



Equestrian Success

Eventer Challenge Series Final

Sunday 19 March was the final day of the Bloxham Eventer Challenge Series at Aston Le Walls, and wow what a day! The girls were absolutely brilliant, bringing a fantastic set of results and silverware back to Stowe!

There was team victory on the day for the 80cm Team of Bunny Hales (Third Form, Nugent), Daisy Edwards (Third Form, Cheshire) and Emilia Rivett and Isabella Rivett (both Third Form, Queen's), which meant they also won the Championship Title and Cup. Also, in the 80cm class, there was Individual First place for Emilia Rivett, giving her the Championship Title as well.

We were very unlucky in the 90cm class, but the team of Daisy Edwards, Lucy Willmott (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Bella Timmis (Fourth Form, Stanhope) rode well to finish the day in Third place, meaning they were Third in the overall Championship.

Further success came in the 1m class where

the team dominated the leader board.

Taking First place was Araminta Spencer-Churchill (Fifth Form, Stanhope), Second place Grace Haig (Lower Sixth, West), Third place Bella Timmis, and Fifth place Cecily Holland (Lower Sixth, Nugent) to win them both Team First on the day, as well as Championship First place, another cup to bring home! Winning the class also meant Araminta Spencer-Churchill took the Individual Championship Title in this class.

Araminta continued her fantastic form in this series by taking home First place and the Individual Championship in the 1m10 class. Huge congratulations to her and her fantastic horse, Lilly.

First place for Stowe teams in three out of the four classes, as well as individual titles in three out of the four classes was an amazing result and the girls should be so proud of all their hard work and dedication.

Becky Coote, Head of Equestrian

Rosslyn Park Winners

On Monday 20 March, Stowe competed in the Rosslyn Park Sevens. The U18 boys came through their group, winning all three matches and only conceding two tries before facing a physical Christ College Brecon side in the elimination round. The Stoics were heroic in defending their line with determination as we hung on to record a 19-12 victory which ensured we qualified for Day Two.

The set piece was a strength of the side throughout the tournament and Captain Will Plessis's (Upper Sixth, Grenville), athleticism won numerous restarts which kept the pressure on our opposition. Having lost to Tonbridge, we recovered well to defeat New Zealand side Nelson, with Louis Haley (Lower Sixth, Bruce) scoring a last ditch try with a brave chip and chase. Will Chisnall's (Upper Sixth, Grafton) ability to intercept the ball and Henri Burditt's (Upper Sixth, Walpole) ferocious tackling proved to be difference as we were too strong for St Paul's. Tom Mayo's (Lower Sixth, Winton) pace and Noah Cowan's (Upper Sixth, Chatham) skills were a big asset to the team as we went further into the tournament.

We qualified for the Bowl Quarter-Finals and, once again, the boys fought to hold off The Royal Grammar School Newcastle and then overpowered Marlborough College in the Semis to set up a Final v Blundell's School. The Stoics kept calm heads under considerable pressure and workhorse Harvey Julyan (Upper Sixth, Winton) dived over the line in the final seconds to see Stowe emerge victorious 26-12.

Huge congratulations to the squad for a fantastic term of 7s and a fitting finale to their rugby careers at Stowe.

Grant Seely, Director of Rugby





This year's Upper Sixth A Level performances were packed with thought-provoking, emotional, edgy and comical material.

"Anne? Are you there? Pick up the phone Anne." Katarina Zant-Boer (Cheshire), Lila Hill (Lyttelton), Isabella Reed (Stanhope) and Sophie Taylor (Lyttelton) took on an enormous task of performing extracts from Martin Crimps 'Attempts on her life'.

They executed this flawlessly and effortlessly, demonstrating the maturity of their dystopian characterisation. The dark matters covered in these extracts took the audience on an emotional rollercoaster, taking us on a journey using nameless characters and using various scenarios to portray an unseen suicidal character named 'Anne'. The skills these actors exhibited were sophisticated, thoughtful and cultured; they were a credit to themselves and each other.

Isabella Elliott (Stanhope) performed a monologue from Duncan Macmillan's 'Lungs'. Isabella played W, an unnamed character. She held the stage and gave the audience a captivating and heartfelt performance. The idea of her longing for a baby, since she was a little girl playing with dolls, was moving and sentimental. The extract demonstrated her range as an actress and created an emotional arc for the audience to follow.

Sienna Bettany (Stanhope), Angelina Morton-Cutt (West), Charlie Cole (Walpole), Lily Jackson (Cheshire) and Bee Harvey-Craig (Cheshire) executed several extracts from 'The Last of the Pelican Daughters' by The Wardrobe Ensemble. Their performance was expressive, hilarious, passionate and affecting. The audience were in fits of laughter during the piece. The sisterly relationship between the girls was truthful and naturalistic, and each sister was played uniquely and distinctively. They delivered their grief and reminiscence of their late mother in an authentic and sincere manner. Dodo, played by Charlie, brought a hysterical element to the already humorous play. His characterisation was tactical and elevating. The piece was fast paced and exciting, I wish they performed the entire play! The performance was enhanced by the set design of this piece, created by Norrie Macdonald (Stanhope). It generated a life like, quirky and cosy living room, which was being packed away in moving boxes. I particularly liked the creative idea of having one light shade up and one on top of a box. In addition, there were words printed on the walls of the living room, which related to words Storm, played by Angelina, used to describe their mother, which was innovative and artistic.

Kezia Clark-Jones (Queen's 18), Teaching Assistant





Lacrosse National Schools



1st X

The Stowe 1st X Lacrosse team had a great showing at England Lacrosse National Schools' Tournament over the Exeat weekend of Friday 10 to Sunday 12 March.

In the pools, Stowe won against North London Collegiate School, Malvern St James and Tudor Hall, and recorded losses against defending National Champions Putney High School, Shrewsbury and St Paul's Girls' School.

Placing Fourth in the group, the 1sts made it into Division 1 for the Sunday matches.

First up on the second day was Monmouth School for Girls, who the Stowe 1st X turned over 4-0. Next was a fantastic game against Birkenhead, with a close 2-1 victory, holding out against a relentless attack in the closing minutes of the

game. Lastly in the play-in box was St Mary's Calne, who won 4-1.

Into the knockouts, Stowe faced championship side Wycombe Abbey. Undeterred, the 1st X put up a great fight throughout the game, which was 1-1 at half time. In the second half, Wycombe scored first, but it was closely followed by a goal from Stowe. Wycombe then scored again and were able to play possession for the remaining four minutes, putting the score at 3-2 and sending Stowe home. Wycombe Abbey went on to Win the Division 1 title 5-2 in the Final over Monmouth.

The team represented Stowe exceptionally over the weekend, with great camaraderie and brilliant leadership from Co-Captains Lyla Mulcahy (Upper Sixth, Nugent) and Hannah Bewes (Upper Sixth, Queen's).

2nd X

The 2nd X Lacrosse team performed exceptionally well. They showed how ruthless they could be with a 6-0 win over Godolphin School and a 5-0 win against Malvern St James. The next game was against St Helen and St Katharine, who have become regular rivals in recent weeks, was a thrilling 1-1 draw. Stowe missed an opportunity in the last ten seconds to snatch a victory, but this was an excellent result considering our result against them in the Michaelmas Term was 11-0. Stowe got thoroughly beaten by a strong Putney team, St Catherine's Bramley beat the 2nd X 4-2 and would go onto win the 19B Championship.

The first day of results earned us a place in the top 16. The first match of the day was against Downe House, which was a battle of defences. Both teams were

extremely well drilled making life tough for both offences. The only goal came from a free position which Stowe placed down low, they then managed to hold possession of the ball until the final whistle went - an incredible victory. The girls gave their absolute all in the next two fixtures against a very strong Putney and a strong St George's Harpenden but unfortunately they fell short. This led the team to an R16 clash against St Mary's Calne. Stowe played well, fought for every ball and bad timing of the half time whistle stopped a free position which we had just been awarded. The team lost 3-1, but the girls did themselves proud on the pitch.

