



## Senior Old Stoic (SOS) Lunch



On Wednesday 26 April, Stowe welcomed 200 Senior Old Stoics (aged 70 and above), for a Centenary SOS Lunch and reunion in honour of this special year. For the first time ever, the lunch was held in the Chapel, which was transformed to a magnificent and fitting lunch venue.

Our guests were joined by the Head and other members of Staff for a drinks reception and three-course lunch. Old Stoic Society Chair, Luke Chauveau (Cobham 87), welcomed everyone on behalf of the Society, before handing over to John Fingleton (Chatham 66). John was pleased to say that four children of the first cohort of 99 boys were present at the lunch, and he also remembered those Old Stoics who have recently passed away.

After lunch, Dr Anthony Wallersteiner addressed the audience, reminding them of what makes Stowe and Stoics unique. He remarked on the outstanding contribution Old Stoics have made to the world and thanked them for their continued support of

the School. Guests were then treated to a musical recital by Stowe musicians and singers, followed by a rousing piece by Jonathan Kingston on the Chapel organ and a rendition of Jerusalem, sung by all. The event finished with a group photograph.

This Old Stoic Society event was only made possible with a tremendous team effort from House Staff, Housekeeping, Security, Maintenance, Stowe Catering, Estates, the Chaplain, the Music School, the General Office Team and the Development Team.

As one of our guests said afterwards, "It was a great credit to Stowe to mount such an event just for the benefit of its more elderly alumni. I feel sure that my father - who was one of the First 99 - would have been hugely impressed with how the School has prospered since his day and he would have been honoured to be recognised for the part that his family had played in the School's development."

**Bev Kelly, Interim Director, Old Stoics Society**



Following their meal in the Chapel, Senior Old Stoics were treated to several musical items. The first performer on the piano, Olivia Ng (Third Form, Lyttelton) gave a characterful and assured performance of 'Variations on a Theme of Paganini' by Berkovich. This was followed by Milo Xing (Fifth Form, Chandos) and Gaia Mesonero-Perez (Fourth Form, Lyttelton) who presented the first movement of Vivaldi's 'Concerto for 2 Violins in A Minor' with accompaniment from Gilbert Xu (Fifth Form, Chandos) on Viola, Mrs Bryden (Cello) and Mr Kingston (Organ).

The Voice Xchange Choir gave a moving rendition of an arrangement of 'And So It Goes' by Billy Joel, featuring solos from Matthew Ryland (Upper Sixth, Bruce) and Ned Goodrich (Lower Sixth, Chandos). Voice Xchange were directed from the keyboard by Mr Kingston before he delivered an effervescent performance of Widor's 'Toccata' on the Chapel organ to the delight of all present.

Our thanks are given to all pupils and Staff who were involved in the performances and also to Mr Ben Weston for his assistance with the sound and technical requirements for the event.

**Emma Bryden, Director of Music**





# Stowe House



## Stowe House Preservation Trust

The Easter break meant that a little more uncovering was able to be carried out on the wall paintings on the Grenville Landing.

Discovered by accident six years ago, by conservators working on the restoration of the ceiling painting of Fame and Victory in the same area, these have been worked on as funds allow, in the subsequent school holidays.

The Conservator leading on this, Rhiannon Clarricoates, is basing her doctorate on this research and has been to the Huntington Library in California, where the historic archive is; after being sold in 1926 to Henry Huntington. This, surprisingly, revealed very little. The historic guidebooks describe "war-like pieces" on the staircase, so the unveiling of four female figures in niches on the landing may indicate they are allegorical attributes of war. While the artist is still being confirmed through other works, it is likely that it is William Kent, who also undertook the North Hall ceiling.

There is still much to be revealed so we will continue to work in this tantalising way to discover more.

**Anna McEvoy, Stowe House Preservation Trust**



# Poppy Baker Art

Since leaving Stowe, Art Scholar Poppy Baker (Cheshire 20) has launched her business, specialising in portraiture.

"I am having a great time studying jazz vocals at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and painting through my portrait business at [www.poppybakerart.co.uk](http://www.poppybakerart.co.uk).

Once again, I am offering a 20% discount to all this year's 2023 Leavers - an exclusive hand-painted portrait celebrating a Stoic's final year is so much more memorable than a digital photograph I feel. A personalised portrait also makes a great gift idea.

You can find examples of my work on my [website](#), my social media [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Stowe Connect](#)."

**Poppy Baker Art | Phone: 07588 788012**  
**Email: [poppybakerart@gmail.com](mailto:poppybakerart@gmail.com)**





## Economics of Pollution and Sustainability

On Monday 24 April, Dr Rehab Osman, Senior Lecturer and Subject Coordinator for Economics Programmes at Oxford Brookes Business School, delivered an engaging careers talk to Stoics on the topic of Economics of Pollution and Sustainability. The presentation underscored the importance of understanding pollution, sustainability, and the social costs and benefits associated with pollution control measures.

Dr Osman explained how economists assess the social costs of production, focusing on pollution and its impact on sustainable development. She introduced the concepts of Marginal Social Benefit (MSB) and Marginal Social Cost (MSC) of pollution control, demonstrating their significance in determining the optimal level of pollution control. Pupils were encouraged to use provided tables to calculate MSB and MSC at various levels of pollution control, ultimately comparing them to advise policymakers on the most efficient pollution control measures.

The careers talk also explored the economics of electric vehicles (EVs) and their associated social costs and benefits. Dr Osman asked pupils to identify positive and negative externalities in the EV market, such as carbon emissions, congestion, accidents, energy security, and charging infrastructure. This exercise aimed to justify government intervention in the market to ensure all relevant externalities are internalised by consumers and producers.

During the talk, Dr Osman provided guidance to Stoics about some of the economics degrees on offer at Oxford Brookes University. She mentioned three programmes: Economics (128 UCAS points), Economics, Finance and International Business (104 UCAS points), and Economics, Politics and International Relations (104 UCAS points). Oxford Brookes accept the EPQ as part of this. Dr Osman explained that it might be possible for pupils to move between programmes in the first year, depending on their interests. **Oxford Brookes is ranked 78th in the QS world rankings for Business and Management and 251st for Economics.**

Throughout the presentation, Dr Osman emphasised the relevance of economic theory in addressing real-world issues, such as pollution and sustainability. By engaging pupils in practical exercises and discussions, the talk highlighted the importance of developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills, essential for success in the study of economics at the university level and in the AQA A Level in Economics.

