

THE STOIC



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THE STOIC

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EDITORIAL

'Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose'?

How appropriate is this well-known maxim to the system of change at Stowe? Members of the School are continually advocating change, yet few seem to know exactly what form these changes should take. There have been, in recent years, what may seem to be major alterations or improvements, but their successes must be measured.

To take two very recent examples: the School Representative Council and the Drama Festival: the School Representative Council was formed in the Autumn Term of 1980, its object being 'to improve teacher-pupil relations and communication with the Headmaster'. This was an admirable purpose, but though the Council initially received a great deal of notice and publicity it seems now to have sunk into comparative obscurity. It claims among its achievements alterations in Chapel and Stances. But though the masters' processions may be phased out the noise at the end of the services is as high as ever. Experiments in voluntary Chapel are welcomed—but not always for the right reason! The Drama Festival, which took place in the Spring Term, was a great success, particularly with more participation by members of the School in its administration. But there were disadvantages: no-one could see every play: actors could see hardly any: it still took the same time and energy to prepare, and days afterwards to recover.

Yet these are only two examples of change, whether good or bad. Many changes and innovations that have taken place during the last few years are indisputably for the good. The swimming pool is now hardly new, but those who swim in it would hardly find it 'la même chose' as swimming, voluntarily or compulsorily, in the lake. More recent examples are: the Drayson Hall, the all-weather pitch, industrial conferences, House at-homes, weekend leave, the revived Debating Society, 'New' sports such as archery, sculling and now croquet have appeared to widen Stowe's range of opportunities and give those who are less keen on more conventional games a chance to develop other interests.

We must conclude that Stowe **has** changed; it is not the same. And yet . . . Changes other than the superficial are necessary for real improvement in a School's life, a change in outlook towards more enthusiasm and more open-mindedness. One innovation which was no doubt expected to have great effect was the admission of girls. Has their appearance done much towards the eradication of 'male chauvinism'? I think not.

Fiona Wilson

SPRING AND SUMMER 1981

Head of School	H. W. A. Gentle	Head of Grenville	D. E. Miller
Second Prefect	D. C. Burgess, ma.	Prefect of Defaulters	R. M. Miller
Head of Chatham	S. G. Burrell	Head of Grafton	T. F. G. F. Moffat
Head of Stanhope	Amy L. D. Chamier	Head of Lyttelton	G. J. R. Monbiot
Prefect of Chapel	R. M. Coombs, ma.	Prefect of Dining Hall	H. P. Ogden
Head of Bruce	M. C. Fenwick	Head of Walpole	A. M. G. Pélissier
Assistant Prefect of Mess	J. P. Garnett	Head of Cobham	N. D. Rossiter, ma.
Head of Chandos	S. R. Huntley-Jones	Head of Temple	T. J. G. Sparrow
Prefect of Mess	I. A. Keith, ma.	Prefect of Library	P. N. Taylor
Prefect of Grounds	A. E. Lloyd	Prefect of Roxburgh Hall	R. R. N. Yeoward

As another academic year comes to an end, and 'A' and 'O' Level candidates look forward to a rest and eventual news of their successes, we record in the following pages two terms of intense, almost feverish, activity. A glance at the reports on the various clubs and societies, and indeed at the School calendar, will give a clear indication of what has been going on. As is so often the case, the weather has been a severe handicap, even this term, much to the frustration of those games-players whose sports are wholly at the mercy of the weather. Cricket has been particularly affected, and we offer our sympathy to those whose talents here have been so restricted this season.

The most unfortunate victim of the weather was Speech Day, when for the second year running the careful organization was disrupted and many guests were again unable to hear the visiting speaker, Lord St Oswald, in person. Some consolation for this was to be found in the general mood of enjoyment and in the success of the various exhibitions, perhaps more numerous than ever before. We report the Headmaster's and Lord St Oswald's speeches in full.

Indoor pursuits, less vulnerable to the weather, have continued to flourish. The musical highlight of the Spring Term was the performance in Chapel of the Mozart Requiem and his Symphony No 40, and there have been various other musical offerings on a large or small scale. The Drama Festival in the Spring Term was highly successful; this term has seen two Staff plays—Rattigan's *Separate Tables* and *Harlequinade*, and productions of Euripides' *Hippolytus*, and of *The Roses of Eyam* by the Junior Congreve Club.

It is encouraging to hear and read that more and more people are taking a serious interest in the various industrial and careers conferences which are being organized, and are greatly benefiting from them.

The Himalayan Expedition was an enormous success, and we print later Mr Potter's account of it together with some of the photographs taken during it. Energetic out-door activity seems to be making a steadily stronger appeal to the School.

We welcome Mr Ewens to the Staff this term, and we say a regretful farewell to a number of masters who have served the School for varying lengths of time: Mr Vincent (who left in the Spring Term), Mr Bedford-Payne, Mr Leeds and Mr Townley. We wish them all every success. We report with deep regret the death during the Easter holidays of Wilf Stokes, who had served the School devotedly for many years and endeared himself to countless members of the community, masters and boys.

We congratulate Mr and Mrs Meredith on the birth of a daughter and Mr and Mrs Weston on the birth of a son.

News has recently reached us of three Old Stoics who have gained Firsts at Cambridge: T. J. Issaias (9 1976) Pembroke, in Chemistry; B. A. Nicholson (8 1978) Clare, in Engineering and C. F. Roxburgh (2 1977) Trinity, in Classics. We hope there will be more.

OBITUARY

Mr WILF STOKES

Wilf Stokes came to Stowe in February 1938 as an under groundsman. In the spring of 1940 he was called upon to do war service, and after doing his initial training he was posted to Germany where he was unfortunately captured and became a P.O.W. for the rest of his service career, until he was demobbed in the autumn of 1945.

On returning to Stowe he became 2nd groundsman to Sid Jones, a position he held for many years until Sid's retirement. Wilf then became Head Groundsman, the post he held until his death in April 1981.

Wilf was not only a good groundsman but a good friend to Stowe, as next to his family his work was very important to him, nothing being too much trouble in respect to the sports facilities at the school. Over the years in his spare time he took an active interest in the local sports grounds, helping Buckingham Cricket Club, Bowls Club etc.

The following lines remind me very much of him:

Be true to the best that is in you—Wherever you play the game.
 In matters important or trifling the rule is exactly the same:
 Be honest and straight in your dealings, be upright and fair and sincere;
 Stoop not to the smallest deception: Have nothing to hide or to fear:
 Thus win the respect of your fellows, and, when life's battle is won,
 The voice of the Master will greet you with,
 'Well done, good servant, well done.'

Brian Martin

LONDON—DAWN

Now the dawn shines above the roofs and houses,
 Spreading its gold throughout the sleeping city,
 Running its hands across the dirt and concrete,
 Soft as a lover.

Tower blocks glitter in the shafts of sunlight,
 Silent, they dominate the urban skyline
 And giant-like the coruscating titans
 Watch over London.

Petrol pollution hovers on the highways,
 Then casts its cloak around its victim.
 Ten thousand cars stutter sharply to motion,
 Snorting like bullocks.

Slowly the hive begins to hum with people,
 Full of talk and kisses and silent sadness,
 Full of empty faces and empty music,
 Roused, but still sleeping.

SPEECH DAY 1981

Mr John Taylor, Chairman of the Governing Body, opened the occasion by welcoming visitors and in particular Lord St Oswald. After referring to Lord St Oswald's distinguished career Mr Taylor spoke of the dangers now facing Independent Schools from doctrinaire hostility and stressed the need to preserve Stowe and similar institutions for future generations and oppose the creation of an authoritarian state.

The Headmaster's Speech

My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen. Two American psychologists have put together the most comprehensive collection of data relating to the heredity intelligence yet assembled: and come to no firm conclusion. I.Q. is inherited, they say, to some extent; but to what extent is not known. This, says *The Times*, is rather remarkable. . . . And now to serious matters. I suspect that the primary purpose of a School's Speech Day is to provide ideas for the end-of-term Leavers' Review. Yet, for all that, the Speech Day connoisseurs among us must not be selfishly cynical. The School is its people and the achievements of its members deserve proper recognition. There is, however, a danger, to which a school of Stowe's theological persuasion ought to be sensitive, that a fulsome recital of results will be a vain repetition. I shall, therefore, compress my summary of those results as closely as possible, drawing special attention to the most notable of them. I shall explore with some care those areas of the school's life which most clearly illustrate the direction in which we seem to be moving or where improvement is most needed and then, before ending with a warm tribute to our distinguished guest, look briefly into the future.

Shortly after that dampish day when we met for this occasion last year, two fifths of the school sat their O and A level examinations. At A level the results were, for Stowe, with some conspicuous exceptions, bad ones. The exceptions included a handful of subsequent Oxbridge candidates and they went on to do an excellent term's work in the autumn; they collected four awards between them. Also, at the top of an average Fifth Form, more boys than usual won a full house of A grades and several others were close on their heels. In general, though, we must do better than that. I shall return to that theme later.

The year's sport has been a mixture. A light-weight, but courageous, 1st XV won few matches but it included among its victims our old rival, Oundle; that was good! The Under 14s were unbeaten—a success born of enthusiasm, hard work and good leadership. The Hockey XI won more matches than they lost but never struck form in their away matches. The Cricket XI started this season well with a ten wicket win against the Free Foresters, but rain has interfered with nearly all their matches until Thursday's spectacular performance in a drawn match against Dean Close. Our two opening batsmen, Lester and Ivison, scored their maiden centuries and neither wicket fell. It has been a good year for Golf. The team won the Micklem Trophy for the second year running; they could not quite get to the Finals of that elusive Aer Lingus Cup. Full marks to the players for the unfailingly favourable impression they have made as people on their hosts and competitors! Swimming has shown a new lease of life with Mr Swallow's arrival—very properly so—although sadly the Captain has dropped out with glandular fever. Tennis has gone outstandingly well this year, and the Squash, Badminton and Athletics teams have all flourished, rivalling the tennis players' 80% success rate. The girls have had their best season so far and have played all their games with excellent spirit and good will.

The range of sporting activities here is prodigious. I have not begun to cover them all. The quality of the best performers, at all ages, is very good and standards are high. There is also enthusiasm. I saw the final of the House Rugger matches, senior and junior. The players were prostrate at the end and they were clean games. Last Sunday's House Water Polo match was, I hear, immensely exciting and a very happy event. I just wish that more boys made use of the excellent facilities available. All know our concern that work should not suffer from over-indulgence; that would not be relevant to those I have in mind!

This has been an important year for more hazardous sports. Trekking, Mountaineering, Caving, Canoeing and Skiing have all brought evidence of a lively pertinacity which is good to hear. The climax of all the adventures was the expedition to the Himalayas—16 days of trekking and climbing, 3 days on a river raft and 5 days in the National Park. You can see for yourselves the photography and the reports on the birds and beasts sighted there. What has delighted me about the expedition is the amalgam of staff, parents (brave men) and Stoics past and present who composed it and their resilience under pressure. This is a marvellous thing to happen and it is very good to hear of plans developing for next year's trip. The more the better! Congratulations to all and my public thanks to the Bentley and Ellemann fathers, and the staff quartet.

As expeditions are so important I must not omit the Myles Henry and McElwee expeditions. All have been successful although I am bound to confess surprise that the Myles Henry party in the Gulf States last summer were imprisoned only once and yet took as long as 6 hours to talk their way out of it. For this summer it is good to know that two girls have won the McElwee prize for a projected visit to Minoan Crete, in the steps, as it were, of an older Stoic, the brilliant Michael Ventris who decoded the language of that world.

So far I have subjected you to a selective summary of the year's activities. No school should be satisfied with its achievements. There are some areas of our life where we must all work for improvement. Academically there have been examples of very good work indeed this year, but I have grumbles. Time is not always well used and there is no shortage of it. The level of general knowledge in our generation and below is lamentable. I would like to think that younger Stoics were an exception. They are not and they accept ignorance outside their chosen interests too complacently; they cannot claim, as might some of us, a decaying memory. One solution is a better use of the darker holidays for reading outside their exam syllabuses, inside and outside their own subjects. Lest that might be thought over-critical, I must repeat that good things are happening—boys and girls taking a pride in getting not 95% but 100% and when asked to do research in a science or history or literature some dig really deep into the sources, and in geographical projects they have been taking meticulous care over their evidence. Witness the specialist courses in April and no less than 20 "benes" I have awarded this week.

I am often asked by visitors if any changes are taking place. Yes. Some of them had already started before I came: they reflect the developing enthusiasms of the staff and pupils. I have mentioned some of the growing extramural activities. Within the School the computer room is now fully active. The O level course is under weigh. In the Park, the Forestry done by boys is extending beyond mere clearance to new planting. Community Service is actively involved in the Year of the Disabled: in July, Stowe will be accommodating twenty physically handicapped visitors matched by 20 able-bodied Stoics, as a contribution to PHAB. And even closer to the roots of the School's life there are more evident shifts in the direction the School is taking. We have experimented with some variation in the pattern of weekday worship. Stowe Church, thanks to the welcome given by the Vicar and Church Wardens, is re-occupying an important place in the school's life. A fortnight of voluntary services in the Church earlier this term gave us all a refreshing interlude in the normal routine and the next four services in Chapel for all the school, sensitively planned and vivid as they were, focussed on the link between worship and awareness of human interdependence.

There are other marks of a changing direction. Mention has been made in "The Stoic" of the Representative Council. This is not an ambitious development and one of its conditions of life is that it should not displace direct personal exchanges between masters and pupils. It hasn't; it is, I believe, enhancing them. Valuable lessons are being learned about the inherent difficulty of representing others and reporting with accuracy and good judgement the results of elaborate negotiations. These activities occupy a place in my general wish for a readiness among Stoics to accept and discharge responsibility. The present prefectorial body has given a fine lead in this. In this same context of leadership, last October's Challenge of Industry Conference surpassed our hopes; it will now be a regular annual fixture. The other vigorous and welcome development this year has been the revival of the Debating Society. The debates have been many, varied, lively and well attended. On only one occasion did the wrong side win—enough to prove Grimstonian democracy. Neither House of Parliament will ever be utterly denuded of Stoics.

Articulate, responsible leadership is one of our strongest aims. So also is eloquent and adventurous self-expression in the creative arts. Design/Technology is taking off. Mr Acton is leading it with all the force of his experience and dedication, but already Mr Ewens, his new assistant, is extending the scope of the work with his own wide-ranging interests and skills. Drama has been excellent this year, and the new Drama Festival, with the active involvement of professional commentators, was a most exhilarating experience for all. You will have some chance this evening to sample the quality of the School's Music and some of you heard the Mozart Concert in March. The Scholars' Concert in February had revealed copious talent, the Mozart Requiem and G Minor Symphony a sensitivity I've not heard in a school orchestra. I hope that in the coming terms more of the school than now will have the imagination and energy to share in the school's music-making, if only as audience. This next year is going to be very important in the life of the Art School; a rotting roof has been a severe handicap to it in recent months. Here again, I want to see a wider section of the school involved. The visually creative arts should always be very prominent at Stowe. The Governors have given their personal encouragement to this by a sharp reduction in the membership fee of the Art School and Workshops.

It is time to look ahead. I have stressed my concern to see a fuller involvement by Stoics in every part of the School's life—creative, musical, artistic, practical, athletic, academic and even in our day to day management and thinking. There are hopeful signs on all sides, a vast reservoir of ability among our pupils and an immensely hard-working staff with their own wide range of abilities who are always pressing for greater effort. We owe them a very large thank you. I also want to record in public my thanks to the school for the very many compliments I've had from outside the school on their unaffectedly excellent manners. I look ahead with optimism. But life for those growing up in the '80s is not going to be easy. "Doing one's own thing", a prevalent philosophy of the '70s, too easily slides into "opting out" of anything more energetic than flicking a transistor switch. The philosophies of the '80s are yet to appear, but I think we can be sure of one thing: they will be many and as contradictory in their demands as in their anatomy of man and his destiny. At the political level, will the march for freedom or for equality prevail? Is the family to survive as the nucleus of society, or is sexual promiscuity going to destroy Western Civilization again as it did 1500 years ago?

Or is a fear of that going to revive the hard intolerance of an earlier generation? Will private property be permitted? Or will an obsession with law and order inaugurate a police state mentality? Will it be permissible to be different? Will there be enough food to feed the population of these islands? These are brutal questions but I sense the approach of extremes in thought and I pose them because too easily we brush under the carpet of gracious living the unyielding realities which challenge a civilization which may be living on borrowed time. The pressure on our children and pupils is to conform. But in this jungle of discordant and alluring voices with what are they to conform? We cannot answer for them, but we must have our answer

and be honest with them and with ourselves when they lift the carpet. I have great faith in their honesty and their practical common sense. Perhaps it is discipline that the rising generation lacks most and the paradox which we must resolve—and where better than Stowe?—is how to give them enough freedom to be responsible without loss of the discipline which must depend upon it.

Lord St Oswald left Stowe with little time to spare before being sucked into someone else's war where there were no pretences and much brutality. Not long after his Spanish experience he chose the most dangerous of roles in the Second World War. Perhaps one of these days a full account will be published of his many adventures and incredible heroism behind enemy lines. Most conspicuously he is a man who never forgets his friends: in 1945 it was the Indo-Chinese whom he served. In most recent years he has fought for the victims of the Katyn Massacre of 1940 and I can find no better way of ending my remarks and introducing him than to quote his own words. The occasion of them was the dedication of the Memorial at Gunnersbury commemorating 14,500 Polish officers murdered by the Russians at Katyn. That memorial would not yet be standing were it not for Lord St Oswald's determination that it should. Among his words were these: "This Monument is not principally the emblem of a tragedy from the past, terrible though that tragedy was and merciless the nature of the crime. It is principally and emphatically a promise that so long as surviving men and women are mindful of sacrifice suffered on their behalf they will commit themselves to the achievement of a finer future."

Ladies and Gentlemen, Lord St Oswald is himself a hero of our past but he is foremost among those working for a finer future. We are proud to welcome him back to Stowe as our Guest of Honour.

Lord St. Oswald's Speech

From distant but remembered experience, this annual address was normally misused for the extending of unsolicited advice. The tradition may well continue, and be assured that it will be continued or resumed today. At the end of my contribution, the best I can hope is that part of the present wave, the present surge of Stoics will be still awake, and may consider that my words, however bombastic, have been sincere. I can vouch for their sincerity.

It is easy and correct to affirm that present and I hope future Stoics, at this stage of their useful lives, will have enjoyed an opportunity slung around by few if any school systems in this country. Here I was taught, and in the years during which masters, housemasters and at an even loftier level the headmaster staggered under that singular responsibility, this, in paraphrase, is what I was told. "We shall try to drum into you as much academic learning as your plainly resistant brain can absorb—we shall encourage you to enjoy yourself within fairly liberal limits of decorum and good sense, that is without inflicting damage on yourself or those about you—but never forget the main purpose of your being here! It is to prepare you for the great creative world outside, beyond these grounds and the protective rules established here."

By now you may be already dozing off under this dose of the obvious, but that is because, as a matter of course, you are being encouraged, as I was, in this particular way, to prepare yourselves for an unsheltered future. That is not the blueprint preparation offered by every Public School. Comparisons may be odious but are often realistic. As a Minister, twenty-two years ago, while performing some worthy provincial duty, I was hosted by a local magnate who had attended a different school, older and even more expensive than this. It must be anonymous, but I will call it Narkover as a disguise. He told me, in all gravity, "the day I left Narkover was the unhappiest day of my life!" I thought, and I still think, what a terrible indictment of your school, the worst indictment I can envisage.

I have not led a life swaddled in cotton wool, and I have been glad of the scarcity of that substance. The start which Stowe gave me has enabled me to sustain my enthusiasms, and one such enthusiasm I share with another Old Stoic. In 1929 Tufton Beamish and I arrived in Temple House with adjoining lockers. Eight years ago we sat on adjoining benches as newcomers to the European Parliament. That is an impetus I would like to pass on to you today, even without the personal presence of Tufton to back me this afternoon.

My aim is to give you a glimpse, there is not time for more than a glimpse, into that Europe, our Europe which, after centuries of blazing genius and sporadic lunacy, has gathered her wits and energies to play a new, infinitely more positive part than ever before, in a world which is threatening, by sophisticated methods, to destroy itself.

Perhaps, during the years at school, you look at maps of the world more frequently than in later life, and you will be more conscious than other normally intelligent citizens of at least one innate distortion in our easy, everyday references to Europe. The first of these distortions is that the Continent of Europe is not a continent at all. It is no more than a somewhat ragged peninsula, attached to the end of that great land mass, which stretches over more than half of the northern hemisphere, as far as the Bering Straits, where, if you were so inclined, you would look across towards Alaska, one corner of the North American Continent.

Yet this topographically insignificant plot in the world's surface has produced, out of all proportion to its size, creative masters in painting, music, sculpture, architecture, science, philosophy—all the great beneficial, inventive disciplines available to the human mind. It has also produced some of the greatest rascals and despots ever spawned, capable of spilling blood and inflicting torture on a scale and of a malignity more appropriate to barbarous than to civilized man.

Such behaviour, as you well know, has poisoned very recent history, as well as the past. I invoke history only to project the future, hopeful in my eyes, but in the nature of things, essentially your future. Apart from the intellectual conquests which I have mentioned, born from a spirit of inquiry, Europe has produced adventurers and explorers; Columbus, Magellan, Vasco da Gama, James Cook, Abel Tasman—all and many others from many nations of that continent-by-courtesy. Is it not strange that given the example of these great discoverers, Europe has only lately begun to discover herself as an entity? I find it strangely retarded, but I believe it has come just in time, and I am certain that you have to encourage it, because its benefits will belong to you, if you want them and work for them.

All we have made is a beginning. It is purposeless to recriminate, even in stating the truth, that Britain forfeited her opportunity of becoming a founder-member of the Community in 1958, with a hand in shaping the institutions and procedures. Now we, the latecomers, consider that we can identify faults in the pattern and functioning of the European Community. Our ability to rectify those supposed faults depends upon our standing among those who are striving for the best results.

The European Community was never a cut-throat, winner-take-all, survival of the fittest-or-toughest concept; but nor is it a convalescent home for hypochondriacs. At the risk of sounding sententious, I feel bound to say that even at this time Britain is not being true to her own greatness, because we seem to be passing through an epoch of self-indulgence and self-pity, blaming everyone but ourselves. These are inglorious circumstances, as I see them, but even in such circumstances there is patent advantage, everyday advantage, in membership of the Community, because it gives us protection and opportunity which we would otherwise lack.

At its best, and I exhort you to reach out for the best, pledging your efforts to that best, the Community is a combination instead of the former dissipation of the creative genius of Europe's component nations, some of those nations. It is not selfishly inward-looking, but with a sense of

world responsibility which Europe has inherited but never invested until now. It is a curious and somewhat shaming thought that never before has Europe approached unity except through conquest: Charlemagne, Napoleon and very nearly Hitler achieved this by force. Today it is being achieved through friendship and good sense. This is what my generation wishes to leave to you as your rightful inheritance. I personally beg you to improve upon it, as well you can.

