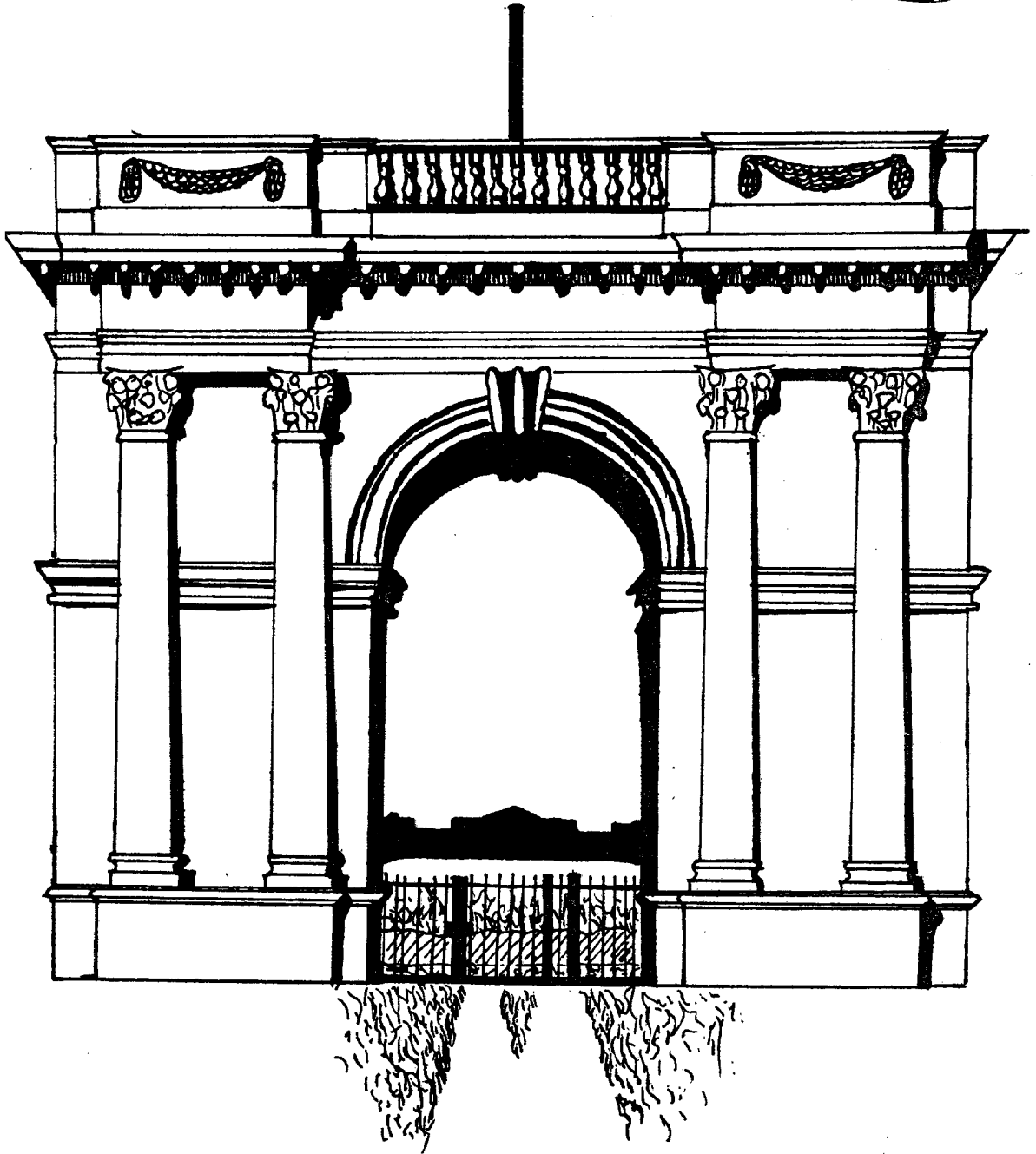


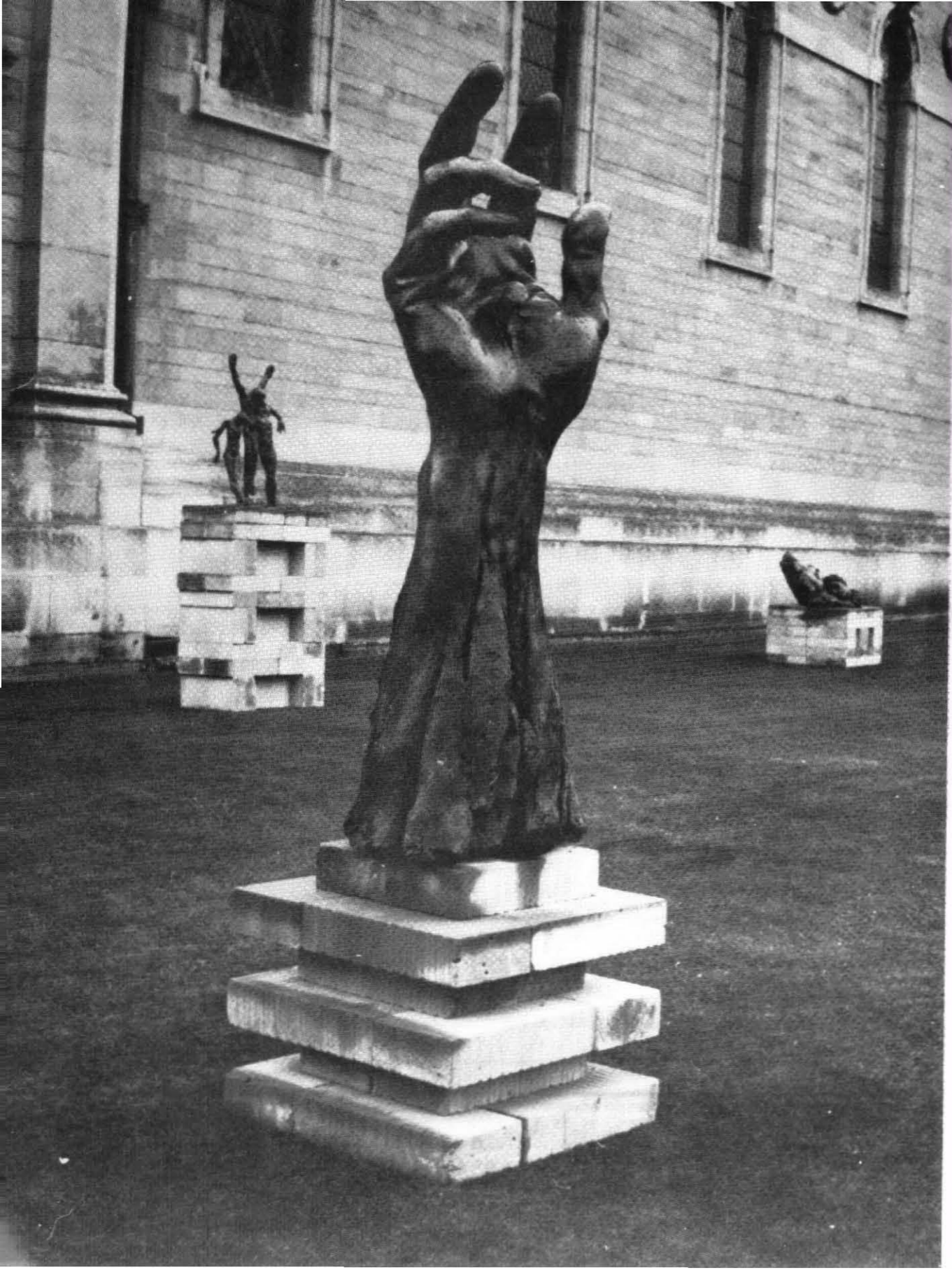
oss



# THE STOIC

July 1976

Number 157



Vol XXVI  
Number 6  
July 1976

## THE STOIC

Editors:

Richard Lord  
Jonathan Crosse  
Jonathan Kreeger  
Charles Roxburgh  
Francesca Kay

Frontispiece:

## EDITORIAL

It is with much regret that we record that this, the 157th edition of *The Stoic*, is the last to be produced by E. N. Hillier & Sons Ltd. of Buckingham, the School's printers since the first term in 1923. Hilliers' meticulously high standards and vast accumulated knowledge of the intricacies of the School's printing requirements will be hard to replace.

We heard of the firm's decision to close down shortly after half-term, but the determination of Wilfred Hillier and his staff to remain in operation long enough to produce this edition of *The Stoic* is typical of the happy relationship that has existed between Stowe and its printers for so long. In our turn, we wish Mr Hillier a speedy return to health and a happy retirement.

Unfortunately the more than usually rapid production of this edition has meant that we have had to make radical cuts and to insist more positively on deadlines being met. Amongst the consequences of this reduction in the scope of the magazine have been the omission of the Literary Section—the major contribution of boys and girls to *The Stoic*—and, most regrettably, of the outstanding performance of Handel's *Messiah* by the Choral Society in March.

Inevitably, the Christmas edition of the magazine will have certain changes in format and possibly content. There will be some regret at "the old order" changing. On the other hand there will be the challenge of this opportunity to reappraise the function and nature of the official School publication. "Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis."

R. M. POTTER

"The Hand of Industry" by Enzo Plazzotta in Chapel Court

FRANCIS EGERTON

## SPRING AND SUMMER 1976

Over the past two terms, Stowe has, as always, been very active whether working for the dreaded 'A' or 'O' levels, or in the playing of a mass of different sports. However, there have been quite a lot of changes especially on the staff. In the Spring Term, five new masters came to teach at Stowe. Mr Catlow, Mr Ross and Mr Pye stayed for a term teaching on the Arts side, whereas Mr Bingham and Mr Walford have both stayed on, teaching Chemistry and Physics respectively, Mr Walford moves on to Oxford to take a further degree at the end of this term. At the beginning of this term, Mr Collins came for a six week training course from Borough Road College and he helped Mr Bone with Physical Education. Considering how short a time he was here, he made a considerable impression on Stoics and we wish him well. Also at the beginning of term, Mr Rawcliffe returned to Chatham House from the wilds of Peru where he was spending his sabbatical. Mr and Mrs Waldman are to be congratulated on the birth of a son, Ben, in February, and Mr Meredith on his engagement.

Mr Arnold, the Senior History Tutor, is leaving Stowe after nine years to go to the King George V Grammar School at Southport where he has been appointed Headmaster. Many people have passed their History A levels, helped by his discourses on Essay Technique and other topics and he has been the mainstay of the successful Archery Teams. We wish Mr Arnold and his family all the best up in Lancashire. Dr Priday, the School Medical Officer for thirteen years, has had, unfortunately, to retire this term on account of serious illness and Dr Brown has therefore taken over his duties.

Another change has been the handing over of the management of Stowe Community Service to Mr Lovelock by Mr Theobald, after eight years, during which the S.C.S. has become one of the best respected Community Services in the country. It was only fitting that Mr Theobald's management should end with the extremely successful Christmas Hamper Campaign in which over £3,000 was raised.

Although the 89% pass rate at A level this year was very pleasing, the Oxbridge results were less satisfactory with fourteen places and only two Open Awards: B. F. Barclay won an Exhibition to Brasenose, Oxford to read Engineering and Economics, and S. Rahman won an Exhibition to Pembroke, Cambridge to read Natural Sciences. There promises, however, to be a large number of Oxbridge candidates next term, so the results, one hopes, will be better this year.

On the sports field, during the Christmas holidays, the rugger players won the Buckinghamshire Schools Seven-a-Side competition. The hockey season was moderately successful, with one of the more light-hearted highlights being the girls hockey match against the Prefects. The summer too has produced some satisfactory results so far, notably in swimming and archery. In a similar field Bruce Robinson ran 35 miles non-stop to raise £180 for Cancer Research and the whole of Cobham House ran a total of around 600 miles to raise approximately £700 for the Carr-Gomm Society.

Halfway through the term a splendid and eye-catching Art Exhibition, showing the largest collection of Enzo Plazzotta's works, was set up both inside and outside the School, where it will stay until the 31st August. Dramatically, Stowe has been thriving. In the Spring term there were five house plays and at the beginning of this term, there was a very well received musical called "Smike", which was followed by the production of "The Birthday Party". At the end of term, the Junior Congreve is continuing its practice of holding plays in the open air by staging "The Importance of being Earnest" at the Temple of Venus providing the weather is not too fickle! Musically, Stowe has been having lots of success in various competitions and one of the highlights of the Spring term was the superb rendering of Handel's "Messiah" by the Choral Society, which was enjoyed by all.

The girls have been taking a much larger rôle in the activities of Stowe. For instance, they have put up a commendable Tennis League team and as the plays so far this year have shown, they are very good actresses as well. Their numbers are rising to over twenty-five next term which

will be good news for a lot of Stoics, no doubt. Socially, in the last two terms, Stowe has been quite active, with visits to Oakdene, Clarendon School and Oxford High. After the successes of the Summer and Pineapple Balls, a lot of people are going to the Hunt Ball at the end of term which promises to be enjoyable as well.

Speech Day with the guest speaker, Michael Heseltine, M.P., produced more than the usual number of recent Old Stoics and consequent reunions were enjoyable. The C.C.F., despite the fact that it is voluntary, still attracts large numbers of Stoics. It was inspected on the 26th May by Lieutenant General Sir Hugh Beach, K.C.B., O.B.E., M.C., Deputy Commander-in-Chief, United Kingdom Land Forces.

The economy drive at Stowe is gradually bearing fruit. The new laundry is fully operational, washing all the School's clothes and after one year it will reduce the School's laundry bill from £30,000 to £6,000 per annum. More visitors are looking around Stowe (1,200 over the Easter holidays) and using its facilities. Since the end of the Christmas Term the Appeal for a new Examination and Sports Hall amongst other things, has been moving steadily towards its target.

As one can see, looking at the events and activities of the past two terms, Stowe is as lively and varied as ever. Long may it continue to be so.

JONATHAN CROSSE

## D. J. ARNOLD

After nine years as History Tutor, David Arnold leaves Stowe in July to become Headmaster of King George V School, Southport.

Born in London's East End and evacuated during the war, he was educated at Christ's Hospital, won a scholarship to Oxford and, after two years' National Service as a Lieutenant in the R.A.S.C., became President of Pembroke's Junior Common Room. He taught at Clifton College and Quintin School, London, before coming to Stowe in 1967, since when he has run the Debating Society, coached the highly successful archery team, chaired the Curriculum Committee and co-ordinated University entries. To all these activities, and to the many others with which he has, as a Tutor, been associated, he has brought the dedication of a perfectionist and the judgement of a man of unusual insight; his penetrative mind and inexhaustible patience have given him a peculiar flair for providing simple solutions to complex problems.

He has a qualified admiration for the Army which seems at first incompatible with his relaxed manner, his concern for the individual, and his distaste for most forms of punishment. But its organization is highly structured, and time which might otherwise be spent clearing administrative muddles is thus freed for the Army's proper business. Similarly he feels that a school's administration should be made as simple as possible—a difficult task only possible if the problems involved are fully understood—so that extra time is available for the true purpose of education.

A distinguished historian, he has encouraged the least able of his pupils to think imaginatively and write carefully, and has communicated to the most able a delight in scholarship for its own sake. Generations of Oxbridge candidates owe him gratitude for stimulating them to think about the law, politics, literature, philosophy and theology. He has established a unique relationship with his tutees. Sympathetic, sensitive, generous and calm, he has been always approachable, and has devoted almost unlimited time to many; his innate dignity has fostered a rare blend of friendship and respect. Our best wishes go to him and his family as he assumes the hot seat for which he has seemed so inevitably destined.

# SPEECH DAY

Although the day was overcast, the warm weather this year made a welcome change from last, and a large gathering of Stoics, Parents and Old Stoics assembled for the Speeches and Prize-giving on the South Front. The Chairman of the Governors, Mr John Taylor (T 1946) welcomed the Chief Guest, Mr Michael Heseltine, M.P. and invited the Headmaster to speak.

## The Headmaster's Speech

The Headmaster welcomed the guests to Speech Day, which was in a sense "the climax of the School's year". He then introduced Mr Heseltine, thanking him for giving up his time to come to Stowe.

He bade farewell to Mr D. J. Arnold, Senior History Tutor for nine years, congratulating him on his appointment as Headmaster of King George V Grammar School at Southport; and recorded his gratitude to Dr C. O. M. Priday, who had retired through ill health after 13 years. The Headmaster referred to the splendid job done by the Ladies of Stowe, and mentioned "the vast number of visitors to the School these days". He then went on to give an account of the activities of the year, which are reported in this and earlier editions of *The Stoic*.

After mentioning the work and progress of the Appeal, the Headmaster went on to discuss what it was that made a good school. He said:

"I have found myself believing more and more that it is "the need and respect for a boy's individuality which is a schoolmaster's foremost duty, and to suppress this is a manifestation of failure". These were the words of J. F. Roxburgh some 40 years ago. Even if this entails sacrificing a little the more corporate aspects of a school's life, it does more importantly stimulate a boy's imagination, arouse his ambitions and eventually mould a more creative personality—as an individual. Too many public schools eradicate individuality to society's detriment. Traditionally, the ideal public school product has been one trained in and willing to accept meticulous routine duties; intellectual freedom and aspirations were contained by the discipline of community living. This, I hope, is not so at Stowe.

"The School has many visible assets—games facilities, workshops, art school, opportunities for community service, estate work, natural history, fishing, beagling and so on—and a keen staff to help. All very nice, but surely far the most important are the hidden assets. Education is not a matter of cramming a boy with knowledge and keeping him busy and occupied. The most important thing is to teach him to think for himself: to form opinions, to make decisions, to stand on his own feet; to argue and converse politely and forcefully in all spheres of modern life; to be able to think clearly; to express himself logically. These are the most important qualities a person can possess. In short, to be a person, to be an individual.

"And Stowe wants to remain independent, to do things its own way—but *more* vital is the need to remain a good school, and the fundamental struggle concerns not only education but surely the whole of our society. None of us should be complacent about the threat to nationalise the freedom of the individual. First, I make no apology for reminding us all that independent schools are traditionally strongholds of Christian teaching, and the personal freedom that goes with it. The founder of Reed's School, Dr Andrew Reed, a Congregational Minister, said in 1843 in his address to Lord John Russell: "Would you, your Lordship, allow this Government or any other Government to arrange by Act of Parliament the method in which you should educate your children? And would I allow that the Parliament or any earthly power dictate to me who I should educate or provide for *mine*? We ask, in short, to be free. We ask for freedom for others and for ourselves. I trust that the moment which shall witness the death of our liberties will witness also the death of our country."

"Education, as indeed children themselves, has become a political football. Think of the raising of the school leaving age. It was opposed by the overwhelming majority of teachers who had any contact with the 15-year old leavers. Yet, the political parties, with the support of the

primary school dominated National Union of Teachers, went ahead with the reform. We now have a real problem of truancy in many of our schools. This decision has been called a 'mindless error'—an error indeed, and it is the children who suffer. Danger money is now being paid to teachers in London city schools. Let us reduce the school leaving age and concentrate our resources on those who want to profit from them. Then we hear of one authority in the north, which changed from Labour to Conservative in the recent elections, deciding to reinstate the 11-plus examination at short notice. This is a doctrinaire decision, and children are the football. Education is not a political subject; it is an educational one, it is about people. We now have teachers or ex-teachers imploring us to do away with examinations, to do away with homework. One woman writes: "I believe that homework is unnecessary and without it our secondary schools would be happier places for all concerned." There must be no competition in schools. There is a proposal to legislate the banning of regular setting of compulsory homework. Isn't it all becoming free and easy and do-as-you-please? There is another teacher who has said recently that "there is no point in teaching children to write because the invention of the typewriter has made it superfluous". These are the writings of modern day educational experts!

"I believe the key to the whole of life at Stowe and to Stoics is that at the centre of the school's purpose and practice there should be the ultimate understanding that education is not merely a matter of training the muscles of mind and body, as some people would have us think; it must also be the matter of the heart and, more deeply still, the spirit—the conviction that the Christian faith is not, as has been said, "an institutionalised and respectable fringe benefit to which liturgical lip service is periodically paid, but an integrating and unifying force giving meaning and relevance at the deepest level to life as to education". This may not be a very fashionable thing to say in a society which perhaps is losing touch with the Almighty, but I believe it is essential that we should remind ourselves, not only of the means but also of the ends we exist to serve. I believe that it is quite significant that there is nowadays a continuing and deepening growth of interest from our young people in things of the spirit, which goes along with the growing disillusionment with the materialistic approach to life. I find it most encouraging that boys and girls are prepared to go to the heart of the matter. And as I say this I would like to pay tribute to one man who, above all others, gave so much of the spirit to Stowe. Hugh Hodge was for nine years Priest-in-Charge of Stowe Church until he died suddenly just after Speech Day last year. I would say of Hugh, he never imposed himself upon us, he simply joined us, and Stowe is so much the better for his great influence on us all.

"The debate in our schools at this present time is not first and foremost concerned with education. If there are divisions in our society, we cannot be said to create them; we reflect them no doubt, but I do not believe we are responsible for them. As I say, the real issue is one of freedom, not only of the freedom of parents to spend the money they earn as they think fit within the law by choosing the sort of school they wish to send their children to; not only their right to have their children brought up in a school where religion is of real importance, but also the freedom to operate an efficient school outside the educational provision made by the State. It is clear to me that together with this defence of freedom, we must also seek to defend high standards of education; and this is not élitism, it is a matter of common sense.

"It is sadly true of the British that we are apt to denigrate ourselves as a nation; that we are inclined to show ourselves in a bad light; that we seem to have somehow an inbuilt inferiority complex. We would do well to take the advice of Elliott Richardson, recently American Ambassador in this country. "Englishmen are so conscious of their own shortcomings. Do take a pride in your achievements and accomplishments; continue to set yourselves high standards. Somebody has been getting a lot of things right in this country for a very long time. There is an element of instinctive balance; you have your gardens, literature, music. You do not need to make a compromise. You must use the influence you have. Use your resources; have dignity and remember the significance of the rôle of the individual." This, surely, is something we can regard at Stowe as a call to arms; we have here a sense of history and a great regard for the individual. Let us then not lose sight of this heritage. Young as we are, we would do well to take pride in our achievement, in our quality. As a school, we are in business to open

windows so that our boys and our girls may see a vision of quality. We must offer them the opportunity whether to leave open a particular window or to close it, and it is the responsibility and the excitement for those who teach that we are the window openers. In this changing world of 1976, you parents in particular look to those of us who teach to set the educational and social standards for your children, to help to give them a sense of independent judgement and to help them to grow up in both personal relationships and in their approach to work. We hope we shall not fail you."

#### Mr Heseltine's Speech

"Can I thank the Head Boy for his help in identifying people who I must confess I would not have been able to recognise without his ministrations on my right side, and may I thank you all and you, Headmaster, for inviting me here on this magnificent day to take part in your Speech Day and your Old Boys' Day? It will have occurred to many of you to ask yourselves 'What on earth have they invited him for?' And it did, I must confess, occur to me to ask exactly that question. It can in fact only be traced back to a conversation which I was having over a dinner not long ago with your Headmaster and the Chairman of the Governors in which they were explaining to me about the success the school is enjoying academically and the very high standards that they would be able to announce on Speech Day, and the very large number of prizes which would be distributed to the talent which would be coming forward. And I said: 'Have you ever considered the position of those who will not be getting the prizes?' Like me. A whole public school career—not a prize, not a brief moment of glory, not in any way an exception to a career of total ignominy. What better qualifications you will say, to now be a member of the Cabinet or the Shadow Cabinet. But as a politician I confess that I am torn in the daunting task you have set me today. For what am I to do? I realise I am here to praise those who have by their conspicuous effort and energy won the well deserved prizes that I have distributed. But then as a politician I cannot forget the great majority—those who did not win any prizes at all. For every prize winner there are 20 out there who didn't. And for every parent glowing with pride, there are 20 with different views. And they are all my constituents.

