

Stowe mail

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NEWS ROUND UP FROM STOWE

Worsley Science Centre



Stowe's new Science Centre was officially opened on Tuesday 24 January 2017 by the family of Henry Worsley, MBE (Grafton 78), the Polar explorer who tragically died on his solo attempt to cross the Antarctic last January. His wife, Joanna, and children Max and Alicia, joined with other members of their family, friends, donors to the building, pupils and staff to mark the opening of this outstanding new facility. Boasting 18 laboratories, a Sixth Form Science Centre and six lecture theatres, the building has been named the Worsley Science Centre, in celebration of Henry's life.

his family, agreed to be our guest speakers. Ben spoke of his connection and friendship with Henry and of the late explorer's kindness and generosity. Ben hinted that he hoped to return to Antarctica to finish Henry's solo and unsupported crossing of Antarctica.

After Ben and Edward's inspiring speeches, Joanna Worsley and her family opened the Worsley Science Centre and guests were able to view an exhibition of Henry's Polar equipment and images from his adventures. Guests were also treated to a series of experiments, all conducted by pupils at Stowe. Dr Claire Guest of the local charity Medical Detection Dogs gave a talk about their work and guests saw a trained Detection Dog in action. During the afternoon, guests were also given the opportunity to meet 'Stowe', a puppy that has been sponsored by our pupils' fundraising efforts and that has just begun his training to be a Medical Detection Dog.

Henry was the only person to have completed the two classic routes of Shackleton, Scott and Amundsen to the South Pole. On 24 January 2016, Henry died while attempting the first solo unsupported and unassisted crossing of the Antarctic landmass. He was just 30 miles from reaching his target.

On the first anniversary of Henry's death, we were delighted that Edward Hall, a close friend and contemporary of Henry's at Stowe, and Ben Saunders, a leading Polar explorer and friend of Henry and

The day was a celebration of this wonderful new facility but also of Henry's life: it was an inspiring day for all involved.





Canine Partners, and our Derby

Canine Partners is a brilliant charity that trains dogs to do jobs that at first might seem pointless or just clever 'tricks', but for the people who can't do these things for themselves, these dogs change lives.

You may have seen Derby at Stowe with our Mum. When we were little, our Mum was crushed between two cars in a school car park. Our lives changed completely – instead of having a mother who looked after us, was very active and did loads, our Mummy suddenly couldn't look after us, walk or play, and was in pain all the time.

After several years Mum heard about Canine Partners. She applied and, eventually, along came Derby, a gorgeous very 'waggy' black Labrador with the most adorable eyes who seemed to love us just as much as we loved him. Mum and Derby were partnered and we had a new member of the family. Although we had to ignore him completely for six months, so he knew that Mum was in charge and completely focused on her – only when she said the words, "say hello", did he wag his tail and greet everyone – it is amazing how little you can say to make a dog wag so much! It was really hard not to cuddle and play with him, but worth it because together Derby and Mum became part a team; they were inseparable.

We saw them learn to do things that Mum had not dreamt of doing since her accident – unloading and reloading the washing machine, tidying things away, stripping beds, picking things up, carrying things around the house/garden, fetching us or giving us messages (Mum can't run to get us, so Derby learnt to carry messages in his mouth!), and so much more. Our favourite 'jobs' were him waking us up and him getting his own food - he even put his own bowl in the sink.

Can you imagine what it must feel like always to have someone with you and have to ask for help all the time (even to get the phone or to

take your shoes/socks off)? Having Derby meant Mum could be on her own again. There was one day that Mum went out completely on her own for the first time in ten years; because Derby was there to help her do the things she couldn't do on her own. Having Derby meant that we didn't have to stay with, call or worry about Mum so much. We were all so much freer; Derby changed all of our lives.

Amazingly Derby also helped Mum with the pain – he told her when she had done too much, or when more pain was coming. This was amazing for us – seeing Mum in pain distressed all of us; it was unpredictable and often seemed unmanageable... until Derby started to help.

Last summer Mum found lumps in Derby's neck. He had lymphoma, but he was young, treatment worked and the lumps went away. Then, a few weeks ago, he suddenly got worse and we had to say goodbye - it was harder than we could have imagined. It was awful. Our lives changed again.

Mum is lost - she feels disabled and is completely reliant on people's help again. We can't describe how we all feel; Mum has lost her help now Derby has gone. What really helps though is that we know that (soon we hope) Mum will get another Canine Partner. There will never be another Derby, but a new dog will join our family team.

Here are two links so you can see what having Derby was like. The first is the last 10 minutes of an [ITV programme](#) (Britain's Favourite Dogs), and the second a [fun film](#) made for a fundraising event - do watch until the end.

A friend is raising money for Canine Partners in memory of our wonderful Derby – the dog who changed all our lives and showed us what was possible. We want to help. We would be so grateful if you would give anything you feel able to, to help Canine Partners train and support more dogs to transform lives, as Derby did ours. You can contribute by [clicking here](#).

Thank you.

Oscar (Fifth Form, Temple), Phoebe (Fourth Form, Queen's) and Fixy Hill (Third Form, Queen's)

ROWING

Stowe 1st VIII races at Peterborough

On Saturday 4 February, the Stowe 1st VIII travelled to Peterborough for the Head of the Nene rowing race. The crew was Ilya Riskin (bow), Tom Fox (2), Finlay Sutherland (3), Will Fox (4), Ayrton Patel (5), Oscar Hill (6), James Pocklington (7), Archie Morley (stroke) and Elliot Patel (cox). They formed as an Eight in October and have worked hard to produce a crew that can compete in Eights races. The first trip to Cambridge in the Michaelmas term was very much a learning experience. This time, in the event for Novice Men's Eights, the Stowe crew found themselves starting between two competitive crews from 1st & 3rd Trinity, Cambridge and Bedford School. Although Bedford proved the quickest, the Stowe crew were the 10th fastest finisher out of 53 boats in the midday race, and can be pleased with their improvement since the Autumn. Hopefully they can find more pace over the coming weeks, leading up to their main event, the Schools' Head of the River Race at Putney on the River Thames, rowed over the Championship Course for the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race. Next term it is hoped that Stowe can be represented at the National Schools Regatta on Dorney Lake, the London 2012 Olympic venue. The crew were taken to Peterborough by Mr Wilson, Mr Rudkin and Mr Longworth and supported by the Pocklington and Fox families.

HOCKEY

On Wednesday 1 February, the U14 boys had a fine 4-1 win against RGS High Wycombe in the County Cup and this victory gives them a small chance of progressing in this competition. Our U16 also put in a strong performance against RGS and drew 2-2. On Saturday 4 February, the 1st XI had an impressive 3-1 win against Uppingham. The Stowe 2nd XI put in a strong performance at home to Uppingham but lost narrowly 2-3. The U15s did extremely well against Uppingham drawing the U15As match, however there was a 1-0 win for the U15Bs and a 5-1 win for the U15Cs.

Ben Scott, Head of Hockey

SQUASH

On Tuesday 24 January, Hugh Buxton (Upper Sixth, Temple) won the final rubber in the Senior team's excellent 3-2 victory against St Edward's.