The team were incredible all weekend and were exceptional on and off the pitch.

Peter Shepherd,
Lacrosse Coach

U15A

The U15A Lacrosse team were drawn into a difficult pool at the Nationals. The day started off against Moreton Hall School, who came away with a 4-2 victory. This meant Stowe still scored points as we scored 50% of the winning total. Next up was Haileybury, who would go on to become eventual winners of the tournament. Stowe lost this game 5-2 which is a result to be proud of. Claremont, another strong team, were relentless and came away with a 7-1 victory. Next was a must win against Dunottar School. The girls showed their effectiveness in transition and attack and won the game 7-3! The final game of the day was against Berkhamsted School. We utilised our subs and were effective in controlling parts of the game which was great to see.

The girls were fantastic, and their spirits did not dampen throughout the day.

Rob Ingham Clark, Head of Lacrosse

SHPT

Spring has made a welcome appearance and the House is getting busier with visitors. The State Rooms are now open daily for tours alongside our Visitor Centre and Museum. Visit www.stowehouse.org for further information.

Our team will also be greeting walkers at the Bell Gate Garden entrance on golf buggies, to take visitors to and from the House and to assist guests with mobility difficulties - this service in itself has not run for the last three years because of Covid so we are really pleased to see it return as life seems to be getting back to normal.

Much of our daily offer relies on volunteer support. A team of 50 amazing volunteers work with us to open the house to visitors, by donating their time in the Visitor Centre, selling tickets and refreshments, doing guided tours of the house, driving our buggies and providing a warm welcome to all who visit us. We also have volunteers working behind the scenes supporting our planning, conservation cleaning and archive management. If you are looking to get involved in volunteering, please get in touch as we are currently recruiting new team members.

We also have some exciting events coming up, which you can book via our [website](http://www.stowehouse.org).

Simon Wales, CEO SHPT



SECRETS OF STOWE TOUR

DATES: 26, 30 MARCH; 2 APRIL, 2PM

ADULT £12 CHILD 0-16 £6

This is your chance to explore the private spaces, get a glimpse into the fascinating history, learn about Stowe's past residents and the stories behind some of its most intriguing rooms. You will explore the intricately decorated Gothic Library, designed by Sir John Soane, the Japan Room, and take a sneak peek at some newly discovered seventeenth-century wall paintings.



ROOFTOP TOUR

DATES: 29, 30 MARCH; 2, 3, 6, 7, 15 APRIL

START VARIES 2PM/6PM

ADULT £14

Enjoy the chance to climb the noble cantilevered stone staircase to admire the magnificent view from the roof and look over the world-famous landscape garden; this truly is 'the finest view in England'.



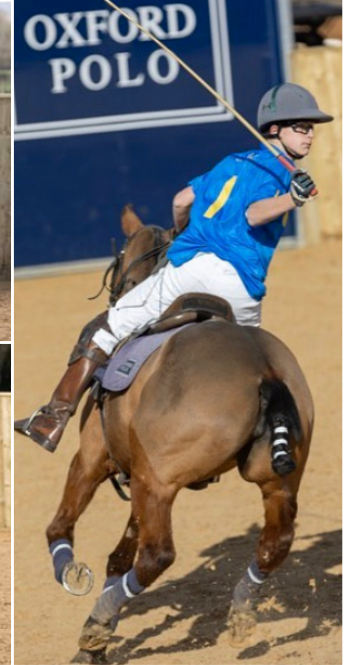
EASTER HOLIDAYS

DATES: 1-16 APRIL, 11AM-4.30PM

NORMAL ADMISSION APPLIES, STOICS & THEIR FAMILIES FREE

DON'T FORGET CHILDREN GO FREE WITH A PAYING ADULT

Pick up our free Easter children's trail of the House, take part in some Easter craft activities in our learning space and enjoy exploring the house together on a guided tour or with our multimedia guide.



Success at the Polo Nationals!

Stowe Polo has had an exciting couple of weeks. Having quietly resumed twice weekly lessons since January, we were thrown into a flurry of exciting matches culminating in the Schools' National Arena Championships held at Onley Grounds, near Rugby, on Sunday 5 March.

We had two nail-biting matches against Radley and Harrow held at Oxford Polo's newly finished arena the week before the Nationals, which proved to be a wonderful warm-up for the teams.

Our A Team, Captained by Lucas Stern (Lower Sixth, Grenville) with Archie Heseltine (Fifth Form, Cobham) and Luca Natella (Fifth Form, Cobham) took on their rivals Harrow, on Sunday 26 February, in a fierce battle, narrowly losing 17-16 which was an excellent result considering Harrow started with a 4-goal head start! Our B Team, Captained by Charlie Hodges (Fourth Form, Chatham) with Archibald Vernon Miller (Fourth Form, Chatham) and Nikita Nedoshovenko (Upper Sixth, Walpole) also faced a tough Harrow team, sadly losing despite playing a strong game.

Tuesday 28 February saw a match against Radley (also held at Oxford Polo Arena), where our A Team (same as above) took on the Radley team with gusto. They demonstrated the most wonderful example of excellent teamwork that I have seen from them, no one could touch them, as they all scored the most impressive goals and were great in defence. Radley started the match with an 8-goal head start, but despite this, Stowe won 29-11. Our C team then played a three-chukka match against Radley, Captained by Freddie Farrell (Upper Sixth, Grenville) with Alexander Burchell (Third Form, Winton) and Nikita Nedoshovenko having a fantastic game, beating their opponents 10-3.

The SUPA (Schools and Universities Polo Association) Nationals is always a wonderfully organised event with over 30 school teams taking part. It is unique, as it gives the opportunity for every level of player to compete in

different divisions. Stowe was the only school to take five teams (normally schools only take two!) which was a wonderful example of just how many pupils now play at Stowe.

The Open division for our A Team beat Cheltenham 7-0, they also beat Rugby 5-1 but lost to Harrow 3-2, coming out Second in the Championships, a brilliant result! Lucas Stern (Lower Sixth, Grenville), Luca Natella and Archie Heseltine scored some amazing goals and played incredibly well as a team.

The B Team of India Baillie (Upper Sixth, Queen's), Charlie Hodges (Fourth Form, Chatham) and Archie Vernon Miller, had some tough matches, drawing 1-1 against Wellington but losing narrowly to Marlborough and Radley. They came a very respectable Fourth in a particularly competitive Intermediate division.

The C Team comprising of Freddie Farrell, Nikita Nedoshovenko and Alex Burchell had some fast games against Felsted and Sherborne and ended up playing against Stoic Jemima Hammond (Lower Sixth, Nugent) who was in a mixed school team! They came Fourth in their division.

We took two Beginners teams, the first ever matches for many of them, and they all tried extremely hard and played with real gusto. Poppy Wates (Fourth Form, Queen's), Nora Bedi (Third Form, Stanhope) and Aizere Brekesh (Third Form, Stanhope) came Fourth in the division and Domino Flint Wood (Fourth Form, Queen's), Agatha White (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Omar Curtis-Bennett (Third Form, Chatham) won the Beginners division and had three fantastic matches against Radley and Heathfield and in a fun turn of events, both Stowe teams played against each other! It was a wonderful event, and we were particularly grateful to Mr Shepp for helping on the day, as with so many pupils, ponies and simultaneous matches taking place it was all hands on deck. As always thanks go to all the parents who gave great help and support at the event. A wonderful day was had by all and it bodes optimistically for the grass season next term.

Fiona Corthine, Head of Polo



CHANGE MAKER DAY



Buckingham Primary School

As part of the Fourth Form Change Maker Day on Thursday 23 February, a group made their way to Buckingham Primary School. Whilst some of the Stoics helped with gardening and cleaning out cupboards, others spent the day with the nursery children. Here is Tabitha Acher (Queen's) account of her day:

Two of us entered the room and we were surrounded by big eyes that followed us everywhere. They stared at us as if we were some mystical creatures that were there to cast a spell over them. We firstly made houses out of play dough and then went outside to play football and catch. It was so funny watching all the little ones include us in their own magical world.

