

# Stowe mail

VOL 7 ISSUE 8: 23 MARCH 2016  
NEWS ROUND UP FROM STOWE



## East End Tales



*"Sleep in the day, come out at night.  
That's when I reckon y'see the real East End."*

The annual Fifth Form play took to the stage on Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 March. 'East End Tales' is a series of nine stories inspired by photos and news articles from local papers in East London. It was written as part of The Half Moon Theatre's Young People's Scriptworks Project in 2008. The story ideas were initially developed by a group of young people aged 15 and 16 over a number of weeks, through a mixture of workshops, improvisation and written exercises, before being finally shaped and written up in a very definite lyrical style by Fin Kennedy.

The stories range from short contemplations on the nature of living in East London, through to longer tales exploring issues such as domestic violence, the drudgery of low-skilled jobs, petty crime and high density living. An 18-strong ensemble cast produced an exciting and vibrant production that entertained and also provoked controversy and debate.

*Nick Bayley, Director of Drama*



## Senior 7s Success at Rosslyn Park



After our victorious campaign in the Festival Tournament in 2015, the organisers of the Rosslyn Park National Tournament put us into the new 'Cup' section this year. As a one term co-ed rugby school that practises 7s once a week, we were very different from the majority of schools in the Cup competition, most of whom were all boys', two term, rugby schools, or were colleges that had teams made up of academy players who study part time.

We won three of the four matches in the group stage putting us at the top of the group, and progressed to the next day as one of the top 16 schools. On the second day we won our matches against Coleg Sir Gar, John Fisher School and St Joseph's College and made it to the Plate Final against Barnard Castle which we won 24-12.

This achievement is every bit as worthy, from a strict rugby point of view, as last year's. The demands of playing nine 7s matches over two days is fierce and only very strong characters can cope with it. The 'never-say-die' attitude of the squad saw them snatch victory in the last play of the game on two occasions.

The whole squad displayed enormous drive, persistence, team work, and control of emotions under severe pressure. They were all heroes again and it was a fitting way for the Upper Sixth Form rugby players, who have served Stowe rugby so well, to end their schoolboy rugby careers.

*Craig Sutton, Senior 7s Coach*



# Old Stoics in the North of England

On Wednesday 9 March, I had the pleasure of meeting twenty Old Stoics who live in the North of England, over the age of seventy. Kit Clucas (Walpole 60) kindly suggested that we hold our luncheon at Shirley Hall in Cheshire. It proved to be a wonderful location, set on a steep hill overlooking an impressive golf course.

We were served drinks in the courtyard bar before enjoying a delicious three course lunch. I gave a brief speech recalling news from the Old Stoic Society and Stowe and everyone reminisced about their days at the School. Anthony Shackleton (Walpole 61) even dug out a copy of the 1959 General Paper, which provided excellent entertainment for us all – especially given that we were stretched to answer a single question!

On the same day, during the evening, a small number of Old Stoics gathered for drinks in Manchester. Invitations were sent to all Old Stoics who live in the North of England. Although the take up was small, we had a very jolly time, enjoying sparkling wine and mezze platters in the 'Headmaster's Room' at the Great John Street Hotel – it seemed a fitting location for a School event!



We were hoping to find a regional representative to help us drum up enthusiasm and attendance to future OS Events in the North of England and, happily, those in attendance were keen to help with our efforts. We hope to return to the North of England soon to hold another event, possibly on a weekend to make it easier for those travelling a long distance.

Thank you so much to all those who were able to join us, I hope you enjoyed meeting other Old Stoics from your area.

*Anna Semler, Old Stoic Society Director*



## CROSS COUNTRY

At the English Schools' National Championship in Nottingham on Saturday 5 March, Georgia Flawn-Thomas (Fifth Form, Nugent) and Jemima Grant (Upper Sixth, Stanhope) were representing Buckinghamshire in the biggest cross country race of the season. Georgia had a solid run in the Inter Girls' race finishing in 209th position and was third in Buckinghamshire. Jemima was competing in her second cross country race ever and did extremely well finishing in 196th position in the Senior Girls' race and also finishing third in Buckinghamshire.

The cross country season came to a close at the Inter Counties Championships in Birmingham on Saturday 12 March. Georgia competed for Buckinghamshire in the U17 age group. Due to tight pen restrictions she started at the back and got boxed in at the start but progressed through the field for the first 2k and was looking for a solid finishing place in the top eighty but unfortunately she was clipped from behind and one of her spikes came off and then the other spike decided it had enough of the race as well and came off in a very boggy section of the course. Georgia did not hesitate and continued to race hard but just could not keep up with the other girls around her and finished in a very respectable 154th position and was still the first Buckinghamshire athlete to finish.

It has been a very successful cross country season with more athletes competing for the School than last year and we are all looking forward to the track and field season next term.

*Kyle Bennett, Head of Cross Country*

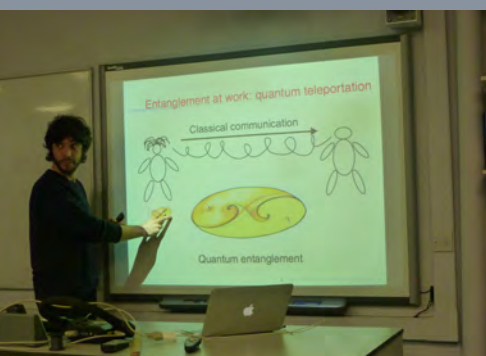
# Quantum Society

Stowe's Quantum Society had its annual lecture and dinner on Tuesday 8 March. Before the dinner Dr Alessio Serafini from University College London gave an utterly thought-provoking lecture entitled 'Einstein and the Moon: A Random Rant about Randomness and Quantum Mechanics'. He gave us an insight into the strange and often counter-intuitive world of Quantum Mechanics where reality is based on probability and entangled particles can transmit information instantly over a large distance. He echoed Richard Feynman's words 'If you think that you understand Quantum Mechanics, you don't understand Quantum Mechanics', which was actually a comfort to

many in the room, such is the puzzling nature of the topic.

The dinner that followed was a convivial occasion giving everyone the chance to enjoy the company of others who share their fascination with Science. The president Sam Lodge (Upper Sixth, Walpole) gave a speech reflecting on an excellent year for the Society which has seen its members swell tremendously. My thanks go to everyone in the Society, both Lower and Upper Sixth, who have given such great presentations and who have pitched in so fully to make the Society such a thriving concern.

*James Tearle, MiC Quantum Society*



## SPORT IN BRIEF

### RUGBY

On Saturday 12 March the Yearlings As fought back from 12-0 down to draw 26-26 against The Perse and the C team had an excellent 36-7 win.