In a thrilling encounter away at Bedford, Stowe's top squash team once again demonstrated that they are a force to be reckoned with in the South Eastern schools' circuit with an excellent 3-2 win against Bedford. The 2nd team clinched a fine 4-1 victory against Bedford.

Paul Floyd, MiC Squash





Lunchtime Recital

On Tuesday 31 January, Stoic musicians gave an outstanding lunchtime concert at St Paul's Church, Bedford as part of their Lunchtime Recital Series. This successful concert series regularly features up-and-coming stars who are graduates from music conservatoires and following on from the Stoic piano recital last term; we were invited back this term. I am pleased to say that the concert was a resounding success, and I was immensely impressed by all those that took part.

Jeffrey Au (Fourth Form, Walpole) gave an electric performance of two contrasting Sonatas by Scarlatti, and this was followed by a sublime performance of Prière by Delmas on the harp, given by Charlotte Brennan (Lower Sixth, West). The acoustics in the church was beautiful and the sound produced by Charlotte reached all the way to the rafters. Audrey Au (Third Form, Lyttelton) and Rosia Li (Third Form, Stanhope) then played a Mozart duet for violin and viola which was like listening to a fascinating musical conversation. Both players communicated excellently during the performance and the balance between them was very well considered.

The centrepiece of the concert featured Mozart's Horn Quintet in E flat Major performed by Alex Grinyer (Upper Sixth, Walpole), Chris Windass (Head of Strings), Rosia Li, Amalia Aitchison (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Lewis Bell (Upper Sixth, Grenville). The overall ensemble was very well polished and the performance was very well balanced and highly musical.

Theodore Hayes (Fourth Form, Chatham) performed Gershwin's 'The Man I Love' and 'I Got Rhythm' with sensitivity and conviction and Lewis Bell and Rosia Li gave an assured and well-shaped performance of Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata on the viola and piano. Lewis performed Les jeux d'eau à la Villa d'Este by Liszt, and the serene, water-like passages were both technically and musically refined.

To finish the recital, Audrey and Jeffrey Au



performed Kreisler's Praeludium and Allegro, a virtuosic showpiece which pushes the limits of technique on the violin. Audrey's performance was astoundingly good and it was a great way to finish the concert.

I would like to thank all the performers and Heather Turnham, Artistic Director of the lunchtime concert series at St Paul's for her hospitality.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard



CRICKET

Graeme White (Bruce 05) has been selected for the England Lions squad for the one-day series against Sri Lanka in March. Following this match Graeme will be playing for the North squad for the three-match 50-over series against the South in Dubai and Abu Dhabi. England's National Selector, James Whitaker, said: "Graeme White deserves this chance after his performances for Northamptonshire in county cricket last summer which had already earned him a place in the North team through the PCA's Most Valuable Player rankings."

We wish Graeme and fellow Old Stoic Ben Duckett (Grafton 13) good luck with the one-day series.

James Knott, Head of Cricket

RUGBY

Our Yearlings sides produced some fine performances against Uppingham on Saturday 4 February winning 3 of the 4 matches played. The As continued their fine form with an excellent 36-5 victory and the C team won 19-12. The performance of the day came from the D team who had suffered a heavy defeat in the previous week against Oundle. They bounced back this week with a 36-19 win to claim this week's 'Team of the Week' award.

Alan Hughes, Head of Rugby

GOLF

Stowe golfers have had a busy few weeks filled with expert coaching, practice and completing CONGU handicap cards in preparation for our inaugural PGA coaching and development trip to Portugal in April. With a busy schedule of both Junior and Senior fixtures fast approaching, competition for places has never been so fierce with many Stoics beginning to impress. Thomas Riley (Fourth Form, Bruce) has shown an unwavering commitment to his practice and is now beginning to reap the rewards with some excellent play. Other notable improvers this term are Thomas Youds (Fourth Form, Chandos) and Max Smith (Fourth Form, Cobham) who, on the back of some very consistent golf, have been selected to represent the Senior Golf team against Harrow at Stoke Park in our season opener this week. With the prestigious Gerald Micklem Trophy taking place in early March, I will certainly have a very healthy pool of competitive golfers to choose from.

Mr Andrew Hancox, PGA Golf Professional & Head of Golf

Stowe Science Review
Stowe's Mathematics, Technology & Science Newsletter

The Rainbow Alphabet
An alphabetical list of the most interesting scientific facts in the world.

Lobes of the Brain
A guide to the different parts of the brain and their functions.

Medical Detection Dogs
How these amazing animals can help people with disabilities.

Stowe Science Review

The latest edition of the Stowe Science Review has now been published and is available from the [Stowe website](#). It is the biggest edition yet and includes an interview with Dr Claire Guest, Chief Executive of Medical Detection Dogs and articles on the brain, synaesthesia and Ebola.

We hope that you enjoy reading it and encourage all Stoics to write articles for the next edition.

SSR Editorial Team

Skye Longworth (Upper Sixth, Nugent), Fabiola Koenig (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) and Georgina Skinner (Upper Sixth, Nugent)



Holocaust Memorial Day

Following on from the success of last year, Stowe marked the International Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January with a beautiful and highly moving event led by Arts at Stowe and the Music Department. The event honoured the 6 million Jews murdered during the Holocaust and Old Stowe, the late Sir Nicholas Winton (Grenville 23), who was responsible for saving 669 mainly Jewish children from Czechoslovakia during the Second World War. The theme of this year's event was 'How can life go on?', a broad and open-ended question to which there are few answers in the face of such barbarity. As Deborah Howe (Arts at Stowe) so aptly conveyed on the evening, it is important that we bear witness to the unprecedented atrocities that took place during the Second World War and we all have a responsibility to keep the memories alive and to educate future generations. In an attempt to answer the question posed by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, Stoics and staff recited poetry, performed music and gave readings to help preserve the memories of the victims of the Holocaust through the arts. Rachel Sherry (Head of Vocal Studies) worked fantastically with the singers, who performed works deemed as Entartete (degenerate) by the Nazi regime. These included songs by Jewish composers such as Mahler and Mendelssohn. The beauty of the music performed on

the evening was a clear demonstration that such high art is not bound to man's inhumanity towards his fellow man; it has the ability to outlive and transcend any such vulgar labels. I would like to thank the following Stoics for their outstanding contribution to the evening: Reaoboka Ramakoalibane, Tallulah Goldsmith, Emilia Pacia, Peter Entwisle, Alexander Gabison, Olivia Omotajo, Oscar Hill, Charlotte Brennan, Isobel Hopkins, Helena Nuttall, Emily Wilson, Audrey Au, Evgeniia Zen, Mali Aitchison, Rosia Li, Lewis Bell, Emily Banks, Imogen Oliver, Georgina Vallings and Oliver Seddon. I would also like to thank Deborah Howe for her inspiring work with the children and liaison with the English and Art History departments, Chris Windass for his fantastic work with the String quartet and also Rachel Sherry, for coaching the singers and giving a wonderful solo performance herself. Thank you also to Jack Palmer and Elizabeth Chubb for their inspiring presentations. The evening featured special guest appearances by fortepianist Sylvia Berry and Baroque cellist Juliana Soltis and we are very grateful for their contribution on the evening and in the lead up to it. I composed a violin and piano arrangement of 'Hatikvah' (the hope) especially for the evening and it can be heard [here](#) being performed by Audrey Au.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard



History of Art

On Wednesday 25 January the Upper Sixth History of Art pupils embarked on an exciting venture to London, in which we visited the Tate Modern Museum, followed by the Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art in Islington. Both galleries therefore encompass the Modern side of our course and it was particularly useful for us to see some of the Cubist or Futurist artworks we have recently studied; including Mandora by Georges Braque at the Tate, and Leaving the Theatre by Carlo Carrà at the Estorick which illustrated the innovative style of Futurism which appropriately introduced the topic to us. Seeing the artworks in real life really helped us to appreciate the skill of the artists as well as being able to fully comprehend the historical and social context that provoked them to create it. The trip was a real success with much achieved and many thanks goes to Ms Chubb and Mr Robinson for organising it so efficiently.