So I have sought within myself for a solution, which gives me as you would expect the best of all possible worlds. I praise those who get the prizes and I give hope and encouragement to the vast majority who did not. For they too will have votes in my lifetime! I would like, if I may, to praise the remarkable achievements that your Headmaster has read out to you of the school over the last twelve months. It is a record in which he can take conspicuous pride for the contribution that over a long period of Headmastership he has brought to this most distinguished school. But I would also like to say a word of encouragement to those people who have not upon this occasion come to receive any prize at all. I do so remembering perhaps the pinnacle of the school reports which I used to receive—the one for boxing. 'He who fights and runs away lives to fight another day.' But the other day has not yet dawned. But I did the best I could and eventually I got a degree at Oxford—"a great but undeserved triumph", as my tutor said. There are things that one learns in politics that are relevant to examinations, which might come in handy for some of you in the future. You will all have watched the politician on television who is asked a question which he then neatly sidesteps and systemically fails to answer by producing an answer to a quite different question. I would say to you, remember that in the examination hall. Prepare your answers with great care before you go in to take the exams. If you recognise as I did a limit to your intellectual capability, it will be totally impossible for you to know about all the sort of things about which they could possibly question you. I invented my own solution. What I had to do was to be highly selective, and work out in advance the sort of standard answer that would apply to a limitless number of questions. First of all take eight quotations at random from the subject that you are studying. Take them preferably from some relatively obscure work on the subject. Not sufficiently obscure that the examiner will never have heard about it, but sufficiently obscure that he will be proud that he has just heard the name that you are quoting. Learn those quotations well, and place them firmly on one side. Then list the salient factors about the subject with which you are dealing and list them in a packaged form, and when you go to the examination look

carefully at the questions and see which one it is most easy to answer with one of those packages you have prepared. You will find it is always possible, and you will find that the use of one of those quotations, which should always come at the beginning of the answer, and preferably at the end as well will help enormously. By all means if you are short of time, repeat the quotation, because there is nothing like starting off with a punch line, and if it is a good one ending up with it in conclusion. And that you will find has the most remarkable effect, and it is good enough to get you through most exams you will come face to face with. There is only one weakness. You must avoid studying any subject which could possibly put forward a question which needs a factual answer. Never allow yourself to be exposed to the tutor who can prove that you are wrong. Go into subjects where opinions are what matters, and the more that you can present your answer as a balance between competing opinions, the stronger ground you will be on. If you can present these issues as a balance of opinion, never come down in favour of one side or the other, because you cannot know which side the examiner will be on. And always be sure that you flatter the examiner by writing clearly and legibly but not at any great length, because he is anxious to finish the marking of the papers and will severely penalise you if you keep him at the task too long. If you follow this course you will find you will enter life equipped with the essentials that are necessary, to start on the journey through the cut-throat world into which you will all shortly be ejected, and you carry my good wishes with you. I wish you the best of luck and I would ask you, and beg of you, not to be depressed by any records that might have been written of you, they may be fully justified at this early stage of your career. But it's a long, hard race and there are many, many years yet to go.

Now, if I may, I would like to say something, Headmaster, about much the same subject that you, yourself, were referring to. For the public schools are unquestionably under attack, and of course we all know the familiar charges. They are privileged, they are élitist. No-one ever criticises them for their failure to attain excellence in education. It is the more emotive political charges which are heard. The public schools should not feel that they are alone in being the recipient of this form of attack. Wherever you look in the western world, precisely those arguments are being used to attack the whole established order of society as we know it. Precisely the same arguments are used about private wealth, private medicine, private industry, the private ownership of land. And those who have to defend, or want by conviction to defend, the sort of society in which we live must really understand the total picture against which the allegations are made, if they are most effectively to defend those things in which they believe. If they look carefully they will see a most fundamental argument raging in society. And it is the fundamental argument about the relationship between the individual and the state, and within that about the rights and powers of individuals under the state. The attack may centre about the emotive issues of privilege, but that is to an extent a diversion. The real issue is power and who shall exercise it, and where. It is a diversion because whatever political system you choose, it will always produce its manifestations of privilege. In any nation on earth conspicuous privilege is enjoyed and to an extent abused by some of those who wield power—the communists, fascists, socialists and capitalist societies have none of them overcome the innate acquisitiveness of mankind. Regardless of language, religion, race or class, there is always the danger that it will create its own systems and centres of power based on privilege. So we are not talking about privilege, that will always be with us. We are talking about who enjoys it, how they got it, and the checks that society contains to spread it or to limit it. Those who have not will always seek to share, those who have will always seek to defend—anywhere, everywhere—but anyone who doubts it should remember the classified advertisement in the 'agony' columns of *The Times*—"Communist with own knife and fork anxious to meet communist with own steak and kidney pie". But the grave weakness of the revolutionary and evolutionary societies of the left is that whilst they often come to power by exploiting the resentment of privilege by individuals who do not have enough of it, and therefore want more of it, once those parties come to power, immediately they destroy the privileges that they resent, and they then replace them with privileges more rigid, more permanent and more overbearing. They establish the privileges which are in fact associated with totalitarian power. And there is nothing so intolerable, nothing so intolerant, as the educationist, who having used the central power of the state to eliminate all competition to his views, then claims that his views on education are those that

shall prevail for all people regardless of their choice. There is nothing so privileged as the party that having created such a system uses the educational system to indoctrinate its children for the purposes of the state. There is no man more privileged than the head of a state educational system who effectively controls who shall hold what job, who knows that every career is dependent upon his whim, and who in the process acquires a power and the privileges that goes with it, which no free society of the sort we live in would tolerate for a second. And yet in education, in welfare, in industry, as we evolve in the direction of such choiceless, competitionless, statist systems, we are witnessing the erosion of the rôle of individuals in society and the dramatic burgeoning of power in the hands of men and women who claim to speak for the state. In the simplest analysis, public schools do not need to answer for their educational attainments; they are under attack because only a few can afford them. I do not dispute that. But if one recognises private wealth as the only alternative source of power in society to political power, if you recognise that the more pervasive political power becomes, the more self-feeding it becomes, then it follows that you will defend not only individual wealth but also the choice to spend it as individuals themselves wish. I believe above all in societies that recognise the individual above the state, I cannot understand the argument that people should be expected to work, to take risks, to become involved without the prospect of reward, and I would rather reward them with money and the limited powers to spend it as they wish in the sort of society that I admire than I would reward them with the prospect of political advancement, with the far more damaging and insidious implications for freedom which characterise societies of the left. But you cannot argue for freedom of choice and individual reward if that choice in the spending of one's own money is limited only to the less important decisions in life. To educate one's children to the best of one's ability and to provide for one's health are legitimate human ambitions. No-one will be better educated or enjoy better health if the private sector in these fields is destroyed. In reality I believe the reverse is the case. The competitive challenge that choice provides will, in my view, enhance the quality of services in both the public and private sectors of these sort of fields. It is because you are playing a conspicuous part in the competitive stimulus that the excellence you provide has brought about that I wish you all good fortune in the future.

## STOWE APPEAL 1976

The Appeal has made an encouraging start, and at the time of going to press £70,000 has been raised, with further promises of support from many Parents, Old Stoics and other well-wishers. There is however, a long way to go to reach the target of £200,000.

By the end of this term 23 meetings will have been held in this country, and one each in New York, Mexico, Trinidad and Bermuda.

As one Parent mentioned, "Most fund raising evenings are so boring, but Stowe's are fun." It is hoped that many Parents and Old Stoics who were unable to attend the first set of meetings, will be able to come to one of those in the Autumn Term.

It is certainly not an easy time for an Appeal of this nature, but Stowe's need for a multi-purpose Sports Hall and Examination Hall is very real.

I wish to add my thanks to those of the Headmaster for the generosity of those who have contributed, and sincerely hope that with the expected support that has been promised, the New Hall will be a reality in the Summer of 1977.

B. N. ASHFORD  
Resident Campaign Director

## MUSIC

Saturday, 6th December, 1975, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

STOWE CHORAL SOCIETY

STOWE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA Conducted by David Gatehouse and Paul Drayton

Jonathan Kreeger and David Gatehouse (*piano*)

Egmont Overture—*Beethoven*

Symphony No. 8 ("Unfinished")—*Schubert*

Templa Quam Dilecta—*Paul Drayton*

A minor result of the decision not to publish *The Stoic* in the Spring Term is that reports on concerts at the end of the Autumn Term take on a nugatory importance. No-one wants to read in July a detailed appraisal of a Christmas concert the previous year. I have, therefore, unrepentantly discarded notes made at the time on the above programme, and propose to record only the reflections of memory which others may perhaps share. The *Egmont Overture* and Schubert's *Unfinished Symphony* are both well enough known and straightforward enough (at any rate superficially) to make ideal items for a School orchestra; the very familiarity engages a ready sympathy as well as stirring the critical sense; faulty playing in such works does not easily go undetected. The School orchestra's performance of both seemed to me pleasingly accurate and well controlled and, in the case of the Schubert, appropriately delicate and restrained. The only blemish I recall was occasional roughness in the brass. The high point of the evening, for me at any rate, was Mr Drayton's *Templa Quam Dilecta*. It was the second time we had heard this charming and vigorous work, better served by the richer acoustics of the Roxburgh Hall than the more cramped, even if more intimate, atmosphere of the Queen's Temple. It is refreshing in these days to have in our midst a man who has the independence of mind to set Latin words to music; even more striking is the skill which can take the flat and somewhat unrhythmical Latin of the Vulgate and clothe it in a musical idiom both contemporary and melodious. The Choral Society clearly enjoyed its work, and was particularly effective in what is perhaps the most exciting section of the piece, 'Etiam passer invenit domum', with its attractive fusion of old words and modern rhythm. A recording of this fine addition to the English choral tradition would be very welcome; one wonders if this work will have to wait as long as Gerald Finzi's *Intimations of Immortality* before the cognoscenti adequately acknowledge it. The evening was suitably rounded off with carols for all, and some solo performances by Mr Dobinson, Mr Kirk and the Headmaster. We have heard the first two on various occasions, but this was, I think, the first time a Stowe Headmaster has launched into song elsewhere than in Chapel, and the first time Mr Drayton has appeared on the platform for purposes other than oratory. The genial atmosphere of 'audience participation' provided a seasonal climax to a very successful musical evening which now seems rather a long time ago.

B. S. STEPHAN

Sunday, 8th February, 1976, at 8.00 p.m. in the Music Room

CONCERT BY MEMBERS OF STOWE SCHOOL

After this annual event had attracted sparse audiences to the Roxburgh Hall for the last two years, the decision was taken to hold this year's concert in the Music Room. Inevitably I suppose, larger numbers came than were expected and seating space was at a premium; even so, the warm appreciation given to the performers was an indication that the concert was much enjoyed by all. On the debit side, there was a noticeable imbalance in the programme caused

by the lack of any string items at all. Can it be a coincidence that this is our first year without a string-player on the full-time music staff? It is to be hoped that some impetus in that direction will be maintained despite this obvious handicap.

I am not sure that it is either wise in principle or fair on the other performers, in a concert of this nature, to build up one item in advance at the expense of the others to quite the extent that happened on this occasion. Having said that, it has to be admitted that Jonathan Kreeger's playing of the solo part in the first movement of Gershwin's piano concerto displayed an excellent combination of vitality and artistry. In the more forceful passages, the balance was occasionally lost, with victory going to P.C.D.'s energetic "orchestral" accompaniment, but it would be churlish to suggest that this should detract in any way from the sheer dynamism of the performance.

The other soloists displayed the usual high standard we have come to expect at Stowe. Patrick Lloyd's oboe won him a deservedly warm reception for the beautiful tone it displayed in Bach's *Arioso in F*, Eiluned Jones coped very ably with short pieces by Liszt and Ravel which were not at all easy to put over. George Barwood's accomplished technique was once again in evidence, playing the first movement of Bach's *Italian Concerto*; the overall fluency was not quite there this time, but there were several fine passages. The vocal solos of Joanna Bell and Paul Nelson provided a pleasant contrast and indeed a visitor arriving then and surveying the scene—a youthful figure singing by the piano in the elegance of the Music Room—could be forgiven for thinking he had walked straight into the nineteenth century! In the past, the performances of the woodwind ensembles have been a little unpredictable but, on this occasion, both woodwind and brass groups produced a most pleasing blend; the opening clarinet item, in particular, set a high standard for the others to follow.

The explanation for the large audience was revealed when members of the choir emerged from all parts of the room in order to conclude the concert with two contrasting items. The first was "The Holy City", a piece of unashamed kitsch which P.C.D. surprised me by conducting completely straight, and the other was an original arrangement of "Amazing Grace" which gave, among others, an opportunity to two of the school's leading pop musicians to make a good contribution in a context where they did not have to suffer complaints about their volume. The concluding note on the trombone, which I can only describe as a raspberry, was by no means the reaction of the audience to a most entertaining evening.

C. S. JUNEMAN

Sunday, 22nd February, 1976, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

MILTON KEYNES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Paul Drayton (*piano*)

Conducted by Hilary Davan Wetton

I do not like Hilary Davan Wetton. A few days before this concert, I went to hear him speak at Music Club, and, hearing his—extremely funny—talk on how (and how not to) conduct, I was ready to see him conduct as he had shown us. It was therefore a considerable shock to me, and to all the Music Club members, to see Mr Davan Wetton himself behaving on the podium in exactly the manner of many conductors whom he had so devastatingly imitated a few days earlier.

The sounds were beautiful, and Mr Davan Wetton had obviously trained his orchestra well. A fine delicacy pervaded the Cimarosa "Betrayed Lovers" overture, with perfect tone. The "Arrival of the Queen of Sheba" and Mozart's *Symphony No. 29* were both characterised by stunning effects in exciting, brilliant, colourful, warm playing. The Mozart was a *tour de force*, and the shouts of applause were well deserved. A Malcolm Arnold "Sinfonietta", too, was full of happy gusto, with enough pleasant sounds to keep people happy.

The main part of the programme, Mozart's *Piano Concerto in A (K.414)*, was a fabulous display of pianistic pyrotechnics by Paul Drayton, with hands flashing all over the keyboard. Dazzling in the fast passages, and warm in the second movement, always with admirable orchestral support, even accompanied by a spectacular leap into the air by Mr Davan Wetton to finish the piece off. Paul Drayton was undoubtedly the hero of the evening; the orchestra and conductor, too, were excellent. But perhaps Mr Davan Wetton should be a little more careful before he starts attacking other conductors. "Honi soit qui mal y pense"?

JONATHAN KREEGER

Sunday, 2nd May, 1976, at 8.00 p.m. in the Queen's Temple

WELLESLEY STRING QUARTET

Colin Dowdeswell (*violin*)

Jane Metcalfe (*viola*)

Rebecca Wade (*violin*)

Theresa-Mary Morton (*cello*)

This was an evening of great beauty and of great excitement. The first piece played by this accomplished quartet provided the excitement; with its expansive melody and Mahlerian harmony, Turina's "The Bullfighter's Prayer" is a remarkable work by a contemporary composer.

Haydn's *Quartet in D, Op. 20*, was a light and airy piece typical of its composer, with flowing melody and harmony with few surprises. The Quartet here revealed their close rapport in a piece that required as much as they could muster. The last item on the programme, Mozart's *Quartet in C, K.465*, "The dissonant", which begins with a passage that sounds as if the players are tuning up, was excellent, except for the fact that when the players did actually choose to tune up half way through the Quartet, it was slightly displeasing that they took so long doing so. This, however, can only be a small quibble in an evening of such fine music.

SIMON WALLACE-JONES

Saturday, 22nd May, 1976, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

SPEECH DAY CONCERT

STOWE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA, Conducted by Bram Wiggins

Since everyone either seemed to be out or playing in this concert, it fell to my lot to write (extremely greedily) another review for this issue of *The Stoic*. It turned out, for the first half of the programme, to be an alarmingly painful job, since the orchestral sounds were of a kind that makes it sad to have to remember them. Of course, one makes allowance for mistakes and discords, but this, I am sorry to have to report, was too much. Charles Douglas' superb rendition of the Mozart flute *andante* was almost spoiled—a difficult task when one considers his own beautiful playing—by messy orchestral accompaniment; and the *Adagio* from the three-piano concerto, also Mozart, was also marred by the orchestra. Nevertheless, the three soloists—Paul Harris, Stephen McCarthy and James Highwood, were remarkably well rehearsed and accomplished; I felt Paul Harris in particular did well with the most exposed part.

By the time the *Surprise Symphony* 2nd and 3rd movements began, I was expecting something akin to the *Hoffnung* parody of the famous second movement. I was not disappointed.

By now, the only thing the concert could do to redeem itself was to have a second half of unparalleled excellence. Oddly enough, it did almost that. The chapel choir opened the second

half, and demonstrated once more what a remarkable talent we have in Paul Drayton. The woodwind quartet, always fine, were once more a well drilled group, and the clarinet ensemble likewise. A charming pair, Paul Nelson and Joanna Bell, sang two equally charming duets; I was not so sure about the Jazz Band, who obviously enjoyed themselves but were too often noisy, inaccurate and inarticulate. The evening was completed by a selection from "Smike", highly enjoyable and sending us all away having forgotten the dismal first half of the evening.

JONATHAN KREEGER

Thursday, 27th May, 1976, at 7.45 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC

Conducted by Maurice Miles

The evening began with the "Coriolanus" overture, a disturbed piece of Beethoven, finely balanced by the young orchestra; its soft ending was particularly—and paradoxically!—disquieting, leaving us all with a marvellous sense of uneasiness.

Richard Stoker's "Chorale for Strings", a modern piece, was characterized by fine phrasing and execution, although in itself lacking any tune or predominant theme.

Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 was particularly notable for the fine playing of the four soloists: the bright Allegro, with its clear trumpet part, the slower Andante, with the resonant oboe, violin and flute solos, producing a great beauty of tone, and its return to Allegro, with more exciting playing.

The performance of Beethoven's rousing Eroica symphony, as with all the other items of the evening, played with all the brilliance one would expect from the Academy orchestra. The vicious final movement was particularly good, rounding off an evening that was much enjoyed.

JONATHAN WHEELER

Thursday, 3rd June, 1976, at 8.00 p.m. in the Music Room

A FAURE CONCERT

John Dobinson (*baritone*)                      Harry Gregson-Williams (*treble*)

THE QUEEN'S TEMPLE SINGERS and CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Conducted by David Gatehouse

Sicilienne Op. 80

Pavane Op. 50

Requiem Op. 48

The Queen's Temple Singers and chamber orchestra presented a concert of music by Fauré which many more boys than those present would have enjoyed in the exquisite setting of the Music Room. The concert opened with the Prelude to Maeterlinck's play "Pelleas et Melisande" rather hesitatingly, but the players soon settled down and delighted us with the Sicilienne from the same work, with its striking 'cello pizzicato. This was followed by the Pavane for orchestra and chorus; this has a memorably plaintive melody played by the clarinet and developed on the bassoon. The chorus melodiously intervenes with remarks in French commenting on the members of the company; the sound was pleasant, though perhaps not quite strong enough for balance—but the words were mercifully inaudible.

After the interval came the Requiem; it is a particular pleasure to listen to liturgical language in these days when the language of worship is reduced to a plainness which takes away all sense of sublimity. I felt the opening "requiem" was a little too loud, and the contrasts of volume in "exaudi orationem meam" not sufficiently marked, accompanied by constant volume from the orchestra. The rhythm, too, was slow to settle down, until the lovely passage "te decet . . ." The offertorio opened with an impressive unaccompanied "O domine", which led into J. B. Dobinson's fine baritone rendering, strong and clear except perhaps in the lower notes. The Pie Jesus, a treble solo sung by Harry Gregson-Williams, was pure and magical, a remarkable display of musicianship quite apart from the pleasure of hearing a good treble voice. In contrast came the Agnus Dei, moving from stately return to Requiem, to the second baritone solo, which took liberties with the rhythm and notes, and the soloist was not together with the orchestra. However, the chorus repeated the theme strongly, and built up to a splendid "coeli movandi suit". The work ended with an ethereal "in paradisum"; the sopranos produced an angelic and beautiful tone, and the basses a rich, organ-like contrast which brought the work—and the evening—to a fitting conclusion.

R. C. RAWCLIFFE

## THE BAND

After a very good concert in the Christmas term, we began the Easter term preparing a few small groups for the School Concert, held this year in the Music Room. These included a brass and woodwind group and a woodwind ensemble. After this concert, the band started rehearsals for Speech Day. The programme here was a varied one with pieces ranging from a Spanish March to Contemporary Waltzes, and the performance was very satisfactory considering Speech Day was so early. This term the band numbered about 50, of which about half was brass and half was woodwind. I would like to thank the whole band and especially Mr Wiggins for all the hard work they have put into producing many fine performances.

JOHN MORTON

Sunday, 30th November, 1975, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

BAND CONCERT

The annual band concert enjoyed a rather larger audience than usual, it is pleasing to note. The programme included a wide assortment of pieces, among which were several solo items, ranging from Adrian Hudson's lively performance of "The Acrobat" to Haydn's serenade, all of a very high standard. However, especially fine were Paul Rivalland's rendering of the second movement of Mozart's bassoon concerto, and Nicholas Comery's performance of Rimsky-Korsakov's trombone concerto. Previous performances of these pieces had won them first prize in their respective classes at the Buckingham Music Festival, and, judging by the applause if nothing else, the success of these solo performers—and the band—was well deserved.

JEREMY BROADHEAD

## DRAMA

The growing interest in drama in the School has been demonstrated by the production of eight widely differing plays over the last six months. Five houses performed in the Easter term and their choices included Victorian melodrama and provocative and disturbing modern plays, as well as more conventional comedies. The plays performed were: *Loot* by Grenville, *Sweeney Todd* by Chandos, *Unman, Wittering and Zigo* by Grafton, *French without Tears* by Walpole and *My Three Angels* by Lyttelton.



This term has seen, so far, a modern musical, *Smike*, which is reviewed below, and Pinter's *The Birthday Party*. The latter, which was directed and acted entirely by members of the Lower Sixth was the first piece of serious modern drama to be attempted by boys and girls alone on a School rather than a House basis and was a great success. It was indicative of a growing interest in the theatre—a most gratifying development and one which will, it is hoped, be actively fostered in the future. By the time this is read the Junior Congreve Club will have put on an open air production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

R. M. POTTER

## SMIKE

*Smike* was not only a success but a victory. First, it was a victory over those gloomy members of the community who are always ready to criticise and even actively oppose dramatic ventures for apparently emotive rather than considered reasons; happily, in this instance, the detractors were regarded more as a challenge than a hindrance, yet if such attitudes continue, both staff and boys are going to pause before fighting against them, and the school will be immeasurably the poorer. Secondly *Smike* was a victory over the audience, a matter to which I shall later return.

