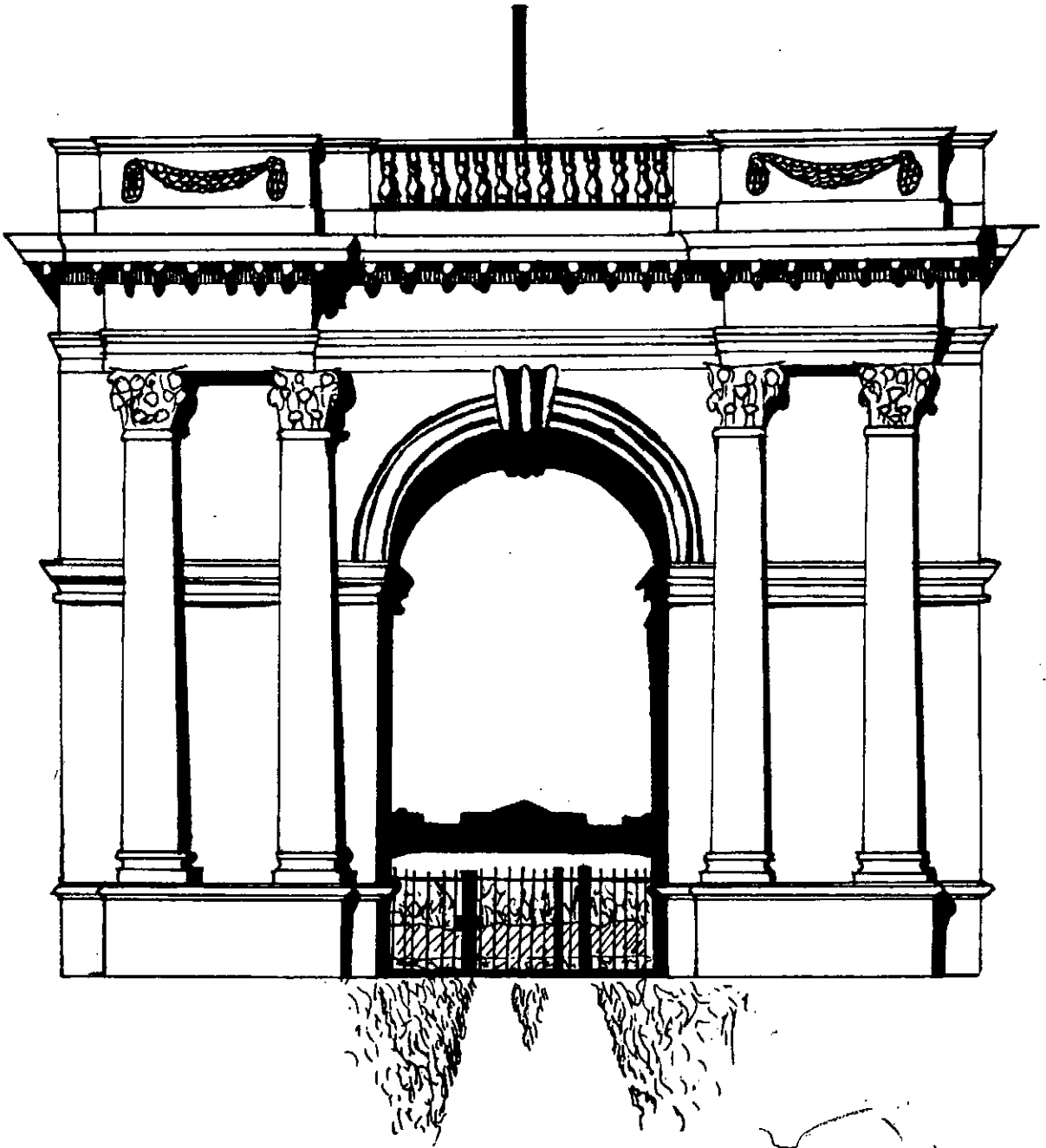


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THE STOIC

July 1977

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THE STOIC

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Frontispiece:

EDITORIAL

It would be nice to be able to offer those who have just finished their 'O' and 'A' levels a word of comfort before the results come: "They don't matter that much. They're only exams. If you mess them up, there's always a second chance." It would be nice; unfortunately the truth is, as always, less pleasant.

Today the competition outside the little world of Stowe is very hard indeed. No one needs to be told about the frighteningly high standards needed for University entrance: no courses are easy to get into, and Medicine and Law are particularly hard. Anyone hoping to sail to University and success without a maximum of effort is going to be bitterly disappointed. The days when a father could get his son into Oxbridge by taking the Dean out to dinner have gone for good—if, indeed, they ever existed. There is only one way to get on after Stowe: by doing well at Stowe and especially in public exams.

So, when academic results are the most important criterion for University entrance, further education and professional qualifications, it is the duty of both the boys and the School to ensure that these are as good as possible. Is it not therefore perfectly reasonable that all our efforts should be directed towards this aim? Should not all distractions and obstacles be removed? Is it not time to discourage boys from wasting their time and ability on diversions that will be damaging to their results, such as an excess of sport, drama, music, and even too much socializing?

"But," it will be said, "one does not come to Stowe just for academic results; there is more to life than exams; one should be a 'rounded person', not concerned with work alone." There is a lot of truth in this. Relaxation is vital and necessary; one of Stowe's great strengths is that it offers such a large variety of activities to provide relief from work. Of course, the problem is what balance to make between work and relaxation. This will be a personal decision for each boy concerned. However it may be helpful to point out to everyone that playing sport and indulging in the rest of these activities can no longer be justified if they interfere in any way with one's work. There will be some who disagree and continue to spend too much time on the cricket square or wherever. It will be interesting to see if their results match their optimism.

Charles Roxburgh

The Rotondo

Patrick Wilson

SPRING AND SUMMER 1977

"Summer is y-comen in", complete with foul weather and Jubilee celebrations, but it is to be hoped that an extra two days' exeat and a few rained-off cricket matches will not be the only matters worthy of remembrance when the reader looks back over the first half of 1977. I would like to emulate the Headmaster's rhetorical method by recalling just a few of the events that have made this year no less memorable than any other . . .

Our congratulations go to Mr Mullineux and his wife on the birth of their son James. We wish Mr James, veteran of the metal workshops, a happy retirement. The Headmaster spoke warmly of his years at Stowe on Speech Day, and his remarks may be read elsewhere in **The Stoic**. Mr Bingham, a brief but much appreciated member of the chemistry fraternity, is also leaving. We wish them both well when they leave Stowe at the end of term, and we welcome the Olympic swimmer Mr Brinkley as an invaluable asset to the swimming team.

We would also like to thank Mr Clarke, and Mr M. J. Gibbon for their series **The History of Stowe**, which is now complete. Since March 1967 they have written 26 articles describing Stowe from ancient and medieval times to the seigniorship of the 2nd Duke and afterwards. Their meticulous scholarship has set a standard of erudition and interest which it will be hard to replace.

As you may not (or may) have noticed, there are also changes in the magazine of a more prosaic kind. The advent of new printing techniques and the passing of the old letterpress will be evident to those who read team lists and so forth where the old House symbols have been replaced by House numbers; whilst for the time being both literary and musical compositions appear in bold type rather than italics. One considerable advantage of the new printing method is the versatility which allows us to reproduce photographs throughout the magazine.

Academically, the school has a high standard to maintain. With an A-level pass-rate of 87% and an average 6½ O-level passes per candidate last year, the examination results, now so "frighteningly" important for university entrance, are awaited with considerable interest. A large number of boys are taking the Oxbridge examination next term, so we can hope for success similar to last winter's: two scholarships, eight exhibitions, and, nine places. (A list of names appears later in this edition.)

To mention sport briefly (it is discussed in detail later by those somewhat more authoritative on these matters than myself), the hockey season was relatively successful, although some say that the teams' potential was by no means fully realised, and the cricket seems to be going well at present, despite weather which is more reminiscent of ice-hockey than a sunny day at Lord's.

The spring term is the term of drama and especially of House plays. There were four of these: **Black Comedy**, put on by Bruce, **See How They Run** by Walpole, **Gaslight** by Lyttelton, and an interesting performance of **Don't Just Lie There, Say Something** by Cobham. There was also an excellent production of **Waiting for Godot** by members of the Lower Sixth, and a Greek Drama Week of plays and films in May.

There have been several concerts, the best of which was without doubt John Georgiadis' **Gypsy Carnival** of violin music, the most worthwhile was Elgar's **Dream of Gerontius**, performed by the School Choral Society and Orchestra, and the most intriguing was a visit by the Beaconsfield High School for Girls' Orchestra. Stowe has produced a record, called simply **Stowe**, which is the first ever recording of the school's music, and can be recommended as a very competent piece of musicianship. One of the works featured is part of the operetta **Nero** by our very own Paul Drayton, which received tremendous applause at both the performances given here at Stowe. It is satisfying to see that his talent is being appreciated further afield, and that **Nero** had its public première on 2nd April this year.

It is now customary in this column to mention that facet of Stowe life ever-present in the thoughts of the majority: the girls. They now number nearly thirty, and are, in their own right, "a part of Stowe". Their Review, a party-cum-art exhibition put on in March, was most successful, and much enjoyed by all who went.

The guest speaker at Speech Day this year was Lord Mountbatten, who first visited Stowe to inspect the C.C.F. in 1957. He gave an amusing (and instructive) speech, which was followed later in the afternoon by a concert appropriately light in atmosphere and encouragingly successful in its execution. In the evening (and the next morning) there was the traditional school dance, but it was transformed into a magnificent Jubilee Ball by a gallant band of "young Old Stoics" who raised approximately £4,000 from the 1,100 guests for the Appeal. The original target of £200,000 was reached that afternoon, and the foundation stone for the new Sports/Examination Hall (the main object of the Appeal) was laid by Lord Mountbatten.

At Stowe it is always encouraging to be able to mention a voluntary organisation which is nevertheless extremely well-subscribed, namely the C.C.F. which is still holding its own against waves of what everybody loves to brand 'apathy'. Perhaps this is a good sign for the future.

And so, although June has hardly "bust out all over", nor any other month for that matter, and although there has seemed at times to be a feeling of vandalising unrest among the school's undesirable minority, the last two terms have been both enjoyable and successful, and the mighty machine of Stowe rolls on; we hope for many years to come.

Paul Harris

OBITUARIES

ELSIE JONES

Losing Elsie Jones has been compared to losing a link with every stage of Stowe's existence. She was the youngest child of a large family, but the one brother she always followed and looked to for help was Syd. As a child she had eagerly gone to the Village Hall for the Christmas Party because Syd would be there, and when it came to receiving presents from the Christmas tree from Baroness Kinloss, she did exactly as he had done and dutifully bowed to the Baroness—only to be greeted by laughter because she hadn't curtsied. To the last the humiliation brought tears to her eyes.

As the youngest girl she looked after her mother at home until she was 20, and then in 1926 she started work at Stowe, as a maid, with Mr Roxburgh. It was on the last Sunday of the Christmas term of 1927 that she rescued two Stoics from drowning in the Reservoir, and, typically, told them not to say anything about it "in case they got into trouble". J.F.'s letter of thanks, with its postscript, "May I enclose this with a small offering for Christmas?" (with a £5 note) was typical of the man, and still hangs, framed, in the front room.

Elsie's work for the next 49 years, and her whole life, was centred at Stowe, mostly in the North Hall and in the Headmaster's rooms. Her devotion was rewarded by her being given the privilege of serving the Duchess of Gloucester at the Stowe Jubilee in 1973. She was able to appreciate something of the warmth of feeling in which she was held when shortly before her death she received the framed copies of David Shepherd's prints of Stowe, and copies of Noël Annan's **J. F. Roxburgh** and of **Cantata Stoica**.

MR WILLIAM TURNER

Many at Stowe were deeply saddened to hear, last April, that Bill Turner, who was known and respected by a great circle of friends, had died at the age of 88.

Bill emigrated to Australia in 1913 where he settled in Adelaide. On the outbreak of war, he joined the Merchant Navy where he remained until shipwrecked on the Great Barrier Island in 1920. He then returned to England and became almost the first employee of Stowe School on being appointed Foreman of the Engineering Department prior to the School opening in 1923.

Four years later, he was appointed Resident Engineer and remained such until retirement in 1958. Bill Turner was very much a character who was not afraid to speak his mind. He attributed his longevity to his daily tot of rum and was proud to include David Niven in his large circle of friends. He will be missed by many.



Lord Mountbatten inspecting the C.C.F. in 1957



Lord Mountbatten laying the foundation stone of the Sports Hall/Examination Hall, May 1977

SPEECH DAY

On a sunny day with blustery winds a more than usually 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, M.A., F.R.I.B.A. (2 1946), welcomed the Chief Guest, Admiral of The Fleet The Earl Mountbatten of Burma, K.G., P.C., G.C.B., O.M., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., F.R.S., and invited the Headmaster to speak.

The Headmaster's Speech

The Headmaster welcomed parents, Old Boys and friends of the School and regretted the clash with the Cup Final. He referred to the number of present and future sons, daughters, grandsons and grand-daughters on the School lists and said, "I have no doubt at all that the strength of any school lies in its Old Boys and nowadays, of course, in its Old Girls. I was interested to find in an old file the other day a letter written from Yorkshire in October 1923, five months after the foundation of the school, where a father wrote: "I enjoyed reading *The Stoic* very much. My 13-year-old daughter has been sitting gloating over the account of the birds. She wishes she were a boy so that she could go to Stowe. Perhaps she will send her grand-daughter.""

Having welcomed the Governors and their ladies, the Headmaster gave personal welcome to Lord Mountbatten:

"We really are extremely grateful to you, Sir, for coming to Stowe today. With all the calls you have on your time we are each one of us grateful to you for consenting to distribute the prizes. It is virtually impossible to introduce anyone of such distinction, for I feel sure that there is probably no-one here today who in one sense does not feel that he knows you well, for you have been so much in the public eye for so long. It seems to me impossible that anyone could possibly have found the time to have been concerned with, let alone involved in, the vast array of activities shown in *Who's Who*. I have had the pleasure of meeting you, Sir, on two occasions—the first when you came out to sea in my torpedo boat in 1942 having recently been appointed Chief of Combined Operations. You had in mind that we should sail into an enemy harbour and plant mines alongside the boom defence vessel. I confess to being somewhat relieved that the size of our craft and inclement weather eventually led to the project being considered unsuitable. It is, Sir, a real privilege and honour to have you with us at Stowe today and I am delighted that your daughter and her husband and their son are able to be with us too.

"Before proceeding with my report on the school's year, I would like to pay a personal tribute to one of our teaching staff who is leaving us at the end of this term. Peter James has been teaching at Stowe for the past 30 years and since the building of the Workshops in the early fifties he has given many hundreds of boys an enthusiasm for metalwork. He is a first class craftsman and teacher. In recent years he has developed his hobby of gun restoration with excellent results, his work being much sought after. And his dedicated enthusiasm for all facets of model engineering will be much missed. You will be pleased to know that he will be remaining in the neighbourhood and we hope to see him and his wife here at Stowe on many occasions in the future. Thank you, Peter, for all your work at Stowe."

Having announced that Mr Potter would be going on a two year exchange to Canada, the Headmaster went on to give "a kaleidoscopic hotch-potch of Stowe happenings", which are reported in this and earlier editions of *The Stoic*. He mentioned the naming of the Girls' House, Stanhope—"This was the girls' choice—it shows, I think, a certain waywardness"—and recorded "with gratitude John Chapman's 100 terms at Stowe".

Concluding his comments on the events of the year, the Headmaster mentioned the continuing success of the Appeal, and made special reference to the work of David McDonough (S 1971) and his helpers in organising the Silver Jubilee Appeal Ball: "This venture . . . was an act of supreme and implicit faith in the organisers and they have not let us down."

The Headmaster then turned to the School's academic success, which he wanted "to refer to all by itself and not part of the list. There was a suggestion from one parent only yesterday

that our academic successes were moderate. This is of course always a matter of comparison with other schools and a good deal will depend upon the academic standard of the boys we accept into the school. I would say however that 10 Awards to Oxford and Cambridge this year puts us well up in the top of public schools and indeed of all schools in the country. I would add that we also achieved 87% passes at 'A' level and 6½ passes per boy on average at 'O' level throughout the school. I am proud to be able to tell you this and to thank my colleagues on the teaching staff for the quality of these results.

"May I conclude with a few personal comments? I have very little time for producing an average person. The world today is so average, so dull, so run of the mill. It is vital that in this place we should allow people to develop their talents as best they may and, indeed, encourage them to do so. Rules were not made to suppress, they were made to guide and they should be based on common sense. We should be prepared to allow eccentricity up to a point—that point is the inconvenience of other people. I was struck recently by an address given by the Duke of Edinburgh to The Royal Society of Arts. He said: "Industrialism has produced a new philosophy of life. Individuals are required to conform to rigid standards of mechanical efficiency and the ultimate human aspiration becomes nothing more than conformity to the industrial herd. Man is no longer seen as the image of God and each individual unique in His sight. Concern for the development of the individual is pushed aside by the more practical need to wind up the human intellect like a clockwork mouse and then to let people loose to do their stuff and to apply their talents in strict proportion to how much money they are allowed to earn. There is little allowance for human idiosyncrasy or ambition. Government must not be about figures, it must be about human beings. Management is not about statistics, it is about actual people. I believe any approach to the future which ignores the place of the individual is a waste of time." There could be no-one here who would disagree with those words.

"Is 1977 to be remembered as the year of the great debate on education or is it to be remembered as the year of the Jubilee? Certainly I find the Jubilee more interesting than much of what I have read of the thoughts and writings of educational theorists. What is worrying is that so many of our schools today reflect the values of society, the levelling down of the good to the moderate and mediocre; the economic problems of the country have led to a souring of relationships through society. Too many people nowadays think of their rights and what they are paid more than they think of their duties. It would I think do us good to remember Abraham Lincoln's precept: "He who does not do more than he is paid for is not worth what he gets." Mr Callaghan pointed out recently that we now spend six billion pounds a year on education. With all this increased expenditure, should not the standards have obviously and markedly risen? I believe, with a good many other people in education, that informal teaching is proving disastrous in our schools. I was told recently by a teacher at a college of education that spelling does not matter. The Plowden Report declared that "finding out has proved better for children than being told". Teachers are now told that all primary school work must be on an informal basis. Everything must be experiment and change. I read on a wall recently: "It doesn't matter where you go as long as you are going forward." Underneath someone else had written: "So say all of us—signed the gadarene swine." It was Dubcek, who wrote in the Czechoslovak Communist Manifesto in 1968: "Egalitarianism encourages the lazy and the passive at the expense of the dedicated and the diligent."

"Ladies and gentlemen, is it natural or unnatural for teachers and parents to tell children what to do? Is the child of 13 or 14 years of age ready to decide what activities are worth pursuing at school? Are children happiest in an orderly or disorderly classroom? Will children work hard in a non-competitive atmosphere?

"It is clear to me that independent schools which have the privilege of freedom from the direction of the State also have a duty to speak out clear about the things they believe in; that we should be tolerant of other people's views and opinions while holding firmly to our own; that we should respect another man's idiosyncrasies without in any way following his lead like a lot of sheep; we should rejoice in being part of a society of different races and colours and creeds; we should be prepared to say to young people, "Do this and don't do that"—"This is good, that is bad", while at the same time being prepared to debate

our opinions in dialogue with those we teach. If we believe in that sincerely, we have got to talk about standards and quality and relationships and discipline and service and spiritual awareness. And if those things mean little to any of us who are teachers, then we are in the wrong business.

"I believe we live in exciting times. They are difficult times but men who are under pressure, nations which are under pressure, are always in better form when they are in that state for they are stretched to their maximum capacity. A man who is up against it always thinks more clearly and is more competitive, more vital. As I said to the Confirmation candidates last term, life is real and urgent. I find it exciting that far more young people nowadays are concerned about vital issues, about God and are prepared to accept the challenge of the Gospel of Christ.

"Seventy-four boys were confirmed by the Bishop of Buckingham last term, and one boy recently had the courage to tell the whole school in Chapel why he is a Christian. And as Christians we would do well to remember that we have privileges and responsibilities, but no rights. We remember too that "service is perfect freedom". We must, I believe, consider more carefully in these urgent days whether the things we are doing are worth while, whether the education we are providing is worth the money the parents have to pay for it, whether the way of life we have chosen is positive, or whether we are just drifting and wasting our time.

"It is so much more important to decide on the way we want to live, and it is to me a frightening responsibility to those of us who teach that we are trying to help to guide young people into a way of life.

"What is our type of education? Academic; dedicated; specialist staff; small classes; discipline; work and all that work implies; the side-effects—the training in the use of leisure; training in independence of mind; training in manners; training in taste and courtesy, good health; physical exercise; tolerance; consideration for others. Above all the essential freedom for a parent to choose the school he wants. Freedom for children to work at a level which will fully extend the able and encourage the weak. Freedom for the headmaster and his staff to plan timetables and activities to suit the nature and genius of the place.

"The important thing I believe in life is to be different and not dull; to be definite and not devious; to be distinctive and thus distinguished and distinguishable; and to be at all times determined and decisive, never dull and dreary—And for the ladies, whether they be governors, teachers or taught, to continue, please, to be delightful."

Lord Mountbatten's Speech

"I came here on 1st June, 1957, when I was First Sea Lord, to inspect the Combined Cadet Force and it is a great thrill to come back here again to what must be the most beautiful school grounds in the world. I am also glad to renew my acquaintanceship with the Headmaster. As he told you, when he was in the Navy he commanded a motor torpedo boat. He took me out without sinking me, and he generally was running a very efficient and taut ship and I must say I was very impressed at the time and I am glad to see that he is running another taut ship here."

Lord Mountbatten congratulated those who had done such good work in the grounds. He then spoke of his own education and naval career in a speech brimming with anecdote and personal reminiscence. Lord Mountbatten affirmed his great faith in the Navy, which had taught him many things:

"One of the first lessons I learnt is exactly in line with what the Headmaster quoted from Prince Philip. I was interested in machinery; in fact I specialised in radio and electronics. But I soon realised that however good and wonderful the machine was it had to be operated by a MAN. It was men that mattered, and man was the ultimate factor and this should never be lost sight of."

Lord Mountbatten maintained that the best way of maintaining a community's morale was to know each of its members as an individual. He also advised his listeners not to open their mouths too soon, but if they did so to stick to what they had said.

He talked of his naval career and his successive appointments to high command. He referred to the two World Wars and to the horrifying possibility of a third: "I remember when Einstein was asked what he thought the Third World War would be fought with, he said, "Assuming, however it starts, it's a world war, it's bound to end up by being nuclear. And then I can tell you what the Fourth World War will be fought with—bows and arrows."

"What makes the situation worse is the population explosion—this tremendous problem of over population everywhere At this present rate in 30 years time there won't be enough food and we shall all starve"

Lord Mountbatten then mentioned world wide visits in connection with his United World Colleges and continued:

"I am sure we have got to have a united world concept—we've maintained national identity but it is essential to become good citizens of the united world. And so it was in 1957 I accepted the job of becoming the first President of the International Council of the United World Colleges. Our idea is to promote international understanding through education, and I may say that the first step I took was to bring in girls as well as boys, and I see you are following my footsteps here. I have been personally to 40 different countries and set up national committees in all those countries that publicise our schemes, circularise the schools, raise money for scholarships and then select the scholars and so on. We have got three schools now—in South Wales, at St Donats, in Singapore and in Canada—at which we have some 300 boys and girls from 40 different countries. We have had them from 77 different countries so far and I think it is a really important thing for the future of the world."

In conclusion, Lord Mountbatten said:

"I promised the Headmaster to say something constructive and useful. He wanted me to say something about character building and leadership. Well there is nothing to tell you about it, you've got to do it yourself and look at it. Don't bother to listen to lectures, don't bother to read books, just look at people around you. At school you want to look at your masters and your elders and betters, and as you grow older you look at your contemporaries, then you look at the people below you. And look and make up your mind. Do you like him or don't you? Why do you like him? Why don't you like him? Do you admire him or don't you? Why do you admire him or why don't you respect him? When you have made up your mind what qualities they have that you could admire and like, try to copy them. When you have made up your mind what it is that you don't like about them, make sure that you never do that. And there's the complete answer how to turn out to be a perfect man.

"And finally a word about initiative. Develop your initiative all you can. It only means making up your minds quickly, decisively to do the unexpected. I give you an example that happened at the Battle of Crete We were withdrawing the British Army out of Crete They were sending landing craft to land on the beaches and bring off our army The Captain of a tank landing craft was a young Sub-Lieutenant; he had one Petty Officer with him and they had been running two trips a long way out, coming back, being bombed and machine-gunned by aircraft. Dead tired. And as soon as they got in, a message came from Rear Admiral Alexandria saying, "Turn round and go back and get another load." He was hopping mad, so he went ashore to the nearest telephone box.

"Put me through to Rear Admiral Alexandria." (In the Navy we talk about the Headquarters by the name of the Admiral.)

"So when he got through, he said, "Is that Rear Admiral Alexandria?" and the voice said, "Yes". He assumed that he was speaking to a young duty officer like himself.

"He said, "You bloody land-lubbers sitting back on your bottoms doing nothing at all. Don't you know that there is a war on? I have been twice to Crete. Each time we come back—the army all right—they send ambulances for the wounded, they send lorries for the 'pongers', but what do you send for us? Nothing at all—not a damn thing. Nobody has been to see us, we haven't had any fresh provisions, we haven't had any mail, we haven't even had any newspapers I hate you, I hate all you blighters sitting ashore, I hate you"

He ran out of breath.

"A dignified voice said, "Do you know who you are talking to?"

"The young man said, "No, I don't."

"You are talking to Rear Admiral Cresswell in person."

"Oh," he said, "do you know who you are talking to?"

"And the Rear Admiral said, "No."

"That's what I want to hear you say." and hung up."



The Temple of Ancient Virtues.

STOWE APPEAL 1977

Speech Day 1977 was a red letter day for the School Appeal. Two major achievements are worthy of note. The target of £200,000 was reached at lunchtime and the Foundation Stone of the new Sports Hall/Examination Hall was laid by Earl Mountbatten.

Lord Chelwood (Tufton Beamish, 2 1931-35), the President of the Appeal, invited Lord Mountbatten to perform the ceremony, which was carried out in true naval tradition. "God bless this gymnastic Sports Hall, and all who 'Stowe' away in it," were his words as he executed his task with the silver trowel which had been presented to him.

In his opening remarks, Lord Chelwood said how gratifying it was to learn that the target had been reached on time, but had to announce that sadly, because of inflation, it was now necessary "to aim for a quarter of a million".

B. J. N. Ashford

DRAMA

AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

In terms of enthusiasm, enjoyment and sheer volume, drama at Stowe flourishes, but it was nonetheless bold of Mr Potter to select for this year's Congreve a play whose primary purpose was never purely to entertain. It reflects credit both on the company and the audience that the evening turned out to be both enjoyable and appreciated.

For the actors, the main problem lies in the very unbalanced construction of the play. The whole play is of course didactic in intent, but it is only in the dramatically dominant crowd scene that Ibsen permits himself the luxury of polemic. Most of the play is a densely plotted, carefully characterised investigation of the problem of idealism set against pragmatism on the one hand and domestic loyalty on the other, and Ibsen is far from giving us an unambiguous resolution of the moral issues involved. But in the crowd scene, the canons of dramatic credibility are cast aside; the themes change, the supporting cast are reduced to cardboard cut-outs, and Stockmann, or Ibsen-Stockmann, is left holding the centre of the stage to denounce with all the vigour of his wounded artistic pride the twin tyrannies of the mob and the pundits: the mindless left and the unprincipled right. To make credible this polemical cuckoo in its didactic nest was the actors' major task.

To my mind, it was Dominic Chetwynd as Aslaksen who produced the most consistent solution to this problem. He combined throughout a beautifully sanctimonious servility with a touch of the absurd which both paved the way for his total vilification by Ibsen in Act IV, and ensured that he retained enough of the audience's sympathy to bounce back, scheming unrepentantly to the very end. A cross between Charlie Chaplin and Uriah Heep, the political prestidigitator by which he contrived to keep a finger in every pie and a foot in every camp was masterly.

The part of Stockmann is so long and demanding that one is bound to have reservations. The Stockmann of the crowd scenes was excellent. It is an exhausting scene which Guy Lancaster played with great energy and great variety of pace and diction. Less happily, this Messianic Stockmann also tended to dominate the rest of the play; and whereas his mock grandeur was very effective in certain lines—"If I were such an abject coward to give in to Peter and that crowd, do you think I'd ever have a moment's peace for the rest of my life?"—it lacked, perhaps, the bedrock of ultimate simplicity which is necessary to make sense both of the naive domesticity of Act I and of the rather heavy irony of the friend/enemy dialectic of Act III. The simplicity which Guy sometimes lacked, Maria Alexander as Petra had in abundance. Her combination of personal egocentricity with global compassion was entirely convincing, and the guileless exchange between her and David Eaton's angelic Horster: "How did you manage to get home yourself, Captain Horster?" "Oh well! I did manage; I'm pretty tough, you know . . ." spoke volumes. She was fresh air personified, and as such was the perfect foil for her wicked uncle, Tim Terry. Tim is technically a very gifted actor, and he brought to Peter Stockmann a wealth of spinsterish gesture and a feline economy of movement which showed a good grasp of the character. If Tim has a fault, it lies in his tendency to use technique as a substitute for analysis: the relationship between the brothers is of fundamental importance and I felt during their very powerful confrontation in Act II—"Yes, I forbid you; I, your employer; and when I forbid—you must obey!"—that a little more sibling rivalry and small town pettiness, and a little less straightforward Colditz might have been in order.

Act IV is the climax of the play, and Mr Potter's well drilled and vociferous crowd gave it tremendous impact; but it was Act III, in the printer's shop, which showed many of the actors at their natural best. Partly this was due to the plethora of authentic business which established the tone for the scene, but mostly it was due to the casual and unobtrusive way in which Rupert Bell as Billing and Titus Forbes Adam as Hovstad pursued their Machiavellian



Rupert Bell (Billing), Maria Alexander (Petra), David Eaton (Captain Horster) and Titus Forbes Adam (Hovstad)

Patrick Wilson



Titus Forbes Adam, Tim Terry (Peter) and Dominic Chetwynd (Aslaksen)

Patrick Wilson

courses. Titus, in particular, sitting spiderlike at his desk, manipulated his colleagues with convincing understatement. Even Mrs Stockmann, an unrewarding part which required all the accomplished Julie Marler's extensive resources, came to life here.

The Morten Kiil subplot is largely unnecessary: it seemed designed as a shot in the arm for a waning Act V. But it did give the opportunity for a well thought out cameo from Simon Appleton who handled voice, hat and stick with equal precision and effect. Indeed, such thoughtfulness from all the actors was a hallmark of this production; it is a quality which Mr Potter's style of direction requires, and which greatly enhances the interest of the production.

Finally, it remains only to compliment Francis Egerton on the ingenious way in which he managed to create three distinct interiors within the limitations of the Roxburgh Hall; and the whole army of backstage workers without whom, in the hackneyed phrase, it would not have been possible. But the tradition of excellence in that direction is well-established; it needs no comment from me.

A. J. Wild

HOUSE PLAYS AND THE LOWER SIXTH PLAY

The spring term again gave the opportunity for the performance of a number of House plays, though there were fewer this year than in the immediately preceding ones. Plays produced by boys, as all of these were, are beset with difficulties of dramatic, technical and administrative natures. However, within the wider scope of school drama, such undertakings are an excellent way of learning by experience, even though at times they demand considerable forbearance from one section of the audience and promote an uncritical response from another. However, if the experience is beneficial, so too is experiment and it would be good to see more attempts at serious drama in the context of House Plays. Too strong a reliance on the dubious and ambiguous pleasures of houserom farce encourages a philistine approach to the theatre that is all too prevalent already.

Of this year's plays, two were staged in the Roxburgh Hall. Bruce's **Black Comedy** grew increasingly entertaining as the performance unfolded. This was partly a natural response to the more densely humorous writing of the second half of the play but also because an uncertain start and a failure to support Shaffer's lines with adequate timing and characterisation were overcome as an enthusiastic response encouraged the actors to warm to their work. In rehearsal Lyttelton appeared to be making considerable progress with their Victorian thriller, **Gaslight**. This is a static play with a very small cast and was an ambitious undertaking on the huge Roxburgh Hall stage and this reviewer was sorry not to be able to see how the final performance had grown out of an encouraging start.

The two farces of the term were Walpole's re-run of **See How They Run**—an extrovert performance with some notable timing—and Cobham's **Don't Just Lie There, Say Something**. This was performed with great zest, although the impropriety of some of its lines caused mild sensation, the raising of official eye-brows, the odd protest and a great deal of bawdy fun!

The high spot of the term's drama was Gerald Winnington-Ingram's Lower Sixth production of **Waiting For Godot**. Charlie Montgomery and Andrew Swan both produced at times most sensitive acting as the two tramps and they were well supported by Paddy O'Brien as Lucky and John Fladée as Pozzo. There were, too, moments of real pathos (and considerable skill) in Colin Shaw's **Boy**. An impressive concern for detail in the direction, staging and presentation was a pleasing aspect of this production. There is not space here to speculate on the meaning of this fascinating play: suffice it to say that this was one of the most stimulating and provocative productions seen recently at Stowe.

R. M. Potter

GREEK DRAMA WEEK

Greek Drama Week was conceived and directed by Mr Meredith and presented to the school a series of films, lectures and plays on Greek tragic themes, primarily the cycle of legends concerning the Royal House of Thebes. The week began with an introductory lecture on Greek Drama, given by B. S. Stephan Esq. He outlined the themes and traits that characterize Greek Drama and Comedy (which he emphasized was an equally valid art form) and drew attention to the conditions of production in the ancient world, where the plays were presented in the open air, at religious festivals.

