

Stowe mail

VOL 10 ISSUE 3: 16 NOVEMBER 2018
NEWS ROUND UP FROM STOWE



Stowe Remembrance Service

Sunday 11 November heralded unexpected blue skies for the 171 cadets of Stowe CCF Contingent, formed up smartly on parade, awaiting inspection by the Headmaster and Chair of the Governors.

The Cadets stood proudly to attention, having made their very best (and most commendable) efforts with their turnout, then filed smartly into Chapel.

Cadet Cpl Will Bursnall and L/Cpl Ned Ellison carried out their role of Flag Bearers with dignity and military precision, leading the procession of the Chaplain followed by the Headmaster, Chair of Governors, Chair of OS, Head Boy, Oscar Hill (Upper Sixth, Temple) Head Girl, Helen Vince (Upper Sixth, Queen's) and Harry Bryant (Fourth Form, Cobham), (CCF's youngest cadet), wreath layers. Each wreath layer was accompanied by a cadet escort; Cdt Flt Sgt Rowan Brudenell (Upper Sixth, Grenville), Cdt LH Phoebe Hill (Lower Sixth, Queen's), Cdt L/Cpl Tiffani Sole Scarpellini (Fifth Form, Stanhope), Cdt L/Cpl Aris Hatzistefanis (Fifth Form, Walpole), Cadet L/Cpl Alex Ross (Fifth Form, Chatham) and Cdt CSM Hugo Robinson (Upper Sixth, Grenville).

Prayers were led by Cdt C/Sgts Ben Shamash and Jess Potts. They each read with clarity and expression. The Choir sang 'Anthem' (Herbert Howells) beautifully, conducted by Craig Greene, with James Speakman on the organ, and Nigel Gibbon and the brass and drums played splendidly from their dizzy Chapel heights.

Special mention must go to Louis Hink (Upper Sixth, Walpole) who played the Last Post on a World War 1 bugle belonging to Nigel Gibbon's grandfather (Kings Shropshire Light Infantry, who fought in the Dardanelles), with impressive skill and precision.

The Service was led by our School Chaplain, Reverend Tim Mullins with special meaning and poignancy. It was my honour to read out the names of 20 Old Stoics who lost their lives in conflict (and training), two of whom (John and William Struthers, brothers) were relatives of one of our CCF cadets, C/ Sgt Tavish Struthers (Upper Sixth, Bruce). Our SSI, Sgt Alex Sprules read The Ode of Remembrance.

OIC RAF Section, Wing Comd Jon Murnane (retd) gave a most engaging sermon, relating to all young Stoics in Chapel the not dissimilar character traits and personalities of three OS who had sat where they were sitting now, whose lives were cut short. It was a personal and most thought-provoking address. Hymns were sung by all, with gusto, and all cadets, staff and pupils involved felt proud to play their part in a very moving Service, certainly the most significant one in any of our lifetimes, guided and led by our School Chaplain, Tim Mullins.

53 visitors stayed for a splendid lunch, organised by Debbie Kelly-Greaves and our wonderful chefs and catering team, in the State Music Room.

Our thanks go to all who took part in the service.

Mention and thanks must also go to Thor Mager (Lower Sixth, Bruce) who skilfully played his trumpet at the Dadford Remembrance Service and Neel Collins (Fourth Form, Bruce) who also played his cornet beautifully at the Shalstone Service. (Neel stole Shalstone congregation's hearts when, offered a token monetary gesture, he politely declined it, in favour of offering it to the more deserving Shalstone Church).

Major Jan de Gale, Contingent Commander Stowe CCF





Royal Albert Hall

Stowe CCF were delighted to be selected to send Petty Officer Oscar Hill, RN Section, (Upper Sixth, Temple) to represent Cadets nationwide as Escort to the CCF Standard at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall on 10 November.

Oscar writes:

I was immensely privileged to be selected to represent Royal Navy CCF cadets from across the country at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. This was a particular honour as it was 100 years since the WW1 Armistice. It was an extraordinary and wonderful experience.

Preparation began well in advance when I was measured up for my dress uniform, and received the first of many email briefings. Rehearsals began the day before the performances – I travelled to London having checked my packing list more than I ever have done before, with my shoes highly polished, and with spares of anything I could have spares of (including polish). I went straight to the Royal Albert Hall where security was tight, and the atmosphere very intense. Nicholas Miller was our CO for the two days, he introduced me to the five other cadets CCF Army and RAF, Army Cadet, Sea Cadet and Air Cadet.

Our BBC runner was incredibly friendly and full of stories as to why it was so incredibly important not to forget our accreditation (the pass we used to be allowed to access anywhere) – apparently Kylie Minogue had done so in order to keep up with her social media and suffered a great deal for it!

After getting changed into uniform we went straight to our first rehearsal. This was primarily instruction about our drill. Marching in formation we were the first on to and across the stage, and we then stood to attention for almost half an hour, right at the front of the stage facing out into the incredible Hall. Our Garrison Sergeant Major was fierce, and effective – we were to stay in time and to keep check!

The Saturday morning began quickly with much the same process as the night before, but this time, a full dress rehearsal, and a bit of exploration of the RAH. Our meals were provided and the lunch of sandwiches and “posh chips” as one CCF Rep described it was a quiet, reflective one. We were all very aware of the significance of what was coming next.

After lunch we were all nervous, so the wait felt

an eternity. The time arrived, and the matinee went very well. The only glitch was after about 25 minutes of standing to attention, and just after the two minutes silence, when the boy next to me, fainted. I managed to catch him before he tumbled down into the orchestra, but not before he had collided with the shoulders of two military women in front of us.

The evening performance was a Royal Event, which made it even more special. Her Majesty the Queen, HRH Prince Charles and HRH Prince William were all present, with other members of the Royal Family. I was lucky enough to be smiled at by the Duchess of Cambridge - she was at the other side of the RAH auditorium, but I was very chuffed nonetheless.

Both performances were beautiful and very moving. The music was exceptional (hearing Tom Jones and Sheku Kanneh-Mason live was amazing), and the military displays were extremely impressive, but the film footage, words and stories were the most powerful element. In particular the moment when hundreds of people around the Hall held up photographs of relatives and loved ones who were lost in the Great War. The emotion was palpable; there were many tears. I think everyone there was humbled, and felt honoured, and grateful, to have been served by these men, women and animals. It was very powerful.

I have never sung The National Anthem with Her Majesty present before, it was quite something.

It has taken a while to digest the experience. Being back at Stowe for our own Remembrance Service on Sunday felt especially poignant.

I am extremely proud to be a part of the Stowe CCF, and am immensely honoured, and privileged to have been able to take part in this prestigious event. Thank you for such an extraordinary opportunity.

Major Jan de Gale, Contingent Commander Stowe CCF



RUGBY

A group of nineteen Yearlings and three staff left Stowe early morning on Thursday 25 October for their three day rugby tour of Bristol. After stocking up with food for the tour we had a training session and lunch before playing against QEH Bristol where we came up against an outstanding fly half who proved to be the difference between the sides. After post-match food the squad headed off for bowling and Nandos to round off a busy day.

On day two, after breakfast the squad travelled to watch the Bristol Bears training session where we were given access to the team's video review and introduced to the coaches and players before a tour of the facilities and watching a training session. We then went into Bristol city centre for crazy golf and a trip to the cinema before heading back to the Scout Centre where the boys enjoyed competing against each other in the assault course as dusk fell. Day 3 began with the squad enjoying Paintball where coach Coote was peppered for his bravery and mindless lack of self-preservation! After lunch we watched Gloucester take on Wasps where last year's Stowe 1st XV Captain Taju Atta made his debut. The boys behaved impeccably throughout the tour and bonded together which made it so successful.