*Smike* is a short modern musical based loosely on Charles Dickens's *Nicholas Nickleby*. Even given the stylised conventions of such entertainment, the script is trite and immensely forgettable, and the delivery of the lines was equally and explicably weak. But though the musical score reaches no great heights, it includes several pleasant and catchy tunes. The band, under the direction of David Gatehouse, captured exactly the life and light-hearted mood of the piece, and was always in balance with the singers on stage, leading and following as occasion demanded.

Michael Kirk and Jill Dobinson, as Mr and Mrs Squeers, were a dominating couple, revelling in their mock-cruelty. Roddy Hamilton succeeded in portraying Nicholas's awkward and naive idealism, but his voice lacked power, and his solos, though usually audible, were unconvincing. Sue Bone just caught the character of Fanny Squeers, downtrodden and pathetically in love with Nicholas, but again her voice lacked the necessary power. Harry Gregson-Williams was always competent as the bullied Smike, and his solo 'In the warm light of a brand new day', though slightly lacking in clarity, was a genuinely moving experience.

But without a doubt the success of *Smike* owed most to the boys of the chorus. They always managed the supremely difficult task of bringing spontaneity to well-rehearsed and intricate routines, and they sang with a controlled but refreshing enthusiasm: the standard of performance in 'Here I am' and 'Brimstone and Treacle' was as outstanding as one could hope to find on the amateur stage.

Yet although I should have come away from *Smike* pleased by what I had seen, the behaviour of the audience meant otherwise. It was a credit to the cast that it did not falter at the jeers, the whistling, and the ribaldry, but these things can hardly have helped. It was not just the noisy appreciation pushed into disrespect which was annoying (though one does not expect it in an institution which believes in courtesy and good manners), but the determination to find smut and innuendo at every possible opportunity. To be fair, the solos were afforded an interested silence, but to be forced to look for mitigating factors is almost to prove the original point. In the end I felt sorry for all those who had worked so hard on *Smike*: they achieved much, and they deserved a better reception.

J. C. LOVELOCK

## SOCIETY CHAPEL

We have welcomed the following as preachers in Chapel:

**Spring Term:** J. Garnett, Esq., Director of the Industrial Society; The Revd R. J. Burns, Curate of St John's, Woking; and The Revd H. R. Silvester, Tutor at Oak Hill Theological College.

**Summer Term:** The Revd Canon C. F. D. Moule, Lady Margaret's Professor of Divinity at Cambridge; Miss D. D. Dakin, Headmistress of the Red Maids' School, Bristol; The Rt Revd The Lord Ramsey of Canterbury; The Revd E. Stride, Rector of Christ Church, Spitalfields; D. R. Wigram, Esq., former Headmaster of Monkton Combe; and The Revd C. J. V. Drummond Team Rector, Great Linford, Milton Keynes.

With large numbers once again this year, we held two Confirmation Retreats at High Leigh Conference Centre and both were led by the Revd Robert Burns. On March 7th the Confirmation Service was conducted by the Rt Revd Peter Walker, Bishop of Dorchester.

The Lenten Addresses were given by the Revd Hugh Silvester who took as the theme for his three talks Christ's claim, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life". Mr Silvester, an author and lecturer on Christian apologetics, also gave valuable leadership to class discussions and his visit was much appreciated.

A Revised Standard Version Bible has been purchased for regular use as the Lectern Bible.

N. W. WYNNE-JONES

## THE CHAPEL CHOIR

The highlight of this year's music was undoubtedly the Speech Day Concert. This showed the degree of unity that the group of some 60 people has now achieved. Although the music must ultimately come from the singers, the credit must go to the choir-master, Mr Drayton.

A few years ago, the Chapel choir was regarded as a joke—and an embarrassing one at that. Though there was some degree of musicianship, the harmonies produced were those of a number of individuals—not a choir. Mr Drayton has not only added the missing enthusiasm, but has introduced an element of professionalism. This allows the choir to be self-critical and has finally produced a gratified response from members of the congregation where ridicule would previously have been expected.

PAUL RIVALLAND

## THE STUDY GROUP

The Study Group is a Christian meeting that is designed to help would-be Christians to understand the many aspects of Christianity, and also to assist practising Christians of the School to flourish in the Christian life.

This term and last term, attenders at the meeting have heard talks given by fifteen outside speakers including one recent Old Stoic and the Headmaster's son, who has recently been active in Christian service in South America. Last term's talks followed 'Six Great Claims of Jesus' and also included a taperecording by Jim Vaus. This term's theme has been 'Any Answers?'

The questions have ranged from: 'The Bible—a reliable guide?' (by the Revd David Fletcher) to 'Christianity—escapism or involvement?' (by the Revd Eddy Stride). One of the forthcoming meetings is to take the form of an interview with Dan Hearn, the famous rugby international and author of 'Crash Tackle'.

The Study Group is grateful to Mr Vinen for the very generous hospitality he affords, by providing the use of his flat after chapel every Sunday. Thanks are also due to Mr Marcuse for his organization of the meeting.

Finally it only remains to be said that every member of the School is always welcome at the Study Group.

WILLIAM CUBITT  
PAUL NELSON

## STOWE COMMUNITY SERVICE

This year has been one of great change and, at the same time, of little alteration in the Community Service day-to-day organization. Any report of this year must begin with the most important news by far—the loss of Mr Theobald as the Head of S.C.S. He had, since taking over the organization in the late 1960's, transformed it from a minor activity run by a few boys, into a major part of the School, and one of the leading Community Service groups in this country. His hard work and dedication over these years have earned him and Stowe wide respect, and we are all extremely grateful to him as he devotes more of his time to his responsibilities as Housemaster. No other man could ever have done more than he has achieved. His place is filled by Mr Lovelock, whose task is difficult, not only in continuing the work of his predecessor, but in injecting a new philosophy and new enthusiasm into the organization.

Many of the usual yearly events have been arranged and run, with a gratifying series of results. The Christmas Hamper campaign, run by Peter Taylor, provided hampers for over 400 pensioners and the target of £2,500 worth of food and money was reached, with a final figure of nearly £3,000. Thanks are due to everyone involved in this remarkable feat.

The Christmas Party too, was a success, with over 400 pensioners attending the party in the Marble Hall at the School. The hall was packed to capacity, and 1976's party will have to be thought out very carefully if numbers are to increase yet again.

The *S.C.S. News*, our fortnightly newsletter, is still running after having hit a difficult patch; the logs organization has also had trouble because of machinery problems, but is now back to normal. The vegetable scheme could not be put into use in the winter because of the drought and consequent potato shortage. Community Service work can also be affected by the forces of a malevolent Nature!

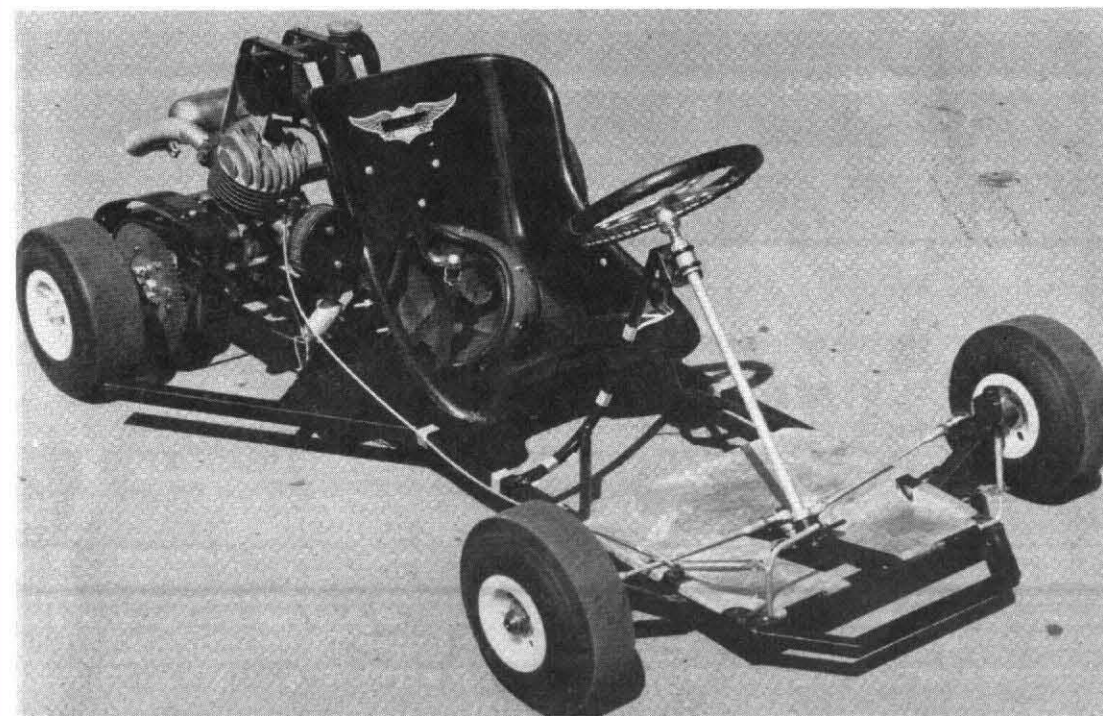
As for the more philosophical side of the S.C.S., several conferences have been attended and the value of these, although at times somewhat dubious, usually justified the trouble taken. At a recent conference near Solihull it was interesting to see how other Community Service groups were advancing more than we were. S.C.S., although still impressing other organizations, was also held up occasionally as the subject of a joke; none of the envy of previous years—when S.C.S. was obviously the biggest group—was present. This is in many ways a good thing, for we do not set out to impress others. But we have a lot to learn from those with less resources than ourselves. S.C.S. must look always for new ideas, find new stimuli, and apply its energies in new directions. As we face another year, it is with a desire for this new stimulus that we look ahead. For when new ground is broken, those involved will find further rewards in their already fascinating work.

JONATHAN KREEGER



Paul Nelson sculling on the Eleven-Acre

Mark Cave



Kart made by George Zambellas

P. J. James



Julie Marler and Bob Burton in *Unman, Wittering and Zigo*

Brewster Barclay

## THE LIBRARY

Besides our own purchases during the last two terms, we have been very pleased to receive the following presentations, which we gratefully acknowledge: "Fireworks—Principles and Practice" by Ronald Lancaster, presented by the author; "Education and Democracy" and "Masterful Images" by A. E. Dyson and Julian Lovelock, presented by J. C. Lovelock; "The Man Who Loves Giants" by David Shepherd, presented by the author (Q 1949); and "Seeing Equine Practice" by Peter Rossdale, presented by the author (T 1944).

The Library continues to be much used by book borrowers and by those who want to work and read in peace. Most of the School treat with respect a Library that is open throughout the day, but it is always distressing when a few abuse the privilege by marking the desks or scrawling in the Register. We have still not recovered the leatherbound Volume XXIII of *The Stoic* (1967-1969) missing since February.

Finally a word of thanks for the valuable help given by the Prefect of Library, J. C. Roxburgh, ma. (T), and by all the Library Monitors, especially those who have served for more than one term.

H. D. MARCUSE

**Monitors:** W. M. Graham (B), J. M. Scowsill (T), A. Braimer Jones (G), M. A. Sacks (C), M. A. N. Tomlin (C), T. G. Cameron (C), D. P. Mills (G), P. C. Sisson (W), J. H. Rose (L), A. J. S. Black (N), Francesca Kay (Girls).

## THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Two meetings were held in the Spring Term and both were well attended by sixth form geographers. Mr Roy Morgan of the National College of Agricultural Engineering, Bedford gave a well illustrated account of Soil Erosion which included the results of some of his own research. This lecture provided useful material for 'A' level coursework and was enjoyed by all for its interest and lucid presentation.

An earlier meeting was addressed by Mr Philip Howard who illustrated his talk entitled "Aspects of the Geography of Kenya" with slides taken in many parts of the country during his five years as a teacher in Nairobi.

D. R. FOSTER

## GEOGRAPHY FIELD COURSE

EASTER 1975

The Leonard Wills Field Centre near Taunton in Somerset was revisited at the beginning of the Easter holidays by a party of 33 Lower Sixth Geographers. Our object was to complete a week's field course as an integral part of the 'A' level syllabus. The course was jointly directed by Field Studies Council Staff and Mr Foster.

Six members of our party travelled from Stowe in an S.C.S. mini-bus. The journey did not pass without geographical significance for one of our stops was at Dundry Hill, an outlier of the Cotswolds at the junction of Highland and Lowland Britain. This was a spectacular sight and certainly began the course in the right way.

Nettlecombe Court, the study centre, is a large Jacobean house near the village of Monksilver between the Quantocks and Exmoor. We were all fairly comfortable during our stay and the food was tolerable. Our studies included coastal and fluvial geomorphology, hydrology and



A scene from *Smike*

soils, land use and rural and urban settlement patterns. Most of the work took place within a radius of ten miles of the centre but field parties also visited Exmoor and the Mendips areas. For most of us the course was hard work as we spent at least three hours in the lecture room as well as five hours in the field each day. However it was all very enjoyable, which must have been due in part to the excellent weather throughout the week.

A mini-bus which leaked vast quantities of oil, frenzied chases after floating oranges in stream velocity studies and a lively "potted" History of Architecture lecture were some of the memorable incidents which added variety to the routines of recording, representing and analysing field data.

JULIE MARLER

## THE GEOLOGISTS

In late February the second-year geology set stayed at the Harrow School Field Centre "Nanoose" at Wool, Dorset. Despite the inconveniently high tides a good deal of work was done amid the beautiful surroundings of the Wessex coast. As usual, students were greatly impressed by the magnificence of the cliff scenery, but slightly less enthusiastic about having to crawl about on hands and knees on the muddy beaches of the Fleet looking for rather small fossils.

During the Easter holiday the set was based at Exeter University for a four-day field course. Many different areas were visited, including the Meldon-Okehampton region, the Cave Research Centre at Buckfastleigh, the Torbay coast, Dawlish, Budleigh Salterton, and Eastern Dartmoor where we completed our work the day before snow blanketed the granite. A feature of note on this year's trip was the accidental disturbance of a hibernating dormouse in a Permian lava quarry, but we restored him (her?) to a luxurious Stowe-built nest of leaves, whereupon all squeaking ceased and tranquility reigned.

M. WALDMAN

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Historical Society was founded in January 1968, and eight years later, in January 1976, it celebrated the holding of its fiftieth meeting by hearing a talk from Mr Michael Parker, the newly-appointed Headmaster of Abingdon School, and formerly Senior History Master at Winchester, on nineteenth century agriculture. He pointed out how Lord Ernle had in the nineteenth century seen the relationship of railway building and the Industrial Revolution to the Golden Age of British Agriculture, and after examining the ways in which modern research has thrown new light on the problem Mr Parker concluded that the best general picture we can get of the history of nineteenth century agriculture is still that provided by Lord Ernle.

Our next three speakers were all men who had spoken to the Society before. Mr Malcolm Oxley, a Housemaster at St Edward's, Oxford, who had previously talked to us about Queen Elizabeth I, this time took as his subject 'Satan, Sex and Society'. He spoke of the relationship which men have seen in the past between Satan and sexual activity, and of the social problems which resulted. He further suggested that, despite all the advances of Science, the most effective device which Society had found for coping with these problems was probably religion.

Dr Christopher Andrew, Fellow of Corpus Christi College, spoke to us about the French 'Cabinet Noir' which came into existence in the time of Louis XIV to intercept diplomatic messages, and which continued into the nineteenth and twentieth centuries to decipher codes. He spoke of the effects on French policy of the use, non-use and mis-use of intercepted information and indicated that the history of the relationship of the 'Cabinet Noir' with the French government is a history of lost opportunities.

Professor the Revd Colin Morris of Southampton gave us double measure when he visited us this June. On the Friday evening he talked about "The Preaching of the First Crusade". He showed how a detailed examination of the extraordinarily rich collection of sources for Pope Urban II's preaching of the first crusade at Clermont can reveal how very little we really know of what Pope Urban said. What we can be sure of is that he appealed for help to relieve Eastern churches from Moslem oppression, that he offered remission of punishment for sins to those who took the Cross, as well as arrangements for the protection of their property, and that he appointed Bishop Adhemar of le Puy to lead the expedition.

On the Saturday morning Professor Morris spoke to us about the defeat of the army of the Kingdom of Jerusalem at Hattin in 1187. He compared the military developments of 1183 with those of 1187. In 1183, when Saladin attacked the Galilean 'soft frontier' of the Kingdom of Jerusalem at Baisan, a Frankish force moved forward to occupy the Pools of Goliath and secure the water supply, and Saladin withdrew. It was a close-run thing. In 1187, when Saladin invaded Galilee again, a Frankish army again advanced against him. It was not, as is often thought, an entirely foolish military decision. But this time Saladin rather than the Franks controlled the only water available, the weather was hotter than in 1183, and a thirsty crusading army was cut to pieces.

D. J. ARNOLD

## THE SPANISH SOCIETY

Stowe's Spanish Department has again been involved in a variety of activities in recent months. After a slight delay, we published a further edition of *Enfoque*, with articles on subjects ranging from modern Spanish films to Spanish literature, painting and tourist attractions. As editor Nick Duthie deserves praise for his successful efforts to maintain the high standard of past issues.

The other major events have all involved journeys to London; members saw a competent performance by students at King's College of Lope de Vega's play "El Perro del Hortelano" and visited the exhibition of Spanish paintings at the Royal Academy. Stoics have also been closely associated with the activities of the Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. These have included a Sixth Form conference at King's College and the annual Fiesta Hispanica held at Queen Mary College, in the organisation of which Stowe had a vital part. The most memorable event, however, was undoubtedly the striking success of Stowe boys in the verse and prose reading competition. Of the seven Stoics who took part in the semi-finals, five went through to the finals. Nick Duthie and James Hartley finished third in their respective age groups, Robin Bryant was awarded second prize in the Under 14 group, while Sergio Aguero and Nigel Wright came first in the Native Speakers and Under 15 sections respectively.

Finally, we look forward before the end of the academic year to a Sixth Form literature conference at Eton College and to a talk by Clive Griffin of Trinity College, Oxford, on the Mexican Novelist Manano Azuetis' work "Los de Abajo".

D. J. MEE

## THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society has continued to flourish with a large membership and plenty of enthusiasm. The spring and summer terms are always far more rewarding for those who prefer to work outside. This is the time of year when we see an increase in interest in natural history due to the emergence of the 'fine weather naturalists'.

Thursday Societies, although not in action this term went well in the spring. The committee decided that members of this should participate more. Although a joint debate with the Debating

Society came to nothing we held a very successful quiz and organised an exhibition of members' artistic work, painting, drawing and photography. There was a much larger number of entries for this last than we had expected. The judges were critical that more trouble had not been taken over presentation of work, many people had simply displayed every picture they had. Nonetheless prizes were awarded in a number of different categories to the total value of some £12.

Monday extras have continued with boys doing their own projects if they have one. If only more were genuinely interested in what they were doing I feel they would get more satisfaction out of it. It seems futile to spend a year of Monday afternoons doing something which is boring simply because that person is too idle to take enough trouble to find something worthwhile.

This term has seen a flurry of activity. The new committee's first job was to produce *The Grebe*. Three hundred copies were sold on Speech Day, when thanks to a generous subsidy from the Bursar we were able to keep the price at last year's level of 30p. All the work of editing and compiling and this year the typing was done by the boys. The Speech Day exhibition drew its usual crowds. The exhibits included work on rabbits, weeds, fly-tying and some pictures. A major attraction was a family of Mallard raised by the Duckery and two Carolina Wood-ducks that obligingly hatched in full view during the day. The Zymase stand was well patronised too especially during the tasting sessions.

The work of members in the Nature Reserve and the Duckery is reported on elsewhere and looking back over the last two terms the Society seems to have achieved a great deal.

STEPHEN WILD

## NATURE RESERVE

Our conservation work these days is almost entirely restricted to Wednesday afternoons. Thus much of what we do is maintaining the existing system rather than launching out into any new schemes. Last term we completed the brushing of the Norway Spruce below Paper Mill House begun the previous winter. These are ready for thinning which will allow the remaining trees full room to grow.

The cold period in mid-February allowed us to finish cutting the side of the reed bed which was left last year. It is much easier cutting the stems at ice level than splashing about in cold muddy water! The reeds were despatched to Foxcote for the B.B.O.N.T. to use and the re-growth this year has been good. Sadly the very dry period has resulted in the lake drying out completely by late May. One mallard nesting on the island was rescued and her eggs hatched in the labs. She proved to be one of the birds that we had released onto the lake three years ago. Other breeding successes have included a pair of Tawny Owls and one of Stock Doves using the various types of bird box in the wood.

Our grassland management in the New Piece has taken some time this term. This is the third year we have used a growth retardant, Mazide, on a test area. The results have been less successful than before and some areas have browned off probably due to the lack of rain. Our management of Ladymead is a much happier tale. By only cutting once a year in July and removing the hay we have encouraged a marvellous diversity of flowers in contrast to the other side of the road which is regularly cut by the school.

Our two Field Days have been well spent. In March we spent the day planting at Foxcote. Brambles, Reed and other species to thicken up the marginal vegetation were moved to help the County Trust's programme here. In May we were the guests of Mr and Mrs Backhouse at Hornsey Island in Essex. With their customary generosity we were allowed free range over the island although one member straying too near the house met a hostile dog! Breakfast after the night under canvas consisted for some of Gull's egg sandwiches, a welcome addition to C.C.F. compo.

I must thank the regular group of Wednesday workers who have done so much to keep the reserve a going concern. I hope they have enjoyed their work and that next year's party will be as active.

DAVID JOYCE

## THE FORESTERS

The last of Bridgeman's Beech trees on the North Front was blown down in a great North-Westerly gale on January 3rd. The remains provided a challenge which we could not resist. Using the skills developed from similar operations we started a fire in the stump on 20th January which was kept going almost continuously for several weeks until all wood above the surface had been destroyed. The hole was filled and the site has now been turfed over, hiding the remains of 'the last of the great trees' and our handiwork. We have, more recently, been successfully using the same tactics on the stumps of three large conifers blown down in the same gale by the Hermitage on the South bank of the Eleven Acre Lake; hot work in this summer's weather.

In between these two enterprises we have been engaged in recreating an avenue from the south Boycott Pavilion towards the Temple of Venus. Almost certainly originally elm any real signs of this avenue have long disappeared, leaving the sucker growth of the original trees as thicket on both sides of the road. Many of these elms are now dying and the time has come to take some constructive action. A small section to the east of the road has been cleared back about twenty feet, the scrub removed and the trees dug out. All except the largest were dug round and pulled over by us. This trial site is now level and being mown to encourage the grass to grow. On the other side of the road there is already a narrow grass strip and the larger trees are in a shallow trench separating the field, The Deer Park, from the road. These trees will be felled and the stumps covered by filling in the trench. A start has been made on this by a local firewood contractor. We expect to be working again at this site next winter and if successfully completed the avenue might be available for replanting, perhaps with oak, in a year or so.

The Spring Term was also notable in that Alexander Zambellas became the first Forester to be awarded his Representative tie for Forestry. This seems an appropriate reward for the long hours and hard work he has put into our tasks.

A. J. E. LLOYD

## THE DUCKERY

The Spring Term found us busily putting the finishing touches to the main enclosure. A second layer of netting was laid at ground level along the outside and a strand of barbed wire along the top. This should make us proof against ground vermin. We also constructed an internal compound which now has overhead netting in which young birds are safe from even flying predators such as crows. Some planting of shrubs was done in the hope that it might give more but much of this has died in the drought. Fortunately the water levels have stayed quite high although we have occasionally pumped water from the Octagon to flush the ponds through.