Dr Osman's careers talk provided Stoics with valuable insights into the economics of pollution and sustainability while demonstrating the importance of economic theory in addressing these pressing issues. The session also emphasised the essential skills required by pupils planning to study economics at university and highlighted the relevance of the AQA A Level in Economics to contemporary environmental challenges. A recording of the talk can be found [here](#).

**Amina Aldabergenova (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton), Pia Glynn-Smith (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) and Dr West (Head of Business)**



## Arts Award Day Musical Theatre Workshop

For our Fourth Form Arts Award Day on Monday 24 April, we were joined by Rob Parker, Musician and Composer, for a Musical Theatre Workshop. We were taught about the art of musicals and created ideas and initial scripts for our own musicals.

We began with a discussion about what we thought about musicals and our own experiences with them. We then moved on to watching certain clips which truly highlighted the differences between plays with music, and musicals, and discussed this. I made the suggestion that the music in plays was to be used for effect and to help enhance the play, whereas the music in musicals plays a central role and helps to move the story along rather than just supplying it.

The conversation moved to the different types of musicals, and we came up with ones based on films, books, real life stories or even just written around pre-existing music. Once we had established what a musical was, we then needed to identify how a story can function in a musical and common ways in which they are structured and written. The ultimate goal was to produce our own ideas in a jukebox style, which means they are written using pre-existing songs in mind.

The task took the form of a Musical Idea Competition, for which we worked in groups, choosing several songs which could be used to accompany or progress a story that we wrote, and culminating in a presentation of the musicals and whether the idea would be good

enough for the judges (Mr Parker, Ms Parker, Ms Wheeler and the others in the Arts Award Group) to invest in.

The ideas ended up much darker than expected however the standard of the ideas was incredibly high and Mr Parker stated that they were much better than many of the musicals which make it through nowadays. The musical by Imogen Embley (Queen's) and Mila Dozono (Lyttelton) tells the story of a boy who falls in love with a girl who will never feel the same way, which was named 'Ghost of Love' and was inspired by the works of U2. Seren Powell's (Cheshire) musical is one of love where a member of the LGBTQIA+ community gets killed for being himself, and is based on the music of Youngblood. Ben Barbeli (Grafton), Jason Lu (Walpole) and Noah's (visiting overseas pupil) story is a one-sided love story about an obsessive ex, which ends with acceptance, played out by a song by Tyler the Creator, which most of the musical is accompanied by. As for my own, I decided to go with the Panic! At the Disco album 'A Fever You Can't Sweat Out' and follows the different lives of people throughout a city and has themes of death and cheating which is narrated by an omniscient figure.

When asked what they thought of the day, Mila said "today allowed me to explore art forms I was unfamiliar with" which was really what this day was about. Immy commented that "today made me appreciate the story of an album I love."

**Anton Poon (Fourth Form, Winton)**



# BASKETBALL

## Deborah James

Huge congratulations to Deborah James (Upper Sixth, Nugent) on being selected to play for the Welsh girls' U18 Basketball team. Over the Easter holidays Deborah went for Basketball trials for the Welsh team and impressed the coaches. She was selected to play in the Four Nations International matches over Easter against Ireland, Scotland and England, held in Cardiff and was in the 'starting 5'.

Since arriving at Stowe for Sixth Form, Deborah's focus had been on Hockey, where she represented both the Schools' 1st team, and also Buckingham Ladies' 1st team in the Premier League. When she had the time, she enjoyed training with the boys' Basketball 1st team; where she more than held her own. She was 1st pair for the girls' Badminton 1st team and also played centre back for the girls' Football 1st team.

**Isaac Michael, Head of Basketball**

# CROSS COUNTRY

We are immensely proud of all of our Cross Country runners this year and are especially excited by the achievements of Katie Webb (Third Form, Cheshire).

Katie finished Sixth at the English Schools' Cross Country Championships on Saturday 18 March at Wollaton Park, Nottingham, where the first nine athletes finished with ten seconds. As a result, Katie was selected to represent England Schools in the Home Countries' International.

A week later at Sefton Park, Liverpool on Saturday 25 March, Katie finished Fourth in a hotly contested race against the best runners from Ireland, Scotland and Wales, with England easily running away with the title and being crowned Home Nations Champions for 2023.

A massive congratulations to Katie and all our runners for one of the best seasons we can remember.

**Craig Sutton, Director of Sport**



# CRICKET DEBUT

James Cronie (Cobham 21) made his first-class debut on Monday 27 March against Nottinghamshire, for Loughborough MCCU.

Nottinghamshire fielded a strong team, which included two England bowlers (Jake Ball and Olly Stone). James was at 53\* overnight, however unfortunately rain stopped play and the match was drawn.

**James Knott, Head of Cricket**

# CRICKET

On Monday 17 April in the midweek Cricket matches, the 1st XI had a comfortable win against the Marylebone CC, bowling them out for 102, with Harvey Julyan (Upper Sixth, Winton) the pick of the bowlers with five wickets. In reply, Stowe made short work of the run chase with Ewan Hughes-Rowlands (Upper Sixth, Walpole) scoring 52 not out and Charlie Oldershaw (Lower Sixth, Winton) 35 not out.

The Yearlings A Team played Bucks and Northants. In the first game, Aayush Baluja (Third Form, Bruce) top scored with 66 before being retired, and in the second game, Toby Sutliff (Third Form, Bruce) scored 68 before also being retired.

The U17s got their National Cup campaign under way on Wednesday 19 April, with a 110 run victory over Bishops Stortford. Wilf Pickard (Lower Sixth, Cobham) scored fifty and Charlie Oldershaw 42. Connor Doherty (Fourth Form, Walpole) was the pick of the bowlers with 4 for 11 runs.

On Saturday 22 April, Stowe won seven out of their ten games against Uppingham.

In the 1st XI match a brilliant spell from Milan Choudree (Upper Sixth, Cobham) took 5 for 44 to keep Uppingham down to 240 for 9 in their fifty overs. Congratulations to Aadi Sharma (Lower Sixth, Winton) who scored 112 not out. Stowe won by 6 wickets with 8 overs to spare.

The Yearling As restricted Uppingham to 117 in their 30 overs and Aayush Baluja continued his fine form with 71 not out in the run chase.

