundamental weaknesses of technique and the weather at the start of the season gave little time to correct them. If there had been one sound player to provide some solidity, others might have made more runs, but Smart, who would have filled this role, was promoted to the Colts at the start of the season. However, despite the dismal scores, most members of the Club have tried commendably hard and there have been glimmerings of an improvement. Staib, in a couple of innings, showed what can be achieved by concentration and determination, despite a limited technique.

When it came to the bowling, the picture was very different. Everyone in the team and several members of the 2nd XI were good enough to have bowled regularly and the slow bowling was particularly promising. Morris bowled very accurately against Bedford and Lynch's leg breaks were deadly against St. Edward's, when having taken three wickets for one run, he was unaccountably taken off!

The fielding and catching were especially good and Nicholl, although an inexperienced wicket keeper, improved with every match. If the batsmen make a real effort to improve their basic weaknesses, this could still be a useful side next year.

**Team:** J. C. Staib (T), S. P. Fatharly (T), S. A. Y. Lynch (T), M. H. Prescott (C), D. W. M. Reid (C), A. C. Benson (C), T. O. Mytton-Mills (C), H. C. Davis, (L), M. D. Linnell (L), P. H. Morris (L), J. D. A. Nicholl (L).

**Results:** v. St. Edward's Away Lost by 52 runs  
Stowe 41  
St. Edward's 93 (Lynch 4 for 19)

v. Bedford Away Lost by 25 runs  
Bedford 91 (Morris 7 for 22)  
Stowe 66

v. Oundle Away Lost by 42 runs  
Oundle 126 (Lynch 4 for 20)  
Stowe 84

#### Second Eleven

**Results:** v. St. Edward's Away Lost by 10 runs  
St. Edward's 49  
Stowe 39

v. Bedford Away Won by 73 runs  
Stowe 128  
Bedford 55

v. Radley Home Won by 7 wkts.  
Radley 98  
Stowe 104 for 3

## HOUSE MATCHES

Seniors:

Winners: Chandos

Juniors:

Winners: Cobham

## ATHLETICS

With one School match and the exciting prospect of a contest against the Royal Marines still to come, the Club Seniors have the good credit balance of 6 wins to 2 defeats, while the Juniors are holding their own with the opposition, having beaten 4 and lost to 4 opponents. The Club has had some outstanding performers, particularly among the Seniors, but there have been relatively few outstanding performances apart from the records of H. B. J. Ormrod (C) (Senior Discus: 143' 6"), D. A. G. Ireland (B), (Senior Shot, Ground Record: 45' 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ "), and A. S. Crabbe (C), (Junior Discus: 153' 4"). Unquestionably the outstanding individual has been P. G. Arbuthnot (C), the Captain, who has been unbeaten in the short sprints, and whose consistency of performance—though falling short of the highest class possibly because of his knee injury in the winter—has been the most tangible source of inspiration to everyone in the team. Ormrod, the Secretary, has also been unbeaten in the Discus, and other Seniors of whom much has been asked and expected have been P. M. C. Dunipace (L), Ireland, C. N. Rainer (L), J. R. C.

Arkwright (C), and they have seldom let anyone down. Of the Juniors Crabbe, M. H. Guest (B), A. J. Carmichael (W), V. G. Jenkins (B), and J. H. Fay (G) have done well on their day, and have certainly shown appreciable progress in the course of the season. At the same time few of the Juniors can hope to hold their own in Senior competition next year without some dedication and considerable application between now and then!

A welcome sight next season would be a return to the situation in which individuals work harder to correct faults and improve technique on their own, if necessary, and in their own time. Athletics is a rewarding sport in that a return for effort can be clearly measured, but it is also merciless in that after a certain pedestrian level of achievement both brute force and natural ability have to be harnessed to technique if significant strides are to be made. This will sound banal to some, but there are others in the Club who have yet to appreciate the truth of these remarks, just as there are some who have still to realise that those who are not selected for the teams but merely stand and judge also serve to make a home fixture a success or a failure.