In ending, I turn to a separate and more intimate form of advice. I cannot, in all honesty and reality, urge everyone against their will or instinct, to embrace the European ideal, much though I believe it matters. There is another more direct and individual aspect of fulfilment, open to every human creature—that is to make one other human being happy. Some are able to bring uplift to hundreds and even thousands. Some, even the most ambitious in this respect, fail ultimately in the simplest individual task, but the endeavour is the most worthwhile in life itself. I wish you all personal and public success in the years ahead, eclipsing even those shimmering and high-principled prizes which adorned this table until some minutes ago. I wish you all happiness. Above that, I wish to each and every one the gift of conveying happiness—because that, beyond question, is the finest gift of all.

NOSTALGIA

Goodbye my past,
Childhood days that are flowing away so fast,
I shall say goodbye to you
And thank you for the experience you gave.

So long they used to seem,
Lying on the hot marble pool side
Warmed by the sun and half-a-dream;
How years make you far.

The times we spent in rapture,
Fishing from a high rock,
As we waited for the capture,
Of a trout, lazing in the sun.

School days began on England's earth,
And "I'm leaving on a jet plane",
Goodbye the land of my birth,
It'll be eighty long days.

Now 'O's are done
Time seems so fast,
And something has gone,
My fair childhood past.

R. L. E. Douglas-Bate

DRAMA

THE DRAMA FESTIVAL

The aims of the first Drama Festival were threefold: to enjoy the pleasure of a long week-end of performance and discussion; to meet and learn from the actors and directors who we hoped would come as commentators; to offer the boys and girls the challenge of doing their own thing in a non-competitive and not too rigidly structured way. There was an enormous range of performance and ingenuity. In the Roxburgh Hall we saw **French Without Tears** (Grafton), **What the Butler Saw** (Bruce) and **Albert's Bridge** (Grenville); **The Purging** (Lyttelton), **Twelve Angry Men** (Chandos) and **Day of Atonement** (Temple) were staged in the more intimate atmosphere of the Rehearsal Room; whilst Walpole, performing traditionally and effectively in their Houseroom, gave us **Black Comedy**. These choices provided a wide variety of entertainment but were, perhaps inevitably in the first year of the Festival, somewhat predictable. One of the positive developments of next year may be the inclusion of something more experimental—selected extracts, adaptations, even some original contributions. English drama is not confined to the fifty years from 1930–1980!

There were advantages and disadvantages in staging plays simultaneously at different venues. No-one could see everything; many production members were able to see very little. But for the majority one of the great advantages was the necessity to choose. Audiences tended to want to see what they went to rather than to join the 'get-out-of-prep' mêlée and reactions were usually intelligent and sympathetic. The different nature of the various productions made direct comparison difficult: we were encouraged to see each play on its own merits and were able to get away from the bleated response 'It's the best/worst play I've ever seen at Stowe' (delete the inapplicable). Of course there were prejudices and preferences but these were expressed guardedly and in the context of the plays as a whole, and the commentators' summing up made it clear that such judgements were incidental. No laurels were awarded. The interest that the participants took in each other's contributions was evident from early rehearsals to final performances, and the absence of unconstructive rivalry was one of the best features of the Festival.

We were lucky in our commentators. During the four days of the Festival we welcomed Paddy and Amanda Godfrey (Walker) from the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Guildhall School of Drama respectively; Barry and Carole Rutter from the National Theatre and Warwick University; and Old Stoics Michael Langdon, now Townsend, at present stage managing "**Nicholas Nickleby**" at the Aldwych, and Chris Villiers, fresh from a run at the Northcott Theatre. They were marvellous: we were cajoled, challenged and excited into questioning all sorts of assumptions and into the realisation that things were happening beyond the Oxford Bridge. In lectures, discussions, stage classes and in conversations about the place we were made to wonder what on earth English teachers were up to; why we should bother with make up; what we could do with no sets and drapes and what we could do with box sets; how we might adapt existing stages and equipment . . . we were made to think: vanities were pricked in the gentlest way; arrogance deflected; presuppositions tactfully washed away.

The sense of involvement, of something **happening** was widespread. At every level in the School people were generous with their interest, their time and their practical help. Although the number of boys in each House actually taking part may have been less than in the past, the participation of the school as a whole was greater by far, and this was evident in the interest shown in the final summing up on a Sunday afternoon that might normally have encouraged different uses of the time! Such a concentration of effort inevitably made for many discoveries—

new actors, technicians and directors emerged and we shall be looking to them next Spring. Holding it all together with imagination, practical help and the expense of a vast amount of time was Ian Small, to whom goes the lion's share of credit for a very exciting four days.

So, it seemed to work. We were all exhausted at the end of it—though that may have owed most to everyone's inclination to spend long, liquid hours discussing reactions, ideas and plans into the very early hours. It was fun, it was good for us. We'll do it again. When we do it again—next year, I hope—the challenges will be different. There aren't any laurels to lie back on. Nonetheless it won't be easy to recapture that feeling of sparkle in the air and a mere repetition won't work. This year's Festival evolved as ideas and possibilities fell into place and there was little advance planning. The evolution of 1982's Festival will depend very much on the enthusiasm and imagination of, in particular, next year's Lower Sixth.

R. M. Potter

THE ROSES OF EYAM

It is always good to see producers and actors of the Junior Congreve taking on a challenge. Last year they sustained the delicate, whimsical atmosphere of Whiting's '**A Penny for a Song**'; this year, under the direction of Mr Haslam and Mrs Atkinson, they triumphed in a strong dramatic play: '**The Roses of Eyam**' by Don Taylor.

1665 was a year when the antagonism between Puritan and Royalist was still intense, especially away from the metropolis. When William Mompesson replaces the ousted rector, Stanley, in the Derbyshire village of Eyam, the villagers are incensed, and do not take kindly to his imposition upon them. Stanley, bitter and tired, confesses that he has no Christian love left with which to help the young rector. But then, in a box of cloth sent up from London to the village tailor, the plague arrives. The fancy clothing itself angers the sober villagers, and when men die, it seems to some that the purity of the world, offended by the new Royalist regime, is itself endangered. Fear and despair become endemic.

On this strong base, Don Taylor builds a most impressive play. And the opportunities for exciting acting were taken eagerly by the large cast. When Stanley (James Patrick) and Mompesson (Mark Prestwich) bury their differences in the face of the plague, and agree to close off the village to the outside world in order to prevent the plague spreading, the involvement of the actors was immediately communicated in the power and sincerity of their performances. And they had excellent support: from Benjamin Bolgar as Mompesson's wife, who movingly stands by him only to perish herself; from Richard Saville as the village's crippled whipping-boy, made fun of, but ultimately wiser than his seniors; from Jonathan Gumpel and Edward Lewis as a pair of young lovers finding their lives irrevocably changed by the evil amongst them; from John Young and Nick Tembe as a pair of crusty, argumentative old men; from Robin Oliver, Andrew Stevens and Richard Carruthers as village leaders struggling with their life-and-death choice. There wasn't a weak link in the entire cast, and it was extraordinarily moving to see so many young actors playing their parts with total conviction and great authority.

For this, great credit is due to the directors, who moved scenes along well, and used the site in Chapel Court with great imaginative flair. Music, sound and lighting all contributed their parts to a most impressive and memorable production.

I. M. Small



THE HIPPOLYTUS

Greek tragedy is like Augustan poetry or caviar, an acquired taste which not everyone thinks worth acquiring. The themes are (apparently) even more remote than Shakespeare's: it falls to few to murder a mother to avenge a father, or to fall in love with a stepson. The stylized structure, too, is very far from the relative naturalism of Shakespeare: no violence is permitted to disturb the leisurely, balanced dialogues, interspersed with passages of stichomythia, the nearest the genre comes to normal converse. The chorus has become proverbial for its ability to sit on the fence, though it does sing odes of great beauty. Readers of French classical tragedy and *Samson Agonistes* will be familiar with these characteristics.

To stage a work of this statuesque type even in the appropriate setting of the Queen's Temple was a bold venture, made even more hazardous by the rigours of this term's weather. That it succeeded was a tribute to the imagination of the producer, Mr Meredith, and the tractability and perseverance of his cast. The theme is more credible than that of Mr Meredith's previous production, the *Oedipus Tyrannus*: it has attracted playwrights from Imperial Rome to our own times, and has even been the subject of a film. Wisely dispensing with masks, which may be authentic but usually look comic, and using Vellacott's translation, which gives much of the spirit of the original without the stilted bombast which roused Housman to parody, Mr Meredith brought this antique tale to life, giving it the sense of timeless relevance which pervades this play more than any other of Euripides. Two difficult but vital points of production were skilfully solved: the two goddesses who dominate the play were there throughout in miniature, but modern electronic device was used effectively to broadcast Aphrodite's voice round the whole assembly. A disciplined blend of movement and stillness, and a division of the words between various groups, avoided the monotony which often attends the rôle of the Chorus. Of the three central characters, Mark Cazalet in the title rôle stood out as he should; by voice and gesture he conveyed very finely the impulsive, innocent, somewhat arrogant but noble young man shocked by the sexual trap before him. Phaedra has the most demanding part, for she has to suggest (at any rate in a 'naturalistic' production) more intense and subtler, as well as more repressed, passions than anyone else, with, as Racine finely puts it 'Vénus à sa proie tout entière attachée.' Rosalind Naylor tackled this challenge with a fitting sense of dignity but perhaps a little too much restraint. Deborah Rawlins, well cast as the prototype of Juliet's Nurse, gave a lively portrayal of this brash, unscrupulous, amoral but devoted woman, her faint Geordie accent enhancing the effect. The other parts call mostly for little but the ability to deliver speeches clearly and with the minimum of movement. All this was done, by Jalal Tavallali as Theseus, whose scene of reconciliation with the wronged Hippolytus was one of the most moving in the play, by Marcus Cotton as the messenger.

The voice of Catherine Thomson, appearing as Artemis at the end to comfort her dying worshipper, had a particular poignancy.

Bradfield with its Greek theatre is able to produce such plays on a grander scale, closer to the originals, but I doubt if it could surpass the atmosphere of controlled, intimate tension which Mr Meredith created. We must be grateful to him, and to those responsible for costumes, lighting and everything else that made this production such a success. Perhaps the themes are not so remote; certainly some who came were given food for thought which they had not expected.

B.S.S.



STAFF PLAYS: "SEPARATE TABLES" and "HARLEQUINADE", MAY 1981

This well-contrasted double bill from Terence Rattigan allowed a remarkable number of members of staff to display their acting talent. "Separate Tables" has a simple and familiar message: "Humans, be human". This was an authoritative production, based on particularly apt casting. At no point did the direction or acting sag, from the short rôles of the two waitresses, played with spirit by Julia Nixon and Merula Tyler, to the leading rôles of Major Pollock (Ian Small) and Miss Railton-Bell (Philippa Atkinson): the complex emotions that drew together this sordid failure of a man and this repressed, neurotic woman were most movingly portrayed. Ian Small's holding of stage and audience in silence, during the long moment when the Major realises that his disgrace is now public knowledge, followed by his simple line, "So it's all up, then", was one memorable highlight; another was the emergence of Miss Cooper, the hotel proprietress, (Rowena Pratt) as a fearless and sympathetic character whose rejection of self-pity and hypocrisy gives her the stature to guide the other two into happiness. Full value was given to the rôle of the draconian mother and busy-body by Margaret Temple, and to those of the fellow-guests, the reluctant jury in the case of the erring major, by Lois Houghton-Brown and Chris Haslam as the Strattons, preoccupied with study and domesticity, Malcolm Grimston as the retired schoolmaster, finding the whole question too difficult, Jean Lloyd as the open-hearted Lady Matheson, and Nicky Mee, solacing a life of hotel spinsterhood with a love of the horses and a hearty scorn for almost everyone else.

"Separate Tables" contains plenty of comedy; "Harlequinade" is almost pure farce. Nevertheless, the warmth and sheer enjoyment which the real-life husband-and-wife team, Andrew and Juliet Rudolf, put into their rôle of married couple agingly and devotedly playing Romeo and Juliet in the outer darkness of an English provincial town, extracted from the piece as much sentiment as it could offer. When a forward young woman (Jill Dobinson) and her backward young husband (Peter Emms) persist in gate-crashing the dress rehearsal complete with pram, and finally prove Romeo a bigamist (and a grandfather) as a result of a long-forgotten liaison with a girl in the town, chaos is complete, though still light-hearted.

In a play whose action is largely composed of frustrated "répétition", the longer parts are highly taxing on the memory, and James Larcombe is especially to be congratulated on sustaining, in Jack the stage manager, a doggedly cheerful continuo to the melodramatic outbursts of his actors. The audience derived much happiness from the minor characters, notably, perhaps, Alison Small as a fearsome Aunt Maud, Philip Jones and Malcolm Burley guying themselves as the Policeman and George Chudleigh, and John Dobinson and Anthony Lloyd competing, with heroic zeal, for one minuscule part as a **Halberdieb**. Sanity was represented by Fiona Burley as Jack's elegant fiancée, jilted for Art, and Frances Cree, drawing sympathy as the hard pressed secretary, Miss Fishlock.

In all, a much appreciated evening's entertainment, enhanced by lively sets and, as a bonus, recorded in Garve Hessenberg's superb photographs.

L.T.



THE PHYSICISTS

By a happy coincidence, Mr Haslam's Congreve Club production of **The Physicists** by Dürrenmatt became the mainstay of an eventful week in which we attended a Remembrance Day Service, watched the BBC's banned **The Wargame** and listened to a debate on nuclear disarmament. As these events focussed our thoughts on man's ability and apparent readiness to destroy himself, we were more than usually alert to one at least of the **The Physicists'** principal themes—the problem of containing the potentially destructive inventions of genius. It may have been this preparation that made one have reservations about the play's construction. Certainly my recollection of the original London production was not that the issues of the play were so laboured. Perhaps we had not then been primed as we were on this occasion; perhaps the intervening decades, in which we have travelled across a spectrum of attitudes ranging from an astonished rediscovery of the possibility of Armageddon, through anger and protest, cynicism and indifference, and back to our more rational contemporary approach, have lent us a sophistication which nullifies Dürrenmatt's long drawn out presentation of these issues.

Set against this distrust of the play's structure, however, is its undoubted capacity to make us think in the second act, and, with this in mind, the Congreve Club's production was a considerable success, relying as it did on some new as well as some established actors. Quite apart from the questions of scientific morality are those of madness—'to define true madness what is it

but to be nothing else but mad?'—and an act which demands of its three leading actors that they shall be apparently sane men who nonetheless have to convince the audience of their insanity presents more than a small challenge. There was a fine differentiation between the three principals' performances. As Newton, Toby Sparrow, whom we had not seen on the stage before, achieved the indefinably fey quality of a certain sort of lunacy—the inclination of the head, the wafture of the hand, and the precision of tone were enough to place him on the wrong side of the thin dividing line between sanity and insanity. By contrast Tom Ellemann presented a distinctly battier sort of delusion. He was well served by a range of fussy movements and gestures, which suggested a more self-conscious madness. Both of these actors made convincing transitions from assumed madness, to secret service sanity and then back again to madness, effectively leaving us in some doubt, as Dürrenmatt undoubtedly intended, as to which was which.

The principal rôles, by far the hardest to sustain was that of Mobius played by Paul Calkin. We have come to expect fine performances from him and were not disappointed on this occasion. The shambling walk, expressive eyes, and breadth of facial control suggested both madness and genius and he conveyed convincingly a wider range of emotion than that demanded of the other actors as he wrestled with his conscience, accepted the not altogether unwelcome desertion of his wife and moved towards his impressive peroration—a return to Solomon as a gesture of faith in a world worth saving. In this performance, he was ably supported by Kaz Cutler, who gave a marvellous depiction of Doctor Matilde. There was always a menace about her intense, hunchbacked presence and her descent from opulent philanthropist to a woman twisted by a gigantic mania was chilling.

Amongst the supporting actors there were several well studied cameos. Vincent Hope (Inspector Voss) as always established an authoritative stage presence and his contemplation of the linguistic and situational reversals of the second act was well judged. Occasionally one felt that the script imposed more caricature than one would have liked but the weight-lifting Antonia Mitchell (Marta Boll) and the trio of heavies (Michael Emery, Tom Möffatt and Nigel Rossiter), a credit both to Leichner and the World Boxing Authority, provided a welcome element of comic relief to a play whose dismal themes need lightening. There was particular promise in the performance of Sarah Hobday as Monika Stettler and Lucinda Shand Kydd as Lina Rose—the more so as neither part offered much scope for the development of character. The same is true of Oskar Rose and Daniel Callow's performance, a sickening cross between Joseph Smith and a germanic Jimmy Carter, extracted a good deal of potential from limiting lines. In addition to attendant police stooges (Robert Adam, Matthew Hooper, Huw Jennings, Mark Prestwich and Matthew Walley) the three Rose children (Martin Dew, Andrew Keith and Jamie Nicholson) fresh from their triumphs in the Junior Congreve made a suitably odious trio of Teutonic youth.

As always on these occasions, the list of technical helpers far outnumbered that of the performers and it was particularly pleasing to see that so many aspects of the staging were entirely in the hands of younger members of the Club. The purist might quibble at Burgundy from a claret bottle or furniture that scarcely smacked of an opulent Swiss sanatorium but the attention that had clearly been lavished by directors and actors on the performances themselves removed any taint of criticism. The final moments were remarkably powerful and the fact that, for this reviewer, a lengthy, solitary contemplation of the issues of the play was preferable to a stage party was testimony to the success of a bold undertaking. Many congratulations, then, to all concerned and particularly to Mr Haslam and his Co-Director Mrs Atkinson.

R.M.P.

Leave him now—

Let him linger an eternal moment longer in the
spaceless void of his confused imagination.

Watch him whilst he wrestles with the hopeless
images which pierce the vacant darkness of his crazed mind.

He is despairing now—

Let him sink still further into delirium, staring
blankly at the dusty, mouldy book of man's salvation.

Watch him whilst he thumbs the crackling
leaves of our existence, with trembling fingers.

He is weeping now—

Let him mourn an eternal moment longer for
the selfishness and hate of this diseased humanity.

Watch him whilst he stumbles in a relentless fervour,
over the time encrusted symbols of life's futility.

He is dying now—

Let him linger now not a moment longer in
the sterile vacuum of his own creation.

Watch him steal now, the humid breath,
the clotted life blood which once inspired him.

There is nothing now—

Only a faint pulse flickering on the earth's
fragile skeleton.

Watch painfully now, eternity playing with
man's insignificance. like some discarded atom in time's
cruel clockwork.

Forget now—

Be absorbed into the meaningless emptiness of
time itself, the awe inspiring cosmos.

In the muffled darkness relinquish all sense of
anything and realize that
the myth of man's importance has fused to 'self destruct'. . . .

Mary-Emma Smith

HIMALAYAN EXPEDITION

After nearly eighteen months of planning, seventeen Stoics—loosely defined since the party comprised boys, old boys, staff, parents and a sister—met at Heathrow. No-one was late: one family had been up since three o'clock in order not to be late. A good omen. One more member joined the party in Delhi and another in Kathmandu. Just over a month later a similar party returned—bearded, bronzed, dirty, weighing less (in some cases conspicuously so) and exuding that sense of eastern promise that made two of them ideal subjects for a lengthy customs search. The interim had been the Stowe Himalayan Expedition 1981.

The essentially factual account that follows is not intended to do justice to the spirit and excitement of the adventure. These I hope can be gleaned from the illustrated record that is being prepared and details of which can be obtained from R. M. Potter at Stowe. From the moment we arrived in Kathmandu we were in the hands of Colonel Jimmy Roberts and his team of ex-Gurkha officers, civilian assistants, Sherpas and porters. The organisation was immaculate as we moved from city to mountains, from mountains to river, from river to jungle and thence, again, to Kathmandu. The experience gleaned from the master-minding of many major expeditions was evident everywhere.

The main purpose of the expedition was a sixteen day trek into the mountains east of Annapurna with, we hoped, the opportunity for some climbing. In the upshot our principal objectives were thwarted by bad weather. The predicted clear skies and blazing heat were replaced by something suspiciously like an early monsoon and at 12,000 feet snow was lying seven feet deep where none had been expected. Climbing was severely restricted although heights greater than anything in Europe were reached and ambitions, thus, in part fulfilled although we got nowhere near the 20,000 feet pinnacle of our hopes. We returned earlier and in a more leisurely way than had been expected. Nonetheless they were sixteen days of excitement, challenge, hard effort, spectacular views and deepening friendships. We wound with our party of nineteen plus seven Sherpas and up to 51 porters through the foothills with their villages perched on narrow ridges above hundreds of feet of terraced cultivation; up through sodden, leech-infested rain forest; out into the snow line; and then for two more camps over deepening snow.

The Sherpa team, led by the marvellous Tensing—no relation, but he might well have been—endured themselves to all of us by their infectious cheerfulness, their hard work and their enthusiastic guidance. There was inevitably less communication with the teams of porters who shamed us by the size of their loads and the appalling inadequacy—by our standards—of their clothing and accommodation. At times bare-footed even in snow, often soaked, sleeping in caves or rocky shelters they called a halt, quite rightly and not surprisingly, at 11,000 feet. So after two or three days climbing we began a more leisurely descent into finer weather and to a rest day campsite in a river gorge, before returning to the village of Pokhara from where many of the major assaults in the Annapurna region originate.

After sampling Colonel Roberts' hospitality and visiting his pheasant farm, we were left in the hands of Puran, the Nepalese medic who accompanied us on trek and who was also a member of the river crew. On the banks of the Trisuli river fading into a miraculous sunset we found three heavy inflatable rafts and a 'barge-boat' for the supplies, and the five river crew. The next three days were spent making the journey into the southern jungle of the Terai: one day bouncing through exciting white water; one day floating placidly under a blazing sun; one day's soaking as we approached the Chitwan National Park.

For most of us the jungle stay at Tiger Tops and its associated encampments was much more rewarding than we had feared it might be. Inevitably there was a strongly tourist element about this organisation that aims to bring visitors to the wild life of Nepal, but as few concessions as possible had been made and the first priority was everywhere and obviously conservation in the





most constructive sense. The rewards for us were close-up sightings of Tiger and Leopard, White Rhino and Wild Cattle as well as some exciting river life—Marsh Muggers and the narrowly-preserved fish-eating Gharial crocodile. Silent early morning elephant rides through undergrowth and jungle offered us virtually the only way possible to all but a very few of seeing this fascinating country and its animal inhabitants.