*Alan Hughes, Head of Rugby*

### LACROSSE

The U14As travelled to Hailybury on Saturday 12 March and produced an excellent performance to beat their U15As 7-2.

For weekly reports on all Stowe Sports visit our website [www.stowesport.co.uk](http://www.stowesport.co.uk)

# Stowe at the Swan

On Wednesday 9 March, two classes of Upper Sixth English pupils went to see what can only be classed as an entirely enthralling production of Christopher Marlowe's *Dr Faustus*. Staged at the Swan Theatre in Stratford Upon Avon, Stoics were able to experience a psychological adaptation of this 17th Century play, whilst also familiarising themselves with Shakespeare's hometown (both playwrights providing texts for our A Level exam).

With all the comedic scenes cut from the production, we were able to consider the severity of committing to immorality, the power of our conscience and one man's desperation to find fulfilment. The Director, Maria Aberg, certainly gave us an alternative presentation of Marlowe's work, Faustus having child-like qualities and Satan being a dominant, deceptive woman.

We were all particularly moved by a heart-wrenching scene where Faustus attempted to dance with and embrace a spirit posed as the fourteen year old Helen of Troy. As he threw her around like a doll in frustration, the audience felt for both Helen of Troy's

## Doctor Faustus



story as well as Faustus, his desperation for fulfilment conveyed perfectly by Oliver Ryan. Despite the removal of all comedic scenes, the play had many entertaining elements, such as the promiscuous presentation of the seven deadly sins, in a cabaret style.

The Upper Sixth pupils and teachers came away from the Swan Theatre thrilled by such an inventive, disturbing and intense production of Marlowe's play. It has certainly contributed towards our understanding of the text, which will be put into practice during our exam in June.

Our visit to Stratford upon Avon ended fittingly with a drive past Shakespeare's home - the afternoon being a reminder of two 17th Century literary masterminds.

*Izzy Smith (Upper Sixth, Nugent)*

## Musicians Visit to Edge Grove School

On Monday 7 March, a number of Stoic musicians visited Edge Grove School to give two concerts to both the Prep School and the Pre-Prep School. The Stoics involved all played extremely well and the young audiences were clearly inspired by the performances. Theodore Hayes (Third Form, Chatham), Jeffrey Au (Third Form, Walpole), Amalia Aitchison (Fifth Form, Nugent), Helena Vince (Fourth Form, Queen's) and Lewis Bell (Lower Sixth, Grenville) performed a varied range of repertoire on the piano including both classical and jazz pieces. Isabel Ward (Fourth Form, Stanhope) gave a wonderful recorder performance and Poppy de Salis (Fourth Form, Stanhope) inspired the children with her performance on the violin. As part of the event, the children took part in a piano improvisation session and were treated to a performance of 'Amazing Grace' on the hosepipe by Head of Woodwind, Brass and Percussion, Nigel Gibbon. Thank you to all the musicians who made this such a memorable event.

*Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard*

## Jhenaydah Professor Visits Stowe

Professor Farooq Khan of Jhenaydah Cadet College, Bangladesh, spent the first week of March at Stowe, looking at many aspects of the School and identifying ideas that can be taken back to Bangladesh for implementation. He sat in on English, Art, Geography, Maths, Biology and Physics classes, and is shown here discussing the APG system with Mr Malling. He also attended Chapel and Assembly, watched the CCF and Big Band, visited Walpole and engaged in discussions with the Art and Music Departments to see if there are opportunities for Stowe and Jhenaydah to work together



to mutual advantage. His visit culminated in visits to Oxford University and to the CCF Conference at Welbeck Defence Sixth Form College. He thanked everyone for the warmth and friendliness of the welcome that he received at Stowe.

*David Critchley, Lt Cdr CCF, Contingent*



## FENCING

On Saturday 12 March, Sam Lodge (Upper Sixth, Walpole), Hugo Robinson (Fourth Form, Grenville) and Lauren Brigden (Fourth Form, Stanhope) took part in the East Midland regional qualifier for the British Youth Championships. They all succeeded in qualifying despite some very tough opposition with Sam winning bronze in the U18 Boys' foil, Hugo winning bronze in the U16 Boys' foil and Lauren winning bronze in the U16 Girls' foil.

On Tuesday 15 March we entered a team in the Pupil Schools' Fencing Championships at Crystal Palace. Sam and Hugo came through a tough pool of international fencers and Lauren came 18th out of 52 in the Junior Girls' foil. The top performances came from Hannah Laurence (Third Form, Stanhope) and Edward Don (Third Form, Chandos). Hannah came 12th out of 56 in the U14 Girls' épée and Edward came 9th out of 112 in the Junior Boys' épée.

*Stewart Cowie, MiC Fencing*





# StoweBots: The VEX Robotics UK National Finals

Both Stowe's robotics teams attended the National VEX Robotics Finals in Birmingham from Friday 18 March. The teams had qualified through regional events during the year. The National Final took place over three days and included 40 of the country's best teams (out of over 200 teams that were involved nationally).

After the first practice day it was clear that both teams were performing well, with the Senior team looking very strong and consistent. During the first day of competition, in the randomly paired qualification matches, both teams performed well with the Seniors finishing the day fourth in the rankings and the Juniors tenth out of 40 teams. On the final day, as the qualification matches continued, both teams continued to win. The Seniors qualified in third place and the Juniors in sixth. These high rankings allowed them to be selected in two strong alliances for the quarter-final matches. Both teams played well and won moving them through to the semi-finals. However, with the way the draw went they ended up facing each other in the semi-final games. The first game went to a 199 point draw, the second and third match went to the Senior team (scores of 222-180 and 228-152) meaning the Senior team progressed to the final match. The Senior teams alliance (with Stanborough and De Montford School) then faced up against one of the countries strongest robotics teams (four time National Champions) and their alliance. Despite strong performances they lost the final one game to two. However, as the winning teams already had places at the World Finals the final place was determined through the regional excellence awards and went to the Senior Stowe team. This means they now have the opportunity to join 200 of the world's strongest VEX robotics teams in Kentucky, USA to compete for the World Champion title.

Along with the core competition the day included a one minute programming skills challenge and a one minute solo driving skills challenge in which the team had to score as many points as possible. The Senior team ranked second in driving skills and fourth in the programming skills. The Junior team finished fourth in the driving skills challenge and second in the programming skills challenge.

These results reflect the time and effort that both teams have put into their robot designs and builds over the year. It takes good design, innovation, engineering skills and good problem solving skills to build a successful robot for these events.

The World Finals take place from 20 to 23 April. The Senior team will be making some improvements to their robot in the hope of a better performance in the World Finals. They will also need to rapidly plan and find funding for the travel to the event. The game remains the same in the World Finals and involves scoring balls in a high or low goal for points. A new game is released after the World Finals and the design process will begin again for the 2016-2017 season.