The high-lights of the inter-School fixtures were the narrow win over Marlborough early on and the narrow defeat at the hands of Denstone in mid-season when the Club recovered from an unbelievably dispiriting performance on the wet grass track on a cold and windy day at Oakham to run the very strong opposition to within 10 points. Old Stoic Day saw the customary majestic sprint double by N. K. Rice (C 1964), who so narrowly missed selection for the 200 metres in Mexico last year, but the heavens opened to such an extent that the close contest had to be abandoned with two events undecided. In the Achilles Relays the Seniors returned some excellent times and lived up to expectations, and in the early rounds of the E.S.A.A. championships some 20 members of the Club reached the County Finals of whom the following were selected to represent the County in the National Championships to be held at Motspur Park at the end of term:

Arbuthnot—Senior 200 metres and Relay.

Ormrod—Senior Discus.

Crabbe—Intermediate Discus.

H. A. Blair-Imrie (C)—100 metres Senior Relay.

**First Colours are re-awarded to:** Arbuthnot and Ormrod.

**First Colours are awarded to:** Dunipace, Ireland, Rainer, Wyllie and Arkwright.

**Second Colours are re-awarded to:** Blair-Imrie, A. E. How (C), and Crabbe.

**Second Colours are awarded to:** C. J. McCubbin (C), A. Bibl (T), R. G. Sessler (C), J. E. S. Parkinson (W), M. J. Guest (B), N. McGuigan (T).

#### Results:

Seniors:

May 13 Bucks Schools A.A. Area Sports, at Stowe.  
May 20 Bucks Schools A.A. District Sports, at Stowe.  
May 22 v. Marlborough and St. Edward's, at Stowe.  
1, Stowe 121 pts. 2, Marlborough 112 pts. 3, St. Edward's 61 pts.  
May 25 Achilles Schools' Relays, at Oxford.  
4 × 110 yds., 3, Stowe, 44.7 secs.  
4 × 220 yds., 2, Stowe, 1 min. 32.9 secs.  
4 × 880 yds., 8, Stowe, 8 mins. 51 secs.  
May 31 v. Old Stoics, at Stowe.  
1, Stowe, 7 events. 2, Old Stoics, 6 events. (Match abandoned)  
June 3 v. Oakham and Repton, at Oakham.  
1, Oakham 131 pts. 2, Stowe 89 pts. 3, Repton 75 pts.  
June 7 v. Denstone, at Stowe.  
1, Denstone 91 pts. 2, Stowe 81 pts.  
June 12 v. Mill Hill and St. Alban's, at St. Alban's.  
1, Stowe 131 pts. 2, St. Alban's 85 pts. 3, Mill Hill 82 pts.  
June 14 Bucks Schools A.A. County Sports, at Stowe.  
June 17 v. Malvern, at Stowe.  
1, Stowe 98 pts. 2, Malvern 49 pts.



- June 25 v. Royal Marines, at Stowe.  
1, Royal Marines 93 pts. 2, Stowe 63 pts.
- June 28 v. Rugby and Berkhamsted, at Watford.  
1, Berkhamsted 112½ pts. 2, Stowe 90½ pts. 3, Rugby 77 pts.
- July 11 } English Schools A.A. Championships, at Motspur Park, London.  
July 12 }
- Juniors:
- May 22 v. Marlborough and St. Edward's, at Stowe.  
1, Marlborough 126 pts. 2, Stowe 100 pts. 3, St. Edward's 79 pts.
- June 3 v. Oakham and Repton, at Oakham.  
1, Oakham 133½ pts. 2, Stowe 77½ pts. 3, Repton 75 pts.
- June 7 v. Denstone, at Stowe.  
1, Denstone 97 pts. 2, Stowe 51 pts.
- June 12 v. Mill Hill and St. Alban's, at St. Alban's.  
1, Stowe 103 pts. 2, Mill Hill 101½ pts. 3, St. Alban's 84½ pts.
- June 17 v. Malvern, at Stowe.  
1, Malvern 101 pts. 2, Stowe 58 pts.
- June 28 v. Rugby and Berkhamsted, at Watford.  
1, Stowe 113 pts. 2, Rugby 98 pts. 3, Berkhamsted 76 pts.