Finally after a night at a Tharu village settlement we flew home via Meghauly airstrip—reputedly the smallest in the world—to the bustle of Kathmandu and the incipient culture shock in reverse of our return to England. The capital city of Nepal assails every sense with new and exciting, haunting and alien experience. Every street corner and each new angle of vision holds a new surprise—noise, colour, the Temple of the Living Goddess, aimless sacred cows, holy men and beggars, the Buddhist shrine of Swyambunath, a bedecked elephant swaying through the old city, intricately erotic carvings, prayer wheels and flags, pungent smells, the riverside burning ghats—a phantasmagoria from another world lingers elusively in the mind and invites a return visit.

So many people were responsible for the success of the expedition that I can best refer those interested to the forthcoming record. But no account would be complete without an expression of gratitude not only to all those already mentioned but also to Jim Edwards of Tiger Tops and Mountain Travel for his enthusiasm and more than generous help and to Robin Marston and his team in Kathmandu. I very much doubt if any of the participants will forget Easter 1981 and I hope that it will be a memory captured by others in 1982 and the years beyond.

R. M. Potter

A MEDITATION ON THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY

John 8 3–11

Part I

'Early in the morning . . .
The Scribes and Pharisees brought a woman
Who had been caught in adultery.'

Your dirtied-child face, teared and fair
With Judean sunlight through your flaxen hair.
Your body, bare, raw, against the wall.
How you beguiled and he did eat
You. Now these stoney, hate-filled stares
And jibes, from men in fetid, hurtful pride.
—You cried.

'For Moses commanded us to stone such.'

And if we were there.
Or if . . . Or if I was there.
Or . . . yes, we were there.
We stoned.

Part II

Meet the gossips:

"Did you hear of . . . Well I never—
Really, no they didn't!
And she a married woman, oh!
It shouldn't be allowed."

Meet the middle class:

"Don't you hate those ghastly youths
Who hang around the streets?
Why don't they join the army or—
Just take them off the dole?"

Meet the teachers:

"He's absolutely useless,
An insult to our School.
Throw him out so we can teach
The ones who keep the rules."

Meet the government:

"We cannot keep on printing cash
Or subsidise the poor.
The welfare state has let us down.
Let's squeeze them all some more."

Meet the law:

“The’re vicious, violent criminals,
Dangers to our state and laws.
We’ll lock them up and chain them down,
Forget them behind barred doors.”

‘For Moses has commanded us to stone such.’

Part III

‘Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger
on the ground.’

He who judges justly,
Thinking.

‘Let him, or her
Let them without sin
Cast the first glance
 or word
 or stone.’

Let him who fully understands,
Let him who knows of love,
Let him who justly judges, judge,
Let God, the first stone cast.’

Then whose skull will crack?
Then whose soul?

‘And once more he bent down and wrote with his
Finger on the ground.’

Part IV

‘They went away, one by one, beginning with the
Eldest. And Jesus was left alone with the
woman.’
Standing,
Before Him.
The judge
She was naked,
Dirty,
Cold.
So he gave her his cloak,
And held her very close,
Whilst she cried on his shoulder.
Gently

You see . . .
She needed to be touched by love,
 needed to be touched by God,
 needed to be forgiven,
 not stoned, not stoned
 Why stoned?

No one condemned her,
So neither did he.
He loved her,
and you and me.
So they condemned him
and killed him.

‘Go therefore, and do not sin again.’

For we condemn him still,
And who are we to judge?

R. M. Coombs

**ON SEEING, “THE WAR GAME”
ONE DAY?**

“What do you want to be when you grow up Johnny?”
“I want to be a train driver, and I want fun”!
But Johnny hadn’t heard about the bomb, had he?
Anyway Johnny is young, “Of course they won’t drop the bomb”.

“Daddy, what was that noise? It sounded like a big bang?”
Suddenly Daddy turned his gaze and shouted, “Oh, Son”.
Now Johnny’s eyes lit up and his body was aflame,
And he ran where his Daddy had gone; but this wasn’t fun.

No Daddy, no Mummy, and in fact no sane body,
No help, no hope, nothing except the pain of being alive.
“What do you want to be when you grow up Johnny?”
“I don’t want to be **nothink!**”

H. Jennings

MUSIC

MUSIC AT STOWE

The second half of this year's concerts has seen a wide variety of music played to—on the whole—good audiences. As with most schools who run concerts such as ours, a large part of the audience comes from outside the school.

It is perhaps understandable that an obscure chamber or vocal concert might not attract Stoics 'en masse', but it is very disappointing that Band and Choral Society concerts are not better supported. Give a person a golf club and a ball, and the chances are he will ultimately sink the ball in the hole. Give the same person a part in a play and he will probably be able to learn the lines and walk on and off the stage. Give him a violin, and the chances of his producing a note yet alone two which are in tune, with a good tone, are nil. Most players of musical instruments have worked for years before they reach a level of achievement that warrants being listened to, and yet this dedicated section of Stowe's population receives poor support from its peers.

This term Stowe loses three of its most talented players—David Charlesworth, Stephen Morrish and Christopher Gayford. Christopher will take up a place at music college and both Stephen and David have given much pleasure with their performances in school concerts—we wish them all well for the future.

The one place that Stoics could participate in music making at the highest level is in the Choral Society—after all most people have a voice and almost all could sing if they tried to! It must have been a frustrating experience for David Gatehouse who put on Mozart's G minor Symphony and Requiem to see such a small audience and to have so few Stoics singing. This is some of the most sublime music ever written and all those attending and performing were deeply moved by the occasion—what a pity that so many chose not to come, as chances such as this could be once in a lifetime. The soloists in the performance were Eileen Lowes, Helen Attfield, Bonaventura Bottone and Roderick Earle. It is worth pointing out that many choral societies engage fully professional orchestras for their performances but our Director of Music believes in giving any pupil a chance to participate if he feels they are able. We not only had Stoics in the strings but in vital woodwind and brass positions as well.

My great friend, the violinist Edward Davies will be making his final appearance this term as first violin in our own Maurizi String Quartet. He has been appointed violinist in the Piano Trio resident at Bangor University and that would make weekly rehearsals a little hard to arrange! His playing has always attracted favourable comment at Stowe—never more so than in our last concert in January when we played the Eb Quartet by Beethoven 'The Harp'. I would like to take this chance to thank him for all his hard work and to wish him and Helen well for the future.

For next year—a little more participation from Stoics as both audience and singers in concerts would be more than welcome. Certainly it would be more healthy than the present craze to walk in the grounds permanently plugged into the top 20 by their mini portable cassette players—shades of 'A Brave New World'?

R. Secret

STOWE MUSIC SOCIETY—ROXBURGH HALL on 15th JANUARY 1981 at 8.00 p.m.

James Galway *Flute*
Philip Moll *Piano, Harpsichord*
John Mayer *Tampura*

Schubert *Sonata in A Minor 'Arpeggione'*
John Mayer *'Sri Krishna' for flute, Keyboards and Tampura*
Reinecke *'Undine' Sonata*
Schubert *Introduction and Variations on 'Trockne Blumen'*

The thought that an unlikely looking programme of flute music such as the above could not only fill the Roxburgh Hall, but have the music department's telephone ringing up to the last moment with people wanting seats, would have been totally improbable until James Galway left the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra.

That Karajan's ex-first-solo flute is a man of exceptional talent and not just a lucky orchestral player who happened to record a piece of 'pop music' was shown right from the start of the concert with his wonderful phrasing in his own arrangement of Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata.

The arpeggione was a curious hybrid of guitar and cello that soon passed into obscurity but not before its inventor, Vincent Schuster, had persuaded Schubert to write this sonata. Today the sonata is usually played on the viola or cello and certainly the flute does not seem to have the weight of tone to project this piece. The pity was that a harpsichord that was to be played for a short while in the Mayer piece was left unplayed for the rest of the evening. Certainly a Baroque sonata would have made a better opening for the concert.

The 'Sri Krishna' piece by John Mayer was the most interesting event of the evening preceded by a most amusing and entertaining account of the work by the composer. (Who would have guessed, as he sat cross legged on the floor with his tampura, that he is an orchestral violinist in London?) No matter, his music was always interesting to listen to and held the audience spellbound with its varied use of the sounds of keyboard, tampura and flute.

The second half started with a sonata by Reinecke—a romantic composer who owes much to Mendelssohn and Schumann. This piece was imaginatively written and even if the themes are not particularly strong there is much in the music that makes it worth playing—especially in view of the paucity of the romantic woodwind repertoire.

The variations which ended the second half are, of course, one of Schubert's masterpieces, and received a brilliant performance from James Galway and Philip Moll (also of Berlin Philharmonic fame!)

Then came the encores—'Flight of the Bumble Bee', 'Annie's Song', 'Up to the Hour!?', and the evening was over.

Certainly everyone who came to this concert was aware of the presence of a great musician, but I do think that the programme could have had a little more variety.

R. Secret

SUNDAY, MARCH 1st 1981 at 8.00 p.m. In the ROXBURGH HALL

Stowe Concert Band & Wind Ensemble

**conducted by
Bram Wiggins**

PROGRAMME

Band

Overture. 'Il Seraglio'	Mozart
Dances from 'The Nutcracker' Ballet	Tchaikovsky
The Westminster Waltz	Robert Farnon
September Song	Kurt Weill
Summertime	George Gershwin
Five German Dances	Weber arr. Bram Wiggins
A Welsh Rhapsody	Clare Grundman
Espana	Chabrier

Interval

Ensemble

Mazurka	Rossini
Gymnopedie	Satie
Mouvements Perpetuels	Poulenc
The Story of Our Town	Aaron Copland
Pavane	Morton Gould

This concert was to have been shared with the Marlborough College Band which has recently given a concert in the Queen Elizabeth Hall and whose record has been favourably reviewed in 'The Gramophone' magazine. Sad to say, problems with administration prevented them from coming but our own band provided a most enjoyable evening's entertainment.

The full band which played in the first half consists of wind and brass players of varying abilities, welded into a convincing whole by Bram Wiggins.

I felt that the standard was a big improvement on last year, with some very fine playing, especially in Bram's own arrangement of "Five German Dances" by Weber. It is curious how many band arrangements are done with so little imagination and I thought that Bram's highly skilled arrangements with his infallible ear for sonorities showed just what can be done with the medium. The drab arrangement of Chabner's colourful 'Espana' was a case in point, and made a slightly low point to end the first half of the evening.

The music antics of the percussionist during this half of the concert amused the small but highly appreciative audience. It would be true to say that Basil Fawltly could not have provided a more colourful (or restless) sight!

The Wind Ensemble that performed the second half of the programme consisted of a few hand picked members of the Band and provided some music making of a very high standard. It is to be hoped that Bram Wiggins will persevere with this small group, as I am certain it could go on to great things (our own QEH concert, perhaps?)

R. Secret

SUNDAY, MARCH 15th 1981 at 8.00 p.m. In the CHAPEL

Symphony No 40 in G minor	Mozart
Requiem	Mozart

Eileen Lowes *Soprano*
Helen Attfield *Mezzosoprano*
Bonaventura Bottone *Tenor*
Roderick Earle *Bass*

Stowe Choral Society and Orchestra
Leader Robert Secret
Conducted by David Gatehouse

These performances were characterised by warm choral singing, precision in the orchestra and some good solo singing.

The symphony is one of Mozart's most deeply felt and sublime pieces. The drive of the opening Allegro molto was balanced by the serene Andante followed in turn by the vigorous Minuet and sparkling, but still serious, Finale. G minor is a key that inspired some of Mozart's most stirring music; one only has to think of the Quintet, Piano Quartet and both the 25th and 40th Symphonies.

The performance was highly polished and if there were some lapses in the horn section and the tempi for the two outer movements were a little on the 'safe side' it was a very satisfying start to the evening.

In the Requiem the Stowe Choral Society produced some fine singing supported by the luminous tone of the very stylish orchestra. What a pity P.C.D. had to play such an apology for an organ. It is sad that our own instrument is too flat in pitch to allow it to be used on such occasions and we missed the splendid surge of the organ in this work.

The small solo contributions were well sung and if Bonaventura Bottone's tone is not quite to everyone's taste and Eileen Lowes did make an occasional slip this was one of the most memorable Choral Society performances I have attended

J.A.B.

SUNDAY, 26th APRIL at 8.00 p.m. in the MUSIC ROOM

Richard Berkeley Steele *Tenor* with
Susan Steele *Piano*

The first concert of the Summer Term was held in the Music Room, and took the form of a recital of Italian, French and English songs, performed by the young tenor, Richard Berkeley Steele, accompanied by his sister, Susan Steele. As is the unfortunate wont at Stowe concerts these days, unless they are performed by extravagantly dressed extrovert youths, screaming their heads off to unintelligible words, the audience was appallingly small. Perhaps one can make some excuse on this occasion, as the weather was very bad, but such a lack of interest is most discouraging to the artists who play here.

Mr Steele has sung at Glyndebourne, and in opera and concert performances in France, Italy, Spain, Denmark and Turkey, and he presents a contrasting style of song in his recitals. His light voice, clear diction and pure tonal quality are a delight to the listener, and the select audience found his programme entertaining and enjoyable.

The first half ranged from Antiche and Bel Canto arias, to such popular Victoriana as Tosti's 'La Serenata' and Neapolitan songs. After the interval Mr Steele gave a beautiful interpretation of Fauré's song cycle set to poems by Verlaine, 'La Bonne Chanson', and the 'Three Shakespeare Songs' of Roger Quilter.

JUNE 4th at 8.00 p.m. In the MARBLE HALL

W.B.W.

Concert

by

The Choir of the College of William and Mary

Frank T. Lendrim, Director

Laurinda Nicholson, Accompanist

Misericordias Domini *Francesco Durante*

For Thy great mercy to me, O Lord,
I shall praise Thee forever.

Motet, Op. 29, No. 2 *Johannes Brahms*

I. Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein rein Herz
Create in me, O God, a pure heart,
And grant a right spirit within me.

II. Verwirf mich nicht von deinem Angesicht
O cast me not away from Thy countenance,
And take not Thy holy spirit from me.

III. Tröste mich wieder mit deiner Hülfe
Grant unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
With Thine infinite love uphold me.

Alma Redemptoris Mass *Tomás Luis de Victoria*

Kyrie

Gloria

Sanctus—Benedictus

Agnus Dei

Soloists: Margery Phipps, Laurinda Nicholson, Arthur Rawding, Michael Rogan,
Stuart Pickell

The Peaceable Kingdom *Randall Thompson*

Say Ye To The Righteous

The Paper Reeds By The Brooks

Ye Shall Have A Song

Interval

The Botetourt Chamber Singers:

My Lovely Celia *George Monro*

Three Chansons *Paul Hindemith*

Verger

En Hiver

Puisque tout passe

The Men of the Choir:

The Boatmen's Dance *Aaron Copland*

Soloist: Wayne Curtis

Little Lamb *Spiritual*

Two Choruses from Alice In Wonderland *Irving Fine*

The Lobster Quadrille

Father William

Folk Songs

Go 'Way From My Window *American*

Soloist: Michelle Jacobs

The Lover's Ghost *English*

Michael Rogan, Student Conductor

Spirituals

Nobody Knows De Trouble I've Seen *Arr. Harry Burleigh*

Ain't-A That Good News *Arr. William Dawson*

This concert was a wonderful experience for all who attended. These young, dedicated Americans (ages 18–22) come from Washington D.C. and (Chapel Choir please note!) rehearse for eight hours every week. The enthusiasm these youngsters bring to their music making—the whole programme sung from memory—enchanted the audience and showed what can be done by a group of singers many of whom, it has to be said, did not possess exceptional voices.

The first half of the evening contained the most important music, and an extremely high standard was set in the opening numbers by Durante and Brahms. I did not know the Brahms Motet but it was, for me, the highlight of the evening.

To sing the Victoria Mass from memory was a fine achievement, and if there were occasional uncertainties in attack, and pitch problems with the soloists, it was nevertheless a moving experience.

The second part of the concert was a more lighthearted affair—an extra item consisting of orchestral imitations being exceptionally well received (especially in view of its musical weakness!)

Copland's "Boatmen's Dance" had a pleasing lilt and the Folk Song "Go 'Way From My Window" featured Michelle Jacobs as the outstanding soloist of the evening with a beautifully inflected performance.

Not only was this a musically satisfying evening, but the choir's presentation was highly impressive and I was pleased to note how many Stoics attended and evidently enjoyed the concert.

R. Secret

Love,
So sweet,
Yet concealing
Malice.
So hard to gain
More so to hold.
Yet, I
Need you.
O why?

M. S. Emery

SPEECH DAY CONCERT

Saturday, June 6th, 1981

6.00-7.15 p.m.

Stowe School Orchestra

Stowe Chapel Choir

Christopher Gayford *Trumpet*

David Charlesworth *Violin*

Robert Wicks *Piccolo*

PROGRAMME

Trumpet Sonata *Purcell*
Allegro Grave Allegro

Violin Concerto in D *Mozart*
(1st Movement)

Piccolo Concerto in C *Vivaldi*
Allegro Largo Allegro molto
"The Lost Chord" *Sullivan*
"The Road to Mandalay" *Oley Speaks*

Little Suite for Orchestra *Malcolm Arnold*
Prelude—Dance—March

PETERLOO *Malcolm Arnold*

Three concerts in a row—albeit short ones—was an “**embarras de richesses**” and it would be invidious to make comparisons, either technical or musical, between the accomplished performances of Christopher Gayford in a Purcell trumpet “sonata”, David Charlesworth in the Mozart D major violin concerto, and Robert Wicks in Vivaldi’s rarely heard concerto for piccolo.

In the items by Malcolm Arnold—that stalwart composer whose facility and “melodiousness” have predictably earned him large doses of derision—the School Orchestra had found some very attractive music that was well suited to the needs of young players. The Little Suite in three movements belied its title by evoking some rather grand sounds, in places reminiscent even of Sibelius, and after an interlude by the Chapel Choir in which Sullivan’s “Lost Chord” was bracketed with that stirringly imperial number “On the Road to Mandalay” the orchestra returned to the fray (almost literally) with Arnold’s symphonic poem “Peterloo”, a vivid evocation of a notorious political incident from the early 19th century. The political sympathies of the piece—it was commissioned by the TUC—might be thought to sit uneasily with the speeches we heard in the afternoon, but such diversity must surely be encouraged!

P.C.D.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21st at 8.00 p.m. in the MARBLE HALL

Monteverdi *Vespers*

The Queen’s Temple Singers and Orchestra with members of the King’s Consort conducted by David Gatehouse.

Lesley Lowe and Ruth Harrington—*Sopranos*

Colin Place and Bruce Jobling—*Tenors*

Ian Small and Charles Cain—*Baritones*

Paul Drayton—*Harpsichord*; Robert King—*Organ*

Timothy Hugh—*Cello*; Robin Jeffrey—*Chitarrone*

This performance marked well over a term’s hard work by the Queen’s Temple Singers. D.F.G. and P.C.D. must take a great deal of credit in the way that their coaching brought off a performance of such a difficult work.

D.F.G. heard members of the King’s Consort play the Vespers in Cambridge and was particularly pleased to be able to secure the services of Robert King and some of his group. The orchestral playing was of a remarkably high standard with excellent performances from not only the ‘authentic instruments’ but also the trombones with C.P.M. putting in some fine work.

The venue of the Marble Hall on one of the warmest evenings of the summer created an atmospheric setting even if the acoustics were a little unkind to parts of the performance.

This concert showed the richness in contrasts of musical life at Stowe to the full and it is to be hoped that D.F.G. and the music staff will continue to give such a varied programme in future years.

R. Herrera



SOCIETY

CHAPEL

We have welcomed the following preachers in Chapel:

Spring Term: The Revd G. N. Boundy, Vicar of St Stephen's, Southmead, Bristol; The Revd Canon O. K. de Berry, St Michael's, Chester Square, London; The Revd R. L. Shepton, Chaplain of Kingham Hill School.

Summer Term: The Revd Dr P. Clasper, Lecturer in Religion at the Chinese University, Hong Kong; The Ven J. D. R. Hayward (OS), General Secretary for the Diocese of London; The Very Revd I. D. Neill, OBE, CB, Provost Emeritus of Sheffield; The Revd D. I. Gibson, House Master, Dean Close School; The Revd J. J. M. Fletcher, St Helen's, Bishopsgate, London; The Rt Revd V. J. Pike, OBE, CBE, CB, former Bishop of Sherborne, and The Very Revd M. S. Stancliffe, Dean of Winchester.

On Sunday the 8th March, sixty boys were confirmed in Chapel by the Bishop of Buckingham whose address presented a helpful stimulus to thoughtful and genuine discipleship. We were pleased that many families and friends were able to be with us for this occasion at which the new service from the Alternative Service Book was used and much appreciated. The Confirmation Retreats at Grendon Hall continue to be a vital part of our preparation and were led by the Revd Jonathan Fletcher of St Helen's Church, Bishopsgate, London.

Our Lenten Addresses were given by Canon Keith de Berry. He was accompanied by Mr Michael Wright, an Old Stoic who shared with us the reality of his recent Christian experience. At the Sunday service we welcomed Mr John Baker, a former Baritone with the Metropolitan Opera, New York, whose two solos were a memorable and inspiring part of our worship. A large number of Stoics attended the evening meetings at which Canon de Berry's theme was 'Close Encounters of Three Kinds'. He spoke of an encounter with the world around us which may cause us to seek for some meaning in existence; an encounter with the world within us which raises questions about our identity and inadequacies; an encounter with the world we cannot see but from which Christ has come to offer us a new life in relationship with Him.

In the first half of the Summer Term our experiments with the pattern of week-day services were well received. For the first fortnight there were voluntary services in Stowe Church at which the good attendance and sense of worship were most encouraging. We returned to Chapel for compulsory services which, for the next fortnight, focussed on the International Year of Disabled People and introduced the holiday for 'Physically Handicapped & Able Bodied' young people at Stowe this Summer. For the remainder of term the services on Tuesdays and Thursdays will be linked by a common theme each week. The involvement of a number of members of staff and Stoics in planning and taking these services is greatly appreciated.

Parties of Stoics have been to two outside meetings which merit special mention:

Jackie Pullinger's remarkable work in Hong Kong's Walled City, where Triad gangs operate, attracted favourable coverage from national press and television and is documented in the book 'Chasing the Dragon'. When she spoke at Deanshanger last term we were thrilled to hear up-to-date stories of people set free from the grip of drugs and vice by the power of Christ. In Oxford recently we were reminded of another event which received international attention in 1956 when five talented young American missionaries were martyred in Ecuador. Elizabeth

Elliot the widow of one of these men, told us how she returned, with one of their sisters, to share the Gospel with the tribe responsible. Their courage and faith were not in vain but have been for many an inspiration and example to know and follow Jesus Christ. Such whole-hearted Christianity brings a radical challenge to the assumptions and values of our society: as Jim Elliot wrote a few years before he was martyred, "he is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose".

