

Stowe mail

VOL 8 ISSUE 10: 26 MAY 2017
NEWS ROUND UP FROM STOWE



Memorial Bench for Abby Webb (Nugent 09)

A memorial bench has been placed outside Nugent House in memory of Abby Webb (Nugent 09), who sadly passed away on 9 December 2015, aged 24, following a brave battle with Large Cell Neuroendocrine Carcinoma, a rare type of lung cancer. The inscription, chosen by her family, reads:

"You know the place between sleep and awake, the place where you can still remember dreaming? That's where I will always love you, that's where I'll be waiting."

*Abby Georgia Louise Webb (Nugent 09)
Born 22/12/1990 Died 09/12/2015*

Girls from Nugent House and Old Stoics who were at Stowe with Abby raised the funds for the bench. It stands proudly at the front of the House, overlooking the rose garden and fountain and provides a place for quiet, reflection and memories of Abby, who will be remembered by her family and friends for years to come.

On the last page of this issue of Stowemail you can read about Abby's Memorial Hockey Festival, held at Stowe over Exeat.

Anna Semler, Old Stoic Society Director

Colombia Night

On Friday 19 May, the Languages Society attended an engaging talk on Colombia from Spanish Language Assistant Liliana Peña. Señora Peña delighted Stoics with her colourful presentation, which touched on Colombian literature, sport, music, geography and more. Señora Peña had also arranged a surprise for the Society members and they were greeted by salsa instructor Rudy and his partner Jenna after the talk. As Señora Peña says, "no Colombian fiesta is complete without dancing!" The Stoics practised some basic (and some not so basic!) salsa steps and were up dancing together for almost an hour before a sumptuous supper was served in the Blue Room. The evening was a roaring success and huge thanks must go to

Señora Peña, Mrs Podesta and Miss Vidal for organising such a memorable event.

Mrs Podesta and Miss Vidal, alongside Languages Society president Lisa Battilomo and Vice-President Kurt Leimer, have worked tirelessly this year to arrange fabulous events for "LangSoc" members. Thanks to their efforts, the Society has become one of the School's most popular and I'm confident that it will continue to go from strength to strength next year. We welcome Tom Purdon (Lower Sixth, Grenville) and Alice Maclure (Lower Sixth, Nugent) as 2017-2018 President and Vice-President respectively.

Miss Collette Stirzaker, Head of Spanish

Best of Vanguard 2017

Best of Vanguard

A new magazine has been created to showcase a selection of the many excellent written projects submitted by Third Form Stoics as the culmination of their Vanguard work for the Lent Term 2017. This work was brought together in just a term, with only one 80 minute lesson per week.

The aims of the project were to get pupils to engage in more depth with an academic enquiry of their choosing, and in doing so develop and display their skills around project planning, self-monitoring and reflection, independent academic research, referencing, drafting and redrafting a longer piece of written prose. The pupils designed their own title or question, used a Gantt chart to plan and monitor their progress, offered critique to their peers and were encouraged to reflect on their own work in weekly blogs. The final lesson, when individuals presented their work to their peers, saw Stoics animatedly discussing their research around topics such as social media, graffiti, sports psychology, gun laws, the problem of suffering and illegal deforestation.

It has been fantastic to see so many pupils so engaged and taking such pride in their work and I hope you enjoy [this selection!](#)

Julie Potter, Deputy Head (Academic)

Stowe



K1

Marc Koska (Bruce 79) visited Stowe this week and met Stoics to share his experience of inventing the K1 non-reusable syringe, an invention that has so far saved an estimated 7 million lives around the world. His work has already helped to reduce the spread of HIV and Hepatitis by stopping the re-use of needles and he shared some harrowing stories of how some families and communities have been so badly affected by these diseases. The Stoics learned that inventing the syringe was only one small part of his life-saving efforts, the biggest challenge was getting it manufactured and used. This requires changing the way health workers practise and dealing with international bodies like UNICEF and the World Health Organisation to change legislation and funding. Marc also

gave everyone a glimpse of the future in how administering medicine and the distribution of supplies will change right across the world and not just in developing countries. Throughout his discussions, Marc's compassion, drive and commitment were obvious to all, as was his understanding of how the world works. All who attended left his presentation seeing the world through different eyes and we are very grateful to him for sharing his experience. It is clear that one person really can make a huge difference to the world if they can come up with good ideas, work out how to make things happen and don't give up, no matter what obstacles are thrown in their path.