We stayed with them for lunch, talking about all the adventures in the playground, before going back to the Staff Room to take a little break. We had no idea that looking after so many children would be so much work and so tiring. I finally know how teachers feel!

When we went back to the Nursery, we saw the slightly older children. It was like being in a whole different place. The toddlers had something to say about anything and everything, and we tried to come up with things to say to impress them.

After sitting down to watch Mr Tumble make pancakes, I was ordered (by the youngsters) to sit on the sofa and read to them. With children closing in every five seconds, it reminded me of when I was in nursery and the teacher used to read to us after break. Every time I finished reading a book, I was asked to "stay still" whilst that child went to get another book. What really made it amazing was the fact that all these children came and sat down on the floor, or my lap, or next to me, just to hear about the interesting adventures of Stick Man or The Gruffalo. It must have been well over an hour before we had to eventually clean up the nursery and go back to the bus for our return journey back to Stowe.

On our way back to School, we heard about all the adventures everyone else was having. We heard about pupils teaching the kids how to play touch rugby and even gymnastics!

Looking back, I was so happy that I was able to go to Buckingham Primary School to help for the day and personally thought that it was a trip that really pushed me out of my comfort zone. I really hope that I will get another chance to do it again.

Finally, I would like to thank all the teachers that organised the trip. It was so much fun, and I think everyone had an amazing time.

Tabitha Acher (Fourth Form, Queen's)



Spanish

On Wednesday 8 March, all the Lower School Spanish Stoics enjoyed a superb, humorous play about teenage identity, in the Ugland Auditorium from the theatrical company Onatti Productions.

This year's play was called 'Mi Personalidad', performed by two native Spanish actors in the target language using specific GCSE vocabulary. This provided our Stoics with an authentic opportunity to develop their listening skills. The performers interacted with the audience to tell a story about teenage identity. Fernando is a teenager looking for his own identity. He has started college and is worried about not being able to make new friends, and helped by several mysterious new acquaintances, he tries out many different personalities. Sadly, all attempts to reinvent himself end up frustrating him - but wildly amusing his fellow students! The plot highlights many similarities to a student's life finding its own identity, but in a humorous and exaggerated manner, making them relatable and increasing their enjoyment by empathising with the characters and storylines. The Stoics were to be able to follow the story and interact with the actors, sustaining their enjoyment and, above all, boosting their confidence.

The Lower Sixth Spanish Stoics volunteered to help set up and assist with the Lower School's seating arrangements in the Ugland. They enjoyed the theatrical play and met the actors at the end, and this was greatly appreciated demonstrating superb role models to the Lower School.

The Spanish Department



Master the Elevator Pitch and Elevate Your Future:



Developing Your Public Speaking and Presentation Skills with Miriam Embury

On Thursday 9 March, Miriam Embury led a presentation skills workshop to Law Society members and guests. Miriam is a management consultant and parent to two boys in Winton House. It was an honour to welcome Miriam to the Blue Room, where she guided Stoics through various stages of preparing to present professionally to various audiences. With pupils from the Fourth, Fifth and Lower Sixth Form, it was wonderful to see how inclusive and supportive the session was. At the end of the session, pupils presented their elevator pitches and received feedback from their peers and Miriam.

This workshop was requested by Henry Clare (Lower Sixth, Winton), who hopes to study Law at university and pursue it as a career. Henry acknowledged the importance of developing the skills and confidence to present to groups and in interviews. Thank you to Henry for requesting this workshop, as many pupils benefitted from it.

Developing strong presentation skills and public speaking abilities can have a positive impact on a pupil's confidence and career prospects. Whether it is giving a class presentation, pitching an idea to potential employers or networking with industry professionals, effective communication is a valuable skill to possess.

One study published in the Journal of Education and Practice found that pupils who participated in public speaking activities improved their self-esteem and communication skills, which can lead to greater success in both academic and professional settings (Owolabi & Adekeye, 2015). Another study published in the International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Research found that public speaking training can improve pupil engagement and participation in the classroom, which can lead to better academic performance (Adisa & Adisa, 2021).

Many FTSE 100 employers also place a high value on strong communication skills, including public speaking. For example, BP's website lists "communication skills" as one of the key qualities they look for in their graduate recruits (BP, n.d.). Similarly, Barclays notes on their website that effective communication is important for success in their graduate program (Barclays, n.d.).

In addition to improving communication skills, developing strong presentation skills and public speaking abilities can

also help students stand out in the job market. The ability to confidently and effectively communicate ideas is highly valued by employers, as it can help individuals to build relationships with clients, negotiate deals, and lead teams. According to a survey conducted by Forbes, strong communication skills were identified as one of the most important qualities that employers look for in job candidates (Foss, 2021).

Studies have shown that participation in public speaking activities can lead to improvements in self-esteem, communication skills, and student engagement.

Dr Gordon West, Head of Futures

A note from Henry

The workshop held by Miriam Embury was extremely helpful for me in developing my presentation skills. One of the key areas I struggled with was my confidence when talking to large groups of people. Now I understand that the only way to be more confident is through practice, and the most important thing is to be able to present a more confident version of yourself. I also learnt that it is important to stay relaxed because if you start to overcomplicate your body language, it is possible that you might appear arrogant or not fully engaged.

I will continue to practice these skills as a member of the Law Society by leading more talks, such as the one on Thursday 16 March with Ian Mattingly, who is the Head of Law at Activision Blizzard, where we will discuss AI, NFTs, Loot Boxes and Dark Patterns. In the future, I plan on giving my own talk to local PhD law students to advance my presentation skills further.

These workshops would not be possible without the generosity of parents and Old Stoics. We welcome support from parents and Old Stoics - please **contact Dr West** if you would like to discuss how you can help. We offer our special thanks to Miriam Embury, who has not only supported this workshop but is also helping us with our Women in Industry series of careers talks this term.

Henry Clare (Lower Sixth, Winton)



Artwork for the Leoni Block
- The new home of Business
and Economics

In passing, I discussed with Norrie Macdonald (Upper Sixth, Stanhope) that I was planning to update some of the artwork in the Leonie building following the expansion of Business and Economics. Over the following two months, and 11 hours of painting, Norrie produced this wonderful artwork which is perfect for the home of commerce and enterprise. Please [click here](#) to see the time lapse evolution of Norrie's artwork.

Dr Gordon West, Head of Business & Head of Futures



Cross Country

In the Saucony English National Clubs' Finals on Saturday 25 February, Katie Webb (Third Form, Cheshire) came a fantastic seventh in the country and Lauren Webb (Third Form, Cheshire) 42nd, even though they are a year young in this category! Their Junior team of four runners, representing Marshal MK came Third out of all the clubs in the country.

Stowe took two Junior teams of five runners each to the Wellington Relays on Saturday 4 March. Each runner gave their all, round a 2k lap before handing the baton on to the next runner, with all the boys and girls teams running at the same time. The Stowe Junior girls' team stormed to a comfortable victory in their section. The only team to give them a challenge out of all the girls and boys teams competing was the Stowe Junior boys' team. The Stowe boys won the boys' race by a large margin, and in a tight race between the two Stowe teams, it was the girls who finished just ahead at the end of the exciting relay. Congratulations to both the Stowe boys' and girls' teams who set new course records and to Katie Webb who broke the individual course record for 2k by 40 seconds!

Craig Sutton, Director of Sport



SAILING

Following a successful four day trip in September 2022 where 12 pupils learnt to sail and crew a 75ft yacht, we are delighted to be able to offer another amazing experience to the Stoics.

We are booked on a voyage at the start of the Summer Holidays, from Sunday 2 to Wednesday 7 July, once again, with the Rona Sailing project on one of their 75ft yachts.

