

THE Column

ISSUE 9 2009

First Impressions

This issue begins with some first impressions from two of our new Roxburgh Scholars. The Roxburgh Scholarship is awarded for all-round ability and leadership potential.

Heloise joined Stowe in the 3rd Form from Ashdown House in Sussex and has been enjoying a busy first term in Queen's House. George moved from Magdalen College School in Brackley into the Lower 6th where he is enjoying the full range of facilities Stowe has to offer.



"I came to Stowe from a small prep school in Sussex called Ashdown House with a Roxburgh Scholarship and a Music Exhibition. At my prep school I was Head Girl and captain of athletics in my last year. During the first few weeks of term we were kept really busy. We had house football on the first Sunday which was a lot of fun and then the next Sunday

was Sports Day. I really enjoyed competing for Queen's for the first time and managed to win the Junior Girls' 100m and 200m. Athletics is one of my strongest sports and it was amazing to meet Seb Coe, and be part of the Queen's team that won the girls' competition.

When lessons began, at first it was really strange with new teachers and new people. The teachers all seemed to be very strict about preps being handed in on time. I quickly found the solution to this, with the help of both

Mrs Hamblett-Jahn (my Housemistress), Matron and the older girls in my house. It is all down to staying organised and staying on top of everything. Once I had that sorted, it was easy. It's like riding a bike, once you know how, you never forget.

As well as having lessons, I play the piano and the flute. I am in a Wind Band which I really enjoy; I am also in the Chapel Choir. I have played in one music concert so far which was a new experience and I hope to play in the ones that follow. I have also been doing lots of sport. I am in the A teams for both hockey and lacrosse and I do athletics twice a week. At times it gets really tiring but it is worth it.

Even though I am only starting to learn how Stowe works, I love it. I have made lots of new friends already and I am really enjoying myself!"

Heloise Kleinwort (3rd Form, Queen's)

"I joined Stowe as a Lower Sixth pupil in Temple House at the start of this academic year. My few initial worries of entering a boarding school very soon diminished, and I felt 'at home' in a very short time. My peers were incredibly welcoming, and I now feel like I have been here for years. For me Stowe had a reputation as a really friendly place and I haven't been disappointed. People have been extremely forthcoming and I've developed a strong group of friends which has helped me settle in faster than I expected.



The 'jump' between GCSEs and A-levels is vast, but I have felt well accommodated in this development. The teachers are supportive in and out of lessons, and the email system is very helpful in acquiring extra help and organising your time with staff!

There is always an opportunity to discuss concerns with individual subject teachers, which is very helpful when trying to balance academic work, sport and music. For me, this ability to balance studies, with the things I love – sport, music and competitions like the Coldstream Cup – was one of the main reasons I wanted to join Stowe. There are so many great experiences to get involved in and with some careful planning, clear focus and good guidance my first half-term has been jam packed with academic challenge, performances, rugby matches, competitions and a tremendous amount of fun.

Stowe offers a great deal in terms of music. In my first few weeks I found myself involved in a number of groups playing the trumpet and singing. I have enjoyed the Wednesday evening concerts, which have given me the opportunity to perform regularly and enjoy other pupils' work. The quality of performances has been really impressive and the music team has been incredibly encouraging in their support.

One of the biggest changes for me was entering a boarding school. Although I am a day student, I have had various opportunities to board when participating in evening and morning school activities. I feel fully involved in school life and I believe that Chapel has a major role to play in this. Services, singing and the time for reflection have really helped to pull all the strands of Stowe together and help me to focus on what is important. Social activities have also helped to build friendships and the warm welcoming acceptance of all the boys in Temple House has been more than I could have hoped for.

Sporting opportunities at Stowe have been great. I was lucky enough to participate on the pre-season school rugby tour to France with coaching from Brian Ashton in August; this was an excellent experience and one which I thoroughly enjoyed. Unfortunately, I broke my middle finger playing for the second team against Bloxham (I was scoring a try!) and this has hampered my contribution to the team but I did manage to play my trumpet in the Choir Competition with my left hand. Now that my finger has mended I'm looking forward to rejoining the squad and hoping that I'll make the first team soon!

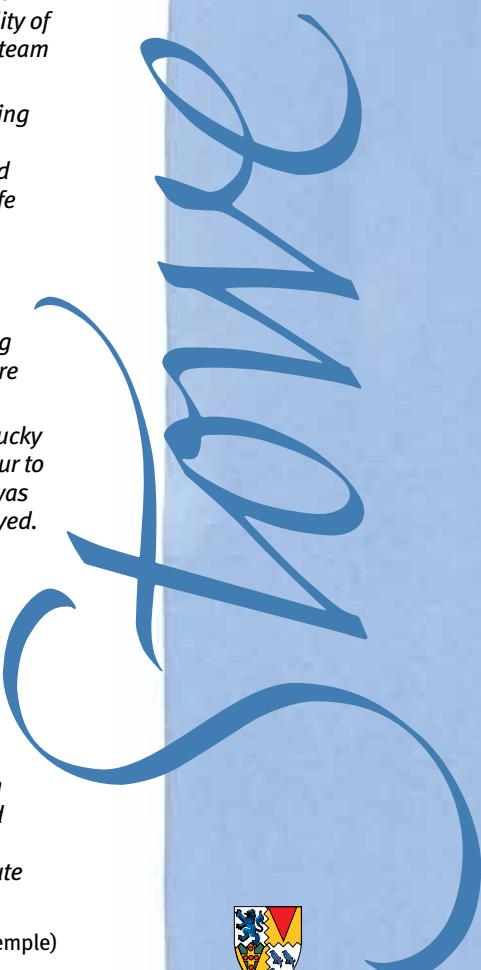
At Stowe I am secure in the knowledge that I will achieve my full potential, academically, musically, socially and in sport because of the school's nurturing environment and clear ethos. I am determined to make the most of every opportunity over the next two years and strive to contribute to school life to the best of my ability."

George Eatwell (LVI, Temple)



in this issue:

- SCHOOL NEWS P2-7
- OLD STOICS P8-9
- OLD STOICS NEWS P10-13
- SCHOOL SPORT P14-15
- END PIECE P16





Give Something Back

For the first time we have been given the opportunity to 'guest edit' The Column. We have tried to encourage Stoics to write about their own achievements this term, rather than members of staff. It is only when you ask Stoics themselves to write that you realise how enthusiastic, passionate and articulate each one can be about their particular subject or activity. There is such a depth of interest throughout the School in such a broad range of activities. Hopefully this edition of The Column will allow you to glimpse some of the vitality of the School that has been obvious to us throughout the term.

Our ambition this year as a Prefect body is to leave our own legacy, built on the successes of Felix and Laura, the two Heads of School last year. Their aim was to improve the sense of community within the School and we want to follow on from their theme, with a slight twist.

This year we would like to see each and every Stoic finding something that they individually love about Stowe. This can be something that interests them, excites them, or inspires them; anything which they are passionate about. We then want Stoics to "give something back" to whatever it is that they love about Stowe. If each one of us gives something back to some part of Stowe not only will we see an improvement in our sense of community, but a dramatic enhancement in almost every aspect of the School.

The Senior Prefect Team is leading by example; many of them have already started to "give something back". There are schemes ranging from an expansion of Stowe's environmental policy to the creation of the 'Corinthian Society', which will give Stowe rock bands a chance to perform on a regular basis. Prefects have also chosen to concentrate on music, sport and film as themes for this year.

The Senior Prefect Team will also be visiting each House in turn on a weekly basis. We want the Junior years to have the opportunity to meet the Senior Prefect team so that Prefects become friends rather than just Upper Sixth. The Prefects will also find it extremely useful to know by name all of the 3rd and 4th Form. Hopefully this programme will lead to much improved communication within the year groups and help with the implementation of our "give something back" scheme.

Giving something back will encourage integration, enthusiasm and pride within our School community, while making us realise how privileged we are to be here. As a Prefect body we are looking forward to promoting the "give something back" scheme. We will keep you informed with the successes of the scheme throughout the year!

James Elliott (Head Boy, Chandos) and
Rosie Gawthrop (Head Girl, Nugent)

2009 Academic Report



That was the year that was 2008-09: Snow; ISI & Ofsted Inspections; (Eton) Swine-Flu; Public Exams; Oxbridge Successes and now, in Michaelmas Term 2009, 760 Stoicks.

Both Inspections, mercifully, seem far away but the year of preparation, paper-work, schemes of work and handbooks, statistics, legislative and regulatory checks still haunt me as we update it all annually and just in case we receive a snap-inspection. The year-long stress, though, was greatly relieved at the outcomes which in many cases were excellent or outstanding, this last word being the one mentioned several times by the Headmaster in his pre-publication report leak at Speech Day! The staff, too, were thrilled at the overwhelmingly positive and supportive report (available online at Stowe or ISI), testament to their hard work throughout the year and in stretching, challenging, caring for and supporting Stoicks both in and out of the classroom. The Inspectors supported our request for instigating more effective academic management by re-instituting the Faculty System with Chairs of Faculties meeting with the Headmaster and myself, while we have ensured that we follow the regulatory requirements to the full. Similarly, the Ofsted Inspection of boarding provision found that our overall quality rating is good, with two provisions – helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do and helping children make a positive contribution – both regarded as outstanding.

Our pastoral and academic provision was tested by the Swine-Flu outbreak when we were closed down for a week. Fortunately our academic systems worked superbly with plenty of work emailed to Stoicks for them to complete at home (much to their distress). Some even complained to the Headmaster that staff were setting even more work than usual.

After that, the public exams seemed straightforward. As I write, the most up to date statistics show 67% A/B at A Level, our second best result and confirming the upward trend, with 99% pass rate. Thirty Upper 6th Stoicks achieved all A grades with five candidates successfully gaining their grades for Oxbridge: Lucy Brooks (English);

Mark Goodenough (Computer Science, Cambridge); Natalie McDaid (Chemistry, Oxford); Laura Grossick (Geography, Cambridge) and George Hunter (Natural Sciences, Cambridge). In addition, nearly all Stoicks got into their first choice universities thanks to excellent support from their Tutors and the Careers Dept., headed by Dr Sandra Naish.

At GCSE 35.2% A*/A is also our second best result with 23 Stoicks achieving 5A* grades or more and 38 Stoicks gaining 5As or more. These results suggest that in two year's time we shall have further good results.

We continue to watch the changing face of education with some interest and no doubt a new government will bring in yet further changes. We still believe that A levels are appropriate and challenging for Stoicks, though some of our Departments are considering the IGCSE specifications. The IB & Pre-U present very different problems and are costly to implement with no apparent gain to Stoicks. The new Diplomas may not survive a change in political party though the Extended Project may, because of its suitability for a wide-range of abilities. We are considering its introduction as an Activity.

September saw the arrival of over 760 Stoicks, a third of them new to the School, the largest the School has ever been. Twenty new staff – teachers, graduate assistants, sports coaches – also joined us. There are new History classrooms and offices (named after Bill McElwee); the Art School is being rebuilt ready for next Autumn; the Library is being restored and it will re-open in glorious 18th century splendour next summer with improved lighting and more suitable furniture. We are also hoping for improvements to more classrooms and laboratories in a rolling programme of upgrading our academic facilities.

Old Stoicks tell me that the 'buzz on the street' (the King's Road I presume?) is very positive about Stowe and we who work and study here feel it too. Despite the difficulties of the recession, we are proud to celebrate the achievements of Stoicks and the hard-working staff and the continued renaissance of the School.

Mr Crispin Robinson, Deputy Headmaster (Academic)

Academic Colours

The School is pleased to have awarded inaugural Academic Colours to 50 Stoicks in the 4th, 5th, Lower 6th and Upper 6th Forms. The Colours reflect exceptional performance in public and School exams: straight A grades at AS level, at least 6 A* grades in GCSE exams, or at least 3 A* grades in 3rd and 4th Form School exams.

Crispin Robinson, Deputy Headmaster (Academic), underlines the importance of recognising academic achievement in this way: "*Academic rigour is a central part of the School's culture and ethos and I am delighted that the effort, accomplishment and example of these Stoicks is rewarded publicly like this. Very well done to them all!*"

Boys are awarded a blue tie with four Corinthian capitals; the girls' badge shows a blue Corinthian capital on a solid silver background.

Mr Crispin Robinson, Deputy Headmaster (Academic)



David Wynne's Bronze Maquettes

Visitors to Stowe now have the added delight of seeing a selection of the bronze maquettes generously donated to the School, in perpetuity, by David Wynne O.S. (Grenville, 1939-1944). The maquettes are the small-scale models of larger sculptures which David has made throughout his long career and which are now scattered in public and private collections around the world. The smaller sculptures are housed in glass cases while others are free-standing on new plinths, the effect of which, together with the removal of the carpet, has transformed the ambience of the room into a fine sculpture gallery. David's organic, kinetic and naturalistic forms in the bronze Circling Birds and The Dancers, in particular and set in front of the windows, shine in the daylight and compliment nature beyond. Less ethereally, the Leopards in the Tree (see photo) show David's acute study of nature and animal anatomy in a scene he witnessed in Kenya. The leopards had just mated, the male lies exhausted in the Fever Tree, as the female prepares to leap down.