James Tearle, Head of Science

Children in Crisis & Stowe Parents

BOODLES

It is with pleasure that Children in Crisis have extended an invitation to Stowe Parents to be their guests at a special evening at Boodles on Tuesday 6 June, where Anthony Wallersteiner will be introducing the work of Children in Crisis in Sierra Leone. Boodles are kindly hosting the evening in their private apartment, and giving guests the opportunity to preview their new collection 'The Poetry of Landscape'. Parents who would like to attend should contact

Rachel Warner by email or on 020 7627 6743. We very much hope to see you there.

MASTERPIECE

Thanks to Stowe's association with Children in Crisis, Stowe Parents are also being offered free entrance to Masterpiece, the biggest art fair in London, if not the world. To take advantage of this offer, please click [here](#) and enter the code StoSch5. Once downloaded, the e-ticket can either be printed or shown on your phone upon arrival at the fair.



EQUESTRIAN

Stowe Beagles Hunter Trial

This term the Stowe Beagles Hunter Trial was held at Primrose Hill. Josh White (Fifth Form, Cobham) rode an excellent course on his new mount Briscoe and was rewarded with the highest placed Stoic at the event. Our final competition of the academic year is 'BS just for schools' at Quainton on 18 June. We look forward to seeing you at our Speech Day display at 9.30am at the Equestrian Centre.

Angela Churcher, Equestrian Centre Manager

TENNIS

Congratulations to Harry Hewlett and Tom Percy who have gone through the season without dropping a set in the Colts As matches.

Having lost 8-1 last season, the 1st VI travelled to Oundle on Saturday 20 May and won a superb match 5-4. For this excellent result the 1st tennis team is this week's 'Team of the Week'.

On Thursday 11 May our girls' U14As played Winchester House and won 7-3. Congratulations to Kira Evans and Vicky Beglin who remain unbeaten in their matches so far this term.

Tennis colours have been awarded to: Bubby Upton, Kira Evans, Vicky Beglin, Lottie Hopkinson, Alice Maclure, Gabe Chauveau, Jamie Metson and Ed Good.

In the Intermediate House Competition Queen's were second and this year's winners were Nugent.



GOLF

Last Thursday the golf 1st team had a resounding victory against Haileybury winning 5-1.

For weekly reports on all Stowe Sports visit our website

www.stowesport.co.uk

OLD STOIC NEWS

by Anna Semler, Old Stoic Society Director

OS Corkscrew Society

On 8 March, Andrew Clarke (Bruce 77) kindly hosted a wine tasting for the Old Stoic Corkscrew Society, featuring various vintages of his Chablis from his vineyard in France. We had the pleasure of trying 15 different wines, all of varying ages, and Andrew spoke with advice on both the differences in tasting for each year and the history of Chablis wines.

We held the tasting at The Phene in Chelsea, which proved to be a popular venue, with tickets for the event selling out very quickly and over 50 Old Stoics and guests in attendance. Guests enjoyed plentiful amounts of wine and delicious canapés.



London SOS Lunch

On the afternoon of Tuesday 25 April, we returned to the Savile Club for our third Senior Old Stoic Luncheon. With 48 Old Stoics in attendance, it was our largest gathering to date, which allowed us the opportunity to dine in the Savile Club Ball Room.

The afternoon started with a Champagne Reception, during which Dr Robert Whitaker (Cobham 57) kindly allowed us to show his film footage of Stowe in the 1950s. He talked us through the different scenes of the footage and even identified some Old Stoics who were in attendance at the lunch.

After drinks, our guests ascended the grand staircase for a delicious three course lunch in the Ball Room. Chris Atkinson (Chatham 59) gave a truly memorable Grace, mentioning each guest by name. The atmosphere was very jovial, with guests reminiscing about their time

at Stowe, renewing acquaintances and making new friends.

As lunch drew to a close, John 'Fingers' Fingleton (Chatham 66) gave a short speech informing our guests about recent Old Stoic activity. This was followed by Crispin Robinson (Second Master) who kindly gave an address about Stowe's recent successes.

Throughout the afternoon, the service was exceptional with the staff at the Savile Club working hard to ensure our guests were well looked after. I would like to thank all of our guests for attending and the Savile Club for making us feel so welcome, along with John 'Fingers' Fingleton (Chatham 66) for arranging the use of the Club and kindly assisting with the planning for the occasion.