*Paul Thompson, MiC Robotics*



# Harvard Model UN Congress

Stowe attended the Harvard Model Congress, Europe for the second year running and had another successful conference. This year's event was held in Rome from Friday 11 March to Sunday 13 March. The Stoics took part in a wide variety of debates and committees from the EU, the G15 and the UN Security Council to the ICC.

Over the three days all the Stoics immersed themselves into negotiations and deliberations, some were playing roles and representing views quite different from their own, others finding quite familiar ground to work from. Special mention should be made of the International Criminal Court team, James Creedy Smith (Lower Sixth, Chatham), Carmel Hobbs (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Joshua Riley (Fifth Form, Bruce) whose prosecution of Dominic Ongwen, whilst unsuccessful, was seen as worthy of a prize for the quality of their cross examination.

Prizes were also awarded to Annika Ormerod (Lower Sixth, Nugent) for her unnerving portrayal of John Brennan, Director of the CIA, Jess Prankard (Upper Sixth, Nugent) for her role in the IMF and Oliver Milne-Skillman (Lower Sixth, Grenville) who was awarded an outstanding delegate prize for his role in the EU Committee.

There was also time to go into the centre of Rome for both food and sight-seeing. A huge thank you is owed to Miss Goodman, whose expertise was essential to the trip and to the Stoics who made it enjoyable and a success.

*Howard Hoare, History Department*



## NETBALL

The 1st VII took a long away trip to Mill Hill and put in an extremely determined performance on Wednesday 2 March. Celia Marmont (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) and Tilly Smith (Upper Sixth, Queen's) shot with an 80% success rate in a close fought game which ended 22-16. This result was well earned and a great back to back win after winning 36-33 against Cokethorpe before half term.

The Junior netball squads travelled to Aylesbury High to take part in the District Tournament. The U15Bs finished as runners up in League 2 with some superb interceptions and turn overs from Sonya Sander (Third Form, Lyttelton) and Chloe Daniel (Third Form, Queen's). The U14As came joint first in League 1 with some fantastic passing through the courts from Amelia Leondiou (Third Form, Queen's) and Amber Capurro (Third Form, Nugent). Some really fantastic netball to end a busy term!

*Lauren Ellis, Head of Netball*

## Puppetry



Service at Stowe Puppetry performed the glove puppet play 'The Six Servants' at Swanbourne School on Monday 14 March, after their debut at Beachborough School on Monday 8 February. The show was really popular with all the pupils who were entranced by the size of the puppeteers and puppets. After the show was over the Stoics showed the glove puppets to their young audience. We are hoping to perform the show in the Summer term at Stowe for some of the staff's children along with the new Marionette (String Puppet) show consisting of trick puppets and a pantomime play.

*Jonathan Sayers, MiC Puppetry*

## Musicians visit to Hall Grove School

On Friday 18 March, Stoic musicians visited Hall Grove School following their annual music competition to give a concert to years 3-6. The concert was a real success and the Stoics performed admirably. Alex Grinyer (Lower Sixth, Walpole) gave an accomplished performance of a Mozart Horn Concerto as well as a piano duet arrangement of Sousa's famous marching band theme 'The Stars and Stripes Forever'. Theodore Hayes (Third Form, Chatham) and Jeffrey Au (Third Form, Walpole) also gave impressive solo piano performances of works by Rachmaninov and Beethoven. Nigel Gibbon, Emily Woodhead (Upper Sixth, Nugent) and William Motion (Upper Sixth, Chatham) gave a spirited performance of Leroy Anderson's 'Bugler's Holiday'. I would like to thank all the Stoics who took part in this fantastic concert.

*Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard*

## GOLF

The golf team travelled to Woking Golf Club for the annual Micklem Tournament played over two days on Tuesday 8 March. Stowe reached the Plate Final with a fine win over Winchester College. Debutant James Watkins (Fourth Form, Grafton), playing at Number 5, scored a resounding 9&7 victory against his opponent, and long-hitting Piense Odell (Fifth Form, Grenville) fought back valiantly to win his match too. Alex Smith (Upper Sixth, Cobham) also played some fabulous golf.

In a hard fought final against Rugby School, Captain Olly Clarke (Lower Sixth, Chandos) led from the front with a second fine victory over a first string opponent; Olly had also beaten the Winchester Number 1 in the morning. Kit Gordon Cumming (Upper Sixth, Grafton) also recorded a victory in the Final. A 3-2 defeat in the final was a disappointing end to a most enjoyable and productive trip.

*Richard Knight, MiC golf*

## Cressida Bonas TV Debut

Cressida Bonas (Nugent 07) made her TV debut in Julian Fellowes' adaptation of Anthony Trollope's 'Dr Thorne'. She played a potential love interest for the main character, Patience Oriel, and could be seen in the first episode. The costumes looked wonderful and it was worth watching if you enjoy period dramas.

*Anna Semler, Old Stoic Society Director*





@Stue Cross

# 500 Words Competition

Six years ago, Chris Evans had a dream: to get children excited about reading and writing. 500 Words is now one of the most successful story-writing competitions for children in the world. Nearly half a million pupils have entered the competition. Entrants have to write an original story on any subject or theme in 500 words or less. If they win, their story is read live on the radio by a superstar celebrity. Our very own Biology teacher Kathryn Hinds has been selected to act as a judge for the children aged 10-13 years category. She has been sent a batch of 26 stories to work through and comment on. The top 50 stories will be announced on Monday 9 May.

# CSI: Stowe

Yellow and black sticky tape declaring 'Police Crime Scene' isn't what every Third Former expects to see on entering the Science Department - unless it's National Science Week. For the week commencing 14 March, the Science Department staged the alleged murder of Head of Science Mr Tearle, by one of seven suspected teachers and every Third Former became a forensic scientist trying to discover the identity of the murderer.

Allocated to teams of four, under a chosen team leader, every science lesson engaged the Stoics in a series of independent forensic examinations that eventually led to the elimination of six of the seven suspects. Skilfully choreographed by Mr Thompson, the pupils made notes of the crime scene, analysed substances found there; measured blood spatter patterns; chromatographed the poison pen letter; decoded a secret cipher; DNA tested hair; matched fingerprints to the suspects; calculated the pressure of footprints on the floor and examined potential weapon indentations. With no one telling them whether their conclusions were right or wrong and competition between teams, there was pressure to pay attention to detail and work together as a team. At the end of the week, each team leader presented their report, naming the culprit and giving evidence for their choice. The Third Form engaged with the activities with whole-hearted enthusiasm.