The remaining sculptures range from the busts and statues of famous figures: Pele, Sir Thomas Beecham and Fred Perry to his more famous naturalistic works of a Boy with a Dolphin; and various animals and mammals, including the Aga Khan's victorious race horses. The collection at Stowe will gradually be augmented over the next few years and a summary catalogue is available to visitors in the Blue Room and on the School website. The sharp-eyed visitor who has consulted the catalogue might notice that the maquettes of The Beatles (good friends of David Wynne's and whose heads he also modelled) are missing from the case, temporarily replaced by the boisterous Sir Thomas Beecham figures. There are plans to commemorate the Beatles' concert at Stowe in 1963 with a new Wynne sculpture and further details will be made public in 2010.

We are delighted that Stowe has been honoured with housing David's private collection and archive for the education and delight of Stoics and visitors to the Mansion. We look forward to more of the collection coming to Stowe and exhibited, securely, around the School, and, of course, online too.

Mr Crispin Robinson, Deputy Headmaster (Academic) and Wynne Curator



Initial thoughts after a month at Dominican

Last year's Head Girl Laura Grossick has been in touch with Stowe from Johannesburg where she's spending part of her gap year. Laura is waiting to take up her place at Cambridge University to read Geography in October 2010. She's currently at the Dominican Convent School which has strong links with Stowe as the home in South Africa of the Branson Scholars.

"Coming from the cold and murky depths of the English countryside, it seems I have gained much more than a tan by finding myself at the Dominican Boarding – as I sit in my room I consider that I have learnt more in the past month than could ever have been imagined or hoped – for this, I am extremely thankful. Three months ago, back at Stowe, I sat in the exam hall dreaming about the journey ahead and the days were counted down painfully slowly, such thoughts kept me well amused – particularly during a three hour Geography exam (not to be recommended). A common characteristic of the sceptical by-passers would be the quick, nervous, indrawn breath after telling them I would be spending my gap year out in Johannesburg (such is the view overseas). Little do they know what they are missing out on and how glad I am to prove them wrong! From nights spent dancing to Zulu tunes, or watching 'Generations' and other soaps which I struggle to follow bar the odd word such as 'television' and 'affair,' to simply chatting to the girls at night in my room – the strength of the Dominican family and the kindness exerted by the pupils and staff has been the core to my flowering time out here. South Africa has brought me so much more than biltong and braais. It has also taught me to appreciate the energy in life and the warmth of people around me. I could not be more thankful to the staff and pupils for their kindness and generosity during this first month, which although theoretically should have been difficult, has proved in practicality to be flawless.

My very first day proved to encapsulate these very emotions, and by sunset I had already been on a tour of Johannesburg, met several (what seemed hundreds) of teachers and pupils, took part in a dance-off in the Boarding courtyard (dancing is clearly not a strength of mine) and quickly learnt the witty ways of Mr Moore in the Boarding House – not bad for less than 12 hours work. Everyone made me feel at home and I raved back to England about people's generosity and their kind natures.

So what exactly am I doing out here? Good question. Like an excited child in a somewhat overflowing sweet shop, I was lucky enough to be able to choose the various areas of the School to work in. Greedily I have tried to taste a little from each shelf, and so consequently spend the majority of my time during the day with the shorter variety of pupils in Primary School – a heavenly experience for me. Colouring within the lines, reading 'A is for Apple,' and working on sticking and pasting have been particular favourites of mine. If lost, you will most probably find me talking to 6 or 7 year olds, and I find great joy sitting with the Grade 2s at break time or at supper time and hearing of their days, or their amusing suggestions that I was in fact the Deputy Head of Stowe, rather than the Head Girl – I am not sure what Stowe would make of this! I am also secretly enjoying my new title of 'Miss Laura' and 'Teacher' somewhat exploited whilst on the recent Grade 6 camp. My time in the Wings of Hope has also been a delight – what an impressive place, the highlight perhaps being the plastic egg and spoon race at our Sports Day last week, where many a record was broken. Whether coaching hockey at Jeppe Girls' High School or swimming with the Grade 4s, working on the School magazine or building robots, dressing up or simply relaxing with the girls back in the boarding house, planning trips to Soweto or simply to the gym, each new day has proved to be nothing short of exciting.

Whilst life here is similar in many ways for me, and I certainly feel like I have gone from home to home, differences are undoubtedly apparent. Whilst Stowe may have its advantages with regards to its physical presence, stature and resources available to it, if truth be told it can only stand level with Dominican when it comes to the fundamental core values in life – love, kindness, strength and community. It is such similarities that bring our two worlds closer together. The importance of the partnership between DCS and Stowe becomes more apparent to me as the days go by, particularly as our next lot of Branson scholars leave and I continue to learn from the people met and places visited. Let's hope the relationship continues to go from strength to strength!

Most of all of course – the Boarding House makes a cracking egg sandwich. Lekker."

Miss Laura Grossick (Lyttelton 09)



Nat Thornton

John Thornton, known to everyone as Nat, spent over 35 years working at Stowe together with his wife Ann, who worked in the Medical centre caring for sick Stoicks. They arrived in 1973 and initially Nat looked after the Beagles and also tended the Headmaster's garden. They lived in the West Boycott Pavilion. At that time, Robert Drayson was the Headmaster but when he left in 1979, Nat started full-time as Kennel Huntsman and improved the pack considerably.

The Beagles would be in the boys' charge during term time, under Nat's guidance, and Nat would take over during the School holidays. He taught the boys about mastership of the Beagles and well over twenty boys went on to become Masters of famous foxhound packs. The Beagle pack was shown at the East of England annual Peterborough show, where they won on a regular basis, the best bitch winning more often than the best dog. There were 7 Peterborough Champions in Nat's 18 years. They also went to the Harrogate Show, winning almost every prize and the boys 'were as keen as mustard'.

Nat and Ann moved briefly to Althorp Park for 8 months in 1991 to work as Gamekeeper and Housekeeper to Lord (Charles) Spencer. Nat also looked after his gun dogs. However, it was not long before they were back at Stowe and they moved into Lamport Lodge for 17 happy years, leaving there only on retirement this summer.

Nat has always been a very keen countryman combining fishing, shooting and field sports and for the last 17 years at Stowe was Head of Security and could be seen in his white van checking up on all security issues. For many years, he picked up with his Springer and Cocker spaniels at local farm and estate shoots.

In retirement, Nat intends to go fishing and shooting in Scotland and Ireland. We all wish Nat and Ann a very happy and long retirement but the 'pull of Stowe' still sees him coming back weekly to teach the CCF how to shoot. He is rarely to be seen without his cap!

Mrs Caroline Whitlock

Walpole win the Coldstream Cup

The Coldstream Cup – the hotly-contested inter-house cadet-force competition – was brought forward this year which meant that the water in the lake crossing was disappointingly warm. Notwithstanding this, it was the lake crossing that drew the crowds of spectators who found the shrieks of the competitors as they hit the water strangely amusing.

The truth is that this tough competition tested all 96 Stoicks who took part (8 per House) and they were not found wanting. They had prepared well and the Guards were massively impressed.

Capt Henry St Aubyn is currently a platoon commander at Pirbright and he favourably compared the drill of the Stoicks with that of his soldiers after their fourteen weeks of basic training.

At the end of the day, two things were clear. First, all the teams had made a great effort, and secondly, many of them would feel disappointed at not winning. I would say that completing the course is achievement enough but having said as much, Walpole who retained the cup did work their socks off and their team captain, John Gurney, is considering how he could possibly return next year so that he could go for a hat-trick. (No, John, don't be so sad!)

Lyttelton broke the Assault course record in becoming the best placed girls' house (3rd overall), Archie Voorspuy was the best turned out cadet, and Alex Bodian won the prize for drill. Finally, Euan Welsh won the Nulli Secundus cup for the best CCF NCO of the year.

Rev Major Robert Jackson RACD (TA)



Stowe Beagles

During the first half of term we exercised the hounds over a distance of about four miles every morning. This was done on bikes in order to get them fit for the up and coming season. This has proved to be very effective as the hounds have displayed a good level of stamina and fitness during the first few meets of the term.

The first day of the season, before the official opening meet, is an important opportunity to get the hounds back into their routine and to allow the new puppies, who have just joined the pack, the chance to become familiar with events. At our first meet we had a good day's trail hunting despite the conditions being very dry, which did cause slight difficulties with scent, and the hard ground was quite tough on hounds' feet.

The beagles went on tour to Northumberland during half-term. All the whippers-in stayed at a farm along with the hounds which were also kennelled there.

On the way up and by kind invitation of the Newcastle and District Beagles we were lucky enough to enjoy an extra day on some new ground near Edges Green. We had another three great days to follow at various meets in the area. There was a significant difference in the terrain that we were trail hunting on in Northumberland when compared to that of our home patch. This really tested the endurance of our hounds and provided them with a good, physical start to the season.

At the beginning of the Christmas Holidays we have another tour planned; this time going to both Cumbria and Yorkshire which we hope will be as enjoyable as our recent trip to Northumberland. The season is now fully under way and we trail hunt on both Wednesdays and Saturdays with the hounds going strong.

Michael Leyland (UVI, Walpole)





The Myles Henry Award

Myles Henry attended Stowe School from 1935 to 1939 and was Head Boy of Chatham House. He was an outgoing and gregarious student with a penchant for all sports, being in the 1st XI for cricket and 1st XV for rugby, and in 1939 he played for the English Public Schools XV against the Scottish Schools.

In September 1944, Myles tragically lost his life in the Battle of Arnhem. At the age of 24 he became one of the many heroes who sacrificed their lives for their country and the well-being of future generations.

The Myles Henry Award has allowed numerous students the chance to broaden their horizons and assist with various worthwhile causes across the world. It continues to encourage Stoics to challenge themselves, assist others in less fortunate circumstances and then share their experiences with their family, peers and tutors at Stowe.

Below is a short report of the 2009 summer expedition to Tanzania, undertaken by Abby Payne and Yasmin Afshar (UVI, Lyttelton).

"This summer we spent a month volunteering at the Buguruni School for the Deaf. On arriving, we met with the Headmaster and established that we would be teaching English and art on alternate days.

Once settled in at School we were taken to the convent where we would be staying, which was a 20 minute walk from the School. We met the nuns for dinner each night and also got to know the

other guests staying. This allowed us to meet some of the locals and become accustomed to their culture. The nuns also invited us to a community church service at the weekend, which was also attended by some of the pupils from the School. Here we got to experience a different and much livelier type of church service.

At first teaching a whole class by ourselves was very daunting mainly due to the communication barrier, but as our signing progressed it became easier. We had signing lessons everyday with one of the few teachers who spoke English.

Whilst at the School we were given a four day break to give us a chance to see the rest of the country. We chose to go on safari to Mikumi, in Morogoro. This was an 8 hour drive up to the north of Tanzania, but it was definitely worth it. We spent the days camping out in tents on the reserve with Masai guarding them to protect us from the animals. However our truck did get charged by a rogue elephant! It was the experience of a lifetime and we will definitely return.

The trip was an amazing experience that neither of us will ever forget. We got the chance to meet people who really need our help and people who we felt we could actually make a difference to. We also learnt the skill of signing, which we are still using now. With the money which we fundraised we hope to start a child sponsorship fund in the future. We would also like to thank the Myles Henry family for giving us this opportunity."

Abby Payne and Yasmin Afshar (UVI, Lyttelton)



Prep School Strings Day

Head of Strings, Daniel Bhattacharya, invited four prep schools (St Hugh's, Abberley Hall, Hallfield and Broomwood Hall) to attend a Strings Day on Tuesday 13th October in association with string students from Lancing College and Stowe. Mark Messenger, Head of Strings at the Royal College of Music, was principal guest tutor and led workshops with both the students from Lancing and Stowe as well as the prep school string players.

The day culminated in a concert in which the prep school string players played two excerpts from Vivaldi's Four Seasons and Lancing strings gave a stirring performance of the Concerto Grosso by Handel. All the strings then came together to perform Vaughan Williams' Concerto Grosso, the soloists being the tutors from the course, Mark Messenger (violin), Martin Bloor (viola) and Sally Wood (cello). It was fantastic to hear such young players playing with up-and-coming teenage musicians and being inspired to achieve greater heights by extraordinary solos from Daniel Bhattacharya, Mark Messenger and Stowe's Senior violin music scholar, Balthazar Mattar. Huge thanks go to the staff of the four prep schools for bringing their students to Stowe.

Mr Simon Dearsley, Director of Music



STOWE SCHOOL

STOWE HOUSE

STOWE EVENTS

www.stowe.co.uk

Stowe launched its new website in July 2009. The site saw an improvement in design and functionality. The clean lines, fresh look and user-friendly navigation allow visitors to enjoy their experience and find easily what they need. Recent feedback from parents and other visitors has been very positive.

The new functionality includes a 'Meet the Teacher' area where visitors have the opportunity to browse through the members of staff – selecting individuals from a wall of photos or searching by surname or department. There is even a 'select a random teacher' button.

Via links from the homepage there are video shorts showing all aspects of the School from a

welcome by the Headmaster to views from the pupils themselves. An 'Explore the Grounds' page allows you to fly around the grounds and see Stowe from a bird's eye.

Key areas of the site are updated regularly, including the news and sports pages. The two latest news stories appear in a box on the right of the homepage and sports results are continuously 'ticker taped' across the middle.

The site is definitely worth visiting if you have not yet had the chance or didn't know that significant improvements have been made.