Grant Seely, Director of Rugby & Head of Athletics



LACROSSE

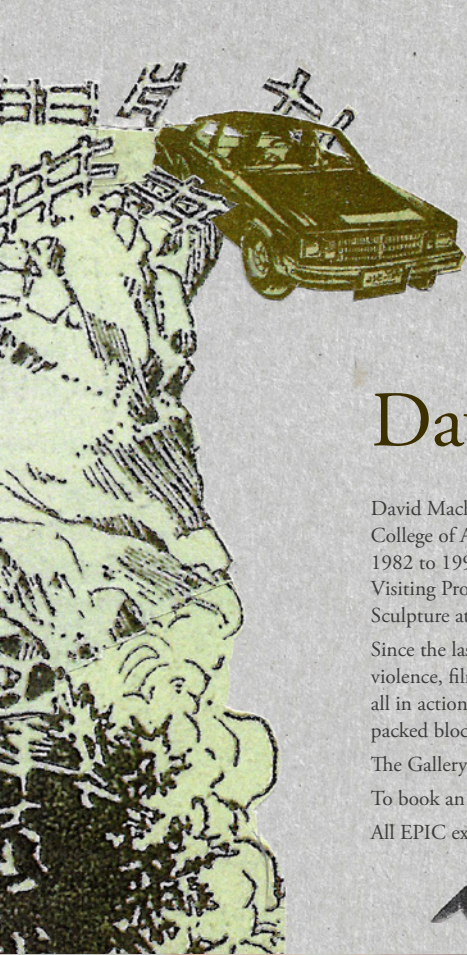
On Saturday 10 November, Stowe 1st XII played host to 'Dadford Lacrosse Club' - a secret team comprised of parents of the lacrosse girls. This match was to help celebrate the 18th birthday of Milliy Cranmer (Upper Sixth, Nugent).

Both teams braved the heavy rain to play a full 30 minutes of lacrosse, finishing up with smiles all round, some hearty match teas, and a 9-6 win for the Stowe team.

Thanks must be given to parents who made a huge effort to play, with some travelling from overseas to do so. We hope this can be an annual event going forward.

Rob Ingham Clark, Head of Lacrosse





David Mach RA 'EPIC' Exhibition

David Mach studied at the Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Dundee from 1974 to 1979 and subsequently at the Royal College of Art, London from 1979 to 1982. He became a part-time lecturer in the Sculpture School at Kingston University from 1982 to 1993 and he was a lecturer at the Contemporary Art Summer School, Kitakyushu, Japan from 1987 to 1991. He has been Visiting Professor at the Sculpture Department, Edinburgh College of Art since 1999 and in 2000 was appointed Professor of Sculpture at the Royal Academy Schools, London.

Since the last Stowe exhibition the collages have developed considerably, exploring subjects as diverse as language, gender, politics, violence, film, football, burglary even... all much more colourfully set against deserts and jungle background or on the high seas, all in action, all waiting for someone to depress the 'pause' button. Postcard sized, they are like posters for the trailers of action packed blockbusters. Small in size but 'giant in idea'.

The Gallery is open in the Watson School of Art, Monday to Friday 9.30am-5pm.

To book an appointment to view David Mach RA EPIC Exhibition please [email](#) or call us on 01280 818044

All EPIC exhibition pieces are for sale and a donation of proceeds from sales will support Street Child Charity No. 1128536



CCF RAF Section

Over Half Term, Cadet Flight Sergeant Rowan Brudenell, RAF Section, (Upper Sixth, Grenville) took part in the Air Cadet Pilot Scheme Scholarship. Rowan was thrilled to be given the opportunity.

A week before Half Term, I travelled up to Dundee for the ACPS (Air Cadet Pilot Scheme) Scholarship. This course was awarded to me last year and entitled me to 12 hours of flying tuition towards a PPL (Private Pilot's Licence). Out of 44,000 air cadets, only 180 cadets are selected for the scheme. To complete the course, I was put up at the Doubletree Hilton hotel for two weeks. Each day I was tasked with preparing the aircrafts for flight before having a briefing on what manoeuvres we would be undertaking. Once this was done I was entrusted to do the pre-flight checks of my aircraft (an A211 Aquila) by myself before we departed. We would typically go flying between 2-3 hours a day, weather permitting! By the end of the course, I was doing 'check flights' (being in command of the aircraft from start up through take off all the way through to landing and shut down) with the instructor only giving assistance if necessary. The course was incredibly challenging and demanding but 100% worth it. This has fully confirmed my ambitions to become a commercial pilot. I would urge any and every RAF cadet who would like to, to apply, it was an incredible experience that I will never forget!

Major Jan de Gale, Contingent Commander Stowe CCF



PROJECTS

HPQ Fair

On Wednesday 10 October - 150 Fifth Form Stoics invaded the Library, Ante-Library and Blue Room to present on their HPQ topics. The HPQ had been a year in the making and this was highlighted by detail shown in the presentation and with the fluency and confidence Stoics could talk about their topic. The variety as always was vast - ranging from Proselytising to a study on why there are more right-handed people than left? All the Stoics did themselves proud and we are looking forward to our best results yet for the HPQ.

EPQ Fair

The now, well established EPQ fair took place on Saturday 13 October. Over 80 Upper Sixth Stoics took part in the fair - where they were able to show off their knowledge about their specialised subject area. Whether it was discussing the influence of Plato's thoughts on beauty on Oscar Wilde's Dorian Grey, or raising awareness about the plight of the world's oceans due to plastic waste - the Stoics presented with confidence and detail. With the Lower Sixth completing their EPQ in one year - it will not be long to wait until the next fair!

Michael Rickner, Head of Projects



History of Art

Our Sixth Form History of Art students were treated to an excellent introduction to the world of curating on Monday 12 November.

Presenting to Stoics in the Blue Room, Julien Domerq described in fascinating detail how he, as Curator of the Drawn in Colour Exhibition at The National Gallery, negotiated the loan of the works of Degas from The Burrell Collection in Glasgow. One of the greatest collections of Degas' works in the world, these drawing have rarely been seen in public and Julien managed to pull together this Exhibition in just eight months, fittingly in time for the 100th anniversary of Degas' death.

The display of these works in this exhibition marked the first time the group of 20 pastels had been shown outside Scotland since they were acquired. Julien explained to the pupils how specialised transportation of these extremely delicate and fragile works of art was needed; bespoke crates were built to minimise the chance of the pastel dropping from the paper as the drawings were moved.

Stoics also heard about the space in which the paintings were hung and its effect on how the exhibition was curated. Julien described how the layout of the gallery, divided into three distinct areas, influenced the choice of drawings that were placed together in each of the three spaces.

One of the greatest artistic innovators of his age, Degas found new ways of depicting modern Parisian life. He was also relentlessly experimental with materials, particularly pastel. Julien was able to illustrate Degas' development as an artist through the drawings that he chose to include in the Exhibition.

The Blue Room provided a great setting to view the high quality museum images which accompanied Julien's talk. Our sincere thanks to Julien for joining us at Stowe to give this informative presentation which was particularly relevant to the Stoics' A Level course.

Cobham Opening

On Sunday 28 October, boys, parents, staff and guests gathered in the common room of 'New' Cobham to celebrate the opening of the purpose-built boys boarding house. Guests and parents were treated to music from the boys and witnessed the first ever 'Stance' in the new building, with boys filing in to be ticked off by Isaac David, the Head of House. The accommodation replaces the previous Cobham that was split over four separate buildings, with the first two years sleeping in rather large, antiquated dorms. The new House sees the Third Form in rooms of four, the Fourths and Fifths in 'doubles' and the Sixth Form all in single

rooms, with each room in the House being ensuite. The architecture of the House has been greatly admired, with the utilitarian front aspect hiding a much more interesting and thought-provoking design at the back, which looks over newly-laid lawns - a significant improvement on the old Cobham Courtyard. The boys have now all settled in well, and the rest of the School has started to see the new building as an integral part of the ever-improving Stowe site. Some people have now even started to call it Cobham rather than 'New Cobham' - a sure sign of its acceptance!