N. W. Wynne-Jones

CHAPEL CHOIR

The choir has had another busy year, singing a number of Anthems, many of which have been particularly arranged for the choir by Mr Drayton. The most popular one, both for the choir and the congregation, was "Love is come again", a traditional French folk tune. At the moment we are preparing a contrapuntal Anthem "God is gone up with a merry noise".

Last term we took part in the Pupils' Concert and sang two witty pieces both by Flanders and Swann. This term we are preparing a similar piece for the Speech Day Concert, this time by Sullivan.

In March our annual outing took us to Oxford to see the Welsh National Opera in Rossini's "The Barber of Seville". It was an outstanding performance and we greatly enjoyed it.

At this time of the year the trebles voices are beginning to break and therefore the upper section is somewhat weak. We are therefore looking forward to next year's new intake of boys to occupy the places of those who have had to move lower down in the choir. We would also like to see a few more girls taking part!

Sonia Bennetts

CENTREPOINT

Centrepoint, the focus of Christian Fellowship at Stowe, has had a good term. We have met as usual in Mr Marcuse's flat on Sundays after Chapel, and then after coffee moved on to the A.V.R. This term we have been looking at the First Letter of Peter to the Christians of Asia Minor; we have covered most of its five chapters and gained helpful and encouraging messages from them. The main themes included much reassurance and praise, and generally very practical advice on living the Christian life.

Our group has flourished and a very encouraging number of Stoics attend. The meetings were varied: there were talks from visiting speakers, a tea meeting and a filmstrip. There was also a group discussion where we sub-divided into groups and thought hard.

We would like to thank the visiting speakers who have all enlivened Centrepoint this term and Mr Marcuse especially, who organises the meetings and lends us his flat.

M. Cazalet
R. Douglas-Bate

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The Classical Society has been a busy one over the last two terms with a visit first from Dr Oliver Taplin who spoke on the nature of Greek Tragedy, with particular reference to the Oedipus Tyrannus and Electra of Sophocles. His approach was a novel one, laying much emphasis on the exits and entrances of the main characters, and was appreciated as such by all who were present. Earlier this term, Dr I. Carrudice came and spoke on "The Roman Empire, coins and history" at the invitation of Mr Clarke. His talk, which rested much on the information gleaned by scholars from the propaganda that the emperors and generals of Rome included in their issues was most interesting, and the period covered was a great one from the Punic Wars to the time of Constantine.

Another issue of *Cyclops*, the Classical Magazine, was published this term, 3 years after its predecessor. The hope was to include informative articles on subjects of the Ancient World, together with articles of a lighter tone. I hope it was successful.

C. R. James

THE ENGLISH SOCIETY

Speakers invited to School Societies are often very much unknown quantities, but at the two meetings of the English Society this term we were graced on each occasion with the exciting impact of a highly stimulating visitor. Interestingly, I think most of us will remember these meetings for the periods of discussion in particular; it was then, that possibility of viewing literature outside the context of the absurd questions we expect to be asked in the exam-room seemed to dawn on us: we were suddenly applying ourselves to Shakespeare in a new way, and we have Mr Peter Conrad and Dr Todd of Durham University to thank for their provoking a climate of imaginative confidence in the A.V.R. I remember Dr Todd's explanation of his theory of levels of representation in theatre, Duncan Boyd's running battle on the issue of subjectivity versus objectivity with Mr Conrad, and Neville Ayling's startling exclamation, "Rubbish!" These were good meetings, and let us hope for more visiting speakers who will test our initiative in as impressive a way as these did.

T. J. Bayntun

THE MUSIC CLUB

In planning the programme for 1980/81 the main problem that the committee faced was creating "soirees" that would attract as wide an audience as possible. Unfortunately we have not been able to rely on our members to attend all the meetings and I am very grateful to many junior boys in the School for their support.

The two most notable meetings during the past year happened consecutively this term. The conductor and composer Dudley Simpson came and gave a very interesting talk about his experiences as musical director of Margot Fontaine's ballet company. This was followed by a concert given by members of Abingdon School. The technical virtuosity and musicality that they displayed in all fields of their performances has I hope given us all food for thought about the standards being set outside our little community.

C. M. Gayford

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tennyson described England in the 19th century as "a land of settled government, a land of just and old renown, where freedom slowly broadens down". Our first speaker of the Winter term, 1980, Dr Paul Langford of Lincoln College, Oxford, argued that the England of Wilkes & Walpole should be seen in a similar light. There was little doubt in the Society's mind that it might have been a period of stability—characterised as it was by the continuity of Walpole's rule, though the concept of freedom that reached down to all classes was regarded with greater scepticism. The speaker, nonetheless, questioned the oligarchical nature of 18th century England on the grounds that the ruling class was accessible to other social groups and because, contrary to popular belief, much of their policy went beyond the bounds of self-interest. Within these parameters Dr Langford was able to construct a water-tight argument though his criteria were both arbitrary and self-appointed.

Barely a week later on October 2nd 1980 we were visited by Professor Perlman, currently a member of the History Faculty of Denver University. While condensing the whole sweep of Elizabethan history, he compared the early and latter parts of the Queen's reign. Though he said little that was radically new, he did highlight the relative social vitality of the 1570s and 1590s and managed to convey a more graphic impression of some of the leading figures including the "odious Salisbury" than is usually obtainable from text books.

The Society has not, however, limited itself entirely to outside speakers. There have been two meetings presented by Stoics. The first of these on December 9th 1980 was a 'discussion' between Noah Walley and Tom Lenon on the Israeli-Palestine conflict which was both informative, informal and provocative. The second of these meetings on February 6th 1981 was a balloon debate involving such distinguished characters as Martin Luther King, Philip II of Spain, Mr Rudolf, and Winnie-the-Pooh.

On March 19th 1981 Dr Hiden of Bradford University gave a spell-binding and revealing talk on the changing interpretations amongst historians about the nature of the Third Reich. In his tour de force he communicated his own enthusiasm for the subject and for the sparring between historians besides demolishing various "popular myths" without driving the more staid members out of their mind, as they saw cherished views from Shirer dissolving before the remorseless logic of a deeper understanding of post-war Germany. In the same vein Dr Blair Worden of St Edmund Hall, Oxford, spoke on April 28th 1981 about the current views of early 17th century Parliaments, even suggesting that no one at the time cared much what happened in Parliament. Most M.P.s had far more important local clashes of interest and heavy "flak" over taxes from their neighbours to worry about. On June 9th 1981 Mr W. E. S. Thomas of Christ Church, Oxford provided not only a vivid insight into the life, thought and works of Thomas Macaulay, but also a model of a lecture exactly suited to the Society's nature. His use of language and anecdote was worthy of his subject, who was shewn as more than just the obvious exponent of the Whig Interpretation of History.

This academic year has seen some excellent and stimulating talks and discussion even if the subjects have tended to coincide with the A Level Syllabus. The emphasis has been to give different viewpoints to subjects already studied. Thus the Society has known "what the facts are" and has been persuaded to try by argument to discover "what the facts mean" which is both the stuff of history and the life blood of the historian. We are also keen to have even more participation from the members for whose benefit the society naturally exists by encouraging more interval speakers.

N. J. Walley
T. F. Ellemann

MODERN LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES

This year the Modern Language department has provided many opportunities for those studying French or German to see productions of texts being studied or that are relevant to the syllabus. Although one was always conscious of this academic relevance, films or visits to the theatre were always much enjoyed and provided the linguists with both entertainment and instruction.

The theatre visits this year varied from a spirited production of Dürrenmatt's play "Der Besuch der alten Dame" at Birmingham University, which included certain original touches that were far from expected, to an outstanding production, received with mixed feelings, of Beckett's controversial play, "Waiting for Godot" at the Old Vic—a play which is being studied for French at 'A' level. Early this summer, a trip was arranged to the Oxford Playhouse to see an excellent production of Molière's "Le Misanthrope" which was performed by New College and the OUDS and produced by Merlin Thomas.

The films shown have included "Les Enfants Terribles", based on Cocteau's novel, and a film of the Comédie Française's version of "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme" by Molière. The attendance at these events has always been encouraging, which reflects the extent to which they have been appreciated by varied groups of specialist linguists.

T. Sparrow

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Natural History Society has had a slow year, mainly because of a lack of support from Lower VIth members, on whom many societies depend.

A small number of people, however, have achieved considerable success. P. J. Walsh edited an excellent edition of **The Grebe**, which contained many interesting contributions from a wider range of members. He illustrated the magazine himself, with magnificent drawings, as well as contributing several articles and gathering in the material in record time.

P. D. J. Briggs was equally efficient in organizing a fascinating Speech Day exhibition, which again had a dominant theme of freshwater life but also featured many reptiles and amphibians.

The final sum gathered by the sponsored swimmers was £356, which has been sent to the World Wildlife Fund. This figure is very encouraging and is a demonstration of the determination that many Stoics possess.

All the dead elms have now been dragged out of the Nature Reserve and the replanting of a large number and wider variety of sapling hardwoods has taken place. The rooks that had been nesting in many of the elms in previous years have now all rebuilt in other large trees. There was much concern that they would leave the area. Although, of course, the removal of the elms has led to much disruption in the area, we do not believe that its effect will be long-lasting, and the fresh stock of trees is decidedly advantageous in that it maintains the sanity of the habitat.

G. J. R. Monbiot

THE LIBRARY

When Missing Book Lists are printed they sometimes seem depressingly long. They took a dip in the mid-1970's but have unfortunately lengthened in the last 4 years. Even so in over 38 thousand borrowings in the last 10 years, only .96% of books have not yet been recovered. In recent memory, 6 years is the longest period after which a "lost" book has turned up; so the .96% may yet decrease!

P. N. Taylor (Cobham) has been associated with The Library throughout the year as Prefect or Senior Monitor, and he well deserved the award of his Representative Tie for the enthusiastic and practical work he has done, and for the interest he has taken in the organisation and running of The Library. Mrs McDouall joins me in thanking him and in wishing him well in the next stage of his career. 6 of the House Monitors ably assisted him for all 3 terms, and the other 4 equally well for 2 terms. I am grateful for the hard work put in by all, and I hope it will be crowned with success when the machinery for retrieving borrowed books gets into top gear at the end of the term.

363 books have been acquired during the year. 20 of these were books abandoned, for whom no owner could be traced, and 23 were replacements for books lost or past repairing. The cost of "**The Illustrated Bible Dictionary**" in 3 volumes was shared with The Chaplain, and 6 Modern History Books were funded by the grant to The Library from the Scott-Gall Bequest, which for the last year has stood at £20 a term. We received 25 gifts over the year, ranging from booklets from the CEGB to larger volumes. Those received, with great appreciation, since the December issue of The Stoic, are: "**A History of the Royal Burgh of Inverary**" from the author, Alexander Fraser; "**Perfect Questions, Perfect Answers**" based on conversations between Bob Cohen, a Peace Corps Worker in India and Swami Prabhupada from Amy Chamier (Stanhope); "**The Motor Cars We Owned**" by the author, J. S. L. Spicer, father of J. A. L. Spicer (Walpole), which is "a brief review of 4 of the most popular motor car manufacturers of the 20s" (Austin, Ford, Morris, Vauxhall), supplemented by many photographs; "**Jackson Knight: A Biography**" written and presented by his brother, Professor Wilson Knight, who was a master at Stowe during the Second World War; "**The Face of the Tiger**" by Charles McDougal, was given at Kathmandu on 21st April to members of the School Expedition to Nepal, by the Mountain Travel and Tiger Tops team; "**The Golden Age of Cricket 1890-1914**" by David Frith was the gift of St. Peter's Cricket Team from Australia, on the occasion of their visit to Stowe on 28th May; and, lastly, "**Flying Concorde**" by the author Brian Calvert (Grenville 1947 to 1952), father of J. R. Calvert (Grenville), which will no doubt be an inspiration to many a reader.

The 47 H.E.B. Novels, some being translations, which we bought in the Spring Term have been much appreciated and greatly used. Their modest price and sensible hardback binding are a tremendous advantage in stocking, and the width of interest covered by their titles has made them a focal point for borrowers, the slimness of the volume, in some cases, being an added attraction for the less habitual reader.

We asked B.S.S. to help us place an order for valuable books at reduced prices offered in Blackwell's Spring Sale. Some of these were on display on Speech Day. They have strengthened the Classics and English sections in particular, and we are grateful for the help given in their selection.

Our purchases are made almost entirely through the Bookshop, with a few bargains and out of print books selected from secondhand catalogues, and a very few books ordered from the Readers' Union. Mrs Chapman is always particularly helpful. We hope she will be fit and well again soon.

Monitors: T. C. W. Yerburch (1), S. J. S. C. Pledger (2), D. E. Callow (3), J. A. G. Buchanan (4), P. N. Taylor (5), J. B. D. Henderson (6), A. W. L. Wiggins (7), J. A. L. Spicer (8), M. Bucks (9), B. J. Brown (0), P. P. C. Nash (N).

C. R. Haslam

STOWE COMMUNITY SERVICE

Whilst the rain has caused gardens to grow profusely, it has at the same time made mowing rather uncertain, in spite of our robust equipment and operators. Nevertheless, we have been helping in our usual summer task of garden-tidying around our pensioners. And, under the guidance of our new Chairman Robert Jory (3) and his committee colleagues Rupert Douglas-Bate, Robert Wolstenholme and Chris Coldham, we have been building up contacts that will enable us to help others for whom we can offer, at Stowe, particular service.

Foremost here are two schemes: the first has brought in pupils from Evenly Hall in Brackley to swim, sail and play football and table-tennis; and the second has brought in boys in the tutelage of Aylesbury Social Services to learn to canoe on the eleven-acre lake. It is good to see more Stoics keenly putting their talents to the service of others, and good for us to offer as wide a variety of service projects as possible and practicable.

We have been doing some decorating, too, and recently we have begun a project in conjunction with the Buckingham Society to make tape-recordings of the reminiscences of some of our senior members, which will make up an 'oral archive' of Buckingham life this century.

We have been host to Neil Slatter on his Wheelabout to raise money for the disabled, and several Stoics will be helping to run a summer holiday at Stowe for the Physically Handicapped.

And, regularly, day by day, we have continued our programme of visits to our pensioner-members in Buckingham. This is always a very important aspect of the work we do, and the service we can provide.

Looking ahead, a link will be forged with conservation work next year in the forthcoming 'Venture Wing' Programme for the fourth form boys, and we hope that this wide range of activities will attract a larger number of Stoics into offering themselves in service of some kind to the community. Many have gained, as well as given, a great deal, in their various areas.

Finally, it remains to thank all those pupils and members of staff who give help to us during the year. We are always keen to welcome more into the organisation! And we must thank Marcus Cotton, the retiring chairman, for the help he has given to S.C.S. in the past years.

I.M.S.



DEBATING SOCIETY

The date is March 19th 1981, and the Lyttelton and Grafton teams, exhausted after the most thrilling Inter House Debating Competition Final for many years, sit with bated breath in a packed Music Room as the judges (the Society's two Vice-Presidents, Mr Taylor and Mr Rudolf, and the Chairman of Judges Mr Small) decide whether the proposition "Small is Beautiful" (!) has been carried.

Mr Small rises, and after remarking on the improving standard of public speaking, announces that Lyttelton has won the Small Yellow Plastic Debating Elephant Moneybox (the Society being too poor to afford a Cup), Paul Calkin, later to become the first man to be awarded House Debating Colours, having finally carried the day for the Proposers.

The enterprise of last Winter Term has developed into steady and improving interest in the Art of Public Speaking. Huw Jennings, the excellent Chairman in Winter, left the Chair forcefully proposing the motion, "Women are Inferior to Men", and his speech was a major cause of the motion being passed by 122 votes to 89 (the other cause being the 95% male House!). Bob Miller took over the Chairmanship for an Easter which saw our first two guest debates: Bedford School discussed, "This House Calls for the Banning of Blood Sports" (defeated 41-71), and the President (Mr Grimston) arranged for recent Cambridge Union personalities to argue, "This House has no Confidence in Her Majesty's Government", proposed by Mr Ian Wright, one of the original 80 signatories of the Social Democratic Alliance and current President of the Cambridge Students' Union, and opposed by Mr Dominic Casserley, former Cambridge Union President and a member of the Tory Reform Group executive. The motion was safely defeated by 20 votes to 82.

Bob Miller said farewell proposing, "This House believes that a Drink Before and a Cigarette After are Three of the Best Things in Life", with a perfect example of the After Dinner Speech, and despite the cut and thrust of Jonathon Bayntun in opposition the motion was carried by 114 to 24.

Though the onset of exams has cut the Houses this term, the standard of debating has steadily improved. After the somewhat frivolous, "A Public School Education is a Waste of Time and Money" (with University College Buckingham) was rejected 14-58, possibly the most intense atmosphere yet experienced developed for "God is Man's Most Dangerous Invention", Mr Selby sceptically proposing, the Headmaster "faithfully" opposing, and the President speaking agnostically from the Crossed Benches. The final vote was our closest: for the Ayes 18, for the Noes 19, for the Crossed Benches 25.

The exam session was heralded in by, "Sport has lost the Sporting Spirit", starring some of the leading sportsmen in the school such as Mark Turner and Roddy Duff, with expert witness lent by Mr Weston (in favour) and Mr Taylor (against): this was defeated by 7 votes after a very lively floor debate.

Each debate has been preceded by an Emergency Motion on current events, possibly the most memorable, in the week of the release of the American hostages and the accession of the new President, being the narrowly defeated, "This House would rather be a Hostage under the Ayatollah than a Citizen under Reagan".

The first year of the Society can I feel be considered a success, and for this much credit must go to the President. I hope that the current Lower Sixth will enjoy the Society as much as have the present Middle Sixth.

D. C. Burgess, Chairman

STOWE AVIATION SOCIETY

Since our last report the Society has been keeping a lower profile than usual.

We have shown a crop of films and videotapes. This term we have had a very successful Speech Day Exhibition and we will also be attending the world's biggest military airshow at RAF Greenham Common in late June.

Next term I hope to be able to offer a more interesting programme for the coming year including visits, talks and perhaps a flight or two.

Our thanks for support go to, amongst many, Air Vice Marshal D. C. A. Lloyd CB, MBIM, RAF, AOC NORMAR and Scotland and N. Ireland, Sqn. Ldr. M. Greenhow RAF and the CPRO at HQ FONAC.

Sadly Mr Townley is leaving this term. We thank him for two years' support and encouragement.

A. J. G. Stirling, Chairman

I. Bowley, Secretary

POLITICAL CLUB

Over the past two terms the Club has met four times to hear talks on four very different but equally controversial topics. Our first meeting was early in the Autumn Term when we welcomed a speaker from the League Against Cruel Sports. His straightforward but well considered opinions were hotly contested during question time when certain members of the school seemed stubbornly determined to deny that the speaker's case could be in any sense a rational one. The meeting was especially topical because ferreting had just lately been banned at Stowe.

Our second meeting of the Spring Term was held in the Music Room to a packed, hostile audience. The National Front's policies were under scrutiny as Mr Martin Webster gave an hour-long outline of the organisation's programme and aims. During the lengthy question time the audience's unsympathetic feelings were unmistakable, but the smooth arguments of a practised and skilled orator allowed few opportunities to expose the many weaknesses of his argument.

At the beginning of the summer term the Club welcomed Mgr Bruce Kent of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. He offered an enlightening but alarming insight into the "arms race" and expressed fears about the inheritance that our generation would leave. He showed a film, aptly titled "War Without Winners", which made everyone especially aware of the seriousness of the situation. During question time there was discussion of the Strategic Arms Limitation treaties and of press coverage of the debate about nuclear weapons.

The following week the club met to hear the Headmaster of Buckingham Secondary School discuss the Government's Assisted Places Scheme with Mr Turner. Next Term Stowe will begin to participate in the scheme. Both headmasters spoke interestingly and presented their cases cogently, and there followed a wide-ranging discussion on the role of public schools in society.

M. J. Cazalet

BRIDGE CLUB

The Bridge Club has taken part in several tournaments in the past two terms. In the **Daily Mail** Cup, Stowe won their heat convincingly but when we played in the semi final we failed to qualify for the final by two places coming fifth out of seventeen. The team was I. Dutton and C. D. Mersey/J. S. Knowles and E. N. Yeats-Brown, with J. C. Gray and C. S. Morley.

In the county pairs, having come equal second out of thirty in their heat in the Christmas term, J. C. Gray and C. S. Morley came up against opposition in the semi final that proved too tough on the day. But in the O.U.C.B.A. Simultaneous Pairs, they won the competition with a score of 78% with N. D. Leapman and S. T. Lunt coming fourth and J. M. Gumpel and J. T. Hobday seventh out of over a hundred pairs.

Stowe has won the Oxfordshire pairs for the past three years, two Stowe pairs coming equal first last year, but we failed to win it this time although J. M. Gumpel and J. T. Hobday came third, and J. S. Knowles and E. N. Yeats-Brown, fourth.

C. S. Morley and R. Vohora (5) took the House Pairs Cup back from Chatham, who won the House Team of Four Cup convincingly over Grenville in the final. The Chatham team was I. Dutton and C. D. Mersey, J. C. Gray and N. D. Leapman.

N. L. Blakesley and M. B. G. Yallop won the under 16 pairs with M. F. Berner and A. F. Hinds close runners-up.

I would like to thank Dr Hornby and Mr Edwards for their help and encouragement, and Chris Mersey and Jeremy Knowles who were captain and secretary respectively in the Easter term, Jeremy being captain this term.

C. S. Morley, Secretary

The Bridge Squad: I. Dutton,* C. D. Mersey,* J. C. Gray,* C. S. Morley,* J. S. Knowles,* E. N. Yeats-Brown,* M. F. Berner, N. L. Blakesley, C. I. Cox, N. H. Grice, J. M. Gumpel, J. B. D. Henderson, A. F. Hinds, J. T. Hobday, N. D. Leapman, S. T. Lunt, N. R. Nicholson, Q. B. D. Peppiatt, N. M. Roads, E. J. A. Smith-Maxwell, C. J. Stopford, R. Vohora, M. B. G. Yallop.

*Awarded Representative Tie.

THE PINEAPPLE CLUB

Over the past year eight trips have been made to the Club, a welcome increase on the numbers in previous years. Everyone has gained a great deal from the experience, as well as enjoying the visit immensely. The main reason for this is the lively, vibrant atmosphere in the Club, and the contrast it provides with Stowe.

The range of activities has again increased through the influx of part-time helpers to assist Joe. An art session has been set up on Tuesdays, as well as air pistol and rifle shooting. The Club's boxing is flourishing, as always, with excellent personal achievements.

We look forward to the Club visiting Stowe at the end of term, which will be an opportunity for the Londoners to see the very different life of a Stoic. We also anticipate the Pineapple Ball, hoping for the Club's sake that it will be profitable!