Laurine Heerema (Upper Sixth, Queen's)

Kidscape

Every year Stowe welcomes twelve children from around the country to a confidence and self-esteem building weekend in conjunction with the anti-bullying charity Kidscape. The children are mentored for the weekend by our Peer Support Group and volunteers from the Lower Sixth Form. The weekend is made possible with the kind and generous support of Mr Bruno Wang and the advocacy of Mr Peter Bradley, Director of Kidscape. Peter comes to Stowe twice a year to train the Peer Support Group in leadership, resilience and empathy skills so they are equipped with all the necessary skills for the weekend. He has since written a piece about the weekend at Stowe for the newly published book 'The School of Wellbeing: 12 Extraordinary Projects Promoting Children and Young People's Mental Health and Happiness'. You can read the chapter [here](#).

Kirsten McLintock, Head of Pupil Welfare





Ashfold Masterclass

On Wednesday 25 January, several Stoic musicians visited Ashfold School to give a concert and masterclass to their budding young musicians. The Stoics had a great time working with the young musicians, coaching them on arrangements made by Chris Windass, Head of Strings. The pieces included 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' and 'Jupiter' from Holst's 'The Planets'. It was wonderful to see the Stoics encouraging and working with the younger pupils, bringing out the best in their playing. I was also hugely impressed by the standard of playing of the Ashfoldians and they clearly gained a lot from the experience, which included a joint performance and improvisation workshop.

Following the coaching sessions, the Stoic musicians gave a concert to the teachers and Ashfoldians, and I must say that it was one of the most enjoyable Stoic concerts I have ever been a part of. Each Stoic displayed incredible musicianship, and all of them gave highly accomplished performances. The concert featured solo and ensemble works for piano, strings and horn including works by Kreisler, Kapustin and Mozart.

I would like to thank Claire Haynes, Director of Music, Michael Chitty, Headmaster, and the Ashfoldians themselves for making us so welcome. I would also like to thank Chris Windass and the following Stoics for their inspirational concert and workshops: Poppy de Salis (Fifth Form, Stanhope), Audrey Au (Third Form, Lyttelton), Rosia Li (Third Form, Lyttelton), Jeffrey Au (Fourth Form, Walpole), Lewis Bell (Upper Sixth, Grenville) and Alex Grinyer (Upper Sixth, Walpole).

On Thursday 26 January, I revisited Ashfold to work with their pianists on multi-piano arrangements in preparation for the Stowe annual Keyboard Festival Day on Thursday 9 March and it was wonderful to see so many pianists working together in an ensemble.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard



Partition Lecture

The Partition of India in 1947 is a momentous event in history for the 1.6 billion people who live in Pakistan, India and Bangladesh. 70 years on, it continues to have an important legacy for the subcontinent. Despite this, the events surrounding partition are not a core aspect of the curriculum in the UK so the History Society were pleased to welcome Professor Ian Talbot from the University of Southampton to speak on this topic. He explained the violence and mass migrations that claimed the lives of at least 500,000 Indians and opened up the way in which historians think about these events. It was also exciting to hear about Ian's frequent visits to both sides of the border, including his widespread travelling across Pakistan in the 1970s; an activity that is less advisable for British tourists today.

A Level pupils taking the modern course were also pleased to have a university-style seminar on the events of 1857, when the British were challenged by an uprising in the East Indian Company's Bengal Army. This tied in well with Stoics' studies of the British Empire (1763-1914) but also opened up undergraduate level

questions, such as the interpretation involved in naming such an event. For example, the connotations of calling it a 'mutiny' are very different to the impression given by 'revolt'. Ian also explored the difficulty that historians have in piecing these events together, given the weight of evidence coming from the British rather than contemporary Indian sources. The same group of Stoics were pleased to pick up on these high level conversations further during the customary dinner in the Blue Room.

The anniversary of independence will be celebrated on 14 August (in Pakistan) and 15 August (in India) so we might expect more publicity of partition this summer. Gurinder Chadha's film *Viceroy's House* (due for release next month) will also bring these events to a wider audience. Following their briefing from Professor Talbot, historians at Stowe are well prepared to understand the historical context of these important anniversaries and have received another insight into the variety and level of study of undergraduate History courses.

Paul Griffin, Head of History



NETBALL

The U14Bs beat The Buckingham School 19-10 and the U15As recorded a fine 29-10 win against Sir Thomas Fremantle on Thursday 19 January and on Thursday 26 January they recorded successive victories by beating Waddesdon 9-6.

On Saturday 28 January the Senior teams won all three games against Bedford Modern. The 1st team won 19-11, the 2nd team won 28-6 and the 3rd team won 12-6.

The U14As prepared for their weekend Nationals tournament with an impressive 35-3 win against Waddesdon on Thursday 26 January. In the Regional Round of the Nationals on Saturday 28 January, the team drew with Headington and beat Ryde School and Roedean to finish fourth in their group and sixth in the whole of the South Region.

Lauren Ellis, Head of Netball



SWIMMING

In the Inter-House swimming finals which took place on Sunday 29 January, Grafton won the Junior boys' competition, Bruce won the Intermediate competition and Chatham won the Senior boys' competition. In the girls' competition Nugent won all three categories.

Will Perry has qualified for three events in the World Para Swimming Series in Sheffield in April. This is the stepping stone competition that leads to the World Championships in Mexico City.

Cheryl Davis, MiC Swimming



Pokémon - forget it and do the real thing!

Geocaching is a recreational activity, in which participants use a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver or mobile device and other navigational techniques to hide and seek containers, called "geocaches" or "caches", at specific locations marked by coordinates all over the world.

A typical cache is a small waterproof container containing a logbook and sometimes a pen or pencil. The geocacher enters the date they found it and signs it with their established code name, in order to prove that they found it. After signing the log, the cache must be placed back exactly where the person found it. Larger containers such as plastic storage containers (Tupperware or similar) or ammunition boxes can also contain items for trading, such as toys or trinkets, usually of more sentimental worth than financial. Geocaching shares many aspects with benchmarking, trigpointing, orienteering, treasure-hunting, letterboxing, and waymarking.