Mr Tim Scarff, Marketing and Old Stoic Director



School



Winning Performances at the House Singing Competition

The evening of Saturday 3rd October saw all 12 Houses compete at the highest and most entertaining level in the House Singing Competition, performing both unison and part songs. Chapel was full with 800 people – Stoics, staff and parents.

The adjudicator was Edmund Thomson Jones (OS) who is currently a third year English undergraduate at Worcester College, Oxford. He has been the Musical Director of the international a capella group ‘Out of the Blue’, based in Oxford. Edmund was funny, to the point and very impressed with the standard of singing that he heard. He was won over by Chatham’s fantastic version of Yellow Submarine, which included all Chathamites wearing their School blazers with the mustard lining on the outside! Nugent, who had trounced all Houses in last year’s competition by winning all three prizes, again won the part song with On My Way. It was a closely fought battle with Cobham whose part song was outstanding but not quite as polished.

Every House put in a huge effort and many Stoics arranged their own Houses’ songs, such as Chloe Knibbs (Stanhope), Rosie Gawthrop (Nugent), Charlie Kim (Grafton), Alex Bodian (Bruce), Jacob Dennison (Temple) and Ed Borland (Temple).

Cobham were the overall winners with their combined marks for Breakfast in America and Lost.

This year truly saw the standard of performance raised significantly; clearly the recent visits of Yale University’s Spizzwinks and Out of the Blue from Oxford were an inspiration to Stoics.

Mr Simon Dearsley, Director of Music



The 2009 Leavers' Ball

On July 4th, we celebrated 152 VI formers' final day in style with a spectacular ball! Leavers, parents and guests enjoyed a lavish champagne reception followed by a sumptuous dinner prepared by Geoff Higgins' team and everyone danced the night away to Rachel Furner and our very own Artbeats.

Every room in the House had been decorated individually by our Leavers, for over 600 guests to enjoy. Stowe House, originally built as a stunning theatrical backdrop to the intriguing politics of the day, came into its own as a true party atmosphere reigned throughout the evening.

Back after a four year absence was the very popular funfair with dodgems, a big wheel, a carousel and a coconut shy attraction as well as a spectacular 20 minute fireworks display.

Special lighting effects on the lake together with paper lanterns lit across all the paths, created a magical setting, for everyone to enjoy. We were exceptionally lucky to have a balmy evening and night.

The Headmaster waved the last of the Leavers goodbye just after 3am...

Mrs Dommie Gill, Head of Events



Mother Courage And Her Children by Bertolt Brecht

Well, The Boyfriend it isn't. After the delicious froth of last year's show, this time around the Drama department have decided to opt for meatier fare, with one of the classic plays of the modern age. Variety is the spice of life, so they say, and it also describes what a good school ought to offer: a chance to experience and enjoy the very different challenges that theatre (and music, and sport, and education indeed) offer.

Brecht the playwright has had something of a bad press. The whole (mistranslated) idea of alienation does not help; it does not sound like an enjoyable night out. Yet I am a great fan, for I love the energy, the vitality, the wealth of ideas that his plays provide opportunities for. Mother Courage is no exception; in the eyes of some, it is his greatest work.

I hope that our production will have helped to demonstrate some of these qualities, with a powerful and committed cast, who remain on stage throughout. However, it has to be said that this play very much stands or falls on the

performance of the main character. She dominates the play, being on stage very nearly throughout, and taking this on, a real challenge for even the greatest actresses, was a task which fell to Rebecca Ingram, and a challenge that she rose to magnificently, showing both the toughness and the vulnerability of the character.

The other notable aspects were the percussion provided by Alex Bodian, physically situated at the heart of the set, and providing the physical and audible heart of the production, as well as the lively vitality of the accordion music provided by Mike Gutkins. Music is important in Brecht, and the songs written by Simon Dearsley counterpoint the brutality of the story. Brecht had important things to say – in this case the inhumanity of war – but just as important are the theatrical means he used to put his ideas across. Song, music, energy, projections and an energetic style are all aspects of his approach, and I hope we put these across.

Mr Christopher Walters, Drama

Photography

The history of the Arts is explained, in part, by artists' willingness to engage with technology and innovation which then feeds their artistic and creative imaginations. The small exhibition in Oxford of digital photographs by George Irvine (OS, Art Master at Stowe) revealed how the latest technology for images can be creatively adapted and re-worked with the eye of the painter visible in tone, depth, juxtaposition and technique. Using elements of the landscape both 'natural' and man-made, George layers, fuses and re-works the found subjects into a more imaginative and visionary world. Strong colours and reflections which deceive the eye and tease the viewer also provoke considered and engaged viewing. For the knowledgeable visitor, intimations of the works of earlier artists, from



Turner to Rothko and Uglow, delight both the eye and mind and support George's personal vision of his rural and built environment. We are delighted and proud to have a practising artist amongst us whose own work engages Stoics at all levels and which also receives due public recognition.

Mr Crispin Robinson, Deputy Headmaster (Academic)



Joint History and Politics Trip to Washington DC

A joint History and Politics Upper 6th trip headed for Washington on Sunday 18th October for 5 days of political and historical visits, meetings and research. We study American Politics in the A2 Government and Politics course and in History cover the Civil Rights movement and 19th century American history. Blessed by wonderful autumnal sunshine we walked our way around the sights and sounds of the

magnificent Federal Triangle. Monday included a tour of Capitol Hill, a meeting with 'Politico', a Washington based political website and newspaper, a tour of the Supreme Court and a very respectable steak in the evening! Tuesday was a walking day during which we strolled the National Mall taking in the vast and impressive monuments and memorials, such as Lincoln, Vietnam, WW2 and Korea. Korea really is the forgotten war with only a few thousand fewer US troops lost in Korea than Vietnam. This was sandwiched between two amazing experiences. Firstly, a much sought after tour of the White House (fortunately we knew someone on the inside!) and a meeting with Congressman John Conyers, the 2nd longest serving Congressman having joined the House of Representatives in 1965. He was scheduled

to give us 10 minutes, but we spent an hour and a half with him (much to the distress of his considerable retinue!), largely because the Stoics were engaging with their interest and questions. Wednesday saw us at Gettysburg for the whole day which was beautiful, poignant and interesting. Finally on Thursday we saw the Constitution and other documents such as the Bill of Rights at the National Archive, interestingly, they also have a Magna Carta, one of only four still in existence, went to Arlington National Cemetery and there was just time for some inevitable shopping. A wonderful trip during which the 16 Stoics were excellent company and a credit to the School and Messrs Way, Swayne, Lewis and Miss Hunter Smart were very pleased to have taken them.

Mr Matthew Way, Cobham Housemaster

Geography Field Trip To North Wales

Day 1: After a crazy night at the Sixth Form Dance and a delicious brunch on Sunday morning we embarked on a four hour coach journey to Snowdonia, North Wales. When we arrived at the field centre, we were greeted by our host Annfarran, and were assigned our rooms. The girls all had en-suite bathrooms and a lucky few had double beds! That night we had our first supper at the centre and then settled down to watch the X Factor in the TV room before hitting the bar!

Day 2: We split into 2 groups and my group went to the Harlech sand dunes. We measured the different steepness of the dunes, and studied how the wind speeds, soil temperature and vegetation changed as we went further inland. Lunch break was particularly fun as we all had the chance to run down a really steep 'blow-out' which is basically a cliff of sand. The boys got particularly into it and even Mr Durrant couldn't resist a go!

Day 3: Today we spent almost all day outside studying the Afon Cynnyd River. We measured how the river channel changed downstream, and each person was assigned a different job: some people measured the channel width or depth while others would have measured the pebble size and roundness at various sites in the river. It was freezing and pouring with rain but luckily everybody had a positive attitude and worked well as a team without complaining.

Day 4: Today we measured the effects of long shore drift on Criccieth Beach which was believed to have formed after the last Ice Age. First we measured the pebble size and roundness on the east end of the beach and then proceeded to do the same on the west end to see how the pebbles' properties varied. Afterwards we had free time in the town of Porthmadog where we were all managed to find some decent food including some delicious greasy chips from the fish & chip shop!

Day 5: The last day: This morning we had to wake up at 6:30am as we had to get back to School by midday. After the teachers kindly woke us up, we brought our bags down and had our last breakfast. The trip overall was a lot of work but everybody made the most of it. We are all very grateful to the Geography department for taking us on the trip and for helping us with all the preparation for our January exam. We will definitely have some good memories.

Cordelia Evans (Upper 6th, Nugent)



A New Stowe Society Ars Longa Vita Brevis Art is Long, Life is Short

The Ars Longa Vita Brevis society (ALVB), run by Mr Rendall and Mr Wilson, has got off to a roaring start this Michaelmas term. We meet three times a week, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays the members are free to discuss whatever cultural topic has entered their thoughts – be it poetry, music, architecture, film or art, contemporary or from hundreds of years in the past. On Saturdays the society usually takes an outing – this half of term we visited the New Inn, near the Corinthian Arch, to see what the historical building looked like for its final time before it undergoes restoration and construction work. The New Inn was the former coaching inn where visitors to Stowe stayed when they weren't quite important enough for the occupants of Stowe mansion to accommodate them personally. When we first turned up we were all certain the place must have seen better days, judging from the smashed windows, crumbling brickwork and the two burned out cars crashed in a ditch virtually on the farmhouse's doorstep. However, talks from the National Trust guides on the history of the house, the panoramic grounds around it and the people who came and went had us seeing the distinct charm of the place and thinking of what it looked like in its prime, and what it will look like after restoration. ALVB have also been quick off the mark to overrun the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford on its opening weekend on Saturday 7 November.



We were captivated by the exterior of the building itself, whose late Victorian, imperial grandeur and Ionic columns are juxtaposed markedly by the modernist, glass and white interior as Mr Wilson dreamily informed us (if one needs a reference point, it looks exactly like the interior of Stanhope/Queens!). Once we were actually inside ALVB members were unleashed to appreciate the art in small groups to see whatever we wished – be it the collections of the Camden Town Artists, the Impressionists and Pre-Raphaelites or the Antiquities, Titian and the Coin Rooms. The 'Hunt in the Forest' by Paolo Uccello was a particular point of contention between ALVB members on whether it was a great Renaissance masterpiece or whether he'd gone overboard on the perspective emphasis (the river looking slightly... as if it were levitating). The highlight was definitely in its café afterwards, drinking Americano coffee or cappuccinos and discussing the amazing art, relics and artefacts we'd seen (of which Balthazar Mattar's beret deserves special mention). ALVB already has more trips lined up later this term and if art and culture is something you're interested in then our door is open to you. The wearing of berets is not compulsory.

Philippa Douglas (Upper 6th, Stanhope)



Literary Society

Stowe School Literary Society offers up to four formal meetings per term, with guest speakers or writers addressing the

members (primarily, Sixth Form, students of English Literature and their teachers). There follows a dinner which gives invited staff and students the opportunity to enjoy conversation and food with the guest. Among recent guest speakers have been Professor Jonathan Bate of Warwick University (writer on Shakespeare and Clare), Sir Peter Hall (founder of the National Theatre), Hugo Williams (winner of the T. S. Eliot Poetry Award) and Professor Vincent Gillespie (J. R. R. Tolkien Professor of English at the University of Oxford). In addition to these meetings, there is an annual celebration of Shakespeare's

birthday on April 23rd, involving music, poetry and drama, and a magnificent Leavers' Dinner, the night before Speech Day, when the Upper 6th have the opportunity to show off their party-pieces while enjoying a five-course meal. Theatre-visits, creative-writing performances and field-trips are also organised under the auspices of the society.

On Friday 2nd of October Foyle Young Poet of the year Richard O'Brien treated the Literary Society to an evening of his whimsically captivating poetry. Despite his age and the bizarre title 'Peanut Butter and the Body-Mind Dichotomy', O'Brien's poetry proved to be saturated with philosophical undertones and satirical observations of modern society that greatly amused and engaged all the members of the society. O'Brien's perceptiveness and wit proved to be of great interest to Stoics as many found that they could greatly relate to his subject matter as well as him as a young individual. O'Brien's confident, fluent recitation was greatly appreciated by all.

Dr Paul Miller, Head of English



From the Chairman

We have had some memorable events for the Old Stoic Society this year. One that perhaps stands out in the minds of the alumni vintage of the 60's was the opening of the David

Donaldson Athletics Track by Lord Coe on a glorious sunny day in September. This new track is now the envy of any public school in the realm and its existence is in no small part due to the inspiration and generosity of some remarkable yet modest Old Stoics. Under David Donaldson, the then master in charge of athletics, Stowe hardly knew what it was like to lose at an athletics meeting. In 1964 four Stoics, two sprinters, a high hurdler and a discus thrower won the 4 x 110 yds relay at the Bucks County Championships. We therefore went forward to the All England Schools Annual Championships. Bucks Athletics Association, in their wisdom, replaced our discus thrower with a sprinter from Langley Grammar. Looking back Nigel Rice recalled, "On paper we were nowhere, but it is how fast the baton gets around, and David Donaldson had drilled his team so well that little old Bucks beat the might of Surrey, Essex, Yorkshire etc." He added, "Richard Clifford, the discus thrower, would point out that we were in fact quicker with him in the squad. Indeed the Bucks record still stands."

As winners, Bucks graduated to become England in the annual Schools International against Scotland, Wales and Ireland. England (3 Stoics + one outsider) won. The School were also represented in the 220 yds and high hurdles and therefore had five slots in the national team. Nigel Rice said that none of us would have been there without David's dedication.