The Stowe Greek Drama Week aimed at reproducing this atmosphere, including the staging of an outdoor production of **King Oedipus** at the Queen's Temple. This was done with original costume, and original masks. David Eaton took the main rôle, with Catherine Bartlett as Queen Jocasta and Gerald Winnington-Ingram as Creon. The play was produced and directed by Mr Meredith, with dedicated help and support from many, including Mr Wild (lighting) and Mr Suttle (mulled wine).

Three films were shown: two versions of **Electra**, by Sophocles and Euripides respectively, and **Edipo Re** by Pasolini, which told the Oedipus myth in a most striking way, and related it to modern times.

On the 19th May, the end of the week, Patrick Orr produced a dramatised reading of **Antigone**, with Caroline Bridgwood as Antigone, Katherine Roberts as Ismene and James Hartley as Creon. This was entirely a boy produced affair, including the technical effects (James Allen and Paul Knowler). The success of the week was due to the enormous amount of work put in by many people.

Simon Appleton



David Eaton (Oedipus) and members of the chorus in **King Oedipus**

MUSIC

Saturday, 4th December, 1976, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

STOWE CHORAL SOCIETY

STOWE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA, Conducted by David Gatehouse

George Barwood (piano) Jonathan Kreeger (piano)

One of the disadvantages of being sufficiently unmusical so as neither to be able to sing nor to play a musical instrument is that one is frequently asked to review Stowe concerts, so once again I find myself about to incur the wrath of my cultural superiors by attempting a critical assessment of their efforts.

"Come and hear Jonathan Kreeger" screamed the posters; those who thought this meant they were due to hear selected items from Hollywood soundtracks were, however, disappointed. He played **Rhapsody in Blue** and he played it very well—far better, in fact, than the orchestra which accompanied him. His tempi did not always match those of more famous pianists, but he did have to cope with some eccentricities in the brass and woodwind, though it is only fair to exempt Charles Hugill's clarinet from this criticism—it played its part admirably.

It was interesting to compare the styles of two totally different pianists within the one concert. I know little about Chopin's piano concerti beyond the fact that the more highbrow musicians tend to regard them as poor examples of the genre, owing to Chopin's obsession with the piano at the expense of the orchestra. Being very lowbrow myself, I regret to say I enjoyed it immensely, and it was definitely the best-performed item of the evening. George Barwood is certainly not as effervescent a pianist as Jonathan Kreeger, but technically he is probably Kreeger's superior and on this occasion he was seen at his very best. After a slightly hesitant start, the music flowed beautifully and, to be fair to Kreeger, Barwood had the advantage of the best orchestral playing of the evening to support him.

Earlier, the Choral Society had given us Parry's **Blest Pair of Sirens**, of which I enjoyed what I heard. That is not a criticism of the choir, but of the icy roads which caused me to arrive late. The concluding piece—Tchaikovsky's **Romeo and Juliet**—seemed to indicate that the orchestra subscribed to Algernon's philosophy: "I don't pretend to play accurately—anyone can play accurately—but I play with great expression." However, let me be fair; faultless it may not have been, but entertaining and exciting it certainly was.

To conclude—an evening of excellently varied musical items, and one which was much enjoyed, despite its faults, by all present.

C. S. Juneman

Sunday, 23rd January, 1977, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

"GYPSY CARNIVAL" by John Georgiadis

This concert was compulsory for those in the third and fourth forms, and very few other boys attended, which seemed slightly surprising, considering the much acclaimed talent of John Georgiadis and his wife Susan.

The pieces performed were for the most part by composers who are not well-known, with the exception of Béla Bartók. Although all were gypsy airs, they ranged from the melancholy romanticism of Sarasate's **Zigeunerweisen** to the jaunty folk tunes of the **Gypsy Carnival** arranged by Krein. The piece by Bartók was one of his lighter works, and not so introverted as some of his major compositions.

Most of the pieces were based on Hungarian and Roumanian traditional folk music, suitably light for a school audience which, judging by its encouragingly good behaviour during the performance, was much impressed by Mr Georgiadis' virtuoso violin playing. He had been to Stowe previously during the Summer Music Courses, and Stowe was privileged in being the

venue at which his new record first became available. This record very soon disappeared as boys jostled for a copy: a sign of appreciation which must have pleased Mr Georgiadis!

The pieces were interspersed with anecdotes, one of which bears repeating. When Mr Georgiadis was on tour with the London Symphony Orchestra, they were persuaded in New York to play a modern piece by an unknown local composer. They played very reluctantly, and the audience did not suppress its views, but shouted them towards the orchestra. The composer himself was conducting, and he continued doggedly. At the supposed climax of the work a previously unseen musician flung himself upon the electric organ in order to press all the keys at once. Instead of a cacophony of noise, there was total silence. Some unknown philanthropist had secretly pulled out the mains plug. Absolute chaos ensued, and the performance ended there.

Mr Georgiadis' final piece left no doubt as to his immense talent when the violin "laughed" in an extract from a concerto by Beethoven. The concert was enjoyed by all, even those who would not have come given the choice: hopefully this will be an encouragement to future audiences "invited" to attend the more important concerts.

André Groeneveld

Sunday, 6th February, 1977, at 8.00 p.m. in the Music Room

MUSIC ROOM CONCERT BY BOYS OF STOWE

Once again Mr Gatehouse masterminded an excellent school concert, and this was well attended and included an encouraging variety of instruments and styles.

The concert opened with a performance of an **Allegro** for flute, oboe and clarinet (Charles Douglas, Paul Harris and Charles Hugill) by Mozart. This short, lively work was an appropriate start to what proved to be an evening of refreshingly light atmosphere. Debussy's **Dr Gradus ad Parnassum**, a very popular work among the pianists at Stowe, was then played with admirable skill by Jonathan Macdonald.

A surprisingly young pair of musicians, Jonathan Bayntun (clarinet) and Christopher Gayford (trumpet) played **I waited for the Lord** by Mendelssohn, which they rendered with promising warmth of expression, despite its rather bleak title! Next, James Ritchie played Jeremiah Clarke's trumpet solo, **The Prince of Denmark's March**, and the wave of recognition that swept over the audience at the opening bars of the piece added to my enjoyment of such a well-known tune.

Grieg's **Notturmo** played by Nigel Wright on the piano restored a sense of calm beauty to the Music Room, which must be one of Stowe's proudest possessions, for its recently restored Pompeian decoration evokes that feeling of antique splendour so enhancing to a musical evening. Patrick Lloyd's moving performance of Nielsen's **Romance** for oboe added further to the air of nostalgia and long-forgotten beauty, and dispelled any doubts in my mind as to the pertinence of spending large amounts on restoration and chandeliers during such hard times.

David Thomas played a **Concertino** for trumpet by Lars-Erik Larsson with commendable control and an enviable lack of nervousness, and Andrew Clarke, calm as ever, sang Schubert's **The Lime Tree** and Handel's incomprehensible but nonetheless compellingly melodic **Si tra i ceppi** in a rich, clear baritone which made it quite obvious why he was chosen for the part of the Narrator in Mr Drayton's **Nero** performed after the interval.

An amazingly fast performance of the famous finale of Mozart's **4th Concerto for French Horn** was then given by the newcomer Stephen Morrish, whose confidence and talent struck an immediate rapport with the audience. The first half of the concert was brought to a close by Marius Bading, who played a **Toccata** by Chatschaturjan with a finesse not seen in a Stowe since Francis Watson left three years ago. The fact that he broke a piano string helps to convey the compelling power with which he played the piece.

The second half of the concert was opened by another wind group; this time a sextet (Charles Douglas, Paul Harris, Charles Hugill, Etienne Bottari, Stephen Morrish and Mr Kirk) who played Debussy's *La plus que Lente*, thus re-establishing the light nature of the concert.

Nicholas Comery played the Allegro movement from Handel's *Concerto in F minor* on trombone, and delivered some passages at a speed quite unexpected on a slide instrument. Harry Gregson-Williams then played the universally recognised Adagio from Beethoven's *Pathétique Sonata*.

Stephen Massie gave the last individual performance by singing *Love Leads to Battle* by Buononcini, and the traditional German *Drinking*, evoking the atmosphere of the Teutonic Bierhaus with an appropriate bass and a silver tankard!

It is a pity to use the old clichés to describe the most enjoyable part of a concert, but Paul Drayton's operetta *Nero* was without doubt "the highlight of the evening". Sung by the School Chapel Choir, with John Dobinson taking the title rôle, this excellent work, full of captivating melodies and rhythms, was acknowledged by most of the audience to be the crowning glory of a very successful concert. Only the first half was performed, but the work's premier was staged in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London on April 2nd. Our congratulations to Paul Drayton for another imaginative and entertaining composition.

Eiluned Jones

Sunday, 20th February, 1977, at 8.00 p.m. in the Music Room

JESUS JAZZ BAND CONCERT

The Jesus Jazz Band, from the Jesus Centre, Birmingham, certainly gave a very different concert from the sort usually seen at Stowe. Apart from the popular Milne-Macdonald MC² Band, whose regular visit later this term is eagerly awaited by many members of the school, Stowe sees little of the jazz side of the music world. Despite their name, however, the music was more 'popular' than jazzy in style, although the band had several jazz numbers in their repertoire. The band included bass and lead guitar, an organ-clarinet, piano, and the fundamental drums. In most numbers there was also a cornet, which added much to the overall effect of the music. The lead singer, a young coloured girl, sang religious songs, and was joined between numbers by other members of the band in religious talk about how the songs were written, and their significance in their lives. The last song was held to be the best, and drew an encore which showed the audience's appreciation of a concert that had much appeal for music-lovers in general, and not only for a small circle of religious types.

Giles Coates

Sunday, 27th February, 1977, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

CONCERT BY THE STOWE SCHOOL BAND AND THE
BEACONSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS ORCHESTRA

This year's band concert was a joint performance by the Stowe Concert Band and the Beaconsfield High School for Girls Orchestra. The former opened the concert, playing eight contrasting pieces of a traditional band flavour with a great deal of skill and gusto. This may come as a surprise to many Stoics, but, although it has to be admitted that the musical proficiency of the girls was somewhat overshadowing, the band, after several shaky years, has at last given a truly talented performance (for which our thanks go, of course, to the indefatigable Mr Wiggins). The standard set was maintained by the combined clarinets of the two schools, who played music by Bach, Arne and Handel.

The performance given by the Girls' Orchestra after the interval was a revelation. They played four pieces of German music from the last century, which were complementary in their subtle contrasts. The programme opened with an *Overture* in the Italian style by Schubert, in which the excellent intonation of the woodwind and brass combined with the melodic near-perfection of the strings to give a most enjoyable rendering of this seldom-played work. Then they played the 5th movement of Mendelssohn's *Italian Symphony* which, although perhaps played a little too fast, was given an expression unexpected from a young orchestra. The concert was rounded off in a lighter vein with the difficult *Pizzicato Polka* and the stirring

Radetzki March, both by Johann Strauss, but the highlight of the evening was a performance of Brahms's *Alto Rhapsody* by Jane Talbot, the sister of a present Stoic. Her voice was beautifully clear, and the choir, made up of parents and the Stowe Chapel Choir, gave a full but never penetrating backing, which produced a well-balanced overall effect.

There was an encouraging increase in the size of the audience, which responded enthusiastically to each item. It is to be hoped that this is an upward trend, and not a passing phase due totally to the nature of the visiting orchestra.

Nicholas Comery

Sunday, 13th March, 1977 at 8.00 p.m. in the Chapel

"THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS" by Edward Elgar

Alexander Magri (tenor)—Gerontius Clare Rimmer (soprano)—Angel

Allen Opic (bass)—Priest, and Angel of Agony

STOWE CHORAL SOCIETY AND ORCHESTRA

Leader—Ralph Nicholson

Conductor—David Gatehouse

This was a concert that many Stoics would certainly have enjoyed, and was an evening that, as Stowe concerts go, I shall not soon forget. As with last year's immensely successful *Messiah*, it went down with as much, if not more, effect, amidst thunderous applause.

Probably Elgar's greatest work (at least he believed it was!), although the first performance did not confirm this belief, being an utter failure, it is based on a poem by Cardinal Newman (1801—1890). It depicts the death of Gerontius and his soul's subsequent journey, through many mysteries, to the Court of Judgement in Heaven, where a meeting with God—on a semi-quaver fffffzzzzz glimpse of the inexpressible—takes place. The Chorus, in the first part, plays Gerontius' friends, praying, beside his death bed, and during Part II it portrays Demons, Voices of Earth, Souls in Purgatory, and Angelicals. With this work Elgar set new standards for oratorio, the "Handel style" of direct, clearcut approach being exchanged for a fuller, more splendid "impressionistic" style.

By no means an easy piece to perform, either vocally or instrumentally, it was presented admirably by the Orchestra and the Choral Society, who did a fine job in producing an exciting and accurate performance. The soloists, on the other hand, lacked, although only slightly, the great power to bring their parts across over such an enormous entourage. The moving ending was controlled with great dexterity and one could not help feeling a sense of justice in the well-deserved applause.

Simon Wallace-Jones

Sunday, 1st May, 1977 at 7.45 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

THE REHEARSAL ORCHESTRA

Conducted by Harry Legge

Paul Drayton (piano)

The Rehearsal Orchestra is essentially an amateur orchestra with a constantly changing membership that moves around the country, spending a whole day rehearsing a programme and performing it the same evening, and then moving on elsewhere. On this particular Sunday, Stowe was to be the venue, and a few members of the School Orchestra joined the paying performers in their demanding rehearsals throughout the day, and in the evening concert. Much valuable experience was gained, for it is not often that one gets to play Holst's *Planets* in an orchestra.

The Orchestra succeeded in being a good amateur group rather than a middling professional one, and thus was an improvement on many Stowe concerts. The atmosphere was also somewhat different to that of the usual concert: the orchestra was dressed in casual clothes and once the conductor, Harry Legge, had explained that this was "a rehearsal in front of an audience" rather than a concert, we were prepared for the worst. We were, however,

pleasantly surprised. The orchestra had a full, warm, pleasing sound, and played the correct notes! Perhaps The Rehearsal Orchestra is a misleading title (it is to be hoped that it was this, and not a general lack of interest, that accounted for the all-too-noticeable empty seats in the auditorium).

The first work performed was three movements from Holst's **Planets Suite**. **Mars**, the war-bringer, was given the force and tension which make it so exciting—I hear that sitting among the orchestra waiting to come in was an intensely frightening yet exhilarating experience. **Venus**, by contrast, was wonderfully calm and dreamy, the woodwind having a warm tone and superb delicacy. **Jupiter** also came across well, although it did not make us dance in the aisles like the Royal Albert Hall cleaning ladies during the work's first rehearsals there!

Paul Drayton's performance of Rachmaninoff's **2nd Piano Concerto in C minor** was all that every Stoic who knows him expected it to be; from the first chords to the last he played with brilliance of style, tackling the most difficult parts with apparent ease. The orchestra added the final polish to a marvellous performance.

Poulenc's ballet suite, **Les Biches**, was the perfect end to a "casual" concert: neither too classical nor too light or avant garde, it was a pleasant medium with some most attractive melodies. Less well-known than the other two works performed, it was apparently based on a sophisticated "house party", and it certainly conjured up the lilting, informal atmosphere of such a gathering.

Stephen Massie

Saturday, 21st May, 1977 at 6.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

SPEECH DAY CONCERT

Traditionally, this has been an event into which one has staggered in a state of pleasantly restricted consciousness after the customary Speech Day evening tour of Zymase exhibition, beer-tent and O.S. Buffet Supper. This year, however, pressure of events necessitated a 6.00 p.m. start, and those who resisted the lure of the beer tent were rewarded with one of the most enjoyable concerts I can remember at Stowe.

There was a pleasantly informal atmosphere throughout: "I'm afraid Charles Douglas is still playing cricket, so Paul will entertain you on the piano for a few minutes until he arrives." At that stage, the non-lovers of Malcolm Arnold were rather hoping he wouldn't, but how wrong we were! Although the Wind Trio didn't quite make me a lifelong Arnold fan, it was nevertheless tolerable, and the musicianship displayed by Messrs Harris, Douglas and Hugill was of a very high quality indeed.

In addition to the interlude with the Drayton Trio, there was a brief appearance by the Head of the School playing Saint-Saens on his bass clarinet, which was excellently elephantine but not successfully swan-like. There was also an orchestral piece by Richard Rodney Bennett, the omission of which would have disappointed nobody but Richard Rodney Bennett.

If there was anyone present who did not enjoy the two main items, I can only say that something they had eaten earlier must have disagreed with them. The Chorus clearly revelled in every moment of Paul Drayton's **Nero**, and John Dobinson's decadent performance provided the icing on a delicious cake; surely this inspired composition deserves a wider audience.

The **1812 Overture**, with which events came to a close, is probably rather better known, but any sense of déjà-entendu was removed by the long-awaited début on cannon of our own Canon, Jos Nicholl; it would, however, be unfair to insinuate that the Orchestra was just there to join in the noise—in fact the orchestral playing was of a higher standard than in some more solemn recent concerts.

Congratulations to all concerned in providing us with such excellent entertainment (but I still hope we can manage the beer tent as well next year).

C. S. Juneman

Thursday, 2nd June, 1977 at 8.00 p.m. in the State Music Room

THE QUEEN'S TEMPLE SINGERS

Paul Drayton (piano)

Father Terence McDonnell (harpsichord)

The curious mélange of styles presented in this concert left one wondering whether the first and last pieces might have been more aptly performed in different settings, though I doubt whether Betjeman and Williamson's **Jubilee Hymn** could be a hit even in a Women's Institute Hall. Lacking the joyousness and sense of history that the occasion demands, musically and poetically trite, it is an Anglican dirge best forgotten. Even the Queen's Temple Singers' cheerful 'attack' could not salvage the work and perhaps the best that can be said is that they have done their patriotic duty.

Quite different were Paul Drayton's three **Motets**, which transformed the concert and were the high spot of the evening. All had an other-worldly quality as we were first transported to some Circean island by the languid seductiveness of **Lotos-Land**, and then raised to religious heights by **Jesu Dulcis Memoria** and **Easter Day**. Both the ecclesiastical pieces, the first with its ethereality and Gregorian resonance, the second with its feeling of awe and mystery, transmitted a spiritual elevation conspicuously lacking in Betjeman's protestant dreariness.

Some slight thinness in the singers' sound (particularly in **Lotos-Land**) and a certain lack of clarity in the words confirmed doubts about the acoustics of the Music Room, which were echoed in Father McDonnell's harpsichord playing. Father McDonnell, admittedly playing on a faulty instrument and despite showing great manual dexterity, at times produced a jangled, harsh sound that belied the delicate clarity that the instrument can produce. For me, too, a little harpsichord music goes far—it seems to my uneducated ear to lack the range to sustain such a long programme, although in brief it weaves a charming tracery of sound. Although the changing tempi of **The King's Hunt** seemed admirably to capture the rhythms of the chase, and the lively gigue from Bach's **English Suite No. 2 in A Minor** was worth waiting for, I was left with the impression that both this piece and Scarlatti's four **Sonatas** are of greater interest for their virtuosity of technique than their musicality.

Finally, after the interval, we had Horowitz's **Horroratorio**. With its clever echoes of works ranging from **Belshazzar's Feast** to **Ba-Ba Black Sheep** by way of Gilbert and Sullivan and a host of others, executed by and punctuated with fluttering and flatulent vampires, creaking doors, strange shrieks and all the varied horrors of Hammer Films this was a light-hearted piece that might well have been even more light-hearted. It was fun and was executed with great gusto and panache but, with its atmosphere of the College Smoker, it could well have been presented with fuller abandon—at times not enough hair was being let down. On the day after the Derby a little more of the colour and robustness of Tattenham Corner would not have come amiss.

R. M. Potter

MUSIC CLUB

During the Spring term, the Music Club enjoyed two very successful talks. In January, Simon Wallace-Jones gave a talk on **Music and Words**. He illustrated his theme with music of the modern 'popular' songwriters, such as Paul Simon and Paul McCartney, as well as using music of the more established masters, like Beethoven and Richard Strauss.

Another most interesting lecture was given by Charles Cholmondeley, who talked about Jazz. Charles, himself an accomplished jazz musician on the piano (although he is unwilling to admit it), played to an appreciative Club a wide variety of music.

This term we have had but one lecture. Marius Bading told us about **Programme Music**. This is music which is based on a picture, or a literary idea, that sparks off the composer's desire to create music. He cited examples such as the **Preludes** by Liszt, and the **Symphonie Fantastique** by Berlioz.

Our thanks to all these speakers, and we look forward with pleasure to forthcoming meetings.

Eiluned Jones

SOCIETY CHAPEL

We have welcomed the following preachers in Chapel:

Spring Term: S. M. Andrews, Esq., Headmaster of Clifton College; The Revd Canon E. A. James, Chaplain to the Bishop of St Albans; B. A. Burbridge, Esq., D.S.O., D.F.C., M.A., Lay leader at St Aldate's Church, Oxford; The Revd D. R. MacInnes, Precentor of Birmingham Cathedral.

Summer Term: The Revd R. G. Hovil, Chaplain of Monkton Coombe School; The Rt Revd J. H. L. Phillips, formerly Bishop of Portsmouth; The Revd Canon M. Harcourt, Canon Emeritus of the Cathedral of the Incarnation, Long Island, N.Y.; R. W. Ellis, The Master of Marlborough College; The Revd J. S. T. Woolmer, Curate of St Aldate's Church, Oxford; The Revd T. O. Walker, Vicar of St John's, Harbourne, Birmingham.

On the 27th February, seventy-five boys were confirmed in chapel by the Bishop of Buckingham. In view of the continuing large numbers, the Confirmation Retreat at High Leigh conference Centre once again was divided into two parties both of which were led by Canon Mark Ruston of the Round Church, Cambridge.

The Lenten Addresses this year were given by The Revd David MacInnes from Birmingham Cathedral who was also joined by Mr Nick Cuthbert in the various classroom discussions and informal meetings. An innovation which was well received was the Sunday evening concert by the Jazz Group from the Jesus Centre in Birmingham.

The Queen's Silver Jubilee was commemorated with the Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving on Thursday, 2nd June. After Exeat, another service marked the 50th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of Stowe Chapel by Queen Mary on the 13th June, 1927.

With the now demolished gym no longer available for examinations, the Chapel was used temporarily for this purpose in the last four weeks of term. Week-day services were held in Stowe Church where attendance was voluntary; on Sundays the services in the Roxburgh Hall were enlivened by the band which led our singing.

N. W. Wynne-Jones

THE CHAPEL CHOIR

The choir has sung several anthems in weekly chapel services this term, but the main effort of the choir has been spent on rehearsing Paul Drayton, the choirmaster's composition *Nero*. The choir recorded the part which was performed very successfully on 6th February in the Music Room. The complete work was sung at the Speech Day Concert in the Roxburgh Hall with excellent solos from J. B. Dobinson and A. T. Clarke.

Later rehearsals were spent preparing for the school choir class of the Buckingham Festival but this was postponed until October. The choir had its annual outing this year to the New Theatre, Oxford for an entertaining evening of Gilbert and Sullivan music.

Charles Douglas

THE STUDY GROUP

The talks of the last two terms have been both interesting and varied, with a steady corps of about thirty boys attending each Sunday.

The Spring term's talks were based on 'Bible Metaphors', and speakers included Mr Rudolf and The Revd David MacInnes. There was also a fascinating talk given by Mrs Orpin on missionary work in North Thailand.

'Christ's Example' has been the central theme of the Summer term, with talks given by The Revd David Fletcher, Mr Roger Simpson, Dr Andrew Briggs and others.

I think everyone who has attended Study Group would like to thank Mr Vinen for his continued generosity in allowing meetings to be held in his flat; and also Mr Marcuse for his unfailing efforts to ensure that a speaker appears every week.

**Rupert Bell
Anthony Lomas**

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Community Service has been changing slowly throughout the year. We have been sad to lose the services of Miss Craig who has run the transport fleet for so long and who has done all those tasks in the office, large and small, that are too easily taken for granted. We are grateful for all she has done for Community Service. We shall also miss Albert Halls who has so patiently helped to keep our decaying vehicles on the road. We wish him well in his retirement.

The decaying vehicles have, indeed, been our major problem. One minibus has been off the road for two months, having been damaged in an accident, but now it is running again. The faithful pick-up finally met its end when it was stolen during the night of the Appeal Ball and wrecked in the school grounds. Because of the age of the vehicles and the increasing cost of maintenance and fuel, it has now been decided to discontinue our hire business. We shall keep one minibus for Community Service use and another has been converted to replace the 'grey van', which is being retired after such long service; the remainder are being sold.

Of course we shall have to find an income from elsewhere in order to maintain our present commitments. We have a number of fund-raising events in mind, foremost of which is a sponsored bicycle ride from Land's End to John o' Groats which will be attempted by Mr Theobald in the summer holidays. We are also about to launch a major appeal for trading stamps and cigarette coupons, which enable us to keep our gardening equipment up to standard.

Meanwhile, our main activities of helping the needy in the community continue. As usual during the Summer term we have devoted most of our energy to keeping our members' gardens in order, both by the mowing of lawns and the distribution of plants. Now we are looking forward again to the camp for the mentally handicapped from a local home: this is organised by the Lyttelton 'settlers' and held in the school grounds.

I still believe we have more reshaping to carry out before Community Service is once again operating in the best possible way for both our volunteers and our members. But the renewed interest in Community Service in the junior part of the school suggests that we are moving in the right direction, and this is a tremendous encouragement.

J. C. Lovelock

THE PINEAPPLE CLUB

The Club has met with a phenomenal response from Stoics this year. A record number of boys, about 60 in all, visit the Club every Tuesday. The Club has continued to flourish during the Summer term, despite some minor transport difficulties. The trips are very valuable for many Stoics, as it enables them to mix with those less fortunate than themselves.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Wild for his enormous help in taking a party to the Club at very short notice on one particular occasion, and Mr Haslam, who has shown boundless patience and exercised unflagging energy on our behalf.

The Pineapple Ball is to be held at Stowe on the 10th September this year. It will undoubtedly prove to be an extremely memorable occasion. The proceeds of the Ball, of course, go towards the Club.

Peter Neufeld

THE LIBRARY

Last term's weather and this term's exams have kept the Library fairly full throughout the day. It is a pity that the Headmaster had to speak to the School again recently about treating the Library with proper respect. Attention was drawn to the scribbling on desks, tampering with lights and the removal of reference books without special permission.

Mr Haslam will be taking over as master in charge of the Library at the beginning of next term. As a teacher of English and French, his fresh insight and approach will be most welcome. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mrs McDouall for all her patient help during the past six years and for the way in which she has looked after the Library with such admirable efficiency.

We gratefully acknowledge the following presentations: **The Decline and Fall of Science** by Celia Green, presented by the Hon. Charles Strutt; and **Poems in Variety** by Harry Kemp, (6 1931), presented by the author.

Finally a word of sincere thanks to J. A. Smith (5), who has performed an excellent task as a most conscientious and enthusiastic Prefect of Library, and to all the Library Monitors, especially those who have served for more than one term.

H. D. Marcuse

Monitors: S. W. Allport (1), C. F. Roxburgh (2), J. C. Haas (3), N. J. Comery (4), C. D. Bourn (5), K. E. Hardman (6), S. Alper (7), R. D. J. C. Chetwynd (8), F. S. Polad (9), Barbara V. Anderson (Stanhope), R. S. W. Bell (Nugent).

THE XII CLUB

The XII Club has had a successful two terms, with two lady members providing the first two lectures. At the beginning of the Easter term, the paper given by myself on **Diaghilev and the Ballet Russe** (which modesty prevents me from elaborating on) promoted lively discussion.

Later in the term, Julie Marler talked to us about **Rasputin and his Political Influence**. She put forward the view that Rasputin was more important in the fall of the Russian Monarchy than is believed by several historians. Julie's lucid and well-argued lecture convinced us all of Rasputin's importance, and she dealt very well indeed with the various difficult questions posed her later about Rasputin and the Russian Revolution in general.

There has been but one meeting of the Club this term, when we gathered to hear Mr Mee talk about Spain, particularly Burgos and Castile. The country obviously means a lot to him, and he showed us an extensive series of slides of Spanish architecture and countryside, as well as talking about the history of the country, from the days of Ferdinand and Isabella up to the present time, with the political turbulence following Franco's death. We are grateful to have shared his feelings about this beautiful country.

Our thanks are due to Julie and Mr Mee for their lectures, and also to Mrs Clarke for her kind hospitality.

Francesca Kay

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The Easter term began with a talk by D. R. B. Champion on the unusual subject of cultural links established between Rome and China, mainly through the silk trade. This was followed by a scholarly and informative talk by Dr Roland Mayer, of Bedford College, London, in which he compared Catullus' poem 70 with poem 27 by Callimachus, upon which it is based, and explained the original treatment given by Catullus to Callimachus' theme. Dr Mayer's painstaking and imaginative analysis of the poems provoked a lively discussion. The main event of the Summer term has been the magnificent Greek Drama Week organised entirely by Mr Meredith. This began with an introductory talk by Mr Stephan, and included films of **Electra** by Sophocles, **Electra** by Euripides, and Pasolini's version of the Oedipus legend—**Edipo Re**. The centre piece of the week's events was Mr Meredith's powerful and moving

production of Sophocles' **Oedipus Rex** outside the Queen's Temple, which made a profound impression on those who braved the chill May evenings to enjoy the atmosphere of authentic Classical Greek Art.

Later in the term we look forward to talks by Mr C. W. Macleod of Christ Church, Oxford, on **Thucydides and Athenian Imperialism**, and by D. A. Eaton on **Greek Antiquities in Sicily**.

S. J. Suttle

THE ENGLISH SOCIETY

On Friday, 25th February Professor John Holloway of Queen's College, Cambridge, Professor of Modern Literature in the University, addressed the English Society.

The main part of his talk consisted of reading and interpreting some of his poems, the originality and freshness of which impressed the Society. He also offered invaluable advice on two of our 'A' level set books—**King Lear** and **The Waste Land**. His lecture was pleasantly informal and his tips on University entrance were encouraging and much appreciated.

Betsy Fremantle

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

The Society held four lecture meetings in the Spring term, and for Speech Day, the Lower VI organized an exhibition of field work projects and models based on studies made in North Wales on the Easter field course. There was also a display of aerial photographs and several relief models, based on O.S. maps and constructed by Third-formers, depicted areas of geographical interest.

Visiting speakers included C. J. Smith, Esq. (Keble College, Oxford), who spoke on the subject of climatic change, and Mr Soames Summerhays whose excellent slides of the fauna and flora of the Galapagos Islands, were much appreciated. R. G. Wells, Esq. gave an excellent account of his year's study on a research station in the Antarctic and the informed lecture by A. T. Clarke on **Renewable Energy Resources** was well received by all 'A' Level Geographers who attended.

D. R. Foster

GEOGRAPHY FIELD COURSE 1977

Towards the end of the Easter vacation, twenty-six Lower Sixth geographers converged on Llanrwst in the Conway Valley, North Wales, for a four day period of intensive field study.

Beach profiles were drawn, drumlins surveyed, glacial and fluvio-glacial deposits analysed, stream flow gauged, pebbles measured, soils sampled and hypotheses tested.

The techniques of collecting, recording and analysing information were new to the group but although some of the results were unexpected and occasionally inconclusive, considerable benefit was gained from participation and involvement in first-hand observation.

We saw the roche moutonnée, a considerable amount of low stratus cloud, snow at Twll Du, very large slate spoil heaps, the smallest house in the world, and Everton beaten in the League Cup Final. We also saw spectacular Snowdonian scenery and gained more than a superficial understanding of structure process and stage in the region. Glacial geomorphology became a reality.

D. R. Foster

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Since the last issue of **The Stoic**, the Society has met three times, with one more meeting planned for 14th June, 1977. In November Mr Andrew Rudolph, who had also addressed the Society before becoming the History Tutor, spoke on **Fortifications**. He began his lecture with a description of ancient fortifications in Greece and proceeded to give special emphasis to the 18th century.

In January 1977, the Society was addressed by its Chairman and Secretary, Robert Stheeman and Mark Parker. Robert Stheeman spoke on the Presidency of John Kennedy and cited Vietnam as his greatest failure. Mark Parker described in detail the career of Harold Macmillan, reaching the conclusion that Macmillan considered that the acquisition of the Oxford University Chancellorship was his greatest achievement.

Violent and Lunatic Passion was the title of a talk by Mr Daniels from the Royal Latin School. The subject was, in fact, an election in 1695, one that was remarkably lacking in any passion, violent or "lunatic".

It remains to thank Mr Rudolph for his organization of all the meetings, and, as usual, Mr Mead for his kind hospitality.

Robert Stheeman

THE MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

Groups have been to see two French films during the past two terms; Jean Gabin starred in a gangster film **Ne touchez pas le grisbi**, while **Le Grand Meaulnes** impressed everyone with its superb photography and also brought out a few handkerchiefs! A visit to see Brecht's **Die Dreigroschenoper** is planned for the Germanists. With the arrival of the girls to add colour to our ranks, the first Society photograph is also arranged.

The exchange system built up over the past few years has again flourished. Two boys have each spent a term in a French school and a term at Salem, a German school. Two boys and a girl from Salem each spent a term at Stowe and three French boys are about to join the school for the rest of the term.

All in all, modern languages are thriving, with more people doing these subjects to 'A' Level than for many years. Our thanks are due to J.A.B. for all his impeccable organisation (including the packed suppers).

David Carr

THE SPANISH SOCIETY

The Society has had several meetings and excursions since the last report. There were two trips to London during the Spring term, one to King's College to see an excellent production of Miguel Mihura's amusing but rather cruel play **Los Tres Sombreros de Copa**, the other to the annual Verse and Prose Reading competition at Canning House. Of the five semi-finalists from Stowe, two progressed to the finals: Sergio Agüero went on to win the native speakers' section for the second year running, and James Haas came third in the over 16 group.