This term has seen us battling with our first breeding season. Initially there was a lot of predation of the eggs by crows but some timely control measures helped to overcome this combined with the spring growth of ground cover. So far we have hatched about fifty Mallard both under ducks and in the Biology Department's incubator. A few of these are pinioned and will add to our collection, the remainder will be left free-flying and when old enough be quite free to leave the compound and live on the lakes and elsewhere. Already a number of birds fly in and out of the duckery and the numbers on the main lakes must be increasing. If we can achieve the same success with more ornamental species we shall make a positive contribution to the beauty of Stowe. We were given some eggs of the Carolina Wood-duck but only hatched two, conveniently on Speech Day. Neither of these survived but we hope for more success next year, by which time we shall have more adults and alternative hatching arrangements.

Two Plymouth Rock bantams were added to the collection this term and they and their offspring should be able to brood some clutches next year. These were a gift from Mr Christopher Marler (© 1950) to whom we are most grateful for support. He also gave us two rearing pens after a

most interesting visit to his own collection at Olney. Our other success has been to rear two Silver Pheasants from a small clutch of eggs given to us. These will live in the duckery for a while but may eventually be sold off to help our finances. In this context we continue to be most grateful to the Bursar and Mr Brian Martin who with his staff gives us so much support in kind. Without this we could not afford to continue even at our present rather humble level.

JOHN LAWRENCE

## FLY-FISHING – OXFORD WATER

Before the trout were introduced into the Oxford Water this year, it was decided to net the lake to remove coarse fish. The water was seine-netted on two occasions and many thousands of fish removed, mainly roach, together with numbers of perch and a few common carp, the latter being mainly in the 3-4 lb. range although some very small ones were recorded. Also noted were two gudgeon, possibly returned live-bait. The netting was most efficiently carried out by the Stowe Employees Angling Club and the Buckingham A.A., and all the fish were distributed to other waters, both at Stowe and elsewhere.

A week before the beginning of term 100 10" Brown trout and 120 11-12" Rainbow trout were introduced into the Oxford Water, along with 20 larger rainbows of about 15" or so. These were all in excellent condition and provided good sport for the fly-fishers, but as May progressed, weed growth began to increase at an alarming rate and at the time of writing (second week in June) nearly the whole lake is covered with vegetation, and no trout have been observed rising in the few weed-free areas remaining.

Mr J. B. Dobinson in his recent article "Wetlands at Stowe" (*The Grebe* 1975-76) mentions this increase in plant growth, commenting on the possible effects of the newly built silt-trap in this connection. It is also possible that the disturbance caused by netting and the recent dry spell have had an influence on this growth. Whatever the cause, it appears that fly-fishing in the Oxford Water is over for the season, but it should be mentioned that most anglers have certainly had good value during the comparatively short season.

M. WALDMAN  
D. J. MEE

## THE BRIDGE CLUB

This year the Club has extended its unbeaten record in Senior School matches to three years, with victories over St Edward's, Radley, Bedford, University College School and Harrow. The School's 'B' team also recorded a victory over Bedford. The Junior team have also had an unbeaten season with victories over St Edward's, Radley, University College School and Harrow.

In the County events, we have again had a very eventful season. We started the season by playing in the Oxfordshire County Pairs heats at Banbury. Mr Juneman playing with Dr Hornby won the heat, Barwood and Osborne, and Gray and Rose also qualified for the semi-final in Oxford. At that semi-final, despite the drama of a mis-scoring, Gray and Rose found they had qualified for the final where they duly came eighth equal. The Bucks and Berks Schoolboys Pairs provided great excitement as it was prematurely ended by a power cut. The event was scored on only twelve hands and none of the Stowe pairs had really got into its stride; Cooper and Siddiqi finished sixth. In February Gray and Rose triumphed over a small field to win the Oxfordshire Restricted Pairs B Competition. Barwood and Osborne entered the Oxfordshire Men's Pairs and met with mixed fortunes. In early March, Stowe once again won the Oxfordshire Schoolboys event, this year in the persons of Coates and Osborne. In the *Daily Mail* Cup, Stowe won through the qualifying round at Gerrards Cross with an 80% score. In the semi-final at Sutton Coldfield, Stowe were unlucky to find five heat winners in a semi-final of seven with only one team qualifying for the final, which Stowe has yet to reach. The team was Barwood, Gray, Rose and Siddiqi.

In the House Pairs event, a victory by the outsiders Lyttelton in the guise of Black and Polad upset all the odds and several of the opponents as well. Nasatir and Durdin (B) were the runners-up. In the House team event, Chandos after a narrow victory over Grafton in the semi-final retained the Cup by beating Chatham in the final. Their team was Butt, Coates, Freeman and Siddiqi. The standard in this competition was the highest for many years; any one of eight houses might have emerged as eventual winners. The Under 16 Pairs was won by Broom-Smith and Lloyd; Gull and Kelly were runners-up.

Once again I would like to thank Mr Juneman for all his encouragement. He runs a Bridge Club of varying standards on three days of the week. He has also driven the Bridge team all over the country.

JONATHAN ROSE

The following have represented the School at Bridge this year: G. G. F. Barwood (G), N. A. G. Butt (C), P. M. Cooper (C), N. A. Coates (C), T. N. F. Durdin (B) (Junior Capt.), E. R. Freeman (C), H. N. J. Gray, mi. (C), N. D. J. Gray, ma. (C), N. C. J. Gull (B), D. R. H. Hinds (T) (Secretary), A. G. P. Kelly (B), R. D. Lord (T), N. E. Luddington (C), T. S. Maynard (C), A. E. S. Osborne (G), G. G. R. Paine (T), J. H. Rose (L) (Capt.), F. Siddiqi (C), T. P. H. Stephens (L), C. Wood (G), N. D. Wright (C), J. M. Zoghbi (G).

In turn, I would like to thank Jonathan and his Secretary David Hinds for the work they have put in and the enthusiasm they have shown, which together have helped to make running the Club such a pleasure.

C. S. JUNEMAN

## THE CHESS CLUB

The record of the School Chess team since Christmas is: Won 3; Lost 2; Drawn 0. Nicholson has the best record in these matches, having won three times and drawn once while representing the School. Nelson, mi has also had considerable success. For a variety of reasons the junior players have been getting the most match practice, and so it is particularly pleasing to see a Senior School Chess Competition being arranged, which will be completed in the Autumn Term.

G. D. SALTER

## C.C.F.

Since the last report there has been plenty of activity. As well as normal training there have been two Field Days, the first of which included some successful visits, including one to the 1st Battalion The Black Watch, but did not include one to the Aldershot area which was cancelled by our supposed hosts at nine days notice. The second Field Day had to be fixed for the Spring Bank Holiday on account of the diary being cluttered with such events as Exeat, Speech Day and G.C.E. As a result there were no last-minute cancellations and, whilst the Canoe Section braved the terrors of the Thames, and were treated to a demonstration of (involuntary) capsizing drill by Mr Bone, 60 members drawn from all three sections went on a one-night camp exercise near Bicester.

During the Easter Holidays two cadets attended the M.O.D. Camp in Malta, three went skiing in Bavaria with the Royal Greenjackets, five members of the R.N. Section attended courses with the Navy, three spent an energetic 10 days at the U.K.L.F. Cadet Leadership Course (Sergeant Cubitt's record is printed below) and a mere five had a most enjoyable and stimulating week at Bridge of Orchy on Adventurous Training. I do hope that all members of the C.C.F. will think seriously about what they are missing if they do not take part in this. It is in no way

military in its outlook, the only discipline required or imposed is self-discipline, and all that is asked of participants is willingness to have a go when faced with a challenge and the determination to make themselves as comfortable as possible under possibly difficult conditions. ("Any fool can be cold and miserable, but . . .") In providing the opportunity for self-reliance and initiative, Adventurous Training epitomises what the C.C.F. is about.

M. J. FOX

## U.K.L.F. LEADERSHIP COURSE

Three cadets from the C.C.F. attended the fifth United Kingdom Land Forces Leadership Course which was run primarily by the 1st Battalion The Black Watch in the Theford Battle Area in Norfolk from 5th to 15th April. A total of over 200 cadets attended.

The course consisted of training in section and platoon battlecraft; fieldcraft; the use of the helicopter and motorcycle; the operating of various radios; firing, handling and cleaning the self-loading rifle; watermanship; orienteering; assault course; the art of making plans and giving orders and numerous other skills. The course also included two 24-hour exercises which were conducted with the utmost realism and with a live enemy provided by The Black Watch. During the course we were rushed from place to place and therefore had very little free time. However, despite this and the fairly strenuous ten days that we all survived, the course was acknowledged to have been of value and, I speak for myself, tremendous fun and memorable experience.

WILLIAM CUBITT

## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

A number of boys have opted out of the scheme during the year and I expect to lose several more from the Silver section at the end of this term. This is sad and expensive. Too few of the boys who join for the Bronze Award realise the commitment that the Scheme requires of them if they are to work their way through to Gold. Wednesday afternoons are not always fun; they are sometimes boring. Coping with them is the only challenge, apart from the physical work of the Expeditions, that Stoics have to meet to achieve their Awards. Some boys might find it easier to maintain their enthusiasm for two years only and they should join at fifteen if they wish to get their Gold Award. Certainly boys should not enter the Scheme 'just for the camping'.

The Golds have been busy with Community Service during the past two terms, except for the two boys who are preparing to act as Instructors for the Bronze New Entry in September. The Silver and Bronze groups have been following Police and First Aid courses respectively, though we have yet to hear the results. A few boys have found that Life Saving provides a worthwhile alternative form of Public Service.

The Field Days have been enjoyed by most. The Chilterns provided the usual easy walking in delightful March weather, while the Peak District gave us squally thunderstorms over Whit weekend. On the latter trip a couple of Gold groups found out about the problems of compass work in poor conditions on featureless ground.

We took a small party rockclimbing on Froggatt Edge at the end of April and most people managed four or five climbs of V Diff to Severe standard. We have used the quarry for abseil, prusik and cliff rescue practice; the latter was successful, though painful for the victims.

Plans are well advanced for the Summer Camp at Dinas Mawddwy in N. Mid-Wales; some of us were in the area in April checking routes and campsites and things to do on non-Expedition days. The walking should be hard and the seatrout, with luck, excellent.

G. M. HORNBY

# SPORT

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

### HOUSE MATCHES

#### SENIOR

The Senior competition was wider open than in previous years, any one of five sides having a fair chance of success. Temple were narrowly overcome by Grafton, who without the injured Corbett were in turn defeated by Chatham in the semi-final, the Chatham pack snatching the game despite Hayward's efforts; Bruce without Hydleman but with an always dangerous Bowman, did not have the overall strength to withstand a competent Cobham side.

In the final Chatham never recovered their earlier form; their forwards were capably held by the Cobham pack, aggressively led by Hugill, and with the possession they did gain their three-quarters could make no penetration against steady tackling. Cobham, once they had survived early attacks were able to exert all the pressure in the game; competently directed by Tomlin, they had the more dangerous attackers in Salour and the more direct Mauran and it was the latter who gained the only score of the match as the Chatham defence proved too shadowy.

#### Teams:

**Cobham:** G. R. G. Page; S. J. M. Cobb, N. G. M. Salour, N. P. Wigmore, F. Mauran; M. A. N. Tomlin, C. D. Bourn; R. G. Simpson, P. T. James, A. C. M. Low; A. H. Shekell, H. G. Robertson; P. M. Hugill (Capt.), D. R. Ogilvie, N. E. Ancsell.

**Chatham:** T. D. Outerbridge; R. A. Hamilton, H. N. J. Gray, mi., N. D. J. Gray, ma., J. W. H. Cave, ma.; T. G. Cameron, C. P. J. Wightman; H. R. Von Bergen, M. A. C. Rutherford, K. E. Hardman; S. C. Creedy-Smith, T. Gregson-Williams, ma.; A. Falcon, C. M. Johnstone, J. Hartley.

Grenville	}	Chandos 15—14	}	Bruce 64—0	}	Cobham 10—3	}	Cobham 4—0
Chandos		Bruce		Cobham 19—0		Chatham 13—9		
		Cobham		Grafton 15—6				
		Walpole		Chatham 17—4				
		Temple						
		Grafton						
		Chatham						
		Lyttelton						

#### JUNIOR

In the early Junior rounds Grafton emerged as the strongest and biggest side, while Chandos showed a little more penetration than a spirited Bruce side which had only just overcome Cobham. The final was marred by Grafton losing two of their side before half-time, one of them within minutes of the kick-off. From then on the depleted Grafton pack could inevitably win little ball and Montgomery at fly-half had just the platform he needed from which to launch constant attacks, with Fladée running strongly. The lighter Chandos forwards played like

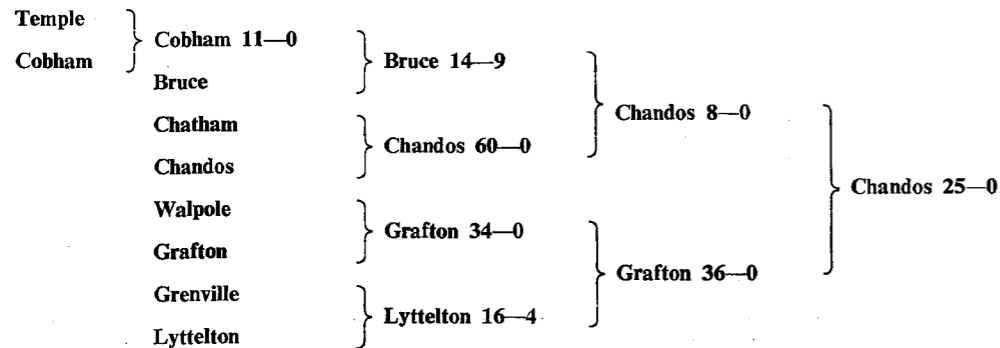
terriers and gave Grafton little respite; Grafton stuck to their task and tackled bravely but the result was never in doubt.

**Teams:**

**Chandos:** D. W. G. Enderby; A. R. J. MacKinnon, A. W. Serre, J. R. J. Fladée, W. J. N. Edgerley; C. D. Montgomery, ma. (Capt.), R. R. Montgomery, mi.; T. A. Cressman, A. R. Boyce, A. F. Savage; S. V. Wylie, W. H. Latham; R. T. Phinney, J. E. Hughes Clarke, A. T. Thornton-Berry.

**Grafton:** J. T. Arnold, min.; J. D. G. Guyer, mi., M. Al Turki, T. W. P. O'Brien, M. A. G. Taylor; A. G. Bradstock, J. Markham; P. D. A. Darling, R. G. Watts, mi., F. D. G. Mezulanik; S. L. Barnard, mi. J. N. Barnard, ma. (Capt.), M. J. F. Moffatt, R. A. J. Weatherbe, P. M. Ham.

B. H. MEAD



**SEVEN-A-SIDE**

Sevens is a special art needing plenty of practice but most of all experience. The latter was not in plentiful supply but the results gained were promising. Six players return for another crack next year.

The County title was won at Aylesbury for the first time in living memory but the side flattered to deceive in the Nationals achieving only moderate results. Oxford was a complete disaster revealing the worst side of Stoic sporting nature.

Enthusiasm ran high the whole term with D. A. Bowman leading by example on and off the field. The whole exercise was a useful insight into the strength and weakness of Stowe rugby for the new coach and provided some food for thought for the coming season.

J. J. L. BONE

**Results: Windsor Sevens**

1st beat Berkhamsted  
2nd lost to St Benedict's

**Bucks Sevens**

beat Watford G.S.  
beat Aylesbury G.S.  
beat Royal Latin (Final)

**Nationals (Festival)**

1st beat Brighton College  
2nd beat Ashville  
3rd lost to Prior Park  
4th lost to Bedford

**Nationals (Open)**

beat Arnold G.S.  
beat West Park G.S.  
lost to Roundhay

**1ST XV RUGBY FIXTURES 1976**

Sat.,	September 18	v. Old Stoics	Home
Tues.,	September 28	v. Eton	Home
Sat.,	October 2	v. Mill Hill	Home
Sat.,	October 9	v. Oakham	Away
Tues.,	October 12	v. Radley	Home
Sat.,	October 16	v. Bedford	Away
Sat.,	October 30	v. Cheltenham	Away
Sat.,	November 6	v. Rugby	Away
Sat.,	November 13	v. R.L.S. Buckingham	Home
Sat.,	November 20	v. Oundle	Home
Thurs.,	November 25	v. St Edward's, Oxford	Away

**HOCKEY  
THE FIRST XI**

Judged purely in terms of results this will rank as one of Stowe's worst ever seasons, but there is perhaps more to it than that. The results throughout all other XIs were more than satisfactory, the weather (apart from one unfortunate wet spell) was on our side, the house league and cup competitions were successfully completed and I believe on the whole hockey was thoroughly enjoyed by all during the year. Yet there is no denying that a disappointing 1st XI clouds the assessment of the season as a whole.

Whatever the list of results may suggest, it is true that the 1st XI played hard and for the most part attractive hockey. Certainly one felt that the individuals concerned put a fair bit into it all, and gained something from the experience. Perhaps it is best described as a competent team which sadly was not quite good enough, nor determined enough to win the close matches. On no occasion were we outplayed, and had there only been a better supply of the mysterious X factor which turns average teams into winning ones we could well have had an outstanding season. However it was not to be, and it is now the responsibility of all hockey playing Stoics to do all they can, and to work hard to put Stowe's hockey back on the map.

With the benefit of hindsight, and with the experiences of the 1st XI at the Public Schools Hockey Festival in Oxford uppermost in one's mind, the wet spell at the start of the season, and the loss through injury of the Captain T. M. Corbett, and the absence of D. Carr were factors which weighed heavily against us. Prompted in midfield by the scheming of Hayward and Hobson, and supported by an enthusiastic half back line the forwards should have scored many more goals. We lacked urgency and 'bite' in the opposition's circle and all the drawn games were littered with missed scoring chances. A peculiar combination of quick reactions and coolness is required; and our strike forwards were often too sluggish in movement and speed of thought to seize upon the half chance or to create a goal when sheer guts and 'go' would have been enough. Hockey is a game which demands high standards of fitness, determination and skill. We lacked all three at times when it really mattered.

The thrusting runs provided by Wadsworth on the right wing set up countless opportunities, and he was effectively supported on the right by Marsh and Brown. Although Ward and Horlock kept bravely struggling on they must learn to concentrate on the most crucial job of all for forwards—namely putting the ball in the net. The success of a centre forward is measured by the number of goals he scores—nothing else matters.



No side is ever any better than its half back line, but in this department we were well served by the determination of Rivalland, the reach and enthusiasm of Scowsill who is really a wing half, and the presence of an increasingly effective right half in A. S. Marsh. At the back C. M. Johnstone (strong on the reverse side but a weak hitter of the ball), R. A. Brown (determined, competitive and totally committed) and the left-footed Kelway kept things under control apart from a shocking 10 minute lapse in the St Edward's match.

The School matches began with a disastrous and quite unnecessary loss to Oundle. A sloppy, half-hearted approach, and two serious defensive errors were expensively punished and Stowe could not get back into the match until late in the second half. After a comfortable win against a poor Leys XI we settled into a run of uninspired draws against Aldenham, Radley and M.C.S. Oxford. All of these matches could and should have been won.

There followed a great game against Wellington. We lost because they converted a short corner and a penalty stroke, and we failed to capitalise on some excellent midfield play. The match summed up the difference between a side who had already won seven school matches (and went on to complete a record breaking 10-0 season) and one which was simply not used to winning. It was a splendid exhibition of schoolboy hockey, but not helped by some extremely poor "professional" umpiring.

After this Stowe reverted to some disappointing play against St Edward's. We presented them with three goals immediately after half time and could not make up for the dozen good goal chances that we missed. Then it was back to the old ways against Mill Hill and the Old Stoics. At the Oxford Festival we saw what might have been. Corbett added authority and real ability to the centre half spot, thus allowing Scowsill to flourish as an attacking right half. D. Carr brought flair and dash to the forward line and the side played with more zest and effectiveness than for a long time. Wins against Epsom and St Lawrence and a very narrow defeat (0-1) by the outstanding Greshams XI indicated to all who were there, that there was very little between the 1976 side and the best that Stowe has produced. However in the harsh competition of inter-school sport there is no room for anything less than 100% effort, and it must be clear to all now that we need to approach the 1977 season with the clear and definite aim of wiping out this year's defeats and disappointments.

J. S. M. MORRIS

**Team:** T. M. Corbett (Capt.) (Ⓢ), J. M. Hayward (Acting Capt.) (Ⓢ), S. D. Kelway (B), C. M. Johnstone (C), R. A. Brown (W), A. S. Marsh, ma. (T), J. M. Scowsill (T), P. R. Rivalland (C), J. R. Wadsworth ma. (L), P. A. Ward (W), N. M. Hobson (C), D. C. W. Horlock, ma. (W).

**Also Played:** P. Marsh, mi. (T), N. Chapman (L), A. Sethi (L), T. P. H. Stephens (L).

<b>Results:</b>	v. Oundle	Lost 1—2
	v. Dean Close	Cancelled
	v. Bradfield	Cancelled
	v. Cambridge University Wanderers	Cancelled
	v. The Leys	Won 3—1
	v. Aldenham	Drawn 2—2
	v. Radley	Drawn 0—0
	v. Magdalen College School	Drawn 0—0
	v. Wellington	Lost 1—2
	v. Pangbourne	Won 3—0
	v. St Edward's, Oxford	Lost 2—4
	v. Mill Hill	Drawn 1—1
	v. Old Stoics	Drawn 3—3

## THE SECOND XI

No two seasons are ever alike and this year we have seen the reverse of the sort of pattern which has been seen in the past. We began uncharacteristically by losing our first match at Oundle and then two more in the following three, to Aldenham and Radley. Thereafter, the side settled into a formidable team and remained unbeaten over the next seven matches. On paper it looked that our strength was in defence and that goals would be hard to win, but to our cost, it was the defence who took most time to become organized and efficient.

Graham, in goal, played with consistent bravery and experience, although he needs to gain greater command of the circle. Sethi, at right back, showed a resolute style and strength in clearance but was slow at times to recover from tackles. Chapman, at left back, was variable; sometimes determined and most effective; sometimes dreamy and missing everything. Lewis, at right half, tackled aggressively but on occasions with too little control. Macquaker, at centre half, was a much improved player with speed in attack. Marsh, at left half played solidly, stopped the ball cleanly and passed intelligently. He is probably the person with most potential. Bannister, on the right wing, began with little confidence but developed skill and better hockey sense. Tomlin established himself at inside right with hard running and unobtrusive work. Duthie played in bursts of energy but with patience gained better results and scored valuable goals. Douglas, on the left wing, played steadily and quite effectively in attack. Stephens, at inside right, was tireless, selfless and a good example as Captain. His finishing in the circle was his weakness, but overall his abilities were the key to the team's successes.

Other players featured in 2nd XI matches and thanks go to Burton, Cameron, Corbett, Johnstone, Richards and Sarin.

J. M. LARCOMBE

**Team:** W. M. Graham\* (B), A. Sethi\* (L), N. R. Chapman (L), R. T. Lewis\* (B), J. H. S. Macquaker\* (G), A. S. Marsh, ma.\* (T), N. W. A. Bannister, ma.\* (L), M. A. N. Tomlin (C), N. A. S. Duthie (G), T. P. H. Stephens\* (Capt.) (L), C. P. M. Douglas (T).