M. J. Cazalet

SCHOOL BAND

The band has been flourishing under the capable baton of Mr Wiggins and our rehearsals have been very productive as the concert in March showed. Unfortunately the band of Marlborough School was unable to come on this occasion and it was replaced by a small group of our own players who achieved ensemble and clarity of an exceptionally high standard.

The Speech Day Concert on the south front was as much a test of preventing the music blowing away as performing, but the final result was enjoyed by all.

C. M. Gayford

THE FORESTERS

Our programme this season has been dominated by the needs of the Game Fair, and although this has meant that the efforts of the garden staff, the professional foresters and the boy foresters have been concentrated largely on the southern part of the estate beyond the ha-ha, it has enabled us to do a number of jobs there more thoroughly than might otherwise have been the case.

Contractors working for the Game Fair have transformed the marsh along the 'Copper Bottom' into a true lake, which it is hoped to keep as a permanent feature of the landscape. Nearby, the spinney below the dam of the Eleven-Acre has been cleared of dead elms and tangled undergrowth, and by cutting back the ivy at the outflow of the lake the impressive rock-face of the cascade has been revealed. In the southern half of Nelson's Walk, which is to be a competitors' car park, the spruce have been removed from between the maturing chestnut trees, which for the first time are making a show as an avenue.

A small experiment is worth recording. At the end of the Spring Term several dozen bird-sown year seedlings were collected by a party of boy and girl foresters, and taken to the nursery of Mr Nicholson, our forestry consultant. There they were set in plastic containers and will be looked after until they are large enough to be brought back to Stowe and planted out.

G.B.C.

CORKSCREW SOCIETY

The Society has been fortunate to have had a prosperous year and many knowledgeable speakers have brought wine, ranging from a French Vin de Table to a South African Port, to be tasted.

I would like to express my thanks to Mr Lloyd and Mr Potter for their experienced help throughout the year, and to the Caterer for his generous suppers and food for the meetings.

A new Chairman and Secretary have been selected to take over in September, to keep the Society flourishing. Therefore it only remains for me to wish the present and future members a lifetime of good wine tasting.

M.C.S. and R.R.N.Y.

ZYMASE

After the successful display on Speech Day there has been an increase in interest in the club, with a possibility of increasing the membership to double figures. As well as the interest, comments about the wines were, on the whole, complimentary, which was encouraging.

The term has been a good one. As we have been able to bottle a great deal, there is plenty of spare room for next term's copious amounts of elderberry, which is always popular. The club overall continues to thrive, and provides much enjoyment for its members.

J. Walker

THE CANOEING CLUB

The club was founded just over a year ago, and its activities are managed mainly by the members. This year many people have had the opportunity to sample the sport, including C.C.F., D. of E. and Community Service. Expeditions have been made to a wide selection of rivers, including the rapids at Serpent's Tail, sometimes used in top-class competitions. A high emphasis is placed on safety (as well as enjoyment) and several members have received qualifications. In the future the club hopes to build its own boats and enter slalom competitions. Throughout the year many masters have given a great deal of time and support, particularly Mr Bedford-Payne who has patronized the club throughout.

J. B. D. Henderson

B. C. Savage

GEOGRAPHY FIELD COURSE

This year's field course in Snowdonia and the Llyn, attended by thirty Lower Sixth geographers, was from the 18th to the 22nd March. Our base was the Cornucopia Court Hotel, Llanrwst, adequate if not five star in status! The aim of the course was to deepen our understanding of geomorphology, and although we were rather unfortunate with the weather, we completed our studies more or less as scheduled.

Detailed analysis and description of glacial landforms at Cwm Idwal, in the Nant Ffrancon valley, and the Llanberis Pass, were undertaken. Using knitting needles and compasses we investigated the till fabric orientation of the innards of a drumlin at Llienawg, Anglesey. Other studies included the analysis of polycyclic relief at Porth Colman on the Llyn, the rejuvenation of drainage systems and a transect study of the Conwy valley which drew together a variety of geographical threads and concepts.

The weather was particularly unkind on the Saturday when we surveyed Criccieth Beach. It rained continually! The River Conwy valley was so flooded that the doors of our hotel were sand-bagged. Ironically too much water prevented us from undertaking hydrological studies as planned.

The course was intensive with field work during the day followed by classwork until at least 10 in the evening. Detailed accounts of both descriptive and analytical studies have been completed by all. Without doubt their content will prove most useful in the geomorphology side of our 'A' level studies.

C. Brown

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

The year has been a busy one, with increasing emphasis on activities other than the conventional hill-walking. Canoeing, under the enthusiastic supervision of Mr Bedford-Payne, has flourished, as has cycling, and 25 boys are currently preparing for expeditions by one of these means. Potholing has emerged as a fully-fledged activity in its own right, and is reported elsewhere in this issue. Our Rock Climbers, too, continue to push their standards ever higher.

Our main camp this year is in Northumberland, a county rich both in unspoilt countryside and in historical associations. In the words of Dr Johnson, "Whatever withdraws us from the power of our senses; whatever makes the past, the distant or the future predominate over the present, advances us in the dignity of thinking beings. Far from me and from my friends be such frigid philosophy as may conduct us indifferent and unmoved over any ground which has been dignified by wisdom, bravery and virtue." This wild tract of land, lying between Lindisfarne and Hadrian's Wall, has much to offer, and we anticipate a good camp.

Other groups, showing healthy initiative, are planning independent expeditions, on Dartmoor, the Isle of Wight, and on the River Wye. A small group will be spending three weeks later in the Summer in the Pennine Alps. Such independence and diversity is an important element in the Scheme's philosophy, and we hope it will continue to flourish.

A.J.W.

CAVING

Earlier on this year, John Gillett, a very experienced caver and cave rescuer, came to Stowe and gave an informal and informative lecture on caving techniques. It was this talk and the enthusiasm generated by Dr Hornby that has rejuvenated the interest in caving at Stowe.

Since then, we went to Giants Hole, a system in Derbyshire. The group was down for about four and a half hours, and enjoyed some very exciting traversing and crawling, as well as an interesting ascent via a wire ladder through a waterfall at the end of the trip.

This Spring, we went to the P8 system in the Peak-District which featured many varied conditions not before experienced by our group. These conditions included a long crawl over a bank of mud!

My thanks are extended to John Gillett and Dr Hornby for their help and enthusiasm.

C. Gaines

PORTO RICA

I

Blow breeze; dull clouds dispel that sun might shine
On Porto Rica! Blades of grass when lit
By your gold touch reveal the very mine
Of life that pulses through those veins thin-split
Amongst the film of leaf. Thus reassure
This tired and cold-cloyed soul: illuminate
The life that sometime raced through me, before
The shafts of faith misplaced, triumphs of hate,
Stuck deep in youthful heart; your warming rays
May purge me of men's sullied strains of song,
Until, transparent as the sun-lit maze
Of grass, I'm filled with tunes of a happier throng.
Peace here; the whisper of swayed trees so tall,
Now sounds like some huge, distant waterfall.

II

For just a moment Time itself did stop,
And then our boat stood on a wave that froze
Its liquid motion. And I saw this crop
Of sunny islands in a light that rose
From distant years: a glimpse I had did he:
That steered the Minyans through Sardinian isles,
In search of the golden fleece, did Jason see
These sparkling waves as I? Did heroes' smiles
Grace waters whose pellucid azure rings
The startling strips of perfect sandy shores?
The waves now slap our hull again, and things
Of yore are fading as the engine roars,
Confined once more to distant dusty pages.
And yet was I not touched across the ages?

III

I smile on miles of night-time's purple veil,
Now curling strands of balmy breath around
Our sun-bleached perch on the mountain's side. The sail
That stirs on moonlit waters makes no sound,
But leaves a silver trail on glistening seas.
The plunging shoreline frowns in disbelief
At placid beauty; night-time's charms appease
The rocks where inmate shadows shade their grief.
Yet seated here the death pangs of my peace
Touch me; for the moonlit terrace now seems level,
Whose crooked cracks drank day-time's wine . . . My lease
Of calm explodes in fears: the secret bevel
Of night has duped me! Do your shades hold more?
Is it my sense you sap with illusions sore?

T. J. Bayntun

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY SCENE

This year the Visual Arts at Stowe have seen an increasing development by the boys and girls challenging the Art School to incorporate various areas including etching, stage design and photography.

An exciting venture this year has been the inclusion of etching in the school which has proved to be very popular and demanding. The major techniques have been covered and developed with confidence and much can be expected in this area in the future, which promises to be very fruitful.

The A level boys have also been involved with designing and execution of stage sets, showing dedication and perseverance, especially for the two very memorable staff plays, "**Separate Tables**" and "**Harlequinade**".

Photography has helped to co-ordinate various activities of the Art School and the school in general. Many boys not only have good camera equipment but also enthusiasm which, once tapped and combined with fundamental knowledge, is capable of producing first class work.

Regrettably many, if not most, boys and girls will leave school never to draw or paint again, though most will try to use a camera in a competent fashion. For this reason photography has a rightful place as a facility in any mature educational establishment.

Photography has also been very useful for the Painters and Sculptors of the school to record their work, enabling them to produce folders of work for examinations and interviews when their work has been too large to send by post or to take by car.



School plays have provided interesting subject matter as well as important training for the Photographic Society to learn new skills, for example the ability to capture expressive and dramatic human gesture. This becomes increasingly challenging and also it is by no means as easy as at first thought. Through this involvement the Society has publicised the performances to a wider public, including the rest of the school. Photography has also been used to record sports events and other school activities which are published in this Magazine and School Bulletins. The Photographic Society was also fortunate in having the opportunity to visit the Earls Court Photographic Exhibition, which proved to be a very inspiring event.

Photography has been very useful to the Third forms in their study of perspective, starting with vanishing points, eye levels and ending in confusion! Few believe their own eyes and are convinced we see only what we want to see and that the art of perspective is a psychological overprint stamped onto our visual reality by A level examiners or someone else in error!

However a good photograph taken by Bosdet or another is all that is needed to restore confidence in the teacher. A shot of Bletchley Station with railway lines running into the distance saved the day! In general the basics of perspective have enabled many to use the marvellous architectural heritage of Stowe for inspiration in drawing and painting.

A group has also been engaged in Life Drawing at the very pleasant and creative atmosphere of the Barn Studios in Winslow on various Tuesday and Saturday mornings. The Art School has also helped develop the drawing skills of the Fourth form and Lower Sixth Design Technology boys who have needed to sharpen their ability to use perspective as a tool or language to express themselves.

The year was concluded by the Speech Day Art Exhibition. On view were drawings, water colours, oil paintings, sculpture, dressmaking, etchings and photography, both of the boys and girls at work and photographs by the Photographic Society of their own work and work done by others in the school. This included drama, sport and other societies at work. Most on show was concerned with the traditional skills in a wide variety of media which have been employed this year. The boys and girls of the Art School worked hard to make it successful; it was an experience not to be forgotten, especially the dismantling of the exhibition!

G.N.C.H.

VOICE OVER WAVES

I will float in a sea of sighing songs,
Imagining I steer despite the winds
The clouds won't yield that for which sight longs.
Nor depths beneath supply a meddling mind
With what it craves: that personal image be defined.

Happy you waves that know not why you skip,
But lick the human breath that, mixed with breezes,
Bears far afield strange questionings that strip
Their author bare. Am I sure my frame releases
A spirit that can fly? Perhaps in flight it freezes

Into oblivion? Whitened knuckles grasp
The bobbing flotsam. Think! To me belongs
The right to sink and join a watery past;
Yes—now let slip the grip that life prolongs:
I'll not float in a sea of sinking, sighing songs.

T. J. Bayntun

HYDE PARK—AFTERNOON

The afternoons are lazy in the sun
And throngs of people loiter in the streets,
The parks are full, where raucous children run
In screaming bands defying summer heat.

Slow swimming swans ignore the noisy crowds
And glide across the water unaware
Of all the human beings and the clouds
That haunt their lives and trail across the air.

The dogs are panting with dry-throated thirst
While plastic cups are littered on the ground,
And radios sporadically burst
Through drowsy silence with discordant sound.

Slow heat distorts the city's thrusting spires
And sleep like ice-cream melts into the mind,
While tourist voices volubly inquire
The title of the work that Moore designed.

SOHO—EVENING

Hollowness is common to the city,
Built of brittle glinting glass which shatters
Baring all the gaudy neon tatters
Covering its horror and its pity.

Soho sounds resound in crowded houses,
Shrunken faces stare from ill-lit corners,
Blondes provocatively pose for saunas,
Advertising meaningless carouses.

Foreign prophets chant and sing and mutter
Sporting brilliant jewelry that dangles,
Scintillates and glitters with its bangles,
Calling to the faithless of the gutter.

Sick with alcohol a tramp is lying
Huddled in a cold inebriation,
Snores into a hell of his creation,
Sliding out of sleeping into dying.

D. R. L. Boyd

CAREERS EXPERIENCE COURSES

“ASHRIDGE”

Among the many courses that the Lower Sixth Formers were able to attend during last Easter holidays was a general one at the attractive Management Centre of Ashridge. Stowe has good reason to be grateful to the Independent Schools Careers Organisation and in particular to Mr C. H. Gregory for accepting so many applicants each year.

Edward Bourdon-Smith: ‘Prior to the three day course I had no idea what my career intentions were and even afterwards I am not sure. However, I have had my interest stimulated by several lectures and now I intend to go on to a higher education course and sort out my ideas later on.’

James Calvert: ‘I went with the intention of finding a career for the time when I would leave school but it was not as easy as all that. The speakers were not trying to sell jobs, but were giving helpful advice and letting us make up our minds. I took the opportunity to pick their brains and although my future is still uncertain I have gained some useful information.’

John German: ‘All the lectures I attended were captivating and directed my attention to those careers that I wanted to consider more seriously. My attitude to accountancy was completely changed for the better.’

Adriano Leto: ‘I found my ideas on further education were developed and qualifications beyond ‘A’ levels would be invaluable in certain fields. The lectures were given by young people or experienced people who, with reference to their personal experience in their work, gave a realistic idea of many careers.’

Rosalind Naylor: ‘I was in some confusion before the course and it gave me an insight to a wider horizon of opportunities and it expanded my opinions. It has also shown me the importance of finding out about things which before I felt were irrelevant and unnecessary.’

David Newbery: ‘I thought the lectures were well presented and they helped me to dispel preconceived ideas about various careers. There was also an exceedingly amusing session on how to cope with an interview.’

Mark Verrall: ‘The speakers were best at replying to questions and it was helpful to take notes of the important points. I have learnt more about jobs which relate to my ‘A’ levels. The course came at the right time for me before university applications have to be made.’

“SEARCH”

This was a new course for scientists and engineers held at Royal Holloway College.

Robert Adam: ‘There were speakers from every aspect of Industry with business games, group discussions and subjects covering each branch of engineering. I was glad to learn more about mechanical engineering if only to feel less interested in it afterwards which for me was a good thing.’

Aref Lahham: ‘I was interested in the practical work of the ‘Bradford Management Game’ and I learned about careers in Industry, about the ‘Gap’ year, about sponsorships and scholarships schemes. The course helped me understand most types of engineering and so made it easier to choose between them and yet I would still be interested in civil, chemical or electrical engineering or chemistry alone.’

Louis Leblond: ‘I think the course has turned me away from the thought of taking my science ‘A’ levels further at university because of the length of time and the work would be too specific. My intentions now are to study some kind of business studies or law at university.’

Stephen Lunt: ‘The course helped me in making a decision over the university degree that I was considering. It confirmed my interest in chemistry and now I am looking for the right place for me.’

All those who went on one of these residential courses agreed that the accommodation was excellent. They were treated as university students and consequently they behaved as such, and the general atmosphere was one of friendliness and goodwill. Our thanks also go to Mr J. H. Sandison and Mrs Barbara Rabey, Courses and Development Department, ISCO.

J.M.L.

ANNIE’S YESTERDAY

Yesterday, when Annie died,
A swan was on the lake.
It was as if her snow-white soul
Had drifted to her haunt of days
When she was young enough to leap and run
And dance beside the mirrored calm,
Without the bonds of stiff and numbed old-age.

Yesterday she died in bed
And in her death found peace.
She knew, at last, she’d loved her life
When a shrill, sweet song flew in,
Drifting through the window on scented air.
A dry, enraptured voice—two small twigs
Rubbing softly in a breeze—creaked, “for me”.

I saw a young and bright-eyed girl
Sitting on that same green lawn
That rolled down from the lead-paned glass
Through which the blackcap’s warm song danced.
And though her time-worn, wrinkled lids were shut,
Annie saw the young girl too
And slow salt tears damped out her frail flame.

G. J. R. Monbiot

SPORT

CRICKET

THE FIRST XI

Would it not be pleasant for once to begin a cricket report without the word 'rain'? Alas, again this season has been dogged with wet weather. The cricket has been affected, performances below par, and scores low. We have played through some atrocious conditions; it was either that or not play at all. In a bout of good weather one would not have bothered to venture outside the Pavilion door in the same conditions.

We began the season with a prolonged fielding practice against Buckingham—when it was our turn to bat the heavens opened. Following this we bowled out a strong Free Foresters side and proceeded to pass the total without losing a wicket thanks to Lester and Ivison. Against Cirencester a fine performance in the field where Anderson was outstanding enabled us to chase another low score. This time we were again cut short by the rain after a solid start.

A disappointing game developed at Mill Hill. On another sodden wicket we never looked secure enough to chase the Mill Hill declaration. Only Ivison batted with any semblance of authority. We inserted Bradfield on the now too familiar wet wicket and they were 67-1 at lunch. Although Lester bowled well the fielding slipped below its normal high standard and they reached 168-9. Lester, Ivison and Turner all batted soundly leaving a target of 5 runs an over off the last twenty. Inexperience and lack of practice turned impending victory into hard decisions for the captain. Deciding on safety Stowe declined to chase nine runs off the last over and played out time satisfactorily.

Lester won the toss again and put Oakham in to bat, somewhat regretting his decision at lunch. Some sharp fielding and catching and some insecure running between the wickets prevented them amassing the expected total. Lester fought a lone battle with a fine innings until Anderson joined him in a successful stand which very nearly brought us victory. Our judgement of run rate still seems to be beyond the grasp of the middle order batsmen!

We were very fortunate to be hosts to St. Peter's School from Adelaide who demonstrated what a well accomplished all round team they were. They opened the game up with a very sporting declaration but one sadly we could not take advantage of. Some amazing lapses in the field, mostly off the bat of Turner, destroyed their chances of victory too.

Dean Close was a memorable day. Our record unbeaten opening partnership was a pleasure to witness. Chanceless—save for a couple of hesitant pushes in the nineties—and full of stroke play to savour. Dean Close saved the game mainly by their own opening stand which deprived us of that valuable wicket or two before tea. Consequently we were always behind the clock to bowl them out and we found difficulty in penetrating their steadfast rearguard action.

Old Stoics day produced its inevitable rain, a fine innings from D. Thomas (past), a match saving innings from D. Thomas (present) and Anderson which brightened up what was rather an uneventful day. We have lots of cricket to play still and the weather looks as though it is improving.

May I add our sadness at the loss of Wilf Stokes last holiday? Throughout his long association with the School as groundsman, he worked so hard and did so much for sport here and cricket in particular. We will remember him with great affection.

L. E. Weston

Results: v. Buckingham—Drawn—Rain stopped play
Buckingham 204 for 3 declared

v. Free Foresters—Won
Free Foresters 89 all out (Merewether 6 for 15)
Stowe 90 for 0 (Lester 38 not out, Ivison 33 not out)

v. Cirencester—Drawn—Rain stopped play
Cirencester 128 all out (Merewether 4 for 32)
Stowe 43 for 0

v. Mill Hill—Drawn
Mill Hill 153 for 9 declared (Merewether 4 for 48)
Stowe 72 for 7

v. Bradfield—Drawn
Bradfield 168 for 9 declared (Lester 5 for 64, Taylor 4 for 29)
Stowe 164 for 8

v. Oakham—Drawn
Oakham 144 all out (Morrison 5 for 53)
Stowe 126 for 6 (Lester 80 not out)

v. St. Peter's, Australia—Drawn
St. Peter's 152 for 4 declared
Stowe 143 for 8 (Turner 47)

v. Dean Close—Drawn
Stowe 214 for 0 declared (Lester 106 not out, Ivison 101 not out)
Dean Close 142 for 8 (Taylor 5 for 49)

v. Stowe Templers—Drawn—Rain affected
Templers 185 for 7 declared
Stowe 133 for 5

HOCKEY

THE FIRST XI

It was a relatively untried senior group of players at the start of the term with only two who had had previous regular 1st XI experience. It must be said at the outset that the Captain, M. C. Turner, was head and shoulders above his contemporaries. The pressures on the captain are greater than some would suppose and this year it was heart-warming to see a good example set in training and a high standard of skill which others could emulate. M. S. Emery also gave an excellent lead. He possessed a match-winning quality in his speed of running with the ball that was unequalled.

The school's fixtures began early with an uneventful away draw against Aldenham. The lack of finishing in attack on both sides was to be expected after so little practice, although Aldenham had been at a pre-season festival in Spain! The first home match against Oundle was a convincing victory, but the defence relaxed at the end, conceding an unnecessary goal, and this lack of sustained concentration remained an unresolved feature of the team. In the earlier games, I. A. Keith made an effective contribution as an inside forward with sound basic skills and unselfish passing.

The Cambridge Wanderers gave the defence the toughest contest of the term. With two well taken runaway goals in our favour the question was how long could the ball be kept out of the circle? C. A. Boxall and R. N. Lockhart-Smith were particularly sharp and resolute. The standard of play overall was inspirational but, alas, it was repeated only once to the same degree against a school side. At Dean Close there was something of an anticlimax. We enjoyed enough possession but the attacking play was fitful and shots were off target. The winning rhythm returned against Bradfield and the penetrating runs by M. M. Ivison from deep in our own half proved successful. The Bedford match was there for the taking but a win slipped from our grasp and we had to be contented with a draw. There was a lack of drive and too little discipline to merit a convincing performance. J. N. Anderson was developing from a half-back into a fearless centre-forward and with his third season in the 1st XI next year even more will be expected from him.

Mill Hill provided a fairly comfortable win for the first time on grass in anticipation of future matches. The pace of the game was considerably slower than on the all-weather surface but the through pass in attack was a new and welcome sight. At Radley our defence were caught out of position and were slow in the tackle. The forwards were far from their usual aggressive spirit and an injury to M. S. Emery reduced our chances dramatically. Heavy frost at Cheltenham made their pitch a nonsense. Neither side deserved to lose and to suffer defeat on the last hit of the game was a travesty of justice.

In an unexpected and exciting manner the team hit back in the next match against Wellington. Ten minutes either side of half time it was still an open game with only one goal to our advantage. Then everything clicked perfectly together. Such a run of five cleanly executed goals in the last twenty minutes of play was marvellous to watch and is unlikely to be seen again for many years. Few school matches at this level ever reach such heights and the euphoria was immense. Pangbourne were lucky to escape with a draw and again it was at the end of the game that our defence were unable to absorb the pressure. There were the first signs of complacency against St. Edward's. The home pitch should not have been considered an automatic safeguard against defeat and we lost for the first time ever on our own ground.