## INTER-HOUSE RELAYS

The weather having caused a postponement of this meeting from last term, the meeting took place after three weeks of the Summer term and saw an improvement in the standard of the winning team performances and in some of the individual legs. All but two Houses contested the final result fiercely before Cobham squeezed home by a point from Lyttelton who had the misfortune of having to withdraw from the 4 × 220 yds. relay owing to an injury sustained in the heat of battle.

<b>Results:</b>	4 × 110 yds.	1. Chandos	2. Lyttelton	3. Cobham
	4 × 220 yds.	1. Cobham	2. Chatham	3. Walpole
	4 × 440 yds.	1. Chatham	2. Cobham	3. Temple
	4 × 880 yds.	1. Temple	2. Lyttelton	3. Grenville
	Composite:	1. Lyttelton	2. Chandos	3. Walpole

<b>Final Order:</b>	1.	Cobham	14 pts.
	2.	Lyttelton	15 pts.
	3.	Chandos	22 pts.
	4.	Temple	24 pts.
	5.	{ Grenville Chatham Walpole	25 pts.
	8.	{ Bruce Grafton	38 pts.

## STANDARDS

It is now becoming almost traditional for Cobham to establish an early lead in this competition and then relentlessly consolidate their superiority. So it proved this year for after the first day it never seemed likely that any other House would topple Cobham who went on to amass a record 513 individual standards—an excellent performance. The final results are as follows:

	Standards	Average
1. Cobham	513	7.3
2. Temple	328	5.0
3. Grafton	310	4.9
4. Walpole	266	3.9
5. Chatham	261	3.9
6. Lyttelton	227	3.5
7. Bruce	217	3.4
8. Grenville	202	3.2
9. Chandos	177	2.5

## LAWN TENNIS

It was not seriously thought that we would have a particularly successful season this year, and there were several candidates for many of the places in the team. Eventually a team was selected and it has remained the same except for the odd enforced change due to non availability. All the Inter-School matches have been won, except the one against Eton when due to the extraordinary rule which insists that boys wanted for a House Cricket match, even though they do not play cricket, have to do so instead of representing the School in an important tennis match. However in company with other sports we are hoping that this rule will be altered next season. C. J. E. Bartholomew has been a thoughtful Captain, and he combined to make an excellent second pair with H. A. Smith. These two played intelligently and had some good wins over players who were perhaps more technically correct, but who could not match them temperamentally. I. A. Thomson and A. J. Macpherson were the first pair, and as the season progressed so did their combined play. Macpherson raised his game, due to the encouragement of his partner, and we shall hope for even better things next season. The third pair was M. R. Cobb and N. H. Thomlinson. They have improved their understanding a great deal, and also curbed their over-eagerness to kill every ball which comes over the net. Because five of the six players will be here next season, we shall look forward to another and better season in a year's time.

The Second VI contained some players who were unlucky not to be in the First VI. They were not beaten and are to be congratulated on playing both very hard and successfully. J. C. B. Lucas, T. E. Hicks, and N. H. Harvey in particular showed considerable determination, and were well supported by A. W. Comber, J. H. Robinson, I. L. Foux. As several of these will be returning to school no doubt they will be challenging for First Team places next year.

The Colts were also unbeaten and were well captained by G. M. Miller. Quite a large number of boys were played in this team and most will be young enough for one or two more seasons and many are very promising. Those who played were B.J. D'Arcy Clark, P. H. Morris, R. J. Macdonald, K. J. Saunders, A. J. Tucker, M. E. Harrison, D. G. Lucas, R. W. Hollings, and R. C. Higham. In addition two Junior Colts matches were played against the Dragon School, Oxford, and P. H. Morris captained the side against his old school side which contained some excellent players.

All in all it has so far been a happy and successful season, but we expect even better things next year.