All four athletes, high hurdler John Kinahan (Temple 65), sprinters Nigel Rice (Chatham 64) and Andrew Thomson (Temple 65) and Richard Clifford (Grafton 64) were there for the opening ceremony, and David Donaldson himself was fittingly present to witness what will doubtlessly be a new athletics renaissance at Stowe.

Another very special day was the OS Reunion day at Stowe on 3rd October which celebrated the wonderful contributions made by three retiring members of staff, Lionel Weston, Rosemary Masters and Steven Thompson. Some 260 Old Stoics and their families were in attendance. Following last year's success, the annual OSS dinner will again be held at the Inner Temple Hall on Wednesday 19th May 2010, so please apply for tickets or organise a table.

As we enter the New Year, the OS events calendar is filling up. Full details are on the website (www.stowe.co.uk). We have a gathering in Scotland in April, a reunion in the United States and more business networking events to mention a few.

The newly launched Stowe website is well worth a visit and we hope that this will be the prime communications link for Old Stoics in the coming years. By the time Old Stoics read this they should have received a questionnaire asking them if they would help us update their individual entry in the register. Moreover, we are urging all, wherever possible, to provide us with their email addresses, as this will help us communicate far more efficiently and inform members of the Society from time to time of matters that may well be of interest to them.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Ivo Forde (Walpole 67)

High Pressure Parties by EventOracle



Pressure is an interesting emotion that many of us enjoy and many more of us hate. It can serve as a wonderful incentive and it can force you to make some terrible

decisions. As life experience goes, working under pressure is one that we should all have, and from which we should all learn.

At the end of last year, I started EventOracle a 'Food and Events Concierge' business, which in essence is a party organising and catering company. EventOracle has now been running for eight months organising a complete range of amazing parties from weddings, 21st, 30th, 50th birthday parties and wonderful dinners. It has been a genuinely amazing journey. Once I had my website up and running – www.EventOracle.com – and had e-mailed the world to tell them about my existence I had to sit back and wait for the phone to ring.

So, in January of this year when Corinna Vere Nicoll (Nugent 98) and James Osborne (Eton 94, oh dear) rang me to ask if I could organise their wedding, I felt that God was looking on me kindly. It was only over the coming months that, as the preparations grew and the date got

closer, I realised Corinna, James and I share a vast quantity of friends and almost all of them are from Stowe. Suddenly I was painfully aware that my new company and, essentially, I was about to be scrutinised by nearly thirty Old Stoics. It was then that the pressure really started to hit me.

Her specification was high as she knew exactly what she wanted. Whilst this gave me clear direction, it also meant the pressure to get it wrong was very high. I didn't sleep for three days prior to the wedding, and I spent every waking hour going over every single eventuality. Organising a wedding is one of the most fun parties to be involved with, but there is nothing like it to make you feel the pressure. Adding a healthy dose of Stoics only serves to increase that feeling.

Thankfully I have a fantastic team at EventOracle and Corinna's wedding was a spectacular success. The party rolled on till the early hours of the following day and it was Stoics who occupied the dance floor until the bitter end. I have no doubt that under the watchful eyes of so many Old Stoics the pressure was trebled, but I left the following evening knowing they had, as ever, made the most of such a wonderful day.

Tom Lloyd Owen (Grafton 97), EventOracle.com



20th Anniversary Reunion

The 1989 leavers celebrated their 20th anniversary in London on Friday 25th September. 56 Old Stoics met up at the Century Club in Soho and this included those who jetted in from Australia, the US, Senegal, Switzerland, Holland, Portugal and Spain. Lots of memories with old friends and a suitably funny slide show at the end capped a thoroughly enjoyable evening. On Sunday 27th, around 20 of the assembled group headed up to Stowe with their partners and children for a picnic in front of the Queen's Temple. The grounds were basking in sunshine and the children charged around the new Athletics' Track as a mark of their approval.

Toby Gauvain (Temple 89)

1st XV against Oundle – 1974

In October I watched my son play for the 1st XV against Oundle – a nail biting match with Stowe securing a 10-10 draw in the last move of the game with the Stowe fly-half converting a try wide out through a hurricane wind.

The match marked the 35th anniversary of the match in 1974 when Stowe beat Oundle for the first time since 1939. Oundle were always Stowe's bogey team and despite numerous successful Stowe 1st XVs, victory against Oundle always eluded them – until that memorable day on the North Front in 1974 with the whole School in attendance screaming for victory. Bob Drayson invited the whole team to his study after the game for a beer, a very rare occasion!

Two boys in the 1st XV who played are sons of Old Stoics who played in the 1st XV team against Oundle in 1974. My son Jamie, who is in Chatham, and Sam Shepherd-Barron in Grafton, son of James who was my direct contemporary.

I am happy to say that Stowe has beaten Oundle many times since 1974.

Mark Knight, (Chatham 75)



OS Football

WFW Dudley (Walpole 00) captain of Stowe football in 99/00 and DC Parker (Chatham 00), played in the Vice President of Chelsea's football team v Former Chelsea players at Chelsea's Cobham training complex. William played centre back with former England cricket captain Alec Stewart and had the task of marking Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink, (The Premier League's 8th highest scorer) whilst David managed to beat Peter 'The Cat' Bonetti only to have the goal ruled out for a debatable offside. The game was a charity fundraiser/awareness for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

William Waddell-Dudley (Walpole 00)



Roxburgh Society Lunch – 7th July 2009

One of the great joys of being a member of the Roxburgh Society is the invitation to the Society's annual lunch in early July. The School and grounds are at their glorious best, pre-lunch drinks spill over onto the South Front portico - with its magnificent view, delicious lunch is served in that sensational dining room – Music Room...and there is the opportunity to re-connect with old friends with whom one shares the desire to make a bequest to Stowe, in the awareness that Stowe has played an extraordinarily enriching role in one's life, both as a School and as a place.

This year, after an introductory speech from our President, Kit Clucas (Walpole 60), who commented on the Society's growth, and on the number of men who were wearing the Roxburgh Society tie, the Headmaster gave a wonderfully informative and entertaining review of the School's progress.

Many of us also enjoyed conversations with recent leavers, and by the end of lunch none of us can

have felt in any doubt that our School is in outstandingly good shape.

John Fingleton (Chatham 66), a former chairman of the Old Stoic Society, in thanking the Headmaster on behalf of the guests, joked that this must be the only Society where one isn't called upon to pay one's subscription in one's lifetime. It is indeed a Society which I cannot recommend more strongly to all Old Stoics, of whatever age. To feel that after one's death one is helping to repay all that Stowe means to us is something special. But here comes the bonus...thanks to the Roxburgh Society one can enjoy doing so during one's lifetime!

A memorable day concluded with a guided tour of Stowe House, followed by tea in the Marble Hall. A big thank you to Cherry Baker, Roxburgh Society Manager, and all those who made the occasion such a success.

Anthony Shillington (Chatham 61)



The Devizes to Teddington Canoe Challenge

In early August 2009, Justin Baring, Graham Birch, Jamie Strauss, Tom Clark (Grafton 92), Marcus Hanbury, George Irvine (Grenville 90) who designed the t-shirts, Rupert Hodson and I, having never sat in a canoe before (except for one two hour lesson) set off Hawaii Five-o style for 107 miles from Devizes to Teddington. We paddled for 13 to 14 hours a day for three days, lifting the 75kg canoes over 77 locks on the Thames and the Kennet and Avon Canal.

Forced to wear Lycra, apply Vaseline to places where it was never intended and living on a diet of flapjacks, barley water and the hope of a favourable wind (it was in our faces all the way) we somehow managed it, finishing late on 9th August. The next day, with blisters Sir Ranulph Fiennes would have been proud of, I was shaking like a whippet with exhaustion and wondering how I ever thought it was a good idea.

The reason was, we were raising money for the Julian Baring Scholarship, (www.thejulianbaringscholarship.com) which is a charity helping disadvantaged Sub Saharan African students to do post graduate Geology degrees. Money raised from this canoe challenge will kick start their West African educational project and help to assist The Bulawayo School of Mines, which is on its knees due to the troubles in Zimbabwe.

A massive thank you to all those who have donated to the charity. To date, the amount raised is £30,000.

Charlie Davies-Gilbert (Grenville 89)

Old Stoic Golfing Society

The Society is pleased to record that Bob Durrant successfully completed his 100th Match for the Society in the Halford Hewitt in 2008. Bob is the first Stoic to complete this journey achieved in the years from 1965 to 2008. Attached is a caricature of Bob, a copy of which will be presented by the Old Stoic Golfing Society to the School to hang in the Old Stoic room at the School. Bob is the first Stoic to join this elite group of Hewitt 'Centurions'.

The Society is shortly to launch a website in conjunction with the School and members and prospective members should use the information there to contact the Officers and Match managers to get involved with the Society's activities.

This summer saw our Senior Cyril Gray Team, of Nigel Stern and Tim Slater, win the senior event for a pair with combined ages of at least 140 years with Stableford points of 33 over the Worplesdon course. This is the third year running that this strong pair has won for Stowe. We very much hope they will defend their title in 2010.

Our Autumn AGM, in Norfolk, was well attended and we adopted written rules which will be displayed on the website, whilst we also agreed to elect a first team captain to look after the scratch teams entered for the Halford Hewitt, Grafton Morrish and Alba Trophy at Woking. We are pleased to announce that Sean Morris has been elected first team Captain. Don Jeffreys remains the Society Captain and David Hadfield, our President, also captains the Cyril Gray team for Over 50s.

Charles R.Dimpfl, Hon. Secretary, O.S.G.S. (Chatham 66)



Arranging a Visit to Stowe

The School is always thrilled to welcome back Old Stoics, their families and guests. Beyond the reunion events that the OS Society organises (see back page for calendar of events in 2010), there are a number of possibilities:

Historical tours of the House

Historical public tours of the Mansion are held both in term-time and during the holidays when our Guides will explain the historical significance of the House and show you the restoration work that is being done. Go to www.sht.org for further information.

The School and Boarding Houses

It is possible for you to arrange to visit the main House, Chapel, and see your old boarding House (outside of the historical tours), but it is essential that we know about your presence on site. We would ask that you phone the Old Stoic office in advance (01280 818349) and they will be looking forward to greeting you. Child Protection legislation is very clear and requires all visitors to register at Reception in North Hall and, wearing badges, to be accompanied by a member of staff around the buildings. Additionally, if you wish to visit a particular Boarding House, an appointment must be made in advance with the current Housemaster or Housemistress (names and contact details are on the Stowe website) and, again, please register in Reception on arrival. Fuller details of how to arrange your visit are available on the OS pages: www.stowe.co.uk/old-stoics/visiting-stowe. You will appreciate that there are parts of the School that will be locked at certain times (most obviously during School holidays) and we would ask anyone visiting to respect these closures.

The Grounds

Access to the National Trust landscape gardens is free for Old Stoics, as long as you let us know in advance, by phone or email. You should then park in the School visitors' car park and make yourselves known at the Reception office in North Hall.

Watching Sport

We are always delighted to welcome Old Stoics back to watch the School's sports fixtures. Arrangements for parking will vary dependent on the day, and you will be advised when you arrive at the security cabin. Fixture lists can be found on the School's website.

The Golf Course

Old Stoics are very welcome to play on the Golf Course for a minimal green fee of £10 or an annual membership of £25, which helps to pay for the upkeep of the course. There is no need to book a tee and you can play at any time except Sunday mornings or during special competitions. It may be best to check with the Events Office on 01280 818280. You should use the Golf Course car park which is signposted from the security hut and drop your green fee into the box by the door if no-one's around.

Finally, we are delighted to know of the increasing number of Old Stoics who are registering their children for a place at the School. If you would like to visit the School with this in mind, then please phone the Admissions Office on 01280 818323: they will be very pleased to make all the arrangements with you.

We very much look forward to welcoming you back at Stowe in the future.

Old Stoic News

Many thanks to all those Old Stoics who submitted news items. Please accept the editor's apologies that, due to the overwhelming response and obvious space constraints, it has been necessary to edit some entries and to omit many photographs.

Please keep sending your entries for the next issue, keeping in mind that this section aims mainly to record news from the previous six months.

Email your entries to oldstoic@stowe.co.uk or post them to Old Stoic Office, Stowe School, Buckingham, MK18 5EH.

Prof Charles Miles (Chandos 34)

Charles lives in Gloucestershire with his daughter and son in law. He is pictured here on the banks of the Sharpness/Gloucester Canal.



Mr Gordon Darling (Grafton 39) Gordon and Marilyn are Founding Patrons of the new National Portrait Gallery in Canberra which has already received over 600,000 visitors this year.

Sir Alistair Horne (Chandos 44) Sir Alistair has published three books this year (2008-09), The French Revolution, Harold MacMillan (revised edition) and Kissinger's Year 1973, which is the first authorised biography.

Mr Ian Robertson (Grafton 44) Ian is working on an 'Atlas to the Peninsular War' for Yale University Press.

Mr Michael Manton (Chatham 45) Two (very) Old Stoics have found themselves sailing companions in their boats in South West Turkey – William Atkinson (Bruce 46) and Michael Manton (Chatham 45).

Mr Richard Cox (Temple 48) Richard is studying for a Doctorate at the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies at King's College, London and has been given an Australian Bicentennial Award to do further research in Australia next year.