Richard Corthine, Cobham Housemaster





Music from the Movies

On Friday 9 November we welcomed back Harry Gregson-Williams (Chatham 78). Harry has been composing a score for a new Disney film on penguins and the clips he showed us illustrated that he is using the full repertoire of his skills in producing the music to accompany some memorable images. Harry began his talk by playing the opening bars of the music he composed for Shrek and then illustrating how the music developed from the fairy-tale beginning to some of the key moments of the films – including the red carpet awards scene and the affecting and moving sequence of Shrek’s transmutation. It was amazing how one simple folk tune became a light motif which carries through all the Shrek films and it is now impossible to think of Shrek without remembering Harry’s score.

In complete contrast, Harry showed us some clips of his more recent work on the Martian with Ridley Scott. It was fascinating to hear his Pink Floyd influenced soundtrack for a sequence when Matt Damon crosses Mars towards the end of the film. Ridley Scott didn’t share Harry’s enthusiasm for the rock soundtrack and asked Harry to replace it with a more evocative soundscape which matched his

directorial vision. This was a superb example of how the composer has to work closely with the director as part of the creative team. Another memorable film sequence came from Tony Scott’s Man on Fire in which Harry blended passages from Debussy with an extraordinarily sophisticated score which matched the action sequence of Denzel Washington being shot while protecting a young girl from a kidnapping in Mexico City.

Harry’s work is incredibly varied and his films include Bridget Jones’s Diary, Chicken Run, The Chronicles of Narnia and Prometheus (the most recent of the Alien films). He has also worked on video games such as Call of Duty and just this summer Harry composed scores for the top two box office films in America: Equalizer 2 and The Meg. At the end of the talk the Headmaster invited Harry back to Stowe as our Composer in Residence and we are all hoping that this will happen when there is a suitable break in his film-work. When he was here five years ago, Harry inspired a generation of Stoics to think more seriously about both film and music and this talk demonstrated that he has lost none of his skill as a great teacher.



Army Section

Over Half Term, Cadet CSM Hugo Robinson, 373, Army Section, (Upper Sixth, Grenville) was formally appointed as Lord Lieutenant’s Cadet, Buckinghamshire. Hugo writes:

The ceremony took place at The Gateway, Aylesbury on Thursday 18 October. The evening started with everyone gathered in an atrium where cadets, regular and reservist military personnel could meet and mingle. We were then all ushered into the Oculus by a rifles bugler.

The Lord-Lieutenant, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher, then entered with the heads of each section in this area. The ceremony started with a presentation on the development of reservists in the South East region. After this the Lord-Lieutenant’s awards for meritorious service were awarded; these awards rank only second to the Queen’s Honours List. Further to this, there was a presentation about the role and activities of cadets in Buckingham and new initiatives for increasing the number of cadet forces throughout the South East of England.

After the presentation the other cadets and I received our Lord Lieutenant’s awards and duly became Lord-Lieutenant’s Cadets. Afterwards we returned to the atrium where I was able to talk further with the other cadets and regulars alike.

I am really looking forward to my duties in the coming year and I can’t wait to represent Stowe at many events.

Major Jan de Gale, Contingent Commander Stowe CCF





Psychology of the Paranormal

On Thursday 11 October Philosophy@Stowe kick-started its 2018-19 programme with a public event on the psychology of paranormal beliefs. Dr Anna Stone (University of East London) presented her scientific work on why we are drawn to these beliefs, before being interviewed on stage by Jemima Priest (Upper Sixth, West) and Christiana Robinson (Upper Sixth, Stanhope). Any Stoics disappointed by

her apparent lack of credence in the paranormal could take solace in the eerie wind that rattled the pines of the Blue Room as she spoke. Jemima and Christiana were extremely impressive in discussion, and will be back in action on Friday 23 November interviewing Dr Laura Gow from the University of Liverpool. For information and free tickets, contact [Peter Dennis](#).

Dr Peter Dennis, Teacher of Philosophy & Religion

Architectural Prize Winner

In the aftermath of the tragic Grenfell Tower fire, the architectural practice Peregrine Bryant, in association with the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, set up a scholarship in memory of Gloria Trevisan and Marco Gottardi, two Italian architects who died in the fire. The winner for 2018, Giulia Pannochia, who is a graduate of the Masters Programme at the Università Iuav di Venezia, was selected on the strength of her proposals to transform a redundant radiotelegraphic station into a radio communication museum. Interestingly, Giulia chose this project in preference to the subject proposed by her tutors, thereby showing an 'independence of spirit' that was commended by the judges along with her love of conservation and strong desire to travel to the UK to develop her skills and understanding. The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, supported by the National Trust and the Landmark Trust,



arranged a study visit to the UK for Giulia and, as part of that tour, she was welcomed by the Stowe House Preservation Trust and shown the conservation and restoration work completed and currently underway at Stowe.

Macbeth

On Wednesday 14 November, the entire Fifth Form attended the Royal Shakespeare Company's riveting performance of Macbeth at the Barbican Centre in London. Comporting themselves with respect and professionalism, the Stoics engaged intelligently and sensitively with Polly Findlay's stripped-down production. Updating the Jacobean costumes and stage to an undated but decidedly modern setting, Findlay's production emphasises the pressures of time and fate, sealed once Macbeth and Lady Macbeth agree that they must murder King Duncan and thus ensure that 'the deed is done'. With an outsized digital timer counting the seconds to Macbeth's death, the performance enhanced the tension and sense of inevitability that makes the tragedy such a touchstone of the form. Christopher Eccleston gave a broad-shouldered and brusque performance of Macbeth, embodying the physical force that makes Macbeth such a daunting character. Niamh Cusack's Lady Macbeth was an inventive reinterpretation of the character: her famous sleepwalking scene replaced the imaginary blood with a pallid, dusty chalk, washing out

any colour (and perhaps humanity) from her character. Emilia Havard (Stanhope) found the stagecraft illuminating: "I particularly liked the way that the multiple angles of the spotlights created ghostly shadows in the wings." Classmate Archie Strong (Grafton) found the casting of the witches especially unsettling: "It is was unnatural seeing young girls play the supernatural characters." Of particular note was the role of the Porter, played by Michael Hodgson, who occupied the stage through the entirety of performance, acting as an eerie force who seems already to know how the events will end. Bolstering the students' familiarity with Shakespearean verse, the performance provided the pupils with a new interpretation on their GCSE text, as well as prepared them for their own upcoming performance in the Roxburgh Hall of Romeo and Juliet. Although returning to Stowe late in the evening, the students kept their good cheer: more than one quipped that "Macbeth really did kill sleep!" but happily enlivened their appreciation for this profound tragedy.

Fitzpatrick Smith, English Department

Work Experience

With a keen interest in Banking and Finance, Jacob Halabi (Lower Sixth, Walpole) had his sights set on completing his Fifth Form work experience in either a large bank or ideally a specialist private bank. The first step was to think about how he could gain access to a work placement in such a competitive environment. Should he apply through the official routes, or should he use his family contacts?

Jacob secured his work placement with the help of his father who knew someone at Union Bancaire Privée (UBP), a private bank that specialises in wealth management for private and institutional clients. Due to the nature of the firm, it is unlikely that Jacob would have been able to secure this work placement without a personal connection to the bank.

On his first day, Jacob met with his mentor, Nick Webb, who introduced him to other professionals who explained how the day to day operations work in a private bank. Quickly Jacob was given his first task, researching different funds, equities and companies.

On day two, Jacob's mentor explained in more detail information about stocks and shares, how they work and what to look for when considering investment. Jacob enjoyed this aspect of the placement the most as it gave him a good overview of the types of skills and professional work ethic the team at UBP needed to succeed.

On day three, four and five, Jacob moved to the equities department, where his new mentor explained how this part of the sector worked. Jacob was then tasked with researching one of the largest cardboard producers in the world and presented his findings to his mentor. Jacob was asked to present the case for or against investing in this company. A wonderful opportunity to demonstrate the skills he had developed on his placement and to practice his presentation skills.

Reflecting on his work experience, Jacob feels that he has gained an invaluable insight into how this part of the financial sector works and more importantly the level of skill, dedication and professionalism that is required to survive and prosper as an employee of a firm such as UBP.

Jacob stated that this was a truly inspirational experience that he hopes to repeat it with a different financial institution during his Lower Sixth summer break, hopefully to compliment his UCAS application next year.