"This week we've really enjoyed the CSI Stowe week. Each lesson we conducted different experiments to eliminate some of the suspects. We had a really interesting and exciting topic to cover and it was a great way to end the term."  
*Zara Vickers (Stanhope) and Tair Udovenchuk (Bruce)*

"I learnt how to work with other people. The responsibility of being a team leader was quite stressful but my team worked well together."  
*Max McLeish (Walpole)*



"I enjoyed being a team leader. It was quite stressful at the beginning getting my team to work tasks to a deadline but it got easier as the week went on because everyone in the team got really involved."  
*Rory Trotman (Temple)*

"I really enjoyed CSI week, we had to think on our feet, pay attention to detail and help each other."  
*Jacob Halabi (Walpole)*

"It was cool because it taught us how the real scientists do these things."  
*Fin Dickerson (Cobham)*

The Third Form would like to thank Mr Thompson, Mrs Gracie, Dr Coomber, Mr Donoghue and the Science Technicians for their commitment to this brilliant experience.

And the murderer? Commendably bypassing the red-herring that was Miss Davies, some teams were able to accurately determine that it was Mr Teasdale!

*Sheilagh Rawlins, Science Department*



## EQUESTRIAN

Despite the wet and windy weather and the flooding the spirits of the riders at Stowe haven't been dampened. The team riders have been out and about with great success, Anna Wilson (Lower Sixth, Queen's), Chloe Livesey (Third Form, Stanhope) and Jaimie McIntosh (Fifth Form, Stanhope) qualified for Trailblazers SJ second round which is coming up next term and a number of our event riders have started their season with promising results. Most importantly the riders are enjoying competing, showing excellent team spirit and support for each other and are all making progress. In addition to competing, the Grafton Hunt met at Stowe on Tuesday 23 February and a number of Stoics, parents and staff attended. Thankfully the weather held and all had a thoroughly enjoyable day.

We have recently set up an Equestrian Centre Committee which will meet half-terminally to allow pupils to have their say about Equestrian activity and for staff to feedback any future plans and developments and ensure pupils are fully informed. Representatives have been chosen to ensure the views of all riders, liveries and competitors who access the Equestrian Centre are represented at the meetings.

I am getting ready to take maternity leave starting in the middle of next term as I'm expecting my second baby at the beginning of June. Miss Angela Churcher will be taking over the running of the Equestrian Centre in my absence. A lot of the pupils and parents will already know Miss Churcher as she is currently a part time instructor for us at the centre. I am sure all will agree the Stowe Equestrian Centre will be in good hands under her capable management.

We are looking forward next term to the second annual Inter-House riding competition and the annual Speech Day demonstrations which pupils will be eagerly organising. We hope as many parents as possible will come and support the riders at both of these events.

Charlie Clover (Chatham 14) and his horse, BGS Twin Peaks took part in the Poplar Park Equestrian Competition on Sunday 13 March and came eighth in the Novice section. Charlie and BGS Twin Peaks are looking to push themselves into the top placings and are sure to become more confident as the season progresses.

*Krista Price, Equestrian Centre Manager*



## StoweSport.com

For all the up-to-date news, fixtures and results from all the sports at Stowe make sure you visit our dedicated sports [website](http://www.stowesport.com). You can also get live reports from our teams by following us on [twitter](https://twitter.com/stowesport).

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# Sounds of Swing

The Holy Cross & St Mary Church in Quainton reverberated to the Sounds of Swing on Friday 11 March. This was a concert given to a large audience by the Big Band with guest singers.

The evening started with a couple of Glen Miller favourites, 'Pennsylvania 6-5000' and 'Tuxedo Junction', and continued with a varied programme of music from the 20s to the 50s. Our guest singers for the night all gave fantastic renditions of their songs; Anastasia Grafftey-Smith (Lower Sixth, Queen's) was first with 'Dream A Little Dream' followed by Nia Brown (Upper Sixth, Nugent) with 'The Man I Love' and 'Nice Work If You Can Get It' by Emily Woodhead (Upper Sixth, Nugent). Our second half singers; Bella Coldstream (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton), Lewis Bell (Lower Sixth, Grenville) and Lucy Sutherland (Fifth Form, Nugent)

also gave very convincing performances, and balanced out some very lively numbers by the Big Band. We had some great instrumental solos from Finlay Sutherland (Fifth Form, Grafton) and Emily Woodhead on trumpet and from Henry McQuitty (Fifth Form, Walpole) on drums. It is great to have such a good rhythm section driving the band with Henry on drums, Alex McQuitty (Upper Sixth, Walpole) on bass and Lewis Bell on piano. Even after encores we left the audience asking for more.

The Church was very grateful for the £430 profit which went towards their funds. Many thanks to Miles Nottage for his wonderful accompaniments for all of the soloists, and to Sarah Searle for all of her support before, during and after the event.

*Nigel Gibbon, Head of Brass, Wind and Percussion*



# Fine Cell Charity Event

On the evening of Friday 11 March, Izzy Oliver (Upper Sixth) hosted a charity event for Queen's with the help of Dot Holt (Upper Sixth) and Saskia Satchell (Upper Sixth). The Charity, Fine Cell Work, trains prisoners in the skills needed to make beautiful and creative works of tapestry.

For many of these men, it is the first time in their lives that they have actually been paid for something they have created. The training and friendship of working in groups helps to raise their self-esteem as well as give them meaningful employment while under 'lock down'. The skills they learn can then be carried into their new lives when they leave prison.

The event was well supported and gave an insight into conditions in prison. There was a talk about how the charity was founded, a cash bar, a raffle and the tapestries were available to buy. On the night Izzy, Dot and Saskia raised approximately £5,000 for the charity. This amazing total just goes to show that using this year's School theme of 'Passion, Potential and Perseverance' we can really help to make a difference in people's lives.

*Fiona James, Queen's Housemistress*



## HOCKEY

On Tuesday 8 March the 1st XI had a great 3-0 win against Aldenham and was involved in a thrilling match on Saturday 12 March which unfortunately resulted in a 3-4 loss to Bromsgrove. The 3rd XI had a fine 4-2 win against Cokethorpe on Wednesday 9 March and defeated Bromsgrove by the same score on Saturday 12 March. There was a goal fest in the U15B match against Bromsgrove with them running out 5-3 winners. The 2nd XI, U15As and U15Cs all played out draws against Bromsgrove on Saturday 12 March.

The boys hockey programme has gone from strength to strength in recent weeks with good block wins against local rivals St Edward's, Bromsgrove and Kimbolton. The Colts Bs finished the season undefeated with a 3-2 victory over Kimbolton. The final matches on Tuesday 22 March for the 1st XI, 2nd XI, Colts A and Junior Colts A against Bloxham all resulted in victories. Well done to all involved in hockey this term.