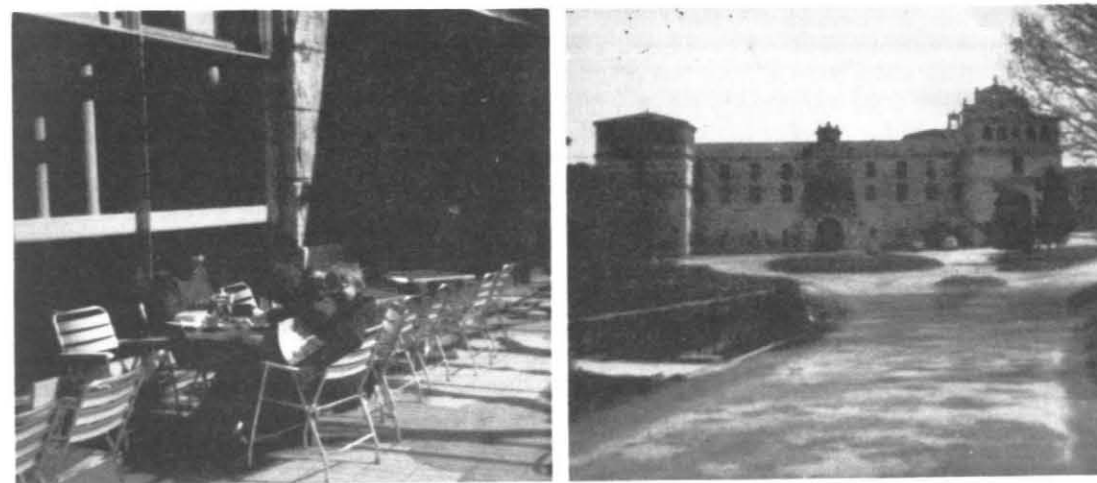
Meetings held at Stowe have so far concentrated on B.B.C. television programmes on Spanish themes: members watched a recording of Garcia Lorca's great tragedy **La Casa de Bernarda Alba**, after which Nicholas Duthie presented a brief but instructive paper on Lorca's theatre as a whole. The **Omnibus** programmes on the paintings of El Greco and Velázquez were the basis of a later meeting.

The first part of this term was taken up with the production of a further edition of Stowe's Spanish magazine **Enfoque**, in which articles dealt with a variety of historical, geographical and cultural topics, and also looked at the state of Spain in this crucial period before the first democratic elections for forty years. Boys spent a great deal of time and effort, also, on the Speech Day Exhibition, which included displays on the trip to Burgos, and reports on 'A' Level Easter courses in Madrid and Palma by André Groeneveld and Jonathan Parkinson respectively.

We are still looking forward to three events before the Summer holidays. 'A' Level students will be attending a literature conference at Eton College, and we hope to travel to the National Theatre to see one of Spain's greatest contemporary actresses, Nuria Espert. Our final meeting of the year will be held at school and will take the form of slide-illustrated talks on the three Easter trips to Spain previously mentioned.

D. J. Mee

LOWER VI EASTER TRIP TO SPAIN



On 21st March, two days after the end of the Spring term, our party of four (Mr Mee, Colin Wood, Mike Swanborough and Larry Bowles) left Southampton on M/S "Patricia". We reached Bilbao on the morning of the 23rd, and drove down to Burgos for our 10 days stay in a camp site just outside the city.

There were four main aims to our trip; firstly to speak as much Spanish as possible. This was up to each one of us individually, to try and speak to Spaniards in Cafés and shops etc. However, this was bound to be hampered by the fact that the four of us were nearly always together and there was a great temptation to speak English. Secondly, we were to make a study of several of the religious and historical buildings in the city. The most famous of these is the Cathedral, probably the best example of Gothic architecture in the whole of Spain. There were also several monasteries and churches in and just outside the city, nearly all of which are also in Gothic style.

Our third aim was to make a comparison between life in the city and life in one of the remote primitive villages in the Province. We were able to study life in the city very easily as most of our time was spent there. In order to look at life in the country we spent 24 hours staying with some friends of Mr Mee in the tiny village of Padilla de Arriba, 30 miles outside Burgos. We noticed that here there were very few young people; most of them had gone to live in Burgos in search of jobs and a more modern life style. Padilla, like so many other villages of its kind, was rapidly being deserted.

Fourthly we were to make a study of the landscape, history and the buildings of the land both to the North and South of Burgos. We spent two days doing this, and noticed, above all, the enormous contrast between the rocky, mountainous regions, particularly to the North, and the flat, barren land elsewhere.

While we were in Burgos, we also taped a number of interviews (from 15-30 minutes each) with a number of Spanish people, from a young married couple living in a flat in Burgos, to one of the few young men left in Padilla de Arriba and the local village priest.

On the 2nd April, when we left Bilbao, we had obtained a great insight into the Spanish way of life and the history and geography of the area. As well as the educational value of the trip, we all enjoyed ourselves greatly and decided it had been a thoroughly worthwhile enterprise.

Lawrence Bowles

THE FILM SOCIETY

Not only did the Society show its usual seasonal quota of eight films but it managed this year, despite inflation, to maintain a healthy bank balance. This enabled it partially to sponsor the showing of two further films—Ken Russell's *Women in Love* and Cacoyannis' superb *Electra*—for the English and Classical Societies respectively.

Some of the films were predictably popular choices, notably Schlesinger's *Midnight Cowboy*, Hitchcock's *Dial M for Murder* (alas, we were sent the black and White copy) and Anderson's *O Lucky Man*. With an intriguing opening and some interesting sequences in the first half, the last of this trio promised well but ultimately turned out to be too long in footage and too short of ideas to make the discriminating cinephile want to seek it out for a second viewing.

The same could be said of *The Cranes are Flying*, but it would be an uncharitable view. Few modern Soviet films are acceptable to Western audiences, charged as they often are with a heavy, nearly cloying sentimentality and the obligatory propaganda shots in the closing minutes. However if one sets aside these weaknesses, Kalatazov's film was rather more than a workmanlike piece of film making and was generally well received.

The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie gave us Bunuel at his best. No obscurity here, but delightful social satire nicely observed and full of salty touches (the visit to the restaurant with its macabre revelation provoking a sudden rush to the door by the would-be diners is a memorable incident). Very different but equally impressive was Skolimowski's *Deep End*. The handling of a subject which, in its need to paint an authentic background, could have been merely titillating, was restrained and yet had enough "bite" to make the sultry environment realistic and convincing.

Bogdanovich's *The Last Picture Show* was an appropriate film to close the season. This, and *Summer of 42*, are arguably the two most evocative films which have a genuine period flavour and, despite their self-indulgent nostalgia, are masterpieces of the current "retro" fashion. This recreation of life in a declining Texan town in the fifties was chastening in its delicacy and sensitivity.

I have intentionally left *The Red Desert* to last, as its reception gives cause for concern and disappointment. Admittedly this is not an 'easy' film and indeed Antonioni's work never aims at popular acclaim nor commercial success. However it is surely one of the functions of any serious Film Society to screen films of this kind, if only to show that there is an alternative convention. Moreover, as the large majority of our members cannot claim to be either experienced or inveterate film-goers, it is reasonable to accept that another function is to cater for the minority and open up new horizons for the majority. The reception of *The Red Desert* not only shows that there are very few members prepared to follow a difficult film right to the end, but it also gives ammunition to the Society's detractors. We do not, nor should not, aim merely to provide entertainment or an excuse for missing prep.—nor should we accept with equanimity in our midst the few mindless hecklers who never miss an opportunity to let off steam. Harsh words perhaps—but only when we are prepared to exercise intelligently our critical discernment will we be able to talk knowledgeably about what is rightly "le septième art".

J. A. Bennetts

THE POLITICAL CLUB

The iconoclastic element in the Stoic Community has found full scope for its cynicism in the Club's choice of speakers during the past year. I do not intend to apologise. Rather, I would like tentatively to suggest that the six men who addressed the Club have, between them, reflected every facet of the current political spectrum. The astute and consistent listener will have, over the last year, been able to fathom a contrast in ideology, every bit as striking as that between a self confessed follower of Trotsky, and Sir Oswald Moseley.

It was fitting that the founder of the Club, Mr David McDonough (5 1971) should have opened the year's proceedings with an excellent exposition, on the demise of democracy in Britain.

Eleven days later the Club entertained Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, Q.C., M.P. (Conservative, Kinross and West Perthshire) who then expounded on what he considers to be an important factor in political life today—the fundamental capacity to deceive.

The Spring term's sole claim to fame was that it saw The Right Hon. The Lord Boyd-Carpenter, P.C. (6 1927) giving up one of his free evenings to hold an informal discussion with members of the Club in the Gothic Library.

This summer has been devoted to the Conservative Party. Firstly, on the evening before Speech Day, came Mr Michael Grylls, M.P. (Conservative, North-West Surrey). He was followed by Mr Robert Bell, M.P. (Conservative, Beaconsfield) and on 10th June Mr Timothy Raison, M.P. (Conservative, Aylesbury) was entertained by the Club. Each of these men has presented highly individual and controversial views on the future of Conservatism and it is a pity that more Stoics have not taken the trouble to come and contest the ideas put forward.

The Club would not have been able to live out the year had it not been for the excellence of the Secretary, Robert Stheeman. He, together with the President, Mr A. J. Chapman and Mr R. M. Potter (who stood in for Mr Chapman when his Jubilee duties proved to be too great) have made my mantle of Chairmanship feather-weight and enabled Stoics to use all the political acumen they possess.

Mark Parker

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Last term the Monday extras were involved in a variety of activities but many people were concerned with Reserve maintenance work. Previously, this was undertaken by the Wednesday Conservation party. This group has now been phased out completely.

The Thursday Societies were well organised by A. E. H. Worsley. They consisted mainly of films and video-taped programmes from the television. Lectures on badgers and photography were well attended. Mrs. Pope, from the British Museum gave the lecture on micromonsters which proved to be both interesting and informative and was enjoyed by the multitudes which attended.

There were not any expeditions although an outing to Slimbridge at the end of term was proposed.

At the beginning of this term the membership stood at two hundred and forty which keeps the Natural History Society by far the largest in the school. It seems incredible that one-third of the school are paying members of the Society; it is fortunate that all these people do not attend the lectures and films available to them.

This term has seen another production of *The Grebe*. The Editors were S. D. Milligan and A. E. H. Worsley and about two hundred and fifty copies were sold over Speech Day.

The summer term is always a main one for the Society, although there are no organised Thursday Societies. In Monday activities boys are able to follow their own interests.

Stephen Wild

THE NATURE RESERVE

Maintenance work has continued throughout the year in our 20 acre reserve and the Monday Extra team has been hard at work restoring bridges and clearing paths.

In January a large chestnut collapsed under the weight of snow, peeling open 'like a banana', and this provided us with several weeks' sawing and stacking. The log pile thus created has provided a good nesting habitat for thrushes and blackbirds and the limbs of the tree are still very much alive.

One of the major projects being undertaken in the reserve is the recording and maintenance of 50 nest boxes. At the end of each year the records are sent off to the British Trust for Ornithology for analysis.

The 1976-77 season has been a busy one and even at the moment a new generation of Natural Historians is refurbishing various areas of the reserve and generally becoming involved with this work of conservation.

Many thanks to all boys who have worked in the reserve and to Messrs Dobinson, Lloyd and Marcuse and Dr Hornby for their invaluable help on Monday afternoons.

Henry Worsley

THE DUCKERY

Work during the winter and spring has continued to improve the enclosure although it was too wet either to deepen the water inlet from the spring or to excavate another pond. Quite a lot of shrubs have been planted in small groups to improve nesting cover. Species include Cistus, Hazel, Laurel, Rowan, Yew and 'Pampas Grass'. These have been enclosed temporarily for the young shoots initially proved attractive to the birds. Seven nesting boxes made by Tim Cook were erected. These successfully tempted both Mandarin and Carolina to breed.

In terms of sheer numbers the year's breeding has been less successful than 1976. The very cold, late spring may have contributed to this. We only retained six duck mallard for breeding, five of these being raised last year. Only one of these last has laid and the one older bird brought off 14 young of which nine survived to be released. They have been left free-winged and each now carries a WAGBI numbered ring. They can leave the enclosure at will once their wings are fully grown and we look forward to our first recovery of a ringed bird.

The single Carolina Wood Duck laid two clutches totalling 23 eggs. The first group were hatched under a bantam and hatched five, sadly all died within a week probably because they did not learn to feed. The Mandarin pair produced seven eggs but she proved to be a poor mother and deserted. We shall not trust her again! We still await the hatching of the second batch of Carolina eggs at present in the incubator and also a clutch of eight Wigeon from one of our two ducks. One remarkable event was the finding of a Tufted Duck's nest on the Octagon, the first recorded since the 1930s. This was such an exposed site that the risk of interference justified our removing the eight eggs to our incubator. At the moment (June 14th) five are pipping. Add to this three more bantams reared for brooding and it can be seen that we have had a varied if not altogether successful season. We have learnt a lot from this and hope to profit by our experience next year.

We took time off on the summer field day to visit Slimbridge where Tim Mallett, our 'founder', has been working for the summer before going to university. He gave us an interesting and intimate tour including a visit to their 'duckery' or breeding area.

Our existence owes a lot to the continuing support of a number of people to all of whom we are most grateful. We shall miss Lindy Puttick's help both in the laboratories and in the holidays when she leaves the department at the end of the term. Messrs Ian Earny and John Thornton have done a marvellous job controlling vermin. Mr C. Marler (7 1950) continues to be enthusiastic about our work, has taken us twice more round his own extensive collection and has now very generously presented us with a pair of young Lesser Snow Geese. There can be no doubt in the mind of the careful observer that there are more wildfowl on the Stowe lakes this summer. Many of these carry our rings. The Duckery is achieving one of its main aims.

Paul Marsh

THE FORESTERS

Warden Hill looks like a disaster area, but in fact all is going to plan. Along the inner side of terrace walk leading from the Boycott Pavilion to Venus we have continued the clearance we started in the autumn, uprooting the smaller trees, smouldering out the larger stumps, and leaving a twenty-yard margin which needs no more than minor levelling and harrowing before being grassed over. Along the outer side a hundred-yard stretch has been cleared, where spoil from the Octagon and the site of the Sports Hall has been dumped to dry out;

later in the summer it will be bulldozed into the old ditch. Just in time we discovered that the footings of the long-removed railings were still in position, and we have dug out more than a hundred slabs of fine dressed stone from the bottom of the ditch. It is going to be a long job, but in a couple of years the worst should be over.

This project has absorbed most of our time and energy, but the professional foresters have been lopping the poplar plantations, and we have followed behind them, burning up the trimmings.

G. B. Clarke

THE BRIDGE CLUB

The loss, within a period of six months, of Gray ma., Rose, Siddiqi, Barwood, Osborne and Lord, who between them had formed the nucleus of the team for two years and more, left a gap which (dare I say it?) seemed impossible to bridge. It is therefore enormously to the credit of those remaining that our run of success has continued uninterrupted.

The "old hands" who stayed until Christmas helped the senior team to victories over Harrow, St Edward's and Bedford in team-of-eight matches; the sequence was completed in the Spring term with team-of-four victories over Radley and Mill Hill. The junior team, who were all new to school matches, did well to record four victories losing only to Bedford who were playing a senior "C" team.

In the Daily Mail Cup, Messrs Hinds, Freeman, Durdin and Paine repeated the pattern set by the previous two Stowe teams by playing well to get through the qualifying heat but then performing below par in a tough semi-final; grateful mention must here be made of the excellent sustenance provided afterwards in the Captain's home on both occasions!

The team had effectively selected itself after the two pairs involved had comfortably headed the Stowe section of a simultaneous event organised by Oxford University—a successful experiment which, it is hoped, will become an annual fixture.

Seven Stowe pairs entered the two County events as usual. Consistency rather than brilliance marked the performance in the Bucks and Berks event; six of our pairs finished in the top half, the best being Polad and Rose in 3rd place with Hinds and Freeman 7th. However, the Oxfordshire event saw a Stowe win for the fifth year running; Hinds and Freeman were the successful pair finishing more than a clear "top" ahead of the field.

Gray and Wright, who came 4th in the "Oxfordshire", enjoyed considerable domestic success too, winning the Pairs Cup and then teaming up with Maynard and Law to complete a Chatham Cup double after a final in which Temple ran them close for much of the way.

Although we look like being short of senior players again next year, a record entry of 23 pairs for the Under-16 competition augurs well for the future. The standard was variable but a fair amount of good bridge was played, and there was little to choose in the end between the top four pairs, these being:—1st Lloyd (winning for the second year) and Thompson-Schwab, 2nd Ferris and Mackenzie, 3rd Gull and Law, and 4th Wood and Zoghbi.

Finally a word of thanks to Captain, David Hinds and Secretary, Tim Durdin who have helped everything to run so smoothly and who, along with the other players generally, set a standard of behaviour at the bridge table which is all too rare in the higher echelons of the game!

C. S. Juneman

The following have played bridge for the school:—

Senior Team: D. R. H. Hinds (Captain) (2), E. R. Freeman (4), T. N. F. Durdin (Secretary) (1), G. G. R. Paine (2), N. D. J. Gray (6), N. D. Wright (6).

Autumn Term Only: J. H. Rose (9), R. D. Lord (2), G. G. F. Barwood (3), A. E. S. Osborne (3), F. S. Polad (9).

Junior Team: T. S. Maynard (Captain) (6), B. A. Nicholson (8), C. Wood (7), J. M. Zoghbi (7), A. G. P. Kelly (1), R. D. H. Taylor (5), M. C. J. Gull (1), F. E. J. Law (6).

Representative Tie Awarded to:—

(Autumn Term): A. E. S. Osborne (3).

(Spring Term): D. R. Hinds (2), E. R. Freeman (4), T. N. F. Durdin (1).

THE CHESS CLUB

New names have appeared on our fixture list this year—Abingdon, Bradfield, Berkhamsted, Lord William's School Thame, and Oxford High—and it has been interesting, though sometimes chastening, to get an idea of comparative strengths. We had victories over Lord William's and Bradfield, lost to Abingdon and Oxford, and drew in the senior match at Berkhamsted.

We should be able to do better than this next Autumn if we can rely on access to a school mini-bus for away matches (full participation in the Oxford and District Chess League would then be a distinct possibility and our players could have regular competitive match-practice).

The Monday Extras and Thursday Society chess groups usually produce a number of talented players and there has been plenty of enthusiasm this year.

Ideally one wants these players to keep working at their game as they move up the school, developing the sort of resilience which makes a player hard to beat (Eric Ancsell amongst the seniors and Satow and Tarcy in the juniors have shown this sort of approach this year). Bruce Nicholson is our Secretary for the Autumn term.

G. D. Salter

THE CORKSCREW SOCIETY

The Corkscrew Society has again had an active two terms. We began in January with a talk on Burgundy from Mr Richard Mallinson, of Stowells of Chelsea which was followed by a very interesting talk by Mr David Wolfe on Czechoslovakian wines, a relatively new product on the British market. The term was rounded off with a blind tasting, kindly organised by Mr Wilkinson from Jarvis Halliday Ltd. As always this proved to be a highly successful exercise.

This term we have had two talks: the first on Italian wines by Mr Simon Cock of Findlater Ltd, and the second on wines from Alsace by Mrs Aileen MacLoughlin from Reynier Ltd, the Society's first lady speaker. Both were very interesting and worthwhile.

We have again been very kindly invited to Captain Stewart's farm at Olney later on this term. There is also the prospect of a joint meeting on the subject of champagne with the Salamanca Club.

It has been a busy two terms and the Society continues to thrive. In these tough economic times we are still lucky to have many generous speakers who continue to support our Society and upon whom we depend. To them, we owe our thanks and gratitude.

Nicholas Bannister

ZYMASE

This year Zymase has continued to produce gallons of home-made wine. Along with the more usual brews, such as elderflower, we have seen several attempts at more obscure varieties. P. Wolstenholme in particular is a keen experimenter and no doubt many will have smelt his onion wine on Speech Day. The tasting stall was well attended and it was particularly pleasing to hear many people were enquiring as to what to do with their cloudy parsnip wine or how to convert the apples at the bottom of their garden into something suitably alcoholic. Our thanks to Dr Hornby for providing much of the wine to be tasted and for his advice over the weeks. We must also commend Mr Stokes for his patience in clearing up after some of our more lively brews have left the confines of their fermentation jars.

I hope the Society will continue to flourish despite the contempt it receives from such people as the Corkscrew Society, and others who feel that the only form of alcohol worth drinking comes from France.

Edward Freeman

FLY-FISHING – OXFORD WATER

This year records three departures from our methods of previous years. Firstly it was decided to stock the water with rainbow trout, these being slightly easier to catch than brown trout, and their rather flashy fighting behaviour gives them appeal to young fishermen.

Secondly we made the fishery more of a "put-and-take" affair, by having two stockings of 10–11 inch fish, about a month apart; the first being 217 fish and the second 117 fish. The extra 17 fish in each case were larger specimens of about 1½–2 lbs. which were included to increase the interest of the fishing.

The third departure was the initiation of an algae-control programme, under the direction of Mr D. J. Mee. This involved removal of the wind-blown algae mats from the margins, by means of a screen of chicken wire held upright at one end by a boy in Mr Waldman's dinghy and at the other by a further individual in waders! The method is crude, but effective. Mr Waldman also placed muslin bags of copper sulphate (an algicide) on the silt-trap across the feeder-stream in an attempt at chemical control, but we have been unable to measure its effect with any accuracy.

The result of these three innovations has been a season of excellent fishing, enjoyed (legally) by a total of 47 boys, although it is probable that most of the trout have now been caught (17th June).

The word "legally" is used advisedly for while we have been aware of poaching and rule-breaking in previous years little action has been possible. This year, however, Mr Mee sacrificed a little of his beauty-sleep, and caught a number of boys either poaching or fishing illegally. These individuals were banned from the water (if members of the Club) or fined the full subscription.

Apart from these undesirable activities it has been an excellent season for all concerned.

M. Waldman

D. J. Mee

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

I am pleased to announce that the Society is now in full swing and I feel that our first year has been a great success. We linked up with the Buckingham Philatelic Society to listen to a talk given by R. A. Topley. This sparked off much interest and seems to have been enjoyed by one and all. The committee had a day out to help at a stall in Dadford Village Hall, the proceeds of which went to the collection for a new roof for Stowe Church. Two auctions have taken place since the last edition of *The Stoic* and over £40 worth of stamps were sold. We have booked up to go to Seymour Hall in October for one of Britain's largest exhibitions. It is hoped that most of our members will take the chance to go. I would like to remind people that we need plenty of material for next term's Christmas '77 auction. Finally I would like to thank Mr Nicholl on behalf of myself and the Society for making our first year one of great enjoyment and for being so helpful in organising each meeting with such intricate care.

Keith Springer

THE C.C.F.

During the last six months a considerable amount has been achieved in the course of routine training and many special events have taken place. There have been two Field Days, Annual Inspection, Adventurous Training in Snowdonia and a parachute course, while four members of the Signals Section have attended courses at Blandford, one cadet went to Malta on the MOD camp and one joined the UKLF Cadet Leadership Course at Stanford PTA. Over the New Year three cadets skied with the Royal Green Jackets on Exercise Snow Queen in Bavaria.

Although March's Field Day is now only a faint memory more recent events are still vivid. Senior Under Officer Boldero's report on Adventurous Training appears below, the seven parachutists are still waiting to complete a course that was spoiled by bad weather and the malfunction of the parachute of a member of another school, and the Inspection, by Commodore C. W. Aumack, MIMechE, FIMarE, of HMS "Centurion" was particularly noteworthy for the amount of work put into it by all members of the contingent.

At the time of writing our most recent memories are of Field Day on 30th May. The Royal Navy Section went to sea in HMS "Yarmouth", thanks to the help and interest of Captain K. A. Low (S 1949), 18 members of the Army Section visited the Royal Marines at Poole and 70 went to Caterham to join the 3rd Battalion Royal Green Jackets (these seem to have spent most of the day leaping into and out of helicopters), and the RAF and REME Sections had a most successful and instructive visit to RAF Wittering.

We are now busy preparing for the Coldstream Cup competition and looking forward to Annual Camp. The RN Section is due to spend a week in HMS Droxford, which is commanded by Lieutenant Commander A. C. Grattan-Cooper (S 1961), the main body of the Army Section is off to Holcombe Moor in Lancashire, with a small detachment going to BAOR to visit our old hosts, the 16th/5th Queen's Royal Lancers, and the RAF Section returns to Norfolk, but this year to Marham, last visited in 1955.

M. J. Fox

ADVENTUROUS TRAINING 1977

Although, or more probably because, they knew that Mr Collins, who spent last Summer Term at Stowe, had planned and would run the training, 17 Stoics set out for Capel Curig at the end of the Spring Term. During the coming week we were to climb Snowdon and five other peaks over 3,000 feet, not by chance but as a result of meticulous planning. Each expedition started, in fact, the day before, by preparation of route cards and the careful packing of rucksacks containing as a minimum, all we could possibly need. We soon learnt that this called for considerable skill (to ensure that hard, knobby items did not dig into our spines and shoulder-blades), and an appreciable degree of pessimism as far as the weather was concerned. However gentle it might seem in the valley we rapidly came to realise that cloud easily changed to rain and that the higher we went the colder and windier it became. There was a noticeable difference between the spartan luxury of base and a lunch halt or bivouac site above the 2,000 feet contour.

During our stay we took one day off to learn the rudiments of rock-climbing at Willy's Farm and to abseil or, so it seemed, to run down the near-vertical faces so recently conquered at such pain. During this exercise, as during the rest of the week, one of the main reasons for the success and pleasure of the week was obvious. This was the spirit of the cadets: whatever may have been our feelings about or relations with our next-door neighbours at base camp, there was never anything approaching ill-feeling between us and this reflects great credit on all concerned: the stronger helped the weaker and the less tolerant discovered unexpected qualities of forbearance and sympathy.

The camp, however, could never have been the same without RSM McKeown and the officers who put up with us: Mr Marcuse, Mr Fox, Mr Kell (who deputised for Mr Rawcliffe for the first three days), Mr Rawcliffe himself and, above all, Mr Collins. We are all deeply indebted to the last-named for his hard work, enthusiasm and generosity; he prompted us all to give of our best so that, to quote his pet phrase, "It worked like magic."

Jonathan Boldero

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

During the last six months boys have been busy with the Service Section of their Awards. They have been doing Community Service, Bronze Training, Police Service, First Aid or Life Saving, according to age group and inclination. This year's Bronzes are all through safely and we await the results of the Silver Police Exam. About half the Silvers are leaving the Scheme after the Summer Camp; this seems to be our normal wastage at present.

Field Days have been enjoyed by most. We had the usual unseasonal fine weather in the Chilterns. The excursion was notable for the torchlight procession along the canal bank and for our failure to climb the side of the Sports Hall. Derbyshire, at the end of May, gave us a welcome taste of wild country in pleasant walking weather. A small party, including two girls, was able to leave after lunch on the Saturday; we enjoyed two half days of rock-climbing on Bircher's and Stanage Edges before the main party arrived and walking started on Sunday afternoon. One adventurous Silver Group has decided to do its Expedition by bicycle. They are combining with two boys from Nottingham High School and had a practice run over Field Day with R.C.T. I gather that there are a few logistical problems to be sorted out before their three-day trip around the Cotswolds, under the guidance of Dr Margaret Wells, in July.

The rest of the term will be spent on the Athletics track or in the Swimming Pool and in getting ourselves ready for Skye.

G. M. Hornby

MOUNTAINEERING

We have had five rock climbing and mountaineering meets since Christmas, four day trips to the gritstone edges in Derbyshire and one weekend in Snowdonia. On each occasion the weather has been extremely kind to us, although one trip (to Stanage Edge) was made memorable by two feet of snow on the rocks. Standards improve only slowly because of the infrequency of our meets, but Mike Watts' nonchalant ascent of Heather Wall at Froggatt and Nigel Benthall's masterly retreat from Terrace Crack suggest that a wealth of talent only awaits opportunity for development.

A. J. Wild



Climbers under Stanage Edge

G. M. Hornby

THE HISTORY OF STOWE—XXVI

THE SECOND DUKE AND AFTERWARDS

As we saw in the preceding chapter, the first Duke of Buckingham died in 1839 and our egregious friend Chandos became second Duke. This, the last chapter of our story, is concerned with three things: Stowe itself, about which there is not a great deal to say; politics, which are of some importance; and debt, which overwhelmed Stowe.

First as to building at Stowe. Nothing spectacular was done but a fair amount was projected. Stowe's architect was now Edward Blore.¹ He was working there in 1839 and continued for five years or so. He designed the Lamport Lodge, in Gothic style. Two other lodges were built at the same time, both Classic, the very small lodge near the west Leoni Arch, and the Stratford Lodge at the far end of the Oxford Avenue. Probably these two are Blore's also, though the designs are not signed by him. At this time too the Bourbon Tower assumed its present appearance, and several separate schemes were prepared, but not carried out, for rebuilding the Temple of Friendship. The second Duke, evidently, was keen to have the best fruit and vegetables for his table, and schemes were prepared for a mushroom house, a vine house, a fig house, a peach house and a "pine pit." None of these appears to have been built. The King's Pillar on the South Front, surviving from Bridgeman's time, was at last taken down and the statue set up on the mound covering the foundations of Nelson's Seat, on a pedestal designed by Blore. In the house a magnificent ducal watercloset, with a trophy above the door, was designed and presumably constructed in the space now occupied by the masters' wine-cupboard, adjoining their common-room, which in a plan is marked "Duke's room". Blore may not have designed all that was projected at this time, some drawings being signed by other hands, but probably he oversaw all the work. By 1844 he had evidently come to know something of the unhealthy state of the finances and feared he would never be paid. There are letters from him of this year which show him trying to sever his connection with Stowe.

Now to politics. The decade 1835-1845 was uneasy. The Reform Bill, it was felt in the country at large, was not fulfilling its promise. The country was already tired of the Whigs, but had no great enthusiasm for the Tories either. However, the Tories came in again in 1841 with Sir Robert Peel as leader. During his first session in Parliament Peel marked time and amassed detail concerning the state of the nation. In the next he announced his measures. He was already convinced that free trade was necessary to break out of the stagnation that was causing so much distress, but he knew that any move to lower the corn duties would cause an immediate revolt in his party. So he left corn alone, but on almost all other foodstuffs he lowered, or even repealed the duties. When he announced this there were loud cheers from the "Manchester men" and others on the opposition benches, while his own party sat silent and glum behind him. Revolt was in their hearts, but they reminded themselves that revolt would bring back the Whigs, who would repeal the corn laws as well as doing everything Peel proposed to do. So Peel's cabinet supported him, all but the Duke of Buckingham.

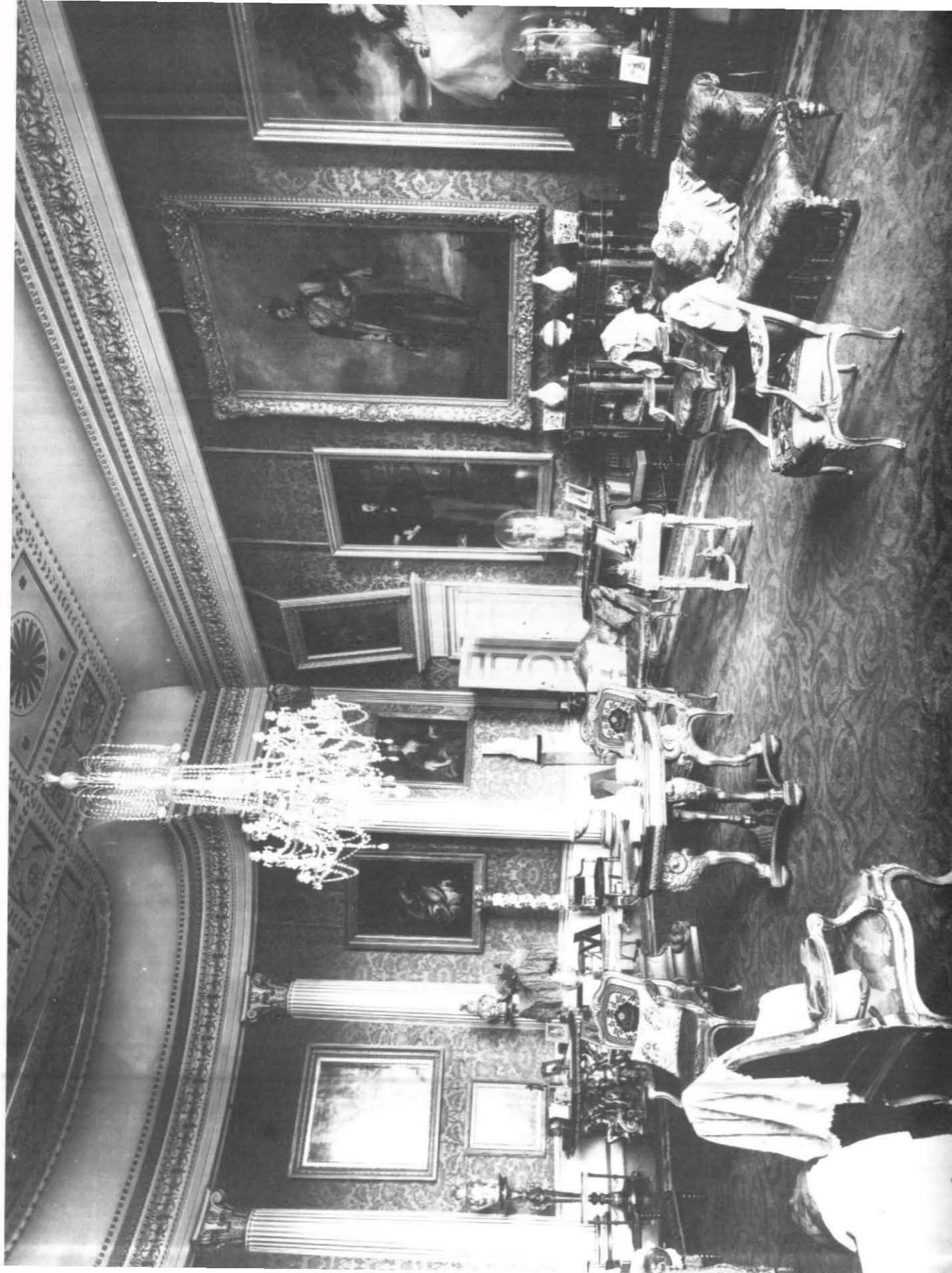
Peel, probably, had no great opinion of the Duke, but the Duke had made a name for himself as the Farmers' Friend and was, or hitherto had appeared to be, an important Tory Figure.² The Premier felt it necessary to have him in the Cabinet and made him Lord Privy Seal, an office that could mean anything or nothing. But the news that the roast beef of old England was to be, so to speak, undercut by foreign meat was altogether too much for the stomach of the Farmers' Friend, and he resigned. Peel had made the gesture of inviting him in and was scarcely sorry to see him go out again. But being out he might stir up trouble among the agriculturalists, and so it was necessary not only to get rid of him but also to discredit him. This Peel craftily managed by way of the Order of the Garter. The Duke was madly keen to have the Garter. His father had had it and he was convinced it was his by hereditary right. Peel rightly perceived that a ruling trait of the Duke's character was personal vanity

and "dangled the Garter" in front of his nose. Again and again the Duke snatched at it, until the House of Lords and the Carlton Club were laughing behind his back and the farmers were properly shocked at the childish behaviour of their Friend. When he judged the farce had gone far enough, Peel let the Duke have the Garter, which thus became a disgrace rather than an honour to him and reduced him to his proper size. Meanwhile his stature as an extravagant eccentric increased in inverse proportion to his political decline, inasmuch that his brother-in-law, Lord Breadalbane, decided he was going mad. This brings us to debt, which is perforce the principal matter of this chapter.