\* denotes Colours.

<b>Results:</b>	v. Oundle	Lost 0—2
	v. Dean Close	Cancelled
	v. Bradfield	Cancelled
	v. The Leys	Won 4—1
	v. Aldenham	Lost 0—3
	v. Radley	Lost 1—3
	v. High Wycombe	Won 4—2
	v. M.C.S. Oxriord	Won 3—0
	v. Wellington	Won 3—2
	v. Pangbourne	Won 7—0
	v. St Edward's	Won 3—0
	v. Mill Hill	Won 3—0
	v. Old Stoics	Drawn 0—0

Played 11; Won 7; Lost 3; Drawn 1; Goals for 28; Goals Against 13.

## THE SIXTY

The 3rd XI had their most successful season for many years conceding only five goals and scoring a total of twenty-five. The weather was kinder this year and only one match had to be cancelled. The season started with the squad in enthusiastic high spirits and pre-fixture matches against the 2nd and 1st XIs indicated that there was no lack of talent both in defence and attack.

The first match on an ice-bound, blizzard-swept pitch at Oundle confirmed that the team were potential winners and the two nil score-line did not reflect Stowe's dominance and territorial advantage. The season continued with excellent wins against The Leys, M.C.S. and St Edward's and a memorable 'hard' battle against Radley on the South Front.

The Grammar Schools from High Wycombe and Buckingham were no match for Stowe this year and the final match of the season against Mill Hill was also well won. The final internal match against The Colts proved to be interesting but a nil all draw was all that could be managed on that occasion.

In the team the forwards played particularly well—working together with the midfield players to create scoring chances—many of which, however, were missed. Particularly worthy of note

are the middle three of Salour, Bottari and Halvorsen all of whom played hard and have developed their skills over the season. Clarke with his excellent stick work looked good but needs to increase his work-rate if he is to achieve his real potential. Wightman and Holmes played well on the wings. The half-back line of Fraser, Cameron and Johnstone, as captain, always looked sound as did the big guns at the back, Allport and Grint. The season started with uncertainty in goal but Villiers volunteered for this particular 'suicide slot' and performed most admirably throughout the season.

The Fourth XI played only three matches but provided excellent cannon fodder in practice games.

J. B. DOBINSON

**Teams from:** S. W. Allport (B), R. W. Bickerton (T), J. D. Boldero (C), R. A. Burton (G), T. G. Cameron (C), A. T. Clarke (B), R. D. J. C. Chetwynd (W), M. B. A. Cliff Hodges (W), B. G. Few Brown (G), S. C. Fraser (L), P. C. A. Grint (T), C. L. Halvorsen (G), S. A. V. Holmes (L), J. E. Horrocks, ma. (G), F. J. Johnstone (L), R. C. Richings (W), J. W. M. Ritchie (L), A. C. Roxburgh, ma. (L), N. G. M. Salour (C), M. A. N. Tomlin (C), C. F. Villiers, ma. (B), C. P. J. Wightman (C), D. H. M. Williams-Ellis (T), .

**3rd XI Results:**

v. Oundle	Away	Won	2—0
v. Bloxham	Away	Drawn	2—2
v. The Leys	Home	Won	3—1
v. Radley	Home	Won	1—0
v. High Wycombe	Home	Won	4—0
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Home	Won	5—1
v. Royal Latin	Home	Won	3—1
v. St Edward's	Home	Won	4—0
v. Mill Hill	Home	Won	1—0

**4th XI Results:**

v. Oundle	Away	Won	2—1
v. Radley	Home	Lost	1—3
v. St Edward's	Home	Won	6—0

## THE COLTS

This year's Colts team has proved three important points about sport. One, a *genuinely* determined team effort achieves more success than individual brilliance; two, playing for one another is both more satisfying and far more effective than playing for oneself; three, winning is 100% more enjoyable than losing. If the reader disagrees with these statements, try arguing your case with any of this year's team—unless any one of them is a master of deception you will find your case impossible to prove.

The foundations to this successful season—won 6; drawn 3; lost 0—were laid last year at Junior Colts level. The majority of the team picked themselves, although one or two significant positional changes were made with considerable effect. None more so than Barratt at centre forward—he never stopped running throughout the season, constantly pressurising opposition defences into error and when he had the ball he ran hard and straight. Wigmore's approach was similar (although at a more pedestrian pace at times!) and proved the ideal "follow up" player in Barratt's wake. Hartley was at his most effective when he kept his head, and his position—his hockey improved throughout the season and his constant effort brought him several goals. The wingers were brought more into the game than is usually the case nowadays, and when a team uses the full width of the pitch the gaps open up. Both Pooler and Hayward had shares in the goal scoring—the former, particularly, has an uncanny ability to turn up at the right place and the right time!

Montgomery at centre half showed excellent positional sense and, through tireless effort, lead the team by example—others followed. Wing-halves Alder and James usually had the better of their opposite wing-forwards but when they did not, full-backs Thomas and Moffatt were always ready to cover. The success of such a strong defence is proved by the fact not a single

goal was conceded until the seventh match and Weintraub in goal was as much responsible for this record as anyone else.

Thus, a very successful season was enjoyed by all, including a satisfied coach. The rest of the Club played an important part as well in providing competition, and members such as Serre and Lineham were most unlucky not to get regular places in the top side.

C. J. G. ATKINSON

**Team:** A. N. Alder (C), J. A. Barratt, mi. (T), J. Hartley, ma. (C), A. S. B. Hayward (G), P. T. James (C), M. J. F. Moffatt (G), C. D. Montgomery, ma. (C) (Capt.), C. J. Pooler (T), D. F. C. Thomas (C), P. D. Weintraub (W), N. P. Wigmore (C).

**Results:**

v. Bloxham	Won	3—0	v. M.C.S.	Won	1—0
v. Dean Close	Won	3—0	v. Wellington	Drawn	1—1
v. The Leys	Won	1—0	v. St Edward's	Drawn	2—2
v. Aldenham	Won	4—0	v. Mill Hill	Drawn	0—0
v. Radley	Won	4—0			

## THE JUNIOR COLTS

In contrast to last season only one match was cancelled, most games being played on good firm pitches in pleasant weather. Though there were no outstanding players, the overall standard of the Club was good resulting in considerable competition for places. Results therefore were a little disappointing. Often there was a lack of real determination particularly against moderate opposition and even when the team played well the excellence could unfortunately not be sustained. The worst performance was against The Leys when nobody seemed to be remotely interested, though, in fairness, several key players were missing on that occasion. The best performance came against a powerful and unbeaten St Edward's side when we were leading 3-1 until seven minutes from time after a most skilful and determined performance. Then one moment of casualness in the Stowe defence and a brilliant individual goal gave St Edward's a draw.

In goal Moore made some excellent saves and kicks well but he does not really command his area yet. Highwood was a model of cool consistency at left back and in Lloyd he had an excellent and intelligent partner who improved dramatically in the course of the season. The strength and speed of O'Brien and the skill of Holland at half back were the mainspring of the team; they need only improve their distribution to become most effective players. Law eventually completed the half back line and for a boy only starting the game he made quite staggering progress. A natural games player he quickly developed good control and became probably the best passer of the ball in the team.

The main goal scorer was Horlock. He has considerable talent, penetrating acceleration and an excellent shot. Unfortunately he is inclined to be lazy and to expect everybody else to do the work. If he only used his talents more frequently he would be a most dangerous player. The inside forwards, Marriott and Gregson-Williams, were enormously hard-working and skilful but did not have the strength or speed to be really effective in the circle. Koska had many good moments when he moved to outside right and Andrews on the other flank has the ability though not yet the confidence to be a really good player.

With just a little more drive these boys and many of the reserves as well have the ability and the character to serve Stowe hockey well in the years ahead.

P. R. BOWDEN

A. G. MEREDITH

**Team:** R. B. de Moore (C), C. R. Lloyd, mi. (T), C. T. Highwood, mi. (B), F. E. J. Law (C), A. J. Holland, ma. (B), T. W. P. O'Brien (G), M. A. Koska (B), H. J. Marriott (C), M. J. P. Horlock, mi. (W), H. D. Gregson-Williams, mi. (C), S. C. Andrews (B).

**Also Played for First and Second Teams:** P. D. Jeffreys (C), S. V. Wylie (C), T. S. Maynard (C), C. H. Peacock (L), The Viscount Dawick (L), C. J. Allen (B), R. C. Appleby (L), J. A. G. Bird (T), R. R. Montgomery (C), E. F. McConnell (T), R. M. R. Bannister (L), M. P. Staheyeff (C).

Results:		1st Team	2nd Team
v. Bloxham	Home	Drawn 1—1	
v. Dean Close	Away	Drawn 0—0	
v. The Leys	Away	Lost 0—4	
v. Aldenham	Away	Won 4—1	Lost 3—5
v. Radley	Away	Won 2—1	Won 2—1
v. Oundle	Away	Lost 1—3	Won 5—0
v. Magdalen College School	Away	Drawn 1—1	
v. Pangbourne	Home	Lost 0—1	
v. St Edward's	Away	Drawn 3—3	Won 4—1
v. Mill Hill	Away	Won 4—2	

## CRICKET

This interim report covers the first half of the fixture list and a full report on the season's activities of each Club will appear in the next issue of *The Stoic*.

C. J. G. ATKINSON

### THE FIRST XI

The team's performance so far has been highlighted by eight-wicket wins over St Edward's and Oakham. The strength of the batting has been proved by two centuries by Corbett and another by Hayward. Carr, Stephens, Kelway and Thomas have been other successful batsmen and altogether this year's side looks like one of the strongest batting sides seen at Stowe in the last ten years. It is to be hoped that the lapses in application that occurred against Bradfield and Radley will not be repeated! In the bowling department, Hayward has again been the mainstay but the unpredictable Harris, consistent Sethi and latterly Few Brown have made valuable contributions to the attack. Calkin and Stephens have generally proved to be effective change bowlers. When "on top" the team has fielded well and some sensational catches and run outs have taken place involving, particularly, Carr, Stephens, Hayward and Rowntree but possibly the most remarkable performance was Wadsworth's five catches at Radley.

Competition for places has been encouragingly strong and several players have been unfortunate not to have secured permanent places in the side.

### THE SECOND XI

It has been a difficult task deciding whom to leave out of the side. The seam attack of Mitchell, Smith-Bingham, Lord and Few Brown, supported by the spin of Burton and Holmes have inflicted the most damage on opposition batsmen. The batting performance has been erratic but Duthie, Currey, Allport, Sarin, Williams and Lewis have been the most successful. It is to be hoped that the team will do themselves more justice in the remaining matches, for they have had the frustrating habit of allowing less able sides to beat them.

### THE THIRD XI

We began the season in fine form against Cokethorpe, who fell victim to accurate bowling by Currey (4 for 24) and Forbes Adam (5 for 27). Stowe followed up strongly with scores of 35 and 28 by Douglas and the indefatigable Currey, giving us a good 6-wicket win.

Lulled into a false sense of security by this victory we were beaten in our next match by St Edward's, who shattered our main batting, Stowe being 47 for 6 at one stage. However, we

managed to struggle to 112 due to some gritty batting by Bourn, Bradley-Williams, and Palmer, but lost our grip on the St Edward's innings due to an over-casual attitude and went down by four wickets, an irritating and unnecessary defeat.

In complete contrast the match against Dean Close was a remarkable affair! Stowe began by losing both opening batsmen for one run, but the batting of Sarin (76 not out) and Forbes Adam (25) allowed us to reach a total of 145 for 7 declared. After tea Douglas (newly created captain) placed an attacking field and we broke through early to bring Dean Close to 51 for 4. Douglas then put himself on to bowl and redeemed his first innings duck by taking 5 wickets for 0 runs in 11 balls. During this time Sarin took his third wicket of the day and Dean Close were all out for 52, having lost 6 wickets for one run!

Bedford provided us with a total of 131 to aim at, the captain having used seven bowlers to achieve this end, but Stowe managed to reach 132 for 7 in the last over to gain victory. Many batsmen, however, did not appear to be aware of the importance of being closely in touch with the run-rate and number of overs left (out of the usual 20 in the last hour) and realisation nearly dawned too late.

Two 4th XI games have been organised for this season. Bedford beat the Fourths by 10 wickets, but we hope that we will fare better against Radley.

We have had much more support this season in terms of players available and it is regrettable that many cricketers who would have been worth a place in previous years have been unable to reach the rarefied heights of the 3rd XI. However, this does lead to a spirit of healthy competition, and the standard of the game is improved accordingly. At this level of the game, interest, enthusiasm, and love of cricket are the important factors and the 3rd XI is not short in any of these departments.

M. WALDMAN

Teams from: R. S. W. Bell, ma. (C), J. A. F. Currey (C), P. C. Sisson (W), M. A. N. Tomlin (C), C. D. Bourn (C), C. P. M. Douglas\* (T), T. D. Forbes Adam, ma.\* (L), C. T. C. Standeven, ma. (L), T. S. Bradley-Williams (C), A. T. Clarke (B), A. N. Alder (C), J. W. Palmer, ma. (W), R. Sarin (C), A. Falcon (C), M. R. Banister (B), S. A. V. Holmes (L), R. G. Simpson (C), H. M. Lloyd (T).

\* 3rd XI Colours.

### THE COLTS

With so much good cricket being played elsewhere in the School, it is a very sad commentary that only 18 boys "opted" to join the Club and several promising cricketers have flagrantly abused the "free choice" system—no-one has gained and everyone has lost as a result. However, after the first three games in which the team was outplayed in every department, there has been an encouraging revival and a certain win against Oakham was only thwarted by a unique interpretation of the "20 overs in the last hour" rule. Rossdale's gutty and enthusiastic example as captain and Worsley's fine batting (90 against Oakham) constitute the foundation on which an improved all-round performance will be built in the remainder of the season.

### THE JUNIOR COLTS

There has been a particularly large and keen group of cricketers at this level. Good weather, the willingness to learn and practice, and considerable talent, all contribute to make this an enjoyable and fairly successful season to date. One match has been lost, thanks to some unbelievably feeble batting, but otherwise the first team has won three and drawn two matches. The second team has performed well and achieved a win and two favourable draws.

## UNDER 14 XI

To date the Under 14s have played only three matches, having the better of drawn games against Ashfold and Oakham, and losing to Bedford. There is in the side much enthusiasm and considerable talent, which bodes well for future years. Wadsworth is a highly promising all-rounder who has captained the side efficiently. His 76 in only 50 minutes against Ashfold has been the highlight of the season so far. Clarke is another useful all-rounder, and Gerrard, Taylor and Jensen have performed well with the ball.

D. G. LENNARD

**Team:** J. C. Hammond (C), D. P. Jensen (T), J. D. Beck (©), C. A. I. Clarke (N), C. A. Wadsworth, mi. (L), J. A. Fane (L), S. A. Furlonger (G), J. H. Bennett (©), R. D. H. Taylor (©), P. G. Martin (N), C. M. Gerrard (G), A. R. Ruhemann (C), A. C. Rhodes (N).

### Summary of Results:

1st XI: v. Buckingham	Drawn	Stowe 210 for 5 dec. (Corbett 116 n.o.; Kelway 49 n.o.) Buckingham 200 for 9
v. Cirencester A.C.	Won	Cirencester 164 for 7 dec. (Hayward 6 for 54) Stowe 168 for 4 (Corbett 61; Carr 36)
v. Free Foresters	Won	Stowe 187 (Kelway 71) Free Foresters 124 (Hayward 4 for 51)
v. Dean Close	Drawn	Stowe 236 for 3 dec. (Hayward 108; Carr 72) Dean Close 183 for 7 (Harris 5 for 70)
v. St Edward's	Won	St Edward's 170 Stowe 174 for 3 (Carr 87; Hayward 46)
v. Bradfield	Lost	Stowe 157 (Wadsworth 34) Bradfield 158 for 3
v. Authentics	Lost	Stowe 159 (Corbett 72) Authentics 162 for 8 (Sethi 5 for 46)
v. Templars	Won	Stowe 231 for 5 dec. (Corbett 121; Carr 55) Templars 184 (Hayward 7 for 84)
v. Radley	Lost	Radley 124 (Sethi 4 for 32) Stowe 97
v. Bedford	Lost	Stowe 163 for 7 dec. (Stephens 52; Hayward 32) Bedford 165 for 3
v. Oakham	Won	Oakham 144 (Sethi 4 for 38; Few Brown 3 for 25) Stowe 145 for 2 (Corbett 57; Hayward 52)

2nd XI: Matches—Won against Wellingborough  
Drawn against Royal Latin School, St Edward's, Buckingham University, Dean Close  
Lost against Bedford, Oakham

3rd XI: v. Cokethorpe	Cokethorpe 92 (Currey 4 for 24; Forbes Adam 5 for 27) Stowe 93 for 4 (Douglas 35; Currey 28) Stowe won by 6 wickets
v. St Edward's	Stowe 112 (Bradley-Williams 26) St Edward's 118 for 6 St Edward's won by 4 wickets
v. Dean Close	Stowe 145 for 7 declared (Sarin 76 not out; Forbes Adam 25) Dean Close 52 Stowe won by 93 runs
v. Bedford	Bedford 131 (Forbes Adam 3 for 10) Stowe 132 for 7 (Tomlin 20; Douglas 21; Forbes Adam 21) Stowe won by 3 wickets
v. Oundle	
v. Radley	
v. Mill Hill	

Colts: v. St Edward's	Lost	Stowe 128 St Edward's 132 for 4
v. Bradfield	Lost	Stowe 53 Bradfield 57 for 4 (Bowman 3 for 8)
v. Bedford	Lost	Stowe 102 for 8 dec. Bedford 104 for 1
v. Oakham	Drawn	Oakham 162 for 5 dec. (Ritchie 4 for 27) Stowe 155 for 7 (Worsley 90)

Junior Colts: Matches—Won against Ipswich, Cokethorpe, St Edward's  
Drawn against Bedford and Oakham  
Lost against Dean Close

U.14: v. Ashfold	Stowe 155 for 3 (Wadsworth 76, Clarke 37, Furlonger 24 n.o.) Ashfold 62 for 8 (Gerrard 6 for 20; Clarke 2 for 15)
v. Bedford	Bedford 76 for 9 declared (Taylor 3 for 23; Wadsworth 2 for 8; Clarke 2 for 13) Stowe 37
v. Oakham	Stowe 105 (Wadsworth 23, Fane 22, Beck 20) Oakham 65 for 6 (Wadsworth 3 for 15)

## ATHLETICS

Under new management the Club has had a strange season with matches being infrequent due to withdrawals and fixture clashes. However there have been some fine individual performances and some good team efforts especially in the Under 15 ranks.

Although losing to the unbeaten Oundle squad the junior boys with H. J. N. English, J. G. J. Scott and R. J. Fullman to the fore have shown a great deal of talent with the promise of a fine senior side in the making. The Under 17 team has had a poor season with too few athletes to back up the spirited runs of N. E. Ancsell and the hurdling and jumping of S. L. Aguero.

The seniors have been led from the front by an outstanding captain P. A. Bowman. Beaten only once this season in any event he bettered his own 400 metre hurdles record and has come very close to N. K. Rice's brilliant 200 metre time. He has had able support from J. A. Walford and N. C. McLoughlin among others.

With one match to go the record is presentable if not brilliant. There is no doubt it could have been even better if more senior boys could be persuaded that Athletics could assist rather than detract from "A" level results. But with twenty boys in the County finals half of whom have a good chance of selection for the All England championships there is not too much to get upset about.

J. J. L. BONE

1st Team Colours were re-awarded to: D. A. Bowman, ma. (B), J. H. Walford (G).

1st Team Colours were awarded to: N. C. McLoughlin (G), N. G. M. Salour (©), J. W. Green (W).

2nd Team Colours were awarded to: N. E. Ancsell (©), S. L. Aguero (G), J. R. Allen (G), J. C. Royds, ma. (C), S. G. Appleton (G), M. A. B. Cliff Hodges (W).

### Results:

May 15th	v. Denstone and Malvern at Denstone Open: Denstone 130 pts; Stowe 110 pts; Malvern 76 pts U.17: Malvern 124½ pts; Denstone 103 pts; Stowe 82½ pts U.15: Stowe 120 pts; Malvern 106 pts; Denstone 87 pts
May 18th	Bucks Area A.A. Area Sports at Stowe
May 25th	Bucks Schools A.A. District Sports at Stowe
May 29th	Achilles Relays at Radley Open: 4 × 100m—3rd—45·00 secs. 4 × 400m—7th U.15: 4 × 100m—3rd—50·5 secs. 4 × 400m—8th

une 3rd v. St Edward's at Stowe  
 Open: Stowe 91 pts; St Edward's 80 pts  
 U.17: St Edward's 92 pts; Stowe 70 pts  
 U.15: Stowe 98 pts; St Edward's 50 pts

une 10th v. Oundle and The Leys at Stowe  
 Open: Oundle 106 pts; Stowe 98½ pts; The Leys 71½ pts  
 U.17: Oundle 126½ pts; Stowe 90 pts; The Leys 61½ pts  
 U.15: Oundle 114½ pts; Stowe 92½ pts; The Leys 69 pts

une 15th v. Oakham at Stowe

une 19th County Championships at Wolverton

une 22nd v. Royal Latin School at Stowe

uly 9th, 10th and 11th: All England at Cannock

## INTER-HOUSE SPORTS

Brilliant weather assisted many athletes to personal best performances but although records came under pressure only D. A. Bowman in the 400 metre hurdles achieved success with a time of 57.2 secs. Grafton midway through the afternoon looked clear winners but they fell away to third place with Cobham stealing a nine point advantage over Bruce to take the cup. The only disappointment was the fact that so few Stoics felt that the Sports and their houses deserved support.