## Old Stoics v Stoics

On Sunday 20 March, a bright and brilliant Spring afternoon, it was time for the annual Boys' 1st XI v Old Stoics hockey match. It was great to see a number of relations on the pitch together – Ollie Woodward (Upper Sixth, Grafton) playing against brother Henry (Grafton 13), Alex Smith (Upper Sixth, Cobham) against brothers Simon (Cobham 88) and Mark (Cobham 89) and Toby Stocks' (Third Form, Chandos) father, Julian Stocks (Walpole 84). The 1st XI cruised to a 3-1 lead, but was pegged back to 3-3 by a well drilled OS team. Unfortunately the Old Boys ran out of steam in the final 15 minutes and the younger, spritelier Stoics capitalised with three more goals with the game finishing 6-4 to the Stoics. As always, the game was played in great spirits and it was good to see plenty of support on the side line. Well done to both teams.

*Luke Stone, Head of Hockey*





## Army Section Field Day – A Cadet’s Perspective

The Fifth Form Army Section left for Swinerton Army Barracks, Staffordshire on Tuesday 8 March where we were lucky enough to sleep in sheltered accommodation, rather than camping out for the night.

My section, Section 4, started with Operating in Built up Areas (OBUA). This involves entering buildings tactically bringing the most damage to the enemy, whilst reducing the damage on our side. We started off a bit confused as it was pitch black and we were disorientated by Dr Standley’s strobe light so at the beginning we were a bit rough around the edges on being tactical. However, we soon pulled ourselves together and started working efficiently clearing rooms and working together as we realised that we each depended on the person in front and the person behind.

Next we went onto the Dismounted Combat Trainer Range in which Major de Gale bravely took the chance to show us her skills, the girls reminding each other that it was World’s Women’s Day, and that Major de Gale losing against the boys would be tragic. Fortunately for the girls, she beat the boys fair and square.

Our last activity that day was a Laser Quest, in which my section competed against Section 3. It was great fun as different styles of combat emerged ranging from Arthur Marriot’s (Fifth Form, Chandos) style of flanking the enemy to James Carley’s (Fifth Form, Chandos) style of getting caught by a tree and therefore getting stuck! We then returned to our rooms telling ‘war stories’ of whom we killed and how!

The next day we rose at 06:00 after being disturbed throughout the early hours of the morning by a stray cockerel outside our window! My section started with Training in Built up Areas (TIBUA) which was the same as OBUA but with sunlight on our side. Then, we tried the Lasers again where we focused on tactics and learnt how to return fire effectively and withdraw from the area or attack the enemy. This was then put to the test as we went up against Captain Wilson who acted as the enemy.

Sections 3 and 4 then tackled a wet and muddy obstacle course which put us through our paces, but after scaling walls, climbing cargo nets going up to the canopy and getting very muddy leopard crawling under wire, we relaxed by tucking into a well-deserved Mars bar and warming our hands!

Our final activity was competing in an indoor laser battle, which Platoon 2 won. Then, we had a free-for-all. Alex Harris (Fifth Form, Grafton) and Thomas Leach (Fifth Form, Walpole) won by working together using the TIBUA methods.

The exercise was great fun and for this, I have to thank Major de Gale for organising it Captain Standley, Captain Wilson, Captain Corthine, 2Lt le Lacheur who came with us, as well as Mr Liversage who ensured we were well equipped with kit.

*Tom Mayhew (Fifth Form, Grafton)*

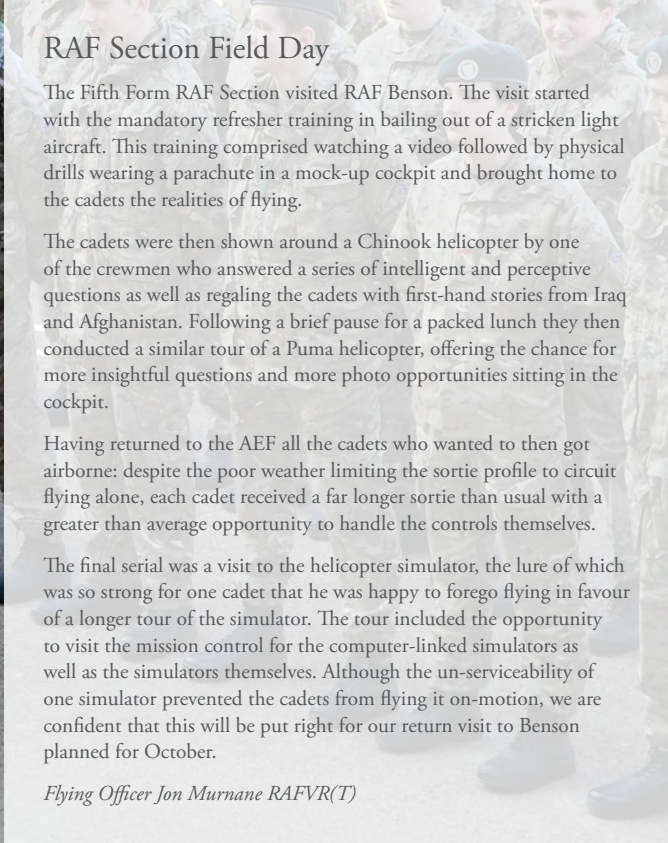
## New Adjutant Makes her Mark

Stoics have encountered a new face in CCF: Major Jan de Gale, who has come from Bloxham to be our new Adjutant and School Staff Instructor. She has already made her mark, encouraging officers and cadets to blend into a successful team and dealing with the ever increasing paperwork and Authorities to Train on which our training depends. Field Day visits to Yardley Chase Training Area, Swinerton Army Camp and a Biennial Review (the latter two within six days of each other) have benefited from her deep knowledge of Army training and her ability to coax trainers into providing us with outstanding programmes. She is also a qualified archery instructor and at our Biennial Review Stoics could again be seen engaging in the popular sport of archery. Next term we have an even more demanding programme and Major de Gale is navigating us skilfully through it.

*David Critchley, Lt Cdr CCF, Contingent Commander*







## RAF Section Field Day

The Fifth Form RAF Section visited RAF Benson. The visit started with the mandatory refresher training in bailing out of a stricken light aircraft. This training comprised watching a video followed by physical drills wearing a parachute in a mock-up cockpit and brought home to the cadets the realities of flying.

The cadets were then shown around a Chinook helicopter by one of the crewmen who answered a series of intelligent and perceptive questions as well as regaling the cadets with first-hand stories from Iraq and Afghanistan. Following a brief pause for a packed lunch they then conducted a similar tour of a Puma helicopter, offering the chance for more insightful questions and more photo opportunities sitting in the cockpit.