Debt is to some degree a natural condition of landowning and in that connection is not in itself reprehensible. It is scarcely possible to conduct a business that depends for its returns on the seasons and the weather without some borrowing. But Grenville debts were something quite out of the common and had not mainly been incurred for agricultural reasons. In justice to the Duke it must be remembered that he had inherited much debt from his father and even from his grandfather. This he had increased, as Lord Chandos, by large-scale borrowing against his life interest in the entailed estates. When the interest on mortgages on an entailed estate eats up the whole of the rent, then, it goes without saying, the situation of the estate is desperate. Bankruptcy may be unavoidable, and the Grenville property had almost achieved this situation when Chandos became Duke in 1839. A modern investigator has concluded that even then a prudent man might have saved the situation, but this seems doubtful, and in any case the second Duke was not a prudent man.³ However, a great day was coming and that not far ahead. It was always a great day for a spendthrift nobleman when his eldest son came of age. It was then possible, with the son's agreement, to disentail and reorganize the debts at a reasonable rate of interest on the fee simple of the disentailed property. The debts were thus funded for the long term and could steadily be reduced out of income. The son of course might not agree, but he had until that moment been a penniless schoolboy and his father might keep him in that sad state by refusing him any allowance. So the son almost always did agree. Not that the Duke had much idea of funding his debts. He merely wanted more ready money.

The Duke's son, now Lord Chandos, came of age in the autumn of 1844. There were the usual, and doubtless expensive, jollifications, ox-roasting at Buckingham and tenants' parties in the park,⁴ and as to money matters the Duke behaved for the moment in a responsible manner. Young Chandos was allowed a month's grace and then the frightful state of the family finances was divulged to him. He was offered £1,000 a year on condition he agreed to a disentailment and the placing of his father's debts on the security of the property thus freed. That is to say, he was to receive £1,000 a year for allowing his patrimony to be decreased by perhaps a million pounds, for that is what the debts now amounted to. The young man behaved with filial duty and perfect sang froid. He was ready, he said, to help his father in any way that was possible. An eminent attorney, independent of the Duke's men of business, and a Chancery barrister were appointed to see fair play for Lord Chandos, and his father perhaps, for a week or two, intended to play fair with him. If so, the idea soon faded from his mind. Very soon another large sum had been borrowed, and little of it went to the paying off of the debts. The greater part simply vanished in the usual course of extravagance. Lord Chandos' lawyers protested in a forthright manner and the Duke was furious. Never in his life, he said, had he been addressed in such terms, let alone by mere attorneys. The arrangement broke down and the Duke went on spending money. He was now long past borrowing from bankers and insurance companies and suchlike respectable sources. He had agents scurrying to and fro in London between the public houses where the bill-brokers were wont to transact their business, borrowing in small sums at 15% and even worse. But by bringing his son into the business he found himself with his back to the wall, which was not at all where he had expected to find himself. He had supposed in his thoughtless, irresponsible way that the breaking of entails would solve all his difficulties.

A new arrangement had soon to be made. Three referees, one of whom was Chandos' uncle Lord Breadalbane, were brought in to back the lawyers. Chandos' allowance was to be increased to £3,000 in the event of his marriage. The contents of all the family houses and some pieces of landed property were made over to him absolutely. The debts were now



computed at £1,100,000. But such arrangements, with a man like the Duke, were really quite useless. They had no legal sanction. The Duke took nobody into his confidence and continued to borrow secretly in London from the "40% gentry", as Lord Chandos' lawyer called the bill-brokers. Grenville family life now assumed the aspect of a melodramatic chapter in one of Trollope's *Barchester* novels, whose scenes are set in just this period of history. Things went wretchedly on for a year or two until, about New Year 1847, the creditors began to press really hard for their money. Something drastic had to be done to avoid absolute bankruptcy. Years before, when he was still Chandos himself, the Duke had been obliged to insure his life heavily with the Norwich Union Society, as extra security for the debts he had even then piled up. The Norwich Union was now asked by Chandos' advisers to take on the £1,100,000 by a mortgage on the whole of the Grenville property. Their skilled agents began to investigate and innumerable small debts in addition were brought to light, making a huge total. Soon Lord Chandos was asked to agree to the raising of another £300,000, and even that, he was told, would not be the end of the matter. Chandos refused to do this. Instead he proposed that his father should hand over to him all property absolutely, in return for which he would personally assume the entire mountain of debt. He would pay his father such allowance as could be afforded. It was the humiliation of this proposal that drove the Duke to what his brother-in-law called madness. But he was now cornered and was obliged to agree. In June 1847 he signed the paper that made him his son's pensioner.

Those who have investigated the matter at all thoroughly have not determined how the Duke managed to waste so much money.⁵ The general belief was that he had ruined himself by buying land with borrowed money, but this is certainly untrue.⁶ He did buy land, but almost always with the proceeds of sale of other land he already had. He was not, like Trollope's Duke of Omnium, eternally greedy for property.⁷ No doubt being the Farmers' Friend in his earlier days had cost him something, but he does not appear to have spent thousands on contested Parliamentary elections. He kept no racing stable. He had not the family weakness of book-buying and regarded Stowe library as so much waste paper. He had no bevy of daughters needing portions. It must be concluded he spent the greater part of his income on pure frivolities, in a luxurious and ostentatious display of sheer Dukism. Everything he did was done in the most expensive way possible. His final and greatest extravagance was his entertainment at Stowe of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in 1845.

Shortly after her marriage the Queen and her husband paid a series of visits to the greater nobility of the country, but they did not go to Stowe. The Queen disapproved of the Duke, not so much because of his extravagance as because she suspected him of marital infidelity. He was profoundly mortified, so he said, and pestered Sir Robert Peel until at last the Queen and the Prince vouchsafed him a visit of two days, on their way to Chatsworth, and for their reception and entertainment he spent tens of thousands. He stuffed the house with vast quantities of new and vulgar furniture. The whole regiment of the Buckinghamshire Yeomanry was paraded in their honour, himself appearing in uniform as colonel. There were balls and banquets for the concourse of distinguished visitors and for the tenantry. The Queen held a Court for local notables in the music room. Three regimental bands were hired to provide perpetual music. The Queen and the Prince behaved throughout the visit in a cold, disagreeable manner. They had not wished to come and were disgusted by the vain-glorious way in which they were received. Walking through the rooms the Queen remarked that she had nothing so grand as this at Windsor or in London. Entering her bedroom she recognized the carpet which had been offered to her a short time before, but which she had not bought because it was too expensive. The toilet articles on her dressing table were made of gold and encrusted with precious stones. A local visitor, who saw the room later, wondered how the maid could brush her Majesty's hair without getting it entangled in the ornaments.⁸ The same visitor believed the Duke had enjoyed himself, but the Queen certainly had not. She did however admire an Antique statue, a *Marine Venus*, nude, that stood in the niche in the music room. She also liked the state drawing room.

The State Drawing Room (now Temple house room) in c. 1910. On the right hand wall the 2nd Duke with the 3rd Duke and Duchess on either side [Plate 1]



The visit of Queen Victoria, 1845 [Plate 2]

The Duke's personal character was certainly very defective. He ruined himself and put the blame on others. Nothing was ever his own fault. His wife, his son, his daughter, his men of business had betrayed him; his son, for whom he had done everything, had swindled him out of his property. His son endured these accusations without turning a hair and was indeed a remarkable young man, as unlike his father as it is possible for a son to be. Lord Chandos' mother had been Lady Mary Campbell, daughter of the Marquis of Breadalbane. Her dowry had been small, but the Duke found out a loophole in Scottish law and extracted from her family a good deal more than they had intended to give her, and much bad blood resulted. The Duchess was a handsome, serious lady with a taste for literature, a very unlikely wife to get on well with the Duke of Buckingham. She brought up her son, who was likewise serious, in evangelical piety, and he remained through life a man of the highest moral character. He now found himself, aged twenty-three, confronted on one side by the totally unjustified malevolence of his father and on the other by a horde of anxious creditors, none of whom was personally known to him. But he was not dismayed. He had, fortunately, a good head for business and a liking for practical detail. He set briskly to work. Avington Park, Buckingham House in Pall Mall, all English property not in Buckinghamshire, the property in Ireland and the West Indies, all were sold. The great herd of deer at Stowe was dispersed and tree-felling began in a big way. But still it seemed the debts would never be paid. The creditors were too many. Those who remained were now receiving no interest and by the summer of 1848 they had no patience left. Bailiffs were put into Stowe House, and Chandos and his advisers closed round the Duke and told him they must sell the place up. Messrs. Christie and Manson were asked to conduct the sale.

Hitherto the Duke's embarrassment had been known to few, but the notice of the Stowe sale made it a cause célèbre of the first order. Special trains for purchasers were run from London to Wolverton, then the nearest railway station to Stowe. The road from Wolverton to Stowe looked for many days like the road from London to Epsom on Derby day. Lords and Ladies, hucksters and pickpockets, clergymen and spinsters of independent means thronged the state rooms. The sale lasted many weeks, some would-be purchasers camping in the park the while. Everything went, from the "Chandos" portrait of Shakespeare⁹ and the furniture

from the Doge's Palace to the poker and tongs in the housekeeper's room and the kitchen-maids' bedsteads. And when all was gone the proceeds were little enough. The Duke had supposed the contents of Stowe were worth £300,000 but they fetched £75,562 4s. 6d. Afterwards was published an interesting "souvenir" catalogue, illustrated with cuts from the *Illustrated London News* and giving wherever possible names of purchasers and prices paid. Lord Hertford added from Stowe to his vast collection of objets d'art. Queen Victoria sent an agent to buy the *Marine Venus*.¹⁰ The world was loud in its condemnation of the Duke. 1848 was the year of revolutions. All over Europe sovereigns were fleeing from their capitals but England was standing firm, all England except the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, who in ruining himself was behaving no better than a continental prince. He was a disgrace to his order, his country and his Queen, who had lately honoured him with a visit. In some such words as these the editors of the London newspapers expressed themselves. Charles Grenville also, in his cold way, noted the thing in his diary.¹¹

August 16 1848. Went on Saturday with Lord Lansdowne and Granville to Stowe: it was worth seeing, but a sorry sight; a dull, undesirable place, not without magnificence. The garden front is very stately and palatial; the house full of trash mixed with some fine things; altogether a painful monument of human vanity, folly, and, it may be added, wickedness, for wickedness it is thus recklessly to ruin a great house and wife and children.

So much for the view of the "upper ten". There was however another view, as it were from below, the view of the Stowe tenants and, very likely, of the tenants on the other estates too. In justice to the Duke this view should be given, and to give it we must introduce a new character, Elizabeth George. Miss George was the niece of a tenant farmer at Dadford, for whom she kept house. She wrote an intermittent journal from 1840 to 1847, mainly concerned with great doings at Stowe.¹² The George family had been tenants of the same farm since the time of Sir Thomas Temple in the early 17th century. They had, they believed, been copyholders there even before that, but they now regarded it as the highest honour to belong to the mighty Temple-Grenville family. The Duke's pheasants ate farmer George's seed corn but he never thought of complaining. The Duke used to bring shooting parties to luncheon at the Dadford farm and the farmer would have been chagrined to the soles of his boots if payment had been offered, which it never was. Elizabeth took a somewhat more practical view of these matters, but she too respected, and liked, the Duke.

January 30 1840. I think myself Uncle carried his delicacy too far some times, he certainly did a great injustice to himself, and it served to encourage the Duke in his wasteful and unfair preservation of game. However let that pass—no matter how great cause we might have to complain, his Grace was always so exceedingly kind and affable in his behaviour and of so noble and distinguish'd a presence that he possessed a sort of fascination that made most people forget everything at the time, except the pleasure of being in his company.

A great part of the journal is, of course, taken up with the celebrations when Lord Chandos came of age. The guests were so many that some were put out to sleep at the farms. Miss George had the Duke's cousin Sir Watkyn Williams Wynn at Dadford, and her time was taken up looking after him and his fat, idle valet, while her servants ran off to see the fireworks at the great house. So she herself saw little of the festivities, but she noted how handsome the Duke looked and how well he danced at the ball. Nor did she herself see the Queen on her visit to Stowe little more than a year later, though she noted the comments of those who were present. But after it was all over she was able to walk through the state rooms with the head housemaid, who was a friend of hers, and here she did allow herself to become censorious. The old Duke, she said, had put the house in perfect order. The rooms then were pleasantly empty and well arranged and always scented with beeswax and hothouse flowers. But now they stank of paint, varnish and new upholstery and were so crowded they looked like a London warehouse. Still, a Duke was a Duke and might do as he pleased. The journal ends with the following paragraphs—¹³

During the shooting season of 1846-47 the Duke came 4 times to lunch at our house. We had heard vague rumours of his Grace being very much in debt—but little imagined to how great an amount—we fancied that a general fall of Timber . . . would raise sufficient to clear off all incumbrances. We saw no signs of depression of spirits in the Duke—'au contraire' he talked more and seemed gayer than usual, but I have no doubt it was only assumed to hide inward anxiety . . .



The visit of Queen Victoria, 1845 [Plate 2]

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So much for the view of the "upper ten". There was however another view, as it were from below, the view of the Stowe tenants and, very likely, of the tenants on the other estates too. In justice to the Duke this view should be given, and to give it we must introduce a new character, Elizabeth George. Miss George was the niece of a tenant farmer at Dadford, for whom she kept house. She wrote an intermittent journal from 1840 to 1847, mainly concerned with great doings at Stowe.¹² The George family had been tenants of the same farm since the time of Sir Thomas Temple in the early 17th century. They had, they believed, been copyholders there even before that, but they now regarded it as the highest honour to belong to the mighty Temple-Grenville family. The Duke's pheasants ate farmer George's seed corn but he never thought of complaining. The Duke used to bring shooting parties to luncheon at the Dadford farm and the farmer would have been chagrined to the soles of his boots if payment had been offered, which it never was. Elizabeth took a somewhat more practical view of these matters, but she too respected, and liked, the Duke.

January 30 1840. I think myself Uncle carried his delicacy too far some times, he certainly did a great injustice to himself, and it served to encourage the Duke in his wasteful and unfair preservation of game. However let that pass—no matter how great cause we might have to complain, his Grace was always so exceedingly kind and affable in his behaviour and of so noble and distinguish'd a presence that he possessed a sort of fascination that made most people forget everything at the time, except the pleasure of being in his company.

A great part of the journal is, of course, taken up with the celebrations when Lord Chandos came of age. The guests were so many that some were put out to sleep at the farms. Miss George had the Duke's cousin Sir Watkyn Williams Wynn at Dadford, and her time was taken up looking after him and his fat, idle valet, while her servants ran off to see the fireworks at the great house. So she herself saw little of the festivities, but she noted how handsome the Duke looked and how well he danced at the ball. Nor did she herself see the Queen on her visit to Stowe little more than a year later, though she noted the comments of those who were present. But after it was all over she was able to walk through the state rooms with the head housemaid, who was a friend of hers, and here she did allow herself to become censorious. The old Duke, she said, had put the house in perfect order. The rooms then were pleasantly empty and well arranged and always scented with beeswax and hothouse flowers. But now they stank of paint, varnish and new upholstery and were so crowded they looked like a London warehouse. Still, a Duke was a Duke and might do as he pleased. The journal ends with the following paragraphs—¹³

During the shooting season of 1846-47 the Duke came 4 times to lunch at our house. We had heard vague rumours of his Grace being very much in debt—but little imagined to how great an amount—we fancied that a general fall of Timber . . . would raise sufficient to clear off all incumbrances. We saw no signs of depression of spirits in the Duke—'au contraire' he talked more and seemed gayer than usual, but I have no doubt it was only assumed to hide inward anxiety . . .

Suddenly the news came that he had been obliged to leave and had travelled all night in his carriage. Some said one thing was the cause others another cause. Parker the Keeper told Uncle that the real cause was an execution had been put upon all the Duke's property, and he did not believe he would have a dish or a spoon of his own left . . . People in the neighbourhood could scarcely believe that matters were so bad—for the Tradesmen and work people had been regularly paid.

It was to the great money lending firms that the Duke was chiefly indebted—to them he had mortgaged his estates to such an extent that the interest swallowed up the Rents. The system of mortgaging commenced when he was a young man at college¹⁴—money then being almost forced upon him by few money lenders at a high rate, which they did not want him to repay then known (sic) they had all the great landed property as security . . . It was publicly stated in many newspapers after the execution had been served that the Duke of Buckingham enjoyed the unenviable distinction of being the greatest Debtor in the World.

It was proved that he was upwards of £1,000,000 involved at the time of the Queen's visit. Of course he was deeply condemned by some, and pitied by others. Those who were most inveterate against him being parties who had been raised by his bounty and had gotten a fortune under him.

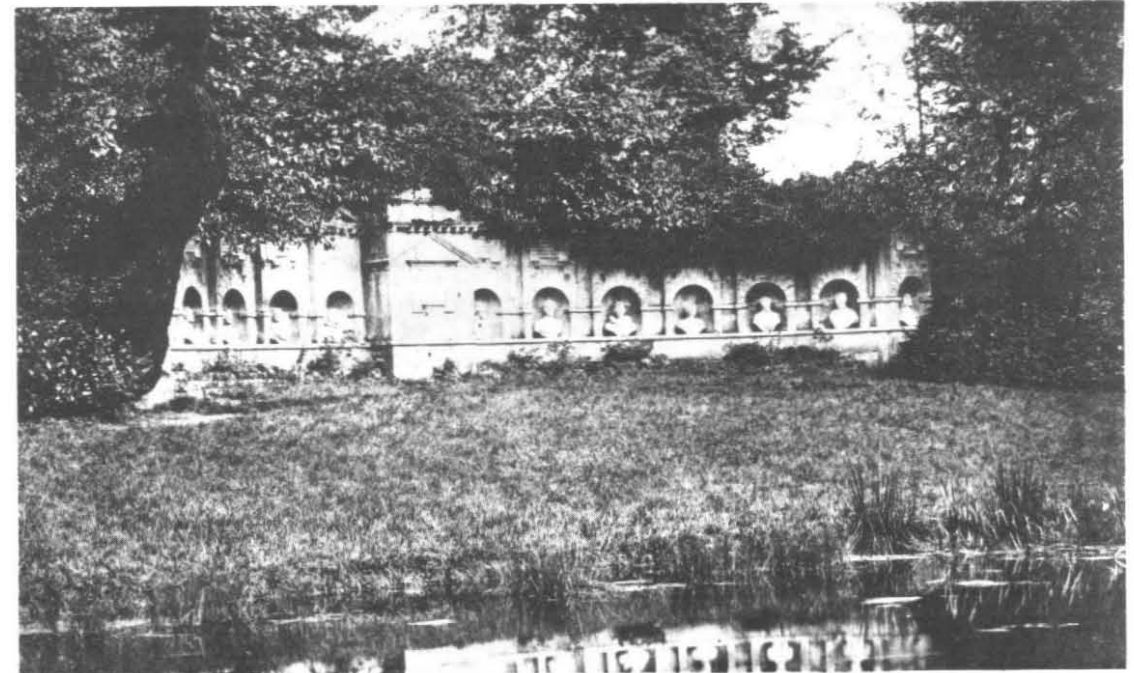
If all had been known, most people would have felt sorry for the Duke—no doubt he had long suffered the deepest anxiety knowing that an exposure was inevitable.

We were told that his black hair and beard turned quite white in 2 or 3 days after he left the Park so suddenly.

So the view of Elizabeth George was notably different from that of Charles Greville. It may, however, be doubted if the Duke's beard really went white on his way up to London. He established himself in semi-retirement, not telling his wife where he was but none the less demanding that she should join him. He was supposed to be writing his memoirs, and a series of volumes, with his name on the title pages, did appear before his death. But, as we saw in the last chapter, he was not really the author.¹⁵ He entertained himself with the company of ladies, if ladies is the right name to give them. The Duchess meanwhile was marooned at Wotton, without horse or carriage. Bailiffs had seized her jewels and had almost torn the clothes off her back. In due course she heard of her husband's connection with a certain Mrs Parrot and she completed his disgrace before the world by bringing a crim. con. suit. She was legally separated from him in 1860 and he died the following year. He was staying at the time at the Great Western hotel at Paddington and heaven alone knows what he was doing there. A sad enough place for a ducal deathbed.

At his father's death in 1861 Lord Chandos, now third and last Duke, was at last relieved of debt by the falling in of his father's life insurance. The transition from the penultimate to the ultimate generations of Grenville dukes was abrupt and startling, but quite in accord with the spirit of the time. The second Duke was born into an age when few questioned the right of a rich young nobleman to be extravagant and selfish. Things had changed very much by the time his son came of age. Wilberforce had done his work and the son was taught by his mother to regard God always first and family pride only second. The Evangelical movement was no doubt important, but so were trade and manufacture. The real turning point was the repeal of the corn laws in 1846 by the pious, upright Peel.¹⁶ Free trade liberated the energies of the nation. Landowner, labourer and manufacturer alike came to know that if they worked hard and saved their money, which was made of gold in those days, they would do well. Wastefulness now appeared silly, and indeed wrong. This must have been rather a trying age for fathers, when their sons were so much more pious and steady than they had been themselves, and the contrast in the Grenville family was unusually vivid. The second Duke had been a man of parts, but he was likewise a buck, and a rake. By the time he died he was a total anachronism. The third Duke, if not absolutely an eminent Victorian, was an excellent example of his class. It would be a monstrous slur on his mother's reputation to say that he was no child of his father. He was, however, a typical child of his time. He continued his blameless and useful life, fulfilling with distinction various public employments.

The third Duke died in 1889, leaving daughters only, and consequently the Dukedom, the two Marquises and the Temple Earldom were extinguished. The Cobham Viscountancy now at last went, by the special remainder of 1718, to the Lyttelton family, where it remains. All that was left to the Grenvilles was the Barony of Kinloss. The third Duke found he had a claim to this abeyant peerage. It was heritable by females and he was able to call it out for his eldest daughter. Lady Mary Grenville, later Lady Kinloss, married in 1884 Louis



The British Worthies in c. 1890, neglected and overgrown [Plate 3]

Ferdinand Morgan, Esq., who assumed the arms and additional surname of Grenville. There is one more peerage to be accounted for, Earl Temple of Stowe. The first Duke, while he was yet Lord Buckingham, began to worry because he had but two grandchildren, fearing that by the failure of the male line his posterity would be left with no peerage at all. So with his Dukedom and the Chandos Marquisate in 1822 he asked, and was granted, a second Earldom, to be called Earl Temple of Stowe, with remainder to his granddaughter Lady Anne Grenville. She was in 1846 married to W. H. Powell Gore-Langton, Esq., and accordingly at the death of her brother the third Duke without male issue the title went to the Gore-Langton family, who have it still.

After the second Duke's sudden departure Stowe remained empty and neglected for some time,¹⁷ and though the third Duke made great efforts to refurnish the house and get the estate in good order again, Stowe was finally let to the Comte de Paris, soi-disant King of France, who died there in 1894. Then at last Lady Kinloss returned with her family to live there. But alas, we have now arrived in the age of world wars and high taxation. Lady Kinloss' eldest son was killed in action in 1914. Her second son, it seems, took little interest in Stowe, and it may be thought that she now lost heart and anyway could not afford to go on. A second dispersal of furniture took place in 1921,¹⁸ and the house and remaining land were put up for sale in 1922. Taxation at last did what even the second Duke's extravagance had not done. This was Stowe's nadir. The house was like to have been pulled down, but at the eleventh hour it was bought to become a boys' public school,¹⁹ and since that moment progress has again been upward.

Stowe has now been a school for over fifty years and is flourishing again in a way quite worthy of the great days of Lord Cobham and Lord Temple. If anyone doubts this, let him come to the place in term time, observe the work of the school, then walk round the grounds, view the maintenance of the landscape and the garden buildings, and judge for himself.

M. J. Gibbon

THE END

Acknowledgments

Once again, and now for the last time, I thank the Huntington Library for allowing me to use material from the Stowe papers in their keeping.

I am most grateful to Mrs. Sylvia Bartlett, the owner of the journal of Elizabeth George, for allowing me to quote from this most useful document, and to Commander The Hon. John Fremantle for allowing me to use a photograph from his family archives.

Plate 1, R. and H. Chapman; plate 2, *Illustrated London News*, 1845; Plate 3, Fremantle Archives.

Notes

1. Drawings, plans, etc. by Edward Blore for work at Stowe 1839/44, in the Huntington Library. Edward Blore (1787-1879), a prolific architect, built Abbotsford for Sir Walter Scott, "special architect" for William IV and Victoria at Buckingham Palace, a vigorous and somewhat destructive restorer of parish churches.
2. See Chapter XXV; also Thomas Doubleday, *The Political Life of Sir Robert Peel*, Smith Elder & Co. 1856, Vol. II, Chapter VII.
3. F. M. L. Thompson, "The End of a Great Estate," *Economic History Review*, second series, Vol. LXXIV, 1955, pp. 36-52.
4. *Illustrated London News*, September 14th, 1844.
5. See Thompson, op. cit.; David and Eileen Spring, "The Fall of the Grenvilles, 1844-48", *Huntington Library Quarterly*, Vol. XIX, No. 2, February 1956, pp. 165-190; David Spring, "Lord Chandos and the Farmers, 1818-1846", *Huntington Library Quarterly*, Vol. XXXIII, No. 3, May 1970, pp. 257-281.
6. Expressed in *The Annual Register for the Year 1861*, Rivington 1862, pp. 408-410.
7. Anthony Trollope, *Framley Parsonage*, published in the Cornhill Magazine 1860.
8. Elizabeth George. A considerable extract from her unpublished journal was printed in *A Stowe Miscellany*, May 1973.
9. Henry Rumsey Foster, *The Stowe Catalogue*, David Bogue, London 1848, p. 187. The portrait is now in the National Gallery.
10. Foster, op. cit., p. 44. For an account of the sale, see Paul Whitfield, "Bankruptcy and Sale at Stowe, 1848", *Apollo*, June 1973.
11. *The Greville Memoirs*, ed. Henry Reeve, Longmans Green 1888, Vol. VI, p. 222.
12. Elizabeth George, op. cit.
13. Here slightly shortened.
14. Oriël, Oxford. He took no degree.
15. See Chapter XXV, note 2(c).
16. The Duke of Buckingham tried to hold up the repeal, from the House of Lords, by another "Chandos Amendment", but was unsuccessful. See *The Times*, June 17th, 1846.
17. Not totally neglected. In 1864 the third Duke had a gasworks set up, on the site now occupied by the school swimming pavilion. Plan and elevation are in the Huntington Library, a chaste Neo-classic facade with the chimney rising behind the pediment as if it were the spire of an 18th century church. See G. B. Clarke, "The Ducal Gas Works", in *A Stowe Miscellany*, May 1973.
18. *Stowe, near Buckingham. The Ducal estate and contents of the Mansion*. Sale catalogue issued by the auctioneers, Messrs. Jackson Stops, July 1921.
19. Girls' too now.

SPORT

RUGBY FOOTBALL

HOUSE MATCHES

Senior

All the matches in this year's competition were played in adverse conditions—wet for the first round, wet and very cold for the later rounds, the final itself having to be postponed because of frozen pitches. As a result there was little chance for classic rugby to develop, most games being won or lost on the thoroughness with which basic skills were applied. Cobham, with a side which contained nine members of the '50', were given a hard fight by Bruce but controlled their semi-final with Chatham quite capably. Temple's strength lay in their vigorous 1st XV back row and a pair of kicking half-backs and they won their earlier rounds comfortably enough.

The final showed that the Cobham pack was well drilled and had far more expertise than the opposition, especially in the front five; consequently Temple gained little possession, were never able to play to their strength and their back row were rarely able to put any pressure on the Cobham halves and backs. In Bourn's absence Bradley-Williams proved a capable makeshift scrum-half and Tomlin controlled much of the play with a cool competence. Over the first two-thirds of the game especially, Cobham won the ball from most set-pieces and the loose; Temple were frequently penalised for offside, partly because they were so often on the retreat, and for the same reason Douglas could make little of his possession at the base of the scrum. Tomlin set his line moving well, Salour penetrated dangerously and Harris proved difficult to hold on the wing. Although Park scored a try for Temple with an opportunist hack on of a loose ball, Cobham ran out convincing winners, thanks to tries by Salour and Harris, converted by Tomlin, who also kicked a penalty goal, and thus retained the Cup.

Teams: Cobham; J. G. J. Scott; N. B. Harris, N. G. M. Salour, N. P. Wigmore, T. R. Richardson, ma.; M. A. N. Tomlin, T. S. Bradley-Williams (C. D. Bourn); R. G. Simpson (Capt.), P. T. James, M. L. W. Bell, mi.; A. H. Shekell, H. G. Robertson; N. E. Ancsell, A. C. M. Low, J. D. Boldero.

Temple: I. L. Park; H. M. Lloyd, ma., P. S. Marsh, N. M. Bartlett, N. G. B. Sheldon; C. J. Rowntree, C. P. M. Douglas; C. F. Roxburgh, J. J. Flood, A. R. Bird; C. St. J. Dickson, N. J. C. Harkness; D. H. M. Williams-Ellis (Capt.), D. K. Mumby, J. A. Barratt.

Temple	}	Temple 13—4	}	Temple 14—4	}	Cobham 15—4
Grenville						
Grafton	}	Grafton 6—3				
Walpole						
Chatham	}	Chatham 25—0				
Lyttelton						
Bruce	}	Cobham 12—0	}	Cobham 12—3		
Cobham						
Chandos	}	Cobham 30—3				

Junior

The Junior Competition produced four competent sides in Grafton, Chandos, Bruce and Cobham, and some hard fought encounters. Cobham ran Grafton close in the first round, but Lyttelton's tackling was not strong enough to hold Grafton in the semi-final. Chandos scored heavily in their first two matches but met sterner opposition in Bruce when the game was settled by a solitary penalty goal in difficult conditions.

The final was well won by Grafton who had a useful combination of physical strength and skills in their side. Chandos held on grimly while playing into a strong wind during the first half and half-time arrived with no score. However, in the second half Grafton tightened up their play and capitalised on two defensive lapses, O'Brien and Henri scoring tries and Berger converting one of them. Chandos failed to take advantage of the conditions and until the closing minutes never threatened to cut Grafton's lead. Thus Grafton gained their revenge for the 1975 final.

Teams: Grafton: J. T. Arnold, mi.; J. H. Bennett, M. M. Berger, H. J. N. English, N. C. C. Clay; J. Markham, J. D. Rees; R. A. J. Weatherbe, M. A. Henri, A. F. Fulford; J. M. Zoghbi, S. J. E. Smith; N. J. Walley, R. G. Watts, T. W. P. O'Brien (Capt.)

Chandos: A. R. J. MacKinnon; J. R. Dew, J. C. Hammond, W. J. N. Edgerley, R. T. E. Orr; R. R. Montgomery, mi. (Capt.), H. J. Marriott, ma.; J. E. Hughes Clarke, J. J. Hogan, A. T. Thornton-Berry; S. V. Wylie, R. M. Coombes; A. F. Savage, A. R. Boyce, M. A. J. Salmon.

Grafton	}	Grafton 8—7	}	Grafton 18—4	}	Grafton 10—0
Cobham						
Lyttelton	}	Lyttelton 32—0	}	Chandos 3—0	}	
Walpole						
Chatham	}	Bruce 45—0	}		}	
Bruce						
Grenville	}	Chandos 39—0	}		}	
Temple						
Chandos		Chandos 24—0				

B. H. Mead

SEVENS

After much discussion as to who was available and who wasn't a side that was almost representative of the full school strength prepared initially to defend the county title and then to challenge for higher honours in the National tournament.

The county is not renowned for its organisational powers and thus although disappointing it was no surprise that the event was cancelled due to their inability to find pitches that weren't under water. This was a bigger blow to the many juniors who had prepared diligently for this one chance than for the seniors who a week later met at the "Antoinette" in Kingston ready to do battle at Rosslyn Park.

Luck plays a large part in these "mini matches" and it was more by misfortune than anything else that the team outscored a good Ellesmere team two tries to one only to lose 9-8. The side bounced back to defeat Colfe's 42-0 only to throw it all away with their worst performance of the Festival losing 6-4 to Taunton. Some respect was regained in the "dead" tie with Wimbledon which the School won by 36-4.

The draw for the Open tournament had not been kind but in the opening match against a very rough and tough team of Dubliners the side fought magnificently to beat them 6-4 and then went out by the same score to Wymondham, who scored in the last minute of the game.