The Junior Colts A Team posted a huge 272 for 2 in their 35 overs. Archie Lazarus-Ingman (Fourth Form, Winton) scored his first century for Stowe and Noah Musikanth (Fourth Form, Grafton) reached 98 not out off just 44 balls. Uppingham were bowled out for half our total. The 2nd XI had a last ball thriller on the North Front, with Stowe winning a dramatic match.

**James Knott, Head of Cricket**

# TENNIS

Twenty teams played against Oundle on Saturday 22 April in a very positive first block fixture of the Summer Term.

The standard of both schools was remarkably even, with eight of the matches ending up with the closest possible score of 5-4. The girls' 1st team made a winning start to their season with first pair, Ruby Colebrook and Annie Flint (both Lower Sixth, Queen's) winning all their sets.

The boys' 1st team just lost 4-5, but first pair Arin Chatsuwana (Lower Sixth, Grenville) and Bear Hewlett (Fifth Form, Cobham) won all their sets.

Well done to the Fourth Form girls who won three out of their four matches 5-4 and to the Third Form boys and girls who had winning starts to their seasons.

**Chris Hampton, Head of Rackets**

# TRIATHLON

Well done to Charlotte Hall (Fourth Form, Cheshire) who finished 15th out of 65 athletes in the 2023 British Triathlon Youth Performance Assessments on Sunday 2 April at University of Nottingham and Prestwold Hall Circuit. This guarantees her a start in this year's British Triathlon Super Series.

**Craig Sutton, Director of Sport**



# Easter Cricket Tour

Stowe Junior Colts As XI undertook a pre-season Cricket tour to La Manga during the Easter break.

The Fourth Form team packed a lot into a short space of time, with a training day and then five matches in three days. Each morning there was a 30 over tournament match, and then on two of the afternoons there were T20 friendlies.

The boys played exceptionally well, winning all their games as well as the overall tournament. There were many highlights: a century for Zac Julyan (Winton) in the first match, three fifties for Connor Doherty (Walpole), over 150 runs for Captain Archie Lazarus-Ingman (Winton), and half centuries for Harry Charlton (Grafton) and Henry Richardson (Walpole).

The leading wicket taker was Hugo Jackson

(Chandos), and special mention must go to Henry Richardson for his excellent wicket keeping.

In the small amount of free time that the boys had available, they enjoyed some time in the hotel pool, the beach and a go-karting trip.

As well as playing very well on the pitch the boys were also excellent off it and were great ambassadors for the School. Thanks go to Mr Andy O'Connor and Mr Bailey Dingley for all their hard work in the build-up to travelling and on the tour itself.

The JCA have a busy Summer ahead with two cup competitions and a busy regular fixture list. This tournament in La Manga was ideal preparation and we wish them well for the season ahead.

**James Knott, Head of Cricket**



# Rugby

Several Stoics had a busy Easter playing International Rugby. Will Plessis (Upper Sixth, Grenville) represented Wales U19s against Italy U25s over the Easter break, and scored a try in their victory.

Stowe 1st XV Captain Henry Pollock (Upper Sixth, Grafton) and scrum half Archie McParland (Upper Sixth, Temple) both represented England U18s in the Six Nations Festival in Ireland, and they finished with a comprehensive 56-14 victory, with Archie scoring two tries.

Archie then went on to win his England U19s International cap on Friday 28 April, where England survived a late Italian fightback to secure a narrow 28-26 victory. This completes a memorable season for Archie who now focuses on his exams before joining up with the Northampton Saints as a professional rugby player at the end of June.

**Grant Seeley, Director of Rugby**





# German Fourth Form Exchange

From Friday 17 March, five Fourth Formers, Leo Clare (Winton), Oliver Dickmann-Peña (Winton), Andrii Mamakin (Temple), Leander Sautter (Cobham) and myself, stayed at a German boarding school called Landheim, near Munich in Bavaria for ten days. It was a most positive experience that facilitated the lucky few to not only improve their German, but to be able to directly experience the German way of life. There was definitely a culture shock for some when we travelled by means of Lufthansa!

Attending a school that is part of the Round Square Group of Schools, and has a different way of teaching, was definitely very beneficial and helped us acquire a more cosmopolitan worldview for the future. It was interesting to see the lack of uniform, the music concert assemblies and the atmosphere of living in a place with a significantly smaller number of people. It was fascinating to eat within a large hall with the whole school, in allocated groups at a table, where it was very important to start at the same time and finish at the same time. This made meals a much more important event than at Stowe. Eating whilst looking at a huge Crucifix on the wall was also quite a unique experience.

The beautiful Lake Ammersee around which the school is set, was definitely worth seeing.

As the school owns a private boathouse, we were able to go there and gaze

at the water and the not-so-distant Alps. One of the highlights of our trip was when some of us went to bathe in the lake which proved to be much colder than expected - six degrees Celsius!

Our German host families were all very welcoming and organised a lot of events, such as a dinner at the Andechs Monastery, a night out at the bowling alley, and in my case, a trip to the famous Deutsches Museum in Munich. As a school year, we also went to visit the Dachau Concentration Camp. It was most solemn, but necessary for us to look at the past, so that as human beings we can understand what is necessary for a brighter future.

On our last day, we went to Munich where we saw the Rathaus and other famous landmarks, and finished by drinking alcohol-free beer at a traditional Bavarian Beer Hall. We had a most enjoyable trip and when the time came for us to say goodbye, it was not too sad because we knew that our exchange partners, with whom we had grown quite close, would come to Stowe a couple of weeks later. It was a unique experience that I think will stay entrenched in the memories of all who came to Landheim, as it allowed us to discover so many new things, meet interesting people and learn German at the same time.

**Paul Ostroverhy (Fourth Form, Chandos)**

## EVE OF SPEECH DAY CONCERT



**Friday 26 May, 6pm**

In 2023, we will be marking one of the landmark moments in Stowe's first hundred years, - the ruby anniversary of the remarkable concert in 1963 when The Beatles performed in The Roxy.

Sixty years on, we are delighted to welcome The Bootleg Beatles, the highly-acclaimed tribute band. Whether you were one of the many hundreds who claim to have been in The Roxy 'that night' or simply want to dance to the soundtrack of the last sixty years, you really won't want to miss this concert!

Stoic artists will also be performing on the evening.

Tickets are £45 for adults and £20 for under 16s and current Stoics. (Parents do not need to book for current Stoics).

To book tickets [click here](#).