Having returned to the AEF all the cadets who wanted to then got airborne: despite the poor weather limiting the sortie profile to circuit flying alone, each cadet received a far longer sortie than usual with a greater than average opportunity to handle the controls themselves.

The final serial was a visit to the helicopter simulator, the lure of which was so strong for one cadet that he was happy to forego flying in favour of a longer tour of the simulator. The tour included the opportunity to visit the mission control for the computer-linked simulators as well as the simulators themselves. Although the un-serviceability of one simulator prevented the cadets from flying it on-motion, we are confident that this will be put right for our return visit to Benson planned for October.

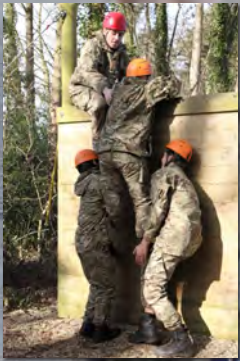
*Flying Officer Jon Murnane RAFVR(T)*

## Biennial Inspection

On Monday 14 March Stowe CCF welcomed Group Captain David Manning from the RAF to carry out the Biennial Inspection of the Contingent on parade on the North Front and then review them as they carried out a variety of CCF stands during the afternoon. They also welcomed Captain Tom Tollemache from the Coldstream Guards to present the Coldstream Cup to the winning Section.

Stands included the best three shots from each section firing the Number 8 rifle in the indoor range competitive archery and command tasks on the North Front, and casualty evacuation, the obstacle course, and a blank firing close quarter battle lane on the Bourbon. The winning team, Section 4 commanded by Tom Mayhew (Fifth Form, Grafton) secured the Coldstream Cup.

*Major J. S. de Gale, Adjutant*



COBHAM

## WHAT'S UP ICARUS?

### COBHAM HOUSE PLAY



GRAFTON

QUEEN'S AND BRUCE



# HOUSE DRAMA

This year we have seen six very different plays being staged in the Roxburgh Theatre and the Ugland Auditorium. We were thrilled that so many Houses decided to stage a play this year and their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment is encouraging.

The Stoics involved in their respective shows, be it on stage or off, were thrilled and delighted to see their teaching and support staff in the audience as well as their fellow Stoics.



TEMPLE

WALPOLE

STANHOPE





# Vanguard

Stowe's Third Form pupils had the chance on Wednesday 16 March to showcase their talents as architects and designers as part of the Lent Term Challenge: to produce the best designs for a new boys' boarding house facing Chapel Court. The challenge was launched at the start of term with a talk from an architect from Rick Mather Architects (RMA), who set the brief to design a boarding house that would embody the vision of Stowe, sit well within and enhance its setting, have interior spaces that encourage calmness, well-being, intellectual inquiry and also socialising, have eco-friendly credentials and yet not be too ostentatious or out of line with the other boarding houses. The groups had to take charge of their work, think through strategies, conduct research, learn to use design tools and organise their final presentation leading up to the fair in the Marble Saloon and Temple Room, where each group had a stall and had to pitch their design and ideas to a panel of three roving judges.

Many of the designs produced were very impressive. Groups had conducted detailed research on eco-friendly building materials and techniques and had thought about how

these would be applied. Many also used the professional design software tool 'SketchUp' to create 3D drawings of both the exterior look and the interior spaces and some had also found other tools to design floorplans. The project provided important experience and lessons in project planning and collaboration, along with encouraging Stoics to see how the different subjects they study at Stowe work together in real-world situations.

The winning group produced an exciting design which looked a little like the Millennium Falcon from Star Wars, but with classical touches like pillars along the front that meant that it provided an attractive blend of past and present. Details such as interior room designs had been thought through based on the psychology of colours and throughout there was a strong sense of style. Their ideas and others from the pupils will now be passed on to the architects and the winning Stoics will have the opportunity to do work experience with the RMA if they choose. Altogether an exciting term's work!

*Julie Potter, Deputy Head (Academic)*



## POLO

It has been an exciting Arena polo season for Stowe this term. With several matches against Wellington and Harrow we finished our Arena season at the Schools' National Championships held at Rugby Polo Club on Sunday 6 March. Over 30 teams competed from all the major schools in the country. Stowe took five teams (the most to be entered by any school) and entered every division in the competition. It was a fantastic opportunity for all the Stoic players to put into action all their hard work in training.

Our beginners section had their first taste of match experience and they were very competitive - some of them had only been riding for one term! The A team did fantastically well reaching the finals (the first time in Stowe's Arena history) and in a nail biting and aggressive match against Millfield came second narrowly losing 4-2.

The summer grass season has plenty of exciting fixtures set up, including matches against the Army Officers at Sandhurst and many more. Stowe is fast becoming the polo school to watch with over 25 players.

*Fiona Corthine, MiC Polo*

# Keyboard Festival Day

On Thursday 10 March, over twenty pianists from Milton Keynes Preparatory School, Priory Rise, Chenderit and Beachborough School visited Stowe to take part in our annual Keyboard Festival Day. The day was packed full of activities including an improvisation workshop, a demonstration of the Chapel Organ and a piano recital and masterclass by concert pianist, Philip Fowke.

The main feature of the day was a rare and exciting opportunity to take part in an eight-

piano ensemble featuring music I had arranged especially for the event. Throughout the day, the children were totally engaged and it was wonderful to hear their playing improve so significantly in the various rehearsals. The event culminated in a concert to parents in the Ugland Auditorium and the young pianists gave excellent performances of the ensemble pieces, improvisations and solo pieces they had been coached on.

*Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard*



# Raft of the Medusa

The Lower Sixth Art Historians re-enacted the Raft of the Medusa by Gericault on the South Front steps. The resemblance is uncanny!

*Rosa Goodman, History of Art Department*



# Junior Debating

This term, teams from all 12 Houses have been competing in the Junior Inter-House Debating competition. After inspiring performances last term in the Senior competition, it was brilliant to watch so many Fourth and Fifth Form Stoics take up the mantle and make their first foray into the world of competitive debating.

We have enjoyed a great variety of debate topics, ranging from starting school at 10.00am to bringing back National Service, and each debate has been well contested. The teams have impressed with their ability to research their case and present it in a professional and courteous manner. The final was held with Queen's and Grafton debating the motion 'This House believes that teaching students to pass exams is helpful preparation for life'. The Second Master Mr Robinson was tasked with judging and after an exciting debate, Queen's walked away victorious. Well done to all teams who

competed, and we very much look forward to picking up House Debating again in September.