Whilst there are 3 million geocaches all over the world, Stowe's landscape gardens are host to a circular walk covering 7 miles, with over 30



geocaches hidden back in 2012 which have been found by over 200 participants.

Geocaching makes a walk so much more interesting and takes you to places you would not otherwise visit. I have found over 3,000 geocaches in seven different countries, and have hidden over 200 myself in the Buckinghamshire area, for more information, visit www.geocaching.com and join the world's fastest growing outdoor activity.

Geoff Higgins, Head of Catering Services



BASKETBALL

In the Inter-House Basketball competition on Saturday 4 February, the Bruce versus Chandos boys' final was outstanding. The scores were level at the end of normal time and a further 5 minutes of overtime couldn't separate the teams. Bruce came through the second period of overtime to win an epic by 24 points to 22.

In the girls' competition, Nugent and Queen's could not be separated during the round robin matches with both houses winning three matches and drawing one, however, Queen's went through as champions on goal difference.

Isaac Michael, MiC Basketball



LACROSSE

The lacrosse 1st team had an outstanding day at Royal Holloway University for the South East Lacrosse Finals on Saturday 4 February. The girls started off with a solid 3-2 win over St Paul's Girls School and a 2 all draw over a very strong Guildford High School. From there the girls went on to win against Bedford and Caterham and placed 2nd in our pool. The team went as far as the semi-finals with a 2-0 win against Wycombe Abbey in the quarter-finals.

On Sunday 5 February, the 1st team had an excellent day at the Top Test Classic at St Helen and St Katharine school in Abingdon. After a slow start there were wins against St Helen and St Katharine, Wycombe Abbey and Downe House. Philly Stacey led the goal scoring on the day with 10 goals and Olivia Thomas scored 8. Clarissa Llanaj made 20 saves on the day.

Kaitlan Griffin, Head of Lacrosse

Kwasuka Sukela

Former Drama teacher Chris Walters and his wife are currently spending their retirement at The Dominican Convent School, Johannesburg. Chris is working with the staff and the pupils until mid-May and is working towards putting on a production with the pupils titled Kwasuka Sukela (Once Upon a Time). Chris and Val are documenting their adventure in a highly amusing blog which can be read [here](#). We look forward to keeping up to date with all their antics.



Happy and safe cycling

In our drive to ensure that Stoics and Staff are using safe and roadworthy bikes around the School, I would encourage all pupils who have bikes on the School premises to have them registered and tagged.

What does registering and tagging actually mean? It allows the bikes' serial numbers to be added to the School's bike database and will ensure that in the event that your bike is lost or stolen we will have a record of the type, colour and serial number.

I know that having spoken to those stoics that have so far registered their bikes, they were not aware of where the serial number actually is, so please bring your bike along to have it registered. I will add a red tag normally under the seat which will identify the owner, serial number and House.

On another note, there are many bikes in the School bike sheds that are not roadworthy and need to be removed. Can I ask all parents who have purchased a bike for your loved ones, that they are carefully maintained, registered and

tagged? I will be carrying out an inspection of the sheds over the coming weeks and those bikes that are not roadworthy will be removed these from the sheds. I will do all I can to identify the owners before doing so. If these unroadworthy bikes can be repaired, I will arrange with the Stoics to get parents' permission before any repairs are made, as there will be costs incurred.

If you are aware that there is a bike left on the premises that you no longer require and wish me to dispose of, or you would like your bike serviced, repaired or any advice, please let me know [directly](#) or contact me on 07391 632554.

As we approach the Spring season now is a good time to have your bike serviced ready for the lighter evenings and Summer months.

The workshop continues to be open during term times every Thursday between 16:00-18:00 and will be available during weekdays to carry out any necessary repairs.

Happy and safe cycling!

Nick Zammit, Stowe Cycle Mechanic

WATER POLO

On Tuesday 24 January Alfie Kingham (Upper Sixth, Walpole) led the Senior team to an excellent 11-3 win against Oundle.

Cheryl Davis, MiC Water Polo

IN BRIEF



StoweSport.co.uk

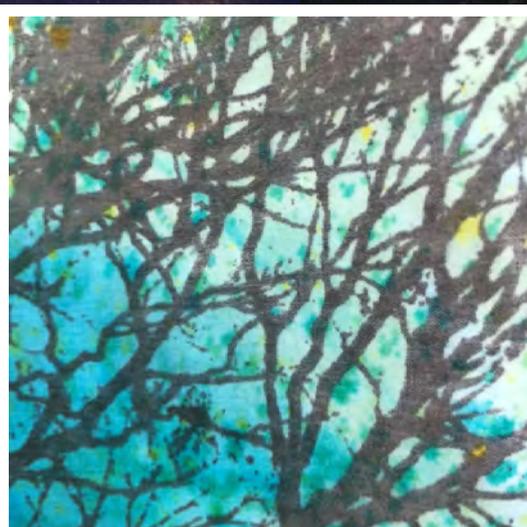
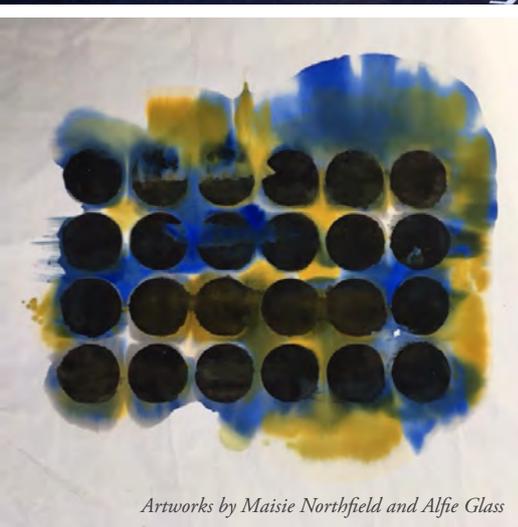
For up-to-date news, fixtures and results from all the sports at Stowe make sure you visit our dedicated sports [website](#). You can also get live reports from our teams by following us on [twitter](#).

[@stowesport](#)

GCSE Drama

GCSE drama pupils recently performed their devised pieces to packed audiences of teachers, friends and parents. The pieces were diverse, edgy, political, humorous and creative making for a terrific collection and an inspiring sharing of pupil voice. It was wonderful to witness the sense of purpose, generosity and professionalism shown by our Fifth Formers. The pieces tackled issues including coming of age, radicalisation, war, addiction and loss and were performed in the style of physical theatre and naturalism. There were many moving and pertinent moments with standout performances from Ben Jorgensen, Gloria Carvalheira - Mobaraki, Tom Fras, Polly French, Ally Jordan and Mark Rapoport; and particularly effective creative lighting design by Tavish Struthers. A real celebration of drama.