## CENTENARY SERVICE OF CELEBRATION

**Wednesday 17 May, 6pm**

**Southwark Cathedral, London SE1 9DA**

One of the most important events of our Centenary year will be a Service of Celebration to be held at Southwark Cathedral, just a few days after Centenary Day itself.

All members of the Stowe community living within easy reach of London are invited and encouraged to attend the Service at Southwark which will mark the first hundred years of the School.

The programme will include musical performances by Stoics, congregational singing of some of the hymns most fondly remembered by Old Stoics and still sung in Chapel today, readings, along with historical tributes to celebrate Stowe's landmark anniversary.

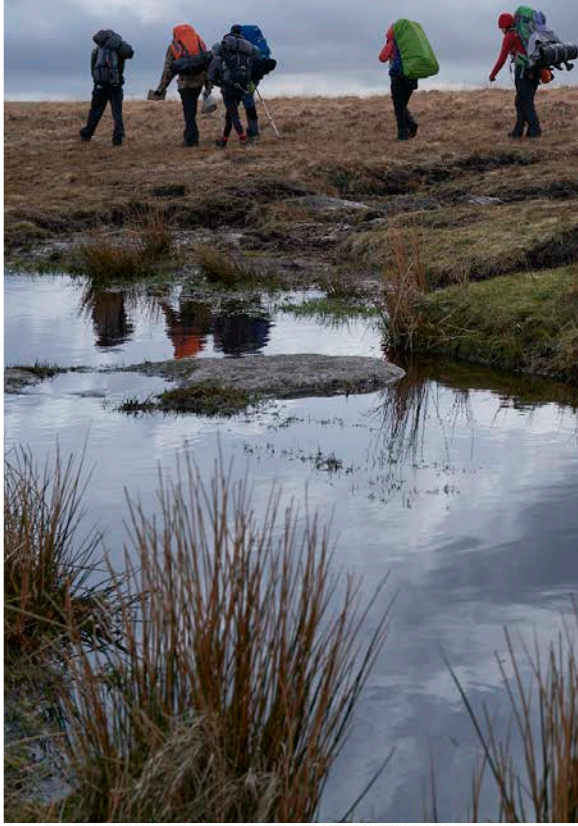
The service will begin at 6.00pm, with drinks and canapés served in the Cloisters following its conclusion. Old Stoics, Parents, Staff and Friends are very warmly invited to attend and guests are most welcome.

To book tickets [click here](#).





# Duke of Edinburgh Gold and Silver Practice Expedition to Dartmoor



On Saturday 25 March, during the first week of the Easter holidays, 42 Lower Sixth and 11 Fifth Formers successfully completed their practice expeditions for their Gold and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Awards.

Despite challenging conditions, we had a highly successful trip, with all the Stoics responding well to the training day on Sunday, when they developed more advanced navigation techniques. All groups then completed a two-day circular route on Monday and Tuesday, taking in a wild camp on the moor.

On Wednesday morning, as the Silver participants departed for their return journey to Stowe, the Gold groups faced their fourth consecutive day of walking in particularly poor weather conditions. Low visibility over the moors required sharp decision making by the teams, and they

certainly impressed with the way they worked together to complete their routes.

At our debriefing with the groups on the final night, it was evident that they felt a strong sense of accomplishment in having completed a practice expedition covering approximately 70km over four days.

May I extend my thanks for the immense efforts of the team; working around the clock to ensure that the Stoics were fully supported throughout. The trip would not have been possible without Jess Nichols, Gwilym Jones, Cheryl Davis, Shelly Matthews, Pauline Thevenet, Chris Grimble, Paul Thompson, Sophie Penrhyn-Lowe, Pete Shepherd, Fern Parker and Rebecca Brown.

We are now looking forward to the assessed expeditions in the Cairngorms and Cornwall at the end of the Summer Term.

**Alec Stanworth, Head of Duke of Edinburgh's Awards**



# German Sixth Form trip to Berlin

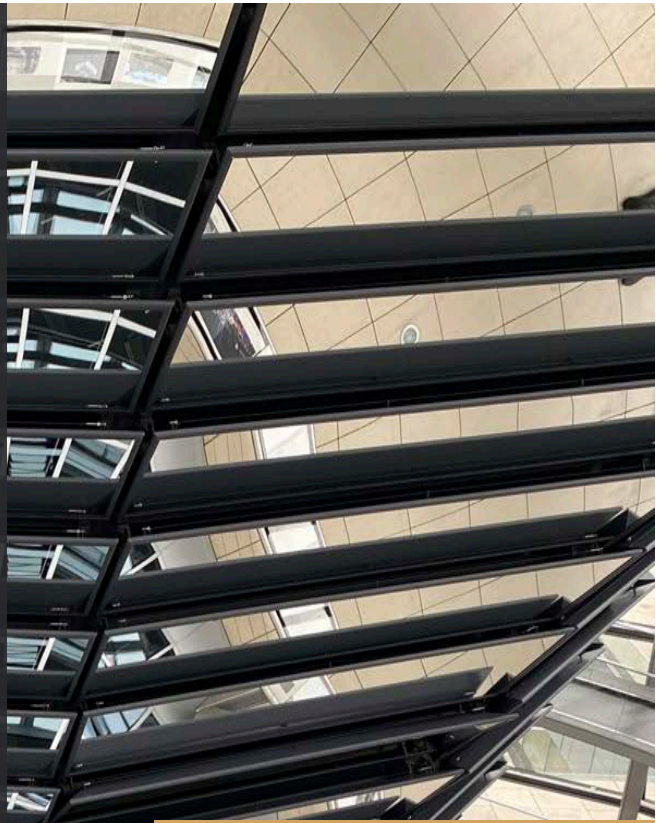
At the start of the Easter holidays, the German Sixth Form pupils embarked on a trip to Berlin to experience some of its many historic and cultural gems. The trip started with a visit to the Stasi Museum where an eyewitness talk in German gave the pupils a first-hand insight into life under the oppressive East German regime and the devastating consequences of resisting it. The museum also offered many insights into how the German secret police operated, allowing the pupils to draw parallels to what they are learning as part of the curriculum.

An alternative tour of the German capital gave us a different perspective of the city, diving into the street art near Alexander Platz, and visiting places of post-reunification alternative culture such as Dead Chicken Alley! This bohemian street gallery reflects the desire of a group of young artists called The Dead Chicken Society, to express themselves freely, shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall. It also houses a museum dedicated to Otto Weidt, who employed mainly blind and deaf Jews in his factory during World War II, saving them from deportation to concentration camps.