Jacob is one of many examples we have seen this year, where Fifth Form students have benefitted from not only experiencing a real workplace, but have developed essential soft skills that are in demand with employers and universities. Building skills and experience that cannot be taught in the classroom is essential in preparing students for life after Stowe School, differentiating Stoics in the labour market and helping students, like Jacob, prepare to become the future captains of industry.

Dr Gordon West, Head of Careers



Stowe CCF Cadet Trip to Bangladesh

Following a successful visit by twelve Bangladesh cadets and three staff to Stowe in June, Dr Smith and I took ten of our Stowe CCF cadets out to Bangladesh over Half Term, Cadet Sgts Eliza Wauchope, Nyle Neckel, Thomas Abbot-Drake, Cadet Cpls Amelia Leondiou, Sonya Sander, Georgia Laurie, Jasmin Smith, Toby Moore, Ed Ives, and Cdt Leading Hand Rosie Ludlow.

The aim of the trip was for Stoic cadets to be exposed to a culture and country vastly different to their own, with a socio-economic environment well outside their normal experiences, challenging their preconceptions and world views.

The trip was for nine days, hosted throughout by the most generous and hospitable Bangladesh Army and their Cadet Colleges, and facilitated from the very start of a suggestion of a trip by the Defence Attache at the British High Commission in Bangladesh, Lt Col Dominic Spencer (parent), without whose unstinting assistance, this trip would simply not have got off the ground.

Our adventure started at Dhaka, where we stayed at the Cadet College complex and visited the National Museum of Bangladesh. Whilst there, we met Shihab Shahriar, a famous national poet, who kindly presented some of his poetry. We saw the very table where the documents signifying the start of the Nation of Bangladesh were signed. Having experienced horrific losses of 3 million lives in the War of Independence, lasting 9 months, finishing in December 1971, this relatively new nation is fervently proud of the martyrs (mostly farmers and civilians) who sacrificed their lives.

We then visited the Museum of Liberation at Bijoy Keton, which documented the costly, bloody and glorious history of the battle for Independence; a sombre and sobering experience.

Later, we were hosted by the General Officer Commanding 9 Infantry Division, who made presentations to each of our cadets. We also enjoyed visits to the Bangladesh Military Police School and Dhaka Golf Course.

Colonel Spencer, his wife Catherine and their daughter Hermione (Upper Sixth, West) kindly hosted a dinner for us, where we had the opportunity to meet Her Excellency, the Bangladesh High Commissioner and many other welcoming staff from the Embassy, FCO and High Commission.

The next phase of our visit was to Chittagong where we had been invited to stay at Faudjerhat Cadet College, the oldest of the 12 Bangladesh Cadet Colleges.

The Faudjerhat cadets had been working hard on a formal and lengthy military parade, of which I was asked if our Stowe cadet would like to take part, I declined, only to have them quietly whisked away to take part in the entire parade

with 350 Bangladesh cadets.

The Cultural Show that evening, put together in our honour, saw Rosie Ludlow and Sonya Sander, who had all of a 5 minute rehearsal backstage, perform a duet, to rousing applause.

A final buffet dinner and opportunity for us all to engage with the initially shy, but delightful, College pupils ended our stay with Faudjerhat, who themselves lost seven (martyrs) cadets in the war.

The following day we were able to visit a Rohingya refugee camp and was given a briefing by UNICEF communications Director, Keren Reirdy on the plight of the Rohingya refugees, the large majority (700,000) of whom had been forcibly displaced from their homes in Myanmar's Rhakine last year. World leaders have declared the brutality of the Myanmar military as nothing short of ethnic cleansing. Children saw family members brutally attacked. Children and babies were murdered. Many lost limbs and lives stepping on IED's laid by the Myanmar military and many tragically drowned attempting to cross the border.

The refugees live on a knife edge, gripped by uncertainty about their future and still traumatised by their experiences in Myanmar. Their shelters, (bamboo and tarp) are built on flood plains and precarious hill sides, at risk of being washed away by the monsoon rain or destroyed by a cyclone.

The Bangladesh Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina is desperately hoping for a permanent solution as Bangladesh is suffering itself from real poverty, but stated: "We are feeding 160 million Bangladeshi citizens. We can very well feed another 5 to 7 hundred thousand Rohingyas."

For about one third of children up to the age of 14, UNICEF and other NGO's have set up a network of Learning Centres and Child Friendly Spaces which offer a chance to begin healing, and have a respite from their harsh surroundings. We were most grateful to be given the opportunity to engage with the wonderfully inspiring refugee children, their smiles belie the horrifying scenes they had to bear witness to. Yet they make the most of what little they have and it was extraordinarily moving to compare what little that was, with our lives here at Stowe.

Throughout the trip our Stoic cadets were fully engaged fully, keenly interested, open-minded, inquisitive and showed real sensitivity, and cultural awareness.

Dr Smith and I thoroughly enjoyed sharing with our wonderful party of Stoic cadets this unique and remarkable adventure. Indeed we are still absorbing it all.

Major Jan de Gale, Contingent Commander Stowe CCF

You can read all about their trip in [The Telegraph](#).



Stowe Congreve 2018

Romeo & Juliet



by William Shakespeare
Directed by Rebecca Clark

8.00pm

Roxburgh Hall

Wednesday 28 November
to Saturday 1 December 2018

A bit of history:

The Congreve Society at Stowe was first formed in 1942 to 'promote the study, encouragement and practice of drama in all its aspects'. Named after the English Dramatist William Congreve (1670-1729) who was both a playwright and poet of the infamous Restoration period. Congreve was a minor political figure in the Whig Party, a friend and supporter of Lord Cobham and a frequent visitor to Stowe.

There are normally two major Congreve productions staged in the School year; the Senior Congreve featuring Upper School Stoics and The Junior Congreve by Lower School Stoics. The Historian's Shakespeare (1935-1962) was a forerunner as well as rival to the Congreve Society for many years and the last production of Romeo and Juliet at Stowe was in November 1990.

This year's production:

It's all in the stars. And it is indeed a cast of young stars who bring us this year's School Congreve, Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Over thirty Stoics, Thirds to Upper Sixth, make up this extra-ordinary company who are currently busy in rehearsals. If you pop your head into the Dobinson studio any evening you are bound to see pupils on a journey of discovery as they unravel each scene and the world of the play emerges before their eyes.

Rehearsals involve table-work where cast members sit around, reading and deciphering the language, followed by practical exploration of each scene. They learn stagecraft through ensemble work, improvisation, experiment and bravery. Discovering how they can work collaboratively together to conjure a piece of theatre, pupils finish rehearsals with a greater appreciation of what it is to be creative.

Romeo (Dominic Selvey (Lower Sixth, Chandos)) and Juliet (Sonya Sander (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton)) are teenagers who meet and fall in love despite their families' deadly rivalry. Unassuaged by their friends and counterparts and peculiarly encouraged by their somewhat wayward elders, they career recklessly towards their destiny.

To reserve tickets email thearts@stowe.co.uk or call 01280 818012



StoweSPORT

Equestrian

Polly French (Upper Sixth, Nugent) is the first Stowe pupil to take part in the British Horse Society's Participation Project. Training was provided by the Equestrian centre and Polly has passed levels 1 to 5 of the BHS progressive stages. Therefore Polly has gained the initial qualifications required to become an accredited BHS Instructor. These are available to all Stowe pupils and anyone wishing to take part should contact the Equestrian Centre. Congratulations Polly!

Stowe sent two teams to Addington for the NSEA Windsor qualifiers. In the 90cm class the Blue team came 3rd out of 16 teams. The riders were Megan Churchill (Third Form, Queen's), Lila Hill (Third Form, Lyttelton), Chloe Livesey (Lower Sixth, Stanhope) and Charlotte Morgan (Fifth Form, Nugent). Lila Hill won the individual out of 73 riders.

The Stowe team came 1st in the 1m class (Jemima Howden (Fourth Form, Stanhope), Sofia Wright (Fourth Form, Stanhope), Polly French (Upper Sixth, Nugent) and Lila Hill), with Polly French coming 5th individually and Lila Hill 1st.