The Oxford Festival was enjoyed from every point of view except for the incessant rain. Canford were the best opposition that we faced all season and it was on a positive and happy note that the season ended with a clear win against Eastbourne.

Credit should be given to : J. N. A. Davies for the tightest marking; P. K. E. Steward for a sound performance in goal; J. P. Garnett for great endeavour at centre-half and S. J. Herbert for his contribution on the wing. H. P. Ogden played several intelligent games at back and M. J. Hooper represented the school for one match competently. D. Hockley is a promising player and showed his potential at the Festival by adapting to three different positions in three games, but his strength will lie at centre-half.

J. M. L.

Team: M. C. Turner* (Capt.), M. S. Emery,* I. A. Keith*, J. N. A. Davies*, M. M. Ivison*, C. A. Boxall*, J. N. Anderson*, J. P. Garnett, R. N. Lockhart-Smith, P. K. E. Steward, S. J. Herbert.

Also Played: H. P. Ogden, M. J. Hooper, D. Hockley.

Results:	v. Aldenham	Away	Drawn	1-1
	v. Oundle	Home	Won	3-2
	v. Cambridge Wanderers	Home	Won	2-1
	v. Dean Close	Away	Lost	0-1
	v. Bradfield	Home	Won	3-1
	v. Bedford	Home	Drawn	2-2
	v. Mill Hill	Home	Won	2-1
	v. Radley	Away	Lost	0-3
	v. Cheltenham	Away	Lost	0-1
	v. Wellington	Home	Won	7-1
	v. Pangbourne	Home	Drawn	0-2
	v. St. Edward's	Home	Lost	0-2
	v. Old Stoics	Home	Lost	2-3
Festival:	v. Reed's	Home	Won	3-1
	v. Canford	Away	Lost	0-4
	v. Eastbourne	Home	Won	2-1

Played 16; Won 7; Drawn 3; Lost 6; Goals for 28; Goals against 26.

*Awarded Colours during the season.

THE SECOND XI

It is fitting that I start this report with a tribute to the players who have represented the 2nd XI this season; their enthusiasm and commitment have been most commendable (both) in matches and practices. This spirit was all the more encouraging given the results we had, and the frustrations the players felt. A general lack of ball skill meant that we always struggled to control a game and this led us to find many games an up-hill fight.

After an initial set back, we achieved a 1-0 win over Oundle, the score line reflecting a fundamental problem all season, the lack of goals. We created many chances in nearly all games with the Bedford game highlighting the margin between success and failure, as we played some of our best hockey of the season, making as many openings as our opponents, yet leaving the field well beaten. It was left to the last match before we found the necessary mastery, with an impressive win over Pangbourne.

Amongst the team, no-one strove more than the captain, Clark, who, like most of the team, could only put his game together intermittently, but who never gave up. We have much to look forward to next season.

P.J.S.

Team selected from: Clark, Moffatt, Graves, Ogden, Lockhart-Smith, Holmes, Mallinson, P. Merewether, Whitby, A. Hooper, Anderson, E. Calkin, Cherry, Harvey, Mellor, Lidderdale.

Results: Played 10; Won 3; Drew 1; Lost 6.

Results:	v. Aldenham	Away	Lost	0-3
	v. Oundle	Home	Won	1-0
	v. Dean Close	Away	Lost	0-3
	v. Bradfield	Home	Lost	1-2
	v. Bedford	Home	Lost	0-5
	v. Mill Hill	Away	Won	2-0
	v. Radley	Away	Lost	2-4
	v. Cheltenham	Away	Drawn	1-1
	v. High Wycombe	Home	Lost	0-2
	v. Pangbourne	Home	Won	3-1

COLTS

This was a season in which it was impossible to find a balanced side. This was simply due to a lack of skilful players. The playing record of the side reflects this fact, although the team was slightly better than its record suggests. In many of the matches chance after chance was squandered and consequently games were lost. Price was the most effective forward in the circle but he only played in the last two matches.

Despite a poor record several players did perform well during the season. Hockley gave a series of outstanding performances and in fact was selected for the 1st XI at the Oxford Hockey Festival. Claydon and Keith were the pick of a disappointing forward line, while Steward and Thorpe were a steady pair of full backs. Steward captained the side well, although at times things did seem to get on top of him.

The inclement weather and pressure of matches combined to ensure that coaching was restricted to a few afternoon sessions either in the Drayson Hall or on the all-weather pitch. As a result the standard of hockey really did improve during the season. There was undoubtedly a growth in the players' tactical awareness, but surely there is more to Colts Hockey than this facet of the game.

B.K.

The 'B' side faced all the same problems as the 'A' side but what they lacked in skill they made up for in strength and enthusiasm. It was the weather that defeated them most often. The only school match was a defeat at Oundle at the very beginning of the season. In what was a frustrating term the undoubted highlight was an entertaining and enjoyable game against Markham College from Lima, Peru. Much to the delight of our visitors the game was punctuated by falls of snow but this was no hindrance on the all-weather pitch. The game ended in a draw which left everyone satisfied though sadly there can be little prospect of a return match.

C.W.L.C.

Teams:

'A' XI: D. A. Steward mi (Captain), J. J. Brown, R. C. M. Bevan, R. C. Thorpe, A. M. Mackinnon, D. Hockley, J. I. Sinclair, A. N. Keith, J. H. M. Claydon, J. A. Dakin, J. E. Reynolds, C. S. Morley, M. J. Sanderson, J. B. Price, P. E. Davies, J. L. H. Goodhart.

'B' XI: S. R. Glenniè (Captain), J. B. Price, P. E. Davies, J. B. Hoare, C. J. B. Hornor, J. L. H. Goodhart, M. J. Sanderson, R. J. A. Bridgwood, W. R. McClellan, A. Lahham, R. V. Aswani, A. R. D. Hood, R. J. C. Wicks.

Results Colts 'A'				
v. Aldenham	Home	Lost	2-3	
v. Oundle	Away	Lost	1-3	
v. Dean Close	Home	Won	1-0	
v. Bradfield	Away	Cancelled		
v. Bedford	Away	Lost	2-3	
v. Mill Hill	Away	Drawn	1-1	
v. Radley	Away	Cancelled		
v. Cheltenham	Home	Drawn	2-2	
v. Wellington	Home	Lost	1-2	
v. Pangbourne	Away	Won	1-0	
v. St Edwards	Home	Lost	2-3	

JUNIOR COLTS

The 1981 season was a successful one although not without its frustrations. Top of the list was the weather. Only two matches were played on grass and, after half term, all practices and matches were played on the all-weather surface. There was little time to experiment and had there been more, a really effective team would have developed. In the event, a record of won 5, drawn 3, lost 1 was a credit to all members of the club.

A 4-0 win against St Edwards in the last match was a fitting finale to the season and revealed the team in its true light. The defence looked more solid with Jackson acting as an extra back in support of his captain Stopford and Carles. This ploy released Stocks to play his natural roving game in support of his forwards. Davies also enjoyed more freedom and proved to be an effective attacking half back. Up front, Lockwood was a tireless runner at centre forward but he has still to learn to time his runs with more precision. Jarvis and Roxborough emerged as the inside forward combination with the best constructive technique and Chelton on the left wing lead many of the more promising attacking moves. Woolley, Howell-Williams and Lewis shared the remaining forward-line position, and each is good enough to secure a permanent place next year.

If the team lacked anything it was drive and confidence in the opposition circle. Many good moves in midfield ended with a hopeful final pass or poor support play. In addition too few short corners were converted into goals. Nonetheless, 22 goals were scored in nine matches which underlines the considerable potential of the Junior Colts this year and bodes well for the future.

C.J.G.A.

Team from: C. J. Stopford (8) Capt., D. W. R. Carles (2), H. R. P. Chelton (6), S. J. A. Davies (9), W. A. J. Gurney (4), D. G. Howell-Williams (9), C. la F. Jackson (8), H. R. P. Jarvis (8), E. R. Lewis (1), A. A. Lockwood (7), I. J. Roxborough (5), J. G. Stocks (8), J. A. H. Woolley (2).

Match Record:			
v. Aldenham	Won	4-0	
v. Dean Close	Won	2-1	
v. Bedford	Drawn	2-2	
v. Oundle	Drawn	3-3	
v. Mill Hill	Won	3-1	
v. Cheltenham	Drawn	0-0	
v. High Wycombe	Won	3-2	
v. Pangbourne	Lost	1-3	
v. St Edwards	Won	4-0	

THE UNDER FOURTEENS

For many of the boys it was their first venture in the field of hockey (in their age group), and certainly for all of them a new style of game—"system hockey". Needless to say, those boys, who had not been influenced by other ideas, fitted in and played much better than others. Considering that five members of the 'A' team had never played any team hockey before, the team performed remarkably well, playing the first few matches 'off the cuff'.

The early promise and expectations of excellent results began to fade as the side showed their inexperience and lack of discipline in various departments of the game. It would have been pleasing to see the side keep ball possession decisively until an incisive penetrating pass or movement presented itself. Not until the trial match against Pangbourne, was this achieved. It was the underlying factor which gave us such a clear result after being 2-1 down at half time. The skill and accuracy was too often sacrificed for the sake of passing the ball.

If the team had achieved all they had promised, not only would they have shown maturity beyond their age, but also there would have been very little to learn. Let us hope that they have learnt from the matches they lost, three in all. Everyone had an object lesson. Against Bedford it was an even game and we could have won if only we had taken our chances. Against Radley, on a very cold day, we did not warm up fully and were caught napping. It was a game of two halves—we lost 2-0 in the first and won 1-0 in the second. Lastly against Cheltenham we were up against a team containing several experienced county players and were made to look inadequate.

Campbell in goal improved the most. Rigg filled in the sweeper's position quite effectively, Gumpel at centre back was a gentle giant and worked very hard. The outside backs, Keith on the right, and Sinclair on the left gave good constant support to their forwards. Keith even became a penalty taker. The midfield trio, from the right; Hughes, Elmitt and Fairbairn had most of the arts of the game but rarely made use of them. Fairbairn who possessed excellent dribbling skill often moved to the left until there was no more room left on the field! When he was switched to the right wing he was not only dazzling and elusive but also provided the kind of openings the team needed all the time. Elmitt showed from the beginning the learning ability, the ball sense and most of all he displayed the awareness that the internationals possess! Hughes, one of the leading goal scorers, often played very hard and must learn to become more consistent. The forward line was rather unstable. Sparrow, the most regular member of the forward line at centre forward, worked very hard and often ran tirelessly—especially against Bedford and Pangbourne, but he created very few headaches for the opposing defenders. On the left wing Hickman, Hardie and Perei were keen members of the side and tried hard. Atkinson and Sweet played on the right wing but never really settled down. Saville who began as a "sweeper" showed some good positional sense but he needs to develop clean hard hitting and ball control.

The 'B' team had a most interesting game against the Dragon B XI. Stowe equalised with the very last shot of the match. The result was 3-3. Stowe scored twice in the last minute.

'A' Team: Elmitt (Capt.), Fairbairn, Sinclair, Keith, Gumpel, Hughes, Sparrow, Hickman, Campbell, Rigg, Bowes, Hardie, Perei, Saville, Atkinson and Sweet.

Match Record:

v. Aldenham	Won	3-0
v. Dean Close	Won	3-1
v. Bedford	Lost	1-2
v. Cheltenham	Lost	0-2
v. Radley	Lost	1-2
v. Dragon	Won	2-0
v. Pangbourne	Won	4-2

S.N.H.

ATHLETICS

For the Open Team this was a very disappointing season. At one point the problem of injuries had taken on epidemic proportions, with no less than seven of the first string athletes out of action. Subsequently "the team"—if that is not a euphemism—lacked the spirit of its predecessors and performances inevitably suffered. There was a notable performance by Fenwick, the captain, when he ran 1 minute 58.8 seconds over 800 metres at Highgate.

The Intermediate Team, however, avoided injury, almost to a man, and finished the season undefeated. Raccanello, the captain, and Critchley were the outstanding athletes in their age group, ably supported by Austin, Leto, Peppiatt, Reynolds, Smith, Strong, Thornber, von Malaisé, and Woolley.

An Intermediate 4 x 400 metres relay team composed of Leto, Raccanello, Strong and Thornber were also victorious at the Achilles Relays meet held at Oxford.

For the younger boys this was a season every bit as frustrating. The Under 15 team enjoyed some success against other schools. But the season was really about learning skills and individual improvement, and to this extent they were highly successful as a group.

34 boys took part in the AAA Star Award Scheme, and at the time of writing 17 boys have gained either 4 or 5 Star Awards, while another 12 have won 4 or 5 Star Awards in the Pentathlon Competition.

Congratulations go to Adams, Anderson, Baskett, Hogan, Keith, Sweet and Woodward for some fine individual performances, and to Whicker for his captaincy of the team.

Indeed a general thank you goes out to the three captains, and Pélissier the team secretary for jobs well done: to Gentle for being awarded his Full Colours and to Critchley, Leto, Raccanello, Strong and Thornber for winning their Colts Colours.

Duff has been made captain of Athletics for the 1982 season and Mellor secretary.

N. G. Taylor

Results:

OPEN

Stowe 94	v. Dr Challoners 80
	v. Royal Latin 78
Stowe 47	v. Oakham 132.5
	v. Trent 91.5
Stowe 66	v. Abingdon 101
	v. Stewards 101
Stowe 87	v. Oundle 112
	v. The Leys 82
Stowe 87	v. Marlborough 103
	v. Uppingham 83
Stowe 70	v. Berkhamsted 70

INTERMEDIATE

Stowe 116	v. Dr Challoners 89
	v. Royal Latin 72
Stowe 113	v. Oakham 74
	v. Trent 97
Stowe 110	v. Abingdon 64
	v. St Edwards 101
Stowe 106	v. Marlborough 101
	v. Uppingham 77
Stowe 82	v. Berkhamsted 57

UNDER 15

Stowe 64	v. Dr Challoners 100
	v. Royal Latin 77
Stowe 103	v. Oakham 84
	v. Trent 90
Stowe 87	v. Oundle 112
	v. The Leys 82
Stowe 47	v. Marlborough 90
Stowe 68	v. Berkhamsted 69

SPORTS DAY

For the second year in succession the weather over Speech Day weekend was rather kinder to the athletes and spectators than it was to prize-winners and their families. The rain storms of Saturday were replaced by rain clouds which threatened to break all afternoon, but which never quite managed to. Fortunately so, for this year a very large crowd of spectators gathered to watch the competition.

There were some very fine performances indeed. In the Open section, Fenwick won the 110 metres, 400 metres Hurdles, and the 800 metres. In the Intermediate section Raccanello won all four of the sprint events which he entered, whilst Critchley broke the nine-year-old Discus record set by N. R. Graves in 1972, with a throw of 40 metres .06 cm. and also found time to win the 1500 metres. The U.16 age group was dominated by Hall, Smith, Strong and Woolley. The U.15 section, although dominated by Anderson and Adams, Sweet and Whicker, exhibited a greater depth in quality of performances than in previous years.

Cobham won the House Competition with a lead of some one hundred points over Grafton in second place. They dominated the competition from the beginning to the end, and had built up a fifty point lead prior to the day of the Athletic Sports Finals. Not only did they have strength in depth, they had a number of "winners" (indeed they succeeded in winning some 16 events outright).

My thanks go to all those people who supported the event in whatever capacity. A special word of thanks goes to Mr J. Biddle for presenting the trophies at the end of the afternoon.

N. G. Taylor

Results:

SENIOR:

100 metres —11.5 secs. Pelissier (8)	Mellor (5)	Myers (3)
200 metres —23.9 secs. Steinmann (6)	Deyt-Aysage (1)	Myers (3)
400 metres —52.2 secs. Mellor (5)	Fenwick (1)	Stone (4)
800 metres —2 m. 4.6 secs. Fenwick (1)	Stone (4)	Duff (7)
1500 metres —4 m. 25.2 secs. Burrell (6)	Sharp (9)	Briggs (9)
110 metres Hurdles —16.6 secs. Fenwick (1)	Ancsell (5)	Yeoward (6)
400 metres Hurdles —62.4 secs. Fenwick (1)	Morrison (5)	Wilson (5)
4 x 100 metres Relay —47.6 secs. Bruce	Grafton	Cobham
2000 metres Steeplechase —6 m. 56 secs. Burgess (9)	Stone (4)	Turner (1)
Shot Put —12.31 metres Herbert (9)	Gentle (1)	Dredge (5)
Javelin —41.73 metres Gentle (1)	Taylor (5)	Lidderdale (8)
Discus —38.77 metres Arends (8)	Herbert (9)	Dredge (5)
High Jump —1.76 metres Pierre (7)	Herbert (9)	McKee (5)

Triple Jump —13.36 metres Pierre (7)	Pledger (2)	Opperman (6)
Long Jump —6.55 metres Pierre (7)	Morten (1)	Pledger (1)

UNDER 17

100 metres —11.5 secs. Raccanello (1)	Leto (5)	Craig (3)
200 metres —23.9 secs. Raccanello (1)	Leto (5)	Craig (3)
400 metres —53.9 secs. Raccanello (1)	Leto (5)	Claydon (3)
800 metres —2 m. 8.1 secs. Thornber (5)	Walley (7)	Peppiatt (3)
1500 metres —4 m. 31.4 secs. Critchley (2)	Walley (7)	Appleby (9)
100 metres Hurdles —14.3 secs. Raccanello (1)	von Malaisé (3)	Thornber (5)
400 metres Hurdles —65 secs. Thornber (5)	Peppiatt (8)	Tombleson (5)
2000 metres Steeplechase —6 m. 59 secs. Walley (7)	Critchley (2)	Austin (3)
4 x 100 metres Relay —48.8 secs. Cobham	Grafton	Walpole
Shot —9.37 metres De La Mare (2)	Sanderson (8)	Watkins (1)
Javelin —43.82 metres Sanderson (8)	Critchley (2)	Steward (4)
Discus —39.60 metres Critchley (2)	Sanderson (8)	De La Mare (2)
High Jump —1.65 metres Mackenzie-Hill (6)	von Malaisé (3)	Austin (3)
Triple Jump —11.62 metres Reynolds (5)	von Malaisé (3)	Claydon (8)
Long Jump —5.40 metres Leto (5)	Claydon (8)	Rossiter (5)

UNDER 16

100 metres —12.2 secs. Strong (9)	Dalton (3)	Andrews (3)
200 metres —25.1 secs. Strong (9)	Wallen (2)	Coni (1)
400 metres —57.2 secs. Strong (9)	White (7)	Butson (4)
800 metres —2 m. 20.5 secs. Hall (5)	Lewis (2)	Brown (7)
1500 metres —4 m. 50.5 secs. Woodward (7)	Streeton (7)	Chelton (6)
100 metres Hurdles —16.3 secs. Hall (5)	Woolley (2)	Davies (3)

4 x 100 metres Relay—51.5 secs.

Cobham Temple Lyttelton

Shot—11.06 metres

Smith (5) Howarth (2) Browse (5)

Discus—23.01 metres

Smith (5) Hobday (4) Lockwood (7)

Javelin—32.87 metres

Woolley (2) Smith (5) Stradling (7)

High Jump—1.65 metres

Woolley (2) Lockwood (7) Howell-Williams (9)

Long Jump—5.21 metres

Hall (5) Venables (2) Strong (9)

Triple Jump—10.56 metres

Venables (2) Baker (7) Dalton (3)

UNDER 15**100 metres**—12.9 secs.

Whicker (8) Keith (6) Ripley (8)

200 metres—26.7 secs.

Whicker (8) Sweet (6) Keith (6)

400 metres—60.7 secs.

Sweet (6) Whicker (8) Elmitt (8)

800 metres—2 m. 22.9 secs.

Whicker (8) King (6) Smith-Maxwell (5)

1500 metres—4 m. 55.9 secs.

Hogan (2) Smith-Maxwell (5) King (6)

80 metres Hurdles—13.6 secs.

Keith (6) Adams (7) Ellul (3)

4 x 100 metres Relay—53.5 secs.

Walpole Chandos Grafton

High Jump—1.40 metres

Hallam (7) Phillips (8) Kinsbourg (5)

Long Jump—4.92 metres

Sweet (4) Adams (7) Elmitt (8)

Triple Jump—10.46 metres

Anderson (5) Adams (7) Sweet (4)

Shot—8.89 metres

Anderson (5) Meads (5) Hallam (7)

Discus—25.40 metres

Hallam (7) Inglis-Jones (8) Critchley (5)

Javelin—23.85 metres

McNaughton (5) Laing (6) Critchley (5)

CROSS COUNTRY

After our successful season in 1980, by no stretch of the imagination could this term be described as a successful one. Our first team record of victories over 10 schools and defeats by 9 is very much poorer than last year. But it is encouraging to relate that in the U.17 age group we succeeded in defeating 15 schools and lost to only 5. Our U.15 team scored 5 victories to 5 defeats.

We should not be too upset, however, by the results. It is true that our 1st VIII had hardly a match victory after Exeat which was sad after our good start to the season, but this was to a large extent caused by either illness or injury. Matches cannot be won with more than one top runner away, and for most of our races we were as many as three short. We come to accept this as part of the game: last year we were little affected by illness or injury, and we won. So it was, perhaps, only fair that the tables were turned in 1981. But the unfortunate thing was that we started the season very optimistically, with potentially a very good team. Our Captain and Secretary, Fenwick and Lecchini, were running strongly, and Burrell and Duff had returned very fit. These four old colours should have formed the base of a very powerful team, but alas, it was not to be.

In fact, they ran together in one match only—our first of this term, against Bradfield and Bloxham. Lecchini ran particularly well here, until he lost his way(!), and again at St. Albans and St. Edwards. Fenwick was just returning to form when he was smitten down in early February for virtually the rest of the season. Burrell came to the fore over our home course, in our matches against Oakham and Rugby, and Duff had good ones against Rugby and at Bradfield. Carter was a newcomer to cross-country, emerging from nowhere and regularly forming part of a strong second trio, with Briggs and Pawsey—the latter two of whom were the only members of the 1st VIII to run in all our matches. Filling in our team were Sharp and Jackson, who both had their 'on' days—notably at Radley for Sharp and at the Royal Latin School for Jackson. Hough, too, ran regularly for the 1st VIII when medically fit.

We ran three U.17 runners in the School team to compete in the Midland Public Schools' Championships at Oundle. The three—Dakin, Walley and T. McPhillips—all ran with distinction, as did the rest of our team, who came 11th out of 20 teams. Our first man home was Lecchini, who came 51st out of 153. Next year we look forward to hosting the competition at Stowe on Saturday March 6th.