J. J. L. BONE

### Results:

#### Inter-House Cup

1. Cobham 150½ pts	4. Grenville 118 pts	7. Lyttelton 82 pts
2. Bruce 141½ pts	5. Chandos 101½ pts	8. Chatham 67½ pts
3. Grafton 139 pts	6. Walpole 78 pts	9. Temple 53 pts

#### Individual Results—Open

100m. Time: 11.3 secs. 1. J. H. Walford (G)	2. D. J. N. Curzon (C)	3. J. H. S. MacQuaker (G)
200m. Time: 22.3 secs. 1. D. A. Bowman (B)	2. J. H. Walford (G)	3. D. J. N. Curzon (C)
400m. Time: 55.0 secs. 1. J. W. Green (W)	2. N. G. M. Salour (C)	3. F. J. Johnstone (L)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 6.1 secs. 1. J. W. Green (W)	2. N. C. McLoughlin (T)	3. W. G. Cubitt (T)
1500m. Time: 4 mins. 33 secs. 1. N. C. McLoughlin (T)	2. D. C. W. Horlock (W)	3. P. N. Nelson (T)
Steeplechase. Time: 6 mins. 46 secs. 1. J. C. Royds (C)	2. B. T. Robinson (W)	3. W. G. Cubitt (T)
110m. Hurdles. Time: 15.3 secs. 1. D. A. Bowman (B)	2. J. H. Walford (G)	3. A. Braimer-Jones (G)
100m. Hurdles. Time: 57.2 secs.* 1. D. A. Bowman (B)	2. J. W. Green (W)	3. R. T. Lewis (B)
High Jump. Height: 5 ft. 3 ins. 1. B. T. Robinson (W)	2. J. D. Hanks (C)	3. W. M. Graham (B)
Long Jump. Distance: 19 ft. 3½ ins. 1. J. M. Hayward (S)	2. P. R. Rivalland (C)	3. N. G. M. Salour (C)
Triple Jump. Distance: 40 ft. 6 ins. 1. P. R. Rivalland (C)	2. D. A. Bowman (B)	3. N. G. M. Salour (C)
Pole Vault. Height: 9 ft. 10 ins. 1. J. R. Allen (G)	2. G. H. Charlton (G)	3. B. T. Robinson (W)
Shot. Distance: 11.37m. 1. J. R. Wadsworth (L)	2. R. A. Hamilton (C)	3. M. B. A. Cliff Hodges (W)
Discus. Distance: 30.37m. 1. J. R. Wadsworth (L)	2. A. Falcon (C)	3. J. A. Boldero (C)
Javelin. Distance: 33.85m. 1. R. T. Lewis (B)	2. J. D. Boldero (C)	3. C. T. C. Standeven (L)

#### Individual Results—Under 17

100m. Time: 11.9 secs. 1. N. J. Benthall (S)	2. J. A. F. Currey (S)	3. N. D. J. Gray (C)
200m. Time: 24.6 secs. 1. N. D. J. Gray (C)	2. N. J. Benthall (S)	3. R. A. Hamilton (C)
400m. Time: 54.4 secs. 1. A. P. Ward (W)	2. R. Beckwith-Smith (C)	3. C. S. G. Bagnall (G)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 13.1 secs. 1. N. E. Ancsell (C)	2. J. R. Arnold (L)	3. A. J. Shepherd Barron (W)
1500m. Time: 4 mins. 37 secs. 1. N. E. Ancsell (C)	2. S. G. Appleton (G)	3. J. S. Lineham (B)
Steeplechase. Time: 3 mins. 10 secs. 1. N. E. Ancsell (C)	2. S. G. Appleton (G)	3. A. D. Lomas (C)
100m. Hurdles. Time: 14.4 secs. 1. J. A. F. Currey (S)	2. S. L. Aguero (G)	3. N. G. B. Sheldon (T)
High Jump. Height: 5 ft. 7 ins. 1. S. L. Aguero (G)	2. M. A. B. Watts (S)	3. R. T. Phinney (C)
Long Jump. Distance: 5.37m. 1. N. J. Benthall (S)	2. J. A. F. Currey (S)	3. A. P. Ward (W)
Triple Jump. Distance: 11.38m. 1. N. D. J. Gray (C)	2. J. R. Allen (G)	3. B. G. Few Brown (S)
Pole Vault. Height: 9 ft. 2 ins. 1. J. S. G. Jacobs (L)	2. M. A. Koska (B)	3. R. M. Rummell (C)
Shot. Distance: 10.63m. 1. N. P. Wigmore (C)	2. F. D. G. Mezulanik (S)	3. C. V. C. Harris (B)
Discus. Distance: 26.26m. 1. J. R. Allen (G)	2. D. C. Guest (B)	3. C. T. Highwood (B)
Javelin. Distance: 39.69m. 1. C. V. C. Harris (B)	2. C. D. Montgomery (C)	3. N. J. C. Harkness (T)

#### Individual Results—Under 16

100m. Time: 12.1 secs. 1. N. B. Harris (C)	2. J. R. J. Fladée (C)	3. C. J. Dean (C)
200m. Time: 24.8 secs. 1. N. B. Harris (C)	2. J. R. J. Fladée (C)	3. N. C. Fenwick (B)
400m. Time: 56.3 secs. 1. N. B. Harris (C)	2. J. J. Lineham (B)	3. N. C. Fenwick (B)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 11.8 secs. 1. J. R. J. Fladée (C)	2. M. Hope (C)	3. C. T. Highwood (B)
1000m. Time: 3 mins. 3.6 secs. 1. P. M. Ham (S)	2. T. W. P. O'Brien (S)	3. M. Hope (C)
High Jump. Height: 5 ft. 1. C. J. Allen (B)	2. C. S. Rideout (G)	3. M. H. C. Strakosch (B)
Long Jump. Distance: 16 ft. 10 ins. 1. T. S. Maynard (C)	2. A. E. H. Worsley (S)	3. C. J. Dean (C)

#### Individual Results—Under 15

100m. Time: 12.3 secs. 1. J. G. J. Scott (C)	2. H. J. N. English (S)	3. R. J. Fullman (B)
200m. Time: 25.3 secs. 1. H. J. N. English (S)	2. R. J. Fullman (B)	3. S. A. Furlonger (G)
400m. Time: 56.9 secs. 1. H. J. N. English (S)	2. J. G. J. Scott (C)	3. T. W. P. O'Brien (S)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 12.0 secs. 1. T. W. P. O'Brien (S)	2. P. M. Ham (S)	3. J. G. J. Scott (C)
80m. Hurdles. Time: 12.7 secs. 1. S. A. Furlonger (G)	2. N. A. H. Clarke (T)	3. A. M. Gale (C)
Long Jump. Distance: 5.40m. 1. H. J. N. English (S)	2. T. W. P. O'Brien (S)	3. R. C. Appleby (L)
High Jump. Height: 5 ft. 2½ ins. 1. J. G. J. Scott (C)	2. R. G. Watts (S)	3. R. R. Montgomery (C)

# GOLF

## Spring Term

The weather was remarkably kind and a full series of matches was played in search of the best available talent for the Micklem Trophy in the holidays. The dry pitches made the demands of hockey on some golfers even more pressing than usual, and in the end the selectors settled for experience rather than youth in the team for Woking, which was to be without their captain who had been selected for the Swifts tour of America.

Results: v. Sandy Lodge Golf Club	Lost	0 — 6	at Sandy Lodge
v. Northampton County Golf Club	Halved	1½ — 1½	at Church Brampton
v. Ellesborough Golf Club	Halved	3 — 3	at Ellesborough
v. Old Stoics	Lost	½ — 5½	at Stowe
v. Harrow	Won	4½ — 1½	at Moor Park
v. Buckingham Golf Club	Halved	1½ — 1½	at Buckingham

## The Micklem Golf Trophy

### Played at Woking G.C., 14th-15th April

Once the captain had distinguished himself by being selected for the American tour, the task of attempting to retain our hold on the Micklem Trophy was far from easy. The draw delivered us a further blow by pairing us in the first round with Eton, who were the favourites for this year's event. They had retained three of the team that Stowe had beaten in last year's final, whereas only Paine remained of Stowe's winning team.

After a beautifully sunny practice day, pouring rain greeted the players as they set off for the first round matches. Graham struck the first blow for Stowe with a 6 and 4 win, but Sethi was always coming from behind in the top match and Paine was unable to find his touch; thus wins were needed from both Robinson and Horrocks. At one stage it looked possible when Horrocks—1 up at the turn—started to pull away, and Robinson won both the 11th and 12th to go 1 up. The latter clung on to his narrow lead until the 15th tee, but then Anderson's greater consistency around the greens proved decisive as he took the 15th, 16th and 17th to win 2 and 1. Meanwhile, Horrocks survived an Etonian fight-back to win 2 and 1 for Stowe.

**Result:** Eton 3; Stowe 2.

With Eton going on to win the Trophy, it was clear that Stowe should win the "Plate" (for the schools defeated in the first round) unless disappointment unduly affected the team's play. As it was, while no-one played with quite the consistency he might have liked, the team was never really pressed to beat Bradfield and then Harrow, with both Horrocks and Graham achieving the distinction of gaining three wins in three matches.

**Results:** Stowe 4; Bradfield 1.  
Stowe 4½; Harrow ½.

C. S. JUNEMAN

**Team:** A. Sethi (L), G. G. R. Paine (T), B. T. Robinson, ma. (W), J. E. Horrocks, ma. (S), M. Graham (B).

**Reserve:** P. C. A. Grint (T).

**School Colours were awarded to:** W. M. Graham.

## Summer Term

Much golf has been played and enjoyed this term and the Golf 30 has again won most of its matches, being particularly difficult to beat on their home course at Stowe, as the Fathers and the Old Stoics found yet again. It is worth noting that, since golf is a minor sport, the Golf 30 are not necessarily the best 30 golfers in the School but merely the best 30 of those who apply

to play the game full-time in the Summer Term. These can be loosely classified under four 'The Old Pro's' are the established top golfers, school colours and members of the Woking team; 'The Young Pro's' are the up-and-coming players, usually with a year or two's experience behind them, who promise to be the leaders next year; 'The Grand Old Men' are keen and elderly golfers who play with happy hopefulness rather than earnest expectations, and 'The Bright Young Things' are youngsters, ambitious to become something in the golf world, who usually try to hit the ball further than their size warrants. These all get plenty of experience of match play under C.S.J.'s League system, with its frequent promotions and relegations, which encourages a proper spirit of respect and humility and which produces a rough and ever-changing picking order in the 30. Of the top players the most successful have been Graham and Grint, and Sethi has successfully combined 1st XI Cricket and school golf, thus confounding the pundits who dogmatise that complete specialisation is nowadays the only way to achieve success. Our Captain has clearly become too used to the wide open spaces of the American circuit, though he has showed welcome signs of returning to the straight and narrow more recently, and Paine has proved to himself that consistency off the tee is necessary for success at this level. Of the Young Professionals, Barnes, Edward, Garnett, Mumby and Gray, mi. have all shown promise, and Barker and Cobb have provided more mature support in the middle of the team. It has perhaps been fortunate that, for some home matches in which we take on all comers, the opposition has not been as numerous as in previous years, for it is probably true that the bottom third of the 30 have not been as strong as usual. A feature of the term has been the Senior House Matches, for golfing talent is very evenly spread at present, and some very exciting matches have been the rule, notably Grenville's first round victory over Grafton when three out of the five strings went to extra holes.

A. M. VINEN

Results: v. Haileybury	Won	4½ — 3½	v. Uppingham	Won	4 — 2
v. The Fathers	Won	7½ — 1½	v. Old Stoics	Won	5 — 4
v. Radley	Won	3½ — 1½	v. Buckingham G.C.	Won	6 — 2
v. R.G.S. High Wycombe	Won	6 — 0	v. Oundle	Halved	4 — 4
v. Northampton County G.C.	Lost	4½ — 5½	v. Ellesborough G.C.	Won	7 — 1
v. Monmouth	Halved	3 — 3	v. Chiltern Medical G.S.	Won	7 — 3

# SWIMMING

The Senior Team started the season, on paper, as marginally better than last year's team. The number was restricted to 12 to make room for a large intake of new boys in the juniors. Unfortunately, S. Bartlett who was a good performer in all the strokes decided to withdraw, and then Paul Marsh was placed on the medical list for the whole of the term, and we have sadly missed his excellent "dash" qualities in the Freestyle Relay Team.

This apart, the ten remaining members under Richard Bickerton as Captain have worked well together and have set six new school records with Chris Low repeatedly breaking the old Senior Freestyle Record and getting closer to the magic 60 seconds for the 100m, while Richard himself continued to chip away at his own back-stroke record, finishing at 73.1 seconds for the 100m. In spite of a number of harder fixtures this year, and the fact that the three hardest were all away matches, the seniors have lost only twice. The culmination to a fine season was a splendid win against Borough Road P.E. College with the issue in doubt until the relays which Stowe won, both of them by less than half a second. Particularly pleasing was the win in the Medley Relay when Bickerton, Johnstone, Lomas and Low, broke their own existing Stowe Record to clock 2 mins. 9.9 seconds for the 4 × 50m distance.

The Junior Team is undoubtedly the best we have ever had at Stowe, and have underlined the fact by breaking 12 school records, winning all their 10 school matches, and indeed winning 85 out of a total of 92 events swum, taking both first and second place in most of these. I often managed a swim for the reserves and on two occasions matches which they won just as convincingly as the 'A' team.

The captain of the Junior Team, Adrian Bird is developing into an excellent all-round swimmer. He took the Junior Breaststroke record down to 82.9 seconds and has not conceded defeat in this stroke or in the Individual Medley to any of the opposition. Matthew Street worked hard to improve his backstroke and thoroughly deserved to take Richard Bickerton's Junior Record with a new time of 77.5 secs. Peter Hosking and Philip Richards have come first and second in the 50m Butterfly in every match, with a ding-dong battle for first place and the Junior Record, each time. Richards, who has another year as a junior has also swum the Individual Medley with Bird and again they have come first and second on all except one occasion, with Richards setting a new record in the 4 x 50m Individual Medley. In breaststroke in addition to Bird, both Simon Fraser-Allen and Guy Lancaster are swimmers who could have won many a senior event and both are still juniors next year. The same applies to Patrick O'Brien who has now taken his 100m Freestyle time very firmly into the 60s, and who has seldom been beaten over 50m Freestyle this year.

Apart from these, "the stars of the show", the first year group who have just joined the team are showing excellent promise with Roderick Dew setting a new 100m backstroke record for the Under 14s of 82 seconds, and many of the others recording times which would have been outstanding in last year's Junior Team. The future looks bright indeed.

The report would certainly not be complete if I failed to mention the nucleus of a strong water-polo side, started by Mr Bone last term and expanded (as Water-Polio) under the guidance and enthusiasm of Mr Collins (a P.E. student from Borough Road College) this term. They won three of their four matches convincingly, and finally held Borough Road itself to a 3—3 draw despite Mr Collins himself in opposition. I thought they played very well indeed for such an inexperienced team and their marking showed the half-mark of expert coaching. The only real weakness was in shooting power and variety of shots, a matter which can only be improved with time and practice.

#### Swimming Match Results:

Date	School	Senior Team	Junior Team
6/5/76	St Edward's	Won 59—31	Won 58—28
8/5/76	The Leys	Won 59—32	Won 64—27
18/5/76	Uppingham	Won 48—25	Won 51—21
20/5/76	Dean Close	Lost 55—65	Won 64—56
22/5/76	Old Stoics	Won 32—21	
27/5/76	Berkhamsted	Won 58—33	'A' Won 61—30 'B' Won 60—31
29/5/76	Rugby	Won 48—27	Won 48—27
3/6/76	Winchester	Won 32—24	Won 30—22
	Marlborough	Won 32—22	Won 30—14
8/6/76	Oundle	Lost 29—53	Won 59—23
10/6/76	Cheltenham	Won 54—28	'A' Won 56—26 'B' Won 53—28
12/6/76	Borough Road College	Won 40—33	

We are entering a larger team than usual to represent North Bucks in the County Schools Finals but the results of this will not be known in time for this issue of *The Stoic*.

F. A. HUDSON

## AWN TENNIS

### t VI

Before the season started it was confidently felt that the 1st VI would be a very strong one, and that it would probably go through all the matches undefeated. However, when the Summer term started we were without two of the key players—J. M. Scowsill, the Captain, and N. Chapman—both of whom had sustained injuries to their right wrists while playing winter games, and so emergency arrangements had to be made. As things turned out we were without Scowsill for the first five matches, and without Chapman for the whole of the season. The overall record speaks for itself in that after the return of the Captain we won every match, and he and D. Horlock are to be congratulated on being undefeated in twenty-one individual encounters, and the only match which would have been difficult with the whole team available was that against P. Fraser, who had a well balanced line up. After some experiments the second pair was A. P. Fraser and our very welcome United States member F. Mauran—they improved considerably during the term and had some encouraging wins, particularly when they adapted their game to the different styles of their opponents. The third pair was settled as A. E. Osborne and S. C. Fraser, and their contrasting styles combined very well to obtain several excellent wins. All in all it has been both a successful and a happy term's tennis, and much of the credit for this must go to J. M. Scowsill for his helpful and considerate captaincy, and the support he received from D. Horlock while unable to play, and on the courts. We hope to do quite well at Wimbledon during the holidays, but the two pair competition for the Youll Cup is not always the same thing as playing in three pair "all play all" matches.

Results:		Home	Drawn	4½—4½
v. M. T. S.	Away	Lost	2½—6½	
v. R.G.S.H.W.	Home	Won	6—3	
v. Eton	Away	Lost	7—2	
v. Marlborough	Home	Lost	6—3	
v. Old Stoics	Home	Won	6—3	
v. Oakham	Home	Won	7—2	
v. Uppingham	Home	Won	7—2	
v. Radley	Away	Won	7—2	
v. St Edward's	Home	Won	6—3	
v. Oundle	Away	Won	5½—3½	
v. Rugby	Away	Won	6—3	

### olts VI

This has been another successful term's tennis for the Colts VI, but not as good as it might have been. The hot weather seemed to sap the stamina of some of the Stowe players more than that of the opponents, and one wonders whether this should have been allowed to occur. Tennis is to be played under all kinds of conditions of weather and playing surface, and there is no excuse for not trying to fight one's way out of all problems as and when they occur. That having been said there is no doubt that the team had some fine wins during the season, and a great deal of improvement was made by everyone. The first pair of G. J. Tucker, ma. and C. H. Peacock had some excellent wins, and are to be congratulated on combining well and playing to their respective strengths—not often seen in tennis at this level. The second pair was N. J. Poup and A. J. Holland, ma., and whilst they won a number of good matches, they too often allowed their opponents to get back into their strides by failing to drive home their advantage of gaining an early lead. In summary their technique of stroke production is above their execution under match conditions at the moment, but that will come with experience. The third pair of N. W. James and J. P. Villiers, mi. was a very raw combination at the start of the term, but by dint of sheer hard work and determination they developed into a very difficult team to beat, and they secured a number of creditable wins against more fancied opponents.

<b>Results:</b> v. Bradfield	Home	Won	7 —2
v. M.T.S.	Away	Won	7 —2
v. R.G.S.H.W.	Home	Won	7½—1½
v. Eton	Away	Lost	4 —5
v. Marlborough	Home	Lost	2 —7
v. Oakham	Home	Won	6 —3
v. Uppingham	Home	Won	8 —1
v. Radley	Away	Won	7½—1½
v. St Edward's	Home	Lost	4 —5
v. Oundle	Away	Won	7 —2
v. Rugby	Away	Won	7 —2

### Junior Colts and Under 14 Teams

Unfortunately not many schools we play against field teams at these levels, and so match play is necessarily restricted. However, we have some promising players coming along, and they will be able to play the full range of matches next season.

Finally it can be said that another good season's tennis has almost been completed, and we can look forward to the future with reasonable confidence.

P.G.L.

## ARCHERY

Once again we can report that we have won both our matches so far this season. We defeated Finchley Albanian with ease (Andrew Law finally got his colours after this match) and Eton with somewhat less ease. We all shot below our best against Eton and were lucky not to lose. No doubt Mr Arnold will have been praised elsewhere in this magazine, but he deserves special mention here. He has quite willingly devoted countless Saturdays and Sundays to transporting the team around, he has urged the team on with his enthusiasm and expertise and has always been ready to coach the team. Archery has, over the past five years, been a very successful sport at Stowe (with one notable exception, i.e. the defeat by Haileybury last season) and this is due mostly to Mr Arnold's contribution. Archery will never be the same without his fascinating, but totally irrelevant, historical references.

CHARLES ROXBURGH

The following have represented the School: J. H. S. Macquaker (G) (Capt.), C. F. Roxburgh (T), A. Law (T), L. J. A. Bell (G).

## CROSS-COUNTRY

In recent years the Cross-Country Club has had disappointing results, and we have had to console ourselves with the hope of improvement when a number of promising runners established themselves at senior level. It is thus very pleasing to report that this year that promise was fulfilled with good results at both Open and Colts levels.

We began the Spring term with six regular runners still available from last year's 1st VIII, while healthy competition for the last two places gave us the depth we have lacked in the last two years, and enabled us to overcome the misfortune of losing two leading runners for half the term through injury. During the winter term a weakened side had already performed well at Bradfield, beating the home side and losing only narrowly to a good Abingdon team, and we tackled our Spring programme with high hopes. Our first three matches produced comfortable wins, and we had visions of an undefeated season until, weakened by injuries, we went down to two excellent sides from St Edward's and St Alban's, who would in fairness have beaten our strongest possible team. We came back to beat Uppingham and the Old Stoics, thus finishing with five wins out of seven.

Individually, the season was distinguished by consistently good running from Cubitt, Ancsell, Royds, Robinson and Harris. McLoughlin promised to be our most successful runner until injury put him out for a month, while Wilson proved a talented and enthusiastic newcomer, whose gluttonous appetite for training sadly resulted in an injury that brought his season to a premature end, after he had improved tremendously in the early weeks of the season. Valuable assistance also came from Alper, Nelson, Lomas and an enthusiastic second team, while Cubitt and McLoughlin set an outstanding example as Captain and Secretary respectively.

The Colts team had a splendid season, winning five matches out of six, and most of the team will still be eligible to run in this age group next year. The most consistent performers were Appleton, Harris, mi., Ham, Hope, Bradstock, Dunham, James and Davis. We also had some enjoyable matches at Under 15 level and although we seldom managed a full or settled side and won only one match out of four, we unearthed some promising talent for next year's Colts. In the School races Temple gained an exciting victory over Cobham in a fiercely contested Open race, and also took the Junior race in convincing style, while Grafton won at Intermediate level. The individual winners all recorded fast times in admittedly excellent conditions. Ancsell took the Senior race comfortably in 25 mins. 31 secs., with Cubitt 2nd and Royds 3rd, Ham and O'Brien shared the Intermediate in a dead-heat at 16 mins. 25 secs. and Scott won the Junior in 17 mins. 31 secs.

Some individual achievements deserve recall. Cubitt represented the County in the All-England Schools Championships, with Harris and Royds as reserves, while Ancsell would almost certainly have done so had he not been unwell on the day of the County finals. Robinson achieved a magnificent 35-mile solo run, which raised a large sum of money for Cancer Research, and Cobham House, including the Housemaster and his dog, turned out on a heroic sponsored run for the Carr-Gomme Society.

It was pleasing to note an increased number of participants this Spring. It is to be hoped that this continues, as the extreme youth of the Colts team will leave us with some gaps to fill at Senior level next year and any enthusiastic newcomer should find that there is ample scope for representing the School.

S. J. SUTTLE

Senior Colours awarded to: N. C. McLoughlin (T) and D. R. Wilson, ma. (W).

Senior Colours re-awarded to: W. G. Cubitt, ma. (T), B. T. Robinson (W), N. E. Ancsell (C), J. C. Royds, ma. (C) and J. R. C. Harris, ma. (C).

### Results:

**Open:** 1st Stowe; 2nd Bradfield; 3rd Bloxham.  
 Stowe v. Harrow, Haileybury, St Edward's and Felsted: Cancelled.  
 1st Stowe; 2nd The Leys; 3rd Oakham.  
 1st Stowe; 2nd Berkhamsted; 3rd Felsted.  
 1st St Edward's; 2nd Cheltenham; 3rd Stowe.  
 1st St Albans; 2nd Stowe.  
 1st Stowe; 2nd Uppingham.  
 1st Stowe; 2nd Old Stoics.

**Colts:** 1st Stowe; 2nd Bradfield; 3rd Bloxham.  
 1st The Leys; 2nd Oakham; 3rd Stowe.  
 1st Stowe; 2nd Berkhamsted; 3rd Felsted.  
 1st (equal) Stowe and St Edward's; 3rd Cheltenham.  
 1st Stowe; 2nd St Albans.  
 1st Stowe; 2nd Uppingham.