<b>Results:</b>	v. Mill Hill	1st VI	Won 9—0	Colts	Won 5—4
	v. Magdalen C.S.	1st VI	Won 9—0	Colts	Won 6—0
	v. Bradfield	1st VI	Won 7—2	Colts	Drew 2—2
	v. Eton	1st VI	Lost 4—5	Colts	Won 2—1
	v. Radley	1st VI	Won 9—0	Colts	Won 4—0
	v. Old Stoics	1st VI	Lost 2—7		
	v. Bedford	'A' VI	Won 7—2	Colts	Drew 3—3
	v. Oakham	'A' VI	Won 5—1	Colts	Won 3—1
	v. Bloxham	'A' VI	Won 8—1	Colts	Won 9—0
	v. Colfe's School	'A' VI	Won 9—0		
	v. Dragon School			Junior Colts	Won 5—3
	v. Dragon School			Junior Colts	Drew 4½—4½
	v. Marlborough	1st VI	Won 7—2	Colts	Won 3—1
	v. Rugby	1st VI	Won 7—2	Colts	Drew 4½—4½

<b>Glanvill Cup:</b>	v. Ashmead School	Won 3—0
	v. Windsor G.S.	Won 3—0
	v. Langley G.S.	Won 3—0
	v. Seaford College	Won 3—0
	v. Redrice School	Won 3—0
	v. Millfield	Lost 1—2

Stowe took this competition seriously and reached the Area Finals after beating last year's Youll Cup winners en route. It was touch and go whether we would beat a strong Millfield

side and in reality we should have done so as our first pair built up a lead in the second set which they would usually felt have confident of holding. However it was not to be and Millfield ran out worthy winners at 2—1.

## GOLF

### Spring Term

With four Old Colours in residence, there were prospects for another successful season, but the weather effectively spoiled the start. With Chatham Field virtually unusable no Trials or practice were possible during the term, though four Away matches were completed, the match at Ellesborough being played in a blizzard, and the match against Eton at Temple G.C. in a downpour!

The victories against two of the schools competing at Woking promised well for Stowe's defence of the Micklem Trophy, and a most enjoyable day's golf was arranged on the first day of the holidays by the Old Stoic Golfing Society at Berkhamsted.

<b>Results:</b>	v. Ellesborough G.C.	Lost	0 —6
	v. Wellington	Won	5 —1
	v. Buckingham G.C.	Halved	2 —2
	v. Eton	Won	4 —0
	v. Old Stoic Golfing Society	Lost	2½—5½

### The Micklem Trophy

Played at Woking G.C., April 2nd and 3rd.

Stowe, the holders, had three players and the reserve left from last year's winning team, and looked to have a well-balanced team. Because of the lack of play during the Spring term, a team of seven was taken this year, and eventually Lucas was chosen to fill the last place. The first round soon showed, however, that the team was somewhat vulnerable around the middle, and its supporters had many anxious moments before the Trophy was retained. Great credit is due to McNair and Choyce, who both played really well to win thrice and so retain their unbeaten record in this tournament, and to Lucas who displayed great promise and steady nerves in his three victories. On the Wednesday, we always looked like winning against Charterhouse, though Simmons looked like the Captain of Hockey and Barstow seemed to have lost his usual sure touch around the greens. But the Captain is a difficult man to beat even when playing indifferently, and he made a fine recovery from three down to halve. It was clear that the match against Rugby, a strong-looking and fancied side, on Thursday morning was going to be crucial, and indeed it turned out that Stowe was in the toughest half of the draw. Both McNair and Choyce were three down after six, but recovered well to win; McNair's match against the elder Swanston being probably the best of the tournament. Barstow, playing against his rival captain, was five up after nine only to lose six holes in a row when his opponent struck an inspired streak, and after fluctuating fortunes the match was halved. Simmons was more like himself against the younger Swanston, but could not match his excellent play, and so it was left to Lucas, forging steadily ahead, to win the vital third point needed to take us to the final. In the final, against Bradfield for the fourth year in succession, Stowe started very well and looked to have the match won after nine holes. The top two went on to win comfortably, but there was then a long period when it was not at all clear from where the third and winning point was to come. Then Simmons, the memory of soggy hockey fields at last receding, struck timely form to finish his opponent off by 3 and 2, Barstow predictably forced a draw, and Lucas recovered from a bad patch in the middle to win on the last green.

<b>Results:</b>	First Round	v. Charterhouse	Won	3½—1½
	Semi-Final	v. Rugby	Won	3½—1½
	Final	v. Bradfield	Won	4½—½

**Team:** S. A. McNair (G), J. Choyce (C), S. R. Barstow (B) (Captain), P. J. G. Simmons (C), D. G. Lucas (G), Reserves: H. A. Robinson (C), D. R. Wright (C).