Another highlight was a Berliner Unterwelten tour, which took us through underground bunkers and secret passages below the buzzing streets of the city, to discover escape tunnels East Germans have dug under the wall to escape from East to West Berlin. It was fascinating and humbling to hear the courageous stories of the escapees and the brave helpers aiding their attempts to be free of oppression.

We also had the opportunity to experience an outstanding Baroque music concert in true Berlin style - in the Kühlhaus, an old industrial cooling house. The superb all-female ensemble delighted with beautiful music, with the exceptional Soprano, Sara Guozy.

**Sandra Wheeler, Teacher of German**



## Impressions from the Stoics

Between Thursday 23 and Monday 27 March, we had the great opportunity to visit Berlin. We visited many important and famous places, such as the Brandenburg Gate, the East Side Gallery, the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe and the Berlin Underworld. We had already learned about some of these places, but seeing them in person gave us a greater understanding. For myself, and for my peers, one of the most interesting attractions was the Stasi Museum (Stasi was the secret police agency of the GDR, East Germany).

"It was very interesting learning about the Stasi, and how they spied on people. I thought the trip was highly informative, and I am sure that all the information I learned will be useful for my German A Level." Sasha Bodnaruk (Lower Sixth, Temple)

Another thing that fascinated us was how people were escaping from East Berlin, by digging tunnels. We saw replicates of some of the successful tunnels, but also one of the original ones. The Berlin Wall had, and still has, a significant importance for Berlin, as it used to be a border between East and West Berlin. Nowadays, it has become an art gallery, with lots of beautiful and interesting paintings and graffiti on it. Overall, it was an insightful and informative trip.

**Tina Lazar (Upper Sixth, West)**





# CCF

## Fourth Form CCF Exercises and Visits



### Monday 24 April Army Section Field Day

It was expected to rain, but for the first half of the field exercise the weather proved to have an innate sense of mercy and decided to stay cloudy. We paraded on the North Front, in CCF field uniform, by the King George statue early in the morning before duly arriving at the Bourbon. Once there, we proceeded to be divided into groups within our Platoons.

We participated in various challenging activities that lasted until five o'clock. These were designed to test our team spirit, endurance and ability to deal with simulated real-life situations and on-hand problems. There were some failed attempts to pass the Weapon Handling Test for the A2 Cadet General Purpose Rifle, which included safe handling and NSP's (Normal Safety Precautions); passing the test was required for us to have permission to blank fire later in the afternoon. Thankfully, in the end, most of us got through that stage. There were other activities that included orienteering in Stowe Park. For that, we had to locate check points with our phones within a 25-minute timer. For every check point, points were added, but when the timer ran out we had to run back, and every minute over meant deducted points. This was something that not everybody fully understood, resulting in a lot of puffing and red-faced teenagers!

We also demonstrated our abilities to take cover whilst taking part in the blank firing fire-and-manoevre section attacks. For my group, that happened amidst a continuous downpour of rain so characteristic to the climate of this country, meaning the grass had become very wet and muddy. We were learning the techniques of 'Charlie' and 'Delta' Fire Team formations whilst under enemy fire, and had to 'stay alive' whilst trying to locate enemy fire.

We also had various other activities which brought the team together such as Command Tasks, Air Rifle shooting and fun laser tag sessions, although the main highlight of the day had to come down to the blank fire shooting. Having acquired the necessary skills to handle our rifle and utilise our fire-and-manoevre techniques, we proceeded to march in fields under 'real enemy' fire. There were some flying mock flare grenades that emitted coloured flames ranging from purple to yellow. We blank fired, which simulated a rather exciting and realistic representation of a shooting front under shouting, running and ducking. Luckily it all went without any casualties nor wounds, whilst appeasing everybody's demands. Despite the rain and getting absolutely drenched, we remained optimistic and managed to extract a lot of fun out of the exercise.

**Cadet Paul Ostroverhy  
(Fourth Form, Chandos)**



# ROWING

Congratulations to Agnès Edwards (Third Form, Stanhope). Before Easter Agnès attended the South East of England trials on the Docklands at City Airport. She was selected for Team South East at the Junior Inter-Regional Championships at the National Water Sports Centre at Nottingham, facing the selected crews from 11 other regions. Representing about 10 million people and 781 of us at Stowe is not the gentlest start for your first regatta! She did really well, the crews were all competitive, with just the three medal boats gaining anything on the rest.

We finished the Lent Term with two national events. The boys' 1st VIII raced in the Schools' Head at Putney on Friday 17 March and the girls and new rowers aimed for the Junior Sculling Head at Dorney on Monday 20 March.

The 1st VIII included some young Third Form boys: Hecco Harrison (Temple), Ben Cousins (Bruce) and

Luca Grimble (Winton). Coming off the water they were exhausted, hands blistered, saying it was the hardest thing they had ever done.

At Dorney, Stowe was represented by five quadruple sculls. They were led off by the Senior boys and girls, followed by two Junior boys' crews and the Junior girls. The girls, from Stanhope, were our most competitive crew, overtaking a Cambridge boat and finishing ahead of half the crews in their event, who came from the strongest rowing schools and clubs.

Congratulations to Amelia Hine (Upper Sixth, West), who has been appointed as School Rowing Captain. Her task is to help prepare a crew to celebrate the Centenary of Stowe, with a row past the Stewards' Enclosure at Henley Royal Regatta. Stowe were invited by the Head of Canford School, Ben Vesey, to join his school at Henley to celebrate the joint centenaries. Supporters and parents are

very welcome to join us at Henley on Tuesday 27 June. Nadine Edwards has kindly agreed to take the parent lead for the "Friends of Stowe Boat Club".

**Andrew Rudkin,**  
Rowing Coach

*1st VIII pictured with James Rudkin (OS), World Champion and Olympic Medallist.*



# Netball

Phoebe Haynes U19 Scotland and Isabelle Kaye U17 England have had outstanding netball seasons this year.

Phoebe Haynes, has Captained Stowe's 1st VII, playing Saturday block fixtures for School in addition to her National and International commitments outside school time. Phoebe has represented Northampton Storm Premier Team in the England Premier League 3, U19 Central Warriors in the U19 Netball Performance League and has been Vice-Captain for the U19 Scotland Thistles, gaining her first ever International cap against Wales U19 side.