Issy Leondiou (Fifth Form, Queen's) recounts her experience:

"Being part of the winning Queen's Junior Debating team was a great experience. It helped me develop my ability to speak to an audience, and portray a point with conviction, as well as developing my skills of persuasion and being able to think on my feet. We went through four rounds of debates. Our first was against Walpole, second Nugent in the quarter-final, third Bruce in the semi-final, and the final was a very tough debate against Grafton. It was an incredible feeling to win, and know that all the hard work and preparation had paid off in the end."

*Craig Donoghue, MiC Debating*



## SWIMMING

On Friday 11 March Stowe took part in the Bath Cup. The boys' team of Ollie Muhoho (Lower Sixth, Bruce), Guy Woodhouse (Fifth Form, Chatham), Jack Polturak (Fifth Form, Chatham) and Julian Ma (Fourth Form, Bruce) all swam PBs in the 4x100m freestyle relay and came eighth in their heat. In the Otter Medley Cup the team again all swam PBs and came second in their heat.

The girls' team of Alex Curtis (Upper Sixth, West), Kira Evans (Fifth Form, Nugent), Lily Marriott (Fourth Form, Nugent) and Zoë Pollock (Fourth Form, Nugent) were placed ninth in the final of the Dunelm Cup for the medley relay and in the Aldenham Cup for the freestyle relay.

*Stewart Cowie, Head of Swimming*



## BEN<sup>2</sup>

Two of Stowe's music teachers, Ben Andrew (keyboard) and Ben Weston (guitar and vocals) took to the stage on Wednesday 9 March. Everyone that went loved it and wants to see more of the same in the future. They played contemporary music with style. My friend next to me could not stop saying "I love his voice, I just love it!" It was a brilliant show and we look forward to hearing them play again.

*Tom Fris (Fourth Form, Walpole)*

# Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year

Four Stoics took part in the Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year competition on Saturday 5 March; Isabel Ward (Fourth Form, Stanhope) playing the recorder, Catia Di Carlofelice (Lower Sixth, West) playing the flute and Jeffrey Au (Third Form, Walpole) and Theo Hayes (Third Form, Chatham) both playing the piano.

Theo won the title of Milton Keynes Young Musician of the Year and Jeffrey came joint third. Everyone won prize money, a shield and a certificate.

Pictures from the event can be seen on the competition's [website](#).



Grant Leboff, the founder of Sticky Marketing Ltd. spoke to the Business Society on Wednesday 16 March about the exciting topic of viral marketing. It was fascinating to hear Grant's insight into marketing from the perspective of viral marketing, where he enriched the curriculum and directly linked his talk to the new Business A Level and this year's Upper Sixth business research theme of e-commerce. Some of the case study examples that were reflected in the talk illustrated how this type of marketing is growing in dominance as Western economies develop from a service economy into an experience economy.

Grant then seamlessly linked this area of marketing to that of behavioural economics, which is a new theme for Lower Sixth Economics this year. Yet another wonderful speaker arranged for Stoics by the pupil-led Business Society who should be thanked for their generosity in supporting the development of Business Studies at Stowe into the vibrant, diverse and academic subject that it is.

*Gordon West, Business and Economics Department*

GRANT LEBOFF



**STICKIER MARKETING**

2ND EDITION

HOW TO WIN CUSTOMERS IN A DIGITAL AGE



# Open Mic Night

On Sunday 13 March the Uglend Auditorium hosted this year's second Open Mic Night. Whilst open to the whole School, most of the talent was drawn from the Third, Fourth and Fifth Forms, but they gave performances way ahead of their years!

With over twenty items it could have been a long evening, but the attention of the audience was held throughout and the witty compering of Mali Aitchison (Fifth Form, Nugent) and Henry Gauvain (Fifth Form, Temple) enhanced the renditions and kept things moving swiftly along. The range of styles was broad, encompassing everything from jazz improv from Theo Hayes (Third Form, Chatham) on piano with Sean Carslaw Tricot (Third Form, Grenville), to some serious rock drumming from Dan Jolker (Fifth Form, Cobham) and his band-mates, Henry Gauvain and Max Campbell-Preston (Fifth Form, Grafton).

There were a great many solo song performances interspersed with duets from Tom Fras (Fourth Form, Walpole) and Helena Vince (Fourth Form, Queen's) and also Bella Coldstream (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) with Starzie Graffey-Smith (Lower Sixth, Queen's) and Florrie Antoniou (Third Form, Lyttelton). I would like to thank all the performers for their involvement and we look forward to next year's events.

*Miles Nottage, Head of Rock, Pop and Jazz*



# West Calendar

The West motto this year has been "if opportunity doesn't come knocking, build a door". The concept behind this aphorism is that West Stoics are encouraged to go out and create an opportunity for themselves, instead of waiting for the world to come to them. It was in this spirit that the Heads of House decided on a unique charity fundraising project - to produce and market a high-quality calendar of the Stowe landscape gardens that will appeal to a whole School marketplace. The outstanding product of this initiative will be available to buy at Speech Day and other Stowe Parents' events for £5 per calendar, with the proceeds being donated to our House charity, [Help for Heroes](#).

Co-ordinated and modelled by the West Stoics, the final calendar is a testament to the artistic and creative talents of our Sixth Form. The beauty of our surroundings at Stowe should not be taken for granted, and the West team would recommend this calendar to everyone in our community as a picturesque yet highly useful item to remind us all of the incredible heritage of the School site.

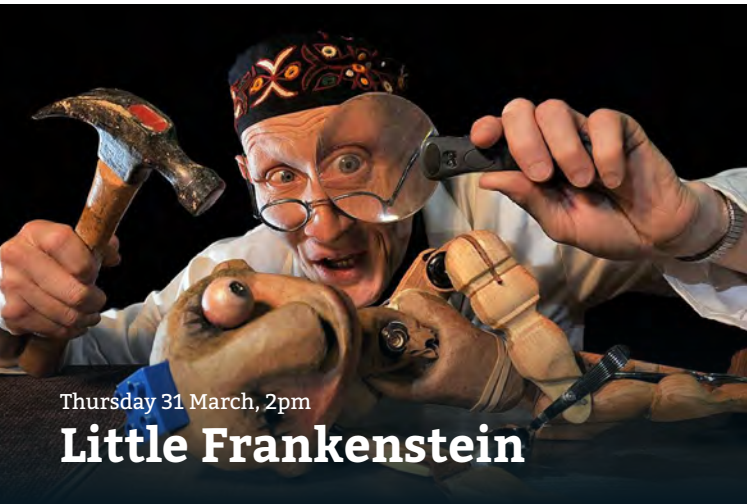
Copies of the West House Charity Calendar can be pre-ordered by emailing [Mr Johnson](#). Our thanks go to Fiona Scott Photography for the outstanding artistic support.