## FIVES

It has been a fairly quiet term though the keen players have continued to play and enjoy their game. A particularly welcome sight has been a group of middle school boys who have suddenly developed an enthusiasm for the game. I hope that this will spread and that next year there will be far more people playing; new players are always welcome.

After Christmas we were rarely able to field a full strength team of Seniors: hence results look rather less good. At Colts level we are weak not only in standard but numerically too. Thus next year could be very testing for the seniors. It will however enable the very promising Junior Colts and Under 14s to play at a higher level rather sooner than they might otherwise have done with possible beneficial effects in the long term. Lloyd and Salariya have developed into a formidable combination and de Chambure and Gull won three matches out of three in the Spring Term.

P. R. BOWDEN

**Seniors:** P. St J. Chapman\* (L), J. D. Hanks\* (C), P. R. Rivalland\* (C), C. J. Rowntree (T), R. J. C. S. Mitchell (W), W. M. Graham (B).

**Colts:** M. R. Banister (B), A. J. Rossdale (L).

**Junior Colts:** C. R. Lloyd, mi. (T), P. Salariya (T), M. E. Farmer (C), G. J. J. Tucker, ma. (L), J. A. G. Bird (T).

**Under 14:** G. F. de Chambure (C), M. C. J. Gull (B), W. J. N. Edgerley (C), A. R. J. MacKinnon (C), S. C. Andrews (B), A. R. Boyce (C), J. A. Thompson-Schwab (C).

\* Colours.

	Seniors	Colts	J. Colts	U.14
<b>Results:</b> v. Sunningdale	—	—	—	1—2
v. King Edward's School, Birmingham	0—2	—	—	—
v. Uppingham	1—2	0—1	2—0	—
v. Mill Hill	1—0	1—0	1—1	—
v. Old Citizens	0—3	—	—	—
v. O.U. Peppers	1—1	—	—	—
v. R.G.S. High Wycombe	1—0	1—0	1—0	—
v. Repton	0—2	—	0—2	2—0

## SAILING

The sailing team has had the most successful season for several years, winning seven out of nine matches. We were unbeaten at home.

It is probable that we have too many matches which results in the activity sailors who are not in the team getting very little tuition from the more competent members. The high proportion of home matches also means that these people have even less chance to sail.

The number of Club members has also been falling slightly probably due to the difficulty of introducing people to the sport, since the C.C.F. became voluntary.

The team won the first four matches reasonably easily. These were against Banbury Cross S.C., Aldenham, Uppingham and Bloxham.

Our first defeat was against Oundle, who were without doubt the best school team we came up against. It was a great shame that the wind was nearly non-existent as this could have been a very close match. What little wind there was quickly disappeared only allowing two races. They showed our light-weather sailing to be very under-practised and we were quite easily beaten.

Radley also beat us. This was an extremely frustrating day as we were much superior as far as sailing was concerned. This was shown in the third race when the two helmsmen who survived the start came comfortably 1st and 2nd.

We were beaten by their boats which were extremely fragile and sluggish. All that the team gained from this match was an appreciation of how well Mr Rainer maintains our boats.

The final three matches were all victories. Firstly against St Edward's in a very exciting match, some fine team racing, particularly by P. Symes gave us a 3—0 win. Next we beat Rugby getting the first three places in each race. The final match was against the Old Stoics. For this we had the windiest sailing day of term. The School won the first two races after a lot of rather vicious tactics, several of which the Old Stoics had forgotten. In the third race the Old Boys became more used to the boats and managed 1st, 2nd and 4th. This was the most closely fought match and it made possible a large amount of practice of team tactics.

It is hoped that there may be a return match later on against Banbury Cross S.C. in their single-handed Lasers. It is also hoped to arrange a visit to the Laser factory at Banbury.

JAMES HANKS

Those who sailed for the team: Helmsmen: J. D. Hanks (C) (Commodore), S. C. Curwen (C), P. Symes (C), A. M. Prince (C) (Secretary). Crews: P. Brocklebank, ma. (W), J. Parkinson (W), A. Massie (W), J. Brocklebank, mi. (W).

## SCULLING

Despite our aging fleet, with some craft in their eighteenth year of active service, and the lack of incentive in terms of regattas due to understandable financial difficulties this has been another enjoyable season. We have 18 full-time scullers, though the number of applicants far exceeded this total, and many of these have spent considerable time working on repairs to the sculls. As the recent House Matches showed, there is a lot of potential, especially among the junior oarsmen. We were blessed with the best weather of the term for the event, and the issue remained in doubt throughout a marathon afternoon. In the end Walpole emerged narrow victors over Lyttelton with Temple third. The individual shield was won by S. D. Milligan (L) with R. C. Richings (W) runner-up and J. R. Arnold, mi. (L) in the bronze medal position—a particularly meritorious performance for one who only started sculling this term. Applications for next year have already started to come in and we look forward to another enjoyable season.

C. R. HASLAM  
GEORGE ZAMBELLAS  
CHARLES RICHINGS

## SOCCER

So far, this year has seemed a disappointing one in comparison with the team's previous record. Out of the six matches played, we have won two, lost three and drawn one. The start of the season involved a greater readjustment of the XI than we had encountered before, and for this reason changes in the team have been made frequently, though mainly through injuries.

Rugby proved a formidable opposition away from home where we lost 4-2, although at Stowe we won the return match 2-1. On "foreign soil" again (and probably the worst pitch we have come across), we lost heavily to a Radley referee 5-3! And although managing to draw 1-1 at home it wasn't a very commendable performance. The masters match proved eventful, as always, with a somewhat easy win of 4-1. Probably our worst defeat was against the Old Stoics where over-confidence preceded good football and we allowed David Scowsill to score three goals against our two. With two more matches left this term we are preparing ourselves for a keen contest with Eastcote Rangers and a new fixture with the Royal Latin School.

As all the sports, we also await the facilities of the new Sports Hall. Until then we are hoping to have the use of a five-a-side pitch in the centre of the athletics track for the winter months. Unfortunately, due to lack of moral support from the supposedly better members of the team (i.e. not turning up for practices and training and then expecting to be instantly selected for the XI) the team is slowly deteriorating and this is great pity since we have great potential.

Thanks are warmly given to Mr D. R. Foster, for his coaching, his refereeing and excellent driving!

MICHAEL TOMLIN

Those played: S. W. Allport (B), N. E. Ansell (C), J. A. Barratt, mi. (T), C. D. Bourn (C), D. A. Bowman, ma. (B), R. A. Burton (S), S. J. M. Cobb (C), S. C. Fraser (L), J. W. Green (W), J. R. C. Harris, ma. (C), J. M. Hayward (S), D. C. W. Horlock, ma. (W), C. M. Johnstone (C), (Capt.), N. C. McLoughlin (T), G. R. J. Page (C), N. J. Phillips (S), N. G. M. Salour (C), J. M. Scowsill (T), T. P. H. Stephens (L), M. A. N. Tomlin (C), A. P. Ward (W).

Results:	v. Rugby	Away	Lost	5—3	(Green, Scowsill, Harris)
	v. Radley	Away	Lost	4—2	(Phillips 2)
	v. Rugby	Home	Won	2—1	(Salour, Johnstone).
	v. Radley	Home	Drawn	1—1	(Stephens).
	v. Masters	Home	Won	3—1	(Johnstone, Harris, Bowman).
	v. Old Stoics	Home	Lost	2—3	(Bourn, Scowsill).

## PRIZE WINNERS

Basil Williamson Memorial Prize  
Wallace Prize for Geography  
Peter Bates Prize for Geography  
Scott-Gall Prize for History  
Syrett Prize for History  
Bryan Henshaw Prize for Speech (*Senior*)

Hayward Prize for Reading  
J. F. Roxburgh Prize for Classics  
Anthony Pearce Prize for Latin Oration  
Charles Loudon Prize for Greek  
Friends of Stowe Prize for General Knowledge

Basil Aimers Prize for Reading

Harding Prize for Reading

Bryan Henshaw Prize for Speech (*Junior*)

Gavin Maxwell Prize for English (*Senior*)  
J. F. Roxburgh Prize for English Verse (*Senior*)  
J. F. Roxburgh Prize for English Verse (*Junior*)  
Friends of Stowe Prize for Natural History (*Senior*)  
Friends of Stowe Prize for Natural History  
Choyce Prize for Biology  
Robert Montagu Prize for Geology  
J. C. Riess Prize for German  
Telford-Wardley Prize for Spanish  
Robert Barbour Prize for Divinity  
Burroughs Prize for Church History

James Mayne Prize for Economics

James Mayne Prize for Government

P. M. Hugill  
P. M. Hugill  
A. T. Clarke  
N. C. Kempe, ma.  
J. H. Walford  
J. H. Walford  
J. S. Kreeger  
J. S. Kreeger  
J. S. Kreeger  
J. S. Kreeger  
J. S. Kreeger  
J. S. Kreeger  
D. R. B. Champion  
Francesca Kay  
R. C. Skrine  
A. R. J. Mackinnon  
R. R. Montgomery, mi.  
S. Wallace-Jones  
R. J. Wheatley  
M. E. B. de Hamel  
E. L. Meyer  
T. A. Mallett  
A. E. H. Worsley  
J. C. Broadhead, ma.  
M. E. B. de Hamel  
S. C. Creedy-Smith  
N. A. S. Duthie  
Vivien Slyfield  
Vivien Slyfield  
J. H. Rose  
A. Sethi  
A. Sethi  
F. Siddiqi

Pearman-Smith Prize for Mathematics  
Humphrey Foster Prize for Physics  
Hards Prize for Chemistry  
Hayward Prize for Chemistry  
Anthony Howard Prizes for Art

J. F. Roxburgh Prize for Architecture  
Friends of Stowe Prize for Woodwork  
John Holland Prize for Metalwork  
Lower School Prize for Woodwork  
Lower School Prize for Metalwork  
Gilling-Lax Music Prizes (*Senior*)

(*Junior*)

Boosey and Hawkes Cup  
Fanshawe Cup  
Myles Henry Prize  
David Sandhurst Prize  
'Bene' Prizes

M. Al Turki  
S. G. Appleton  
B. F. Barclay  
C. G. Burchill  
N. A. H. Clarke, mi.  
M. B. A. Cliff Hodges  
N. A. S. Duthie  
D. A. Eaton  
M. P. W. Emanuel  
R. P. H. Harris  
A. N. Jamieson  
Francesca Kay  
A. G. Kelly  
N. C. Kempe, ma.

B. A. Nicholson  
T. J. Issaias  
T. J. Issaias  
B. F. Barclay  
S. R. Stanley, ma.  
G. H. Charlton  
W. H. Latham  
J. H. Latham  
N. A. P. Leto  
J. N. T. Parkinson  
M. E. B. de Hamel  
J. M. Pike  
J. R. Cattle  
G. G. F. Barwood  
R. L. Law  
C. E. A. Hugill  
N. J. Comery  
P. R. Rivalland  
J. A. Macdonald  
S. Wallace-Jones  
D. F. C. Thomas  
A. H. Hudson  
J. S. Kreeger  
J. A. Smith  
J. E. Horrocks, ma.  
J. S. Kreeger (2)  
G. N. Lancaster  
S. McCarthy, ma.  
P. A. Miles  
Caitlin Mitchell  
S. Rahman  
A. H. Ritchie, mi.  
T. L. Terry  
A. M. Roxburgh, mi.  
C. F. Roxburgh, mi. (2)  
W. G. Tyser  
T. Von Trotha  
C. P. J. Wightman  
A. E. Zambellas, mi.

## NEW BOYS AND GIRLS 1975

BOYS:

**Bruce:** (*Spring*) S. C. Andrews (N), J. C. W. Hall (N), \*C. T. Highwood, mi., P. M. Joseph, \*J. P. Villiers, mi.; (*Autumn*) R. W. Beckford (N), \*C. A. Best, A. T. Clarke, O. B. Gill (N), \*E. P. Good, M. C. J. Gull, T. D. Holgate (N), \*M. A. R. Lumsden-Cook, J. McCarthy, mi. (N), S. S. Rahman, P. T. Stanley (4), C. W. N. Wetton (N), J. L. Williams (N).

**Temple:** (*Spring*) J. A. Carroll, N. A. H. Clarke, mi., \*J. R. Fanshawe, S. J. Richardson, G. F. Wheeler, min.; (*Autumn*) G. N. Andrier, M. Bray, P. F. Burditt, G. W. Denning, N. H. J. Ferris, A. M. G. Glennie, M. D. McCaldin, \*E. F. McConnell, K. B. D. M. Mackenzie, P. E. Richards, \*A. R. Whitty.

- Grenville:** (*Spring*) P. J. B. Dunham (N), J. R. Gaines (N), C. S. E. Romilly (N); (*Summer*) Y. Ishizaka; (*Autumn*) R. S. Arias, S. L. Aguero, A. H. Austin, mi., The Hon. E. H. R. Butler, M. S. Castle-Smith, C. H. D. Cornwall, M. A. Donen, \*J. S. Everard, C. M. Gerrard, H. N. Hall, I. P. W. Knight, A. St C. Millner, mi., A. M. Mitchell, C. A. Nickel, A. G. R. St Clair-Burke, A. D. Wear, \*P. H. Wolstenholme.
- Chandos:** (*Spring*) \*J. N. Birt-Llewellyn, J. P. N. Forbes Adam, min., J. C. Lucas, \*H. J. Marriott, S. V. Wylie; (*Autumn*) A. R. Boyce, A. T. Davis, W. J. N. Edgerley, M. P. W. Emanuel, mi., J. E. Hughes Clarke, A. R. J. MacKinnon, R. Sarin, A. L. Tarcy, \*R. J. Upton, \*G. W. Watson, mi.
- Cobham:** (*Spring*) R. B. de A. Moore (N), P. W. Richardson, mi. (N); (*Autumn*) J. D. W. Bridgwood, G. F. de Chambure, \*A. M. Gale, F. Mauran, D. H. Morgan, \*J. G. J. Scott, \*A. O. Stone, R. D. H. Taylor, B. A. Martin.
- Chatham:** (*Spring*) T. G. Hall, F. N. Loughray, I. H. Mellor, \*R. P. Royds, mi., B. von Mutius, G. T. Wood; (*Autumn*) R. G. Barratt, \*M. F. Broom-Smith, \*A. W. P. Cooper, J. C. Cunningham-Jardine, H. D. Gregson-Williams, mi., \*F. E. J. Law, \*P. A. D. Lloyd, \*P. J. Macdonald, C. A. O. Macleod, mi., N. P. Martin, mi., B. E. Nereli, \*A. R. Ruhemann, M. J. Shew, \*Q. R. Wells.
- Grafton:** (*Spring*) \*M. M. Berger, C. R. Close-Smith, J. Gulab, \*R. E. T. Sanders; (*Autumn*) \*J. T. Arnold, min., J. D. Beck (N), G. B. S. Donald (N), \*H. J. N. English, A. F. Fulford (N), R. D. Goldsworthy, \*R. M. Harris, M. P. Johnson, J. Markham, \*The Hon. M. P. St J. Prittie, C. B. A. Ryrie (N), P. M. B. Smith-Cresswell, \*S. J. E. Smith, R. G. Watts, mi., R. A. J. Weatherbe, G. A. Wilde (N).
- Walpole:** (*Spring*) J. D. Brocklebank, mi. (N), E. Hartington (N), \*N. Hartley, mi. (N), (*Autumn*) J. W. Aldridge (N), \*J. D. I. Church, \*H. K. Goodliffe, H. N. Gregory, mi., N. E. J. Hedley (N), T. K. W. Hodgson, E. W. Kershaw (N), \*R. A. Marsden-Smedley (N), \*R. P. A. S. Mitchell, mi., \*C. M. Rigg, \*A. D. L. Robinson (4), \*A. M. Roxburgh, mi., \*\*D. F. Sanderson, \*H. P. Stevens.
- Lyttelton:** (*Spring*) R. C. Appleby, J. J. O'G. Cameron (N), M. N. A. Jackson; (*Autumn*) \*R. M. R. Bannister, mi., E. R. P. Baring, M. Barker, \*A. C. H. M. Beddall, \*E. J. L. Donne, \*J. A. Fane, mi. (N), \*D. A. T. Kerr (N), A. J. Milligan, mi., J. M. Ryder, min., \*J. J. Scott, \*M. J. L. Shirley, M. H. Sutcliffe, O. R. S. Tucker, min.
- GIRLS:** (*Autumn*) Maria C. Alexander, Barbara V. Anderson, \*Quita Colston, \*Susan P. Dunnett, Elizabeth W. Fremantle, Janette E. Hill, Eiluned O. Jones, Francesca M. Kay, Dorianne P. Lowe, \*Julie C. Marler, Kathryn A. Matthews, Marcelle von Schoenberg, Clarissa J. Whiteley, Alison J. Whittington.

\* = Son or Daughter of Old Stoic. \*\* = Grandson of Old Stoic. (N) = Nugent.

## LEAVERS 1975

### BOYS:

- Bruce:** (*Summer*) N. T. Campbell, ma., M. P. Patel, T. J. Rollit Mason, W. F. Shaw, S. L. Westeng, S. L. Young; (*Autumn*) J. L. Abelson, C. D. Forbes Adam, ma., L. J. Hydleman, I. A. W. Nasatir, C. J. C. Boardman.
- Temple:** (*Summer*) J. M. Bray, S. H. Coney, S. L. M. Hall, J. P. Hunt, D. de B. Kinahan, R. W. I. Kingan, S. A. T. Metcalfe, J. V. Mumby, ma., S. Ridley, M. R. Scantlebury, G. H. B. Sugden, C. C. Tranfield, N. S. Vans Agnew; (*Autumn*) J. MacD. Cunningham, M. D. M. Davies, N. C. De Salis.
- Grenville:** (*Summer*) N. P. Armstrong, P. M. Bradfield, C. G. Burchill, N. D. Fulford, S. L. Green, ma., V. W. R. Hill, J. R. T. Hodgson, B. J. Horrocks, C. M. F. Howse, C. D. M. Hughes, A. N. Jamieson, N. G. Orr, ma., P. B. Salmon, J. M. Shirley-Beavan, C. Vollers, E. N. Winnington-Ingram, ma.; (*Autumn*) R. S. Arias, D. B. Fransen, Y. Ishizaka, C. F. Peto, M. P. Tobin.

- Chandos:** (*Summer*) J. D. I. Barker, J. A. W. Cheyne, R. Cowasjee, M. S. Hoppen, K. J. M. Jackson-Moore, A. H. Lascelle, R. H. L. Munro-Ferguson, M. S. Parker, E. S. Sowerby, A. J. Watson, A. J. Wright, A. J. M. Black, Q. M. Cornwell; (*Autumn*) R. Knight-Bruce, T. J. Maitland-Heriot.
- Cobham:** (*Summer*) S. J. Browne, T. F. de Montlivault, J. J. Hart, A. R. D. Hobbs, W. H. Hollinshead, D. Q. Kneeshaw, J. A. I. Knowles, L. E. O'Brien, M. J. T. Reaney, P. J. A. Rhodes, B. N. Singh, T. O. Smith, N. P. Staheyeff, ma., D. C. H. Taylor; (*Autumn*) A. C. A. Rodger.
- Chatham:** (*Spring*) A. D. R. Black; (*Summer*) R. Bendre, G. D. G. Carr, mi. (2 terms), A. C. C. Chater, N. A. J. C. P. Contomichalos, H. J. G. Curwen, ma., G. W. Forbes, A. J. Henry, M. A. Knight, N. R. Lake, Viscount Prestwood, B. von Mutius, M. A. Johnstone; (*Autumn*) M. J. Aran, J. H. G. Carr, ma., P. M. Cooper, R. F. Grove, P. H. Lancaster, T. D. Outerbridge.
- Grafton:** (*Summer*) D. A. A. Bagley, C. J. Bushell, A. J. W. Middleton, C. F. Pearch, M. C. W. Read, D. S. Sandhurst, D. E. G. Stevenson, P. S. C. Wood; (*Autumn*) P. A. Miles, S. D. Moore, N. J. Phillips, C. P. Yeoward.
- Walpole:** (*Summer*) D. F. Barron-Sullivan, V. E. Bell, R. P. E. Carr, S. J. F. Douglas, C. M. Drake, S. J. Gornall, S. R. de C. Grant-Rennick, T. C. Green, P. J. B. Harland, K. C. Naylor, J. S. M. Riddick, P. A. Rose, J. S. Shepherd-Barron, ma., W. G. Tyser; (*Autumn*) E. C. Corbett, M. H. C. Harvey, S. B. Chisholm, N. M. Shannon, D. J. M. Ward, ma.
- Lyttelton:** (*Summer*) W. A. C. C. Cavendish, A. J. T. Edwards, R. M. Fowke, P. Herbert, R. J. Loup, ma., S. Mackay, The Hon. P. T. Maxwell, P. C. Messenger, E. S. P. Parker-Jervis, ma., S. N. B. Richardson, P. W. Saunders, M. H. Warren; (*Autumn*) T. J. Beevor, C. A. Ritchie, ma., C. T. Rolls.
- GIRLS:** (*Summer*) C. Haynes.

## OLD STOIC NEWS

- T. B. R. Albery** (L 1969) has won an Independent Television Regional Theatre Trainee Director Award.
- W. R. B. Allan** (T 1962) has been appointed Executive Editor of *Connoisseur*.
- J. V. Bartlett** (T 1945) was awarded the C.B.E. in the New Year Honours.
- J. Burnell-Nugent** (© 1967) is the navigator of the nuclear submarine H.M.S. Swiftsure.
- B. J. Calvert** (B 1952) was Second Pilot on the Concorde Inaugural Flight. Passengers included Lord Boyd Carpenter (C 1927) and Group Captain G. L. Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C. (C 1935).
- The Lord Chelwood, M.C., D.L.** (T 1935) has become Chairman of J. Compton Sons and Webb (Holdings).
- D. McMurray** (who taught at Stowe until 1964) has been appointed Headmaster of Loretto.
- J. F. Nye** (© 1941) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.
- J. O. Outwater** (C 1941) has been elected Fellow, American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
- F. B. Richards** (T 1932) was awarded the K.C.M.G. in the New Year Honours.
- D. R. Speight** (B 1955) has been Headmaster of Winchester House School, Brackley since September 1975.
- J. C. R. Welch** (G 1941) was named Journalist of the Year in the Granada Television "What the Papers Say" Awards.

## MARRIAGES

- P. J. Blayney** (C 1958) to Jane Elizabeth Charlton on 24th December 1974.  
**R. J. B. Gentry** (C 1943) to Elizabeth Angela Blunt on 9th May 1974.  
**A. E. How** (C 1970) to Lynn Christine Bishop on 24th May 1975.  
**J. F. M. Monkhouse** (C 1959) is now married.  
**L. E. de Neufville** (G 1931) to Esther Bonter Brown on 27th July 1974.  
**P. B. Sanderson** (C 1964) to Elizabeth Grün on 11th April 1970.  
**J. C. Staib** (T 1972) to Lynne Ross on 4th June 1976.  
**J. D. Wallis** (T 1953) to Janet Elizabeth Trigg on 30th August 1975.  
**M. G. S. Wilesmith** (C 1963) to Christine Lesley Spicer on 4th August 1973.