Our U.17 team had a splendid season. We were lucky in having runners who managed to escape illness and injury for the most part, though we were affected at Radley. We were also lucky to have Bevan 'on loan' from the hockey group, early on in the season, with a mending broken arm. He ran extremely well at Bradfield, St. Albans, St. Edwards, Aldenham (in the 1st team) and against Oakham at Stowe. He returned to hockey after Exeat but Walley and Dakin began to run purposefully, and they, Critchley, McPhillips, ably supported by Austin, Thornber and Ridruejo, made up a very strong U.17 VIII. Their ability to pack well secured victory in most matches, and this bodes well for the future.

The U.15 team is always something of a 'lucky dip', but this year we managed to find a group of runners who were not A Club hockey players, and they were thus easily available. It has probably been as strong a team as we have produced in the last few years, and they were unlucky not to win more matches. Hogan, Mallinson, Smith-Maxwell and Woodward were our best performers, always coming in the top group, as did King in the one match in which he ran. But they were ably supported by Gibson, Adams, Murison-Bowie and Black.

1st VIII Colours were awarded to: P. D. J. Briggs, H. L. S. Carter and J. S. Pawsey.

A Colts Tie was awarded to: W. G. Sharp.

U.17 Colours were awarded to: C. P. Austin, G. R. Critchley, J. A. Dakin, T. F. McPhillips and M. B. Walley.

Record:

1st VIII beat: Bradfield, Bloxham, Tonbridge, Harrow, St. Edwards, Cheltenham, Aldenham, Oakham, Rugby and Worksop.

lost to: St. Albans, Haileybury, Berkhamsted, Radley, Uppingham, The Leys, Oundle, Wellingborough and The Royal Latin School.

The U.17 VIII beat: Bradfield, Bloxham, Tonbridge, Haileybury, St. Edwards, Cheltenham, Berkhamsted, Aldenham, Oakham, Uppingham, The Leys, Worksop, Oundle, Wellingborough and The Royal Latin School.

lost to: St. Albans, Harrow, Rugby, Winchester and Radley.

The U.15 VIII beat: Haileybury, Berkhamsted, Aldenham, Oakham and Oundle.

lost to: St. Albans, Harrow, Tonbridge, Wellingborough and The Royal Latin School.

OLD STOIC MATCH

Saturday March 14th

The race this year produced an excellent Old Stoic team on paper, though less good in practice. They were weaker than last year, and the School won by 41 points to 68. Conditions were appalling, and the fact that the O.S. Captain, Nigel McCloughlin won in what must have been a course record of 25 minutes 25 seconds, was amazing. He won in a canter from last year's Secretary, Chris Close-Smith who came in over two minutes later. He was followed by the first Stoic, Burrell, who himself recorded the excellent time of 28 minutes 10 seconds.

Next year the race will be held on Saturday, March 13th. We do hope that the Old Stoics will turn out in good numbers, and we look forward to a closely contested race.

INTER-HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY RACES 1981

Tuesday March 17th

Conditions for the House races were probably as bad this year as they have ever been, for it seemed that it had not stopped raining for a month before the competition. In consequence, the Japanese Gardens were a nightmare, and the Corinthian Field and Armoury Field were not much better.

The Open event was an exciting affair this time, since there were three houses, Grafton, (last year's Champions) Bruce and Lyttelton who were all in with a clear chance of winning the Shield. In the event, it was Lyttelton who won by a mere 9 points from Bruce, who pipped Grafton by only 3 points. The race for individual honours was just as exciting, since any one of about five runners were potential winners. The eventual first man home was Duff (7) who came home in 14 seconds ahead of Harvey (5) with Turner (1) coming 3rd.

Walpole won the U.17 event, largely through having five runners in between 6 and 11, with Grafton 2nd and Chatham 3rd. Grafton again produced the individual winner in Dakin. He won by nearly a minute from Critchley (2), and Austin (3) came in 3rd.

The U.15 race is always something of a surprise event, as one has just no idea as to who the individual winner might be, nor as to which House will come out top. This year it was Temple's turn, from Grafton and Chandos. Whicker (8) won the event from Hogan (2) with Smith-Maxwell (5) coming 3rd.

A.R.S.

LAWN TENNIS

THE FIRST VI

This has been the most successful season for a long time and in spite of the weather no matches were abandoned altogether because of the rain, although many of them were interrupted.

So far the 1st VI has won 10 of its 13 matches, with 1 drawn and 2 lost. The team has been a stable one, and apart from two occasions the same six players have represented the school. The season started with fine wins against Oakham, Aldenham, Rugby, and Marlborough, and we went to Eton feeling fairly confident. However, since last year Eton had been able to strengthen their team with the addition of an American and this in conjunction with an indifferent performance by the whole Stowe team gave Eton the match by a well deserved margin of 5½ to 3½.

The team then beat Uppingham (only just!) lost a very close match 4-5 to Oundle, which was shortened to one set per rubber because of rain, and then went on to remain unbeaten for the remainder of the term by beating Repton, The Old Stoics, Bradfield, Radley, Merchant Taylors, but only managing a draw with the RGS High Wycombe. S. A. McPhillips and T. E. Marriott at first pair played some very good tennis and had some fine wins during the season. Although occasionally concentration seemed to vanish (suddenly) and they lost odd sets which they should not have done, they always beat the other Stowe pairs in practice sessions to retain their status. Sean McPhillips as Captain has done a good job and has been both popular and at times firm with his players, but at all times he and his partner have played tennis to enjoy it and never tried to take advantage of anybody else or use devious gamesmanship ploys. This has been their third year in the team and they will be much missed by Stowe tennis, not least by the master in charge. The second pair was a new combination of T. J. Bayntun and M. H. Verrall, and in matches proved to be easily the most consistent and successful of the pairings. They combined the occasional brilliance of Verrall with the consistency of Bayntun, and several opposing teams commented on the intelligent way they seemed to read their opponents' game and devise ways to beat them. Verrall could become an outstanding player next season in inter-school tennis, and now that he can control his emotions he should do so. It was also good to see that Bayntun had overcome his tendency to play tennis like a badminton player, as this made all the difference to his effectiveness. The third pair was also a new one this season and consisted of P. B. Calkin and D. Hockley (who was still of Colts age at the start of the season). They had some good wins and when they were both 'on song' at the same time produced some very fine tennis. Hockley is always steady and Calkin, although not so consistent, was always ready to attack the opponents and to play the lob intelligently. D. V. Whitcombe played very well against Uppingham, and should do well next season, whilst J. N. Anderson played once and also showed that he would be a very good player if he were able to play regularly.

Looking back on the season the highlights were probably the wins against Uppingham, Bradfield, and Repton because they were so close, and the Old Stoics match which was one of the best in recent years and which was also played in an excellent atmosphere. Incidentally we shall always welcome back any of this year's team to play for the O.S. on future speech days and we shall hope to see them then.

Results of 1st VI matches:

v. Oakham	Home	Won	6-0 (rain)
v. Aldenham	Home	Won	7-2
v. Rugby	Home	Won	7-2
v. Marlborough	Away	Won	7½-1½
v. Eton	Away	Lost	3½-5½
v. Uppingham	Away	Won	5-4
v. Oundle	Home	Lost	4-5
v. RGS H. W.	Home	Drew	4½-4½
v. M.T.S. Northwood	Home	Won	6½-2½
v. Repton	Home	Won	5-4
v. Old Stoics		Won	5-4
v. Bradfield	Home	Won	5-4
v. Radley	Away	Won	7½-1½

COLTS VI

This team was a very successful one and the record of played 12, won 10, drew 1 and lost 1 shows how successful they were. In fact 88½ rubbers were won, and only just 18 lost.

During the season the team suffered the loss of one of the main players after the first match against Oakham when R. C. Bevan had to stop playing because of arm trouble and we wish him a speedy recovery. H. T. Kinahan and M. P. Stradling were first pair and they combined to play some very aggressive tennis most of the time, but were also adept at using the lob and played, and won, several tie breaker sets to show that they had good temperaments.

J. P. Gerbet and H. M. King were the most successful pair in the team and apart from one rubber against Repton were unbeaten throughout the season, which is a rare feat in itself. Their individual styles of play complemented each other and they both are determined and keen to win. Whether or not they partner each other in future teams is uncertain, but they clearly have a bright future at Stowe. The third pair of T. F. McPhillips and P. C. Andrews also played well. McPhillips being the stronger player had to try to dominate the matches, but Andrews improved as the season went on and helped his partner to some useful wins. In the wings for next year were Wallen, Wyllie and Downer and they were unlucky that the competition for places was so hard. Their turns may come next season. All in all it was a fine team which experienced an excellent season's tennis and success.

Colts VI results:

v. Oakham	Home	Won	9-0
v. Aldenham	Home	Won	8½-½
v. Rugby	Home	Won	8½-½
v. Marlborough	Away	Won	7½-1½
v. Eton	Away	Lost	4-5
v. Uppingham	Away	Won	8-1
v. Oundle	Home	Won	7½-1½
v. RGS H. W.	Home	Won	8½-½
v. M.T.S.	Home	Won	7-2
v. Repton	Home	Drew	4½-4½
v. Bradfield	Home	Won	8-1
v. Radley	Away	Won	7½-1½

THE UNDER FOURTEEN VI

It was not possible to play many matches at this level because most of the boys eligible for the team were in cricket teams. However good wins have so far been obtained against Eton and Radley, both of which were very close affairs, whilst friendly games were played with preparatory schools nearby. All members of the team showed considerable promise and it is to be hoped that they will be able to play more tennis in the future.

The following represented the team: G. E. Marton, W. N. King, D. S. Green, C. J. Rotheroe, R. N. Elmitt, J. P. Rigg, J. P. Frost.

Results:

v. Eton	Away	Won	5-4
v. Dragon	Away	Won	7-2
v. Radley	Away	Won	5½-3½

Summary of All teams:

Of the 28 matches played at all levels this season the overall record is: Won 23; Drawn 2; Lost 3.

P.G.L.

GOLF

The Micklem Trophy was played, as usual, at Woking and for the second year running Stowe was victorious. The course at Woking was very wet although the rain stayed away for the three rounds of the competition.

The victory was not gained easily and all the victories were by narrow margins. In the first round we beat Bradfield 3-2 thanks to Luddington's brave effort on the final hole, gaining a birdie three. The match against Harrow was a seesaw affair—Stowe winning all five matches at the start, Harrow fighting back to a 3-2 lead but Stowe going on to win 3-2.

On the final afternoon Charterhouse proved to be tough opposition. It was a tense final, the match going either way until the last few holes, when Stowe came out the winners 3-2. Gerald Micklem was unable to present the cup owing to illness; so Mr Robinson had that pleasant job after which he and the other fathers celebrated a fine victory by Stowe.

Team: A. G. Hill (Capt.), J. Robinson, J. Gray, C. Ruddock and C. Luddington.

The area qualifier for the Aer Lingus competition was played at John O'Gaunt Golf Club, Bedfordshire. The team was J. Robinson, J. Gray and A. Hill—Jason Gray being the only one not to have played in the competition last year. On a rain-sodden day our score of 256 was not good enough to win outright but did qualify us for the national final at Foxhills.

Yet again the rain took its toll and play had to be held up for four and a half hours because the course was waterlogged. In the end the final was played over nine holes, causing some very slow play—rounds taking as long as 2½ hours. We did not do well and finished half way down the field although Jeremy Robinson did finish fourth overall.

With a very strong side, this season's golf has produced an excellent set of results. Although we have been hampered by rain this has not sapped our confidence and the team has played some very good golf.

All our important matches to date have been won including a victory in the first round of a new public schools tournament v. St. Albans.

The friendly games have all been eagerly contested on both sides and our only defeat was at the hands of Buckingham on the first day of term. These matches have brought to the fore some of the younger golfers at Stowe, showing what strength we have in depth—these include: R. Ewbank, N. Leapman, A. Bennett and J. Claydon. The mainstays of the golf team have been A. Hill, J. Robinson, J. Gray, C. Ruddock, C. Luddington and C. Ancsell with help from N. Forskitt, R. Yeoward, A. Garnet and M. Lecchini.

Results:	v. Buckingham	Away	Lost 4½-1½
	v. King George V	Home	Won 8½-3½
	v. Fathers	Home	Won 6 -3
	v. St. Albans	Away	Won 2 -1
	v. Uppingham	Away	Won 4 -2
	v. Queens College, Taunton	Home	Won 3 -0
	v. Monmouth	Away	Won 5½-1½
	v. Buckingham	Home	Won 5½-1½

A. Hill

As we go to press I am pleased to report that we have reached the national final of the public schools championship mentioned in the above report. We had a fine win in a three-cornered match v. Eton and Bradfield played at Huntercombe. With three of our regular first team out of action we won a Stableford competition by an enormous margin! Result: Stowe 124, Eton 102, Bradfield 99.

I should like to take this chance to thank the team for making my job so easy and I look forward to yet more success in the future.

R.J.S.S.

FENCING

After a period of relative inactivity on the fencing front, on account of lack of matches, it was good to have a match against Oundle last term. They had a more experienced team, but although we were beaten, there were some exciting bouts and valuable match experience was gained. Stowe left their mark in the "friendly" Sabre match where G. C. R. Anderton and C. D. Horn cut to pieces a weak Oundle attack.

In the match against Rugby, Stowe narrowly lost after a display of fine acrobatic and tactical skill, particularly from the captain, I. A. Keith. On the domestic front, the Sabre and Epée cups were contested recently. G. C. R. Anderton with customary gusto beat off a less experienced onslaught from J. A. G. Buchanan and J. B. D. Henderson to win the Sabre cup. However, after some very closely fought bouts, he had to concede the Epée cup to J. B. D. Henderson. We have some encouraging novices coming along under the expert guidance of Mr Money, the coach, and Mr Mullineux. We look forward to some good things in the future from the fencing team.

The following have fenced for the School: I. A. Keith (Capt.), G. C. R. Anderton, E. N. Yeats-Brown, J. B. D. Henderson, Rosalind Naylor, C. D. Horn, A. E. Lloyd.

E. N. Yeats Brown

SQUASH RACKETS

The 1st team had a season of mixed fortunes, but in view of the fact that most of them were very young, the match experience gained should prove useful to them. In terms of results there were some fine wins. Mill Hill proved a tough match at the beginning of the season and it was won 3-2, and this was followed by an excellent win against Aldenham by the same score (one of the best matches in this game was that played by Bewes, and although he lost from a 7-2 lead in the fifth, he had played some brilliant squash up to that moment, and his opponent managed to raise his game for the last few points to defeat him). Leighton Park were rather weak this year, as were Vyners, but we soon lost the unbeaten record when Marlborough won by 4-1. The matches against Radley, Oakham, Bloxham and the return against Mill Hill were all won comfortably, but the encounter against Bedford proved to be most exciting, and it was left to Clifton-Brown to win the deciding rubber in the fifth game to give Stowe victory by 3-2.

T. A. Lester started the season at top string but after an injury to his foot did not seem to have the stamina to play a long match at this level and would have been happier lower down the order, but nevertheless over the years has played some good squash for Stowe. R. C. Clifton-Brown always showed determination and dedication, and won some close encounters whilst he improved his play noticeably during the season. J. M. Bewes completed a successful season and gained some fine wins. He has still to learn that sometimes a player has to 'graft' for his victories against people of similar standard, and that attempts to achieve speedy victories in such circumstances often result in defeats! J. H. Claydon improved steadily as the season progressed and he had some excellent matches—we shall expect much from him next season. C. W. Hayward showed that he could become a competent player and was always prepared to spend a lot of time in practice trying to improve his standard. M. M. Ivison, as an all-round games player came into the team when available, and if he could devote more time to the game he could clearly become a very useful player indeed. D. G. Hargreaves and R. M. Adam played on the odd occasion and showed that they also had promise.

The team's progress at the Felsted Festival at Christmas was disappointing in that two of the matches were won 3-2 and three were lost also by 3-2. Had everyone been at their best it was felt that Stowe should only have been beaten by the strong Blundell's team. However, the festival was there to be enjoyed, and the Stowe team, as did all the others, certainly did that.

All in all it was a pleasant season and those members of the team returning in September know what they must do to do better, and there is no substitute for dedication and hard work. We very much hope that the so called 'major' games will not make it difficult for progress to be made, and that players at all levels will find it possible to take part in both sports—something which has recently been lacking.

Results:

v. Mill Hill	Away	Won	3-2	Felsted Festival	
v. Aldenham	Home	Won	3-2	v. Blundells	Lost 2-3
v. Leighton Park	Home	Won	4-1	v. Felsted	Lost 2-3
v. Marlborough	Away	Lost	1-4	v. Aldenham	Lost 2-3
v. Vyners	Home	Won	5-0	v. Lancing	Won 3-2
v. Radley	Away	Won	4-1	v. King's Canterbury	Won 3-2
v. Oakham	Home	Won	5-0		
v. Mill Hill	Away	Won	4-1		
v. Bedford	Away	Won	3-2		
v. Bloxham	Home	Won	4-1		

JUNIOR SQUASH RACKETS

The junior teams all had successful seasons, and in particular the Under 14 V was unbeaten and included victories against Mill Hill, Aldenham, Bedford and Oakham. Many of the players show promise, in particular Rotheroe who plays in an intelligent way, whilst the others all showed that with hard work they have very good futures ahead of them in Stowe squash.

Those who played for the Junior teams were in alphabetical order: N. C. Bewes, P. J. and R. J. Boardman, R. M. Elmitt, J. P. Frost, H. R. Jarvis, G. E. Marton, J. P. Rigg, C. J. Rotheroe, M. P. Stradling.

P.G.L.

FIVES

As the results show, our competitive standard was weak this year, but this did not deter an enthusiastic participation of all age groups. It would be difficult to summarize the team's performance, and I shall instead recall outstanding individual achievements.

The captain H. A. H. Merewether played with great commitment, and had a magnificent game at Westminster. S. J. S. C. Pledger and C. W. F. Farquhar, were stalwart members of the team, and their best performance was a memorable win in five games at K.E.S. Birmingham. D. M. W. Thomas continues to show great talent, and I hope that he will be able to capitalize on this during his sixth form years. A. W. Todd was a tower of strength and a regular member of the team at both Colt and Senior level.

The Juniors were very keen and active throughout the season, and I wish them, and indeed all Stowe Fives players, an enjoyable future in the game.

R.H.B.-P

Results: Won 3; Drawn 2; Lost 9

Teams:

Seniors: H. A. H. Merewether* (Capt.), S. J. S. Pledger*, C. W. F. Farquhar*, P. K. E. Steward*, M. J. Hooper*, N. D. Collins, M. C. Turner.

Colts: D. M. W. Thomas*, A. W. Todd, D. A. Steward mi, C. D. Castell, A. S. Horn mi.

Junior Colts: H. M. King, E. W. Jarrett.

Under 14s: T. E. Bates, E. P. H. Farquhar mi, M. S. Riley, R. G. Guest, P. S. Keith min, R. Olsen, W. M. King mi, M. A. MacKenzie-Hill mi, G. J. A. Inscoc, J. A. S. Sparrow.

BADMINTON

A halcyon season. Fresh from our warm-up matches reported in the last issue we set off for Oakham determined to make some impression on their 6½ year unbeaten record. The All Blacks were waiting; a grim welcome. The match became a rugged contest; Stowe parrying the Oriental thrust with pluck and resolve. After three hours play the score was 4-3 to Oakham, and although Bayntun and Doyle, a swift and probing pair, won two of their three matches, once being within a point of their third victory, the narrowest of defeats, 4-5, was suffered. The Colts' win, by 7 matches to 2, was therefore particularly to be savoured. Royal Latin were no match for the 1st, though their Colts proved more than useful, beating us 5-4. Eton were again suppressed 13-1, and the term's matches were concluded one frosty December night with a match v. The Pineapple Club in London, where Stowe confronted vociferous and colourful antipathy for the first time. We survived, and received a culinary reward at the hands of Claudia Naudi.

The Spring term was to be relished with a victory over Abingdon, and a particularly enjoyable mixed match v. Rugby, always a pleasure to entertain. In February the Seniors entered the County Tournaments, Doyle reaching the Quarter Finals of the U.18 Singles against fierce opposition, while Hanks and Naudi, entertained the gallery with acrobatic badminton, and won through to the Semi-Finals of the Doubles. The season was concluded with the Stowe Tournament, which this year, extended to include the ladies. Caroline Highwood's superiority as No. 1 seed in the Singles was never in question, and the Doubles title was gracefully carried off by Caroline Sparrow and Liz Bird, a colourful combination. In the Senior Doubles Bayntun and Doyle won the best of a five set final and the latter beat his partner for the Singles title. The Colts Singles was again won by Gerbet, confirming his potential, who beat Sinclair in the final. These two combined to beat Sanderson and Todd in the best of the finals, the Colts Doubles. Next season will be particularly interesting as the Colts make the transition to 1st level, where the balance of Hawks, Naudi, Lockhart-Smith and Co. has left a lasting impression.

Teams:

Senior: T. J. Bayntun (Capt.), K. P. P. Doyle, J. P. R. Naudi, W. J. Hanks, P. R. Lockhart-Smith, M. J. Sanderson.

Colts: J. I. Sinclair (Capt.), J. P. Gerbet, A. W. Todd, G. M. Ruddrek, W. R. McLellan, H. M. King, J. W. R. Davies, J. B. Cunningham-Reid, M.P. ap P. Stradling.

C. R. Haslam

SOCCER

THE FIRST XI

The school soccer team received an unexpected, but much appreciated, boost last term through the willingness of Mr Taylor to arrange a series of matches and referee them for us. The main aim was to create a regular squad of enthusiastic players, but this was unfortunately hampered by the prior claims of other sports on key players.

The opening match of the season versus Rugby highlighted this problem, and a rather weak team was forced to battle hard for a 2-2 draw, a just reward coming in a last-minute equaliser from Streeton. In the next match, the position was reversed somewhat, and the strongest team fielded during the season coasted to a comfortable 3-1 victory over a Wellingborough side still in the process of re-building, and this was largely due to the industrious midfield promptings of Turner, the delicate touches of Whitby, and the robust tackling of Jennings, which became regular features. The ensuing 1-5 defeat at the hands of an energetic Borough Road College team naturally shattered some illusions concerning our commitment and ability, but, to the credit of the team, they then staged a remarkable comeback against 'The Giants', with well-worked goals by Jennings and Myers, only to fall 3-4 to a last-gasp penalty. The final match of the season was, by contrast somewhat disappointing, serving only to establish Clegg as the leading goalscorer, the team being defeated by the odd goal in three, on a very heavy and awkward pitch which stifled any attempt at skilled play.

A good foundation has been laid for the soccer team, and for this we are indebted to Mr Taylor for the trouble he has taken. Much invaluable experience has been gained by the younger members of the squad, and I hope that soccer at Stowe will now continue to flourish.