Mr Roy Hinds (Walpole 51) Roy is now a great grandparent to Tom, born on 2 September 2009 – Grandfather Robert Durrant (Walpole 65), Great Uncles Paul Durrant (Walpole 77), David Hinds (Temple 77) and Andrew Hinds (Temple 84).

Mr John Massey Stewart (Walpole 51) John is a writer, photographer, lecturer and fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. He made his 29th visit to Russia in September, this time to the Urals. There he was asked to lay flowers at the new monument erected by the Ural-Scottish Society on the banks of the remote Chusovaya river to Sir Roderick Murchison – the famous geologist (later President of the Royal Geographical Society) who defined and named the Permian period after his visit to the area.

Mr Nicholas Boulbee (Grenville 52) Nicholas donated his collection of books (250+) on warfare to the Military History Department of a nearby University. He has become an honorary member of the Canadian Military History Society and attends its weekly lectures during the Winter.

Mr George Kent (Cobham 52) George is still visiting India every January to oversee the work of CHIT (Childrens' Homes in India Trust). George was accompanied by Trustee Pauline Stanton-Saringer who taught at Stowe when her husband, Maurice, was the chaplain. Next year he will also take with him Rev. Christopher Turner, former Stowe Headmaster and a CHIT trustee.

Mr Anthony Barlow (Temple 53) Anthony is with the Midlands Aerospace Alliance, based in Coventry, with member companies located right across middle England. He is on the business development team as well as providing support for members.

Mr Adam Blandy (Temple 54) Adam continues the development of the Palheiro Estate in Madeira with the addition of a Spa to complement the golf course and hotel. He still awaits a visit from the OS golf team....

Major Peter Loup (Temple 54) Peter will have been married for fifty years next February and having moved house more than twenty times, as a result of 25 years in the Army, other career moves and finally retirement, he moved to Clare three years ago, a small wool town in Suffolk.

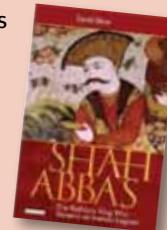
Mr Chris Binnie (Bruce 56) Chris has been a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering for a decade. He has retired from being a Director of Atkins and is now an independent consultant on water issues. He is currently Chairman of the Engineering and Technical Expert Panel appointed by DECC to advise on the Severn Tidal Power studies.



Mr Nigel Morgan (Walpole 57) Nigel was awarded the Order of Australia medal for his services to Charity, Youth, Social Welfare and Cultural groups in the Australia Day honours this year. Sadly the award was posthumous following his passing in July 2008.

Mr Nicholas Pennington (Grenville 57) Nicholas has had an interesting and rewarding 40+ year career in aviation, 25 years of which were spent as Captain with a very well-known British airline. Although almost retired now, he still does some simulator training for a UK airline Training Organisation on a part-time basis.

Mr David Blow (Chatham 59) David has had his latest title published – Shah Abbas: The Ruthless King Who Became an Iranian Legend. He is currently working on another book, entitled The Story of Iran: From the Safavids to the Nuclear Age – due in the spring of 2012.



Mr Robin Hunter-Coddington (Chandos 59) Robin has kindly sent in a photograph of the most recent Old



Chandosian dinner, held in April 2009 which he organises every 2-3 years. Robin writes "*Next time we will all be over 70, but our hearts stay young and our memories of our fantastic time at Stowe ever warmer.*" Those present are: From left to right standing: Alexander Zafiropolo (59), James Kerr-Muir (59), Robin Hunter-Coddington (59), Jeremy Hunter-Coddington (61), John Coleman (58), Robin Behar (59), Michael Likierman (58), Anthony Mash (58), Peter Blayney (58), David Rimmer (59), John Perriss (59), John Utley (57). Seated: Donough O'Brien (57), Hugh Searle (58), plus Anthony Whinney (57) – not shown as he had to leave before the photograph.

Mr Tim Cecil (Chandos 60) Tim's family business is Henry Bucks, arguably Australia's most important and famous menswear retail establishment founded in 1890 by his great grandfather Henry Buck from Yorkshire.

Mr Kit Lucas (Walpole 60) Kit became President of the Roxburgh Society in 2007, succeeding Lord Quinton. He has recently stepped down from the role of Membership Secretary of Wilmslow RUFC with 700 members after seven years and has joined the committee of the Macclesfield Eye Society, for local people with impaired vision.

Mr Brian Macoun (Grafton 60) Brian is still working and running his own company based in Nairobi, with interests in Kenya, Tanzania, South Sudan and Ethiopia.

Rev. John Wates (Bruce 60) John was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music in July.

Mr Timothy Garratt (Cobham 61) Following the recent inaugural Fellowship examinations, Tim was awarded a Fellowship of the Agricultural Law Association.

Mr Peter Henry (Chandos 61) Peter was awarded the Silver Medal of the British Coatings Federation (Paint, Inks, Wallpaper etc) this year. The award was 'earnt' by representing his industry on environmental issues in Whitehall and Brussels.

Mr Lloyd Mather-Lakin (Grenville 61) Lloyd has happily retired to The Villages in Florida – www.thevillages.com ... It has 10 Country Clubs each with 27 holes and 24 Executive Courses. It is an adult Disneyland!

Mr Colin Yarwood (Grafton 61) Colin retired in 2008 from an 18 year sabbatical as Senior Lecturer in Real Estate at Nottingham Trent University and in spring 2009 was elected to represent the East of England on the International Governing Council of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Mr James Cartwright (Chatham 62) James organised the second Lawyers Cricket World Cup played at Cambridge and the Oval in July and August. He has also been adopted again as prospective Parliamentary candidate for his party in the next general election.

Mr Colin McIntyre (Grenville 62) Colin retired from Reuters after 34 years as a foreign correspondent mainly in Eastern Europe and desk editor.

Mr Christopher Scholfield (Cobham 62) Christopher and his brother Brian (Grenville 70) own The Atlantic House Hotel in New Polzeath. Planning permission has been granted for a new hotel, bars & restaurant + 8 sea facing apartments which will be built during 2010 – www.thedoombar.com

Mr Charles Hutchinson (Bruce 63) Charles still lives on the Costa del Sol, between Marbella and Gibraltar, Charles is married with one son and is in Financial Services, looking after the large expatriate population.

Mr Peter Morris (Chatham 63) Peter is in private practice as a solicitor and is currently senior partner of Messrs. Berkson Wallace, a firm of solicitors based on the Wirral.

Mr John Bloomfield (Temple 64) John is designing the lighting for the Bibury Court Hotel facade, as part of the ongoing restoration of this Grade I listed building.



Mr James Agnew (Walpole 65) James took early retirement in July 2008. Having spent the last six years working on behalf of Small Businesses in Cornwall, he was approached by two companies, Wainui SW Ltd and Spiezia Organics Ltd, to help out a few days a week. He is now busier than ever.

Mr David Lees-Jones (Grenville 65) Part of the recent Goodwood Revival weekend was a Concours d'Elegance organised by Rolls-Royce Motor Cars! Owners had to be in period dress according to the year of their motor-car! David was invited with his 1932 Phantom II Continental and won the Pre-War Trophy.



Mr Robert Nisbet (Temple 66) Robert has moved to uttermost Herefordshire, where he and his wife are restoring an old farmhouse. They hope to have the 'west wing' ready for holiday lettings late next year.

Mr Peter Rapelye (Bruce 66) Now 38 years in independent school education, Peter is enjoying his fifth year as headmaster of the Princeton Junior School (www.pjs.org).

Mr Daniel Rubin (Chandos 66) Daniel's company Dune (fashion footwear retailers) acquired the Shoe Studio business in March, doubling its size and giving them distribution in most of the large department stores.

Admiral Sir James Burnell-Nugent (Grafton 67) Sir James left the Royal Navy in 2007. As well as being a Governor of Stowe, he now works as a strategic advisor to international companies in the energy, marine science and financial sectors. He also has his own successful leadership consultancy called Orchard Leadership.

Mr Nicolas Ollivant (Walpole 67) Nicolas recently left Cushman & Wakefield Stiles & Riabokobylko to join Kalinka Realty as the head of their Capital Markets and Investments Department. He continues to live in the centre of Moscow and supports the charity Big Brothers Big Sisters.



An Old Stoic Passion for Classic Cars

John Arkwright, past Chairman of the Old Stoic Society is hoping to organise a Classic Car meet at Stowe in the Summer of 2010. If you are interested in taking part, please email: oldstoic@stowe.co.uk

The Hon Charles Henniker-Major (Cobham 68) Charles has run a Nature Study Centre for nearly twenty years and his wife, Sally, has just retired from teaching at The Chorister School in Durham.

Mr Ted Bainbridge (Walpole 69) Edward has just returned from the Head of the Charles in Boston USA with Leander Club's 1st eight. With five Beijing medallists and three athletes out of the 2009 GB eight in the crew.

Mr Richard Nicholl (Lyttelton 69) After 21 years, Richard will be retiring as Headmaster of Castle Court Prep School, Wimborne, in July next year.

Mr John Lloyd Morgan (Lyttelton 74) John has worked in the London jewellery business for almost 30 years and now has his own consultancy firm, dealing in acquiring and making up jewellery at all prices – www.johnlloydmorgan.com

Mr David Scowsill (Temple 74) David is now Chairman PrivateFly.com, an online booking system for private jet aircraft, and Chairman Yuuguu.com, a business that provides screen sharing capability for people to work remotely from the office.

Mr Daniel Kinahan (Temple 75) Danny is now the South Antrim Ulster Unionist Party Member in Stormont as of June 2009. His son Hugo Kinahan started at Stowe in September 2009 and is in Grafton.

Mr John Ward (Walpole 75) John is a private client lawyer with city law firm, Speechly Bircham.

Mr Nick Coates (Chandos 76) Nick is a business consultant.

Major General William Cubitt (Temple 76) William continues to be the General Officer Commanding London District and Major General Commanding the Household Division.

Mr Howard Goodall (Lyttelton 76) Howard won an EMMY award recently for his score for the HBO film Into the Storm, a Classical Brit Award (Composer of the Year) in May for his Requiem Eternal Light, he is still National Ambassador for Singing, leading a 4-year programme, Sing Up, to improve and enable group singing in all primary schools in England and his recent Classic FM CD Enchanted Voices, featuring fellow Old Stoic Philippa Murray (Lyttelton 02), was no.1 of the Gramophone Specialist Classical Chart for a solid 24 weeks.

Mr Jonathan Hayward (Grafton 76) Jonathan and Fiona recently celebrated their 30th Wedding Anniversary,

having met on a blind date at a sixth form dance at Stowe in 1974. They recently moved to Bristol after farming for 25 years in Northumberland.

Mr Rick Inglessis (Walpole 76) Rick is on the insurance side of the Entertainment industry and has returned to his original broking company in the city, Swinglehurst Ltd.

Mr Chris Johnstone (Chatham 76) Chris (aka 'Chopper' to the soccer pundits) took a degree in Production Engineering at UWIST, where he was the mainstay of the Welsh Universities Hockey team (5 years) eventually being selected for a tour with BUSF. He is now Assistant Head of Purchasing at Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust based in Chichester.

Mr James Bamford (Bruce 77) James is an underwriter at Lloyd's and specialises in Political Risks, Trade Credit, Terrorism, War and Kidnap & Ransom insurance. He is Deputy Chairman of the Political Risks, Credit and Financial Contingencies Business Panel within the Lloyd's Market Association.

Mr Lance Dalzell-Piper (Chatham 77) Lance has lived and worked in the San Francisco area with his wife and 3 children for the past 5 years.

Mr Ben Few-Brown (Grafton 77) Ben won his class in Cowes Week 2009 – sailing! He completed the London to Brighton bike ride in June for the third year, with the team that he organised, The Mid Life Cyclists, raising over £35k for the British Heart Foundation.

Mr Alastair Jessel (Grenville 77) Alastair has spent the last 3 years diversifying his fruit farm and has set up 3 farm shops, including one in Tunbridge Wells High Street, and an ice cream business that appeared on BBC1's 'The Apprentice' in 2008. His businesses have won many awards and he campaigns tirelessly for low food miles, local food sourcing and for people to buy locally, preferably not from supermarkets but the small independents. He has set up a web site devoted to the booming wine trade emanating from English vineyards www.kentandsussexwine.co.uk which operates from Lamberhurst Vineyard, Kent. He has also set up a commercial composting business in Derbyshire taking household waste and converting it into organic compost. He regards himself as a serial entrepreneur and therefore a typical Old Stoic – www.taywell.co.uk

Mr Simon Clegg (Chatham 78) After leading Team GB to its most successful Olympics since 1908 in Beijing last summer and after 20 years at the British Olympic Association Simon Clegg has taken up a new position as Chief Executive of Ipswich Town Football Club.

Mr John Lawrence (Temple 78) John graduated from the University of Queensland as a Bachelor of Applied Science (Agronomy) last Christmas.

Mr Mark Horlock (Walpole 79) Mark has recently been elected to join the Honourable Company of Ironmongers in the City – one of the Great Twelve. He is also accorded the privilege of becoming a Freeman of the City of London.

Mr Ian Knight (Grenville 79) Ian is a practising Solicitor and the senior partner of a firm of Solicitors in Johannesburg called Molefe Knight Attorneys. He is very involved in conservation and is the Vice Chairman of a company owning a large Private Game reserve near the Kruger National Park. He recently qualified as a Solicitor of England and Wales and in 2010 will be admitted as a Solicitor of New South Wales, Australia.