Hockey

The U16 and U15 girls both enjoyed strong wins against Rugby School. Stowe U15s posted the most impressive result with a 6-0 victory.

Netball

In the County rounds of the Netball National Cup the Stowe U18s and U16s played superbly and managed to qualify for the regional rounds.

Rugby

In a National U15 Cup match, our Junior Colts beat Bloxham 26-10 and look forward to playing Aylesbury Grammar school in the next round.

In our block fixtures against Rugby School, the junior teams managed 5 wins out of 8 matches, with our U14, U15 & U16 A teams performing particularly strongly and picking up well deserved victories. The Stowe Seniors found the going tough away from home, although the 4th team had an excellent win.



McElwee Presentations 2018

The McElwee Award offers Stoics the opportunity to travel in Europe and explore a cultural or historical theme during the summer of their Lower Sixth year. This is a unique opportunity and was established in memory of Bill McElwee, who had a distinguished career teaching History at Stowe either side of the Second World War and loved embarking on trips around Europe with groups of pupils.

In order to report back on their discoveries, winners give a presentation on their trips to the current Lower Sixth, the McElwee Committee and their parents. This is a diverse audience to both inform and entertain so the pupils receive expert training and feedback from the ITV Sport presenter Louise Goodman. Following her advice and feedback, presentations are re-drafted, practised and polished before the presentation evening, which took place in October.

Anya Cook (Lyttelton) and Hermione Spencer (West) enlightened their audience about the history and literature of the Spanish Civil War, focusing on the legacy of Franco and the work of Hemmingway. Their anecdotes about the behaviour of the various writers involved in this conflict was both entertaining and interesting, and explained with great confidence.

Ashwin Batey (Cobham) and Isaac David (Cobham) followed this with an introduction to the world of the Medici family, following their trip to Florence. The indelible impact of the Medici on the city came across strongly, alongside stories about the flamboyant and occasionally murderous nature of their lives, which built on an impressive base of extended knowledge of their A Level History course.

The most detailed talk of the evening was given by Jamie Baillie (Cobham) and Andrea Pironi (Cobham), who had thoroughly researched the history of Crete during their trip and returned

with wide-ranging reflections on the ancient archaeology and mythology of the island. Their recall, mostly without notes, was outstanding and the level of commitment that they had invested to win the McElwee Award was clearly evident.

However, the most polished presentation was given by Ben Shamash (Chatham) and Cameron Chambers (Grenville) who gave a moving account of their walk in the footsteps of those escaping Nazi-occupied France via the Pyrenees. Their account integrated some impressive images, video footage and carefully selected details from their trip, which completely engaged their audience. Although the competition was tight, they were voted the best presentation by the McElwee Committee. The Lower Sixth also cast their votes online and came to the same conclusion about the winners.

Although it is always lovely to celebrate the success of the McElwee winners, the evening was tinged with sadness following the death this summer of a former member of the McElwee Committee. Paul Whitfield served for many years helping to choose worthy winners each year. Having worked in all four major London auction houses and travelled widely, he was able to bring an unparalleled depth of knowledge, incisive questioning and enthusiastic interest to the interviews of pupils and thoroughly enjoyed seeing them report back. The Award for the best presentation of £100 was given to both Ben and Cameron in Paul's memory and will continue to be awarded in the future as the Paul Whitfield Memorial Prize.

Applications for the Award in 2019 are now open to Lower Sixth pupils, with shortlisting in January.

Paul Griffin, Faculty Chair, Humanities



TENNIS

This year we entered a mixed team into the Senior Students National Competition. Our team was Tom Percy (Upper Sixth, Grenville (Captain)), Harry Hewlett (Upper Sixth, Cobham), Ellie Bewes (Upper Sixth, Queen's) and Georgie Leefe (Upper Sixth, Nugent). In our round robin box we were drawn against MCS Oxford and Bradfield. In our home match against MCS Oxford we got off to a good start winning 5-3. When we went to play Bradfield we were very grateful to have the use of their indoor courts. Despite a great display of tennis from Stowe, Bradfield were too strong and won the fixture 6-2.

John Skinner, Head of Tennis

SWIMMING

On Thursday 8 November, the U16 girls' team, made up of Third Formers Alice Butler (Lyttelton), Larissa Campbell (Nugent), Emily Sutton (Queen's) and Elizabeth Knott (Nugent) made a large dent in the Oundle U16 girls, winning the majority of their races. The U16 boys held their own and finished with a great win in the freestyle relay. The U18 girls excelled and individual swimmers from Holly Stradling (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) and Louise Blomqvist (Fourth Form, Stanhope) stole the show. The U18 boys were on fire and fast precise swimmers from Julian Ma (Upper Sixth, Bruce), Lucas Davis (Lower Sixth, Bruce) and Ian Hsu (Lower Sixth, Chatham) held off the might of the Sixth Form Oundle team, again finishing with a touch out in the freestyle relay.

Cheryl Davis, Head of Swimming



FIVES

Senior Inter-House Competition

The Inter-House competition took place on Tuesday 11 November and all 13 Houses competed. In the girls' event Stanhope won through two rounds to meet Nugent in the final. The experience from the Nugent team came through to take the victory. In the boys' event there were some very close matches but eventually Cobham overcame Chatham in the final 12-8.

John Skinner, Head of Fives



StoweSport.co.uk

For up-to-date news, fixtures and results from all the sports at Stowe make sure you visit our dedicated sports website. You can also get live reports from our teams by following us on twitter.

[@stowesport](https://twitter.com/stowesport)

OS Dinner - HMS BELFAST



On Wednesday 7 November, 144 Old Stoics and guests gathered for the Old Stoic Dinner aboard HMS BELFAST. We were astounded by the popularity of this occasion: tickets sold out six months in advance of the event, no doubt due to the historic vessel which played host to our gathering.

The evening took a strong Royal Navy theme, with three Old Stoic Admirals in attendance, including Former First Sea Lord and Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Sir George Zambellas (Walpole 76) and Former Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command, Admiral Sir James Burnell-Nugent (Grafton 67). We were also delighted to be joined by a number of Old Stoics who have served in the armed forces, which was fitting due to our fine location and close proximity to Remembrance Sunday.

After boarding the Ship, guests gathered in the Ward & Ante Rooms for Drinks and were given the opportunity to explore the vessel. Admiral Sir George Zambellas (Walpole 76) was spotted giving guests a tour of the Ship – a once in a lifetime opportunity for those with him.

The Ship tannoy announced the call for Dinner and guests were then ushered through the bowels of the Ship to the Ship's Company Dining Room, where guests were seated for Admiral Sir George Zambellas' (Walpole 76) very entertaining Naval Grace.

After a cured salmon starter, our guest speaker, Mike Stewart (Chandos 62), shared his story of recovering five tons of Russian gold from HMS EDINBURGH, lost in 800 feet on Arctic Convoys. HMS EDINBURGH was sister ship to HMS BELFAST. Mike's story brought to life the realities and practicalities of treasure hunting, made possible only by the technological developments in the early 1980s.

After Mike's speech, guests dined on guinea fowl followed by gingerbread panna cotta. Admiral Sir James Burnell-Nugent (Grafton 67) kindly gave the Loyal Toast and in Royal Navy tradition, asked guests to remain seated. The Old Stoic Chairman, Jonathon Hall (Bruce 79) then offered his thanks to the Society for the honour of serving as our Chairman over the last three years before introducing Dr Anthony Wallersteiner. Anthony ended the evening's proceedings with an entertaining speech about Stowe and the 100th Anniversary of the end of the Great War.

As expected, HMS BELFAST provided an exciting and unusual venue for the OS Dinner. A true highlight of the evening was the opportunity to see the London skyline and Tower Bridge lit up in all its finery from the Ship's deck – guests gathered for photos with the stunning view before making their way into the night, some seemed to have found their sea legs whilst on the Ship.