We will hold the SOS lunch again next year and hope to fill the Ball Room once again.

Hugh Taylor (Cobham 84) from Slurp.co.uk kindly hosted a wine tasting, featuring 30 different South African wines, on Wednesday 10 May. Once again, we held the tasting in the Oakley Room at The Phene, which was very popular with our members, 45 of which were able to join us for the evening.

Ian Dennis from Slurp.co.uk spoke about each wine in turn, guests sampled the wines and washed them down with delicious canapés and sausages kindly given by Oliver Nohl-Oser (Grafton 01), owner of [The Cumbrian Sausage Company](#).

Slurp.co.uk is an award-winning online wine retailer, with over 1,000 wines on their [website](#). Their wines are sourced from around the world, many on an exclusive basis and often limited edition wines.

It was a lovely evening tasting some excellent wines. A great many thanks to all who joined us for the evening and to Hugh and Oliver who kindly supported the event.



SAILING

The Inter House sailing went ahead despite the light winds and so both challenging and frustrating in equal measure for the sailors; however, they all seemed to cope with it and these conditions threw up a couple of unexpected results in the heats.

Heat 1 was won by Stanhope. Grenville A and Grenville 1 also qualified for the final from the first heat, pipping Cobham and Temple to the available places. Heat 2 saw a clean sweep in both races for Chatham A - though Queen's shook them up, leading and rounding the second mark first in the 2nd heat race. Sadly Queen's couldn't hold on to this lead and in the end didn't qualify for the final. So Chatham 1 and Walpole were the remaining teams to make it to the final. In the Final (trophy) race, it was Chatham who took line honours leading from start to finish. Behind them, Stanhope, Grenville A and Grenville 1 were looking good for second with their positions changing throughout the race, but as the finish line approached, both Grenville teams ended up ahead of Stanhope.

CRICKET

In the Senior Inter-House main competition Bruce hit the winning runs in the final over to beat Cobham.

Last week our U15 girls played their first cricket match of the season against Thornton and won by 5 runs.

IN BRIEF

Clay Pigeon Shooting

In the Nationals before Exeat Stowe A came joint third with Warwick.

Max Whitehead was equal first in the Cadets.

Cadet Skiing Courses

Two Stowe cadets have been allocated places on the CCF Skiing courses held at the Outdoorzentrum, in Sonthoffen, Bavaria over the February Half Term in 2018. More details next year!

*David Critchley Lt Cdr RNR CCF
Contingent Commander Stowe School
Combined Cadet Force*

Slurp



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](#)



Leavers' Concert

The Leavers' Concert was a touching opportunity for Upper Sixth musicians and their ensemble partners to perform together before going on exam leave. From Bach to Wallersteiner, Mozart to Gershwin, the event captured the sweep of styles and genres of music beloved at Stowe. Both Prefects for Music demonstrated what they have learned at Stowe, with this year's Mozart Trio Prize winner Arabella Coldstream (Lyttelton) singing 'Loose Ends' by Dempsey and Rowe from 'The Witches of Eastwick' and last year's winner, Lewis Bell (Grenville) performing solo Bach on the piano and doing most of the day's accompanying. Fabiola Koenig (Lyttelton) performed Beethoven's Spring Sonata beautifully, and Alex Grinyer (Walpole) was effortless in his

performance of the first movement of Mozart's Horn Concerto in D Major. Impressive ensemble work from Mr Howse's clarinet quartet followed, Poppy Moore (Lyttelton), Adrian Koch (Bruce), Sam Flint (Grenville), and Guy Woodhouse (Chatham) with works by Gershwin. The event finished rousingly with songwriter Caspar Wallersteiner's band, Prestige performing 'Monster': Caspar Wallersteiner (Chatham), Theo Hayes (Chatham), Fabian Bevan (Grafton), Charles Rivington (Bruce). Each Leaver has made an indelible mark on Stowe and has helped shape and build the new Music Department. We shall miss them terribly.

Geoffrey Silver, Director of Music



SWIMMING

Prep Schools Swimming Gala

On Thursday 11 May, Stowe hosted our annual Prep Schools Gala. With six of our local schools attending, the competition was good. This year we have extended the gala to U13, as well as U11 and it showcased great future talent. The boys' championships was taken by storm, with Davenies claiming both the U11 & U13 boys' team titles. The girls' competition was again a landslide victory by Beachborough, with the school winning both the U11 & U13s titles. The Prep School's overall Championship Team and winners of the Rigby Cup, went to Beachborough. A very high level of swimming was on show from some young athletes.