Mr Andrew Bird (Lyttelton 80) Andrew lives in Cheshire. He holds directorships with two regional commercial property companies as well as a non executive position with Dee Valley Group plc, the water utility company serving both Chester & Wrexham.

Mrs Sonya Martin (née Nightingale, Stanhope 81) Sonya runs Highworth Physiotherapy Clinic. She treats both humans and animals and now Chairs ACPAT (The Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Animal Therapy).



Mr Nigel Rossiter (Cobham 81) Cobham 1976 intake Picnic Reunion at Queen's Temple June 2009. In photograph: Nigel Rossiter (Cobham 81) – Consultant Trauma & Orthopaedic Surgeon, Basingstoke; Abbas Lakha (Cobham 80) – QC Criminal Barrister, London; Ricky Vohora (Cobham 81) – Property development, Arusha, Tanzania; Pete Dredge (Cobham 81) – Property development, Mombasa, Kenya; Charlie Miles (Cobham 81) – Farming, Shropshire; Al McLellan (Cobham 80) – Teaching, Epsom; Jamie Dewhurst (Cobham 81) – Tree farming, Warwickshire; Antony Lloyd (Former Cobham Housemaster).

Mr Mark Cazalet (Grenville 82) An example of Mark's current work.



Mr Marcus Cotton (Chatham 82) Marcus took over as Chief Executive of Tiger Mountain Nepal in April 2009 leading Nepal's pioneer responsible conservation tourism group of companies, including Tiger Tops and Mountain Travel Nepal.

Mr Charles Hopkinson-Woolley (Temple 82) Charles is now a partner at Tyrus Capital, an event-driven hedge fund based in London.

Mr Marcel Ivison (Grenville 82) Marcel joined Credit Suisse in Singapore in 2009 as Head of Structured Trade and Export Finance Asia/Pacific. He is an expert in arranging long-term finance for emerging market mobile telecom networks, power plants, oil & gas facilities, infrastructure projects and various types of aircraft and ships.

Mr Andrew Bird (Temple 83) Jamie Bell (Cobham 83) has joined Andrew in a number of businesses in Ghana including farming, construction (www.spencerbird.com) and telecoms.

Mr Richard Carruthers (Grenville 84) Richard is producing an album premiering Russian Composer Dmitri Smirnov's violin sonatas. He has relaunched his website www.music-chamber.com as a networking destination for classical musicians.

Mr Adrian Gee-Turner (Bruce 84) Adrian recently joined Inov8 Science in Buckingham who have designed a new Air Disinfection Unit which is now selling to the NHS.

Mr James Rawcliffe (Walpole 84) James has lived in Grand Cayman since 1999, and has worked in the captive insurance industry since 1996. In April 2009, he became head of Sagicor Insurance Managers Ltd and manages the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility – the world's first parametric insurance risk pool offering hurricane and earthquake coverage to 16 Caribbean governments.

Mr Nick Hughes (Grafton 85) Nick started a full time MBA at Cass Business School in September 2009.

Mr Simon Kyte (Chatham 85) Simon is still working for GLA Economics at City Hall. He has been working on a project with Global Urban Development (www.globalurban.org) on Climate Prosperity which will be launched at the Copenhagen Summit.

Mr Dalton Philips (Grafton 86) Dalton is the Chief Operating Officer of Loblaw Companies Ltd in Toronto – Canada's largest retailer.

Old Stoic News

Mr Matt Biffa (Chandos 87) Matt has just completed music supervision on 'Harry Brown', starring Sir Michael Caine, and 'Dead Man Running', which stars 50 Cent; both are due for release in early November 2009. He is currently music consultant on 'Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows'.

Mr Colin Boardman (Grenville 87) Colin has returned to England to start up a small falconry display business called 'Breck Falconry and Birds of Prey'. His website is www.breckfalconry.com

Mr David Matthews (Cobham 87) David has been appointed European Security Technical Product Manager for Cisco.

Mrs Amanda Ransom (née Wyatt, Stanhope 87) Amanda launched an eco furniture company The English Furniture Workshop in March 2009. The company specialises in restoring and painting vintage and antique furniture – www.englishfurnitureworkshop.co.uk

Miss Kate Reardon (Nugent 87) Kate is happily running www.toptips.com, the community website she founded which harnesses women's bossiness.

Mr Will Chambré (Grafton 88) Will is currently Chairman of the Northern Ireland Government Affairs Group, which recently celebrated its 10th anniversary at a reception hosted by the Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Mrs Clare Hayns (née Benyon, Stanhope 88) Clare is currently in training for ordained ministry in Anglican Church at the Oxford Ministry Course, Cuddesdon.

Mrs Jane Lazzeri (née Baker, Stanhope 88) Jane works as a freelance photographer in Italy. Her website is www.janebakerphoto.it

Mr Mark Reed (Cobham 88) Mark works for the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, in Sydney Australia. He has recently taken on the role of CIO for Institutional Banking and Global Markets.

The 2010 Old Stoic Annual Dinner & AGM

7pm, Wednesday 19th May,
The Inner Temple Hall, London

Tickets are £55 each (includes Champagne Reception, three course meal and wine)

For tickets please email: oldstoic@stowe.co.uk

There will be a separate wine list and cash bar available during the evening.

Book early to avoid disappointment.

The Hon Paul Joynson-Hicks (Lyttelton 89) Paul and Catharine tragically lost their 2 year old daughter in a drowning accident in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, where they live. 6 weeks later Catharine gave birth to a baby boy, Tom William Joynson-Hicks. "The death of our wonderful Molly has changed our lives forever, but the new birth of Tom, brings us hope when there seemed to be none, and joy where all we had was emptiness." Molly's Service of Thanksgiving was held at St Margaret's, Lothbury. Many Old Stoics, who Paul had not seen for 20 years, attended. "Their support meant a huge amount and was hugely unexpected – thank you."

Mr Alexander Talbot Rice (Cobham 89) Alex lives in Florence, painting portraits including HRH The Prince of Wales, His Holiness The Pope and Lady Thatcher, all of which will be unveiled in 2010.



Captain Hugh Beattie (Chandos 91) On 5 September Talal Mohammed Khalifa gave His Majesty The King of Bahrain an oil painting of himself, inspecting the Sandhurst passing out parade, painted by Capt Hugh Beattie.

Mr Jonathan Bush (Bruce 91) Jonathan works for Barclays Bank as a banker focusing on the insurance industry, mostly covering global brokers and large non-life insurers. Recently appointed to the Professional Standards Board at the Chartered Insurance Institute and due to complete his MSc in Strategic Management at Bristol University in 2010.

Dr Emma Hornby (Stanhope 91) Emma's second book 'Western liturgical chant and patristic exegesis' was published by Boydell and Brewer in 2009.

Miss Nicola Morrison (Nugent 91) Nicola and Ralph Hazell (Lyttelton 90) live near Burford in the Cotswolds. Nicola has a Berlin property fund and Ralph set up a technology company called Micro Exchanges, specialising in providing person to person marketplaces.

Mr Justin Murray (Walpole 91) Justin is currently looking for a new job in sports marketing and event management, working either in London but is also open to relocating to North Yorkshire, the North West or Edinburgh.

Mr Max Macintosh (Bruce 92) Max has been working at Google UK for 3 years now, specifically tasked with digital sales and business development, into the top Ad agencies and their advertisers, managing annual revenues of \$50 million across both Google and YouTube.



Mr Iain Hall (Grenville 93) In April 2009 Iain and a friend (Dr. Alastair Shawcross) successfully completed a ski crossing of the Greenland ice-cap. The route was 350 miles long and climbed from sea level to 2,500m altitude, before dropping down again – experiencing temperatures as low as -40°C!

Mr Jonathan Anderson (Walpole 94) Jonathan has been living in Melbourne for 5 years and has worked for Defence Force Recruiting (DFR) for 2 years having run major events for the previous 2.5yrs.

Mr Stephen Barham (Cobham 94) Stephen is the Managing Director of Legal, HR and Accountancy Specialist Recruitment Company – HarveyJohn Ltd (www.harveyjohn.com).

Miss Clare Goring (Stanhope/Lyttelton 94) Clare loves her work with Only Connect, a charity working with ex-prisoners, recruiting from Pentonville prison, involving the guys in creative arts and drama. She's also VERY much looking forward to marrying Tim Doxford (Chandos 94) in January 2010!

Mr Paul McSweeney (Cobham 94) Paul has just developed a new brand of Golf clothing; Karl Kertess Golf. The range can be viewed at www.sportsgolfstores.co.uk

Mr Haslam Preston (Walpole 94) Haslam has moved within Jardine Matheson & Co. to the property subsidiary, Hongkong Land Ltd. He will take up an appointment as General Manager of its Indonesian joint venture in Jakarta in January 2010.

Mr Thomas Barker (Bruce 95) Tom works for the US State Dept in Erbil, Kurdistan.

Mr James Fortescue (Chandos 96) James joined Europa Capital Partners in March 2008 as their Acquisition Manager for the UK, Benelux and Nordics.

Mr Will Kemble-Clarkson (Bruce 96) Jeremy Pemberton (Chatham 96) and Will competed in the longest horse race in the world – 1000km on 22 horses across Mongolia to raise money for Help for Heroes.

Mr Max Mlinaric (Temple 96) Max and Jeremy Pemberton (Chatham 96) founded and have been running Conosco, one of London's leading IT support and services businesses since 2002.

Mr Will Bloomfield (Temple 97) Will is thrilled to announce the launch of NORTH POLE MANAGEMENT. This is a Music management/Publishing company, which represents Recording Artists, Writers and Producers.



Mr Christopher Vane-Tempest (Chatham 97) Christopher is engaged to be married to Alexandra Soens. They will be getting married in May 2010 in Kortrijk, Belgium.



Mrs Emma Buckley (née Dixey, Nugent 98) Emma is training point-to-pointers and producing young event horses.

Miss Verity Scott (Nugent 98) Verity lives in Cardiff and is art directing a Welsh speaking drama series for S4C called 'Pen Talar'.

Mr Hugo Chance (Grafton 99) Hugo was recruited by First London Securities in May this year and works for them as a Fund Manager. He is in the final stages of launching a student accommodation fund.



Mr Vincent Hobbs (Grenville 99) Vincent works for Jetlag Productions – www.jetlagprod.com. This creative and events agency – of which he has recently been made partner – is one of the foremost high-end event specialists in China.

Mr Rupert Burnell-Nugent (Walpole 00) Rupert is an Area Manager for Fullers in the South East.

Miss Cecily Chambers (Lyttelton 00) Cecily is engaged to an Old Stoic, Alistair Burchett (Grafton 99). His brother, Rupert (Grafton 00) is going to be Best Man.



Mr Chirag Keswani (Walpole 00) In January 2009, he ran the Mumbai Half Marathon – in 1 hour 54 minutes and ranked in the top 5 percentile – for his adopted Children's Charity, Dream A Dream, raising £4500.

Miss Emily Townsend (Lyttelton 00) Emily has just taken up her first management role with Tarmac as Section Leader for Asphalt & Concrete at Dolyhir, responsible for 12 people.

Mr Henry Cavill (Grafton 01) Henry is playing the role of the Earl of Suffolk in BBC2's 'The Tudors'.

Mr Jamieson Hodgson (Chandos 01) Jamieson left Accenture in May 2009. He has set up JH Solutions, his own strategic consultancy providing business development advice to a number of industries including production, property and crematoria!

Miss Hannah Tozer (Lyttelton 01) and Harry Trelawny (Grafton 01) are engaged and due to be married in 2010.

Mr Henry Watson (Bruce 01) Henry is working in sales at Winkworth on the Gloucester Road.

Mr Oli Cullingworth (Grenville 02) Oli has recently moved to Redbox Consultancy Services, a catering consultancy business specialising in the oil, gas and petrochemical industry.

Mr Greg Cushing (Cobham 02) Greg will start training for ordination at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, in October 2009.

Miss Bella Myerson (Lyttelton 03) Bella read Law with French Law at UCL and Université Aix-Marseille III and has started a training contract with Cleary Gottlieb in their London office.

Mr Christian Roe (Walpole 03) Christian is in a new play by David Hare called 'The Power of Yes' about the financial crisis and it runs in the Lyttelton at the National Theatre until the end of January.

Mr Champ Donavanik (Chandos 04) Champ has joined his family's hotel business to work in the Investment and Development team at Dusit International.

Mr Josh Downing (Bruce 04) Josh has taken up a position with Atlantic Swiss based in Holborn.



Mr Harry N Thuillier (Bruce 04) Harry works at a motorsport and automotive electronics company called Racelogic and has recently been promoted to the position of Marketing Manager.

Mr Cyrus Poteratchi (Chandos 05) Having finished his four year apprenticeship term to the Worshipful Company of Skinners, in November 2009 Cyrus was made a Freeman. Since enjoying his City job in the banking sector and passing relevant banking examinations, he has joined the family firm as Marketing Director.

Mr Graeme White (Bruce 05)

Nottinghamshire has signed 22 year old Northants all-rounder Graeme White on a two-year contract. "We wanted to get a young spinner on board and Graeme is the ideal acquisition considering the quality of player that he found himself behind at Northants," said Nottinghamshire Director of Cricket, Mick Newell.