I would like to thank all those who joined us for the OS Dinner this year, making the event truly memorable. My express thanks go to our guest speaker, Mike Stewart (Chandos 62), who shared his story with our merry crowd. The staff at HMS BELFAST looked after us superbly and we were delighted to be graced by our Old Stoic Admirals, who added to the sense of occasion perfectly by dressing in their full mess kit and medals.

Anna Semler (Nugent 05)

A long way to go - work starts in North Hall

Work started on the final stages of restoration of North Hall on Monday 15 October. At the moment, the Hall is a sorry sight, with the terrazzo floor removed to expose concrete below but over the next few weeks, once channels have been cut for the upgraded services, the floor will be relaid in Purbeck Whetson, which has been selected following extensive research as the most likely surface to have been in place in 1840, the date to which the restoration will be completed. This date represents a high point in the House's history, just before Queen Victoria's visit and the subsequent downfall. Research of historical paint schemes has confirmed that, at this time, the



Hall was painted in a warm stone, reflecting the fact that entrance halls were regarded as semi-external spaces. Meanwhile at Rupert Harris' studio and foundry in East London, work is underway on conservation of the original of the Laocoön statue, which will be copied for display on the western side of the Hall. Work is expected to be completed in February and is being funded by the Stowe House Preservation Trust (SHPT). For details of the Trust's work and ways in which you can help, please visit our [website](#).

Nick Morris, CEO, SHPT



GOLF

There was an amazing golfing achievement for Chanel Fontaine-Geary (Third Form, Queen's) after the South Beds Ladies Club Championship that took place on Sunday 28 October.

Chanel won the Trophy for the Championship and in turn became the youngest ever winner at aged 13.



EQUESTRIAN

Isla Holman-West (Fourth Form, Nugent) had a very successful time with her competitions throughout October, finishing 3rd at The Horse of the Year show with her club team in an incredibly hard fought competition.

We then travelled out to Ireland and battled with Storm Callum to ride for England, Isla and her team mates managed to complete the double after winning at Royal Windsor and win the International title.

This was a huge achievement for Isla and all her hard work in training.

Isla and her team have been shortlisted for an award at the Coventry and Warwickshire Sports Awards evening.





Inaugural Stowe Open Philosothon

If a teleporter destroys your body and makes a perfect replica of you on Mars, do you survive? How do natural resources become someone's property? What is the difference between trusting someone and being gullible? These were some of the questions with which competitors in Stowe's inaugural "Philosothon" had to grapple. Students from Oakham, Tudor Hall, Queen Anne's Caversham, and Winchester College were mixed up into ten "communities of inquiry". They were then scored based on their ability to listen to others, find creative solutions, and

steer their group towards mutually acceptable conclusions. Stowe finished in second place, and Veronika Phillips (Upper Sixth, West) won first place in her year group. She also finished second overall, scoring 91 points out of a possible 100, just 4 points behind the overall winner. Congratulations to Veronika and the Stowe team, and a big thank you to almost twenty Stowe staff who gave up their evening to make the event a success.

Peter Dennis, Teacher of Philosophy & Religion



Tatler Podcast

Hosted by Tori Cadogan - Education Editor for Tatler Magazine Schools Guide, our Headmaster joined Eliza Bonham-Carter, the head of the Royal Academy Schools to discuss why it is essential to keep art at the heart of education for the guide's their latest podcast instalment 'The Importance of Art'. Increasing side-lined in our exam focused education, is art actually more important than ever for young people? Recorded at the School, [this podcast](#) explores how the decline in the uptake of creative subjects at GCSE and A Level is having a negative impact on pupils' wellbeing and future career choices nationwide.



Jacob Rees-Mogg

On Thursday 25 October, fourteen politics students had their Half Term pleasantly interrupted with a visit to the Sculpture Gallery at Woburn Abbey for a black-tie event to hear the controversial backbench MP and Chairman of the European Research Group, Jacob Rees-Mogg. We arrived to the sight of deer roaming across the beautiful Woburn Abbey parkland and were shown into the sumptuous surroundings of the Sculpture gallery for tea and a chat with Nadine Dorries MP, whilst we awaited Jacob's speech. Rees-Mogg was as polite and eloquent as always and made a special effort to speak to each Stoic. Students were, on the whole, impressed with his analytical and in-depth arguments. Indeed, he spent a full ten minutes explaining where the UK could get lettuces from in the event of a no-deal Brexit. The Stoics listened attentively and asked intelligent and pertinent questions. My thanks must go to Arabella Arkwright and the Duke of Bedford for allowing us to gate-crash this very enjoyable and thought-provoking evening.

Simon Cole, Head of Politics



ROWING

This is the fourth time Stowe has participated in the Head of the Charles River Race (HOCR) in Boston, Massachusetts, USA in the last five years. For the second time in a row, we have managed to enter into the Men's Youth coxed Quad Sculling (4x+) event with crews mainly from the USA but including some of the top UK crews and other boats from as far away as China! In all, there are over 10,000 participants and something around 3,000 boats involved over the two days of the event, the largest of its type in the world.

We flew from Heathrow on the Wednesday 17 October and again were kindly hosted by Minna Blair, cousin of Clare Hill Hall (Chandos Matron) with Clare accompanying us on this trip for the first time. The crew of Fixy Hill (Fifth Form, Queen's), Oscar Hill (Upper Sixth, Temple), Ilya Riskin (Upper Sixth, Chandos), Elliot Patel (Lower Sixth, Cobham) and Archie Morley (Upper Sixth, Walpole) practiced over the course on the Thursday and Friday before the event using a boat kindly lent to us by Kent School. It's a very busy few days and getting around from our accommodation in Manchester by the Sea to the North Eastern University Boat House near Cambridge where we are based involves, trains, subway, car and bikes, which we hire from a 'Boris Bike' system similar to that found in London.

The course is approximately 4 1/2 miles long and consists of a series of difficult Bridges that require careful navigation when approaching, made more difficult when there are other crews racing for the best line! The couple of practice days gave Fixy Hill a great opportunity to familiarise herself with the course and the numerous bottle necks and best lines to take during these practice sessions.

On the day of the race conditions deteriorated drastically and the weather was wet with severe gusty and fickle winds. Despite this the crew rowed very well and were pretty consistent down the whole course finishing in their category a creditable 37th against some of the best crews from the USA.

The last day was spent at Rockport, which is a fishing port dating back to the early Pilgrim settlers in the 1600s. It's a really charming place to visit with loads of history including the shelling of the British Fleet in the 1700s when the British were trying to impose very unpopular taxes on the local communities.

All in all, it was a great trip. It's a real honour to be able to row in such a prestigious event and I would like to thank the organisers for enabling us to row at the HOCR 2019.

Michael Righton, Head of Rowing

For weekly reports on all Stowe Sports visit our website

www.stowesport.co.uk

History Society



The History Society have enjoyed a rich and varied programme this term, with several fascinating speakers.

The Tyranny of Henry VIII

The most recent highlight was the visit of Dr. Suzannah Lipscomb, who gave a 2 hour masterclass over dinner for 30 Stoics, who worked alongside members of the public to assess the contested definition of Henry VIII as a 'tyrant'. Suzannah has written six books focusing on the early-modern period, appeared in 12 documentaries in the last six years and is a regular contributor to History Today and across BBC Radio.

Given these impeccable credentials and utterly engaging seminar style, there are very few better historians to learn from. Stoics made the most of the opportunity, debating 16th Century definitions of tyranny, examining repressive Tudor laws and even considering the hidden messages in poetry. The session was challenging, compelling and utterly excellent for anyone with an interest in the past.

Suzannah's latest work on Witchcraft would make compelling reading for any student of History.

The Civil Rights Movement

Those with an interest in the 20th Century have been equally well catered for, with classroom sessions and a large lecture given by Mark Levy, a campaigner for Civil Rights who was involved in the 1963 March on Washington and the Mississippi Freedom Schools programme in 1964. Mark shared his archive of photos and stories, answered the many questions raised by students and challenged Stoics to consider the causes and issues that they are passionate about in the world today.