The side ably led by R. T. Lewis, performed very well but lacked firepower in certain positions. One can't leave the National tournament without adding Stowe's congratulations to Ampleforth who became the first school ever to win both the Open and Festival tournaments in the same year, a magnificent achievement.

Hope for the future came in the form of a Junior Colts Seven that performed ably at Oxford in a Colts section gaining valuable experience for the same event next year.

J. J. L. Bone

Senior Team at the Nationals: R. T. Lewis (1) (Capt.), M. B. A. Cliff-Hodges (8), A. Falcon (6), A. I. Swan (3), N. G. M. Salour (5), J. W. Green (8).

1ST XV RUGBY FIXTURES 1977

Sun.	18 Sept.	v. An Invitation XI	Home
Sat.	24 Sept.	v. Old Stoics	Home
Tues.	27 Sept.	v. Eton	Away
Sat.	1 Oct.	v. Mill Hill	Away
Sat.	8 Oct.	v. Oakham	Home
Tues.	11 Oct.	v. Radley	Away
Sat.	15 Oct.	v. Bedford	Home
Sat.	22 Oct.	v. Rugby	Home
Sat.	12 Nov.	v. Royal Latin School	Home
Sat.	19 Nov.	v. Oundle	Away
Sat.	26 Nov.	v. Cheltenham	Home
Thurs.	1 Dec.	v. St Edward's Oxford	Home

HOCKEY THE FIRST XI

These annual reports are beginning to become increasingly repetitive. The 1977 season was in many ways typical of those that have been experienced in recent years. We muddled along, playing a few games, cancelling a great many, hardly ever being able to practise properly and struggling to devise interesting and challenging training routines on the tennis courts and in the gymnasium.

The proposed all-weather playing surface was first mooted in 1964. At this time the cost would have been in the region of £6,000 to £8,000. Since that time things have drifted along being thwarted at every turn by "landscape committees" and being upstaged by other more "pressing" needs. In the last ten years the squash courts have been repaired several times, the tennis courts updated and resurfaced at enormous cost, the minor sport of swimming has been blessed by a £100,000 pool, and the fives courts have been completely re-roofed but hockey, the only major school game of all these, has not received one penny piece of financial aid. Recent seasons have been devastated by wet weather and we will continue to pay the price for this as in the years that lie ahead boys woefully short of match practice, training and coaching, represent the school at 1st and 2nd XI and Colts level. Unless something is done quickly I seriously doubt whether hockey will survive as a major game at Stowe.

Almost all our rivals have all-weather pitches and we will gradually find it harder and harder to avoid suffering a series of humiliating defeats. "Easier" fixtures will have to be arranged and the Easter term will rapidly dissolve into a hotchpotch of cross-country runs and rugby seven-a-sides with some vague voluntary hockey being played in a distant corner of the

Bourbon field during March. An all-weather surface is not a pleasant luxury which it would be "nice to have". It is a basic and urgent necessity and one which the school must obtain if we wish to continue playing hockey.

However, it must be recorded that in spite of the author's pessimism the 1977 season will be remembered as a thoroughly enjoyable one. There have been more skilful teams at Stowe. There have been more successful ones, but there has rarely been a more enthusiastic outfit.

Serious practice was possible on grass for the first time on March 4th (the season ended on the 12th) but the 1st XI never complained and always worked cheerfully and to the very best of their ability whether we were in the hired hall of Bicester Sports Centre, the tennis courts, a snowy corner of the golf course or the "conditioning room" at the Stantonbury complex.

David Carr, the captain, deserves enormous credit. He managed his team well, and in the quietest possible way, encouraged them to play for each other and to go on trying until the final whistle. He worked hard himself, and on several occasions played most skilfully. The team responded to his example. Kelway in goal is a highly competitive and competent player, and saved his side more than once. He thoroughly earned his appearance at the Schoolboys' final trial and is to be congratulated on his selection to tour with the Dragons in Canada. The team's full backs Macquaker and Chapman were two uncompromising players and although they made mistakes they covered and tackled valiantly. No team is ever any better than its half back line, and this was amply illustrated by Ward, Montgomery and Marsh. They all had their moments, but as a unit they lacked the sort of authority that could have made the team a very good one.

As with many sides our forwards pressed hard, looked dangerous on the break, but all too often failed in the all important task of putting the ball in the net. Horlock and Holmes took several good chances, but Bannister, although he ran tirelessly in midfield, lost his scoring touch until the last game.

The matches against other schools produced a set of uninspiring results. Wellington and St Edward's, Oxford beat us soundly, and on merit, but the other losses against Mill Hill and Oundle were most disappointing. We outplayed both, had 98% of each game but contrived to lose. The name of the game is 'goals'—they scored and we missed countless chances, so there can be no excuses or complaints.

Let us hope that Stowe teams in future years learn the lessons of 1977. Players who can score goals are worth their weight in gold. Style counts for nothing—it is "how many", not "how" that matters. There is a very great deal to be done both to prevent further decline in our hockey playing reputation, and to start achieving the sort of results of which a school the size of Stowe should be capable.

J. S. M. Morris

Team: G. D. G. Carr (6) (Captain), S. D. Kelway (1), N. R. Chapman (9), J. H. S. Macquaker, (3), A. P. Ward (8), C. D. Montgomery, ma. (4), P. S. Marsh (2), S. A. V. Holmes, ma. (9), M. A. N. Tomlin (5), N. W. A. Bannister, ma. (9), D. C. W. Horlock, ma. (8).

Also Played: C. P. M. Douglas (2), M. J. F. Moffatt, ma. (7).

Results:

v. Oundle	Lost	0—1
v. Oxford Bulls	Cancelled	
v. Dean Close	Won	4—2
v. Bradfield	Cancelled	
v. Cambridge University Wanderers	Cancelled	
v. Bedford	Cancelled	
v. Aldenham	Won	2—0
v. Radley	Won	3—1
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Drawn	1—1
v. Wellington	Lost	1—3
v. Pangbourne	Won	3—1
v. St Edward's	Lost	0—2
v. Mill Hill	Lost	1—2
v. Old Stoics	Won	2—1

THE SECOND XI

The results of this 2nd XI have been a fair reflection of the competence of the team. This is by no means always the case; a good side can be desperately unlucky and a poor side can be surprisingly fortunate. However, the ball bounced as much in our favour as against it throughout the term. In all competitive sport, what matters is having the ability to use the lucky breaks when they come to one's own advantage and to be able to cope with the unlucky events in one's stride. Most boys will play above themselves when everything is going their way, but will show too little resolution and application when up against a well organized and aggressive opposition. This was illustrated, to our cost, in two matches; against Wellington and St Edward's, Oxford. In both matches we were capable of fighting back and scoring well earned goals, but incapable of sustaining the pressure and playing on the weaknesses of the other side. The business of hard graft and concentration is often not the enjoyable part of sport, but it is the only means to gain the spoils and feel that special satisfaction of winning. The practice and preparation for matches should be a delight, although perhaps painful if players are unfit, but the matches themselves should be played in earnest if a win is to be secured.

The side was ably captained by Graham, whose own standard of hockey was sufficiently good to earn a place in most school's 1st XI, except that this year the competition was particularly strong. Our personnel in defence changed during the term when Macquaker moved to the 1st XI and we gained Moffatt, who was solid and direct in his play. Burton was effective and prepared to take the ball up into attack. The half-back line hinged on Allport whose game continued to improve to a very good standard. Lewis was certainly aggressive and positive, but sometimes to everyone's disadvantage in his uncontrolled tackling. James was methodical and dependable for the most part, but lacked the necessary pace in marking a fast wing. The most penetrating forward was Salour whose speed and determination were an encouragement to the others. The wings, Hornor and Douglas were full of potential but used too little and the inside forwards, Bottari and Clarke worked selflessly but often the final vital pass in an attack was misdirected. Clarke was as effective as Salour in getting the final shot in the goal.

Thanks go to Hartley, Chetwynd and Hayward who played in two or three games and made a worthy contribution.

J. M. Larcombe

Team: W. M. Graham* (Captain) (1), R. A. Burton* (7), M. J. F. Moffatt, ma. (7), R. T. Lewis* (1), S. W. Allport (1), P. T. James (5), P. R. G. Hornor (6), A. T. Clarke* (1), N. G. M. Salour* (5), E. D. Bottari* (5), C. P. M. Douglas* (2).

* Colours.

Results:

v. Oundle	Home	Won	2—1
v. Dean Close	Away	Won	2—1
v. Bradfield	Home	Cancelled	
v. Aldenham	Away	Drawn	1—1
v. Radley	Away	Won	3—1
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Home	Won	4—0
v. Wellington	Home	Lost	1—3
v. Pangbourne	Home	Won	2—1
v. St Edward's, Oxford	Away	Lost	1—2
v. Mill Hill	Away	Won	5—0
v. Old Stoics	Home	Won	4—0

THE SIXTY

The Sixty Hockey Club once again made up with enthusiasm what it lacked in skill and had a successful season. The weather was unkind at the start of term and we lost much valuable practice time. That all-weather surface will be so useful when we get it! The Third XI however began to show its paces and although we could only draw with Oundle we managed

to trounce Dean Close by three goals to one. We then had a three week break from matches and sadly went down to Radley by a goal scored in the last two minutes of the game after a match which we had dominated territorially. This lack of scoring expertise was typical of the team's play in most of their matches except when they met M.C.S. Oxford where we won by an embarrassing 10 goals to nil, Hartley, who had joined us from the 2nds, scoring four of the goals. The last two matches of the term against St Edward's and Mill Hill were both won by convincing margins.

Notable players during the season included Andrew Clarke at inside left whose skilful stick work should have led to more goals. The remaining forward line of Ben Few Brown, Jim Lineham, James Ritchie and James Hartley all ran hard and showed developing skill. The half-back line of Alex Serre, Jonathan Boldero and Paul Wigmore were sound but need to develop their distributive skills. The backs which included Andy Alder, Dave Thomas and Nigel Wright controlled most attacks and look good for the future. In goal, 'the find of the season', Rob Phinney kept with consummate skill and next season should see him 'elevated to the peerage'!

J. B. Dobinson

Third XI chosen from: A. N. Alder (5), J. D. Boldero (5), R. D. J. C. Chetwynd (8), A. T. Clarke (1), B. G. Few Brown (7), E. R. Freeman (4), J. Hartley, ma. (6), A. S. B. Hayward (3), J. J. Lineham (1), R. T. Phinney (4), J. W. M. Ritchie (9), A. J. Rossdale (9), A. W. Serre (4), D. F. C. Thomas (6), N. P. Wigmore (5), N. D. Wright (2).

4th XI picked from: D. C. Guest (1), F. D. G. Mezulanik (7), N. J. Benthall (7), A. E. H. Worsley (7), A. C. Roxburgh, ma. (8), E. St J. Hall (8), C. B. Calkin, ma. (9), J. W. H. Cave, mi. (6), N. E. Luddington (6), D. A. Eaton (5), C. S. G. Bagnall (3), M. A. Rietberg (3).

Results: Played 6; Won 4; Drawn 1; Lost 1; Goals for 19; Against 4.

v. Oundle	Home	Drawn	1—1
v. Dean Close	Away	Won	3—1
v. Radley	Away	Lost	0—1
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Home	Won	10—0
v. St Edward's	Away	Won	2—1
v. Mill Hill	Away	Won	3—0

THE COLTS

The promising standard of play that developed in the Club was not altogether reflected in match results. Every member of the two teams that have represented the School put a lot of work into the restricted hockey programme and a heartening team spirit prevailed throughout.

The real disappointment was the lack of goals. In every match the team as a whole created more scoring chances than their opponents but only 2 wins and 4 draws resulted in 8 games.

However, the general attitude and developing skills of all players, together with the strength of the 'B' Club, bodes well for future senior sides. Of particular note, Moore, with face mask, has kept goal fearlessly and effectively, and, apart from only very occasional slips, Maynard and Lloyd have looked as strong a full-back combination as any seen at Colts level. The contrast of surfaces the team has played on this season has not always been to the liking of the half-backs, but O'Brien and Peacock are strong tacklers and Highwood's reach often helped to dominate the midfield—especially against Wellington. The forwards, on occasions, combined superbly but unfortunately their performances were not consistent and the wingers saw too little of the ball. Nonetheless, Horlock at centre forward scored several good goals—he is quick and direct and should score many more in the future. Holland adapted himself well to his new position at inside left and Gregson-Williams must have worked harder than anyone at inside right. Andrews showed fine stick work on many occasions and, had he seen more of the ball, might well have given the whole forward line more 'bite'. Koska too could have been used with more effect, for he centres strongly from the right wing.

C. J. G. Atkinson

Team: R. B. de A. Moore (5), T. S. Maynard (6), C. R. Lloyd (2), C. H. Peacock (9), C. T. Highwood (Capt.) (1), P. D. O'Brien (7), M. A. Koska (1), H. D. Gregson-Williams (6), M. J. P. Horlock, mi. (8), A. J. Holland, ma. (1), S. C. Andrews.

Also Played: H. J. Marriott, ma. (4).

THE JUNIOR COLTS

Despite the inclemency of the weather which allowed very few practice days, particularly in the early part of the season, a general keenness and willingness to listen and practise produced an enjoyable and largely successful season. Nobody had very much hockey but one feels particularly sorry for those with little or no previous experience who were prevented from progressing as their abilities suggested they might.

The 'A' team played well enough to win all but one match. It was a pity that they chose St Edward's for their solitary lacklustre performance. True, St Edward's were the best opposition encountered, but a lack of control and real determination in the opposition circle combined with two elementary defensive errors resulted in a needless loss. In other matches the defence was never really under pressure and the forwards, well supported by the halves, were able to play some most attractive and productive hockey.

In goal, Thomas, though very much part of the team, was rarely tested. In a less strong team I think that he would have proved his worth more forcibly. Wadsworth and de Chambure are strong full-backs with a good eye. Their hitting was most valuable but they need more practice under pressure. Gull, who set a splendid example as captain, started the season at full-back where he is a most cool and consistent player, but his speed and perseverance were employed more effectively at right-half in later matches. At centre-half, Winstone-Partridge played with increasing effectiveness in an unobtrusive way. His positional sense, interception and distribution were first class: he just needs to develop his hitting to become a really good player. With his determination and speed of recovery, Scott completed a powerful half-back line.

The forwards worked intelligently together and with an excellent supply of ball were able to score a large number of goals. Barker's strong and purposeful running in the middle was most effective and if he can only improve his shooting he could become a most valuable centre forward. Inside forwards Roxburgh and MacKinnon although by no means quick, played intelligently, distributed the ball well and were valuable goal scorers too, and wingers Furlonger and Boyce contributed much in their contrasting styles. Boyce on the right works immensely hard, picks up the ball magnificently and uses it perceptively. On the left, the cack-handed Furlonger often surprises everybody with his pace and unexpected reverse-stick centres.

It was an excellent team performance and it was a delight to see them growing in confidence and skill. They should remember, though, that there are a large number of boys in the wings waiting to seize their opportunity should they falter. The reserves of talent in the Club were most reassuring and many of those who did not make the 'A' XI or even the 'B' XI this season could well be staking their claim for recognition next year.

P. R. Bowden

Team: J. R. L. Thomas (9), G. F. de Chambure (5), C. A. Wadsworth (9), M. C. J. Gull (1) (Capt.), N. S. Winstone-Partridge (1), J. G. J. Scott (5), A. R. Boyce (4), A. M. Roxburgh, mi. (8), M. Barker (9), A. R. J. MacKinnon (4), S. A. Furlonger (3).

Also Played: J. Markham (7), T. M. Holland, mi. (1), W. J. N. Edgerley (4).

In addition to some of the above, the following played for the 'B' XI: E. J. L. Donne (9), A. C. Bird, mi. (9), M. C. Turner (1), J. D. Beck (7), D. P. Jensen (2), C. A. I. Clarke (5), J. H. Bennett (7), A. J. Cattle, ma. (9), R. W. Beckford, ma. (1), A. M. Gale (5).

Results:

v. Dean Close	Home	'A' XI	Won 5—3	'B' XI	
v. Bradfield	Away		Cancelled		
v. Bedford	Away		Cancelled		
v. Aldenham	Home		Won 2—0		Won 7—1
v. Radley	Home		Cancelled		Cancelled
v. Oundle	Away		Won 1—0		Cancelled
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Home		Won 7—0		
v. Pangbourne	Away		Won 5—0		
v. St Edward's	Home		Lost 0—2		Won 6—0
v. Mill Hill	Home		Won 5—0		

THE UNDER 14 XI

This was a most disappointing season from every angle, but particularly on account of the present lack of facilities for playing hockey in periods of consistently wet weather. A large proportion of the boys coming to Stowe seem not to have played hockey in their preparatory schools, and so a lot of time has to be spent starting from scratch, and this was not possible this year, and was reflected in a series of rather indifferent performances which in no way indicate the potentiality of those who played in the team. There are some promising players at this level, and in a normal term I am certain that the results they were capable of achieving would have been at least nearly as good as in previous seasons, although the illness suffered by one or two of the boys was an additional problem to try to surmount.

Folland played well in goal, but was prone to commit himself too early. Marriott, mi. became a tower of strength at full back and with Taylor, J. K. sometimes in good form they were a difficult pair to beat. Allen, W. at centre half shows good potential, but at present is a little slow on the turn, but it is clear he will get better and better as time goes by. Burgess and Lockhart-Smith, and later Carroll, mi. played wing halves, and showed promise, and will benefit from experience. Amongst the forwards, Herbert showed himself to be a thrustful centre forward, Keith and Cherry were clever and linked well with each other, while Bayntun, Emery, Opperman, Garnett, mi. and Holmes all had spells in the team and improved considerably as the term progressed.

In summary one is left wondering what sort of a season they would have had if the weather had been kinder, and more opportunity had been available to concentrate on the basic skills—perhaps there will be an all weather surface at Stowe by next season!

P. G. Longhurst

Results: v. Dean Close U.15 'A'	Home	Lost 1—3
v. Bedford	Away	Cancelled
v. Bradfield	Away	Cancelled
v. Aldenham	Away	Lost 1—2
v. Radley	Away	Drawn 1—1
v. R.G.S. High Wycombe	Home	Cancelled
v. Bloxham	Home	Cancelled
v. M.C.S.	Home	Drawn 0—0
v. Pangbourne	Away	Lost 0—3
v. St Edward's	Home	Lost 1—2
v. Dragon School	Home	Drawn 2—2

CRICKET

THE FIRST XI

Early season practices and matches were severely limited by unseasonal wintery conditions. After a drawn match with Buckingham C.C., in which Few Brown took 7 wickets and Carr scored 52 not out, all looked set for a good season. But, during the following two weeks, four matches against Cirencester, Mill Hill, Dean Close and St Edward's were cancelled. However, frustration was turned to excitement in the next few matches.

At Bradfield fortunes fluctuated throughout the day. A slow but solid start of 30 by the Bradfield openers was followed by a collapse to 85 for 9—Thomas taking 6 for 19. Only a 17 run last wicket partnership saved them from certain defeat. Stowe's first three wickets then fell for only 11 runs but Carr and Rowntree restored the balance for a time until another four wickets fell with only three runs added. Lewis together with Worsley and then Few Brown gradually pulled the game round once more, and, in the last over, eight runs were required for victory. Only three runs were possible and, in the event, both sides were content to get away with a draw.

Some fine catches and ground fielding restricted a strong Authentics side to 152. But our batsmen, apart from Thomas 54 and Rowntree 26, found the going just too hard and we were all out with only six runs to go.

The re-arranged match with Mill Hill was another "cliff hanger". Our declared total of 192 for 8 (Worsley 64, Carr 33) at half time was a sporting challenge which was readily accepted by the opposition. Their first wicket fell at 118, and, at 155 for 2 and their leading batsman on 101, our backs were very much against the wall. However, a fine run out put an end to their century-maker and five more wickets fell in quick succession. With everyone "clinging on", the game ended in a draw with only seven runs separating the two sides.

On Speech Day, Allport scored 90 out of Stowe's 206 for 7 declared and in reply the Templars, having looked dangerous at 146 for 4, collapsed to 174 all out—Few Brown taking 5 for 51.

The Radley match was a disaster and the less said the better. A degree of over-confidence led to a lack of concentration with inevitable results. However, the lesson was well learnt and our next opponents, Bedford, suffered as a result.

This match was an extraordinary affair. Bedford were dismissed for 133 and their last man out was an opening batsman who scored 102. All our bowlers were in the wickets and Rowntree, particularly, enjoyed a purple patch of 3 overs, 3 maidens, 3 wickets, 0 runs! This performance was followed by a fine opening stand of 94—both Thomas and Allport scoring fifties. Carr rubbed it all in with a swift 20 and a nine-wicket win was a most heartening recovery after the Radley nonsense.

In a rain-spoilt contest with Oakham, the only excitements were three competent innings by Thomas (43), Carr (34) and Kelway (28 not out) and the use of nine Stowe bowlers including Allport 1 over for 1 run, Lewis 1 maiden! Douglas 1 over, 1 six, 1 retired hurt!

Perhaps the most outstanding feature of the 1st XI this year has been the high standard of fielding. Not only has this been responsible for the saving of many runs, the taking of several excellent catches and some spectacular run outs, but also the building of a team spirit and enjoyment for the game that has not been witnessed at Stowe before. In future seasons it may well be that we will look back at David Carr's team of 1977 as the model from which subsequent sides took their example.

A follow-up report will appear in the next edition of *The Stoic*. In the meantime, the 1st XI looks forward to completing an enjoyable and successful season with matches against Oundle and the M.C.C. and, in the Festival, Wellington, The Leys and Dean Close.

This has been the most enjoyable season in my seven years in charge of the 1st XI. Thank you to:

G. D. G. Carr (Capt.) (6), S. D. Kelway (Vice-Capt.) (1), D. F. C. Thomas (6), B. G. Few Brown (7), S. W. Allport (1), N. W. A. Bannister, ma. (9), C. B. Calkin, ma. (9), C. P. M. Douglas (2), R. T. Lewis (1), C. J. Rowntree (2), A. E. H. Worsley (7).

Also: R. A. Burton (7), A. Falcon (6), T. D. Forbes Adam, ma. (9).

C. J. G. Atkinson

Results: v. Buckingham—Drawn
Buckingham 190 for 9 declared (Few Brown 7 for 62)
Stowe 147 for 4 (Carr 52; Allport 34)
v. **Bradfield**—Drawn
Bradfield 102 (Thomas 6 for 19)
Stowe 99 for 9
v. O.U. Authentics—Lost by 6 runs
Authentics 152 for 9 declared
Stowe 146 (Thomas 54)
v. **Mill Hill**—Drawn
Stowe 192 for 8 declared (Worsley 64; Carr 33)
Mill Hill 185 for 8 (Few Brown 4 for 57)
v. Stowe Templars—Won by 32 runs
Stowe 206 for 7 (Allport 90; Bannister 37)
Stowe Templars 174 (Few Brown 5 for 51)
v. **Radley**—Lost by 8 wickets
Stowe 128
Radley 129 for 2
v. **Bedford**—Won by 9 wickets
Bedford 133
Stowe 134 for 1 (Thomas 53 not out; Allport 53)
v. **Oakham**—Drawn
Stowe 172 for 5 declared (Thomas 43; Carr 34)
Oakham 127 for 5

In summary: Played 8; Won 2; Drawn 4; Lost 2

THE SECOND XI

The first match of the season at Wellingborough saw the inauguration of two regular features of our season: we lost the toss and it rained! Put in to bat, we made an encouraging start, but a useful 70 for 3 turned into an unpromising 97 all out. Our innings owed much to Bannister's fine 54. Some very hostile bowling by Smith-Bingham, who took 6 for 25, encouraged the opposition to sink to 68 for 9 and we relaxed, waiting for the last wicket to fall. "Won't be long now, sir!" beamed a confident first slip, between overs. But, in pouring rain, Wellingborough kept their heads and that was that. Played one, lost one!

We then beat the Royal Latin School 1st XI, by three wickets. Rossdale helped finish off the opposition innings by taking 3 for 3 and, after Douglas had set our innings off to a flying start, Forbes Adam and Jeffreys saw us home. A cavalier 78 by Bourn was the feature of our 188 for 7 on Speech Day against the Stowe Templars. This total, however, proved insufficient against some good batting by those well known Old Stoics, Bird and Farmer, and a whirlwind 71 from Bob Mitchell. A tame draw followed against Dean Close. We struggled to 142 for 8, thanks to 47 useful runs from Jeffreys, who appeared to be batting against his fan club. The opposition made a cautious 104 for 5 and the higher we tossed the ball, the more resolute their defence. Very boring.

In contrast our limited overs (38 a side) match against Bedford was hugely entertaining. Helped by a very good 47 from Jeffreys, our early batsmen put us in a commanding position, but our last 15 overs produced very few runs, as we aimed for the big hits and ignored the

quick single. Bedford seemed to have the match well under control as they moved relentlessly towards our 117, until some really good bowling from Rossdale, admirably supported by A. Ritchie, totally changed the situation. Amidst all manner of 'ifs' and 'buts' Bedford, with 8 wickets down and 30 needed in the last 4 overs, scraped home with two balls to go! So that is the season so far: one good win, one bad defeat, one dull draw and two narrow, wafer-thin, losses, which could so easily have been famous victories worthy of this Jubilee Summer!

A. G. Meredith

THE THIRD XI

Due to the inclement weather conditions, only three matches have been played so far this season, and the teams have varied considerably in composition, due to examinations, elevation to the 2nd XI, etcetera.

We began the season in fine style with a convincing win against Mill Hill, in which Stowe was strong in all departments, as the figures clearly show. The team was not stretched in the game against Dean Close, as the latter slumped to 80 all out against a powerful bowling and fielding attack by the home side. We passed their total for the loss of only one wicket, with Bird and Horlock playing some excellent shots.

Our first away match (at Bedford) deprived us of our winning streak, due largely to our lack of depth in batting on the day, our last recognised batsman being number three! However, Bird kept the side afloat with a chanceless 32 showing good timing throughout, and the tail wagged aggressively when Palmer collected a valuable 18 runs.

We still have matches to play against Oundle and Radley and it is hoped that some of our batting may be restored to us before battle is joined. There are a few members (or ex-members) of the team who rate special mention. Among these are Rossdale and A. H. Ritchie (both now in the 2nd XI) for their fine performance against Mill Hill; Horlock for his all-round excellence in the Dean Close game, and, of course, Bird for his batting which saved us from disgrace in the Bedford match. Orr is without doubt the unluckiest man in the side, having bowled beautifully and economically throughout, with a total of 20 overs at the cost of only 29 runs, but taking only one wicket! He has beaten the bat with great regularity and will reap his reward in due time. Currey has been a valued member of the side, luckily free of athletics commitments for two of our three matches and is a strong all-rounder, not least in his tigerish fielding.

The man of the season is, however, the redoubtable J. A. G. Bird. His scores of 16 not out, 23 not out, and 32, do not do justice perhaps to the quality of his batting, and his coolness under pressure has been of great value. Age is on his side and he should have a good future in Stowe cricket.

The fielding this season has been of very high quality, and this was especially evident against Dean Close, where six of their batsmen were caught, and the run-rate kept right down by excellent ground-work. With the departure of the most efficient Dalzell-Piper for the 2nd XI we were without a wicket-keeper, but J. W. M. Ritchie took over the post at very short notice and performed most ably against Dean Close. Being unavailable against Bedford his role as 'keeper was taken over by Clegg who performed equally well. We seem to have struck a rich vein of wicket-keepers!

It is of interest that this is R. S. W. Bell's third season with the 3rd XI and that he has finally achieved his ambition of a game or two in the 2nd XI. In appreciation of his stalwart and unflagging support of the team he is awarded 3rd XI colours (see list below).

M. Waldman

Teams from: M. E. Farmer (4), J. A. F. Currey (7), T. S. Bradley-Williams (5), A. J. Rossdale (9), L. D. Dalzell-Piper (6), H. M. Lloyd, ma. (2), A. N. Alder (5), J. A. G. Bird (2), A. H. Ritchie (9), J. W. M. Ritchie (9), P. N. Orr (3), R. S. W. Bell, ma. (5), M. J. P. Horlock, Mi. (8), I. L. Park (2), C. T. C. Standeven, ma. (9), J. W. Palmer, ma. (8), R. D. Kleinwort (3), S. P. Clegg (6).

3rd XI Colours are awarded to: J. A. G. Bird P. N. Orr, R. S. W. Bell.

Results: v. Cokethorpe—Cancelled due to rain

v. Mill Hill—Won
Stowe 136 for 7 declared (Rossdale 30; Currey 25; Farmer 21)
Mill Hill 40 (Rossdale 5 for 12; A. H. Ritchie 3 for 0)

v. St Edward's—Cancelled due to rain.

v. Dean Close—Won
Dean Close 80 (Horlock 4 for 19)
Stowe 81 for 1 (Horlock 42 not out; Bird 23 not out)

v. Bedford—Lost
Stowe 95 (Bird 32)
Bedford 96 for 3

Stowe v. Oundle—Won
Oundle 99
Stowe 100 for 6

THE COLTS

To write a full report after only four matches is inviting disaster. Any statements about the quality of the players or the progress of the season are more than likely to be proved utterly wrong. However, to date things have gone reasonably well. The Club contains several good players and both in the nets and during our sessions "in the middle" some excellent cricket has been played.

It is therefore disappointing to relate that at the time of writing we have yet to see the whole team function as effectively as they can. The batsmen have too often performed nervously in the matches, getting themselves out in quite needless ways and seeming reluctant to bat as freely or as aggressively as they can. It should not be necessary to remind young cricketers that the bat is an offensive weapon and the bad ball needs to be hit firmly to the boundary. A good innings is surely a product of careful patience and determined aggression. Mercifully the bowlers and the fielders have largely risen to the occasion so far. Our batting against Mill Hill hardly warranted a 93 run win—but Berger's bowling was splendidly accurate. And against Bradfield the match was lost when we stuttered our way to a pitiful 72 run total. The story was almost repeated when the XI really struggled to get the necessary runs to beat Bedford. On the very wet wicket at Oakham our batsmen did get going and gave the bowlers a real chance. This was a well earned win, with almost everyone making a positive contribution. Let us hope the lessons of the first part of the season will be put to good effect in the matches that remain. There's no doubt that the standard of play in the Colts Club this year encourages one to hope for some very decisive wins between now and the end of the season.

J. S. M. Morris

Teams:

'A' XI from: M. C. J. Gull (Capt.) (1), S. C. Andrews (1), M. M. Berger (7), J. J. O'G. Cameron (9), J. A. Carroll (2), G. F. de Chambure (5), W. J. N. Edgerley (4), F. E. J. Law (6), C. R. Lloyd (2), A. R. J. Mackinnon (4), M. P. Staheyeff (5), G. A. Wild (7).

'B' XI from: D. R. Lindgren (Capt.) (1), D. S. Bajpai (1), R. M. R. Bannister, mi. (9), E. R. P. Baring (9), R. W. Beckford, ma. (1), Viscount Dawick (9), A. M. Gale (5), J. Henderson (2), P. M. Joseph (1), M. A. J. Salmon (4), J. D. Gulab (7), C. S. E. Romilly (3).

Results: v. Mill Hill—Won

Stowe 108 (Staheyeff 34; Cameron 28)
Mill Hill 15 (Berger 6 for 5; Andrews 2 for 7; Lloyd 2 for 2)

v. Bradfield—Lost
Stowe 72
Bradfield 74 for 6

v. Bedford—Won
Bedford 114 for 9 declared
Stowe 116 for 6

v. Oakham—Won
Stowe 168 for 5 declared (C. R. Lloyd 59)
Oakham 76 (S. C. Andrews 4 for 13; C. R. Lloyd 4 for 32)

'B' XI: v. Mill Hill—Cancelled

v. Bedford—Drawn
Stowe 200 for 6 declared (Edgerley 88; Lindgren 65 not out)
Bedford 141 for 9

'A' and 'B' XI Matches v. St Edward's—Cancelled.

THE JUNIOR COLTS

The boys this year have been very keen and have shown that they possess considerable talents. Their main problem is a lack of confidence in their ability and with so much time lost to rain, they have not yet been able to develop their full potential. In matches so far, wins have been recorded against Bedford and Dean Close, losses against Buckinghamshire Under 15s and Oakham, whilst the match with Mill Hill was drawn. The Second team beat Bedford. A full report will follow in the next edition of **The Stoic**.

P. R. Bowden

THE UNDER-FOURTEEN XI

Of five scheduled matches to date, three have been rained off without a ball being bowled and, owing mainly to poor batting, Stowe has lost the other two.

McLellan and Calkin have considerable potential as all-rounders, Herbert looks a promising wicket-keeper-batsman, and Gayford, in addition to captaining the side well, has bowled steadily. The rest of the Club have shown much spirit and enthusiasm, and have borne with fortitude the vagaries of our climate.

D. G. Lennard

Team from: J. E. Arnold (1), M. Houghton Brown (2), M. A. Wood (2), D. E. Callow (3), N. M. Wood (3), H. W. Jennings (4), A. B. McLellan (5), P. D. O'Brien (6), C. M. Rickett (6), H. A. H. Merewether (6), J. A. R. Allen (7), J. W. Jackson (7), C. M. Gayford (8), P. B. Calkin, mi. (9), S. J. Herbert (9), J. R. Holmes, mi. (9), J. K. Taylor (5).

Results: v. Wellingborough—lost by 78 runs

Wellingborough 153 for 7 declared (Gayford 2 for 19; Calkin 2 for 26)
Stowe 75

v. Bedford—Lost by 5 wickets
Stowe 59

Bedford 63 for 5 (Gayford 2 for 10; Calkin 2 for 33)

ATHLETICS

The season so far has been a successful one with the team winning all its matches on overall scores although the Intermediate and Junior teams have often had to score well to make up for our lack of depth at the top; with two hard matches to go, the Junior team is unbeaten.