### Summer Term

A wet May and a fine June was the weather picture for the term, but a full programme of matches was completed. There was a lot of talent on show for the Trials, and a successful League has meant that there has been a ready supply of reserves for the matches in which we take on all comers. Surviving members of last year's XII have not improved as much as was hoped, and the strength and the results of the team have not been as good as last year. The Captain unfortunately broke a finger early in June, and with others playing cricket we have not fielded our full strength in every match. Two schools matches were lost, the first for over two years, and some new fixtures against Felsted, Monmouth and Rugby have been welcome additions to the programme. This year many of our senior players leave, and there will be room enough for young talent to push through.

**The Twelve:** S. R. Barstow (B) (Captain), S. A. McNair (G), J. J. Taylor (G), V. J. M. Hill (G), D. R. Wright (C), H. C. A. Robinson (C), J. A. R. Wood (C), A. J. B. Mackay Forbes (W), D. J. Nelson-Smith (C), J. K. Nelson-Smith (C), M. A. M. Davies (T), G. G. Collier (C).

**School Colours for Golf were awarded to:** H. C. A. Robinson, V. J. M. Hill, J. J. Taylor.

<b>Results:</b>	v. Ellesborough G.C.	Won	3 —2
	v. St. Paul's	Won	4 —1
	v. Buckingham G.C.	Lost	3 —6
	v. The Fathers	Halved	4 —4
	v. Felsted	Halved	4 —4
	v. Monmouth	Won	4 —2
	v. Uppingham	Lost	3½—4½
	v. Old Stoics	Won	5 —2
	v. Haileybury	Won	6½—1½
	v. R.A.F. Bicester	Won	6½—1½
	v. Bradfield	Won	4½—1½
	v. Rugby	Lost	3 —5
	v. Radley	Lost	1 —4

## SWIMMING

The Swimming Team has had a mixed season so far. No matches have been won outright, but the Seniors gained convincing victories over Uppingham, and Oundle and Repton (at Oundle). The Juniors are not strong this year, and have yet to win, but morale in the team has been high, despite icy conditions in the Lake in the early part of the season. J. S. S. Syrett (W) has been an enthusiastic and determined Captain of Swimming, spurring the team on to some valiant efforts. Special mention should also be made of the outstanding individual performances of I. G. Pitstick (L) and J. M. Spanton (T) in the Senior team, the former in breast-stroke and butterfly, and the latter in freestyle.

Several matches still remain, and we shall once again be sending a team to compete in the Bath Cup Relays at the end of term. As in former years, a number of boys from Stowe will be swimming for North Buckinghamshire in the County Swimming Gala, and may go on to swim for the County in the National Championships.

Swimming Colours have been awarded to I. G. Pitstick and J. M. Spanton, and Dolphins to A. M. Pirnia (T), M. F. W. Platt (C) and A. H. Spencer-Thomas (W).

Team representatives were:

**Seniors:** J. S. S. Syrett (Captain) (W), S. D. Moss (B), I. G. Pitstick (L), J. M. Spanton (T), J. B. Farrer (C), J. O. Deutsch (C), J. N. R. Diesbach (B), J. H. R. Cridland (C), C. J. Wiley (C), B. J. Emrys-Roberts (C), R. G. Sessler (C).

**Juniors:** A. M. Pirnia (T), M. F. W. Platt (C), A. H. Spencer-Thomas (W), M. A. Watson (C), D. E. Macnaghten (W), M. A. Robinson (W), J. J. G. Dawes (L), G. A. Merritt (C), A. J. C. Richings (W).

# SAILING

This has been a fairly momentous year for the Sailing Club. Having established ourselves at Banbury, where some excellent sailing is to be had, we are now hoping to move to Foscoate, which has the advantage of being larger and nearer to Stowe.

Work on the new Graduate has been slow this term, but we would like to thank the School Shop for their donation of fittings for the boat. We would also like to thank our anonymous donor for his generous gift of a new Supergrad.

The refitting of our present Graduates has been completed with all boats now equipped with Terylene sails including three with new large jibs. One of the two Ken II's has been completely refitted including a new foredeck and aft inflatable bouyancy bags, and work is just beginning on the other.