D. E. Callow

SHOOTING

We congratulate the .22 Team on coming second in the British Schools Small-bore Rifle Association's Team of Eight Competition this year. The team shot consistently well against close competition to achieve this good result. J. H. Ross deserves special mention for his excellent performance in scoring a 'possible' in all three rounds.

In the B.S.S.R.A. Junior Championships, A. E. C. Briant reached the Final where he was placed eighth. Since, shortly before the Final, he fractured his trigger finger, this was a most creditable performance.

In the Spring Term we welcomed R. S. M. Brannan and are grateful for his support and interest in our shooting activities.

Our full-bore season has begun quite well. The Reserve Pair, A. C. S. Bird and R. K. Freeman, is to be congratulated on winning the trophy for the event at the Oxfordshire Rifle Association's Schools' Meeting at Otmoor Range.

Finally, we would like to thank Mr Wynne-Jones for his continued coaching of the teams and individuals who have been competing most successfully.

J. G. Wheaton, ma

The Team of Eight: J. G. Wheaton (Capt.), J. H. Ross, A. J. de la Mare, A. H. Berger, C. J. H. Pierre, V. StG. de la Rue, J. N. A. Davies, C. R. Hamilton-Russell.

Shooting Colours have been awarded to: A. H. Berger, C. J. H. Pierre, J. N. A. Davies.

ARCHERY

There has been an encouraging number of younger boys in the School doing archery full time as well as for the Monday extra activities, and the quality of shooting has been much improved amongst them.

The team has had only one match so far this term, in which it was heavily beaten by a larger opposing team at Bedford on May 17th. This defeat could be attributed partly to the lack of practice because of bad weather. We are hoping to have several more matches.

Team: E. Penrose (Capt.), T. Yerburgh (Sec.), D. Charlesworth and G. P. Horne.

E. Penrose

RUGBY SEVENS

This season the First Seven entered four tournaments with limited success but worked very hard in the preceding weeks, getting fit and mastering the techniques and tactics of the "mini game". It is a very different game from the full fifteen a side game though (obviously) the same basic skills apply. Out of the present senior side we have six returning, and we hope that the experience they have gained in the circuit this year will help next year. It would be encouraging if we could qualify for the final of the Rossllyn Park tournament, for the first time, next year.

As a gesture we ran a sponsored points scheme to raise money for the boy who was paralysed in the tournament last year, David Parry-Jones from Llandovery. We scored 44 points out of our four matches and sent a total of £300 approx. to the Rossllyn Park Fund specially set up. Our thanks to all those who helped and contributed.

W. E. Weston

DRAYSON HALL

We have seen a wide variety of activities practised in the Sports Hall this year including Karate, Basketball, Judo, Indoor Athletics, Cricket, Fencing, Tennis and 'Toddler' Gymnastics. Badminton and Weight Training are the most popular activities by far in terms of numbers playing. The latter, we hope, will have a long term beneficial effect on other sports in the school, requiring as it does strength and stamina. With the vast number of boys taking advantage of the facility it would be desirable to move to a bigger, safer, purpose-built room nearby as conditions can be cramped and often dangerous if numbers are not limited. I hope this new 'area' will materialize in the near future.

One highlight of this term was the Charity Superstars competition organised on a house and individual basis, using activities ranging from swimming and tennis to a sports quiz and cross country. The Charity, the Stoke Mandeville Spinal Unit, will receive a cheque for £280 approx. and we express our congratulations to all those who took part, organised and donated to this very worthwhile event.

Winner Senior Event: M. Opperman (6).

Co-Winners Intermediate Event: W. McLellan (5) and A. Hine (8).

Winner Junior Event: G. Strong ((9).

L. E. Weston

COMA

Why can't I move?

I can hear.

Nothing else.

It's strange. . .

Weird.

A limbo.

Wait. Someone's there.

Talking.

My family.

Thank God!

More talk.

What?

No! . . . No!

I want to, but

I can't scream.

Oh, just go.

Leave me.

I'll be fine.

It's just that this

Struggle,

This fight,

Is so tiring.

Yes . . . yes,

I'm so tired!

No!

Stay awake!

I'll be alright!

I'll . . .

Click.

M. S. Emery

OLD STOIC NEWS

C. R. Bingham (1 1978) and **A. R. Bird** (2 1978) gained Half-Blues in the winning Oxford Modern Pentathlon Team (1981).

R. T. Booth (7 1960) is Head of Department of Occupational Health & Safety in the University of Aston (1978).

J. C. Brown (3 1952) is Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts in Washington and Director of the National Gallery of Art in Washington.

G. D. G. Carr (6 1977) was Captain of the Wanderers Hockey Team (1981).

J. H. G. Carr (6 1975) and **C. D. Forbes-Adam** (1 1975) cycled from Cairo to Nairobi (1980), both are teaching English in Africa, **J. H. G. Carr** is now Deputy Headmaster of the Secondary School in Kakamega (1981).

G. L. Cheshire VC (6 1935) was admitted to the Order of Merit in February 1981 and has published his autobiography "The Hidden World" in May 1981.

J. G. Cluff (8 1958) is the Proprietor of the "Spectator" (March 1981).

M. D. Cobham (3 1949) was responsible for the "Brendon Chase" series on ITV (1981).

R. L. Coke (4 1935) is High Sheriff of Norfolk (1981/1982).

A. C. Cooper (3 1967) is Export Manager Europe for Justerini & Brooks.

Catarina Cowan (0 1979) won the Ladies Cup for Oxford in the first women's ski race at La Plagne (1981).

O. A. W. Dilke (1 1933) is Emeritus Professor of Latin at Leeds University and has been awarded a Leverhulme Emeritus Fellowship (1981).

D. J. Easton (8 1949) is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the International Community School (Jordan) Ltd. (1981).

K. Emrys-Roberts (5 1940) composed the music of the BBC TV series "To Serve Them All Our Days" and "Lloyd George" (1980/1981).

M. H. Ewbank (6 1948) was awarded the C.B.E. on 1st January 1980 for services to export.

R. J. S. Fairley (6 1955) became Deputy Circuit Judge in 1978 and Deputy Junior in 1980.

M. G. Falcon (6 1946) is Chairman of Norwich Union (1981).

G. C. M. Fenwick (8 1974) is a partner in an antiques business in Broadway, Worcestershire (1981).

A. G. Flavell (7 1937) was awarded the C.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List for services in the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (1981).

R. B. J. Gadney (7 1959) is Pro-Rector of the Royal College of Art.

H. L. Goodall (9 1974) composed the music for "Not the 9 o'clock News" (BBC) and the "Rowan Atkinson Review" at the Globe Theatre (1980/1981).

A. C. Gornall (3 1974) has been appointed Account Manager of the new "Business Week International" (1981).

C. Graham (2 1950) was responsible for the production of "La Traviata" from the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, broadcast on BBC2/Radio 3 (1981).

Sir Stephen Hammick Bt. (8 1944) is High Sheriff of Dorset (1981/1982).

The Hon. P. Howson (5 1937) was awarded the C.M.G. in the New Year's Honours List for Parliamentary and Community services in Australia (1981).

The Lord Hutchinson (6 1932) gave The New Bridge 1980 Lecture on "The Remand Prisoner" in the presence of HRH The Princess Alexandra in November 1980.

R. Kee (7 1937) won the BAFTA Richard Dimbleby Award in 1976, presented the BBC TV Series "Ireland" based on his book "Ireland a History" (1980) and presented the first seven programmes of the BBC TV Series "Paperback" (1981).

R. F. Kennedy (8 1953) is a Director of the National Contractors' Group of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers.

J. E. C. Kennon (3 1943) has been promoted Vice-Admiral and is to be Chief of Fleet Support (1981).

T. C. Kinahan (2 1971) was ordained priest in 1979 and served his title at St. Nicholas, Carrickfergus and is now on the staff of the Newton Theological College in Papua, New Guinea (1981).

G. N. Lancaster (8 1979) now at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, has been awarded a Rhodes Scholarship (1981).

T. R. Lancaster (8 1973) was also awarded a Rhodes Scholarship.

J. B. D. Lawford (1 1956) has been appointed Headmaster of Exeter Preparatory School (1981).

C. A. LaT. Leatham (7 1932) was awarded the O.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List for services as Controller of the Union Jack Club (1981).

L. G. Levis (2 1931) was awarded the O.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List for services to the Royal British Legion (1981).

F. A. H. Ling (1 1933) has been Vice Lord Lieutenant of Surrey and Chairman of the South Eastern TAVR Association from 1978-1979.

D. C. A. Lloyd (6 1946) is Commander NORMAR and Air Officer Scotland and Northern Ireland (1981).

Sir Hugh Lockhart-Mummery (4 1935) was created K.C.V.O. in the New Year's Honours List (1981).

P. B. Lucas (3 1934) published "The Sport of Princes": "Reflections of a Golfer" (1980) and was awarded the C.B.E. for services to sport in the New Year's Honours List (1981).

The Hon. R. A. McAlpine (2 1959) was appointed a member of the Arts Council and Chairman of the Arts Council Touring Advisory Committee (1981).

A. M. Macoun (7 1962) is Headmaster of Ashbury College, Ottawa (June 1981).

C. J. S. Marler (7 1950) is Vice-Chairman of the British Zoos Foundation.

W. G. C. Maxwell (3 1970) is a Director of the Finsbury Distillery Ltd. (1981).

J. A. P. Methuen-Campbell (2 1971) has published "Chopin Playing".

A. Miall (1 1963) is presenting his own programme "In the Gaslight's Glow" on Radio 4 and has composed the signature tune for the Radio 4 Series of plays "Dance to the Music of Time" (1981).

C. M. V. Nicholl (7 1967) has published "The Chemical Theatre" a study of alchemical themes in Shakespeare and contemporaries (1980).

R. A. Opperman (1 1955) is a Governor of Cheam School (1975).

D. C. Part (1 1950) is President of the Royal Warrant Holders Association for 1981. He is the fourth O.S. to hold this position, previous Presidents included **J. F. Connell** (3 1942), **J. F. P. Tate** (8 1941) and **S. H. G. Twining** (2 1951) all of whom are members of the Council of the Association.

W. M. Peacock (7 1950) is Chairman of Nurdin & Peacock Ltd.

H. D. Pickavance (8 1972) is Managing Director of his family firm of Machine Tool merchants.

The Hon. T. C. F. Prittie (7 1933) has published "Whose Jerusalem" and "The Velvet Chancellors" (1981).

G. H. Rooke (6 1949) is a Recorder of the Crown Court (1975), a Queen's Counsel (1979) and Hon. Recorder of Margate (1980).

M. B. Scholfield (2 1939) has been appointed Chairman of the Industrial Tribunal (Sheffield Region) (1981).

S. J. L. Spicer (1 1941) has published "The Motor Cars We Owned" (1981).

D. R. Stevens (8 1954) is Chairman of United Newspapers Ltd. and Managing Director of Drayton Montagu Portfolio Management Ltd.

A. S. Thomson (2 1965) is Managing Director of Orkney Island Leisure Ltd. (1981).

M. C. Watson (2 1936) is High Sheriff for Gloucestershire and Colonel Commanding 17th/21st Lancers.

D. H. M. Williams-Ellis (2 1977) had his own exhibition of portrait sculpture at the Bath & West Show (1981).

P. G. Worsthorne (7 1941) won the "Columnist of the Year" award for 1980 in the Granada "What the Papers Say" awards.

R. F. Wraith (7 1969) was commissioned by King Edward VII Hospital for Officers to paint a portrait of Sister Agnes for the hospital (1980). He has also been in Florence working with Annigoni.

D. Wynne (3 1943) has designed and executed a bust of Earl Mountbatten of Burma for the R.A.C. Club, Pall Mall (1981).

COMMISSIONS

The following have been commissioned in the Regiments stated:

S. P. Clegg (6 1978)—Royal Artillery—May 1981.

W. G. Cubitt (2 1976)—Coldstream Guards—January 1981.

P. W. Durrant (8 1977)—Royal Engineers—January 1981.

J. W. Green (8 1977)—The Staffordshire Regiment—January 1981.

E. St. J. Hall (8 1978)—The Royal Hussars—May 1981.

MARRIAGES

J. N. S. Bagshawe (9 1972) to Caryl Walker on 15th November 1980.

W. S. Brann (2 1972) to Jill Pollock on 1st September 1978.

J. C. Brown (3 1952) to Pamela Braga Drexel on 24th September 1976.

C. N. O. Capper (5 1965) to Sarah Lillias Palairret on 14th July 1977.

D. W. Cheyne (4 1967) to Gay Passey on 22nd April 1978.

J. E. Colbeck (2 1942) to Lorelei Rosemary Stalford on 1st May 1980.

A. J. Creedy-Smith (6 1972) to Linda Jane Drake on 25th October 1980.

H. C. Davis (9 1972) to Pamela Linda Williams on 2nd September 1974.

N. R. Elmslie (5 1974) to Maureen Kitchen on 16th June 1979.

M. I. H. B. Forde (8 1965) to Mary Vincent.

J. C. Gordon-Finlayson (1 1967) to Gillian Le Hardy on 4th July 1981.

A. C. Gornall (3 1974) to Joanna Woodhouse in October 1980.

R. M. F. Gransden (3 1967) to Linda Louise Eveson.

J. H. Grantham (2 1962) to Patricia Anne Cole on 20th December 1980.

S. L. Green (3 1975) to Jonita Michel Hickey on 11th April 1981.

The Earl Haig (4 1935) to Donna Gerolama Lopez y Royo on 24th March 1981.

Nicola Hemsworth (1976) to Mark James on 21st March 1981.

C. G. R. Holloway (6 1973) to Melanie Wilson on 9th December 1978.

D. M. Johnstone (6 1972) to Annette Mary Catherine Brooke on 2nd July 1977.

R. F. Kennedy (8 1953) to Sally Mary Antram on 19th June 1976.

S. A. Y. Lynch (2 1972) to Belinda Mary Walker on 13th June 1981.

The Hon. R. A. McAlpine (2 1959) to Romilly Hobbs on 29th October 1980.

J. J. McKelvie (8 1970) to Sherry Perkins on 26th April 1975.

W. G. C. Maxwell (3 1973) to Anne Durant on 15th September 1977.

J. F. C. Mezulanik (7 1973) to Katrina Mosko on 6th December 1980.

N. P. Milne (4 1967) to Cherry Fawcus on 23rd July 1977.

Caitlin Mitchell (1976) to Niall Livingstone of Bachuil Yr. on 18th April 1981.

B. M. Morris (6 1958) to Victoria Lindsay Conner on 9th May 1981.

R. R. L. Munro-Ferguson (4 1973) to Marianne Lyndon Skeggs on 16th May 1981.

N. O. G. Murray (5 1962) to Shirley Arbuthnot on 2nd May 1970.

D. H. Priestley (4 1963) to Jackie Wilcox in February 1978.

J. R. Priestley (4 1968) to Susan Dickson on 22nd April 1978.

J. R. Ramsden (5 1959) to Lynda Morrison on 29th March 1977.

O. W. Richards (9 1971) to Clare Spottiswood in September 1977.

The Hon. D. W. E. Russell (2 1964) to April MacKenzie Arbon on 15th November 1981.

J. J. Shackleton (7 1968) to Daphne Levigne on 1st September 1979.

J. L. T. Smith (5 1947) to Patricia Anne Lee on 30th September 1980.

N. H. Thomlinson (8 1971) in March 1980.
I. B. Whitecourt (8 1964) to Martha Schönhuber on 7th April 1977.
L. G. B. Williamson (5 1947) to Babs Storry on 12th November 1980.

BIRTHS

To the wife of:

A. J. Bolton (6 1967) a daughter on 10th January 1981.
S. G. F. W. Bowles (3 1961) two daughters on 3rd February 1968 and 28th August 1970.
W. S. Brann (2 1972) a daughter on 4th March 1981.
J. C. Brown (3 1952) a son on 1st October 1977.
C. N. O. Capper (5 1965) a son on 8th April 1980.
D. W. Cheyne (4 1967) a son on 25th November 1980.
D. L. Chilver (7 1969) a daughter on 1st June 1979.
J. E. Colbeck (2 1942) a son on 1st March 1981.
H. C. Davis (9 1972) a son on 31st November 1980.
W. P. Durlacher (8 1966) a daughter on 23rd October 1980.
T. D. Everett (3 1966) a son on 16th June 1980.
A. D. J. Farmiloe (9 1969) two daughters on 21st June 1977 and 16th November 1980.
R. M. F. Gransden (3 1967) a son on 4th September 1973.
J. R. S. Greenstreet (3 1966) a daughter on 20th February 1981.
The Hon. C. J. G. Henniker-Major (5 1968) a daughter on 2nd April 1981.
M. R. Hill (8 1957) a son on 6th July 1980.
E. C. F. G. Hodge (9 1967) two daughters on 16th April 1976 and 10 January 1981.
C. G. R. Holloway (6 1973) a son on 27th September 1979.
D. M. Johnstone (6 1972) two sons on 19th July 1978 and 28th May 1980.
R. F. Kennedy (8 1953) a son on 4th March 1980.
J. B. D. Lawford (1 1956) two sons on 8th May 1973 and 1st July 1977.
J. J. McKelvie (8 1970) two sons on 12th October 1978 and 7th April 1981.
B. A. Marshall Andrew (1 1967) a daughter on 26th December 1980.
W. G. C. Maxwell (3 1970) a son on 4th April 1981.
J. B. Mayland (8 1959) a daughter on 12th February 1978.
N. O. G. Murray (5 1962) a daughter on 15th June 1972 and a son on 2nd August 1974.
P. D. W. Nicholl (9 1967) a daughter on 31st December 1980.
K. A. Paul (5 1956) two sons on 27th March 1969 and 23rd August 1973.
J. R. Priestley (4 1968) a son on 21st August 1980.
J. R. Ramsden (5 1959) a daughter on 26th May 1978 and a son on 18th January 1980.
O. W. Richards (9 1971) a daughter on 15th September 1980.
G. H. Rooke (6 1949) a son on 26th July 1979.

T. A. A. St. Johnstone (5 1960) a son.
I. H. Scott-Gall (2 1967) a son on 29th March 1981.
D. T. M. Service (8 1945) a daughter on 1 August 1980.
T. E. B. Sopwith (3 1950) two daughters on 9th June 1978 and 26th April 1981.
T. N. A. Telford (5 1968) a daughter on 22nd May 1980.
T. M. Tynne-Irvine (2 1950) a son on 16th November 1980.
The Prince Nicholas Von Preussen (8 1963) a daughter on 10th February 1981.
I. B. Whitecourt (8 1964) a daughter on 16th October 1980.

DEATHS

G. A. Alder (5 1942) on 7th June 1981.
The Lord Banbury (2 1932) on 29th April 1981.
C. B. Baxter (3 1948) in February 1980.
J. P. Becker (5 1942) on 31st December 1980.
O. H. J. Bertram (2 1927/1st 99) in 1975.
A. R. F. B. Brett (4 1932) on 6th February 1981.
R. M. W. Buck (7 1943) on 15th March 1981.
K. Cameron (3 1931) on 30th December 1980.
R. B. Davis (1 1929) on 7th October 1980.
The Captain of Dunstaffnage (4 1937) on 4th December 1980.
M. G. Fox (6 1938) on 24th September 1980.
M. E. J. Hoos (1 1930) on 15th December 1980.
F. A. Lowe (3 1927) on 7th May 1981.
J. D. Munroe (5 1931) on 15th November 1980.
A. F. Peile (4 1934) on 1st June 1981.
S. H. F. Pocock (2/4 1927/1st 99) on 17th December 1980.
J. D. Proctor (4 1942) in April 1979.
A. J. H. Ruthven (6 1941) in February 1980.
A. R. I. Searle (2 1930) on 25th July 1980.
M. G. Scofield (5 1963) drowned at sea between 13th November 1980 and 20th January 1981.
C. W. Tyrell (5 1928) in 1980/1981.
C. E. J. Weston (6 1929) in September 1975.
R. O. M. Williams (3/8 1935) on 25th March 1981.
Wilf Stokes (Head Groundsman—at Stowe 1938–1981) on 8th April 1981.
Mrs Elgin E. Boulton (Housematron 7 1969–1971) on 9th May 1981.

DECAY

In this town of ancient ruins
Where all things run to rot,
An old man sat down mourning,
Mourning for things that are not.

This old man has lived too long—
He sees but cannot act.
All that others choose to ignore,
Is seen by him as fact.

The fact of death's impending blow
To all, including him,
That will not lead to any rest
Or sight of Cherubim.

His mind goes back to when this place
Was beautiful and gay—
Long before citizens,
Who caused all this decay.

He saw the ancient days when men
Lived under no cloud of gloom—
When all were happy, free, and brave
And saw no sight of doom.

But now these things exist no more,
For men are small and bad.
They lead no lives he'd want to lead
And are not even sad.

Their lives just run from day to day,
Their spirits run to fat.
No hope for them—No, none at all?
The old man mourned, and sat!

C. C. F. Krabbe

SALTMARSH—A FERTILE WILDERNESS

A curlew piped his evening curfew
As he winged alone on the wild wet air.
He steered my eyes to the foamy sea
That cracked against a distant shingle bar.
As he circled, slewing in the wind,
I followed; and found a fresh and fierce new world.

Crouched from the sea behind the bar
A cold black cube sprouted from the dark mud,
Racked by wind and broken by the spray
That spun without care from the creamy crests
Beyond the slim, marram-tufted spit.
From the box a wisp of pale blue smoke blew.

This was The Watchhouse, designed to care
For all Norfolk's ships, that slowly glided
Past the sickled arm of Blakeney Point.
Although the glass was long since boarded up
And the chimney stack was broken too,
A tramp still cooked in solitude and peace.

Between myself and the lonely tramp
A vast flat mass of black and sucking mud
Glistened in the falling amber sun.
A spider's web of rills and rippled streams
Shone silver from the windswept oozes,
Trapping green mounds of samphire and sea-pink.

Dunlins scuttled round the bright shelducks,
Probing through the cockled, quaggy marshland—
Pale timid blobs on the dark wild mire.
Redshanks cried with the gusted wind, a scream
That came from a prehistoric world,
When ancients steered their leather crafts to fish.

Oyster-catchers scurried with turnstones,
Splitting shellfish with their strong scarlet bills
Before piping to a distant roost.
And white gulls whelped and mewed, mocking the wind,
The mudflats and myself; hunting crabs
That hid in little pools, green, hard, and scared.

Evil gases bubbled oilily
From stagnant, spring-tide ponds that embroidered
The rustling stands of blue sea-lavender
That covered islands of deep-cracked silt.
Gobies and shrimps circled in the pools,
Waiting patiently for the saving moon.

The curlew wheeled just once more around,
Then spun away and left me with his home.
The wet North wind hurried past the bird
And blew me the scent of Nature's soft cheeks—
The smell of a truly untouched world,
Shared only by the tramp, the gulls, and me.

G. J. R. Monbiot

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