Stoics on this voyage will be able to achieve their RYA Competent Crew Certificate and will also be able to learn navigation skills and may even experience an overnight sail, if the weather permits.

The trip is expected to cost around £475, subject to numbers, and this includes all food and transport to and from Stowe.

If your son or daughter is interested in going on this trip, please [email me](#).

Duncan Syme, Head of Sailing

Netball

Well done to all the 16 netball teams who played this week. The 1st team led by example, beating Uppingham 50-32 on Saturday 4 March, while the 2nds had an exciting 26 all draw, having beaten Stamford the week before on Saturday 25 February. Our U16s have great strength in depth and won at B and C level.

Victoria Dias, Head of Netball

Squash

In the Inter-House competition on Thursday 16 March, the winners for both the Junior and Senior boys were Temple.

For the girls, it was another double in the Juniors and Seniors, this time for Queen's.

Chris Hampton, Head of Rackets



CRICKET

Stowe has had a successful winter of pre-season preparation. Several Stowe pupils have gained county recognition or higher.

Third Form

Toby Sutliff (Bruce) has made the Bucks' U14 squad and has also been invited to several Emerging Players' Programme (EPP) sessions.

Fourth Form

Archie Lazarus-Ingman (Winton) and Blake Macleod (Bruce) have made the Northants U15 squad with Archie having also been invited to several of their EPP sessions. Hugo Jackson (Chandos) has made the Bucks' U15 squad.

Fifth Form

James Bristow (Bruce) has made the Northants' U16 squad.

Sixth Form

Wilf Pickard (Lower Sixth, Cobham), William Jenden (Upper Sixth, Chatham) and Harvey Julian (Upper Sixth, Winton) have made the Northants' U18 squad. Charlie Oldershaw (Lower Sixth, Winton)

has secured a place on the Northants EPP, and along with Ewan Hughes-Rowlands (Upper Sixth, Walpole), has also been invited to train with the Northants Academy squad. Charlie has also had trials with Oxfordshire 1st XI and is waiting to hear if he has been successful.

Academy Player of Year, Aadi Sharma (Lower Sixth, Winton) is off to India during the Easter break to work on his game and will play for Northants' 2nd XI in their early fixtures, as well as the Bucks' 1st XI.

During the Easter break the Junior Colts A are off the La Manga in Spain for a pre-season tournament and the 1st XI, 2nd XI, girls' 1st XI and Yearlings A squad are all back early for pre-season training to lead into the first week of term and the first block fixture against Uppingham on Saturday 22 April.

It is a busy Summer for the Stowe Cricketers with over 180 fixtures and House matches to be played, I wish all the teams the very best for the season ahead.

James Knott, Head of Cricket

FOOTBALL

The 1st XI have continued with their impressive winning form with a 4-0 win on the North front against The Leys on Saturday 25 February, followed by a 5-0 win against Akeley Wood on Tuesday 2 March, and a 2-2 draw against Uppingham on Saturday 4 March. Our Senior girls' team drew 1-1 against Akeley Wood and had tough but fun fixture against Uppingham.

Matt Birch, Football Coach

GOLF

Our team of three players in the ISGA Schools Cup played the Regional Final against Bromsgrove, beating them 3-0 and progressing to the National Finals this Summer.

Ed Davis (Upper Sixth, Bruce), Chanel Fontaine-Geary (Upper Sixth, Queen's), Miles Dickinson (Lower Sixth, Grenville), Elliot Strickland (Lower Sixth, Grenville), and Tristan Dickinson (Fourth Form, Grenville) travelled to compete in the Annual Micklem Trophy, a prestigious event in the golfing calendar. Unfortunately, after a positive practice day, the team woke on the first day of the competition to find a covering of snow on the ground! The event has been postponed and will be played at a later date.

HOCKEY

Saturday 25 February and Saturday 4 March saw full block fixtures with 12 teams playing against Stamford and Uppingham respectively. Our 1st team are doing well this season, they had a draw against Stamford and gained an excellent win against Uppingham, 4-2. Captain Ewan Hughes-Rowlands (Upper Sixth, Walpole) is leading the scoring, with a hat-trick on Saturday. Well done to the U14A and B teams who also beat Uppingham.

Ben Scott, Head of Hockey

RUGBY

Congratulations to our Upper Sixth Rugby stars Ewan Baker (Chatham), Archie McParland (Temple) and Henry Pollock (Grafton) who have signed professional contracts with Northampton Saints.

The trio were presented with their shirts on the 1st Team pitch before the Saints v Bath match on Friday 10 March.

Will Plessis (Upper Sixth, Grenville) has also been in tremendous form and has signed a five-year contract with the Scarlets.

Well done to all, we look forward to following your professional careers!

Grant Seely, Director of Rugby



RUGBY

During the Stowe tournament on Sunday 5 March, our U14s won all six of their matches. The 1st team won five out of six, and won the Plate away at Oakham and the U16s came second in their competitive group, beating some big schools.

Grant Seely, Director of Rugby





Library

Lower School Inter-House Literary Challenge

The Lower School Finals were held on World Book Day, Thursday 2 March, in the Uglund Auditorium. Two candidates from each of the Third and Fourth Form from each House were to compete in the Finals. The scores then would be added to the Fifth Form scores from last term to get the overall winners.

Each team was offered a Joker, where they could double their points from a menu of round titles at the beginning of the competition. The scores were very close, neck and neck throughout. The Joker round was again crucial, with Chatham and Lyttelton scoring almost full marks and then doubling their scores. During the third and fourth rounds, Chatham redeemed themselves from the rather low scores last term and Won the day, with Lyttelton and Queen's as Joint Second.

However, in the end once all the scores from the Third, Fourth and Fifth Forms were added together, the overall Winners were Nugent with 87 points, Grafton came Second with 84 and Joint Third place on 79 points were Lyttelton and Queen's. Chatham jumped up nine places to Fifth.

Lyn Foden, Librarian



HISTORY

On Thursday 9 February, the History Department were delighted to put three Lower Sixth Stoics forward for the Historical Association's Great Debate Competition.

Taking the day out of lessons to travel to Tudor Hall for the regional heats, each pupil presented a five-minute speech on why History matters to them. All our competitors spoke brilliantly, establishing well-argued and persuasive ideas.

Grace Barnett (Cheshire) looked at the history of the early Church, connecting this to the way in which she understands her own identity and Christian faith. She dealt skilfully with tough questioning from the judges, which even delved into the outcomes of the First Council of Nicaea.

Contrastingly, Gretel Jarman (Cheshire) examined the modern history of Romania and reflected on a recent visit to Bucharest, where she visited Ceausescu's house. After reflecting on the horrific impact of Ceausescu's policies, she then considered getting an insight into his humanity and established some thoughtful lessons about how we relate to the past in a nuanced way.

Finally, Joseph Barnett (Winton) looked at the legacy of empire in his family, considering the story of a relative born in British India who then needed to establish a new life in her 'home' country after independence in 1947. The quality of speeches was uniformly high and although Stowe did not secure the sole place into the Finals at Windsor Castle, Grace, Gretel and Joe gained a great deal from the excellent experience.

Paul Griffin, Head of History

MUSIC



National Youth Music Theatre

Congratulations to Owen Gunn (Lower Sixth, Chandos) on auditioning against hundreds of other talented practitioners and being awarded a place with the National Youth Musical Theatre Company (NYMT) this year. Owen's exceptional talent will be on display as he performs as part of the NYMT In Concert 'When I Grow Up' during August at venues across London and also at the NYMT Christmas Concert at St John's, Smith Square, in December.

Emma Bryden, Director of Music

CCF



Fifth Form Army Section Field Exercise

CCF Fifth Form Army Section Field Exercise - Tuesday 28 February and Wednesday 1 March, Swynnerton Army Training Camp, Staffordshire.