In the Easter holidays we were represented by R. H. Steavenson (G) and S. M. Raw (G) at the Public Schools Sailing Competition at Bembridge, and early this term at the National Junior Graduate Championship by J. T. W. Smyth (C) and M. A. K. Parkes (W). In the Junior and Schools Championships we came 9th and 6th respectively, and at Bembridge we were placed 19th overall.

This season has been bad for the sailing team; winning only one match out of eight, although we came second in a quadrangular against Aldenham, Harrow and Haileybury at the Aldenham reservoir which was the first match of the term. Most of our defeats were very close.

Our second match, against Oundle, was sailed in light air with the wind blowing no harder than force 1. Our next match, against Uppingham, was uneventful except for the centreboard of one boat jamming. The wind remained steady at force 1-2 throughout the match. Unfortunately there was very little wind for our match against Rugby and that weekend two of our helmsmen were sailing at Chipstead.

The first experience for most of us at river sailing came in our match against St. Edward's where, with the wind blowing down stream it was agreed that each race was won or lost at the first bend. Against Radley we met stiff opposition with one of their helmsmen coming first in three out of five races. Despite this and other setbacks we were narrowly beaten by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points. Our next match against Banbury Cross Sailing Club, to whom we are affiliated, gave us a chance to view future team members as we were able to sail all our own boats. We were also aided by Mr. Rainer in his G.P.14. The wind was light, about force 1-3. The last match of the season was against Bedford whom we beat despite a retirement in the second race. We would like to congratulate R. H. Steavenson (G) and A. R. Pears (G) for their consistently good sailing in School matches.

The Housematches this year were won by Grafton.

**Team from:** N. J. Gilhead (G), D. B. Unerman (C), M. A. K. Parkes (W), J. T. W. Smyth (C), J. W. Goodwin (W), R. H. Steavenson (G), A. R. Pears (G), S. J. H. Taylor (C), R. S. Goodwin (W), S. M. Raw (G), N. J. Staib (W), J. P. H. Spencer-Cooper (T).

**Colours awarded to:** J. W. Goodwin (W), R. H. Steavenson (G).

# SHOOTING

The season started with a visit to Bisley for practice during the last three days of the Lent Term under the leadership of O.L.R. whose great achievement was to run out of petrol at midnight in Woking after an evening visit to the cinema. We benefitted however from the practice we got and there were some high scores produced.

Our shooting, however, during the matches has not lived up to our expectations as on every

occasion at least one person has had an "off-day". Only more and more practice can eliminate this.

The one match yet to come is the Ashburton meeting at Bisley which unfortunately Hay, Edwards, Broad and Walker will be unable to attend due to exam pressures. A full report of this meeting will appear in the next issue.

The Donegall Badge was won by J. W. Kennon who was also awarded his School Colours for shooting.

Mention should also be made of R. K. Hay (Captain), J. R. Davis, S. C. Broad and R. M. Long, all of whom have consistently produced good scores, and D. W. Muschett, who won the 9th Man competition at the Oxford Meeting with a personal best of 65.

The others, led by the Secretary, A. S. R. Groves, have produced some high scores but also some low ones.

**VIII from:** R. K. Hay (C), A. S. R. Groves (B), J. W. Kennon (G), J. R. Davis (G), R. M. Long (T), S. C. Broad (T), P. W. Yerburch (B), J. L. Thorogood (L), R. L. Edwards (B), A. C. G. Walker (W), D. W. Muschett (C).

**Cadet Pair:** M. R. Hardman (W) and A. D. Capron (G).

**Donegall Badge Winner:** J. W. Kennon (G).

	<i>Team</i>	<i>Cdt. Pair</i>	<i>9th Man</i>	<i>No. of Schools</i>
<b>Results:</b> London and Middlesex Meeting	12th	14th	2nd	22
Midlands Meeting	7th	12th	5th	16
Sussex Meeting	26th	20th	20th	32
Oxford Meeting	4th	6th	1st	6

# TETRATHLON

The Tetrathlon this year was held at the R.M.A. Sandhurst on May 16th to 18th. On this occasion it showed admirably that this is a competition for boys who are good to average at all four sports—swimming, fencing, shooting and running—rather than for the boy who is good at one or two and poor in the others. Our four performers—N. S. McGuigan (T), C. J. McCubbin (C), J. B. Farrer (C) and J. M. Spanton (T) all proved themselves at their own particular event, but they were not sufficiently good at the other events to warrant a higher overall team opposition than 4th out of 13.