Isabelle Kaye has been just as busy. Isabelle is an invaluable member of the Stowe 1st VII, playing school fixtures amongst her National and International commitments. Isabelle has played for Eagles Netball Club Premier Team, U19 Central Warriors in the U19 Netball Performance League, and represented England U17s at the Europe Netball U17 Championship.

It has been a very busy year for both Phoebe and Isabelle, and it has been a pleasure coaching them and watching them play. They should be immensely proud of what they have achieved so far - we are!

**Victoria Dias, Head of Netball**



# EQUESTRIAN

A number of pupils competed in Equestrian competitions across the Easter holidays.

Bunny Hales (Third Form, Nugent), Daisy Edwards (Third Form, Cheshire) and Olive De Courcy-Ireland (Fourth Form, Nugent) represented Stowe at the Beachborough Eventer Challenge on Monday 10 April and at the School Equestrian Games One Day Event at Swalcliffe Park on Sunday 16 April. This was a great experience for the girls and their ponies before an exciting Summer ahead.

Congratulations to Araminta Spencer-Churchill (Fifth Form, Stanhope) who competed at Oxstalls on Sunday 16 April and won Third place in the British Eventing U18 Open class against very tough competition.

Emilia and Isabella Rivett (Third Form, Queen's) also had a busy Easter, passing their Pony Club C Test and competing in the National Hunter Trials qualifiers at Poplar Park on Sunday 16 April, where Emilia won First place, qualifying for the National Finals later in the year.

**Becky Coote, Head of Equestrian**



## Two top performers for Stowe Racing

# Junior International Dinner

The Junior International Dinner was held in the Music Room on Tuesday 25 April.

This provided a great opportunity for all International pupils in the Third, Fourth and Fifth Form to come together and celebrate the diversity they bring to School life. With pupils coming from countries as far reaching as Australia, Germany, China, Ukraine and Russia, to name but a few, it is always wonderful to highlight how much these pupils bring to Stowe.

The evening was also attended by the Heads of Year, Mr Radley and Ms Nicholls, who thoroughly enjoyed spending time with our overseas Stoics. The Catering Department laid on a wonderful meal from a range of culinary tastes, which provided a welcome taste from home for many.

All in all, a brilliant time was had by all who attended.

**Fran Shah, Head of International Pupils**



### Bourbon Beauty

Despite much of her racing taking place whilst the country was battling with the Coronavirus pandemic, Bourbon Beauty performed with huge credit throughout her career for the Stowe Racing team.

She was bred by her OS trainer Alex Hales (Chandos 92) and was leased to the Old Stoic Racing Club. After running with credit in Bumpers (introductory flat races for future jumpers) including a Third in the Listed Mares' Bumper at Kempton, she then began her hurdling career in the Autumn of 2020. Following a nail-biting victory at Kelso just prior to Christmas, she was prepared for the big end of season Mares' Final at Newbury with OS Harry Bannister (Chatham 12) in the saddle. Despite no owners being able to attend, all the members of the OSRC gathered around their TV screens to watch her lead from start to finish and bring about a memorable and exhilarating victory on ITV Racing for Stowe - making it a Stowe bred, owned, trained, and ridden Grade 2 Winner!

She was retired happy and healthy at the beginning of 2022, having won two races and finished placed on five occasions from thirteen races, winning just shy of £30K in prize money.

In March of this year, Bourbon Beauty gave birth to a beautiful filly by Planteur and we hope this next generation will be racing in the Stowe colours in years to come.

### Mild Illusion

Just occasionally in life, some magic happens to you.

And that is what happened with our first horse in training with our second OS trainer, Jonathan Portman (Chatham 83), thanks to Mild Illusion. Mild Illusion's half-sister had been purchased for 250,000 guineas in 2018 and that was really the only reason Jonny decided to stick his hand up to buy her at the yearling sales for just 1000 guineas. Leased to our first Old Stoic Racing Club syndicate during 2019, we hoped she would do well on the track.

Fast forward to the beginning of November, she had shot to the top of the class by winning three of her five races and £60,000 in prize money. These successes included winning the Listed Bosra Sham Stakes at Newmarket, again on ITV Racing, and giving her OS owners really the thrill of a lifetime.

Mild Illusion was sold at the Tattersalls sales and fetched 160,000 guineas. Some return for her trainer! She is now based at the well-known Tally Ho Stud in Ireland and has had a colt by Inns of Court and a filly by Mehmas. We will not forget Mild Illusion in a hurry - what a story to be part of!

Hopefully, some of her offspring can race in our colours in the future...

**Henry Kimbell (Chandos 04) OS Racing**





# RAF Section visit to RAF Odiham

On Monday 24 April, Cadets travelled to RAF Odiham, an active RAF station. We arrived there at 10am where we were greeted by Sergeant Brooks who would be our guide for the day. After setting our things down we were guided to 27 Squadron's hangar which contained various models of a Chinook (an Mk5 and Alpha 6). We looked at the Chinooks and were told about the history of them, learning about all the different functions and how they work. They let us onto one to get a feel of what it's like and let us see all the different aspects of it. During lunch we were lucky enough to witness two Chinooks taking off, which was a wonderful sight to see.

After lunch we split into two groups. One went to the Armoury and was taught about the guns and machinery that are most common, and guns that are still in service. We were able to handle them which was a great way to get a feel for how they work. One of the best guns, in our opinion, was the mini gun which they use in a Chinook as it's electric, and fires around 2,000 bullets a minute.

The second group went to the Survival Hut to learn about all the equipment that you would need to survive in different terrains. We were taught about what happens if we were stranded at sea; we had a go in the inflatable rafts and ate the different rations that we would have to eat to survive. We tried boiled sweets, which on some courses, the RAF have to survive on for four days.

We had a great time and are so grateful to have had the chance to visit RAF Odiham.

**Lani Shah & Evie-Mae Meades (both Fourth Form, Cheshire)**



# RN Section Kayaking in Chichester Harbour

The Royal Navy CCF section travelled to Chichester Harbour on Monday 24 April for their annual water sports activity and training day.

Even though the temperature was a little chilly, the sun came out briefly, to a wonderful cheer from the Cadets and Staff.

Stowe RN CCF were well supported by CCF HQ Adventure Training team based in Portsmouth, providing the Cadets with a wide range of skills, from simply how to unload a kayak from a vehicle, how to carry it from a vehicle to a jetty and of course being able to sit in a kayak and stay afloat on the water.