*Roland Johnson, West Houseparent*

# Arts at Stowe

Please visit our [website](#) for tickets

Stowe  
arts



Thursday 31 March, 2pm

**Little Frankenstein**



Wednesday 6 April, 8pm

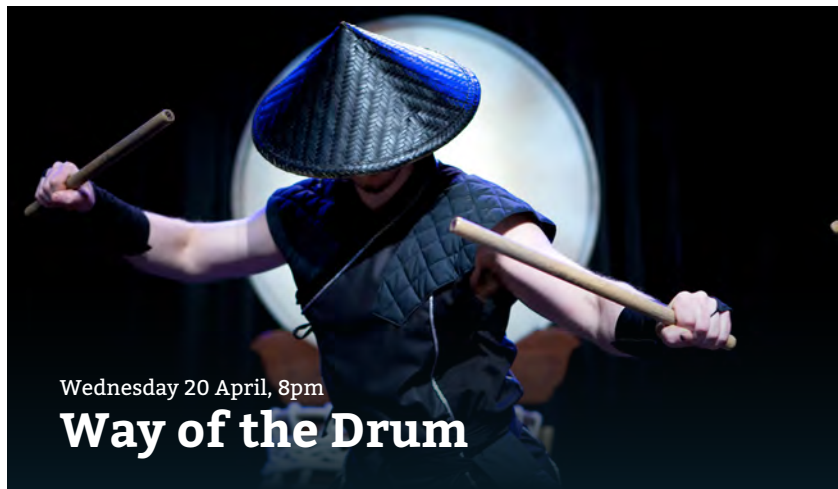
**Swing**

Click on the event for more information



Sunday 17 April, 7:30pm

**Fiori Musicali: Boccherini and Mozart**



Wednesday 20 April, 8pm

**Way of the Drum**



Wednesday 27 April, 8pm

**Ben Andrew**



Saturday 30 April, 8pm

**Stones in His Pockets**



Wednesday 4 May, 8pm

**Philip Fowke**



Thursday 12 May, 8pm

**Calan**



Wednesday 25 May, 6:15pm

**An Evening with The Fingask Follies**



Friday 27 May, 7:30pm

**Tony Hadley**



On Wednesday 16 March, The Roxburgh Society (Old Stoics and members of the Stowe Community who have pledged a legacy) hosted a 1940s and 50s event in celebration of Old Stoic, Chris Atkinson's (Chatham 59) 75th birthday. It was fascinating hearing so many funny and interesting stories that took place throughout these generations at Stowe.

A delightful programme of performances happened, including a nostalgic quiz, a breath-taking music concert by our very talented pianists Jeffrey Au (Third Form, Walpole) and Theo Hayes (Third Form, Chatham), tours and other activities which championed the hard work of our two charities; The Stowe School Foundation, which endows bursaries for gifted pupils and helps fund vital enhancements to the School's facilities and The Stowe Preservation Trust, integral to the on-going restoration in the Mansion House, allowing us to preserve its beauty and historical significance for future generations to enjoy. Both charities are paramount to the sustainable future of Stowe.

It is a tremendous pleasure for me to be joining Stowe as Development Manager and I was thrilled to observe so many Old Stoics and their guests gather in amazement and reflect on how far the developments from both our charities have come. Laying the foundations for future Stoics to flourish and enhance the fabric of the School is one of the greatest legacies that we can give and this lively lunch played tribute to this.

Our annual Roxburgh Society Lunch is to be held on Wednesday 8 June 2016 and I shall look forward to yet another jolly occasion. For further information about The Roxburgh Society please [contact me](#).

*Hannah Al-Anazi, Development Manager*



## International Society

Members of the International Society gathered for cocktails (non-alcoholic of course) and canapés in the Music Room on Tuesday 15 March. The atmosphere was vibrant and the entertainment provided by Jeffrey Au (Third Form, Walpole), Sophia Sander (Lower Sixth, West), Sabrina Iskandar (Lower Sixth, West), Jeffri Indot (Upper Sixth, West), Mina Haas (Fifth Form, Stanhope) and the South African Scholars, Zizo Chima (Fourth Form, Lyttelton), Mahlatse Mabitsela (Fourth Form, Queen's), Sandile Tilibi (Fourth Form, Temple) and Boikarabelo Tladi (Fourth Form, Cobham), was much appreciated by all. It is wonderful to see a flourishing international community at Stowe represented by such talented individuals. Many thanks to all who attended and a huge thank you to the catering team, Ms Hill-Hall and Mr Goldsmith.

*Julie Johnson, Head of International*

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TUESDAY

26  
APRIL

### Bicester Village VIP Shopping Experience

Shop in comfort and luxury! This hard to resist opportunity includes exclusive use of the VIP Lounge, champagne breakfast, buffet lunch and afternoon tea. In addition, there will be a hands free shopping service, a VIP card offering additional savings, and reserved VIP parking. As this event has proved so popular in previous years, we are running the event on two consecutive days, tickets are limited, and so are available to Stowe Parents only. Tickets are free for this event and are issued on a first come first serve basis.

Please email Stowe Parents for tickets and specify the day you would like to go.

WEDNESDAY

27  
APRIL

THURSDAY

16  
JUNE

### Highgate Cemetery Tour

Something different for a June day - join Stowe Parents to learn about this special Victorian cemetery with its sinuous paths winding up a steep wooded hill and its ivy-clad monuments - Highgate is a funerary landscape at its most evocative. The West Cemetery is home to the most impressive architectural features of the Cemetery - the Chapel, Colonnade, Etian Avenue, Circle of Lebanon, Terrace Catacombs and the mausoleum of Julius Beer. The tour will be followed by a pub lunch nearby. Tickets, including lunch, are £35 each.

SUNDAY

26  
JUNE

### Summer Jazz

Come along and join us for a glass of champagne and listen to the wonderful Stowe Big Band play some classic Jazz from the 20s to the 60s. This intimate event held on the North Side of the Chung Music School is a perfect way to spend a summer evening. Stowe Parents will provide the fizz if you bring your own picnic. Don't forget your picnic rug! Tickets are free but please email us to let us know you are coming.

WEDNESDAY

29  
JUNE

### Henley Royal Regatta

We are happy to announce an exclusive offer for Stowe Parents to enjoy the Henley Royal Regatta on Wednesday 29 June 2016. The table for the day package is priced at £165 per person and includes:

- Entry tickets to the historic Leander Club.
- A traditional luncheon in the members' marquee.
- Afternoon cream tea.
- Exclusive enclosure tickets to watch the races and soak up the unique atmosphere of this quintessentially English summer event.

Drinks are not included in the package but there will be a cash bar within the marquee. Children over 10 are most welcome but please note that a strict dress code applies to all.

To book any of these events, please email [Stowe Parents](#).



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