Thirty-four athletes have won through Area and District competitions to compete in the County championships and there are high hopes that we will be well represented at the All England championships at Barnet.

The Senior team has contained one or two outstanding individuals but the call of examinations denudes the team of any real strength in depth. S. L. Aguero has hurdled superbly and with a year still to go and a time of 15.2 already recorded must stand a good chance of National honours in the future, whether they be British or Spanish. J. W. Green has constantly improved both his 800 and 400 times. But the Senior team will have to wait till next year before it becomes a force.

The Intermediate and Junior teams are the most worthy of comment. J. G. J. Scott at fifteen has run 53.8 for 400 metres and is still improving, N. Harris has sprinted well, H. J. N. English has run and jumped till he has dropped and M. Hope, P. Ham and J. Fladée have run well in the longer races. But the Intermediates have had all-round strength and the whole team deserves praise.

The Juniors have been led by an outstanding athlete in S. A. Furlonger. He has lowered the hurdles record by almost a second and has won consistently in all the sprints and the long jump. He has been ably assisted by R. J. Fullman, another excellent athlete. A. J. Cattle and S. M. Carroll have been a formidable 800 metre pair and R. E. Roberts has jumped ably in all three disciplines. The Juniors like the Intermediates have all pulled together to produce some first rate team results.

Neither the Captain, J. A. F. Currey nor the Secretary, S. G. Appleton would claim to be star performers. They are the solid athletes that every club requires but above all they have been conscientious and hard working. They are in fact two of the best Club officials that I have had.

J. J. L. Bone

Results:

- May 10 v. Royal Latin School, Home
 Open: Royal Latin School 74 pts; Stowe 64 pts
 U.17: Stowe 74 pts; Royal Latin School 64 pts
 U.15: Stowe 75 pts; Royal Latin School 63 pts
 Overall Result: Stowe 213 pts; Royal Latin School 199 pts
- May 14 v. Denstone, Home
 Open: Denstone 101 pts; Stowe 77 pts
 U.17: Stowe 100 pts; Denstone 60 pts
 overall Result: Stowe 177 pts; Denstone 161 pts
- May 19 v. Mill Hill and St Paul's, Home
 Open: St Paul's 120 pts; Stowe 112 pts; Mill Hill 66 pts
 U.17: Stowe 131½ pts; St Paul's 87½ pts; Mill Hill 78 pts
 U.15: Stowe 144½ pts; St Paul's 71½ pts; Mill Hill 70 pts
 Overall Result: Stowe 388 pts; St Paul's 279 pts; Mill Hill 214 pts
- May 28 v. Rugby and Aldenham, Home
 Open: Aldenham 105 pts; Stowe 104 pts; Rugby 89 pts
 U.17: Rugby 108 pts; Stowe 101 pts; Aldenham 77 pts
 U.15: Stowe 74 pts; Rugby 68 pts; Aldenham —
 Overall Result: v. Rugby: Stowe 279 pts; Rugby 265 pts; v. Aldenham: Stowe 205 pts; Aldenham 182 pts
- May 31 v. St Edward's, at St Edward's
 Open: St Edward's 82½ pts; Stowe 81½ pts
 U.17: Stowe 91 pts; St Edward's 74 pts
 U.15: Stowe 82½ pts; St Edward's 71½ pts
 Overall Result: Stowe 255 pts; St Edward's 228 pts

June 18 County Finals at High Wycombe

Winners in Individual Events

Senior: Pole Vault: J. R. Allen (3); High Jump: S. L. Aguero (3); Girls: 100m Hurdles: Caroline Cowper
 U. 17: Steeplechase: M. Hope, ma. (5); Pole Vault: T. D. Holgate (1); Triple Jump: H. D. N. English (7)
 U. 15: 100m: S. A. Furlonger (3) Time: 11.8 secs., which equals the School and County record; 200m: R. J. Fullman (1); 80m Hurdles: S. A. Furlonger (3) Time: 11.7 secs., which equals the School record, and establishes a new County record; Pole Vault: R. T. E. Orr (4); Relays: Stowe Team 1st

S. A. Furlonger (3), R. J. Fullman (1) and S. L. Aguero (3) qualified to compete in the All England Championships at Barnet on 8th and 9th July



SCHOOL SPORTS 1977

The weather turned against us this year, which was a great shame because there were some fine performances and a keen struggle between Bruce and Cobham for the overall title which was eventually won by the former with 170 points to 164.

S. A. Furlonger further lowered the 80 metres hurdle record to 11.7 secs. and won another three events, while M. A. Koska added five centimetres to the Under 17 pole vault record. S. L. Aguero was the outstanding Senior athlete winning three events, the high hurdles, high jump and one hundred metres.

Results:

Inter-House Cup

1. Bruce	170 pts	4. Grenville	122 pts	7. Lyttelton	70 pts
2. Cobham	164 pts	5. Chandos	105 pts	8. Chatham	35 pts
3. Grafton	155 pts	6. Walpole	93 pts	9. Temple	33 pts

Individual Results—Open

100m. Time: 11.8 secs. 1. S. L. Aguero (3)	2. N. B. Harris (5)	3. J. H. S. Macquaker (3)
200m. Time: 24.1 secs 1. N. B. Harris (5)	2. A. I. S. Swan (3)	3. N. J. Benthall (7)
400m. Time: 53.9 secs. 1. M. A. B. Watts, ma. (7)	2. N. B. Harris (5)	3. A. P. Ward (8)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 4.7 secs. 1. J. W. Green (8)	2. N. E. Ancsell (5)	3. J. R. J. Fladée (4)
1500m. Time: 4 mins. 36.1 secs. 1. N. E. Ancsell (5)	2. S. G. Appleton (3)	3. D. J. Jacobs (8)
Steeplechase. Time: 6 mins. 55.5 secs. 1. N. E. Ancsell (5)	2. J. C. Royds, ma. (6)	3. P. T. James (5)
110m. Hurdles. Time: 16.0 secs. 1. S. L. Aguero (3)	2. J. A. F. Currey (7)	3. C. S. G. Bagnall (3)
400m. Hurdles. Time: 59.7 secs. 1. J. W. Green (8)	2. R. T. Lewis (1)	3. J. A. F. Currey (7)
High Jump. Height: 1.70 metres 1. S. L. Aguero (3)	2. M. A. B. Watts, ma. (7)	3. M. A. N. Tomlin (5)
Long Jump. Distance: 5.98 metres 1. M. E. W. Selby-Lowndes (3)	2. A. I. S. Swan (3)	3. N. D. J. Gray (6)
Triple Jump. Distance: 11.84 metres 1. N. D. J. Gray, (6)	2. A. P. Ward (8)	3. J. A. F. Currey (7)
Pole vault. Height: 2.70 metres 1. J. R. Allen (3)	2. M. E. W. Selby-Lowndes (3)	3. R. M. Rummell (4)
Shot. Distance: 34 ft 1 in. 1. M. A. B. Cliff-Hodges (8)	2. N. R. Chapman (9)	3. N. P. Wigmore (5)
Discus. Distance: 30.60 metres 1. N. R. Chapman (9)	2. A. Falcon (6)	3. D. C. Guest (1)
Javelin. Distance: 127 ft 7 ins. 1. N. J. Harkness (2)	2. C. V. C. Harris (1)	3. S. T. Wild (4)

Individual Results—Under 17

100m. Time: 12.2 secs. 1. C. J. Dean (4)	2. J. J. Lineham (1)	3. S. V. Wylie (4)
200m. Time: 24.9 secs. 1. R. C. Appleby (9)	2. C. J. Dean (4)	3. C. S. Rideout (3)
400m. Time: 56.1 secs. 1. J. J. Lineham (1)	2. R. C. Appleby (9)	3. C. J. Allen (1)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 7.6 secs. 1. T. A. Cressman (4)	2. P. M. Ham (7)	3. M. Hope, ma. (5)
1500m. Time: 4 mins. 32.1 secs. 1. T. W. P. O'Brien (7)	2. P. M. Ham (7)	3. M. Hope, ma. (5)
Steeplechase. Time: 5 mins. 1.9 secs. 1. M. Hope, ma. (5)	2. A. T. Thornton-Berry (4)	3. J. H. Davis (1)
100m. Hurdles. Time: 15.7 secs. 1. N. A. M. Clarke, mi. (2)	2. J. J. Lineham (1)	3. A. M. Gale (5)
High Jump. Height: 1.45 metres 1. C. S. Rideout (3)	2. C. J. Allen (1)	3. P. D. Hammond (7)
Long Jump. Distance: 5.25 metres 1. R. C. Appleby (9)	2. T. S. Maynard (6)	3. P. D. Hammond (7)
Triple Jump. Distance: 11.4 metres 1. H. J. N. English (7)	2. A. M. Gale (5)	3. T. S. Maynard (6)
Pole Vault. Height: 3 metres 1. M. A. Koska (1)	2. T. D. Holgate (1)	3. R. A. J. Weatherbe (7)
Shot. Distance: 35 ft. 10 ins. 1. F. D. G. Mezulanik (7)	2. G. F. de Chambure (5)	3. C. T. Highwood (1)

Discus. Distance: 30.77 metres

1. C. T. Highwood (1)	2. R. A. J. Weatherbe (7)	3. M. A. Koska (1)
Javelin. Distance: 127 ft 4 ins. 1. W. H. Latham (4)	2. R. A. J. Weatherbe (7)	3. F. D. G. Mezulanik (7)

Individual Results—Under 16

100m. Time: 11.9 secs. 1. J. G. J. Scott (5)	2. H. J. N. English (7)	3. R. J. Fullman (1)
200m. Time: 24.4 secs. 1. H. J. N. English (7)	2. R. J. Fullman (1)	3. M. C. J. Gull (1)
400m. Time: 53.9 secs. 1. J. G. J. Scott (5)	2. M. C. J. Gull (1)	3. W. J. N. Edgerley (4)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 21.9 secs. 1. D. L. Robinson (8)	2. G. F. de Chambure (5)	3. C. P. Close-Smith, mi. (7)
1500m. Time: 4 mins. 37.4 secs. 1. C. M. Folland (8)	2. V. Hope, mi. (5)	3. R. D. H. Taylor (5)
High Jump. Height: 1.60 metres 1. R. G. Watts, mi. (7)	2. A. M. Gale	3. J. G. J. Scott (5)
Long Jump. Distance: 5.90 metres 1. H. J. N. English (7)	2. J. G. J. Scott (5)	3. J. D. Rees (7)

Individual Results—Under 15

100m. Time: 12.2 secs. 1. S. A. Furlonger (3)	2. J. R. Dew (4)	3. A. J. Cattle, mi. (9)
200m. Time: 26.3 secs. 1. A. M. G. Pélissier (8)	2. M. C. Fenwick, mi. (1)	3. J. R. Dew (4)
400m. Time: 58.0 secs. 1. S. A. Furlonger (3)	2. N. S. Winstone-Partridge (1)	3. A. M. G. Pélissier (8)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 18.1 secs. 1. A. J. Cattle, mi. (9)	2. S. M. Carroll, mi. (2)	3. M. A. Lecchini (7)
80m. Hurdles. Time: 11.7 secs. 1. S. A. Furlonger (3)	2. M. C. Fenwick, mi. (1)	3. A. G. Arbib (2)
Long Jump. Distance: 4.94 metres 1. S. A. Furlonger (3)	2. A. M. G. Pélissier (8)	3. J. R. Dew (4)
High Jump. Height: 1.35 metres 1. N. S. Winstone-Partridge (1)	2. N. D. Collins (9)	3. A. J. Cattle, mi. (9)

ARCHERY

This term has been disappointing in that matches have been marred by bad weather and cancellations at the last minute. The team has had a large selection of capable archers to shoot from, with a main backbone of A. Law, A. Jessel, and M. Emanuel. The match against Eton was convincingly won and at the Radley 'May' shoot our team of three came third with 3rd, 5th and 6th places out of 125 archers. The match against Bedford was rained off half way through with 724 points to Stowe against 552 to Bedford so once again this year we remain unbeaten and optimistic for next year's season.

Alastair Jessel has been awarded his colours.

Andrew Law

CROSS-COUNTRY

We began the season with a shortage of Senior runners since most of the previous year's combatants had departed, and most of its Colts team were still young enough to compete again in that age group. During the season both Senior and Colts teams were also troubled extensively by sickness and injury, so that the Senior team did creditably in winning three matches—admittedly the easier fixtures—and coming a comfortable second in three demanding triangular fixtures. The two runners left from last year—Royds and Ancsell, were affected at times by loss of form and fitness but both gave of their best, and Ancsell returned a magnificent performance to finish second in the match at St Albans, when he and Hope saved us from total eclipse. Alper, Appleton, Arnold, Lomas, Park and N. B. Harris gave wholehearted support. Hope, though still a Colt, beat them all at Harrow, and is a fine prospect for the future.

The Colts team had another good season, winning five matches out of nine, and coming second out of five schools at Cheltenham, although injury, illness and the demands of the depleted Senior team usually prevented us fielding our strongest possible team—except at Berkhamsted, where the result speaks for itself. Hope, Thornton-Berry and Ham were the most consistent performers, and they were splendidly supported by Davis, Kemp, Dunham, Robinson, Lineham, James and Farmer. The 'B' team were also impressive for their enthusiasm.

The Under 15 team improved dramatically, winning three matches out of six, and coming second out of four at Cheltenham: there should be adequate talent for next year's Colts.

The Inter-House races were as usual keenly contested. Cobham took the Open event, Grafton the Intermediate, and Bruce the Junior. Royds and Ancsell dead-heated in the Open race, in 26 mins. 35 secs., with Hope, ma. third. Thornton-Berry won the Intermediate race, in 16 mins. 22 secs. and Folland the Junior in 17 mins. 15 secs.

The overall outlook is most encouraging; there is plenty of ability and enthusiasm throughout the School, and we should have enough talented Seniors to ensure good seasons for at least two years.

S. J. Suttle

Open Results: Stowe 44; Bradfield 67; Bloxham 75
Haileybury 37; Stowe 52; Harrow 89
Berkhamsted 38; Stowe 63; Felsted 74
The Leys 40; Stowe 61; Oakham 75
Uppingham 31; Stowe 54
Stowe 29; Aldenham 52
St Albans 'A' 30; Stowe 48
Stowe 37; Thames Hare and Hounds 40; Old Stoics 43

Colts Results: Stowe 39; Bloxham 45
Harrow 47; Stowe 62; Haileybury 73
Stowe 30; Felsted 73; Berkhamsted failed to finish
Stowe 37; The Leys 45; Oakham 112
North Bucks Area Championships: Stowe finished 1st
Uppingham 33; Stowe 49
Stowe v. Marlborough, Cheltenham, Radley and Kingswood: Stowe finished 2nd
Stowe 32; Aldenham 46
Stowe v. St Albans: Match won by St Albans

Junior Results: Stowe 12; Bloxham 24
Harrow 39; Haileybury 56; Stowe 84
Stowe 37; Berkhamsted 56; Felsted 80
Stowe 27; The Leys 44; Oakham 53
Stowe v. Marlborough, Cheltenham and Kingswood: Stowe finished 2nd
Stowe v. St Albans and Watford: Stowe finished 2nd

Senior Colours Rewarded to: J. C. Royds (6) and N. E. Ancsell (5).

Colts Colours Awarded to: A. D. Lomas (5), I. L. Park (2), A. Thornton-Berry (4), J. H. Davis (1), J. H. Kemp (8), J. E. James (6), D. L. Robinson (8).

Colts Colours Rewarded to: M. Hope, ma. (5), P. Ham (7), P. J. B. Dunham (3).

FIVES

It is a pleasure to report a changing attitude to the game. There are more people playing the game in their spare time: often they have even been queueing up to play after School matches. The people who are playing are obviously enjoying it as they should be. It is, perhaps fortunately, a game which is not easy at first, even for the natural games player. The person who expects instant success is going to be disappointed but he who perseveres will have many hours of exercise, challenge and enjoyment, together with a chance to display the qualities of honesty, self-control and sportsmanship. There is no referee to settle disputes and make decisions: all depends upon the integrity of the four people on court. I am therefore delighted to be able to say that the standard of court behaviour is much better than it has been in recent seasons.

As enthusiasm mounts and standards improve it is hardly surprising that results in School matches are better too. In the Spring term the School was undefeated in matches against other Schools, the Juniors' draw at Eton being particularly meritorious. With there being so few Senior players, Colts and even Junior Colts had chances to play in the matches against Club sides. Although they often failed to win, they enjoyed these friendly matches and gained invaluable experience.

At this distance, prospects for next season are most encouraging and I would just like to remind people of all ages who would like to try the game that they are always welcome at any time.

P. R. Bowden

Seniors: C. J. Rowntree (2), A. J. Rossdale (9), R. M. Rummell (4), C. T. C. Standeven, ma. (9).

Colts: C. R. Lloyd, mi. (2), P. Salariya (2), G. J. J. Tucker, ma. (9), J. A. G. Bird (2).

Junior Colts: G. F. de Chambure (5), M. C. J. Gull (1), S. C. Andrews (1), A. R. J. MacKinnon (4).

New Boys: P. A. Marshall (4), M. C. Turner (1), N. D. Collins (9), S. A. Chorlton (1), G. W. Robinson (2), P. B. Calkin, mi. (9).

Results:	Seniors	Colts	J. Colts	New Boys
Autumn Term (continued)				
v. Old Stoics	1—1			
v. Jesters	1—1			
v. Sunningdale				0—2
v. Mill Hill	2—0	2—0	1—0	0—1
Spring Term				
v. Eton		1—1	2—0	0-2
v. King Edward's School, Birmingham	1—1			
v. Uppingham	1—1	1—0		2—1
v. Sunningdale				2—1
v. Westminster	1—0	1—0	2—0	
v. Old Berkhamstedians	0—3			
v. Old Citizens	1—2			
v. R.G.S. High Wycombe	1—0	1—0	0—1	
v. Charterhouse	1—1			
v. Old Cholmeleians	1—2			
v. Repton		1—0	1—0	2—0

Senior House Final: Temple beat Bruce 2—1

Junior House Final: Cobham beat Chandos 2—1

Open Pairs Competition: C. R. Lloyd, mi. and P. Salariya beat A. J. Rossdale and G. J. J. Tucker, ma. 3—0.

Junior Pairs Competition: C. R. Lloyd, mi. and M. C. J. Gull beat G. F. de Chambure and A. R. J. MacKinnon 3—1.

New Boys' Competition: P. A. Marshall and M. C. Turner beat S. A. Chorlton and N. D. Collins 3—0.

GOLF

Spring Term

Unlike the hockey players the early rains did not affect us and a full series of matches was played in preparation for the Aer Lingus and Woking tournaments in the holidays. Alex Hay paid two visits to try to straighten out the stiffness of winter and the flatness of hockey swings, and a notable victory was scored over the Old Stoics at his new course at Woburn, this being the first match ever to be played there.

Results: v. Sandy Lodge Golf Club, at Sandy Lodge	Lost	2 — 4
v. Old Stoic Golfing Society, at Woburn	Won	3½ — 2½
v. Harrow, at Moor Park	Won	6 — 0
v. Ellesborough Golf Club, at Ellesborough	Lost	1 — 3
v. Buckingham Golf Club, at Buckingham	Halved	2½ — 2½

The Micklem Golf Trophy

Played at Woking G.C., 6th-7th April.

Despite a wintry temperature and the threat of snow and rain, conditions proved more conducive to good golf than they had last year. On the practice day, Garnett's steady game played him into the team ahead of Barnes and Edward, to join Paine, Graham, Gray and Allport. Stowe seemed to have a tough draw, against the previous year's finalists, and so it proved.

Round 1 v. Charterhouse

It was clear from the start that Paine, against a 3-handicap player was in for a hard time; Graham lost the first 3 holes and Gray's opponent missed nothing inside 8 feet all day. However, Allport soon established a 2 hole lead and Garnett was having little trouble with an off-form opponent. By the turn, Paine was holding his own and Graham had recovered to the extent of being 2 up, but Gray's opponent was proving too steady and was 3 up; Allport was maintaining his advantage and Garnett struck the first blow with a victory by 7 and 6. The match was now proving difficult to follow with the leading pair being three holes ahead, but in that game a remarkable piece of nerveless putting by Paine saw him hole from 10 feet, 7 feet and 6 feet on the last three greens while his opponent missed from 5 feet on the 18th to give Stowe a victory by 1 hole. Allport soon gave Stowe the necessary third point with a 3 and 2 victory, but Gray's struggles ended at the same stage and Graham managed to fritter away his earlier recovery to lose on the last green.

Result: Stowe 3; Charterhouse 2.

Semi-Final v. Eton

It was clear early on that this match should have proved less testing than the Charterhouse game. The top Eton player looked a good striker of the ball, but the rest of the team were clearly very dependent on the steadiness of their short game. Thus, when Paine, Graham and Gray were all 3 up at the turn and Garnett was 1 up without having hit anything like his best form, there seemed to be little to prevent Stowe reaching the final. Indeed, Gray duly cruised to a 4 and 3 victory, playing very good golf, and Garnett showed the priceless knack of being able to win when off his game, with a victory by 2 and 1. However, Paine—who had gone 4 up at the 10th—collapsed to the extent of losing by 2 holes; Graham had been pulled back to all square at the 12th only to go 2 up again at the 14th, but his putting all day had been positively nightmarish and he duly lost on the 19th when a 2-footer stayed out. Thus it was up to Allport, who had clung on to a 1 or 2 hole deficit all the way round against an opponent playing rather well, to try to produce our third point. He manfully squared his match on the 16th and then lost the 17th to a superb birdie 3; a tricky 4-foot putt on the 18th restored him to equality only for him to suffer the mortification of being birdied again on the 19th.

Eton are to be congratulated on their resilience, but it has to be said that this was a match that Stowe could, and should, have won; golfers with Micklem experience should not throw away a lead of that magnitude!

Result: Stowe 2; Eton 3.

Team: G. G. R. Paine (2), W. M. Graham (1), N. D. J. Gray (6), S. W. Allport (1), M. N. Garnett (8).

Reserves: P. Edward (7), T. P. Barnes (7).

Summer Term

After the disappointment of Woking and after the Golf Trials had performed admitted some of the strangest looking golfers ever to be seen in the Golf Thirty, it was feared that this might be a poor team. In fact it has turned out to be a full and successful one, with eight school matches won out of eight. The strength of the team has been in the middle order, for, if the Captain and Secretary have found it hard to win their matches at the top, Gray and Garnett have enjoyed much success and mature support has been provided by Edward and a much improved Hinds. Lindner and James, Marlowe and Maynard have developed steadily and won some important matches later in the term; since all will be back next year the golfing outlook is promising.

Stowe is fortunate in being within reach of some testing and attractive golf courses, and our School matches are played on the heaths of Frilford and Tadmarton, at the bunkerless Berkhamsted, amongst the bluebells of Huntercombe and the blossom of Harpenden, and on the outskirts of Northampton at Church Brampton whose doughty members inflicted our only away defeat of the term. The former history tutor brought down six golfers from Southport for the first leg of an exchange of fixtures, and your correspondent devised a winning combination of Old Stoics on Speech Day for the first year since 1970. Finally, history has been made this term when the Stanhope House team played Chandos in the Preliminary Round of the Senior housematches.

School Colours for Golf have been awarded to: P. Edward, M. N. Garnett and N. D. J. Gray.

A. M. Vinen
C. S. Juneman

Results: v. Uppingham, at Lutterworth	Won	5 — 1
v. King George V Southport, at Stowe	Won	5½ — 3½
v. Eton, at Berkhamsted	Won	5½ — ½
v. The Fathers, at Stowe	Won	6 — 2
v. Wellington, at Frilford Heath	Won	3½ — 2½
v. Radley, at Huntercombe	Won	6½ — 1½
v. Northampton County Golf Club, at Church Brampton	Lost	1 — 5
v. Ellesborough Golf Club, at Stowe	Won	5½ — 4½
v. The Old Stoics, at Stowe	Lost	3 — 7
v. Monmouth, at Tadmarton Heath	Won	5 — 1
v. Buckingham Golf Club, at Stowe	Won	4½ — 1½
v. Chiltern Medical Golfing Society, at Stowe	Won	5½ — 2½
v. Haileybury, at Harpenden	Won	4½ — 3½
v. Oundle, at Church Brampton	Won	5½ — 2½

LAWN TENNIS

This has been a term of mixed fortunes so far, and the overall record of the 1st VI stands at four wins and four losses. One of the main problems with the team has been that two of the Senior members have been victims of examination phobia and this has severely affected their tennis and made it a shadow of their standard of previous years. This was a great pity for the team as a whole, as on paper at the start of the season, it seemed likely that we would have a good chance of winning almost all the matches due to be played. As it turned out the youngest, least experienced, and newest partnership of A. J. Holland, ma. and N. D. Wright became the most successful combination, and they played with skill,

determination, and intelligence, and recorded some excellent wins. D. Horlock, ma. and G. J. Tucker, ma. had some good performances, but the latter was unfortunately not always to be in good health and occasionally had to stand down both from practices and matches, and this upset the balance of the team. A. P. Ward and N. R. Chapman, from whom much was expected, struggled to find their form during the term, but never really were able to reproduce their best. C. J. Peacock (still at Colts age) frequently played in the team, but suffered from not being part of a regular pairing, but is to be congratulated on his results—next year he will be a permanent member of the VI. A. J. Shepherd-Barron also played in the team on one occasion, and was probably the most improved member of the daily sessions. At this stage it is possible to say that the team had two good wins, against Rugby and R.G.S. High Wycombe, and two feeble defeats by Oakham and Uppingham, both of which could have been won. Also we easily beat the Old Stoics, and lost deservedly to a good Marlborough VI. Although tennis at School level is always a little unpredictable, it is clear that some of our players lacked consistency, and on occasions seemed to lack fighting spirit when things got difficult. We hope that those selected to represent Stowe at the two Wimbledon weeks (the B.S.L.T.A. and the P.S.L.T.A.) will display both their natural ability and determination to succeed and will be able to give a good account of themselves.

There will be a fuller account of matches in the next **Stoic**, but I would like to congratulate and thank the Captain (D. Horlock, ma.) on his fine work during the term, not only for his play in matches but also for the countless and unnoticed jobs like meeting teams, arranging for collection of teas, water, and tennis balls, and all the other necessities to get matches going smoothly both for his team and his opponents. This is part of the enjoyment of tennis matches that always seems to be taken for granted, but only when they are well done—they were well done this term!

Results:	v. Bradfield	Away	Cancelled due to rain
	v. M.T.S.	Home	Lost 3½—5½
	v. Rugby	Home	Won 5—4
	v. R.G.S.H.W.	Home	Won 5—4
	v. Marlborough	Away	Lost 3—6
	v. Oakham	Home	Lost 3½—5½
	v. Old Stoics	Home	Won 8—1
	v. Uppingham	Away	Lost 3—6
	v. St Edward's	Home	Leading 4½—1½ (rain)
'A' VI:	v. Eton 2nd VI	Home	Won 6—3

Girls' VI

We had our first matches this season and the standard of tennis played showed considerable improvement during the term. The team went to Marlborough losing 4—5, played at Uppingham where they beat a team composed of Lower Sixth Girls as their 1st VI was already engaged in another match, and Rugby came to Stowe and we beat them 4—0. All those who played in the team enjoyed themselves, and it is hoped to extend the fixture list next year now that we have so many girls interested in tennis. The following played for Stowe: Kathryn Matthews (Captain), Julie Marler, Caroline Hill, Barbara Anderson, Betsy Fremantle, Tracy Davis, Quita Colston and Kathy Roberts.

Colts VI

This was a good Colts Team, but would of course have been more successful if Peacock had played regularly instead of being in the 1st VI. The top pair was usually J. P. Villiers (Captain) and T. M. Holland, mi. and they had reasonable success and show considerable promise. A. R. Boyce played in all the matches but not always with the same partner, and is now playing more controlled tennis. T. J. Bayntun and S. A. McPhillips, although first year boys, soon became the automatic choice as third pair, and in spite of playing against people two years older than themselves always gave an excellent account of themselves, and registered some fine wins. O. R. Tucker, mi. played in the team once but was unlucky to be unwell, and had to miss consideration. N. Hartley, mi., F. E. Law and J. T. Arnold, mi. also played for the Colts.

Under 14 [First Year] VI

We have not been able to field such a team as this for a very long time—certainly not for ten years—and it is a great pity that the other schools we play were not in a position to provide opposition at this level, usually owing to shortage of courts. In the event we arranged matches against Prep Schools and they have proved to be hard fought and enjoyable to those who took part. There are two matches still to play.

The team was: S. A. McPhillips, A. J. Bayntun, T. E. Marriott, mi., P. B. Calkin, mi., M. L. Rutkowski, R. N. Lockhart-Smith.

P. G. Longhurst

Results: v. Dragon School Away Won 5—4
v. Bilton Grange Away Unfinished due to rain

SAILING

Although the Club is at full capacity this term, sailing hasn't occurred as often as would be expected, largely on account of bad weather. However the team has met with moderate success. The first match of the term was a victory over Banbury Cross Sailing Club followed by three narrow losses to Radley, Aldenham and St Edward's. More recently the team had a surprising though convincing win over Oundle and hope to win their final two matches later in the term. The House matches were won by Walpole who met with little opposition. The Club, as a whole, is fairly young with several young members who show promise for the future.

Finally the Club thanks C. W. O. Rainer for the fine effort put towards the Club.

Philip Brocklebank

Team: P. M. Brocklebank, ma. (8), A. S. Massie (8), J. N. T. Parkinson (8), J. W. Ogden, ma. (8), J. D. Brocklebank, mi. (8), P. R. G. Hornor (6), M. E. Castle-Smith (3).

SCULLING

For the third year running the number of applicants has far exceeded the sixteen places available for full-time scullers. Among the season's members we have welcomed two of the fair sex, who have aroused even greater interest in our aquatic pleasures.

The weather has been inclement, and we have suffered from the lack of monetary resources available to the Club. This notwithstanding we have invested in new rowlocks all round, which is indeed a shot in the arm for our fleet. There has been an excellent spirit among the members, and, although we have again been denied inter-school matches, we are all eagerly anticipating our match versus Old Stoics, among whom are included some redoubtable past masters of the Eleven Acre main. It is hoped to field two teams for this match on the last week-end of term.

At the time of going to press, the House matches are yet to be held, but it is going to take some bold sculling if S. D. Milligan, ma. is to be dethroned. His supremacy on the lake and enthusiasm for the sport will make him a worthy Captain next year.

The Master-in-charge, Captain and Secretary have again extended their skills to several novices, who, despite early mishaps, are now well on the way to being proficient. It is to be hoped next season is as profitable and enjoyable as this, the remainder of which we look forward to with anticipation.

C. R. Haslam

SHOOTING

In the past, the shooting at Stowe and the reports in **The Stoic** have been very much dominated by the .303 events. This year, however, with the arrival of our new indoor range, I am pleased to say that the .22 has also played a large part in our shooting programme.

During the last two terms we have entered four teams in the B.S.S.R.A. schools' league, all of which did fairly well, but the first team did exceptionally well by managing to come top of their league. A. J. Jessel got the top average of 95.6 and G. F. Winnington-Ingram and D. M. Stewart came second with an average of 94.8. As well as this we entered the **Country Life** competition, in which A. F. Savage got the best score, though we only managed to come 69th out of 130. We are hoping that with more practice we should do better next year.

The Ashburton Meeting at the end of the Summer term is, of course, the main .303 event of the season, and we have been practising on most Tuesdays at the range at Charlton-on-Otmoor. Finding a time for practice has always been a problem, as the Otmoor range is unfortunately a little too far away to be convenient. It was, therefore, particularly annoying to find ourselves deprived of it on Field Day by the R.A.F. Nevertheless, we held an internal competition on our own ranges, consisting of .22 and .303 scores, which G. F. Winnington-Ingram won with a score of 166 out of 180, followed by D. M. Stewart with 157 and J. C. Cunningham-Jardine with 152.

Otherwise, the only .303 event was the London and Middlesex Meeting, which could well be described as a "disaster", mainly due to the fact that we had only had one practice prior to it; though there were other reasons suggested, namely that the weather was to blame as it rained for most of the afternoon, while half of the team claimed to be suffering from various "medical" complaints. We sincerely hope that there will be no cause for excuses after the Sussex Meeting and the Ashburton itself.

G. F. Winnington-Ingram

The VIII: G. F. Winnington-Ingram* (Captain) (9), R. C. Joynson (8), D. M. Stewart (6), A. F. Savage (4), R. F. P. Bryant (2), R. S. Nelson (2), J. C. W. Hall (1), N. G. Coldham (8).

Ninth Man: N. D. F. Jackson (2).

Cadet Pair: J. C. Cunningham-Jardine (6), J. N. Birt-Llewellyn (4).

* Denotes Colours.

SOCCKER

Although two terms have passed only two matches have been played. These were against Uppingham and the Old Stoics. The first match was one that none of us will ever forget. After trailing heavily in the first half to a competent Uppingham side, 0—4, and with a mere fifteen minutes to spare we managed to come back magnificently to win 5—4. The Old Stoics proved, as always, formidable and although we should have won, the draw of 2—2 was a fair result.

Mention should be made of Bill Green, Nader Salour, Charles Bourn and Mike Tomlin, who have represented Stowe for over three years. Hopefully next year's team under their new Captain, Eric Ancsell, will have all the success that this sport is now associated with.

Warm thanks also to Mr Foster who still painstakingly coaches and drives the team all over the countryside, apart from refereeing the matches.

Mike Tomlin

Team: J. A. Barratt (2), T. S. Bradley-Williams (5), N. E. Ancsell (5), M. A. N. Tomlin (5), S. V. Wylie (4), C. D. Bourn (5), N. G. M. Salour (5), N. W. A. Bannister, ma. (9), W. M. Graham (1), A. P. Ward (8).

Also Played: P. T. James (5), N. P. Wigmore (5), D. W. Horlock, ma. (8), R. A. Burton (7).

Results: v. Uppingham . Won 5—4 (Bannister 2, Bourn, Ward, Graham).
v. Old Stoics . Drew 2—2 (Green, Graham).