Mr Thomas M Tett (Grafton 06) Tom joins Deloitte in September 2010.

Mr Rory Brabant (Bruce 07) Rory is signed to National 1 side London Scottish and is working hard towards a career as a fast jet pilot.

Births



Mr Paris Natar (Lyttelton 73) Paris and Minda would like to announce the news of their third daughter's birth on 8 January 2009, Artemis Mei Mei Natar.

Mr Daniel Charles (Lyttelton 82) Daniel and Victoria are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Archie Michael, born on 8 May 2009.

Mr James Rawcliffe (Walpole 84) James and Gretel had twin boys, Matthew and David, on 7 September 2008.

Mrs Stephanie Fraser (née Struthers, Stanhope 86) To Stephanie and James, a son, Alastair George Fraser born on 11 August 2009, a brother for Iona, Mary and Alice.

Mr Rob Pumfrey (Chandos 88) and Mrs Helen Pumfrey (née Mills, Stanhope 85) Martha Rose Pumfrey was born on 22 September 2009 at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford. A sister for Matilda and Peter.

Mr Mark Reed (Cobham 88) To Mark Reed and Kerry, a son, Oliver James Reed born on 11 November 2008; joining his three siblings, Andrew, Maya and Isla.

Mr Peter Sawbridge (Chatham 88) Peter and his wife Harriet, daughter of Bishop Colin James (Chaplain of Stowe, 1955-1959) are delighted to announce the birth of Lawrence, a brother for Verity and Ivo, in Winchester on 18 May 2009.

Mrs Rachel Eke (née Patton, Nugent 89) Rachel and Neil had a baby daughter, Jemma, on 17 January 2009.

Mr Charles Wolseley Brinton (Lyttelton 89) On 2 July 2008, to Charles and Emily, a son, Frederick Charles Arthur, a brother for William and Archie.

Mrs Philippa Hodson (née Luard, Nugent 90) Philippa and Rupert had twins: Hugo and Esme, born on 14 February 2009, a brother and sister for Willa.

Ms Anna Saunt (Stanhope 90) To Anna and Jonathan Lord, a daughter, Marla Indiana May born on the 5 June 2009, a sister for Samuel.

Mr Mark Flower (Chatham 91) To Mark and Joanna, a son, Milo Flower arrived on the 14 October 2009.

Dr Emma Hornby (Stanhope 91) To Emma and Tom Robinson, a son, Peter William Robinson, born 30 January 2009, a brother for Hannah.

Miss Nicola Morrison (Nugent 91) and Mr Ralph Hazell (Lyttelton 90) Nicola and Ralph had a son, Lochlan Hazell, on 9 April 2009.

Mr Tim Scarff (Grenville 91) Tim and Mary had a son, Sam Dacre, born on 9 August 2009, a brother for Barnaby.

Mr Alexander Thomson (Cobham 91) Alex and Katie had a daughter, Chloe Josephine, born on 18 August 2009, a sister for Clementine.

Mr Ian Thomas (Bruce 92) Ian and Sarah Thomas had a son, Oscar Edwin, on 18 September 2009.

Mrs Susannah Acland (née Bell, Nugent 93) Susannah and Alex Acland had a daughter, Olivia, on 22 July 2009.

Mr Stephen Barham (Cobham 94) Stephen and Tia Barham had a son, Felix Luke on 9 July 2008.

Miss Emma Brown (Stanhope/Lyttelton 94) Emma and James Wright had a daughter Rowan Mary Wright born on 2 February 2009 in Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury.



Mrs Henrietta Black (née Magan, Lyttelton 95) Hen and Dan had a boy, Jamie Thomas, on 2 May 2009.



Mrs Tamsin Samartin (née Abecasis, Nugent 96) Tamsin and Paul had twin girls, Delilah and Evelyn on July 27 2009.

Mr William Bloomfield (Temple 97) William and Sophie are delighted to announce the birth of Leo Rascal Bloomfield on 20 March 2009.

Mr Luke Woods (Walpole 97) Luke and Kate had a daughter, Charlotte Alice Woods on 9 April 2009.

Mrs Emma Buckley (née Dixey, Nugent 98) Emma and Donnagh had a son, Harry Michael on 10 November 2008, a brother for Benjamin.

Mr Anthony Burnell-Nugent (Walpole 98) Anthony and Georgie had a son, Harry, on 30 March 2009.

Mrs Bella Butler (née Lloyd Owen, Nugent 99) Bella and Will had a son, Rory on 7 May 2009. Godson to Lucy Keenan (Nugent 99).

Deaths

Captain David Garstin (Bruce 37) on 7 August 2009.

The Rt Hon The Earl Dawyck Haig (Chandos 35) on 10 July 2009.

Mr Arthur Robertson (Bruce 39) on 21 February 2009.

Major Anthony Aylmer (Chandos 41) on 13 April 2009.

Mr Sinclair Watson (Bruce 41) on 10 March 2008.

Mr David Craig (Cobham 42) in the Autumn of 2009.

Mr Simon Lloyd (Bruce 43) on 3 December 2008.

Mr Richard Gentry (Chatham 44) on 25 September 2008.

Mr Richard Sayer (Bruce 44) on 25 October 2009.

Mr Richard Harris (Cobham 46) on 19 December 2008.

Mr Hugh Henry (Grenville 46) in February 2009.

Mr Richard Fox (Bruce 47) in 2009.

The Very Revd Paul James (Bruce 48) in June 2007.

Mr Anthony Van Beugen Bik (Chandos 48) on 19 August 2008.

Mr James Currie (Grenville 49) on 1 August 2009.

Mr Gerald Mallinson (Temple 52) on 17 July 2009.

Mr Howard Rutter (Grafton 54) on 16 September 2009.

Mr Stuart Burrell (Chatham 56) on 19 April 2009.

Mr Robert Smith (Grafton 59) in 2008.

Miss Louisa Crisp (Lyttelton 97) on 19 November 2009.

Mr Mugabe Kaijuka (Grafton 99) in April 2009.

Mr Peter Longhurst (Former Staff 67-88) on 21 November 2009. There will be a Memorial Service for Peter in Stowe Chapel at 2.30pm on 24 April 2010.

Mrs Annie Nichols (Married to Jeremy Nichols, Former Headmaster 89-03) on 11 November. There will be a Memorial Service for Annie in Stowe Chapel at 2.30pm on 10 April 2010.

Please email: oldstoic@stowe.co.uk if you wish to attend either Service.

Marriages

Mrs Rachel Eke (née Patton, Nugent 89) Rachel married Neil Eke at St George's Church, Preslute, Marlborough on 5 April 2008.



Mr Ben Ridley (Walpole 90) Ben married Antonia Calvert on 16 May 2009. 27 Old Stoics were in attendance.

Mr Simon Ridley (Walpole 95) Simon was married to Natasha Airey on 5 September 2009. Old Stoics in attendance were: David Ridley (Cobham 59), Michael Ridley (Cobham 56), Ben Ridley (Walpole 90), Huw Steward Richardson, Best Man, (Chandos 95), Nick Roberts (Cobham 95), Nick Pinkney (Walpole 95), Miranda Jaffery (née Raison, Lyttleton 95), Sophia Chambre (née Calvert, Lyttleton 95), Tom Chambre (Grafton 95), Mark Meredith (Chandos 95), Chris Hardwicke (Bruce 95).

Mr Stephen Spencer (Walpole 95) Stephen married Angela Walker on Saturday 29 August 2009 in Stowe Chapel.



Mr Alberto Di Majo (Chandos 96) Alberto married Teresa Vecchi on 4 July 2009 in Cesena, Italy. Mr Niccolo Montesi (Cobham 96) was also at the wedding.



Mr Armand David (Chatham 98) Armand married Amanda Kingsmill Brown on 10 October 2009. In attendance was Arvind David (Chatham 93).

Mr James Vane-Tempest (Chatham 99) James was married to Charlotte Oddie on 6 June 2009 at St. Mary's Church, Great Milton, Oxfordshire. Old Stoics present were: Christopher Vane-Tempest (Chatham 97), Kwesi Amissah-Arthur (Bruce 99), Edmund James (Chandos 97), James Cara-Southey (Chatham 97), Stewart Vane-Tempest (Chatham 68), Steve Burrell (Chatham 68).

Mr Rupert Burnell-Nugent (Walpole 00) Rupert married Emily Thompson in 2009.



Mr Piers Craven (Bruce 01) Piers married Jura Cullen on the Isle of Man on 25 July 2009. David Hyslop was Best Man. Alex Kirkwood, Mark Harper and Patrick Bingham were ushers (all Bruce 01). Hannah Durden (Nugent 01) and Peter Farquhar (Piers' Tutor) also attended.

Mr Ed Hackett-Jones (Temple 01) Ed married Eloise Ellis on the 18 July 2009 at Gleham Hall, Little Gleham, Suffolk. Old Stoics present were: Nicholas Verney (Temple 01), Charles Archer (Temple 01), Peter Birt-Llewelin (Cobham 01), Caroline Hughesdon (Lyttelton 01, née Tovey) and Henry Leon (Temple 01). Also present was Jamie Henderson (Temple Housemaster 1995-2001).

The Earl Haig



The 2nd Earl Haig (Dawyck), who died on 10th July 2009 aged 91, was the only son of the First World War commander on the Western Front, Field Marshal Earl Haig. Born on 15th March 1918, he was educated at Stowe (Chandos 1931-5)

and Christ Church, Oxford. He remembered Stowe warmly and had particular affection and respect for J.F.Roxburgh who, Haig later wrote, 'encouraged responsibility for behaviour and discipline to come much more from within than without.' JFR gave each of the boys 'his friendship and we trusted him as he trusted us.' The compliment was returned in a moving exchange of correspondence between them on the occasion of JFR's retirement, when Roxburgh wrote that Haig's letter had been one of the kindest he had received.

When fighting as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Second World War, Haig was captured in the Western Desert in 1942. He was imprisoned at Oflag 12B, Hadamar, Germany, and it was there that he discovered his passion for, and ability in, painting. Using a mirror, he painted self-portraits and then portraits of fellow officers in the prison camp, including one of Dr Adam Farquhar which was included in an exhibition held at Stowe in 1990. Because he was his father's son, Haig had the misfortune to be moved to Colditz in November 1944.

After the war, Haig studied at the Camberwell School of Art. His reputation as a painter quickly developed and his work was frequently exhibited. The focus changed from portraits to landscape pictures of the Scottish Borders where he spent most of his life. Many of his works now reside in the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in Edinburgh. Among his admirers was the Queen Mother. The present Queen appointed him to the Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland in 1958. He was a trustee of the National Gallery of Scotland from 1962-1972.

Haig was a descendant of the Haig whisky company. He lived for most of his life at Bemersyde, a medieval house bordering the River Tweed in the Scottish Borders which he inherited after his father's death in 1928. In 2000 he wrote an autobiography of the first 30 years of his life: 'My Father's Son'.

Haig campaigned tirelessly to rescue his father's reputation following the controversy which raged about the scale of losses during the First World War. He was devoted to the servicemen's charities founded by his father. He was awarded the OBE for his service as chairman of the British Legion in Scotland from 1962-5. He was president of the Earl Haig Fund for ex-servicemen from 1980-6. The poppy factory in Edinburgh, set up by his mother, now produces over 4 million poppies every year.

Dawyck Haig is survived by his second wife, two daughters and his heir, Viscount Dawick (OS 1979).

P.A.S.Farquhar



Boys' sport update

Rugby

The key sport this term is Rugby for the top 4 years and Hockey for the 3rd Form.

Rugby across the School this year is enjoying its most successful term ever. Three of the 10 teams we regularly put out were top at their level in the National Performance Leagues.

Currently the 1st XV are having an outstanding season, after an initial blip against Oakham and Mill Hill they have not lost since the 25th September drawing at Oundle and beating St Edward's along the way. This success has culminated in their continued progression in the Daily Mail Cup where they have reached the 5th round knocking out such luminaries as Dauntsey's. The team's success has brought 4 boys U18 County recognition, Miles Johnson, Jamie Knight, Will Richardson and Tom Baldwin.

The 2nd XV are also having a fantastic season winning 8 out of their 10 fixtures to date. The Colts A have suffered through injury this term, losing influential skipper Cameron Roberts and Vice-captain Henry Rudd both long-term casualties. A lapse in confidence has seen tight matches go the way of the opposition; however Ben Nichols and Ollie Winton have both been selected for Oxfordshire and the East Midlands respectively. The Colts B are enjoying a

successful season winning 6 out of their 8 matches thus far. Sadly the Colts Cs who are going well have had several of their matches cancelled as schools cannot raise sides at their level.

The Junior Colts year group is outstanding with the As winning 10 of their 11 matches and are also in the 5th round of the Daily Mail cup with a home tie against Wellington College next. The B-team have lost only one of their fixtures to the Carres GS A-team and they sit top of the National Performance league for their level. The Cs too have won 5 of their 7 matches and are now only second to Millfield in their League structure.

Cross-Country

The Junior Cross-Country runners have been to the fore this term. Our 3rd/4th Form team competed in the County Schools team championships, going through to the East of England Regional final which they ran in October, they just failed by a single place to make the National final. In the Chiltern league they are currently in second place overall. They have been led ably from the front by the Dickinson twins Casper and Josh both of whom have been selected to run for Bucks in the Inter County Championships.