Since swimming in the Eleven Acre Lake proved impracticable much before May 16th, owing to sub-55° temperatures, the Stowe team did remarkably well on the Friday evening at Sandhurst, Spanton's time of under two minutes, thus scoring over 1,000 points, was most pleasing, and we might have been amongst the medals had he been able to train anything like adequately. He was well supported by Farrer and McCubbin, but a veil of discretion will be drawn over the performance of our captain.

The next day, however, McGuigan redeemed himself by some superbly patient and sensible fencing; he was 3rd in this event, being the first Stoic in five years to score over 1,000 points. Farrer came into his own on the Sunday morning when he shot very well to come 4th overall, with a score of 975 points, in appalling weather conditions. McCubbin, too, performed with credit by scoring 900.

Stowe's main triumph came on the Sunday afternoon in the running event, which we won, as a School, with surprising ease. McGuigan recorded the fastest individual time, 40 secs. ahead of the second man, McCubbin, who in his turn beat the third competitor by 20 secs. These two ran really well, giving their best over a very testing course (nobody scored 1,000 points), and they thoroughly deserved the success they gained. But they were well supported by Farrer, who was 18th, and who clearly ran above expectations.

So Stowe came away with three medals, and everyone crowned with glory; as individuals, though, and not as a team. A tetrathlete cannot afford to score less than 800 in any one event if he is to consider himself in any way adequate, and some hard training is going to be needed before next year in the weak events. I am sure this training will be forthcoming, for this competition is very much worthwhile; we are still a young team which can and will improve, given the encouragement.

Our thanks go to Mr. Mullineux for his help and useful advice in the Fencing; without him a medal in this event would have been out of the question, and we are most grateful for his encouragement and interest.

	Swimming		Fencing		Shooting		Running		TOTAL	
	Time	Pts.	Vics.	Pts.	Score	Pts.	Time	Pts.	Score	Pos.
McGuigan	4m. 2s.	0	31	1052	178	575	14m. 20s.	985	2612	18th
McCubbin	2m. 16s.	840	17	686	191	900	15m. 1s.	862	3288	11th
Farrer	2m. 9s.	910	20	764	194	975	16m. 24s.	613	3262	12th
Spanton	1m. 57.5s.	1025	13	581	145	0	—	—	1606	41st

## ARCHERY

This term opened with an enlarged Club of 24. To accommodate this increased number we were obliged to buy some new equipment for which we are most grateful to the Bursar for a most generous allowance from the School.

The Club was split into two equal parts consisting of those who were just beginning and those who have shown some ability in past terms. Many of the novices showed great enthusiasm even if their ability was lacking at the beginning of term. However, thanks to the help of our visiting coach Mr. Smith the standard among the novices has greatly improved. R. G. A. Brooking (C) and S. J. Kennedy (C) have shown the greatest promise out of this group.

The Senior part of the Club has shown less enthusiasm but considerably greater skill than usual. Consistency is the key to good archery but unfortunately this is one quality of which all of us in the Club do not display enough.

On Saturday, May 24th, we shot a match against Banbury High School. We competed in a St. Nicholas Round and won this match by 1103 to 1002 points.

On Saturday, 7th June we shot our annual American Round against the Finchley Albanian Archers at Stowe. Conditions were perfect and we were soundly beaten 1630 to 1388 points. They were considerably more experienced than us and treated the whole sport much more seriously.

The following represented the School during the two matches: R. V. Craik-White (W) (Captain), J. N. R. Diesbach (B), J. D. Boles (C), R. J. G. Dillon-Mahon (B), G. C. Kimber (B).

After two years at the top of the Club, John Diesbach (B) has been appointed Captain of Archery for the 1969-70 season.