Rebecca Clark, Director of Drama

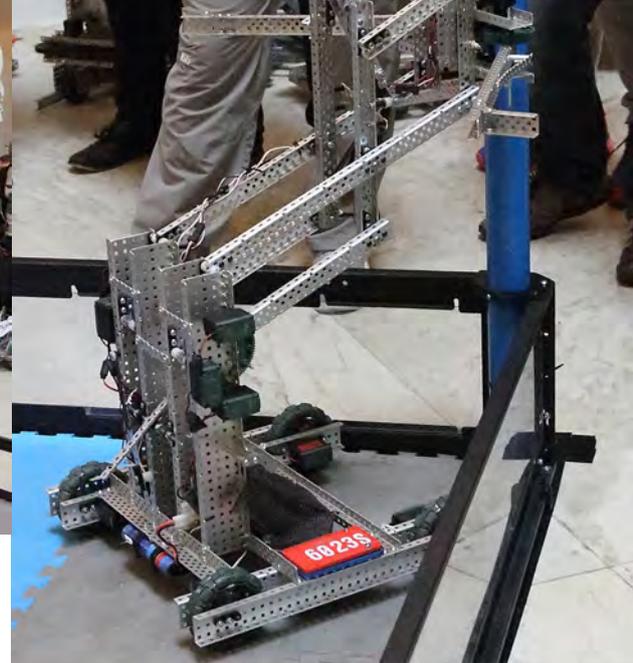


Artworks by Maisie Northfield and Alfie Glass

Printing Workshop

On 4 and 5 February Stowe School hosted a printing workshop by the artist Carol Waller, who create wearable art utilising an array of painting and printing techniques. The workshops were attended by members of the public and pupils from both Sponne School in Towcester as well as Stowe's own GCSE and A Level art pupils. The workshop provided a fantastic opportunity for everyone to learn and develop the use of screen printing to produce creative colourful representational and abstract outcomes. Existing art pupils were also able to enrich their portfolios by transferring ideas and visual research into screen prints.

Chris Grimble, Art Department



STOWEBOTS

As part of the regular regional VEX robotics events leading up to the National finals, Stowe hosted a competition that saw 18 UK teams and seven Chinese teams compete to be tournament champions and four national final places for UK teams. For one UK team there was also a place at the world finals up for grabs, this place goes to the team at the event with the best engineering logbook combined with the best performance at the event. This year's game involves awkwardly shaped 'stars' and large soft cubes which must be put over a dividing fence, the team with the most on the other side at the end of the game wins.

It has been a tough year with a higher standard of competition than last year's game. The Stowe regional was particularly tough with a high standard of robot and a lot of close games. At the end of the qualification (seeding) matches the top eight ranked teams were from the UK. The StoweBots senior team finished in 5th in qualifying. Going into the play-offs the senior team was sadly knocked out at the quarter-final stage, while the Junior team made the semi-final.

The senior team missed out on the design award for the best engineering logbook by 1 mark, missing out to the team who took the Excellence award with the World Final place. The award was judged by Hannah James (Nugent 97) who works with the Gulf Endurance Racing Team and Michael Tanner who is doing his PhD in robotics at Oxford University.

The StoweBots have had a tough season, we brought home a trophy from an early regional and the senior StoweBot team has gained a place at the national finals for a finalist placing at a previous regional. We also currently hold the UK high score of 61 points for this year's game. The senior team will be competing at the National Finals in March (with a chance gaining a World Final spot). There is also one more regional coming up at the end of February for the Junior team to try and qualify for the National finals. The event which also carries one of the four Excellence awards for a World Final spot.

Paul Thompson, MiC Robots



007

This week, 15 Lower Sixth Physics pupils got the unique opportunity to tour the world famous Aston Martin manufacturing facility at Gaydon. The group were able to see the entire manufacturing process for all modern Aston Martin cars, and got the chance to look around some of the latest models in the private showroom and display area. A real highlight was a chance to get up close and personal with some Aston Martin concept cars, as well as models from throughout Aston's history. We even saw one of the ten DB10 models that were made specifically for the James Bond film 'Spectre' – complete with flamethrower. Despite spending the day ogling some of the automotive industry's most incredible cars, the group also got a real insight into the possible career paths in automotive engineering and design... although I suspect many just left wanting to own an Aston Martin (by any means necessary!).

Craig Donoghue, Teacher of Physics



Law Careers

On Tuesday 31 January, Mike Hayward and Michelle O'Garro from Woodfine Solicitors gave a fascinating talk to some of our Fifth and Sixth Form pupils about careers in law.

Hayward and O'Garro began by giving a short background into the legal system in the UK. As they were describing the long established court room conventions, the different types of robes and wigs worn in court and the various titles given to judges depending on the hierarchy of their court, a clear theme of tradition and respect was established. Hayward highlighted the fact that the Queen's Coat of Arms is placed at the back of every courtroom to remind lawyers that they are not just defending their client but are representing the Crown.

The solicitors went on to speak about their specialism; white collar crime. They emphasised the dangers of greed and temptation in the financial world that has lured many into fraud and money laundering. They also warned of the impacts of "living in a digital age", where these types of crimes are becoming much easier. Hayward quoted Q from James Bond, who said "I can do more damage on my laptop sitting in my pyjamas before my first cup of Earl Grey than you can do in a year in the field." In addition to this, he also stressed that many young people who would not usually be on the wrong side of the law are finding themselves in trouble as they are not fully aware of the implications of social media, mainly that everything is fully recoverable even if you believe it has been deleted.

Hayward and O'Garro finished their talk by sharing some of their top tips for aspiring lawyers. These included; gaining as much work experience in a law firm as possible, exposing yourself to law by watching debates in civil courts and building essential skills, such as teamwork and strong communication skills, both verbal and written.

In addition to the talk, I conducted an interview with a Senior Associate at a global law firm in the City who specialises in competition law to provide further insight into law careers at a global firm.

I was told that this type of career is intellectually stimulating and relatively well paid. However, it is also a tough career and does involve long hours. The hours at a City law firm are very unpredictable. Lawyers will usually work from 9:30am to 7:00pm, but will often work from 9:00am to midnight.

There are two main routes to become a barrister or solicitor. Firstly, you can study law at university and then complete six months legal practice at a law firm. Secondly, you could study a different subject at university and then complete a year-long conversion course in addition to the six months legal practice. Whilst at university, it is possible to secure a training contract with a law firm, which means they will sponsor you to complete the training after graduation. If you are interested in becoming a paralegal or a legal executive, there are also apprenticeships available at a number of law firms. Please visit lawcareers.net for more information.

Most law firms, but particularly those in the City, are very competitive and your application will need to stand out amongst thousands of applicants. You will need to show that you are bright and articulate, have a genuine interest in law and, especially if you are applying to a global firm, language skills or at least an interest in other countries will benefit your application.

As one of the trainees at Woodfine Solicitors stated, "Don't lose heart or focus! It's about finding the right firm for you and keeping your options open."

Victoria Crook, Business Studies Department



EQUESTRIAN

With a record number of competitors for this years Bloxham eventers challenge consisting of five riders and six horses competing in classes ranging from 65cm to 1m. We are extremely pleased with the results. Sophie Galione (Fourth Form, Queen's) rode a superb clear round but was just outside the optimum time putting her just outside the rosettes in 14th place of a very large class. Henry Hobby (Third Form, Chatham) came 10th with one ride but 3rd with 'Carnagy Bay' jumping an excellent clear round over a very complex course of 1m xc and show jumps. Congratulations to all those who competed.