SWIMMING

A quiet Spring term in which the emphasis was firmly placed on Water-Polo gave time for me to assess the intake of new boys and to form coaching groups which operate between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. most nights of the week. This was particularly useful with a group of 10 new boys operating on Monday and Friday nights, and has produced a team of U.14 swimmers who this year have advanced much further in stroke technique than previous first year teams.

This term, of course, the really exciting piece of news has been the acceptance by Brian Brinkley, the former British Olympic Team Captain, of the post of Baths Manager and Swimming Coach at Stowe. Brian is carrying on the good work started by Dave Collins and Peter Godfrey before him in seeing that the Senior Team has plenty of training sessions and he is taking an increasingly active part in the running of the teams generally. It is impossible for me as a full-time Physics teacher to take the teams beyond the stage of inter-school matches, but Brian has the knowledge, the experience and the connections to take our top swimmers into first class competition.

This year for the first time we have produced an U.14 team, and their technique shows great promise for the future. It is always difficult to bridge the gap between the swimming at most prep. schools which consists of 18 yards dashes in an open air pool, and the type of programme one encounters in the outside world of sport where 100 metres is regarded as the shortest sprint, a distance that is almost an endurance test to our boys in the first few months. The U.14 have swum an 'A' and a 'B' team fixture against Beachborough Prep. School, and came 1st and 2nd in all their events, generally surprising themselves by cutting 4 or 5 seconds off their best 50m times in the process.

We also produced an U.15 side which had one match against Berkhamsted and they won very easily indeed.

The U.16 or Junior Team has been undefeated throughout the season, for the second year running. It is an amazing performance when one realises that in the two years of swimming they have **contested 166 events and won 157 of them.** This excellent group of swimmers will move up into the Seniors next year and this is likely to create some problems in finding them suitable fixtures. Outstanding swimmers have been Philip Richards in the Butterfly and Individual Medley (with Michael McCaldin as the rapidly improving number two); Simon Fraser-Allen in the Breaststroke; and Paddy O'Brien in the Freestyle. The backstrokers have never lost an event with Andrew Davis improving all the time and looking more than ever like an outstanding prospect for the future. Roderick Dew and Robert Miller have been even faster than this, although both are still only U.15 swimmers, and indeed newcomer Miller, who has a tremendous power output for his size and age, has a great deal to learn in all his strokes and will not reach his full potential for several years. I can see Dew and Miller being a fearsome combination in the years ahead.

The Senior Team has been rather thin in terms of numbers but we have been fortunate not to lose any swimmer through injury and I would rate the side as somewhat better than last year's. Only one match was lost, that against Oundle School who have had an outstanding team for several years. The Captain, Chris Low won nearly all his events and although he never quite equalled his best 100m time of last year he remained, as usual, a most formidable competitor in the relays and the anchor of our whole team. Matthew Street in his first year as a Senior actually set a new backstroke 100m record of 72.7 secs. to beat Richard Bickerton's time of last year when Richard was team captain, and Adrian Bird, this year's Secretary, also in his first year as a Senior broke the long-standing breaststroke 100m record to become the first Stowe swimmer to beat 80 secs. for the distance with a time of 79.0 secs., and he also cut the existing 100m and 200m Individual Medley records by some 6 secs. each. The 50m Butterfly has remained a ding-dong battle between Tony Lomas and Peter Hosking who have repeatedly chipped away at the old record alternately. I think at the moment Tony is in front by 0.1 sec. with a time of 31.9 secs.

The final match of the season was once more against Borough Road P.E. College. Last year we won in the last event of the match, but this year we defeated them quite convincingly. The continually rising strength of the Stowe teams can be seen in the relay records. Of the 10 relays we swim, both Junior and Senior, only one, the Senior Medley Relay remains unbroken in 1977. In addition to this, 14 individual School Records have been broken, some of them repeatedly.

Prospects for next year look excellent for the Senior Team and indeed there can never have been a better team at Stowe than the one which 1978 promises. The Juniors are likely to be slightly weaker than this year although still a very powerful force as judged by our opponents and possibly still capable of winning all their matches.

All that now remains of this season's outstanding swimming is the County Championships at Amersham, and here we hope to supply the backbone of the North Bucks Schools' team, as usual.

F. A. Hudson

Results:

School	Senior Team	Junior Team
v. Uppingham	Won 44—36	Won 56—29
v. St Edward's	Won 63—28	Won 63—28
v. Cheltenham	Won 54—23	Won 51—25
v. Berkhamsted	Won 38—32	Won 47—23
v. The Leys	Won 45—35	U.15 Won 44—26
v. Bradfield	Won 69—41	Won 56—18
v. Rugby	Won 50—23	Won 58—28
v. Beachborough		Won 52—21
v. Dean Close	Won 46—45	'A' U.14 Won 54—23
v. Oundle	Lost 38—52	'B' U.14 Won 50—26
v. Winchester	Cancelled—Pool at Carmel closed	Won 60—31
v. Carmel		Won 61—30
v. Borough Road	Won 69—49	

WATER POLO

It seems only natural that the School should have a lively water polo group with such a fine swimming pool and so it has been this year. A squad of forty Seniors and Juniors played full time polo in the Easter term, playing in Area Ten of the English Championships. It is hoped that next year we will have more school fixtures as well.

After an exhibition match between Oxford City and the University our Senior and Junior teams prepared for their first taste of competitive play. The sides we played were, to be fair, either very poor or very good. The Seniors beat Aylesbury G.S. convincingly both home and away while the Juniors defeated both Denbigh H.S., Luton, and Barnwell School. However our sternest tests were against Bedford Modern who have won the London League on many occasions; the Seniors lost heavily home and away but the Juniors after losing badly away put up a stern fight in the home match losing by only two goals. Temple defeated Cobham in the first of what is hoped to be many House challenge matches.

This term the side has played matches after swimming matches and has been unbeaten against teams like Oundle, Rugby and The Leys. The most pleasing win was the 10-3 victory over the Physical Education students of Borough Road College two of whose number, David Collins and Peter Godfrey had already done so much to help get the game going in the School. The term will end with a quadrangular tournament with the School team taking on Oxford City, the University and Banbury Town.

Expansion of this sport depends very much on finance but it is a popular activity and one would like to see it grow alongside rather than instead of any of the major games.

J. J. L. Bone

THE STOWE BEAGLES

Despite the very wet season, which did not make for pleasant hunting conditions, some good days were had and the final tally of thirteen and a half brace was about average and showed an increase on that of the previous season. Hares proved particularly hard to catch during the early part of 1977. At the South of England Show at Ardingly the judges did not look favourably on the Stowe doghounds but the bitches were well up in all classes and the veteran championship was won by Ramrod. The pack will be entered, as usual, for the Harrogate and Peterborough Shows both of which are after the end of term. By kind permission of the Master of the Northumberland Beagles, Col. L. Y. Gibson, M.H., it is planned to repeat last year's very successful pre-season visit in the early part of September; this should give both hounds and hunt staff some good exercise in open country quite unlike Buckinghamshire. David Jacobs leaves the school this term after two seasons as a both competent and tactful Master; next season's Master is Roderick Ando who has whipped-in for two years. Last year's other whips, Simon Curling, Alistair Mitchell and Myles Salmon will all still be at Stowe for the coming season. Everybody who has ever had anything to do with the Stowe Beagles realises the enormous amount of work which both John and Anne Thornton do for the pack, particularly during the holidays and often at times which most people would consider anti-social hours—to them above all the continued success of the Hunt is largely due.

A. R. Pedder



OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE 1976

G. G. F. Barwood	Open Scholarship in Mathematics	Clare College, Cambridge.
T. J. Issaias	Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences	Pembroke College, Cambridge.
J. C. Broadhead	Exhibition in Natural Sciences	Exeter College, Oxford.
N. A. G. Butt	Exhibition in Law	Brasenose College, Oxford.
N. C. Kempe	Exhibition in History	Clare College, Cambridge.
J. S. Kreeger	The Savory Exhibition in Classics	Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.
D. K. Lloyd	Exhibition in Engineering	King's College, Cambridge.
S. McCarthy	Exhibition in Chemistry	Queen's College, Oxford.
J. S. Morton	Exhibition in Engineering	Churchill College, Cambridge.
A. J. Salmon	Exhibition in Engineering	Gonville and Caius, Cambridge.

PRIZE WINNERS

Basil Williams Memorial Prize
 Quentin Bertram Prize for Latin
 Charles Loudon Prize for Greek
 J. F. Roxburgh Prize for Classics
 Anthony Pearce Prize for Latin Oration
 Basil Aimers Prize for Reading
 Hayward Prize for Reading
 Harding Prize for Reading
 J. F. Roxburgh Prize for English Verse (Senior)
 Peters Bone Prize for English
 Bryan Henshaw Prize for English Speech (Senior)
 Bryan Henshaw Prize for English Speech (Junior)
 Gavin Maxwell Prize for English (Senior)
 Gavin Maxwell Prize for English (Junior)
 John Webster Prize for French
 J. G. Riess Prize for German
 Capel Cure Prize for French
 Telford-Wardley Prize for Spanish
 Scott-Gall Prize for History
 Syrett Prize for History
 Burroughs Prize for Church History
 Robert Barbour Prize for Divinity
 Wallace Prize for Geography
 Peter Bates Prize for Geography
 Robert Montagu Prize for Geology
 James Mayne Prize for Economics
 James Mayne Prize for British Government
 Stewart Prize for Mathematics
 Pearman-Smith Prize for Mathematics
 Humphrey Foster Prize for Physics
 W. D. Hards Prize for Chemistry
 Hayward Prize for Chemistry
 Choyce Prize for Biology
 Friends of Stowe Prize for Natural History (Junior)
 Gilling-Lax Music Prizes (Senior)

(Junior)

Boosey and Hawkes Cup
 Fanshawe Cup
 Anthony Howard Prizes for Art

Piano:
 Woodwind:
 Brass:
 Violin:
 Cello:
 Organ:
 Wind:
 Strings:
 Keyboard:
 Painting:

R. L. Law
 J. A. Smith
 C. F. Roxburgh
 C. F. Roxburgh
 C. F. Roxburgh
 D. R. B. Champion
 D. R. B. Champion
 D. R. B. Champion
 Julie Marler
 R. W. Humphreys
 L. J. M. Skagerlind
 Caroline Bridgwood
 Francesca Kay
 Francesca Kay
 M. P. W. Emanuel
 A. J. Jessel
 T. J. Bayntun
 G. D. G. Carr
 G. D. G. Carr
 M. G. Street
 A. v W. Groeneveld
 R. T. Lewis
 R. A. T. Stheeman
 C. S. G. Bagnall
 T. K. W. Hodgson
 J. A. Smith
 E. L. Meyer
 A. T. Clarke
 A. M. Mitchell
 A. P. Ward
 D. R. B. Champion
 D. K. Mumby
 M. C. Parker
 G. G. F. Barwood
 H. J. N. English
 P. H. Wolstenholme
 C. F. Roxburgh
 T. N. F. Durdin
 P. W. Durrant
 A. D. Broadhead
 T. J. Cooke, ma.
 J. A. Macdonald
 C. E. A. Hugill
 N. J. Comery
 N. D. Wright
 Francesca Kay
 M. H. H. Bading
 P. A. D. Lloyd
 P. W. Talbot
 H. D. Gregson-Williams
 J. W. M. Ritchie
 J. A. Macdonald
 H. G. C. Robertson

Friends of Stowe Prize for Woodwork
 John Holland Prize for Metalwork
 Lower School Prize for Woodwork
 White-Smith Prize for Aviation Activities
 Friends of Stowe Prize for General Knowledge
 David Sandhurst Prize
 Myles Henry Prize
 'Bene' Prizes:—

Sculpture:
 Pottery:
 Junior Art:

D. H. M. Williams-Ellis
 R. T. E. Orr
 A. G. Arbib
 P. M. Brocklebank, ma.
 G. W. Watson
 H. P. Ogden, mi.
 N. P. Bonnington
 R. A. T. Stheeman
 M. C. Parker
 D. A. Eaton

R. C. Appleby
 S. G. Appleton
 A. H. Austin
 E. D. Bottari
 N. A. G. Butt
 J. J. O'G. Cameron
 R. C. Carless
 G. D. G. Carr
 D. A. Eaton
 E. R. Freeman
 Christina Gould
 M. C. J. Gull
 R. P. H. Harris[2]

N. Hartley, mi.
 W. D. Hawthorne
 Francesca Kay [2]
 J. S. Kreeger
 A. R. J. MacKinnon
 A. C. Roxburgh, ma.
 C. F. Roxburgh [3]
 L. J. M. Skagerlind
 J. F. H. Vey
 Marcelle von Schoenberg
 P. H. Wolstenholme
 A. E. Zambellas

NEW BOYS AND GIRLS 1976

Bruce: (Spring) R. J. Fullman (N), T. M. Holland, mi. (N), P. G. Martin (N), A. I. S. Routledge (N). (Autumn) J. E. Arnold, D. S. Bajpai, S. E. Cave (N), S. A. Chorlton (N), *H. W. A. Gentle, S. A. McPhillips, H. W. Messenger, M. C. Turner, *L. G. Verdon-Roe, N. S. Winstone-Partridge, T. C. W. Yerburgh, mi.

Temple: (Spring) J. Henderson, A. J. Pool, D. P. Jensen. (Autumn) W. T. Allen, A. G. Arbib, W. T. B. Bryant, mi., S. M. Carroll, mi., A. P. Cherry, *D. S. Cooke, mi., A. W. R. Dangar, C. F. Harrison, C. D. Horn, *M. Houghton Brown, *D. P. G. Irvine, T. B. Lenon, *T. W. G. Lowe, G. W. Robinson, D. A. Venables, R. A. Whittaker, M. A. E. E. Wood.

Grenville: (Spring) S. A. Furlonger, R. G. McCreery, *J. S. P. Perring, Y-M. G. R. H. G. Riols, A. A. Salmon, mi. (Autumn) D. R. L. Boyd, D. E. Callow, A. L. D. Hicks, G. S. Jackson, J. S. Knowles, A. I. S. Swan, *G. N. S. S. Walley, J. G. Wheaton.

Chandos: (Spring) M. N. Butson, *J. R. Dew, *J. C. Hammond, J. J. Hogan, R. T. E. Orr. (Autumn) T. J. Bayntun, R. M. Coombs, J. C. Downer, H. W. Jennings, I. A. Keith, *T. E. Marriott, mi., P. A. Marshall. J. R. W. Martindale, P. J. W. Meacher, B. A. S. Mee, C. N. A. M. Antonaropoulos, J. P. R. Naudi, *P. J. Satow, C. L. C. Stone, M. A. Wallace Jones, mi.

Cobham: (Spring) S. W. Adam (N), J. W. M. Bemtley (N), *C. A. I. Clarke, mi. (N), *A. C. Rhodes, mi. (N), R. E. Roberts (N). (Autumn) J. E. Dewhurst, P. J. Dredge, V. Hope, mi., G. A. Lakha, *A. B. McLellan, C. P. C. Miles, *N. D. Rossiter, J. N. Shephard, *P. N. Taylor, mi., N. J. Moss, R. Vohora.

Chatham: (Spring) P. S. S. James Griffiths, *P. C. C. Nash, *J. A. Thompson-Schwab, T. von Trotha. (Autumn) F. S. Bakewell, J. M. Bolton, *S. G. Burrell, I. Dutton, R. M. G. Ewbank, mi., G. M. Hemsley, *J. B. D. Henderson, H. A. H. Merewether, C. D. Mersey, mi., *M. R. C. Opperman, N. L. Wellings, R. R. N. Yeoward.

- Grafton:** (Spring) J. H. Bennett. (Autumn) *A. P. Beney, *N. C. C. Clay, M. S. Emery, M. A. Lecchini, T. F. G. F. Moffatt, mi., T. R. Phillips, mi., C. J. Powles, mi., J. D. Rees, M. C. Streeton, N. J. Walley, R. M. Miller.
- Walpole:** (Spring) J. A. Campbell (N), J. D. S. Haskard (N), A. Heller (N). (Autumn) C. M. Folland (N), J. P. Garnett, Mi., *C. M. Gayford, R. W. Humphreys, H. P. Ogden, mi., A. M. G. Pelissier, Q. B. D. Peppiatt (N), *J. A. L. Spicer, J. H. B. Swanston, M. C. W. Turner (N).
- Lyttelton:** (Spring) A. C. Bird, mi., A. P. A. Block, (N), J. S. Peal (N), J. R. L. Thomas (N), *C. A. Wadsworth. (Autumn) M. H. H. Bading, M. Bucks (N), D. C. Burgess, A. J. Cattle, mi., N. D. Collins (N), J. M. Gould, K. R. Kelleher (N), G. J. R. Monbiot, M. I. Rutkowski, *W.G. Sharp.
- Stanhope:** (Autumn) Amanda Aykroyd, Elizabeth Ball, *Catherine Bartlett, Caroline Bridgwood, Caroline Cowper, Tracey Davis, *Elisabeth Dunnett, Christina Gould, Fiona Greenwood, Caroline Hill, Katherine Roberts.

* = O.S. Son or Daughter. (N) = Nugent

LEAVERS 1976

- Bruce:** (Spring) P. P. Ameel. (Summer) D. A. Bowman, ma., S. C. Bowman, mi., I. G. Campbell, O. L. Colville, J. W. H. Fitzherbert, A. J. Highwood, ma., A. D. Mann, S. S. Rahman, C. J. Terrett, C. F. Villiers, ma., N. W. James. (Autumn) D. K. Lloyd, ma., S. McCarthy, ma., G. H. Nimmo, C. J. Trower, U. von Fritsch.
- Temple:** (Spring) M. Bray. (Summer) G. N. Andrier, S. C. Bartlett, R. W. Bickerton, W. G. Cubitt, ma., P. C. A. Grint, N. C. McLoughlin, T. A. Mallett, A. S. Marsh, ma., T. D. Mitchell, P. N. Nelson, ma., C. J. Pooler, S. Rahman, J. C. Roxburgh, ma., The Hon. A. M. Stuart, J. P. Wheeler, ma. (Autumn) J. C. Broadhead, ma., R. D. Lord, J. M. Scowsill.
- Grenville:** (Summer) P. J. Barratt, ma., G. J. A. Bell, ma., A. Braimer Jones, G. H. Charlton, A. T. C. Green, A. H. Hudson, R. J. P. Lea, J. H. Walford. (Autumn) A. D. Barker, G. G. F. Barwood, L. J. A. Bell, N. A. S. Duthie, C.L. Halvorsen, W. D. Hawthorne, N. C. Kempe, ma., A. E. S. Osborne, Y-M. G. R. H. Riols, A. D. Wear, T. L. Terry, C. H. D. Cornwall.
- Chandos:** (Summer) R. Beckwith-Smith, N. A. Coates, ma., P. D. E. Guest, J. D. Hanks, R. Sarin, A. P. M. Prince, P. R. Rivalland, M. A. Sacks, C. R. Shackleton, F. Siddiqi, S. R. Stanley, ma., P. J. H. Vey, ma. (Autumn) N. A. G. Butt, J. S. Kreeger.
- Cobham:** (Summer) R. D. Austin, ma., A. A. Blanch, S. J. M. Cobb, A. Q. D. Cornforth, ma., D. J. N. Curzon, S. D. N. Foster, P. D. Harmer, J. R. C. Harris, ma., P. M. Hugill, N. A. P. Leto, F. Mauran, D. R. Ogilvie, G. R. J. Page, R. N. H. Reynolds, D. J. Salvesen.
- Chatham:** (Spring) T. von Trotha. (Summer) T. G. Cameron, S. C. E. Curwen, A. J. Goodwin, H. N. J. Gray, ma., T. Gregson-Williams, ma., R. A. Hamilton, S. W. Harries, N. M. Hobson, C. M. Johnstone, M. G. I. I. Lillingstone, M. D. Peto-Shepherd, A. R. Ruhemann, A. A. Tollemache, G. T. Wood. (Autumn) M. E. B. de Hamel, H. R. von Bergen, C. P. J. Wightman.
- Grafton:** (Summer) E. M. C. Arnold, ma., B. F. Barclay, T. M. Corbett, S. T. G. Guyer, ma., I. R. B. Harris, J. M. Hayward, A. P. Mauricides, D. P. Mills, P. Symes, M. A. G. Taylor. (Autumn) J. D. Guyer, J. E. Horrocks, ma., J. S. Morton, A. J. Salmon.
- Walpole:** R. A. Brown, E. O. S. Cliff, M. J. Richards, R. C. Richings, B. T. Robinson, P. C. Sisson, P. D. Weintraub, P. J. Williams, ma., G. M. Zambellas. (Autumn) J. M. G. Crosse, E. W. Kershaw, R. J. C. S. Mitchell, D. R. Wilson, ma.

- Lyttelton:** A. J. S. Black, P. St J. Chapman, J. M. Elworthy, S. C. Fraser, E. J. Johnstone, A. J. Powell, A. Sethi, T. P. H. Stephens, J. R. Wadsworth, ma., R. M. Walker, J. S. G. Jacobs. (Autumn) J. R. Harvey, T. J. Issaias, J. H. Rose, D. H. Samuelson.
- Stanhope:** (Summer) Joanna Bell, Nicola Hemsworth, Dorianne Lowe, Caitlin Mitchell, Vivien Slyfield. (Autumn) Sabina Ghandchi.

OLD STOIC NEWS

- The Lord Boyd-Carpenter** (6 1927) became Chairman of Rugby Portland Cement on 20th December 1976.
- B. C. Briant** (1 1935) was awarded the C.V.O. in the New Year's Honours, 1977.
- N. Broackes** (6 1951) has completed an appointment as Chairman of the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements Board.
- D.G. Choyce** (5 1973) was awarded a Golf Blue at Oxford in 1977.
- A. P. Clarke** (3 1946) is a Lecturer in Electronics and Electrical Engineering at Loughborough University of Technology. He is in charge of the Research Department of Digital Communications and has published **Principles of Digital Data Transmission** (1976) and **Advanced Data Transmission** (1977).
- H. S. L. Dundas** (8 1938) was awarded a C.B.E. in the New Year's Honours, 1977 and has been appointed a Director of Wembley Stadium.
- B. N. L. Fletcher** (5 1941) was appointed A.D.C. to The Queen in October, 1976, was awarded the C.B.E. in the New Year's Honours, 1977 and is currently Deputy Commander H.Q. South West District and Commander H.Q. Salisbury Plain.
- S. T. G. Guyer** (7 1976) has been commissioned in the Royal Marines and awarded the Royal Marines Commando Green Beret.
- J. A. Hayward, O.B.E.** (7 1941) sponsored Britain's sailing entry in the 1976 Olympic Games with the yacht **Stoic**.
- Sir Nicholas Henderson, G.C.M.G.** (3/8 1937) was appointed H.B.M. Ambassador to France in 1975 and was awarded the G.C.M.G. in the Jubilee Honours, 1977.
- H. V. Kemp** (6 1931) is shortly to publish his third book of poems: **Poems in Variety**.
- D.G. Levis** (2 1930) has been appointed Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Lincoln.
- D. C. A. Lloyd, M.B.I.M.** (6 1946) has been appointed Air Vice Marshal, Deputy Commander of R.A.F. Germany.
- C. R. P. Meyes** (1 1948) is Senior Vice-President of the Citibank N.A. in New York.
- P. C. Paisley** (8 1949) is Chairman of the West of Scotland Trustee Savings Bank.
- B. W. Pride** (4 1945) was awarded the Gold Medal of Honour of the British Equestrian Federation in 1976 and appointed Deputy Director of the Royal International Horse Show and of the Horse of the Year Show.
- J. M. Reay-Smith** (5 1933) has published **Why Not Live in Spain?** and **Discovering Spanish Wines**.
- A. J. O. Ritchie** (2 1946) has been appointed Deputy Chairman of Grindlay's Bank.
- K. J. S. Ritchie** (2 1938) has been appointed Legal Adviser to the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.
- H. D. Seccombe** (4 1934) was awarded the C.B.E. in the New Year's Honours, 1976.
- P. G. Shepherd** (6 1945) is Leader of West Sussex County Council.
- A. B. Silcock** (6 1945) is sailing round the world in his 30 foot cutter.
- D. Stickland** (1 1948) is Chairman of the International Institute of Biological Husbandry.

K. B. Thapar (4 1974) was elected President of the Cambridge Union in November, 1976.
I. A. Thomson (6 1971) plays Hockey regularly for England and Great Britain.
S. H. G. Twining (2 1951) was awarded an O.B.E. for services to export in the New Year's Honours, 1977.
Air Commodore The Hon. P. B. R. Vanneck, C.B., O.B.E., A.F.C., D.L., M.A., R.A.F. (Retd.) (1 1939) is Lord Mayor Elect of London.
C. S. Wallis-King, C.B.E. (7 1944) has been appointed Director of Service Intelligence at the Ministry of Defence with the rank of Major General.
P. M. Ward (2 1941) has been appointed Vice-President, Human Resources, Gulf Oil Co. Eastern Hemisphere.

MARRIAGES

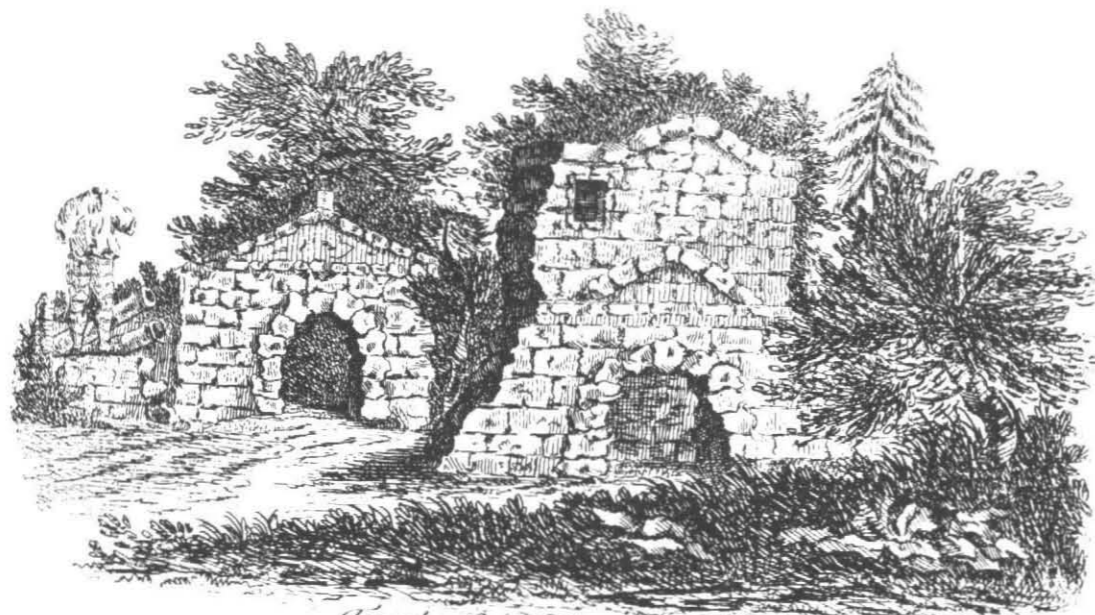
G. R. E. Arnot (4 1960) to Sally Howe in February 1974.
J. M. Blayney (4 1961) to Penelope Susan McCowen on 30th April 1976 by the Revd **H. B. Playford, M.A.** (Master 1925-1958).
H. G. J. Brooking (5 1968) to Francine Bracq on 3rd August 1974.
S. R. F. de Burgh (3 1970) to Karin Leighton-Boyce on 5th February 1977.
R. G. L. Cheatle (8 1972) to Amanda Shemilt on 18th December 1976.
C. H. Clucas (8 1960) to Jane Sniders on 18th September 1976.
R. C. M. Collisson (7 1967) to Angela Estelle Stewart on 15th June 1972.
M. Colston (3 1951) to Judith Angela Briggs on 8th June 1977.
C. J. S. (J.C.S.) Davies (2 1951) to Pamela Anne Sanders on 12th August 1976.
R. A. Durrant (8 1965) to Wendy Rowena Hinds on 24th July 1976.
J. M. Earle (7 1966) to Anne Elizabeth Williamson on 28th August 1976.
C. J. English (6 1969) to Mary McCarroll on 9th January 1977.
A. D. J. Farmiloe (9 1969) to Jacqueline Duby on 1st May 1976.
Prince Yuri Galitzine (4 1937) to Dr Jean Mary Shanks on 19th November 1976.
N. A. Geach (4 1971) to Sarah Caroline Whiteway on 31st July 1976.
R. I. Guinness (6 1957) to Sandra Brown on 2nd August 1975.
B. D. Henry (6 1937) to Gertrude Sarie on 7th October 1976.
J. R. James (3 1969) to Louise Denise Conway on 11th October 1974.
G. R. Pinkney (8 1962) to Rosaline Jane Mayo Champness sister of **C. P. M. Champness** (4 1965) on 8th March 1975.
R. J. Preston (1 1960) to Penelope Ames on 11th September 1976.
I. C. S. Ritchie (2 1971) to Angela Mary Reid on 1st January 1977.
A. R. G. Scott-Gall (2 1964) to Caroline Anne Scott on 8th September 1973.
R. D. Selby (4 1954) to Pamela Joan Burton on 16th August 1974.
The Revd D. T. M. Service (8 1945) to Gillian Margaret Beater on 30th December 1976.
T. E. B. Sopwith (3 1950) to Gina Hathorn on 7th May 1977.
S. G. Theunissen (7 1956) to Valerie Polgreen.

BIRTHS

To the wife of:
D. J. H. Birch (6 1950) a son on 24th May 1976.
Lieutenant Colonel The Hon. T. P. J. Boyd-Carpenter, M.B.E. (4 1956) a daughter on 15th May 1977.
H. G. J. Brooking (5 1968) a daughter on 5th April 1976.
R. C. M. Collisson (7 1967) a daughter on 2nd June 1976.
R. B. J. Dunipace (2 1966) a daughter on 22nd November 1976.
J. N. Graham-Brown (6 1963) a son on 14th February 1977.
C. D. Mullineux (2 1952) a son on 14th March 1977.
A. I. Nicholson (7 1967) a son on 2nd June 1976.
G. R. Pinkney (8 1962) a son on 29th November 1976.
G. M. Scholfield (5 1962) a son on 12th February 1977.
A. R. G. Scott-Gall (2 1964) a son on 6th August 1975; a daughter on 16th December 1976.
G. R. C. Walton (8 1966) a son on 1st April 1977.
N. K. W. Williamson (5 1957) a son on 17th February 1977.
G. M. Yannaghas (8 1960) a daughter in February 1977.

DEATHS

G. M. Bagshawe (3 1940) on 19th October 1976.
C. R. T. Cunningham (5 1935) in 1977.
P. J. de Havilland (6 1930) on 14th January 1977.
D. P. E. Holmes (7 1932) in 1968.
The Earl of Kilmorey (formerly **F. J. R. P. Needham**) (4 1933) on 12th April 1977.
A. J. Kilpatrick (5 1936) on 19th December 1976.
Brigadier A. J. Knott (Bursar 1948-1951) on 28th January 1977.
R. Luddington (4 1959) in November 1976.
Major R. W. Russell (Bursar 1935-1940) on 20th April 1977.
R. H. Scott (2 1928) on 20th April 1977.
E. C. P. Whinfield (1 1928) in 1976.



Temple of Modern Virtue

Botham del. et sc. 1750

THE
LITERARY
SECTION

EDITORIAL

In trying to select poems for the Literary Section I came up against the problem of trying to decide what makes a "good" poem. Is it a poem perfectly written, with a well thought out rhyme scheme? Or is it a well expressed series of thoughts? The answer is left to the individual, but in either case surely a piece of writing is worthwhile if it produces any thought at all in the reader's mind—more than thought—feelings.

The poems and prose in this section have each to some degree sown seeds of thought in me for which I am grateful.

I hope you will allow these pages at least the time they deserve and if possible—the thought.

CONTENTS:

End of Innocence
An Epigram of Martial
Quid Bles, Asterie . . . After Horace
Poem Celebrating The End Of An Era
Five
Haiku—Self Beliefs
They're Coming
When At Last
History Repeats
Le Monde et la Fille
On Remaining Suave, Whilst Riding a Wave
The Lark
Homecoming
Hope
Reflections
Could be a Negative ambition
Cercle Fictif—Ou Réel?—
Remember Me When I'm Gone Away
Anything or Nothing
The Judgement
Lifesong
At Spes Non Fracta
"Dulce et Decorum Est" Revisited

WITH MANY THANKS TO:

JANETTE HILL

MIKE TOMLIN

ANDY CLARKE

PATRICK WILSON

CHARLES MONTGOMERY

M. SKAGERLIND

C. ROXBURGH

D. CHAMPION

F. KAY

N. HARRIS

A. BUNTING

K. ROBERTS

C. MONTGOMERY

M. TOMLIN

F. EGERTON

D. CHETWYND

A. BUNTING

F. TAYLOR

D. EATON

P. ORR

A. SWAN

E. BOTTARI

E. BOTTARI

C. RIDEOUT

T. PHILLIPS

E. MEYER

C. BARTLETT

R. HARRIS

COVER DESIGN

ARTWORK

END OF INNOCENCE

Watch the morning come, a hanging note
Will wake the natural sleeper;
A descant from the warbler's throat
Soon blossoms amidst the creeper.
Splintered light and spattered song
Meet the woodland dawning,
As rising through the twisted throng
The birds sing of morning.

And weary night the day did call
Life over death, over all.

Dark was the spark and the symbol,
But now the gulls chase the night,
The buttercups and bees wing nimble
Give their flame for light.

And there, by the disused mill,
Azure pools of light appear:
They reach to the thickets on the hill
And dance in a sky dawn clear.

And weary night the day did call
Life over death, over all.

When the bells sound over the water
The town crowds into view,
A horse without a halter
Winning what the sheep once knew.
A fractured skyline cuts the light
Where the smoking cylinders climb,
As if to kiss the dethroned night,
And to say farewell to time.