Once on the water, the Cadets were treated to a wide range of boat handling skills, how to travel in a straight line (not as easy as it may sound) turn 360 degrees on roughly the same spot, and numerous other skills without capsizing.

After lunch, we travelled on a journey along the Chichester Canal, once again learning more skills and understanding some of the rules whilst on the water with other crafts either travelling towards you or from behind.

At the end of the day and during the debrief, the AT Team from Portsmouth CCF HQ awarded the RN Cadets with an Entry Level Introduction to Kayaking badge, which they can now wear with their RN uniform.

The weather throughout the day was kind to us, the sun shone and the rain stayed away, well, at least until we were on the motorway coming home. On route we managed to stop for a hearty McDonalds (which I believe was well deserved) and played games, like the Picnic and Train games, to pass our time away on the bus journey.

Stowe RN Cadets were excellent throughout the day and were a credit to CCF and Stowe.

**Lt Nick Zammit (CCF RN)**





# Lower School Spanish Play

On Wednesday 8 March, the Lower School Spanish Stoics enjoyed a superb, humorous play about teenage identity 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. Helped by several mysterious new acquaintances, he tries out many different personalities. Sadly, all attempts to reinvent himself end up frustrating him - but are wildly amusing to his fellow students!



The plot highlights many similarities to a pupil's life finding their 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 able to follow the story and interact with the actors, sustaining their enjoyment and, above all, boosting their confidence.

**Julio Morales-Shearer,**  
**Head of Spanish**



# MUSIC

Congratulations to Matthew Ryland (Upper Sixth, Bruce) for gaining his Associate of the Royal Schools of Music (ARSM) Performance Diploma with Distinction this term.

Matthew is a highly valued member of the Chapel Choir and Voice Xchange Choir and regularly performs in lunchtime recitals, competitions and concerts throughout the academic year. We wish him continued success with his singing and look forward to following his musical career after Stowe.

**Emma Bryden, Director of Music**

# LANGUAGES SOCIETY



# Salsa Night

On Wednesday 22 March, at the end of the Lent Term, the Languages Society hosted its most significant event of the term - The Salsa Night.


The evening kicked off in a colourful manner (literally), with exotic flowers decorating the black-tie dress of the Stoics, symbolising the vibrant South American culture. This was followed by a singing session, where the members tried singing a song in three different languages, French, Spanish and Italian.

We then had the opportunity to sit down for a meal, which allowed us to chat about our diverse cultural backgrounds before we had to put in a shift on the dancefloor. After a tasty, fulfilling dinner, the evening's entertainment commenced, with two salsa choreographers coming in to show us the techniques and all the different steps of famous Cuban and Colombian dances. Although there was some toe-stepping at the start, towards the end, we could all dance away into the rhythm, and it felt like we had been transported to South America.

The evening ended on a high and we enjoyed ourselves immensely!

**Aleksandr Kozlov (Upper Sixth, Chandos)**  
**& Sofia Tangsrud (Upper Sixth, Stanhope)**

# 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**



PROUDLY SUPPORTING  
 **THAMES VALLEY**  
**AIR AMBULANCE**

SCAN FOR TICKETS





## Stoic Success in the Royal Society of Chemistry's Olympiad Competition

The Chemistry Olympiad is part of an international competition, the first round of which sees A Level pupils sit a written test of their chemical knowledge. This two-hour paper is based on real-world situations and deliberately challenges pupils to think beyond their A Level studies and encourage a way of thinking more commonly found in university courses.

Over 11,800 pupils from more than 800 schools worldwide took part in this year's competition, and questions were asked on a wide range of topics including the chemistry of rocket fuels, vaping and cheese.

During the Lent Term, seven of our Upper Sixth Chemists took part, and all were rewarded with either a bronze or silver certificate. Bronze Awards went to Linda Wang (West), Tham Luanghvisut (Walpole), Yuki Jiang (West) and Alexandra Aswani (Nugent), whilst Paddy Potts (Chandos), Terry Tan (Chandos) and Emily Sutton (Queen's) achieved Silver Awards. Furthermore, Paddy and Terry's score placed them both within the top 13% of all who took part.

My congratulations go to all these pupils who entered.

**Alix Waine, Head of Chemistry**



## CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Stowe's annual Confirmation Service took place on at the end of the Lent Term on Sunday 19 March, with 26 Stoics being confirmed.

Over 250 Parents, Godparents and friends attended the service in the Chapel, which was conducted by the Bishop of Buckingham, the Rt Revd Alan Wilson. It was lovely to welcome Bishop Alan back to Stowe for his sixteenth Confirmation Service.

The pupils who were candidates for Confirmation attended classes each Wednesday of the Lent Term, where they learnt about some of the core tenets of the Christian faith. These classes were run by myself, Mr Davis and a guest (Revd Kate Pellereau from Buckingham Parish Church) and allowed pupils to think more deeply about what it means to be a Christian and to ask questions.

During the service, the Bishop spoke about how Christianity isn't about following rules, but is a relationship with God. Pupils were asked to publicly confirm their faith, and the Bishop then welcomed them to the Anglican Church through a ceremony called 'the laying on of hands'. Communion was then celebrated at this service for the first time since the Covid pandemic.

After the service and a reception for guests in the Sixth Form Centre, pupils were able to go out for lunch with their families to celebrate. The occasion was made even more significant as it coincided with Mothering Sunday.

On behalf of those who were confirmed, thank you to Mr Kingston, Mrs Bryden and the Chapel Choir for the wonderful music and anthems during the service, and to all who contributed to this special occasion.

**Revd James Righetti, Chaplain**

# Behind the Wall

On Tuesday 25 April, Fourth Form historians attended a talk about life behind the Berlin Wall. Stoics have been studying the Cold War as part of their GCSE History course and are often very curious to discover more about the impact of the Berlin Wall. Two members of Staff at Stowe grew up on opposite sides of the wall - Ms Wheeler on the East, and Ms Guntner on the West.

During their talk, both explained what their experience was like growing up in a divided Germany. Ms Wheeler provided a great insight into how propaganda was utilised to encourage support of the USSR, and also how the collapse of the wall provided more opportunities, and challenges, for the Eastern Germans. Ms Guntner shared how the West portrayed the actions of the East at this time, and how her childhood experiences differed to those growing up in the East. It provided an excellent backdrop to discuss not only how the Cold War affected people at the time, but also how 'fake news' is still alive and well in contemporary society.

Many thanks to Ms Guntner and Ms Wheeler for giving up their time to bring history to life.