Angela Churcher, Equestrian Centre Manager

For weekly reports on all Stowe Sports visit our website

www.stowesport.co.uk



THE BLUE CROSS



Blue Cross was shortlisted in a WWI poster competition that was being run by a museum in Kansas City. People were invited to vote for a WWI poster

to be featured in the upcoming exhibition Posters as Munitions, 1917. Blue Cross has been helping animals since 1897 and they cared for sick and injured horses during World War One. By the end of the war, Blue Cross had treated over 50,000 sick and injured horses and 18,000 dogs, funded by donations from the British public. It had also sent veterinary supplies to over 3,500 units of the British and allied armies all over the world to treat horses so this is something that is close to their hearts.

Supporters of Blue Cross and the work they do put them in the lead with 70% of the vote. The poster will feature in the exhibition which is running until February 2018.

Kenyan Night

The Kenyan night was a glorious celebration of Kenyan culture. Presented by Muthoni Kibaki and Sophia Sander, the first ever "Kenyan Night" was a huge success. A total of approximately twenty people took part in the celebration, where we learnt about all aspects of Kenyan life, dress, tribes, music, dance and food during an hour long presentation where we got to enjoy special Kenyan coffee and tea, as well as chapati, mukimo and a lot of other amazing Kenyan dishes. The Language Society would like to thank Muthoni and Sophia for the truly exceptional event they put on and for giving us such a great insight as to what Kenyan culture is all about. Kwaheri!

Tom Purdon (Lower Sixth, Grenville)





Stowe takes to the Slopes

Last week two teams of ski racers left Stowe to compete in the British Schoolgirls' and Schoolboys' Skiing Championships. The girls' team of Bella Hobby, Jaimie McIntosh, Jessamy Money-Kyrle and Chloe Livesey travelled to Flaine in France. Following a day of intense gate and pole training, they completed in their first competition, the parallel slalom. This is where two teams of three race off side by side against each other, down an identical slalom course. Stowe beat Mayfield in the first race, but unfortunately got knocked out by Sherborne due to a missed gate in the second round.

In the giant slalom competition, Bella came 21st in the Under 18 race and Chloe 28th in the Under 16 race. In the slalom, Bella sadly missed a gate on her first run, Chloe ended up 22nd and Jessamy 28th in their respective age groups. Overall in the combined results, the Stowe team finished 30th a group of over 50 schools that competed and Chloe was the most successful Stowe skier, finishing 57th out of a total of 150 racers.

The boys' team consisted of Captain Cami Hay, Georges Tasker, Louis Hay, Tom Scott, Hugo Warner, Ola Reed, Xan Kenlock and Matteo Pangherz. They were competing in Wengen, Switzerland and were lucky enough to race and train on the world famous Lauberhorn Downhill World Cup course.

The parallel slalom competition took place under floodlights in the town and the junior team progressed to the quarter finals, getting knocked out to the eventual winners, Reeds. The senior team went one better, by getting to

the semi-finals, where they too were knocked out by Reeds who won this competition too. In the slalom competition, Georges won a silver medal in the under 21s and Matteo a gold in the Under 14s unregistered category. Hugo, Cami and Louis both did very well in the registered category.

In the giant slalom races, further success came for Georges and Matteo with another silver and gold medal respectively. Hugo had an excellent second run and Thomas maintained his 100% finish rate.

At the presentation evening, the Stowe racers were busy collecting various accolades. Matteo won the combined under 14 unregistered competition, making him the best racer for his age group in the whole competition. Georges was awarded the same medal for the under 21 age group. To add to these incredible achievements, Cami Hay was given the BASI award for his contribution and commitment to ski racing and Matteo won the EDGE award, something set up Team GB skier, Chemmy Allcott. This was by far and away the most successful championships by a Stowe team and the boys and girls have put Stowe School well and truly on the Ski Racing map.

We will continue to work with our coach Will Manns at the MK SnoZone indoor slope and hope to run a training camp in December 2017. Please get in touch if you think your son or daughter would be interested.

Thanks to Mme Browne for taking the girls for the first time.

Phil Arnold, Head of Sports Science and PE Department





County Schools Cross Country

Everybody was looking forward to competing in the Buckinghamshire Schools' Cross Country at Hughenden Manor. A tough course lay ahead for the runners with mud, hills and even a river crossing, although this year it seemed to be missing the water.

In the junior girls race Tiffani Sole-Scarpellini was the first runner home in 33rd position, followed by Luciana Butler 41st, Atlanta King 48th, Emilia Havard 49th, Maisie Roberts 52nd, Charlotte Morgan 53rd, Imogen Lawrence 55th, Bella Robertson 60th and the team finished in 7th position

In the junior boys race Angus Pollock was first home in 13th position, only 1 place off being in line for the Buckinghamshire team for Nationals (top 12) and the team finished in 9th place with Maxi McNally 45th, Henry Hobby 60th, Theo Coley 61st and Charlie Chick 81st.

First home in the inter girls race was Sonya Sander in 28th position followed up by Amber Capurro 39th and Charlotte Would 43rd.

In the inter boys race first home was Ed Don in 36th position, followed up by Max Butler 46th, Cameron Chambers 51st, Max Satchell 52nd and the team finished in 5th position.

Georgia Flawn-Thomas won the senior girls race in a dramatic sprint finish and is the first ever Stoic to win a individual Gold medal at the County finals. The team also won a fantastic Gold medal which is our second year in a row. Congratulations go to Georgia, Rosie Smith for finishing in 12th position and is currently a reserve for Nationals, to Georgia Glenser who bravely stepped up to compete in the senior race with athletes two years older than here finishing in 13th and Eliza Dubois finishing 16th.

In the senior boys race Oli Vince was first home in 9th position and is in the mix to be selected for Nationals. The team of Oli, Freddie Woods 15th, Diggory Slee 16th, Billy Vestey 19th and Luke Aust 22nd, finished in 2nd place.

It was a fantastic day and I am very proud of everybody who ran.

Kyle Bennett, Head of Athletics and Cross Country

Ecuador Fundraiser

One of the impressive things I have noticed about Stowe is how everyone gets behind charitable events. Finlay Sutherland's (Lower Sixth, Grafton) extraordinary concert for his forthcoming rural community work in Ecuador is one such event. Supported with technical assistance from Mrs Searle, Mr Gibbon and Lewis Bell (Upper Sixth, Grenville), and refreshments from his family, Finlay staged an excellent event that showcased his many talents and those of his friends. His modest and cool-as-a-cucumber introduction set the tone of the evening, and he continued seamlessly into a sublime performance of Grieg's 'Notturmo' on our Steinway Model D. His flare for bringing people together continued with Lewis Bell performing solo Gershwin, followed by picking up his trumpet for Mr Gibbon's Big Band and 'What I did for love', 'Evergreen' and 'Tijuana Taxi'. Finlay then demonstrated his skill at improvisation with Theo Hayes (Fourth Form, Chatham) and Sean Carslow Tricot (Fourth Form, Grenville) through the

trio's own compositions and 'House of the Rising Sun'. He then invited his twin sister, Lucy Sutherland (Lower Sixth, Nugent) to the stage, who was accompanied by Mr Aitken for 'At Last'. Lucy then accompanied herself for 'Hushaby Mountain' on piano, and concluded her set with an uplifting version of a Taylor Swift song, 'Blank Space' on her ukelele. The twins concluded the evening with 'I dreamed a dream' with Lucy singing and her brother at the keys. It was a fitting end to one of the best events I have experienced thus far at Stowe, demonstrating quality, variety, balance and audience support. There was a genuine warmth in the room for the achievements of this generation of hardworking Stoic musicians and their teachers, that I have had the good fortune to inherit. Finlay will be attending helping with forest regeneration and school projects if he raises the full sum required to join Camps International in Ecuador. Thanks to his family and his Stowe family, Finlay is now a good step along the way.