After coach drop off, and a chicken curry in the Army Camp Dining Room, one of our first activities was Close Target Recces. We were split into our Platoons and Sections, and then into four people Fire Teams. We walked half a mile from our barrack room accommodation to a building on the training area. It was dark, so everyone was excited, and it added to the spooky atmosphere of exploring the large maze-like building. Our mission was to gather information on the building layout and possible enemy presence, for the enemy clearance operations taking place the next day. We were given note pads, to record any data that we discovered, such as the entrances, exits and even clues like crisp wrappers, twigs and leaves and clothing. We had glow sticks as our only light source. There were 'enemy' NCOs walking around to capture us. So, we ensured we kept silent, low key and were aware of our surroundings, in order to escape the Sixth Form NCOs and collect information. I loved this exercise; it was extremely exciting as it felt so real. My tactic was to stick to the walls, as it was dark, and light was limited. By feeling my surroundings, it enabled me to take note of the layout, in readiness for our enemy clearance activity the next day!

LCpl Lulu Goaman (Lyttelton)

I thought the most enjoyable activity was Laser Tag. Each Platoon was split in half to play an attack and defence game, where the attacking team had to capture the defending team's flag. What made the activity more complex and difficult was the fact it was dark, so the teams had to implement all the CCF training they have done so far, to succeed. After both teams had a go in attack and defence, the halves got split into quarters and four teams of four Cadets played a team death match. In our Platoon, the Winners were the team who stuck together and stayed patient. It is much easier to take on an enemy when you outnumber them four to one. The fact that each person's laser 'health' was set very low made the game more realistic, as people cannot casually run into a room, take ten bullets to the chest and walk out. I and many others would argue that it was the highlight of the exercise.

LCpl Talal Zahid (Cobham)

One of the Stands on Day Two of our field exercise was 'room clearing', following intelligence gained from the close target recces the night before. Room clearing consisted of fire teams of four cadets 'stacking' against walls, either side of a door/entrance, before entering and shooting targets with AR15 laser guns. The first pair would scout the room, then would rush to the corner, while the rest followed into their separate corners. Once the team were certain the room was clear, the next group would enter, leapfrogging through into the next room. The cycle would carry on until all rooms were clear and the enemies had been taken out.

Archie Trotman (Cobham)

On the second day we took part in a Range Practice on the Dismounted Close Combat Trainer (DCCT). This was an electronic shooting range which meant once we completed the rounds, we received very accurate results and statistics. It was useful as the Officer organising the exercise responded to our shots by advising us how to improve. Before firing, we had to perform our regular routine of Normal Safety Precautions (NSPs) and 'make ready' even though we were not at risk of hurting anyone. This was run by CSM Abbey and was my favourite activity of the day. I enjoyed being able to see realistic predictions of our firing ability with similar situations. I learned about the Markspersonship Principles, how much pressure to apply to the trigger, different firing positions, and the breathing cycle, to maximise accuracy. This was to breathe in for two counts, holding your breath as about to pull the trigger and breathing out after firing. This practice helped me learn how to keep focused for extended periods of time. Additionally, we all worked as team while rooting for each other to do well.

LCpl Ally Ter Haar (Lyttelton)

The final activity of the exercise involved simulating a real-life situation where we were allowed to use an area indoors that replicated a street scene with shops and houses. For this, our Staff set up scenarios involving our volunteer Sixth Form NCOs who came out on exercise with us (Cadet CSM Rafe Gordon (Winton), Cadet Cpls Natalie Nylaende (Queen's), Toby Bursnall (Grafton), and Katie Dens (Stanhope), as 'people of interest', who we, as peace sustaining force troops, would have to investigate and then keep under control, should the situation become out of hand. To begin with we simply had to assess the street and keep the atmosphere calm between us and the NCOs. We had to retrieve as much information as possible before returning to our briefing room where we were able to share our information and gain further instructions from our Staff.

Our second task was to again keep a calm atmosphere but to remove a barricade setup in the middle of the road. To do this we again approached our NCOs calmly before negotiating a deal with them to remove the blockade.

To finish the exercise, we were given the task of arresting a single person of interest, while keeping the other NCOs safe and preventing them from interfering with the arrest. To do this we split into an arresting section of three and a blocking section of five. The blocking sections were mostly successful as they were able to surround the rest of the NCOs and prevent them from disturbing the arrest. The arrest team managed to complete the task despite the fast feet of our NCO. All in all, the exercise was a great success.

LCpl George Turner (Cobham)



ROWING

Unfortunately, Northampton's event in January, which everyone was looking forward to, was cancelled due to sub-zero temperatures and fog. We therefore planned for Hampton's event in February. The lead-in did not go well, with the loss of several Sixth Form rowers, for injury and academic reasons. This meant that several of our youngest rowers had to step-up, to enable the team to participate.

We travelled to Hampton on Saturday 4 February, with some apprehension. But the day was a revelation, with positive attitudes, helpfulness, and efficiency from the start. After the morning division, our three crews had raced without a hitch, and we were starting to wonder why nothing had gone wrong! For quality of rowing, all the Stowe crews had completed the course faultlessly, with no mistakes or collisions - we saw plenty from other crews. The afternoon's racing went just as well.

For Meredith Atkinson-Wood and myself, it was the most enjoyable and stress-free day with the Stowe Rowing Team that we can remember! The older team members set the right example, which the youngsters could easily follow. It was a wonderful for the parents, and the behaviour of the team was a credit to the School.

Rafe Gordon (Upper Sixth, Winton) and Will Crabb (Lower Sixth, Winton) led the team off in double sculls, with a determined effort. Agnés Edwards (Third Form, Stanhope) and Julia Starke (Third Form, Stanhope) shrugged-off the challenge of racing against girls five years their senior and sculled the way we know they can. Measured against rowers their own age, they were faster than Hampton School's boys' eight and Emmanuel School's girls' eight - not bad for a girls' double!

The Junior boys' quad included Luca Grimble (Third Form, Winton), Max Frohnsdorff (Third Form, Temple) and Orlando Mayhew (Third Form, Chatham) in their first ever race. In the afternoon, Third Formers Hecco Harrison (Temple) and Benjamin Cousins (Bruce) stepped into the boys' eight, who raced hard, without any mistakes. It was nice to see Stowe fielding an eight alongside some of the country's best 1st VIIIs.

Olivia Edwards from Ardingly College, joined the Stowe girls to make-up their quad in the afternoon. Three very fast eights, headed by Henley Rowing Club, started behind them, so special thanks to Leia West, who steered the boat and ensured the girls had a safe and enjoyable experience, in a very challenging situation.

For the future, we need to increase participation, so we have sufficient in each year group and are not asking younger pupils to row-up into older age groups. On Thursday 23 February, Craig Sutton included rowing in the Change Maker Day and nearly forty Third Form boys and girls were offered an opportunity to learn to row with Andrew Arnold, Chris Grimble and myself. All of them had a try in a quadruple scull, and they also completed a 500 metre ergo challenge. They did well, and we hope that some of them will choose to take rowing further.

In March, Agnés Edwards travelled with her family to regional trials at London Docklands, next to City Airport. She has been selected to represent Team South East, at the Junior Inter-Regional Regatta in April. Congratulations to her family and her Houseparent, Louise Carter, for supporting Agnés, in this achievement.

Stowe crews are now preparing for the main events of this term, with the boys' eight going to the Schools' Head at Putney on Friday 17 March and two girls and three boys quadruple sculls racing at the Junior Sculling Head at Dorney on Monday 20 March.

For next term we have some pleasant traditional regattas in the calendar, culminating in a Row Past at Henley Royal Regatta on Tuesday 27 June, by mixed eights from Canford and Stowe Schools to celebrate our joint centenaries. Hopefully a day to remember!

Andrew Rudkin, Rowing Coach



CCF



RAF Trip to Shuttleworth

On Wednesday 1 March, the Fifth Form RAF and RN Navy sections went on a trip to the vintage aircraft collection in Shuttleworth.

Throughout the day we were informed about the history of flying with replicas of some of the first ever flown aircrafts and concept ideas by our lovely tour guide, Ernest. He told us lots about the people behind the engineering of these, many of which would have been incredibly abstract ideas at the time and how they came to be.