And weary night the day did call
Life over death, over all.

Down in the dale a ribbon flows
And passes the hill unaware:
As West looks East, the water goes
Unhurried by the high twin stare.
Men and country nudge each other,
The chimneys bud with the pines,
Man spills into the bosom of Mother,
While past the hill the river winds.

And weary night the day did call
Life over death, over all.

The wind sighs through the sheep strewn leas
And the morning rests above:
She breeds in shadow behind the trees
Leaving music and the dove.
When the mirrors flash, the town will speak
And fill the fields with warning:
The song has gone, and with the meek
That spectral spell of morning.

And weary day the night will call
Death over life, after all.

MICHAEL SKAGERLIND

(i)
birth is far off now;
before the end I must judge
the worth of my years.

HAIKU
—SELF-BELIEFS

(ii)
barred each end by night
life's murmur grows to a shout
that dies at sunset.

(ix)
enjoyment of truth
is life's greatest gift; let me
inherit the truth.

(iii)
deepest truths are found
not in the world, but in those
whose being creates it.

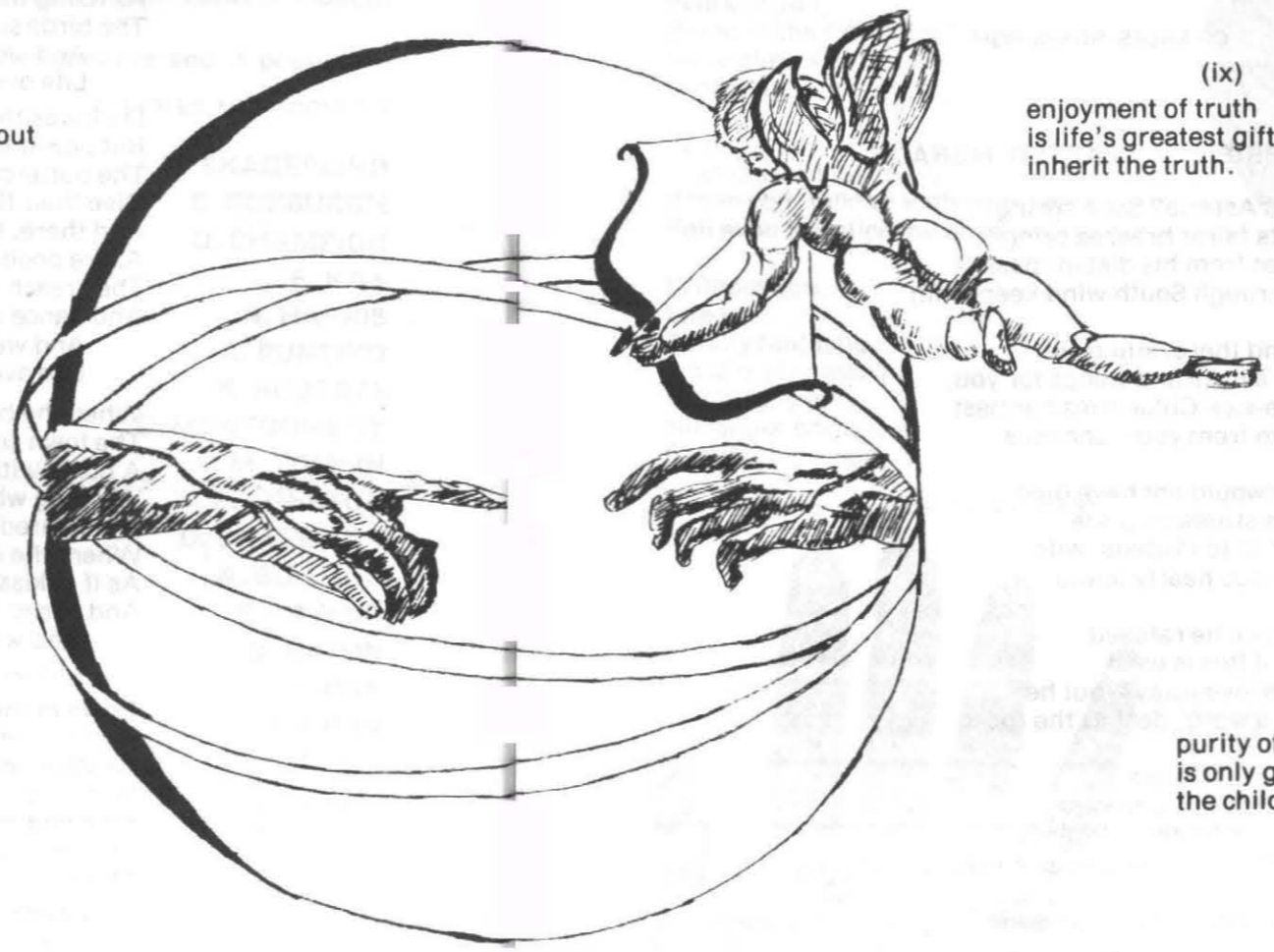
(viii)
to recreate birth's
purity needs the love that made
birth reality.

(iv)
beauty is emotion,
curious enlightenment
through something perceived.

(vii)
purity of mind
is only gained at birth; then,
the child of society.

(v)
great art records the
deepest perceptions that birth
created through life.

(vi)
emotion stems from
nature and human feeling,
reconciled by love.



AN EPIGRAM OF MARTIAL

The audience here has praised my books;
A rival poet says they tell a lie.
I care not much: 'tis not the cooks
But guests I hope my dinners satisfy.

CHARLES ROXBURGH

QUID BLES, ASTERIE AFTER HORACE

Wherefore these fears Asterie? Soon spring
Shall come and with its fairer breezes bring
Back Gyges from his distant post
But now a rough South wind keeps him

Confined at Oricus; and there, still true,
He spends each night awake and weeps for you,
While love-sick Chloe tries her best
To lure him from you—she tells

Him that Bellerophon would not have died
If he had overcome his stubborn pride
And given in to Proteus' wife.
Or that Peleus nearly found

Himself in Tartarus since he refused
To bed Hyppolyte. All this is used
To turn his love away—but he
Hears not a word, deaf as the rocks

Of Icaros. No, rather you beware
Lest young Enipeus catch you unaware,
Attract you more than decency
Allows—though no-one else can race,

Or swim down Tiber's yellow course as swift
As he. To him the Roman maidens lift
Adoring eyes, but he ignores
Them all, and hounds you day and night

Close up your house, and let him serenade
Unheard your shuttered windows—he shall parade
Outside, while you unheeding sit
Also awake, and nightly weep.

DAVID CHAMPION

POEM CELEBRATING THE END OF AN ERA

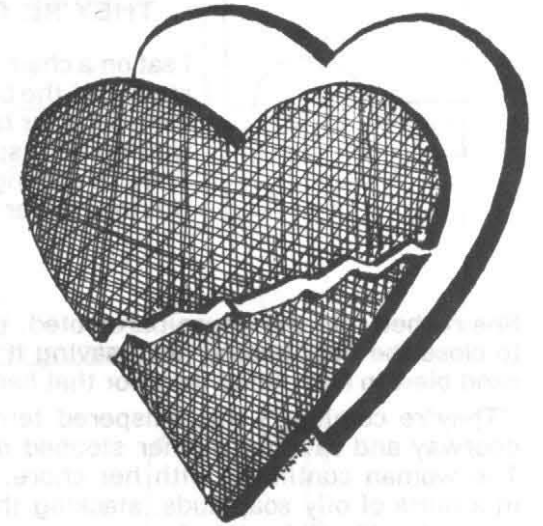
Without you,
Life is distinctly rosy,
Like the poet's "poesy",
Unwithered and bright.

Without you,
Being in the right place
For a glimpse of your face
Is no longer life-saving.

Without you,
I can discard my tears
When you, talking with your peers,
Fail even to notice my absence.

Without you,
Life is:
Totally fantastic,
Absolutely amazing,
Frightfully jolly,
No longer boring,
Gregarious again.

FRANCESCA KAY



FIVE

Five men I know.
The first will not respond,
Can see no further than himself—
'If all is well, why look for more?'
The second says, 'Okay,' but leaves it there.
He fears intrusion, that his joy will go:
'I am, and one day may be more,
Now let me be.'
See the third, a philosopher,
Who shrouds himself in proof.
A fourth hovers on the edge, he wets his toes,
He will not dive—'Better to forget,
My friend, than tear your soul apart.'
Then comes the last. 'I have searched,
Therefore I am, therefore I search for more.'
He alone is honest with himself.

NICK HARRIS

THEY'RE COMING

I sat on a chair
staring at the blank wall
before me for hours on end,
waiting for inspirations.
They're coming I was told.
But they never did.

* * *

She rushed into the house barefooted, panting wildly, without even pausing to close the door behind her, leaving it to bang idly in the wind. A gust of sand blew in and dulled the floor that had just been polished.

"They're coming," she whispered tentatively as she reached the kitchen doorway and saw her mother stooped over the washing-up. She hesitated. The woman continued with her chore, scrubbing the grease-stained china in a mass of oily soap-suds, stacking them noisily on the draining board at intervals. She did not reply.

"I said, they're coming, Ma," the girl insisted. And there was more silence, and uncertainty and banging of dishes.

"Why don't you answer me when I say they're coming, Ma? Do something, stop them. They won't be far away now, Ma."

She was quiet for a minute. The door banged uncontrollably. The woman started and looked up unseeingly at the girl for a minute. She resumed her task.

"How can you stand there, washing, scrubbing, carrying on as if nothing had happened? I'm trying to warn you Ma, they're coming."

Her voice rose hysterically, and soon her screams were filling the room.

"They're coming, they're coming, can't you hear them coming?" She ran over to the sink and pulled a plate out from the slimy water and threw it vehemently down on the floor, so that it smashed into little pieces.

"Ma, do you know I've seen them with my own eyes. I've seen them coming." She smashed another plate. "Why won't you just listen to me?" she pleaded and ran out of the room cutting her feet on the shattered china.

"You'll be sorry," she screamed. "One day you'll be sorry that you didn't listen to me when I said, 'they're coming.'"

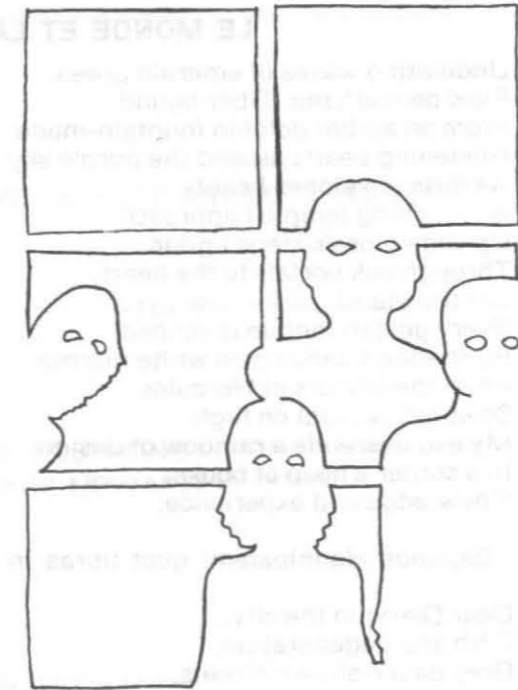
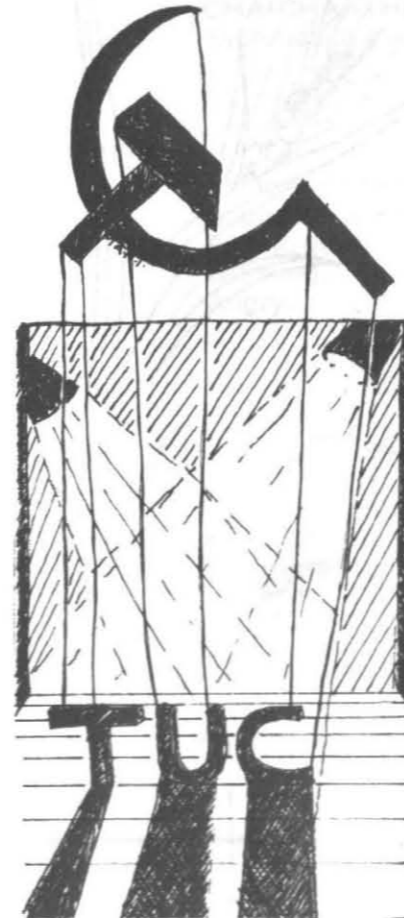
The woman went to a cupboard and got out a broom and started sweeping up the debris, and wondered for how much longer she would have to watch her daughter act out the nightmare of her mind.

KATHY ROBERTS

WHEN AT LAST

When at last you gaze
out through your window
and see me walking
in the rain,
don't turn and run,
it's only me.
I just want to gaze in,
and see you move,
hear you talk,
and know
you
Then I'll go,
again in the rain,
with your eyes
on my back.

CHARLES MONTGOMERY



HISTORY REPEATS

They are coming,
To look for a switch to turn off the light
So the ticking remains while the pendulum's still.
The trickling stream is controlled
And the memory of freedom is only written in secret words,
Never spoken.

They are seeing
Our faith burned like a feather in the fire.
The hope we had is destitute and still,
But silence was always impossible.
Now a God that we worshipped has forgotten our sins;
Just a shoulder to cry on.

They are conquering,
But the people are blind to political actors,
For the crowd are amused by a stage show of lies.
But the mirror reflects, as they yawn at themselves
And the dominoes fall, one by one,
Recurring.

And after the fall, history recalled;

"They came, they saw, they conquered."

MIKE TOMLIN

LE MONDE ET LA FILLE

Undulating waves of emerald green
Flow beneath me, Tiber bound.
From an amber dolphin fountain-made
Glistening pearls ascend the purple sky.
As dusk envelopes beauty
A crouching temple I approach.
Up wide mosaic steps I glide
Through oak portals to the heart.
Central stands an incense pyre.
Every golden tongue is echoed
By shadows dancing on white marble.
From the labours of Hercules
Sculpted parapet on high
My eye descends a rainbow of design.
In a corner a heap of books,
Knowledge and experience:

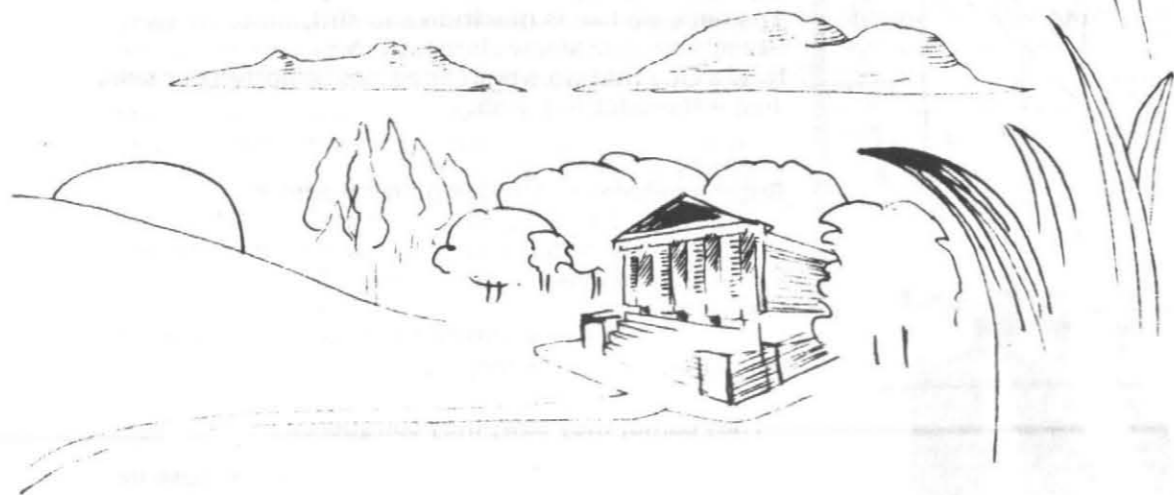
"Expende Hannibalem: quot libras in duce summo invenies?"

Dear Diary: in the city,
Filth and degeneration,
Grey paper-strewn streets,
Dried-up fountains of concrete
"rubbish shit scratch dung poison".

Le monde, Le monde,
My paragon unchanged by time
Je t'aime beaucoup.

Carpe diem.

FRANK EGERTON



"ON REMAINING SUAVE, WHILST RIDING A WAVE"

The power is behind you
The incentive is inside you
Your energy is pure
That drives you.
You're not a bore
Can reach the core.

**THE WILL IS STRONG
THE WAY IS UPWARD**

Green to eternal blue to
Grey. Ché poured on
CHAICHARTHETEA
Evolution in a womb.

**THE CONCEPT STOPS
SUPPRESSED HEREAFTER**

Treacle strangles
Round the ankles
Pulling down.
Letching.
Angry.

**THEN CRASH INSTINCTIVE
DUMBFOUNDED UNKNOWING:**

Leisurable lethargy
Drips like lard.
Claustrophobic treacle, like shackles, prevented
Life from spreading
Never ending.

C-H-U-G-H C-H-U-G-H C-H-D-R-U-G-H-H C-Hhhh

DOMINIC CHETWYND

MOON-FALL

the lark has left
the rainbow-coloured cage
in favour of wings

a flight

cries he
"this night grows colder
than most without
cover of cloud"

dragons in the ground have dissolved
laymen lie asleep in vain cases
of darkness and ribald rare dream

grass hiss
grass hisses
as flakes of bewilderment
fall from the sky

pain grows on the hill
for the scurrilous moon
does not sculpture the
line of the vale with
his white blood

dead sands of unwritten fancy
lie wanton and waste
'neath the unflowing tide
of his darkfold doom

the moon

the moon

has fallen tonight
silent as featherfall
fighting not an atom
in the sky
he died

lark lies despondent
in canopy cage
of a secondary wilderness

semi-sulking soporific calm

quite calm

ANTHONY BUNTING



HOMECOMING

Trudging up the heathered hill,
wind in my face—eyes squinting.
Gulls swirling and swaying about my head—
almost stationary, feathers flickering.
Clothes flapping I lean towards the land.

Then I see the speckled sea foaming white,
the cracked claws pounding against the rocks, resistant,
the white surf curling over,
Hammering.

Then a shoot of rock-battered spray surging upwards,
white against the murky void.
To land hissing round
Seaweed rocks.

A different wave of black approaches
racing across the purple highland.
Driving rain and sleet,
wind bent and vicious,
sting my bare face and hands,
red and numbed.

I cower behind a rock
sheltering from the squall,
but watching the sea, more vicious now,
I see the wind cutting the tops of waves,
in wisps and sweeping them across the water,
racing, swerving, dying suddenly.

It sweeps on, merging sea with sky
leaving a momentary brightness before the
hanging sheets of grey enclose once more.

FRED TAYLOR



HOPE?

I gazed across the barren fields of life
Towards those deep grey-furrowed brows of clouds,
In which I sought some light of hope in strife,
And found receding shapes in dwindling shrouds
Of undiluted mist. There I should find
My world of harmony, where happiness
Can cast away the mantle of mankind
From grief, to a transcending joyfulness.

Often we search and do not find. Alone in
A vacuum of harm we know not who
We are, nor where we go. Face your gross sin,
Sick fool; there's nobody to blame but you.
Soon may a timeless peace bred from that place
Rise, change and shape our devastated race.

DAVID EATON

TROUBLE

Through the softly painted window
Above the seething silence of the mother deep
Up past the brooked and brackened greenery
To the huge iron face of the granite eye.

Harsh, yet inviting, close to the clouded sky
Ominously standing in lonely jaggedness,
Stirring the tightened guts of hot despair
To yearn for the diluted softness of the summit.

Away, from the crushing strain of the colliding faces of the crowded room,
Away, from the everlasting whirlpool of taut emotion
Ripping at the milk skin of the Oasis' peace,
Becoming leafless in the arid sirocco air.

Alone, all alone, on a hill,
Staring at nothing,
Comforted by nothing staring back.
Smiling at the vales of trouble smothered,
Hidden by the cloud grey sea.

Content in silence and peace
Wrapped warm in lonely freedom,
Safe and secure, sleeping with the void,
Yet still disturbed by the hurtful whining voices of the valley,
Pulling the poor boy down.

TITUS FORBES ADAM

REFLECTIONS

I saw a man
With drooping shoulders
His clothes disarranged
And in his eyes
A haunting look
Of sadness
And by these signs
I knew his heart
Was breaking
For he was just
Like other men
Who risk
Their peace of mind
And lose
In some sweet
Enterprise

And so I thought
If he had
Owned a heart
Of flint that flashes
Fire
But softens not
I would not see
Him
Broken now
With sorrow
But then I knew
A heart like that
Could never
Know the sweet
Details of tasted
Joys
He must have known
To be so
Brokenhearted.



And so perhaps
He would
Prefer to have it
Thus
To live with such
Intensity
That every day
His heart would know
The breathlessness
Of joy
Or the depths
Of uttermost
Depression

And realising this
I smiled
At him
For smiles are said
To help a fellow
On his way
And he smiled
Back at me
For it was I
Standing there
Smiling back at me
Through
The looking glass.

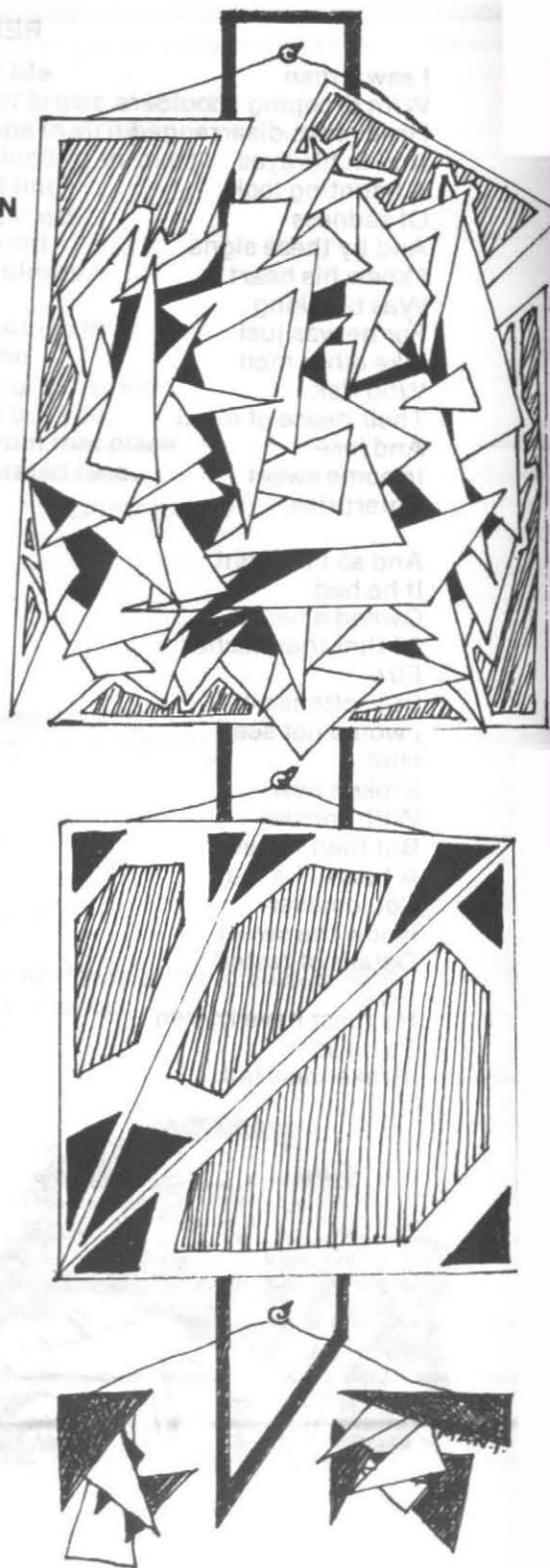
PATRICK ORR

COULD BE A NEGATIVE AMBITION

So much you'd like to do
 That when you see how much there is
 You see how small you are
 And see that it's just not worth it
 And you find you'll take far more
 Out of your life that is so small
 Compared to what is eternal
 Yes, that world,
 Daily, confined, condemned in papers;
 And that sky
 That they try to explain,
 This dot and that dot
 One with them
 One without;
 I'm without
 'Without a city wall'
 A barrier, this side and that
 My side and theirs
 My years for tears for years
 And to try and live them
 Is a 13th task
 Or an 11th commandment
 'Thou shalt live today and tomorrow'
 No wonder they've made our escape illegal,
 No, not drugs, not directly, anyway
 More a knife, a gun, or perhaps a long fall.
 A self-pulled hair trigger
 With the second finger on the safety catch,
 Just in case you get convinced
 Or find another reason to hold on
 Bothering to look for another small
 item of pleasure.
 There's just too much to do
 In the short, fenced life that is your own
 And the world is too big
 To think of everything you'd

A life is just too short
 To squeeze in all there is to do
 A life is never all joy or love
 As there would be nothing left
 For the rest of them
 Who say they live out there.

ANDREW SWAN



REMEMBER ME WHEN I AM GONE AWAY

Garde mon souvenir quand je t'aurai quitté,
 Partie dans le pays du silence, loin très loin;
 Quand tu ne pourras plus me tenir par la main,
 Et moi, quand prête à partir, ne pourrai rester.
 Garde mon souvenir quand tu ne pourras dévoiler
 Jour après jour nos préparatifs pour demain:
 Garde seulement mon souvenir; tu comprends bien
 Qu'il sera trop tard pour penser ou pour prier.
 Si pourtant tu devais m'oublier quelque temps
 Et te souvenir de moi après, ne t'afflige pas;
 Car si ténèbres et corruption laissent derrière moi
 Un vestige des pensées qu'autrefois j'ai eues,
 Il vaut bien mieux que tu oublies en souriant
 Que tu te souviennes et que tu sois abattu.

ETIENNE BOTTARI



CERCLE FICTIF —OU RÉEL?—

Pureté
 Beauté, Simplicité;
 Symboles d'une terre fraîchement créée.
 L'Homme pour y dominer s'est battu;
 Avant en sa grande puissance il a cru.
 L'Homme pour s'y imposer a détruit;
 Maintenant devant cet abîme il fuit.
 Symboles d'une terre durement usée;
 Inflation, Corruption,
 Destruction.

ETIENNE BOTTARI

ANYTHING OR NOTHING

He looked at the wall,
A spot began to grow larger,
Seeming to envelope him.
All he could see was total darkness.

Was it the end
Or could it be a new beginning?
He began to relax,
Being able to hear and feel.

He went to sleep,
Only to be woken by the prick of a scalpel.
He could feel the probing forceps,
Now in his opened body.

Then all he could feel was pain ;
The probing reached his brain.
A voice said, "Too many
Just for one long trip."

They wheeled him out;
His open body fighting the air,
Then he was gone.

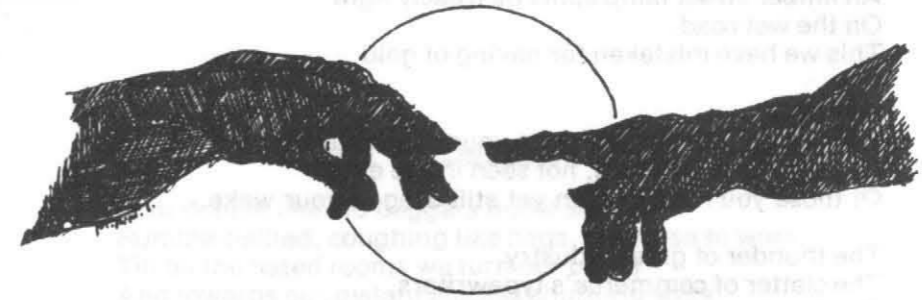
CHRIS RIDEOUT

Then, after they had all
Gone, there was blackness.
Then a point of light
Seemed to be falling
And another over there
And another there.
Shooting stars filled the sky,
Memories of childhood
Flashed through my mind;
"Wish on a star," said a tiny
Voice. "Wish on a falling star."
Then I found myself on
A grey, stone, spiral staircase.
I walked down and instinctively
Put my bare arm in front
Of me, showing the square scar on it.
I walked slowly in a doorway.
I knew this was the last part.
A barrier of living energy
Was there and if any
Upright opponent challenged it
He would be blasted by a bolt
Of energy into nothingness.
A blaze of light and energy
Met me as I walked through.
My ears whistled and I felt
Giddy and infinitesimally small.
Then it died away.
I was through.

TOM PHILLIPS

THE JUDGEMENT

I was on the roof of the world.
All around me was open sky,
Like a huge inverted bowl
And in it hung the stars.
They blazed there hung by
An invisible thread,
Thousands upon thousands of
Brilliant prickles of fire.
There was no sound anywhere.
It was as though I stood on
The last edge of the universe,
And if I fell I would fall
Out of time.
Every sun and star
Was focused on me,
Contemplating, considering, judging.
Only the right birth
Would allow me to pass.
Any unrightful challenger
Would be brushed into
Nothingness as a man
Might brush a fly from his sleeve.
Suddenly the sky wheeled and
The stars slanted and changed.
The Hydra stretched lazily over
The heavens while the ship
Sailed sedately past with
The Lion stalking behind it.



LIFESONG

I see the world
and love what life contains.

All, all is golden,
full of wondrous care.

For though I know hard grief, sharp needle pains,
The glory's more when bitter with despair.

I see glory
This I call Lifesong.

God made and even died for every man.
Cascades of wonder!

even if 'twere wrong ,
I would not change one dustmote from his plan.

I see modern man
Living in his dream.

Self is a phantom,
tarnish on God's gleam.
Illusion bleeds away, leaving the soul,
But without Lifesong, he'll never be whole.

I see whirling chaos
I know order.
Lifesong acts a play that knows no border.
But our hate kills unscene scenes,
for we're blind
To all but drills of hate that scream and grind.

I see real love
That is creation's span,
By which our lives are but a clockwork trod.
I only write in symbols made by Man,
But Lifesong
is the spirit-art of God.

ERNEST MEYER

AT SPES NON FRACTA?

An amber street lamp spills its treacly light
On the wet road.
This we have mistaken for paving of gold.

London,
Your bright lights blind us to your cruel realities:
Such harshness untold, not seen in the eyes
Of those you have beaten yet still drag in your wake.

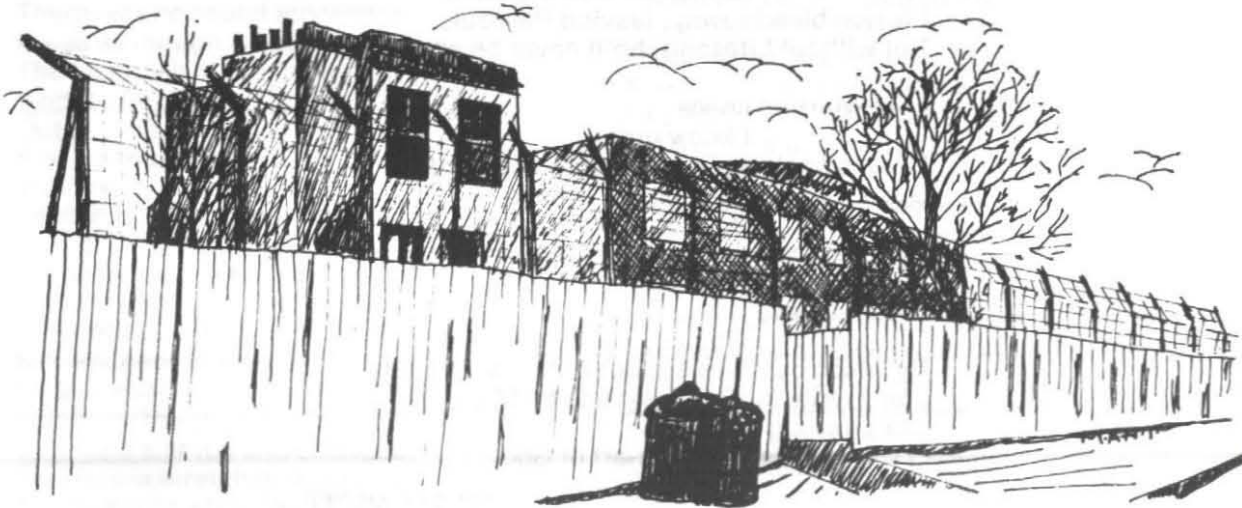
The thunder of great industry,
The clatter of commerce's typewriters,
The laughter of those riding on the crest of your wave,
Block our ears to the sobs of the victims
Of your crime called 'progress':
Children robbed of innocence,
Men robbed of pride.

Your monstrous tower blocks,
With their million uncounted windows,
Are mirrors of your world:
"The individual is dead. Long live Society!"

London,
You are no smooth running machine of life.
The cogs are in place; you have the masses for fuel;
But there are spanners in your works.

Only the rain cries
And knows that your rat-race
Is a suicide game.

CATHERINE BARTLETT



"DULCE ET DECORUM EST" REVISITED

Bent double like old beggars under sacks,
Rumble-bellied, coughing like hags, we curse to work,
Till on the hated rooms we turn our backs
And towards our distant studies shuffling shirk.
Boys march asleep. Many have lost their books
But loaf on, bored to tears by grey-beard loons;
Drunk with routine, they hang their minds on hooks,
And measure out their lives in coffee spoons.

CLASS! CLASS! Quick, boys!—An ecstasy of fumbling,
Grabbing the clumsy arch-files just in time;
But someone, toast in hand, is too slow, mumbling,
Scowling through the slicked-back British slime . . .
Grim, through distorted panes and rain-lashed light,
Under a master's glare, I see him frowning.

In all my dreams the beauties of Stowe are hid—
I see the downpressed kid, the master frowning.

If in some smothering dreams you too could feel
The dread depression that they flung him in,
And watch the young, bright eyes, life-kindled, dull to steel,
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;
If you could feel, at every beat, the fist
That crushed his eager heart (now sorrow-stung),
Recall the joys of youth that he has missed
Imprisoned here — the words that burned his tongue—
My friend, you would not tell with pride, by no means so,
To children ready-signed to pillared strife,
The old lie: "My boy, when you leave Stowe,
You'll know and love the beautiful all your life."

R. P. H. HARRIS
(After Wilfred Owen)



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