3rd Form Hockey

Our new 3rd Form boys have had a successful start to their sporting careers at Stowe. This term they have been introduced to hockey and the As have won 5 of their matches and drawn one – the highlight, an 8-0 demolition of Loughborough Grammar School. The Bs have also had success - winning all but one of their matches. They have won games by bigger margins, but their 4-2 win over the Leys was their most impressive performance. The Cs, Ds and Es have not had a huge amount of hockey yet this term, but have been a credit to the School in each match they have played. There is some good sporting pedigree in this year group and they have a healthy positive attitude which should serve them well over the years.

Cricket

Some of the success stories to emerge after the summer include Ali Birkby being invited to England U18 Trials, Ben Duckett was invited to Midlands trials, John Gurney started his contract on the Leicestershire Academy in September and Ben Payne, Jake Olley, George Jackman, Harry Martin, Russell White, Liam Gough, Archie Hood, James MacDonald have all got County trials in the near future.

Mr Alan Hughes, Head of Boys' Games

The Opening of the New Athletics Track

The sun shone on a remarkable day at Stowe on Sunday 20th September, for the opening of the David Donaldson Athletics Track and Sports Day 2009. Over 500 parents and their families, many Old Stoicks including the donors whose generosity made the new track possible, and other distinguished guests joined 760 Stoicks and staff in a day of great atmosphere and competition.

Sebastian Coe, KBE – double Olympic champion and 12-time record-holder – opened the track and commented: *"These are fantastic facilities and it is such a stunning setting. It's a great asset to Stowe and the School is clearly a great asset to the community. Particularly in track and field, Stowe has a strong place in our sporting history."*

The new athletics track is built to a high specification and we hope will be used not just by Stoicks throughout the year, but by local clubs too.



Competition during the afternoon was intense: the overall boys' competition was decided in the very final relay and was won by Cobham (2nd – Bruce; 3rd – Chandos). The overall girls' competition was won by Queens (2nd – Stanhope; 3rd – Lyttelton).

Mr Colin Dudgeon, Development Director



Girls' sport update

Despite losing a strong group of Upper 6th girls last summer, our younger girls, coupled with an exciting new intake of Lower 6th have stepped into the vacant slots and continued their winning ways! As I look back at the successes so far, I marvel that so much has been achieved in such a small amount of time.

Our Hockey Teams are through to the County Finals at every single age group:

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| U14s beat | Aylesbury Grammar School | 8-0 |
| U16s beat | Royal Latin School | 6-0 |
| U18s beat | Aylesbury | 1-0 |
| | Royal Latin | 1-0 |
| | Akeley | 2-0 |

- Our U14s, coached by Sarah Sutton have played some exciting hockey and look a fabulous squad. They have scored 32 goals so far, losing only one game.
- Our U15s, coached by Henry Swayne, finished the half-term with 6 wins from 6 games making them the 'team of the week'.

They have their sights set firmly on winning the county finals and becoming the first Stowe side to reach the regional round.

Our lacrosse teams have also started well with our U15s and 1st team picking up trophies at the Berkhamsted 8s during our pre-season weekend.

The Midland Schools' tournament was hosted by Stowe this year and both our Senior teams fared

well in the opening rounds. Our 1st team won their section convincingly with 4 wins and a draw, scoring 19 goals and conceding only 4. The semifinal against Bedford was disappointing though and I am sure the girls will want to reverse the result at Nationals next March.

The following have been selected for Bucks U19 this season:

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Lydia Wood | (Stanhope UVI, Captain) |
| Georgie Saunders | (Nugent UVI) |
| Rebecca Elliott | (Lyttelton LVI) |
| Bryony Seekins | (Nugent LVI) |
| Danni Allard | (Nugent LVI) |
| Jose Brake | (Lyttelton LVI) |

The above are competing in the Senior Counties Tournament on Nov 7th and Midlands selection will follow shortly afterwards. It should also be noted that the 1st team have played 12 games, winning 10, drawing 1 and losing 1 so far this term!

Finally, our netball players have been enjoying a fun session once a week before their season starts with earnest after Christmas. However, for the first time ever we decided to enter a team in the county round and the following players competed for a place at Regionals:



Caitlin Gracie

Tsakane Sambo

Lisa Dunkley

Phoebe Avent

Yemurai Soper-Gwatidzo (Queen's 5th Form)

Isabella Cameron

Laura Welford

Georgia Drummond

(Nugent UVI, Captain)

(Stanhope, 4th Form)

(Stanhope LVI)

(Stanhope UVI)

(Queen's 5th Form)

(Queen's UVI)

(Queen's 4th Form)

(Queen's LVI)

Despite no real preparation the girls managed to record excellent victories against Mandeville (14-0), Royal Latin School (10-5) and Waddesdon (10-2) and it was only a loss against John Colet at the end that prevented them from going through to the next round.

Many thanks go to all the coaches for their inspiration and hard work. Good luck must also go to our international star, James Fair who will be competing for England in the Champions Trophy over the next month. This is a top 6 in the world competition with Australia, Spain, Holland, Germany and Korea so please look out for information in the press about his performance and of course, England's.

Mrs Jayne Duckett, Head of Girls' Games



Lacrosse

On Saturday, October 10th, Stowe School hosted the annual Midland Schools' Lacrosse Tournament. A total of nine schools attended: Stowe, Wycombe Abbey, Bedford High School, Uppingham, St. Helen & St. Katharine, Moreton Hall, Malvern St. James, Tudor Hall, and Royal Grammar School-Alice Ottley. Thanks to the work of Steve Curley and his staff, the Bourbon held about 18 teams participating on four fields in the 1st Team and 2nd Team Divisions.

The Stowe 1st XII started off the day strong, winning their matches against Tudor Hall, Moreton Hall, and RGSAO and drawing with Malvern St. James. Their bracket record allowed them to advance to the semifinals where they met Bedford High School and eventually succumbed 0-6. Danni Allard led the attack with 8 goals and 2 assists, while Captains Tash Trevor and Lydia Wood led the defense with support from Jose Brake.

The Stowe 2nd XII mirrored the 1st Team's success in their division. Playing a total of 7 games in a round-robin competition, the Stoicks prevailed in five against St. Helen & St. Katharine, Uppingham, RGSAO, Malvern St. James, and Wycombe Abbey 'A'. Their efforts earned them 3rd place in the tournament. Zara Nichols finished the day with 9 goals and 6 assists, while the defense was led by goalie Rachel Buckley-Taylor.

Mrs Liz Hollick, Lacrosse Coach

The Stowe Equestrian Team at Bloxham

The Stowe Equestrian Team competed at the Bloxham Inter Schools Eventer Challenge Plus. More than 20 school teams competed and in the Intermediate class, 2 Stoicks, Tamara Rowan Hamilton (4th Form) and Lauren Bell (Upper 6th) were placed 3rd and 6th respectively.

Congratulations must go to all the Stoicks who competed on a very hot day, Charlotte Cook (5th Form), Lauren Bell (Upper 6th), Annabelle Hutt (4th Form) and Emily Beatty (5th Form).

Also competing at the weekend was Jose Brake (Lower 6th) who competed at the Stonor School Inter Schools One Day Event. Jose did extremely well, she was placed 17th out of a huge class only missing out on a higher placing by a 4.8 timing fault. Congratulations on a super performance!

Mrs Elena Hughes, Equestrian Coach





Stowe House Preservation Trust Winter Report

Stowe House Preservation Trust is pleased to announce commencement of the next phase of restoration – the South Front façade and the State Library and Ante-Library. Although we were unfortunate not to receive Heritage Lottery funding, we are being strongly backed by an anonymous benefactor and the World Monuments Fund, as well as private donors and the Country Houses Foundation.

The restoration of the State Library is progressing well but is proving more complicated than first thought. The ornate plaster ceiling is being stripped back to its original wood and many of the rosettes from the coving have fallen off at a touch. The paint scrape analysis has identified 11 different painting schemes over the last 170 years, including gilding in the coving. We have yet to work out which scheme relates to what date

and if the central panel, thought to be put in during the 1790s, was in fact put in earlier. The removal of the South Front render is revealing the brickwork, with bricked up doorways and windows. Removal of very damaged stonework is also ongoing.

We are also very pleased to announce the arrival of 8 plaster statues and 4 fibreglass incense burners in the Marble Saloon, the originals of which stood in the niches up until the Great Sale of 1848. They are a generous gift of the Hall Bequest Trust, set up with an education remit and to encourage the School to understand its historic past. The additions very much bring the room alive and have been a delightful surprise to both the School and to visitors.

Miss Anna McEvoy, Stowe House Preservation Trust

Stowe Enterprises

After many years of trading as SSES, (Stowe School Educational Services Ltd) we have decided to re-brand and to re-launch the business arm of the School. Stowe Enterprises manages all the events that take place outside of term time such as corporate days, weddings, Christmas parties, private parties and residential courses. We also look after the School shop and all the sporting facilities when they are not used for School activities. The Events Team also look after some of the larger School events such as the Leavers' Ball and Speech Day.

Here are some highlights of this summer:

19 couples were married in either the State Rooms or the Chapel at Stowe and all enjoyed wonderful wedding breakfasts prepared by our very own chefs and parties in the main Mansion.

Stowe played host to the Real Madrid summer football camp, a camp dedicated to children learning English in the morning and being trained by Real Madrid coaches every afternoon. The summer course lasted 5 weeks and over 250 children from all over the world participated.

Opera DELLA Luna put on a fabulous performance in the Roxy of 'The Sorcerer' by Gilbert and Sullivan in August which was a complete sell out.

The Buckingham Cricket Finals were very hotly contested with over 400 players, parents and coaches enjoying a fine day at Stowe.

Red Bull chose King George and Stowe House as its main backdrop to create a rooftop tea party stunt to promote its forthcoming motorbike competition. In order to create the perfect photograph, the British champion jumped over King George some 90 times much to the delight of all the staff.



Looking forward:

We are pleased to announce the launch of the Darren Gough Sports Academy @ Stowe School in the summer of 2010. This new academy will focus on the School's key sports including cricket, rugby and hockey for the boys and hockey, lacrosse and tennis for the girls.

The cricket coaching will be headed up by Darren Gough and James Knott, Director of Cricket, whilst the other sports will be headed up by Alan Hughes, Head of Boys' Games at Stowe School and other leading professionals in the fields.

The course is aimed at children ranging between 9 and 13 years old.

The Academy will run for two weeks, one residential week (26th July to 30th July) and the non-residential week will run from 2nd August to the 6th of August. To find out more, or to register your interest please contact me on 01280 818282 or email: dgill@stowe.co.uk

If you are thinking of a corporate event or a private party Becky Armstrong and I would be delighted to hear from you. We can be reached on 01280 818280 or 01280 818282

Mrs Dommie Gill, Head of Events



Old Walpudians Rock The City For Army Charities

On July 30th, William Dudley (Walpole oo) and Piers Winton (Walpole oo) took to the stage in Leadenhall Market, London with their charity rock band to raise money for The Mark Evison Foundation and Welsh Guards' Afghanistan Fund.

Lieutenant Evison, a university friend of William's, died on May 12th 2009 from a gunshot wound to the shoulder sustained in The Helmand Province 3 days earlier. Mark's commanding officer said "*Lieutenant Mark Evison was one of the finest young officers of his generation and a truly remarkable young man... he was a natural leader – tactically astute, clear-sighted and cool and decisive under pressure. His platoon gave him the affectionate nickname '007' – a testament to their high regard for his capability, style and charisma. I suspect that his life, tragically cut short, would have gone on to shape history.*"

The evening was a massive success raising over £15,000 for the 2 charities. Amongst the 600 strong crowd were more than 20 Old Stoics, showing their support to both the evening and the many other Old Stoics in the Armed Forces.

The Mark Evison Foundation was set up shortly after Mark's death by his mother to ensure his legacy lives on. It will provide financial support to children who need help and support to realise an ambition. Anyone wishing to learn more about it or donate should visit www.markevisonfoundation.org or send a cheque to Mark Evison Foundation, 118 Court Lane, London SE21 9AL.

William Waddell-Dudley (Walpole oo)

Events diary

We provide a selection of dates of interest to members of the Stowe Community who are welcome to attend these and other events held at Stowe. Contacts for obtaining further information are given below.

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 16 January | Lower School Open Morning (13+ entry) |
| 27 February | Lower School Open Morning (13+ entry) |
| 21 March | Old Stoics v Stowe Cross-Country, Stowe (To register email: simonfgardner@googlemail.com) |
| 17 April | Old Stoic Scottish Reunion Dinner, |
| 24 April | Upper School Open Morning (16+ entry) |
| 24 April | Old Stoic 40th Anniversary Reunion Dinner (Leaving Years: 1969/70/71), Stowe |
| 15 May | Lower School Open Morning (13+ entry) |
| 19 May | Old Stoic Annual Dinner and AGM, Inner Temple Hall, London |
| 29 May | Speech Day Stowe |
| 12 June | Old Stoic Open Golf Tournament, Stowe Golf Course |
| 16 June | Old Stoics in Media, Arts & Entertainment, Venue TBC |

Stowe School Stowe Buckingham MK18 5EH
Tel: +44 (0)1280 818000 Fax: +44 (0)1280 818181
School: enquiries@stowe.co.uk Old Stoic: oldstoic@stowe.co.uk
Admissions: admissions@stowe.co.uk