## FENCING

The Summer term is a quiet term for fencers with no matches. The only senior activity is the Epée fencing, with the Tetrathlon Fencers preparing for their competition and with the Individual Epée Competition.

The Tetrathlon épée team showed promise, and practised well and vigorously. The result of that competition is reported elsewhere and we will mention here only McGuigan's success; he came third in the Epée (out of 41) winning 31 bouts.

The Individual Epée is the one fencing competition in which boys who have not fenced regularly can compete with experienced fencers on more or less equal terms since technique is less essential and this year's looked like giving a good competition. There were eleven entries, and the two fencing colours in the final pool of six only just got through the first round. The Final, however, was an anti-climax, as only one competitor had appeared at the time of start, and was awarded the cup by default of the remaining five.

Last term's novices have consolidated their skill, and a new group have begun this term and show good promise.

**Individual Epee Competition Winner: A. S. Crabbe (C).**

## SQUASH RACKETS

The season ended on a high note for Stowe, when R. G. Carr became the first Stoic to win the Public Schools Under 16 Championship for the Junior Evans Cup at the R.A.C. Club in London. He had a tough draw, and on the last morning of the tournament he had to play his semi-final and final within an hour of each other. He did not start too well, but soon recovered and won the last three games to give him a well deserved victory.

## SCULLING

Sculling as a daily activity this term has been over-subscribed, a reflection of the ever growing enthusiasm for the sport especially in the lower half of the school. The standard of sculling has improved as the term progressed, especially among those who were new to the sport at the beginning of the year. Regrettably this improvement was not reflected when a team competed in the 'novice sculls' and 'school boys' sculls' classes at Wallingford Regatta at the end of May. In both these events we were outclassed by opponents with river training experience. The fact that we scull on a lake is a definite handicap when it comes to competitive sculling. Before the end of term we are entering a team for the Stratford-upon-Avon regatta which we have not attended for the past two years.

Over the coming winter we are intending to rebuild the landing stage which is in much need of attention after ten years of use!

## THE STOWE BEAGLES

Our last two days of the season, March 15th and 18th, were at Easton Neston House and Chetwode Priory. Both days were very enjoyable and we killed one after a good hunt on the former. The season ended with a record tally.

Much has been going on at the kennels this term. Mr. D. McGee very kindly gave us some paving slabs, which are in the process of being put down in the area in front of the kennels, and we are most grateful indeed to him. The garage floor and walls have been completely re-concreted and now look extremely smart.

We are taking five couple of hounds to the Yorkshire Agricultural Show at Harrogate on July 8th and to Peterborough on July 16th.

The Puppy Show and Hunt Ball are being held at Stowe on Saturday, July 12th.

The Whippers-in are J. B. Johnson (W) and R. C. Willcock (B).

We are most grateful to the following who have helped regularly in the kennels this term: A. O. Bell-Irving (C), D. M. E. Heathcote (C), A. D. McGee (L), and N. C. Renny (C).

The Master for this season is J. Bell-Irving (C).

## 1ST XV RUGBY FIXTURES 1969

Sat.	Sept. 13	Cranleigh 7-a-Sides	
Sat.	Sept. 20	v. London Scottish	Home
Sat.	Sept. 27	v. <b>Oakham</b>	Home
Sat.	Oct. 4	v. <b>Haileybury &amp; I.S.C</b>	Away
Sat.	Oct. 11	v. Old Stoics	Home
Sat.	Oct. 18	v. <b>Bedford</b>	Home
Thurs.	Oct. 23	v. <b>St. Edward's</b>	Home
Sat.	Nov. 8	v. <b>Rugby</b>	Home
Sat.	Nov. 15	v. Richmond	Home
Sat.	Nov. 22	v. <b>Oundle</b>	Away
Tues.	Nov. 25	v. <b>Radley</b>	Away
Sat.	Nov. 29	v. <b>Cheltenham</b>	Home
Sat.	Dec. 6	v. <b>The Leys</b>	Away

## 'THE STOIC' PRIZES

Prizes are offered for poetry and prose articles, and for illustrations (photographic or otherwise) in the Autumn and Summer terms. There will be a prize next term for the best cover submitted for *The Stoic* and/or *Germ*. Entries should be in black ink on white paper.