## BIRTHS

To the wife of:

- P. J. Blayney** (C 1958) a son on 27th December 1975.  
**J. Doubleday** (C 1964) a son on 12th April 1976.  
**R. J. B. Gentry** (C 1943) a daughter on 1st August 1975.  
**Lieutenant Commander P. E. S. Lilley, R.N.** (C 1954) a son on 1st January 1976.  
**D. Remington** (G 1965) a daughter on 21st April 1976.  
**P. B. Sanderson** (C 1964) a daughter on 27th July 1974.  
**M. G. S. Wilesmith** (C 1963) a daughter on 3rd August 1974.

## DEATHS

- Lieutenant Colonel J. L. Ashton** (C 1931) on 3rd December 1975.  
**C. W. H. Begbie** (T 1926) on 10th May 1972.  
**P. W. de B. Forsyth** (C 1936) on 21st November 1975.  
**W. R. French** (C 1952) on 12th June 1972.  
**R. W. S. Gentle** (B 1949) in May 1976.  
**R. M. Instone** (C 1953) on 18th April 1976.  
**A. J. Manley** (T 1942) on 4th April 1976.

## THE HISTORY OF STOWE—XXIV

### THE DUKEDOM OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS (Part 1)

Everyone knows Parkinson's law, his first law. There is a second law, which need not here concern us. There is also a third, which is not so well known as, perhaps, it ought to be.<sup>1</sup> It may be stated thus. An organism—an empire, a commercial undertaking, a family—has, like a tree, a maximum growth. At its maximum the organism is most splendid in appearance, but when that maximum is reached decay sets in. The decay may not at first, or indeed for some time, be evident, but sooner or later it will manifest itself and speedily lead to destruction. To give examples, as Parkinson does, from history. During the 17th century the French monarchy was very great and was thought to be invincible. But the palace at Versailles, the embodiment of that monarchy's greatness, was only completed in time for Louis XIV to receive there the news of the battle of Blenheim, where his armies were destroyed. In the same way, in more recent times, the British Viceroy moved into his splendid premises at New Delhi only just in time to hand over the Indian Empire to the Congress Party. To particularise more minutely and nearer to our purpose: when you are driven in your chaise up an avenue several miles long and arrive at last on a gravel sweep large enough to parade a regiment of footguards, mount a flight of steps under an enormous portico and are conducted by two or three footmen through marble halls and into the presence of his Lordship, then you know that the climax has been attained and the family will now decline. So it was at Stowe at the opening of the 19th century.

But, for the present, nothing seems to be wrong. Behold the Marquis, very stout and very affable, seated in his newly-completed Gothic library, surrounded by his valuable collection of ancient manuscripts. A successful man you would say, and you would not be wholly mistaken. He had the best house and estate in Buckinghamshire and the finest landscape park in England. He had what his two immediate predecessors had not had, a family of two sons and a daughter. He had a charming and talented wife. And he was, there is no denying it, immensely rich (Plate 1). His uncle Temple had been reputed the richest man in England. Buckingham inherited all his uncle had had, and his own wife was an heiress. In addition he had the Tellership of the Irish Exchequer, obtained for him, while still a schoolboy, by his father George Grenville from George III during the short period when, as Premier, Grenville had been on good terms with the King. The annual income from this sinecure is said to have been above £20,000 a year, and Buckingham had it for life.<sup>2</sup> Nevertheless, during the first decade of the new century it became common knowledge that Lord Buckingham was seriously in debt. From that time onward the great Temple-Grenville family moved towards disaster.

The first hint appears in the Farington Diaries.<sup>3</sup> Joseph Farington, R.A., a very inquisitive person, had a friend, a clergyman named Powell, also inquisitive, who was, it seems, an habitué at Stowe. Returning thence on one occasion he told Farington all about it and Farington recorded it thus—

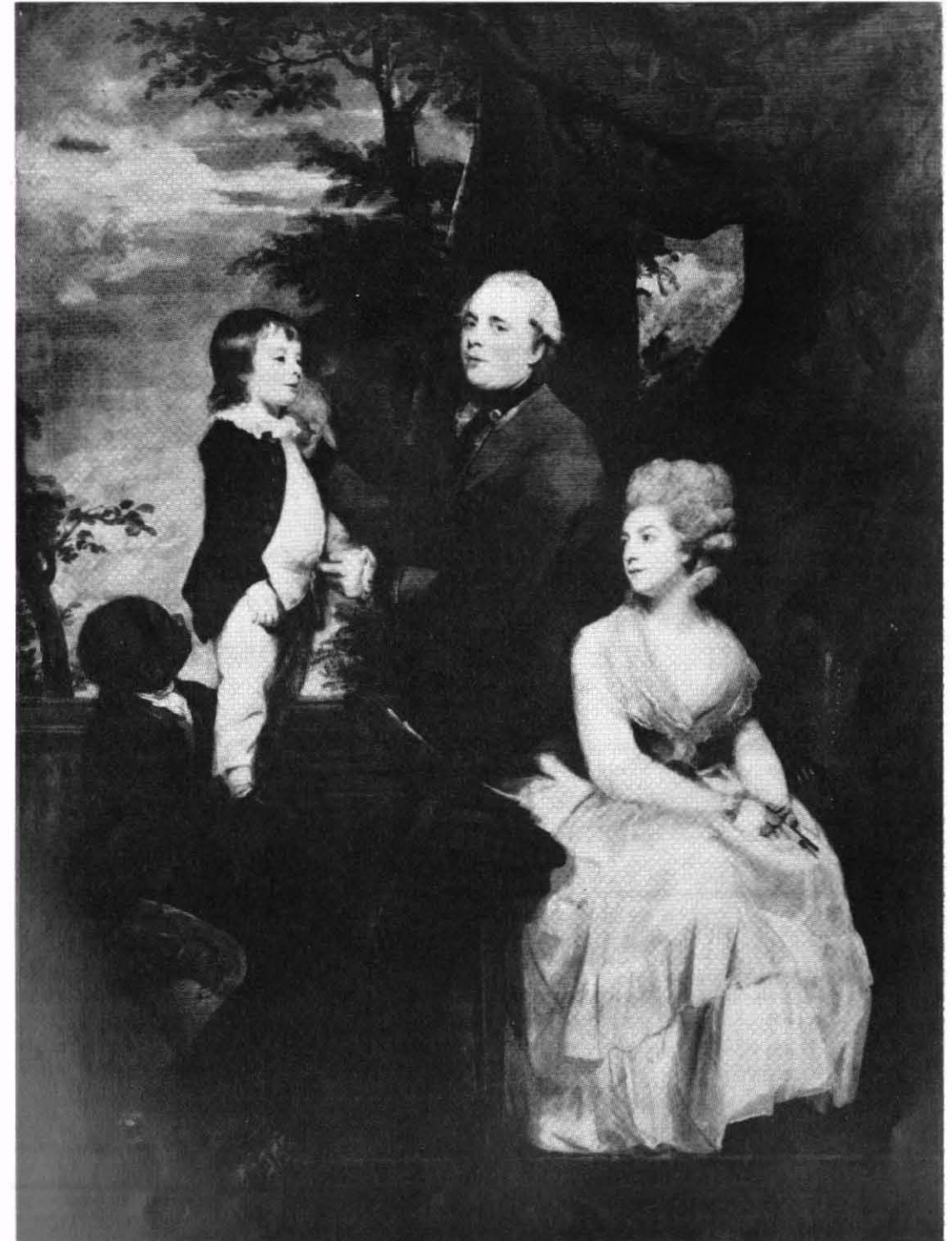
“August 14 1804. The Revd. Mr Powel dined with us. He has recently been at Stowe the Marquis of Buckingham's who He described to be a very hospitable man, full of conversation, but chiefly political, familiar in his manner; has an impediment in His speech; has a great income but so many expenses that His steward told Mr Powel that Bills cd: not be paid in less than from a year and  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 years from the time of their being contracted—Lord Temple is not so agreeable as His Father having great pride of manner and less pleasant. The Marchioness is very agreeable and contributes to make the House pleasant.”

What was it that swallowed the great income and in due course the capital too? In part no doubt the practical results of personal character. Lord Buckingham and his son Temple—who twenty years later became first Duke of Buckingham and Chandos—were of very similar temperaments. Both were somewhat forbidding in public appearance, but in private life both

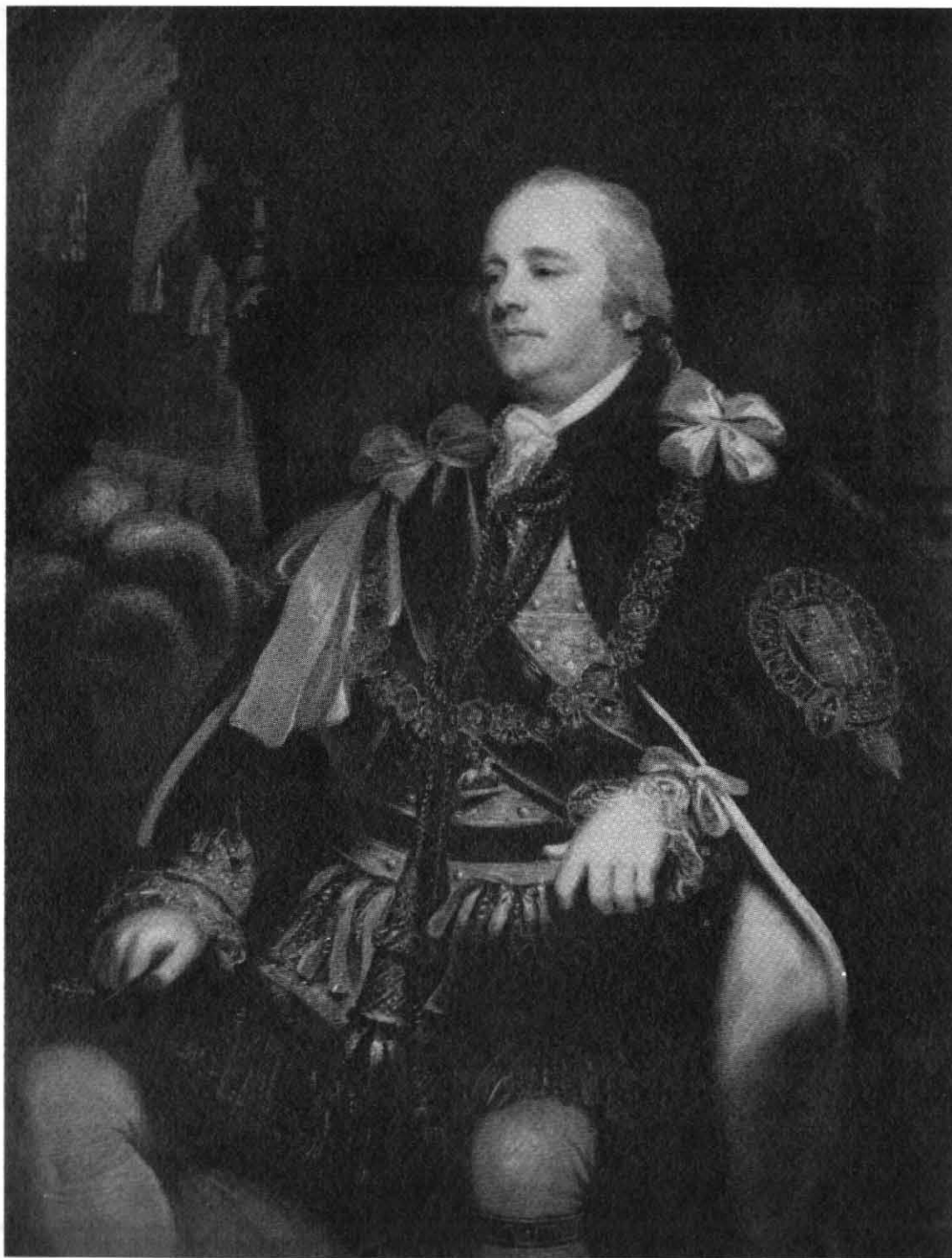
were warm and expansive, loving merriment and Christmas parties, loving to spend money. Lord Buckingham, like his brothers Thomas and William, Lord Grenville, was an avid book collector, a pursuit that could become ruinous, as it was to the second Lord Oxford at an earlier period. Lord Buckingham also bought pictures to improve the Stowe collection. But the principal drain on his resources was without doubt his political activity. He took it for granted that the Grenville Connection must be maintained as a force in Parliament. His pocket boroughs of Buckingham and St Mawes were easy enough to control. But he also strove, on the whole with success, to put Grenville nominees into the Buckinghamshire county seat and into at least one of the Aylesbury borough seats, and to maintain influence further afield. Direct bribery was going out of fashion and it became necessary to proceed by devious and even more expensive ways; as for example by buying local property, selling off parcels at bargain prices and thereby creating new forty-shilling freeholds, hoping that the small landowners thus called into existence would be properly grateful. Contested elections could be ruinously expensive and landowners tried always to avoid them, making bargains with each other. But rich interlopers, London bankers and West India sugar merchants, were wont to appear and offer themselves to the "independent" electors, and the local magnates had much ado to outbid them. And there was a particular obstacle designed to trip up Lord Buckingham in person. In 1784 a numerous body of gentlemen formed the Buckinghamshire Independent Club. In Queen Victoria's reign, long after it had ceased to exist, the Club was still remembered as having had for its prime object "to restrain Grenville ambitions within reasonable bounds".<sup>4</sup>

But we are becoming too gloomy. Lord Buckingham must have enjoyed the greater part of his life. It was his grandson, not himself, who went bankrupt. And he had an entirely happy marriage. Enjoyment of books and pictures and a pretty, affectionate wife, what greater blessings, after all, can a man have than these? Lady Buckingham had been Mary Nugent, only (legitimate) child of Robert, Earl Nugent, who was a friend of Lord Temple. Nugent was an irrepressible Irish farceur and bon viveur, a good-looking man with a strong devotion to "the Sex". His daughter inherited his good looks and high spirits, but in a softened, feminine form. She was a talented woman, a good amateur portrait painter. It is said she had lessons from Sir Joshua Reynolds himself. She had been bred a Catholic and so remained, somewhat *sub rosa*, throughout her life. Her confessor was Dr Charles O'Connor of the well-known Irish family of that name. He had been her tutor, and at Stowe wore plain clothes and acted as librarian. And he was indeed a distinguished bibliophile. He survived his patrons and lived on at Stowe under their son the Duke, growing old and finally becoming a trifle queer in the head. It was he who, shortly after Lord Buckingham's death, set off the fable that lasted to our own times, that Capability Brown designed the whole Stowe garden. In 1814, when the Allied Sovereigns were in England to celebrate the defeat of Napoleon and Dr O'Connor happened to be quite alone at Stowe, a message suddenly came that the Duchess of Oldenburg, sister of the Czar of Russia, would like to see the place. O'Connor was much put about, but the Duchess turned out to be a very good-natured woman, delighted with all she saw. She asked O'Connor who had designed the garden, to which he replied, "Madam, one Brown, who went by the name of Capability."<sup>5</sup> As we have seen in earlier chapters, in this the Doctor was largely mistaken.

At the end of his life Lord Buckingham suffered as Lord Temple had done, by the loss of his wife. She died in 1812 and he survived her no more than a year, dying in 1813 aged 60. So his son became the second Marquis.<sup>6</sup> Farington's informant Mr Powell had found the son proud and disagreeable. So he may have appeared as a young man with a name to make for himself, under the roof of his urbane and experienced father. He may have appeared disagreeable to those who did not like him, or whom he did not like, to the end of his days. But it would be a great mistake to set him down as a proud, disagreeable man. On the contrary, as we shall see, he was intelligent, warm-hearted and liberal-minded, and he suffered a great deal of annoyance, public and private, which he endured with a good deal of patience. And his health was not good. His father had been a stout man, himself was enormously fat, and soon enough gout attacked him (Plate 2). In 1796 he had married Anna Eliza Brydges, sole heiress of the last Duke of Chandos, who brought a large, but still inadequate, accession of fortune



1.—George, first Marquis of Buckingham, with his wife, née Mary Nugent, and their elder son Richard, later first Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, by Sir Joshua Reynolds



2.—Richard, first Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, K.G., by John Jackson

to Stowe. She was early an orphan and as a girl had lived at her father's country seat, Avington Park, near Winchester. She loved Avington dearly and it is indeed a beautiful place. While her father-in-law was alive, she and her husband had lived there, but when he died she had to spend at least part of her time at Stowe. There are suggestions here and there that she did not really like Stowe and wished to assert the primacy of Avington, and indeed of the Brydges family. At Stowe were some handsome gilt mirrors probably designed by Borra. To these she added, rather clumsily carved in wood, the pair of otters that were the supporters of the Brydges coat of Arms.<sup>7</sup> For her boudoir at Stowe she chose, as if in protest, the smallest room on the *piano nobile*. It was decorated for her in the "Regency" taste with a Chinese wallpaper—since, alas, badly damaged by damp—and on the wall opposite the chimneypiece she had a small painted view of Avington. Behind the house appears the parish church, and in Avington church she directed that she should be buried when her time came.<sup>8</sup> One should not make too much of all this, but one may suspect that the marriage of Buckingham II was less happy than his father's had been.

In 1814 Buckingham was appointed colonel of the county militia and took a battalion to France to join the Duke of Wellington. But he arrived too late to see any action and was soon home again. He had come into Parliament for the county in 1797, the year his only son was born, and by his letters to his father at this time shows himself a serious, well-informed young man. But he did not distinguish himself in the House of Commons. However in 1806 his uncle Lord Grenville became premier and did his best to bring his nephew forward, making him Deputy President of the Board of Trade, Joint Paymaster-General and Privy Councillor. With all this added to the heirship to the Grenville Connection he ought to have gone forward rapidly, but did not. His offices fell by the wayside. Reading numerous letters addressed to him,<sup>9</sup> and his own travel diary of the 1820s, one is forced to conclude that politics did not suit him. Unfortunately Lord Grenville's government foundered on the same rock that had sunk Pitt's, Catholic emancipation, and this was of course a check to the Connection. After the brief and trifling ministries of the Duke of Portland and Spencer Perceval, Lord Liverpool and the Tories came in and stayed in for many a day. Lord Grenville, though he spoke from time to time and was always listened to with respect, became rather quiet and negative, and drifted away from the Whigs. He finally separated himself from his friend Lord Grey, but as an erstwhile colleague of Fox he could never join Lord Liverpool and become a Tory. Meanwhile he remained very much the Mentor of the Connection and under his restraining hand they sank for a time to quiescence.

In 1819 the Grenvilles suffered what was perhaps their worst financial blow. In 1797 Pitt had introduced paper money to pay for the war, but it was always intended to go back to gold as soon as peace returned. Some years were allowed to elapse after Waterloo and then a Parliamentary committee was formed, with Sir Robert Peel in the chair. It was known that there was scarcely enough gold and silver in the country to go round and that consequently, when paper was withdrawn, the value of metal coin would rise. The question was, by how much? The committee were hopeful, as clever Mr Ricardo predicted a rise of no more than five per cent. But it turned out nearer fifty. In consequence metal specie doubled in value and a farthing became a valuable coin. This ought to have suited wage-earners, but their employers began to go bankrupt day by day and could not afford to employ them. Distress was grievous. Worst hit of all were debtors, among whom the Grenvilles were prominent, finding themselves obliged to service their debts at double the value they had contracted to pay. The country took a long time to recover from this miscalculation, and one may think the Grenvilles never did recover.<sup>10</sup>

Meanwhile Buckingham, now a Marquis and head of the Connection, felt that he ought to be in a position of importance, or at least of public dignity, but somehow he could not achieve it. From time to time he suggested something active he might do, but invariably Lord Grenville and the Connection poured cold water on the scheme. It becomes painful at last to read his uncle's kindly but damping letters, and his contemporaries, F. W. Fremantle and his cousin Charles Williams-Wynn, took the same line but for a different reason. Lord Grenville, a high minded Whig heretofore, did not like to see his nephew edging, if ever so slowly, towards Lord

Liverpool. But he was retiring. Fremantle and Wynn on the other hand were ambitious and wished to advance, but saw no opening. They had no rooted objection to Lord Liverpool, but at present were biding their time. After a while they suggested that Lord Grenville, splendid old man though he was, had gone out of date and might be tactfully ignored. But all the more for that reason must "my dear B.", as Charles Wynn called his cousin, attend to his younger friends and do nothing rash or premature. Let B. have patience and the time would surely come when they would be able to push him into an important position, upon which he in his turn would push them, Fremantle and Wynn, into lucrative government posts. But not yet. They were fond of him personally and wanted him as a figurehead, but clearly they did not trust his judgement. So B. was frustrated and often sulky. He was wont to retire to Stowe, collect little girls around him and tell them bedtime stories. When things did not go well with him he became very sentimental.

In 1818 Buckingham suggested that the Connection might form themselves into a separate party, neither Whig nor Tory, and to this they agreed. Fremantle and Wynn and their legal crony Dr Phillimore took to sitting apart in the House of Commons, hoping that others would join them, which a few did but not permanently. Nevertheless they were an important group with Grenville influence behind them, and at long last that which Fremantle and Wynn had prophesied duly came to pass and Lord Liverpool asked them to join him. Lord Grenville, rather sadly, gave them his blessing but took no part, and so, in 1822, as we saw in chapter 17, Buckingham became a Duke and the Connection became Tories. The Whigs of course were disgusted. The Duke of Bedford made some insulting observations about the new Duke in the House of Lords and Buckingham called him out. The two Dukes met in Kensington Gardens, but neither was injured. Thus was the honour of the Connection upheld and Fremantle, Wynn and Dr Phillimore received their government offices. Charles Wynn's younger brother Henry was made Minister to the Court of Wurtemberg and was able to send Buckingham from Germany, at a reasonable price, a large collection of geological curiosities and stuffed animals for the Stowe museum. These were things in which Buckingham, sad to say, took a greater interest than in politics.

M. J. GIBBON

(To be concluded)

#### Notes

1. C. Northcote Parkinson, *In Laws and Outlaws* (Penguin, 1965), Ch. 12.
2. Lord Rosebery, *Chatham, his early life and connections* (Arthur L. Humphreys, 1910), p. 134.
3. *The Farington Diary*, ed. James Greig (Hutchinson, 1923), Vol. 2, p. 276.
4. *Bucks Gazette*, July 8th, 1837, quoted in Richard W. Davis, *Political change and continuity 1760-1885, a Buckinghamshire Study* (David and Charles, Archon Books, 1972), Ch. 2, note 35.
5. Letter from O'Connor to the Marchioness of Buckingham, later Duchess, from Stowe, May 5th, 1814, quoted in the second Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, *Court of the Regency* (Hurst and Blackett, 1856), Vol. 2, p. 68.
6. For a family tree of the Temple-Grenvilles see Chapter 16 of this history.
7. Desmond Fitz-Gerald, *A History of the Interior of Stowe*, printed in *Apollo*, June 1973.
8. The armorial monument of the Duchess is in the parish church at Avington.
9. See the Second Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, *Court of the Regency, Court of George IV, Courts and Cabinets of William IV and Victoria* (Hurst and Blackett, 1856, 1859 and 1861), passim.
10. See Thomas Doubleday, *Political life of Sir Robert Peel* (Smith Elder & Co., 1856), Vol. 1, Ch. 5.

#### Illustrations

The family portrait of the first Marquis with his wife and elder son, by Sir Joshua Reynolds (c. 1780), is reproduced by permission of the Director of the National Gallery of Ireland; the portrait of the first Duke, by John Jackson (c. 1820), is reproduced by permission of Mrs. Judith Close-Smith.



Printed by  
E. N. HILLIER & SONS LTD  
MARKET HILL  
BUCKINGHAM