Geoffrey Silver, Director of Music



University Challenged

The West House charity event of the term was a brilliant success. Raising around £300 for the House's chosen charity in just one evening, West hosted a "gameshow-style" Inter-House quiz with the somewhat tongue-in-cheek title of "Universally Challenged". With 12 teams in attendance at the Roxburgh Theatre, the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Congratulations to Sophie, Kanav, Tom and all the other Westites who made this event such a memorable evening. Bravo West!

Roland Johnson, Houseparent West

Piano Masterclasses

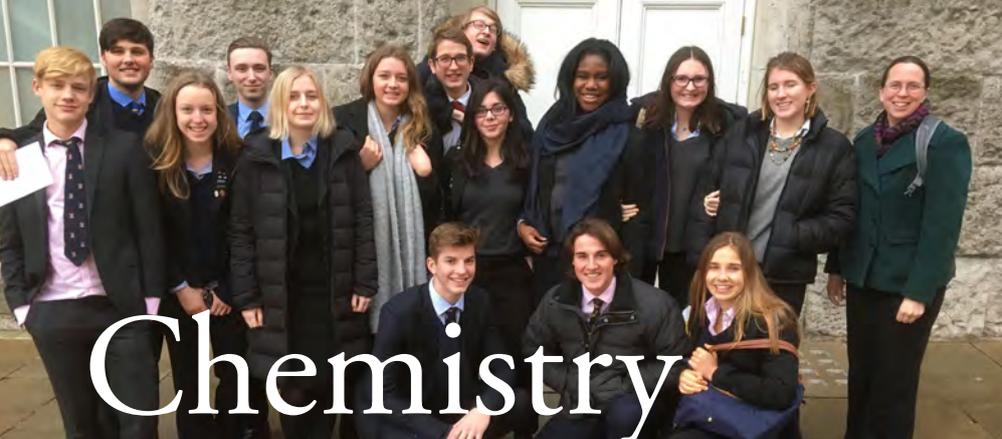
Throughout the term I have visited several Prep Schools to give piano masterclasses to budding young pianists. It has been an immensely enjoyable experience coaching such talented individuals on multi-piano arrangements and solo pieces over the course of the term. We look forward to welcoming pupils from Edge Grove School, Milton Keynes Preparatory School, Ashfold School and the Grove Independent School to the annual Keyboard Festival Day in March as well as other special piano events next term.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard

Big Band visit to Abberley Hall

On Friday 3 February, the Stowe Big Band visited Abberley Hall Prep School in Worcestershire. The band gave a 60 minute varied concert to the whole school. This included a very interesting question and answer session, when the band were asked a wide range of questions about musical life at Stowe. We had some great solos from Finlay Sutherland on Trumpet and Ellen Arnall on Alto Sax. Theo Hayes made his debut as pianist for the band, and also gave a fantastic off the cuff rendition of Gershwin's 'I got rhythm'. Many thanks go to Martin Schellenberg (Director of Music) and Will Lockett (Headmaster), for such a warm welcome. We hope to return soon.

Nigel Gibbon, Head of Brass



Chemistry

On Monday 6 February a group of Lower Sixth A Level Chemistry pupils departed from the newly refurbished Worsley Science Centre and headed to Birmingham, where we would have a full day of talks by chemists at the top of their field.

The day began with two speakers. The first of these was a Nanochemist called Dr Suze Kundu, an expert in inorganic Nano chemistry (chemicals without carbon). Her talk, however, was predominantly about the different forms of carbon and the uses that they can have, particularly the uses of diamond compared to graphite and graphene. To start with she began with graphene and how it can be used for chemical filtration systems that can remove both organic and chemical impurities which happens due to tiny holes being "punched" through a sheet of the graphene. These holes are too small for anything but water to get through and so this process purifies the water. She also talked about modern nanotubes and their use in areas such as bullet proof vests or directed medical drug treatments. However, the most impressive application was how it could be used to create arterial muscle for people with prosthetic limbs. This muscle is created by wrapping large amounts of carbon nanotubes around each other. When exposed to heat these contract 300 times faster than regular muscle and relax when they become cold again.

The second talk was given by Professor Andrea Sella about his field of study, in rare earth metals. He went through the history of how each element was discovered and how the first one was discovered by accident in Sweden by local amateur geologists in search of tungsten. This resulted in the naming of this new element yttrium, after the local town in which it was found. Before advances in technology he described how scientists had to use a very slow and quite inaccurate technique of separation

involving dissolving a substance then waiting for it to crystallise before pouring off the liquid, then re-dissolving and crystallising to find the most and least soluble. Today this is done using ion or solvent exchange. These rare earth elements have many uses from fibre optics and glass blowing goggles, to magnets that are 150 times stronger than normal ferrimagnets.

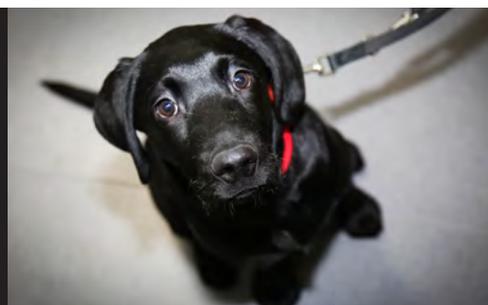
In the afternoon we listened to Dr Peter Worthers talk on spectroscopy, the study of seeing how light interacts with matter. The first type of spectroscopy was emission spectroscopy, which is where a substance starts with high energy and moves to a lower energy which results in light being given off. The second was absorption spectroscopy which is where matter behaves differently due to light being absorbed, such as the atoms vibrating more or less, or a change in their rotation. He explained an experiment which proved that water is in fact blue. This involved filling a long tube with water then taking a photo with a bright light and showing it had a blue tint.

The final speaker of the day was Dr Jamie Gallagher. His area of expertise was in how energy can be "stolen" from things we do every day and used as a power source. This is a similar principle as in the movie "The Matrix" but the application is very different as he studies how just by making small changes these can be used to create power. One such example is a simple magnet and coils that army personnel carry around that build up charge which could be used to charge a laptop. Another more advanced use is a thermos mat which from having a cold side and hot side creates energy. This is being used in deep space programmes by letting radioactive materials such as plutonium decay creating heat which is then used to create energy which powers the space craft.