Many notable stories were those of Harriet Quimby being the first woman to fly across the channel and Otto Lilienthal's first glider designs and faults he managed to overcome over the course of many years. Ernest also told us all about Louis Blériot and his struggles to manufacture a successful plane back in the 1900s and once succeeding, selling over 500 models but to never accomplish another working one again. He told us all about the previous models and how their designs differed and how much variation there was with some models around the time from Blériot and other inventors even creating triplanes with three sets of wings. Some also had odd-looking tail designs with the tail of the plane being right on the cockpit and other designs, which would never be considered in today's industries.

While looking around we saw some more modern aircraft, with a few being some of the first commercial planes and fighter jets used in WWI and WWII. These were particularly interesting to see in contrast to those from the 19th Century as they were mostly made from metal opposed to fabric and had guns and cannons on them. It was impressive to see how much designs have evolved since the first couple of concepts and how quickly too. Overall, the trip was remarkably interesting, and we all learnt a lot from the experience.

Isabelle Blount (Fifth Form, Cheshire)



MUSIC

Lunchtime Concerts

On Thursday 26 January and Thursday 9 February, several Stoics took part in the successful Lunchtime Concert series. These concerts are an excellent platform for musicians to showcase the repertoire they have been working on in their respective music lessons.

It is always a privilege to listen to such a musical variety, which has become a staple of these events. From Upper Sixth songwriters such as Clara Capella (Stanhope), who performed her recently released song entitled 'By Your Thread' (listen [here](#)), to Third Form cellist Olivia Ng (Lyttelton) serene performance of 'The Swan' from Carnival of the Animals, composed by Saint-Saëns; the Stoics demonstrated a high level of musicianship as well as strong performance skills. In addition to the Stoic performances, the Music Department was very pleased to provide a platform to two talented young musicians from local schools, Sara Gill (Swanbourne House School) and Jake Wardle (Brackley Junior School), both gave excellent performances on voice and piano respectively. Thank you to the following Stoics who took part in these recent concerts:

Clara Capella, Alicia Wilson (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton), Gilbert Xu (Fifth Form, Chandos), Gaia Mesonero-Perez (Fourth Form, Lyttelton), Aurora Flanagan (Lower Sixth, Stanhope), Sophie Rojas (Third Form, Cheshire), Ruby Cooke (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton), Jemima Pearson-Gee (Lower Sixth, Nugent), Olivia Ng, James Delap (Fourth Form, Temple), Lilia Møller (Lower Sixth, Cheshire), Sunny He (Fifth Form, Chatham), Grace Reilly (Fifth Form, Cheshire), Owen Gunn (Lower Sixth, Chandos), Ryan Zheng (Fifth Form, Grenville), Tom Moore (Upper Sixth, Grenville) and Isabelle Donovan (Lower Sixth, Stanhope).

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard



MUSIC

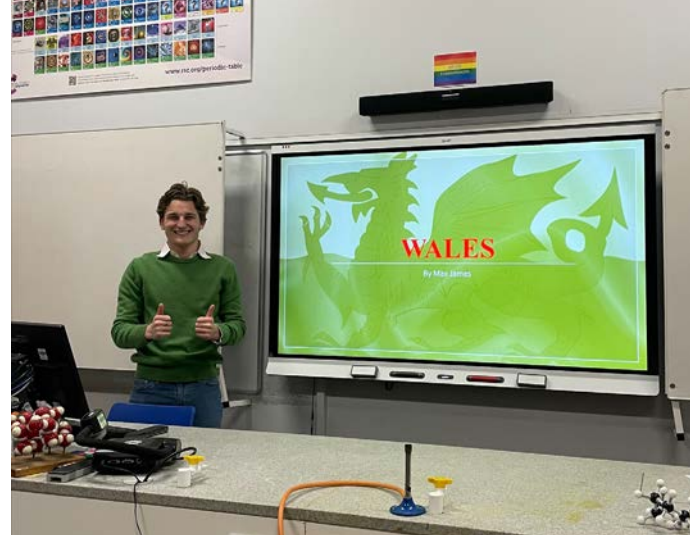


Keyboard Festival Day

On Wednesday 8 March, a group of 18 pianists from Swanbourne House School, Winchester House School, Summer Fields School, Beachborough School and The Grove Independent School visited Stowe to participate in the Annual Keyboard Festival Day. This fun-packed day is always a highlight as it provides a unique opportunity for young pianists to play as part of a large-scale ensemble. This year was no exception and the pupils received coaching on ensemble music, arranged especially for the day. In what can only be described as an auditory extravaganza, I was hugely impressed by how the pupils responded to coaching on seven-piano arrangements of 'Yellow' by Coldplay as well as a medley of recent James Bond themes. In addition to the ensemble repertoire, I had the pleasure of giving a masterclass to some of the visiting pupils on their respective solo repertoire. The day also featured a scales and improvisation workshop, a Lunchtime Concert, an excellent Chapel organ demonstration, given by Choral Director, Jonathan Kingston, and an all-important visit to the School tuck shop! As a fitting end to an exciting day of musical activities, pupils performed a mixture of solo repertoire as well as the two ensemble pieces to an audience of parents.

Congratulations to all those involved and a big thank you must go to the staff from the visiting schools, all of whom provided some excellent musical assistance throughout the day.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard



Languages Society

The Languages Society this term celebrated Wednesday 1 March, also known as Saint David's Day - the patron Saint of Wales - by having Max James (Upper Sixth, Cobham) give us a guided presentation of the unknown treasures which Wales has to offer.

He explained in great detail the Welsh culture, the mannerisms, and taught us some Welsh such as "Bore da" which translates as "hello/good morning". Most importantly, Max told us the profound sense of community that can be found in Wales and talked about its stunning geographical beauty. We were even lucky enough to sing the Welsh National Anthem!

It was a lively evening, where the entire audience was engaged, asked lots of questions and were clearly eager to learn more about Wales, or should I say Cymru.

Sofia Tansgrud (Upper Sixth, Stanhope)



SPANISH THEATRE TRIP

Our day out was a fun and exciting learning experience, incredibly organised by the Spanish Department. We started the day taking the train to Borough Market, where we saw a huge range of different cuisines, including Spanish paella, which looked and smelled delicious. We explored and tried all the different flavours the vendors offered, from Mexican-style tacos to fresh Italian pasta, before a brisk walk to the Cervantes Theatre. We were welcomed into the cosy theatre near Lambeth, which was beautiful and radiated Spain; listening to all the workers speak Spanish showed its authentic nature. The whole play was mesmerising and allowed the Upper Sixth to explore Lorca's extraordinary work further. The play was extremely helpful in expanding our horizons and understanding how detail-oriented 'La casa de Bernarda Alba' is; from the lighting to the mannerisms of the actresses, each second of the play was meticulously purposeful. We were also lucky enough to meet the all-female cast, who were very kind to us. It was interesting to see a play about female oppression brought to life by such talented actresses. Overall, it was an exciting day that will help our application of symbolism and foreshadowing within our essays in our June A Levels.

Alice Scheffey (Upper Sixth, Queen's)

FLIX

and...ACTION! A Film and Media Week to Remember

As part of the Stowe Centenary celebrations, the Film Department organised 'and...ACTION!' a fantastic weekend of film and media activities which took place from 3-5 March 2023.

The event kicked off with opening of a week-long 'and...ACTION!' Exhibition of Film and Media Memorabilia. Included in the Exhibition were posters designed by Mike Leedham (including 'This Is Spinal Tap's' original sketches); Walt Disney's autograph, a star-studded collection of lifesize actors, original Call The Midwife callsheets and scripts (provided by Mrs Emily Riley), soundtrack albums, t-shirts, books and memorabilia and even shining socks.

During the 'and...ACTION!' weekend, we also ran our inaugural Film and Media Conference for Sixth Formers which was attended by around 100 pupils from Stowe and other local schools.