**Fran Shah, Teacher of History**



# Edward Bush Wellbeing Centre

Since the opening of the Edward Bush Wellbeing Centre in September 2022, both Mr Harvey-Craig and Mrs Tompkins have been working hard to increase awareness of the centre and what it currently offers to improve the wellbeing of both pupils and Staff at Stowe.

Private appointments are available to those who feel they would benefit from some support, advice and strategies for managing stress, or just somebody to listen. Last term, the Centre offered over 25 one to one appointments to pupils who were referred for support.

One pupil had the following to say: "I think it's such a great idea that there is somewhere we can go and somebody we can speak to when we are struggling with things. Life at Stowe is very full on, and it can be a lot of coming and going from lessons to activities, and our time is very full, so to have a little bit of space to take a breath and speak to somebody where no one else is around has really helped me with my anxiety and feelings of homesickness. I went to four sessions and was given some practical tools to help - some I used, and some I didn't - but it was good to have options. Thank you for the time and for listening."

As the Summer examinations approach, the Wellbeing Centre will be offering 'Stress Buster Sessions' to help Upper Sixth and Fifth Form pupils who are facing their exams and could use an extra layer of support during this challenging phase of their education.

On Thursday afternoons, the Centre is used for Staff yoga and this is well attended and received, a great way for Staff to get some exercise and de-stress after a long day.

The Wellbeing Centre is just one of the many initiatives at Stowe designed to help the wellbeing of every member of our community. Throughout the coming year we will be working with the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools to gain accreditation for their School Mental Health Award, a recognition of the work everyone is doing to promote mental health initiatives for Staff, pupils and parents.

Should you wish to make an appointment or contact the Wellbeing Centre for any reason, please email [Mrs Tompkins](#) or [Mr Harvey-Craig](#).



## StOscars The Night the Stars Came Out

The StOscar event took place at the end of the Lent Term on Friday 17 March and was a suitably grand affair. Indeed, we had Timothee Chalamet in attendance (or at least something looking remarkably like him)!

The evening began with a fascinating talk from Mrs Georgina Morton, a former BBC Parkinson Producer, who had met and interviewed almost everyone you can think of during her time on the award-winning talk show. Anecdotes were told about George Clooney, Meg Ryan and Hallie Berry to name a few, and it was interesting to learn about how TV producers go about their work and what goes on behind the scenes of a television show.

There were also the StOscars themselves, awarded by Mrs Morton after a lovely meal in The Music Room (thanks, as ever to our magnificent Catering Team). These awards went to Film and Media Upper Sixth pupils who had produced outstanding coursework during their A Level and BTEC courses. Some of the films made had recently been screened at our inaugural 'and..ACTION!' Film and Media Conference in The Roxy in March, and voting reflected how impressed the pupils were with the work they had seen.

The Awards:

Best Pre-Production Portfolio - Lyla Mulcahy (Nugent)

Best Use of Sound - 'Optical Mystic' - Bee Harvey-Craig (Cheshire)

Best Film - 'All in a Day's Work' - Charlie Cole (Walpole)

Best Cinematography - 'The Paint Brush' - Angelina Morton-Cutt (West)

Best Screenplay - 'The Piano' - Holly Brown (Lyttelton)

Best Storyboard - 'The Gunshot' - Lila Hill (Lyttelton)

Best Editing - 'Where You Going?' - Isabella Elliott (Stanhope)

FLIX Special Award for Helping the Film Department - Izzy Goldrick (Cheshire)

Best Radio Show - 'The Night they will Never Forget' - Lila Hill

Best Radio Editing - 'The Killing Doctor' - Jacob Wells (Bruce)

A special acting award went to Best Actor - Mr Harvey-Craig - for his brilliant performance in his daughter's 'Optical Mystic'. Unfortunately, he was unable to collect the prestigious statuette which was given to him in a smaller, scaled down affair over coffee and biscuits in the Staff Common Room.

All told, current Lower Sixth Media and Film pupils have much to live up to, with the work this year really raising the bar.

Ms Ackroyd and I were extremely grateful to Mrs Morton for giving up her time and making the evening such a success and we were delighted that the event went ahead with no incidents or mixing up of the Best Film nominations!

See you next year.

**Dr Andrew Webber, Teacher of Media & Film Studies**



# Brave the Shave

Angie Brooks from the Stowe Housekeeping Team has decided to make a big change in support of a charity close to her heart. Angie has been at Stowe for seven years working around the Main Mansion, Chapel, the Drayson, the Equestrian Centre and Security.

"My knees will not allow me to do a walk or run to raise money, but I can shave my hair off. So that is what I am doing for The Macmillan Cancer Support Charity.

Cancer is really cruel and we all know of someone close to us that has been affected by it. Cancer affects people in different ways, and we can all do our bit to support them. This charity means a lot to me personally and to so many others and their families.

The help and support of Macmillan at such an awful time in people's lives is priceless.

I am incredibly grateful to all who have donated and supported me so far and hopefully we can all make a little difference by supporting this wonderful cause."

Please click [here](#) to donate anything you are able to, to support Angie in her fundraising for Macmillan.

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

# CENTENARY BALL

Saturday 1 July 2023

Limited food court tickets still available to purchase.

A limited amount of Food Court Tickets are available to those who are happy to start the evening with a festival feel drinks reception and street food served from food court vendors on the South Front, prior to entry to the Mansion.

After the street food reception, our guests will be treated to entertainment from West End musicians, performers from the Stoic and Old Stoic community, classical and jazz musicians, all within the unparalleled setting of the Mansion and the South Front. The evening will come to a crescendo with a stunning firework display.

## HOW TO BOOK

Please follow this [link](#) to book Food Court Tickets; Food Court Tickets are £90 per person (£75 for Under 30s)

Dietary and access requirements should be emailed in advance to [oldstoic@stowe.co.uk](mailto:oldstoic@stowe.co.uk)

If you have any questions or queries about this event, please telephone the OS Office on 01280 818349.

## Accommodation

Unfortunately, due to logistical issues related to the End of Term, it will not be possible to offer Accommodation at the School for the Centenary Ball.

We are delighted to be able to offer Glamping on an Old Stoics' farm on the Dadford Road. Minibus transfers will be arranged for those staying at the Glamping Site. Please follow the [link](#) for full details and book using the password: 010723.



## 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.

## 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](mailto:shop@stowe.co.uk)



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