Stoics were especially struck by Mark's challenge to consider the different narratives of the past, beyond the stories of the leaders and speeches. Pointing to his position in the crowd during Martin Luther King's famous 'I have a dream' speech, we considered whether the event would be remembered if the crowd had not turned up. The power of a mass movement for change and the importance of continuing to fight for freedom defines Mark's work and students were clearly inspired by his thoughts and challenges.

Histories of the Unexpected

The Society also attended a session given by Dr Sam Willis and Professor James Daybell, which aimed to pull the past apart and look for themes, holes and linked ideas across the vast breadth of human history. Both James and Sam have done extensive work in broadcasting, as well as outstanding academic work and their own podcast, so the engaging nature of the evening came as no surprise.

More of a shown than a talk, the evening was entertaining, fun and thought-provoking, with Sam and James moving from histories of seemingly ordinary themes like 'the hand', 'the clock' and 'the glove' to give a sprawling and exciting account of the links between different periods of the past. Stoics were prompted to consider the last moments of a man on the Titanic, the smell of a 150-year-old perfume and Victorian experiments into emotions.

The Histories of the Unexpected book, alongside the back-catalogue of the associated podcast is already on the reading and listening lists of several Stoics and continues to encourage them to think about the past in new and unexpected ways.

Middle East

Finally, the difficult and troubled history of the Middle East was under consideration during a lecture given by John Levy. Although John was clear about his involvement in groups like the Friends of Israel Educational Foundation, his analysis de-constructed the issues surrounding the Middle East with an impressive objectivity and thoughtfulness, which can be rare in speakers on such a polarising and contested topic.

Stoics asked excellent questions, matching the level of the lecture in the sensitivity and maturity of their questioning. The resulting discussion was enlightened and academic, giving pupils the freedom and information from which to draw their conclusions and the complexity, rather than the over-simplifications, were clear for the audience to see.

The Historical Association's Great Debate

Although the term has already been action-packed for the History Society, they have also begun preparations for the local heats of the Historical Association's annual public speaking competition, The Great Debate. The topic this year focuses on the "Age of Revolutions" from 1775-1884 and encourages pupils to research independently and prepare a 5-minute speech. We will hold our own competition at Stowe and send our two best speakers to take on other Buckinghamshire schools in December.

It has been a busy but very fulfilling term for the History Society so far and I look forward to seeing the group develop in their enthusiasm and knowledge of the past in the coming months.

Paul Griffin, Head of History

EQUESTRIAN

Beachborough Eventers Challenge, Sunday 14 October

We sent four strong teams to this year's challenge and got placed with all of them.

80cm Team 9th, Ellie Martindale (Third Form, Queen's), Megan Churchill (Third Form, Queen's), Jemima Howden (Fourth Form, Stanhope) and Hattie Goodrich (Third Form, Nugent), (individual 7th place).

90cms Team 5th place, Yellow team - Sofia Wright (Fourth Form, Stanhope), Cecily Hopkins (Fourth Form, Queen's), Charlotte Morgan (Fifth Form, Nugent) and Ellie Martindale.

90cms Team 4th place, Blue team – Hattie Grace (Lower Sixth, Nugent) (individual 4th), Rosie Grayson (Fourth Form, Nugent), Matilda Hawkings-Biass (Fourth Form, Queen's) and Krissy Martindale (Fourth Form, Nugent).

100cms Team 1st place, qualifying for Hickstead!

Josh White (Upper Sixth, Cobham) (2nd place qualifying for Hickstead individually too), Jemima Howden (individual 3rd place), Sofia Wright (individual 5th place) and Rosie Grayson (individual 7th place).

This is the 3rd year in a row that Stowe have won the 100cm class, well done to all, what a fantastic achievement!



Akeley Wood NSEA Show Jumping at Addington, Saturday 10 November

90cms Blue Team, 3rd place out of 16 teams just missing out on the very prestigious Windsor Qualification by 4 points. The riders were Megan Churchill (Third Form, Queens), Chloe Livesey (Lower Sixth, Stanhope), Charlotte Morgan (Fifth Form, Nugent) and Lila Hill (Third Form, Lyttelton). Emma Wright (Fourth Form, Stanhope) rode a fantastic individual clear in the 90cms.

Lila Hill rode an amazing round to win the 90cms class individually out of 73 competitors.

100cms Team 1st place, the riders were Jemima Howden, Sofia Wright, Polly French (Upper Sixth, Nugent) and Lila Hill.

Lila Hill was again placed 1st individually and Polly French was placed 5th individually too.

Some truly fantastic results, well done to all.

Jo Cannon, BHS Accredited Professional Coach



Stone
arts



Piano Recital Lukas Geniusas

Wednesday 21 November, 8pm



Christmas in an 18th Century Country House

Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 December



Boogienotes Rock and Pop Choir

Wednesday 19 December, 7pm



Elmhurst School of Ballet

Wednesday 5 December, 4pm



NT Live: Antony and Cleopatra

Thursday 6 December, 7pm



The Big Enormous Present

Thursday 20 December, 1pm



Upper Sixth Historians Trip to Oxford

The Upper Sixth Early Modern Historians went on an entertaining and enjoyable trip to Oxford on the Friday 26 September. Upon arriving, we saw the magnificent 'Martyrs Memorial' commemorating the Protestants burnt at the stake during the reign of Mary I- known in history as 'Bloody Mary'. Seeing the monument both made us admire those who stood firm in their beliefs amidst the persecution from the Marian government, but also of the dreadful consequences that religious conflict could have on a country.

Our next stop was a café in Oxford where we met Professor Gunn, a renowned historian who specialises in the Tudor period, to answer some of our questions on the reign of Mary I. Hearing Professor Gunn's expert responses were invaluable to all of us for our A Level coursework on Mary I and it was an incredible privilege to see a renowned expert on Tudor England speaking so passionately about the subject.

Later in the day, we visited 'Cranmer's Church'- the sight of Cranmer's famous revocation of his recantation of Protestantism. This action from Cranmer made him the most famous martyr

of the period. We saw the exact spot where Cranmer would have made his recantation and it brought to life the reality of a time in history where you could be burnt for your religious beliefs. Equally interesting was a board in the church that listed all martyrs, both Catholic and Protestant, who were educated or lived in Oxford who were burnt for their religious beliefs. By seeing the Church and understanding the history behind it, we could truly appreciate the difficulty of living during an era which was so polarised by religion.

Our final stop was a simple cross on a road where two of the most famous Protestant martyrs, Latimer and Ridley, were burnt. As we saw cars drive over this exact spot, it was scarcely believable that almost 500 years earlier these two men were burnt for their religious beliefs.

A huge thank you to Mr Swayne and Miss Stafford-Smith for taking us on this trip which we all found hugely informative and entertaining.

Henry Swayne, Teacher of History

Warriors

This year Warriors trip to South Africa was extraordinary. We arrived to 30 degree heat, which saw us through the week, only adding to the incredible fun we all had.

The first two days we spent at the Warriors base camp in the Limpopo Region of South Africa. We were joined by a few girls from Sherborne School for Girls and Tudor Hall, who throughout the week we got to know and love. At base camp we stayed in cabins, which was interesting when the mice came out at night! Whilst we were there we learned about ourselves and about the Warriors Compass, learning to share about ourselves for people we weren't necessarily comfortable with. We went on a 15+km hike through a national park, to reach a natural water slide, which we slid down. This was very scary, but a real rush. We also walked on fire that night. (No we didn't even burn our feet!)

Every morning we did morning exercise at 6:30, which ranged from swimming, to rock climbing at beautiful waterfalls and jumping off high rocks, and assault courses followed by ever so enjoyable morning runs.