Presentations included: 'The Future of Cinema in the Platform World' (with Cineworld Manager John Clifford and UPP Programmer Tom Jowett); screenings of current Film Students' work (amazing to watch on the big screen); a Q&A with TV personality and antiques refurbisher Henry Cole, and the day ended with a screening of 'Return To Your Corner' - the story of Africa's first ever boxing World Champion. He won his world title in 1922 when Africa was being ruled by Colonial powers and so has been lost to the record books and is recorded as French.

This documentary was introduced by its award-winning director and former Stoic Ashley Morrison (Cobham 82) - who came all the way from Australia to be with us. It was an eye-opening documentary and few will forget its powerful message.

We also screened a series of films over that weekend with a Stowe connection, primarily aimed at Old Stoics and their guests, with live introductions by the Head or myself. The films included Peter Collinson's 'The Italian Job', 'Shrek' (this was a special family screening), 'The King's Man', Powell and Pressburger's 'A Matter of Life and Death' and 'Mission Impossible: Fallout'. Again, all were impressive on the big screen - thanks to Keith Baker and The Roxy staff for making the whole thing so professional.

There were also two well-attended Old Stoics' lunches prior to the weekend screenings, which took place in The Watson Gallery.

All in all this made for an exhausting but exciting weekend, which we hope will play a memorable part in our 100 year anniversary.

Plans are already underway for 'and...ACTION 2!' The inevitable sequel coming to Stowe, sometime next March.

Dr Andrew C Webber, 'and...ACTION!' Co-ordinator



National Reading Challenge Quiz

The Regional Qualifiers for the National Reading Challenge Quiz run by the National Literary Trust took place on the Wednesday 8 March. Similar to our Inter-House quiz they had eight rounds of ten questions to answer, on all things related to books and reading. The Regionals Quiz took place over zoom and Stowe entered two teams. They were up against 28 other schools and were faced with some difficult questions. Team A who finished in 15th, consisted of Charlotte Hall (Fourth Form, Cheshire), Isabel Hinde-Smith (Third Form, Nugent) and Niamh Byrne (Third Form, Cheshire). Team B finished in 22nd and consisted of Piers Gerard-Sharp (Third Form, Temple), Michael-Aleksandar Ibru-Stankov (Third Form, Chandos) and Milo Hopkins (Third Form, Temple).

Congratulations to both teams and thank you for volunteering to take part.

Lucinda Stockley, Assistant Librarian



Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts and Young Musician of the Year Competition

Over Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 March, a group of Stoic musicians visited Walton High School to compete in the Annual Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts.

Stowe was very well-represented over the course of the weekend, which features several different musical performance classes, each one grouped according to performance level/age.

Without exception, each Stoic gave a fantastic performance on their respective instruments, and many of them impressed the adjudicators and walked away with prizes in their category.

Congratulations to all those who took part, and some notable results from the Competition include:

- Calon Heaven (Fifth Form, Grenville) First Prize (Gold Medal) in the Intermediate Woodwind category.
- Tham Luanghvisut (Upper Sixth, Walpole) First Prize (Gold Medal and Festival Trophy) in 17 and under Woodwind Recital category. Tham also won First Prize (Gold Medal) in the Diploma Solo Woodwind category.

- Alicia Wilson (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) First Prize (Gold Medal) in the Elementary Romantic Piano category.
- Olivia Ng (Third Form, Lyttelton) Second Prize (Silver Medal) in the Advanced Romantic Piano category.
- Charlotte Hemstock (Third Form, Nugent) Third Prize (Bronze Medal) in the Elementary Romantic Piano category.

At the end of the Festival, a group of the most outstanding performers in each category are selected to take part in the Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year Competition. As a result of his highly accomplished performance in the festival, Tham was invited to perform at this event and despite some very tough competition, he went on to be awarded Second Prize. This is a significant achievement, and a testament to the hard work and many hours of practice Tham put in leading up to the event.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard



Safeguarding at Stowe



Developing a Culture of Positive Masculinity

- **Emphasising the importance of 'action empathy'** - when a person acts based on how they think someone else might be feeling e.g. "I might not be upset by that meme, but if it looks like someone else is, then I'll respect that and support them."
- **Nurturing male self-reliance** - this does not mean only listening to our own opinion. Someone with good self-reliance knows their own mind, but also listens to the input of others and acts in a way that fits with their own values, rather than simply going along with the crowd.
- **Committing to having respect for women** - this includes refraining from engaging in violence against women, making sexist comments or laughing at sexist jokes. It also means being an active bystander and actively challenging those who do engage in sexist behaviour, whether they are family members, friends or teammates. The White Ribbon Campaign noted in 2014 that the promotion of gender equity, healthy relationships and ending violence against women and girls, is essential to a new vision of positive masculinity.
- **Use of humour** - Vereen et al (2013) found that many men and boys use humour for a variety of reasons, including to have fun, to create positive experiences with friends, to reduce tension and to manage conflicts. Kiselica (2001) noted that positive masculinity aligns with this use of humour, rather than conflicting with it. In fact, they suggested that humour can be an important tool in healing and coping in difficult times, such as stress and illness, and can be a good way for men and boys to show that they care for someone else. What separates positive masculinity from toxic masculinity is what or who is the subject of the joke.
- **Recognise that men do not have to be 'heroes'** - for a long time, masculinity was linked with traditional ideas of strength, power and not showing weakness. Positive masculinity challenges this, and emphasises the strength and heroism involved in being hard-working, looking out for other people and reaching out to ask for help when needed. If someone feels that it would be seen as 'weak' to speak out, then they may be afraid to do so. A culture of positive masculinity creates an environment where men and boys can feel more able to speak up and know that it is okay not to be okay.



RAF Henlow Languages meet Science Day

On Thursday 9 March, 18 Fourth Form Stoics went to the RAF base at Henlow for the Languages meet Science Day!

When we arrived at RAF Henlow, we were set a task to design a 'space hotel'. We needed to think about the best materials for the hotel, the comfort of our guests and the intended purpose. We designed the hotels on paper, and then built models of them out of different materials.

Each pupil in each group was given a different role to take on; some wrote the social media pitch in their chosen language, some built the model, some organised the marketing speech in the chosen language, others explained the model using another speech in English, and some worked on the data sheet. Everyone was heavily involved in everything throughout the day, and we all got stuck in and really enjoyed ourselves.

One of the best parts about the Languages meets Science Day was when we built the models of our space hotels. We used our chosen language skills to order supplies using 'money' at the supplies store, where we picked the best materials for our model. It gave us a chance to incorporate creativity, language and science into what we were doing, so there really was something for everyone.

We practiced speaking our chosen language in different contextual situations that we may not usually be faced with; for example, talking about space. It really helped to widen our knowledge of both science and our language. We

also needed to think about the best materials that would be needed to protect the hotel from things such as space debris.

When we were finished, we presented our final ideas to the judges, who all judged individual categories, and we were given a mark out of 10 for each. Some spoke to us entirely in our chosen language, and others spoke to us in English when it came to the marketing presentation, and so on. This also helped us to practice our speaking, listening and vital conversational skills as a team.

At the end of the day, some of us were given individual awards for good work, and there was an overall winning team, and runners-up. One of our Stowe French teams were Runners-Up, which we were all very proud of. The team was Tomisin Ibitoye (Chandos), Amber Gaskell-Brown (Lyttelton), Tatiana Riviere (Nugent), Paula Sanchez Podesta (Cheshire), Philippos Konstantopoulous (Walpole) and Will Gorton (Bruce). Those who received individual prizes were Romulus Flanagan (Cobham), William Gorton (Bruce), Flora Peppiatt (Queen's), Tatiana Riviere and Rebecca Holanda (Cheshire).

Overall, we all had a brilliant day. We got to incorporate creativity into science and languages in a way that none of us had done before, and we all learnt so many new things about our language and science and practiced valuable skills by speaking and writing lots. We hope this trip continues to run in future years!