Jamie Jackson, (Lower Sixth, Cobham)

Medical Detection Dogs

All the fund-raising for Medical Detection Dogs last Spring materialised on 5 December in the form of an adorable black Labrador puppy, called Stowe. Now four months old, Stowe puppy made his debut appearance at the Science Opening on 24 January and was an instant hit with Stoics and parents alike. This bouncy, friendly little bundle is currently undergoing his MDD puppy training, working on his basic obedience skills and enjoying a variety of outings which will build his confidence and teach him that going to public places is fun and enjoyable. Stowe shows lots of promise, his puppy socialiser, Becky, says he is a confident pup, unphased by anything. When he has finished his puppy training, Stowe will be trained at the MDD facility with the intention of becoming



a sniffer dog. MDD are currently engaged in ground-breaking research with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to determine whether sniffer dogs can detect malaria in human body odour. Our hope is that our little Stowe puppy will be part of this vital research.

Sheilagh Rawlins, Science Department



Mamphela Orphanage

During the Michaelmas Half term, I along with eighteen others went on the challenging yet amazing Warriors trip to South Africa. While we were there we visited the Mamphela orphanage. Seeing the children and how little they had really touched my heart, it was a very emotional experience and it was clear that all they wanted was love from the Warriors.

When I arrived home I wanted to do something to help the children and came up with the idea of sending a box of presents to the orphanage for Christmas as I knew they wouldn't be receiving much. I asked the girls in Stanhope if they would donate gifts that I could then send; the number I received was amazing and in the end we shipped two huge boxes to South Africa. The presents varied from balloons, hair bands, teddy bears to colouring pencils and colouring books.

Rowena, our instructor, sent me a video and photos of the orphans receiving their presents which was incredible to see. Thank you to everyone in Stanhope who donated gifts, we really made a difference. The thank you video can be seen [here](#).

Megan Winter (Lower Sixth, Stanhope)

Music Conservatoire Success

Lewis Bell (Upper Sixth, Grenville) and Alex Grinyer (Upper Sixth, Walpole) have both been awarded a place at the prestigious Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London, following a grueling round of highly competitive auditions. Lewis will study Piano and Alex will be studying the Horn. To gain a place at a top London conservatoire is an enormous achievement for any musician and we look forward to following the careers of these two very talented Stoics for years to come.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard



STOWE HOUSE

Wedding Open Day

Saturday 18 February 2017
11am - 4pm

For further information please contact Jenny
at jbullocc@stowe.co.uk or call 01280 818280

Stowe, Buckingham, MK18 5EH



Stowe Parents' Secret History Tour

On the Thursday 2 February, 28 Stowe Parents enjoyed the Secret History tour of the Royal Albert Hall, due to the numbers we went round in two groups, hearing the interesting tales of the Hall; the Rock groups who were banned, the ghosts who live there, and some of the history of the Hall, as well as learning about how it was first funded, and how it currently runs with no government help. We were lucky enough to go into the bowels of the Hall, and were amazed to see the underground loading bays that can take three full size lorries. The tour took us round the back of the incredible organ and into back stage areas. We then enjoyed a lovely two course lunch a glass of wine, lovely food, in great company!

Michelle Feasey, Chair, Stowe Parents

Please click on any of the events for more information. If you would like to book please email Stowe Parents.



TUESDAY
23
FEBRUARY

Tour of the Cotswold Distillery and Aynhoe Park

9.30am | £50 per person

The Cotswold Distillery is set in beautifully landscaped gardens. Expert guides will take you on a gin and whisky making journey where you will learn the craft of creating fine spirits, whilst having the opportunity to see bespoke distillation equipment in action before enjoying a tasting in the comfortable tasting room.

A two course lunch will follow before moving on to Aynhoe Park; an unusual Country House with historic opulence and modern whimsy. You will be given a guided tour where you will experience a polar bear in flying goggles, a pair of plaster caryatids, a giraffe balloon-lifted to the ceiling, a wall of vintage globes, an alligator waiter... Behind every door there is something remarkable waiting to be revealed.

Transport is included to and from Banbury Train Station.

WED
22
MARCH

The Restoration of Stowe

11.00am | £20.00 per person

Stowe Parents are invited to explore the intricate history and restoration of Stowe House with Anna McEvoy, the House Custodian. Known as an 18th Century Ducal Palace, discover the politics and the family behind 'the largest and most completely realised private neo-classical building in the world' and how it was saved by the creation of Stowe School in 1923.

With the help of Heritage Lottery Funding and many other generous donations, some £22 million has been spent of the restoration of the Mansion. The tour will also take in the new Stowe House Visitor and Discovery Centre and, if weather permits, you will be able to view the grounds of Stowe from the roof of the Mansion.

The tour will be followed by a two course lunch in the beautifully restored Blue Room.

Wendy's Retirement

Wendy Roberts joined Stowe School as a receptionist in 2009, and has been dedicated and professional throughout her time at Stowe, with nothing too much trouble for her. Wendy has particularly enjoyed her interaction with the Stoics when they visit North Hall to collect their parcels or book their bus tickets to Buckingham.

Wendy is retiring to help care for her daughter's new born twin boys who live by the sea in Eastbourne.

She was presented with a painting of the Oxford Bridge by Deborah Last as a leaving gift at an afternoon tea provided by catering held in General Office.

Helen Bagby, Head of Support Services



Burns Night

As a Scot away from home, January often feels devoid of celebration, as normally I would be able to celebrate with my countrymen the birth of Robert Burns, Scotland's most famous writer. Thankfully, this year the Literary Society and senior prefects were willing and eager to ease my homesickness, and celebrate the Scottish Bard with me in our very own Burns Supper. All the traditions were upheld in true Stowe style. Josh McKelvey (Fourth Form, Temple) provided the soundtrack to any Burns Supper with his superb piping in of the haggis, the Headmaster gave a unique interpretation of the Burns poem 'Address to a haggis', the lads and lassies were appropriately toasted by our Head Boy and Head Girl, Bella Coldstream (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) gave a beautiful performance of the Burns poem 'O my love's like a red red rose' and Fabian Bevan gave a brilliant performance of the epic 'Tam O'Shanter'. Once we had finished feasting on haggis, as tradition dictates we moved to the ceilidh. I won't lie, the reeling left a great deal to be desired, however the Stoics attending certainly got a taste of traditional Scottish country dancing, even if it didn't look as polished as it should have. All in all, a fabulous evening had by all and I look forward to continuing the tradition next year. My sincere thanks to those who attended - it made the cold January evenings just a little brighter for this lost Scot.

Craig Donoghue, Teacher of Physics



Lunchtime Concerts

On 2 and 9 February, Stoic musicians performed in our Lunchtime Concert Series. The standard of playing in both concerts was incredibly high and it has been wonderful to have such a mix of different genres, solos and ensembles. The performers recently have included Lewis Bell, Audrey Au, Jeffrey Au, Rosia Li, Amalia Aitchison, Poppy de Salis, Alex Grinyer and Theodore Hayes. In the most recent concert, the horn quintet performed Mozart's quintet in E flat major and the piano trio performed a movement from Trio in C major by Brahms in preparation for the South East Schools' Chamber Music Competition on 23 February. Thank you to all the performers for making these concerts so enjoyable and memorable.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard



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