We did the most magnificent activities through the week. We visited an orphanage, which touched all of our hearts, playing and spending time with the sweetest African children. We conquered fears of spiders and snakes at the reptile house, holding tarantulas and snakes, as well as iguanas! We stayed at three separate campsites, and by the end of the week we were all professionals at campsite set ups. We visited a cultural African village and saw at Moholoholo Centre, honey badgers, a black panther, cheetahs, lions, vultures and leopards. We ate some traditional South African dishes which we cooked ourselves. They were utterly delicious. I think the highlight of the week for most, was the 100m absail, followed by caving, the big swing off a canyon and zip wire, fire football (where we threw around a roll of toilet paper on fire) and the bridge swing. Although they were topped by the skydiving on the last day. Everyone has said this was the most unbelievable experience, free falling at 200km/h for 40 seconds at 11,000 feet! Also, how many people can say they have hugged and elephant and kissed a hippo. We can!

Overall, I can safely say for everyone on the trip, it was the best week of our lives, and we have come back having conquered fears and learning more about ourselves and our own personal limits. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to go on Warriors, and for anyone in the Lower School thinking about going, it really will be the most phenomenal thing you might possibly do in your life.

Emily Wilson (Lower Sixth, Stanhope)

Brand New Science Review

The tenth issue of the Stowe Science Review will be released shortly. It covers everything from the First World War to superconductors. In this issue we will delve into the expanding world of science and you are bound to find something that interests you. This magazine is a collaboration of various students contributing articles that they have written on subjects that interest them. We have thoroughly enjoyed collating all these articles and are extremely grateful to everyone who has contributed. It has been a rewarding experience for everyone who has written an article, as well as Cameron and I who designed this new edition. If anyone would like to submit an article for the next issue please contact the [editorial team](#).

Helena Vince (Co-Editor, SSR)



Home grown!

The Grounds and Garden staff have been busy building our new polytunnel so that we can start growing and producing our own plants and flowers for the School. I am hopeful that we can get the Stoics involved in helping us to use this polytunnel also. This should save quite a lot of money over the coming years.

Steve Curley, Grounds Manager





STOWE HOUSE

Christmas Workshops at Stowe

Festive Needle Felting

Saturday, 1 December 2018
from 14:00-16:30
£35 pp

Led by Hannah from Stitching Kitchen you can have a go at making your own Christmas Decoration or create the perfect gift by making your own festive animal!

The workshop will run from 14.00 until 16.30, all equipment will be provided and it will include Mulled Wine, mince pies and cakes!

*Limited Spaces available, pre-booking is essential.

[Book Here](#)



Festive Wreath Making

Sunday 9 December 2018
from 14:00-16:00
£50 pp

Join us in one of our beautiful State Rooms as Selina from Jack Haddon Florist guides you in creating your very own beautiful festive wreath to take home with you. There will be evergreen, holly and mistletoe aplenty in this fun filled workshop and you can take your final masterpiece home to hang on your door or use as a table centre piece!

The workshop will run from 14.00 until 16.00, with all the evergreen and base provided – we just ask you to bring a pair of secateurs please! Mulled Wine, mince pies and cakes will be provided!

*Limited Spaces available, pre-booking is essential. [Book Here](#)

Bike Servicing

Stowe now has its own Bike Repair and Servicing Clinic. Since our return to School in September the workshop has been extremely busy with new and old bikes being serviced and repaired. I located a number of bikes left behind by pupils who have since departed the School and I offered these bikes up for sale to all members of Stowe, with the money being donated to Breast Cancer Research. Since this, I have moved a further 8 reconditioned bikes to both Staff and Pupils and have made an additional £220.00 for our chosen charity. I want to express my thanks to all that have contributed by purchasing one of these bikes and hope they are giving you pleasure in your riding and knowing where your money has been donated.

I have now managed to secure a number of additional bikes which are sitting in the workshop waiting for a new owner, so please come and visit me in the Drayson Sheds, same rules apply, I shall donate £25.00 to Breast Cancer.

I am working the following hours to clear this backlog of bikes:

Monday 11:00 - 14:00
Tuesday 10:00 - 14:00
Friday 11:00 - 14:00

The current total we have so far raised is £720.00 and want to say a big THANK YOU for your support and hopefully continued support.

You can contact me either via my Stowe [email address](#) or 07801 106842.

Nick Zammit



Stanhope At Home

Despite being forecast wet weather, lady luck was on our side when Stanhope hosted an Alice in Wonderland themed tea party incorporating the celebration of our ten year anniversary.

The afternoon began with a drinks reception in the Music School where guests were shown a small snippet of some of the wonderful talents within Stanhope.

The Stoics provided a mixture of entertainment which included singing performances, interpretation play and a light sprinkle of rain did not seem to dampen our guests' spirits as they were escorted to the majestic Marble Hall which served as our backdrop for afternoon tea. Upon arrival an array of scrumptious, mouthwatering treats awaited us and the air was filled by the tranquil sounds of the Violin and Flute played by Rosia Li (Fifth Form) and Isabel Ward (Lower Sixth).

With the afternoon passing so very quickly it was wonderful to see some old Stanhopains and catch up on life events and future plans. One sure sign of a successful event was our guest stayed all afternoon happily relaxed and chatting to all families old and new.

Fun and games were had by all with guests participating in Bingo, Guess the number of jelly beans, and Guess the House Staff baby photo, culminating in the raffle of our magnificent Mad Hatter cake made by the talented Laura in catering.

When saying our goodbyes, it was nice to hear such appreciative comments and this was undoubtedly due to the hard work and collaboration between the Stoics, Stanhope House Team, Catering, Security and House Staff who made exceptional efforts to make this 'At Home' such an enjoyable event.

Louise Carter, Stanhope Housemistress



Charity Collection

In aid of the British Heart Foundation we shall be running a new scheme with the pupils to collect full bags of good quality clothes, shoes, books, handbags, DVDs, CDs, homewares and toys. They will be picked up at the end of every term, so three times a year, and donated to the Foundation to raise money for their vital causes. Thank you to Octavia Comerford (Lower Sixth, Stanhope) who is kindly championing the scheme.

Stowe Parents

London Silver Vaults Tour & Lunch

Wednesday 5 December, 11am

£40.00

Located in Chancery Lane, The London Silver Vaults is home to the largest retail collection of fine antique silver in the world. After a short introduction, you will be free to enjoy one of London's most unusual shopping destinations, made up of 30 independent retailers. Followed by lunch, this promises to be a shopping trip with a difference. Discounts will be available on the day.



Headmaster's Dinner

On Wednesday 14 November, more than 80 Stowe Parents met in the beautiful surroundings of the Carlton Club on St James's Street in London for the Headmaster's Dinner.

Our guests were welcomed by members of the Parents' Committee who had organised this splendid event as a way for new parents to meet each other and those who have been connected to Stowe for longer. With drinks in the Morning Room to start, followed by a scrumptious dinner in the Churchill Room, the Club provided

the perfect venue for this gathering away from Stowe.

The Headmaster gave an amusing, joked-filled, speech and guests retired to the bar after dinner to continue their conversations.

Huge thanks to Emma Marriott and Julie Moseley (Stowe Parents' Committee) for organising this delightful evening, and to the staff at the Carlton Club who looked after us so incredibly well.

Leonard Cheshire Disability

Over the past year, we have been working together to support Leonard Cheshire Disability. This remarkable charity supports individuals in their ongoing journey of independence, whatever disability they may have. With the help of people with first-hand experience of disability, they strive to provide opportunities to both these individuals and the community. To raise funds for this vital cause, the charity is hosting a gala lunch, followed by the annual rugby match between Oxford and Cambridge Universities and we are very grateful to them for giving two parents the chance to attend. Taking place on Thursday 6 December at Twickenham Stadium, these tickets include the lunch, a talk delivered by former English Rugby Union international Alastair Hignell CBE and tickets to what promises to be a nail-biting match. In order to be in the running to win, please email bids to [the Editor](#) (the pair of tickets are valued at £200) by Friday 23 November.



Restoration

After on-going repair work, an inspection of the Cupola at our Nugent Boarding House found the whole base of the dome to be completely rotten. A completely new frame has now been built and bolted back on; this should last for many years to come. Works will be finished very shortly on this project once the initial lead work has been completed.

Steve Curley, Grounds Manager



Leonard Cheshire Gala Lunch

Thursday 6 December 2018
Twickenham Stadium



Make a
difference with

Leonard
Cheshire



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