Flora Peppiatt and Millie Colebrook (Fourth Form, Queen's)

Clara Capella

Usually when a pupil plays one of their songs to me, I try to think of advice, or ideas that might refine its impact, either lyrically or musically. However, when Clara Capella (Upper Sixth, Queen's) sat at the piano and sang "It's never going to be easy to say goodbye, I try and keep it together but sometimes I cry", I knew that I had nothing more to offer. Her performance that day was only supposed to be showing me her song, but it became an infinitely memorable moment. What she had written, the chords she had used, and the simplicity of arrangement, made the message ever more poignant. When she finished playing, I asked her if she would mind playing it again; I always keep microphones set up in readiness for such an occasion. What you hear on the recording is a powerful live performance, one moment in time, pure emotion, brimming with natural talent. Clara's ode to her Grandmother, **'By Your Thread'** is out now on all streaming platforms and is a shining example of the song-writing talent that Stowe has to offer, I urge you to experience it.

Ben Weston, Studio Manager & Teacher of Music





Myles Henry Award

Once a year Lower Sixth Form pupils get the opportunity to enter their applications for the Myles Henry Award.

Myles Henry attended Stowe from 1935-1939 and was Head of Chatham House. Myles left Stowe to join the war and enlisted in the army as a private. He travelled the world and eventually became a Captain and an Intelligence Officer for the 10th Battalion Parachute Regiment. Sadly, he lost his life in 1944 in the Battle of Arnhem.

To ensure Myles' valour was recognised and remembered, an award was set up at Stowe by his family. The aim of this award is to allow pupils the opportunity to be acknowledged for initiative, idealism, and courage. To broaden their horizons and assist with worthwhile causes across the world. The Award seeks to offer pupils the opportunity to travel with a cultural or academic purpose and then report back on their findings. Pupils travel in pairs, usually during the Summer before their Upper Sixth year.

After submitting our application form, we were shortlisted to be in the final eight couples. It was with great enthusiasm that we then had to make our presentation to the judges about our planned trip this Summer.

In July, we will fly out to Accra, Ghana's capital to help volunteer for Akwaaba Volunteers. This charity was founded by Jordan Palmer, a local Buckingham girl in 2015. Jordan and her husband, King Boateng, fundraised until they had enough money to build a new wooden school, the Future Leaders School for Underprivileged Children.

In Ghana, state education is free of charge, however the cost of basic equipment needed for a child to attend school, such as registration fees, books, stationery, uniform and shoes are not free, meaning education is out of reach for over 3.5 million children with over 1.2 million children living in extreme poverty.

Future Leaders School opened its doors in 2019 and today over 300 children attend ranging from 4 to 18 years old. Akwaaba Volunteers offer education to some of the poorest children in Ghana allowing them to obtain an education and not continue with the cycle of poverty in their families. As a non-profit making charity they provide all their books, stationery, uniform, transport to and from school and two meals a day, so no child goes hungry.

During our stay in Ghana, we will help the children on a one-to-one basis with their English, Maths and reading. Then after school we will help assist another charity that is affiliated with Akwaaba Volunteers called the Street 2 School Sports Programme helping coach football and netball to the children. We are so excited to be given the opportunity of a lifetime to help this Ghanaian school.

In order to raise as much money as we can for this great charity, on Saturday 15 April we will be taking on a challenge completely out of our comfort zones and extreme abseiling The National Lift Tower. The tower stands at a staggering 418ft tall above the town of Northampton, so from the top we will probably have a good view of Stowe! It is currently the tallest abseil tower in the world, so not for the faint hearted!

We would be hugely grateful for any **donation** made through our JustGiving page, large or small to help such an amazing charity. This will be such a rewarding volunteering project for us, and we cannot wait to help provide children from such disadvantaged backgrounds with the education they truly deserve. Thank you for taking the time to read this and for anything you can donate.

Annie Flint (Lower Sixth, Queen's) and Martha Blake (Lower Sixth, Cheshire)



French

On Thursday 2 February, 81 Third Formers who are studying French went to Aylesbury Theatre to learn about the Second World War and the Holocaust in France. We watched a film called 'Le Voyage De Fanny' which was about a girl and her journey to Switzerland to save herself and other children from deportation. In the morning we saw clips about the film and learnt lots of new vocabulary which came in useful when watching the film. We all found the film particularly touching as it was based on a true story. During the day, we learnt all about what life was like for children in France during the war, and what people did to try and help the children.

On Thursday 9 March, the Third Form who are taking French for GCSE watched 'la maison hantée' in the Roxy, a French play by a company called Onatti. It was about travellers who stumbled across a haunted house when they were looking for shelter. When the travellers enter the house unusual things start to take place. I loved how the set was very simple and there were only two actors. They involved the audience and even asked one pupil from Swanbourne House School to play a part in the show as a lost child. We learnt lots of new vocabulary and it was nice to be able to be able to learn more French without being in a lesson.

Charlotte Hemstock (Third Form, Nugent)

THE STOIC 2021/22



We are pleased to share the [link](#) to the digital copy of the latest issue of The Stoic which details the 2021/2022 academic year at Stowe, we hope you enjoy reading this publication.

CENTENARY SERVICE OF CELEBRATION

Wednesday 17 May 2023

Southwark Cathedral, London
6.00pm - 8.00pm | £20



Southwark Cathedral Event

The Old Stoic Society looks forward to welcoming everyone connected with Stowe to the most stunning of the year's events: A Service of Celebration being held at Southwark Cathedral on Wednesday 17 May at 6.00 pm. It will be a joyous celebration of our remarkable first 100 years.

We are privileged to have Lord Grade (Grafton 61) to lead the service, with memories of Stowe, readings, music, drama and of course an opportunity for some singing as well and a chance to hear our Head, Dr Anthony Wallersteiner, set out his vision for Stowe's future.

The service is at 6pm, with a drinks reception at 7pm. Borough Market is full of excellent restaurants and bars in which to continue the celebrations into the night, so please join us for what will be a wonderful occasion.

Tickets are £20 each, and can be booked at **Centenary Service of Celebration**.

CENTENARY POLO DAY

in association with pampeano

SATURDAY 24th JUNE 2023
AT OXFORD POLO, OX25 3AA

GATES OPEN 12 NOON
TICKETS FROM £25 UNDER 13s FREE

3 GAMES inc
OLD STOICS
MATCH,
SHOPPING
VILLAGE
& AFTER PARTY



SCAN FOR TICKETS



COTHILL HOUSE Hawkstone

Centenary Polo Day

Bring your friends and families and join us on Saturday 24 June 2023 to celebrate Stowe's inaugural Centenary Polo Day, proudly supporting Thames Valley Air Ambulance. The day will feature three games, including the battle of the Old Stoics, and there will be a shopping village, entertainment, food and drink and After Party.

Location: Oxford Polo, Weston on the Green, Oxfordshire OX25 3AA.

Tickets are now on sale via the QR code or by clicking [here](#). This is a fantastic opportunity to plan a reunion, as well as celebrating Stowe's polo heritage and commitment to youth polo.

Cheshire Matron Marathon Runner



Cheshire Matron, Fern Parker, has a place for this year's London Marathon. Fern says "I am running for 'Children with Cancer', which I think it is just such an amazing charity. I don't really run Marathons anymore as I do not particularly enjoy them, but someone offered me the place, so I agreed, as it's running for such a great cause. My aim is just to finish, as I have been training for a mountainous ultra, not a flat fast marathon!" You can donate to her JustGiving page [here](#).

STOWE SCHOOL SHOP

Opening Hours

School Shop
Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
(The Shop is closed at weekends, but for essentials please ask the Tuck Shop Staff)

Tuck Shop:

Monday-Wednesday 2.30pm - 5.45pm
Thursday 1.30pm - 5.45pm
Friday 2.30pm - 5.45pm
Saturday 10am - 4.45pm
Sunday 12pm - 4.45pm
email: shop@stowe.co.uk



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