Thank you to Beachborough, Davanies, Swanbourne House, Maidwell Hall, Summer Fields and Cothill Schools for helping to make the event such a fun and exciting competition.

Cheryl Davis, Acting Head of Swimming



Stowe Science Review



The latest edition of the Stowe Science Review is now ready and can be accessed by following this link. This is the last edition of the year and my thanks go to this year's editors Skye Longworth (Upper Sixth, Nugent), Georgina Skinner (Upper Sixth, Nugent) and Fabiola Koenig (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton). They have done a marvellous job this year for they have not only increased the number of articles and drawn in more contributors but also widened the range of topics and produced some stunning pictures to go with the many fascinating articles. The articles they have written themselves have been of the highest standard but the care and attention they have given to pieces written by other Stoics has been tremendous. I highly recommend this latest edition which covers topics as varied as personalised medicine, the Science behind Sherlock Holmes, the future of batteries and snake bites, amongst others. I would encourage the many Stoics with an interest in Science to write articles. They will receive all of the support they need from next year's editors and get the joy of seeing their article in print.

James Tearle, Head of Science

LCM Music Theatre examinations

Stowe once again hosted a day of LCM examinations in Music Theatre. We had another fabulous crop of results with all but one pupil gaining a distinction. Special mention should be made of Laurine Heerema (Upper Sixth, Queen's) who obtained a stunning 97% in her examination. It is planned to introduce Pop Music Vocals as an examination option for the next academic year, widening opportunities for pupils to take well-structured qualifications in music which carry UCAS points for passes at Grade 6 and above.

Rachel Sherry, Head of Vocal Studies



©Elizabeth Vickers

Round and round we go...

Those of you attending Speech Day on Saturday 27 May will be able to see our installation of willow sculptures on the parterre that have been created by Camilla Kingham (mother of Alfie Kingham, Upper Sixth, Walpole). This collection of unique hand woven willow organic forms was created exclusively for Stowe from this season's harvest of Somerset Levels Salix Viminalis. These individual shapes evolved as they were worked, with the fresh willow contributing a continuing fluidity, making it difficult to know when and where to conclude a piece, hence the name, Round and round we go!

Camilla was introduced to willow at an early age; her late mother, Ann Kingham owned a Rare Breeds Farm, where they had regular demonstrations, workshops and a shop selling beautiful articles including chestnut and willow baskets. Seven years ago, Camilla saw some woven willow chickens, which had been made by Julieann Worrall Hood. Subsequently, she took several courses with Julieann learning both

willow and wire work.

Camilla loves working outside with nature, and enjoys losing herself in each individual piece as she works. She finds that if one is making something for the first time, the willow can dictate the shape if you allow it, which can make it take on a persona of its own. Willow has a gorgeous scent, which makes it all the more pleasant and evocative to use. The process of producing a willow sculpture is fairly physical and heavy especially if making something large from fresh willow.

Some more recent commissions that Camilla has worked on include: Woodland Folk and Nomads. The making of a collection of spheres for the Artisan Garden entrance and the Artisan's Retreat Area at RHS for Chelsea Flower Show and many of you will remember her last installation at Stowe for Speech Day in 2015.

For more information please contact [Camilla](#).



Sam Quек MBE visits Stowe

On Wednesday 24 May 2017 we were honoured to welcome Sam Quек MBE to Stowe to offer two hockey master-classes and speak to our 1st team athletes at the Sports Awards Evening.

Making her International debut in 2008 Sam has made over 125 International appearances for England and Great Britain. Her honours include a silver medal at the Euro Hockey Championships in 2013, Silver at the Commonwealth games in 2014 and captaining England later that year in the Champions Trophy in Argentina. She went on to win a Gold medal with England at the European Championships in 2015 and was named player of the match in the final against reigning World and Olympic Champions, The Netherlands.

In 2016 she helped Great Britain win Gold at the Rio Olympics in a thriller of a match against The Netherlands capturing the hearts of millions as GB won on penalties in one of the most exciting matches in recent times across all sports. Recently awarded an MBE for services to hockey she has inspired and continues to inspire the next generation of young athletes.

During the Sports Awards evening 90 staff and pupils celebrated the year's sporting achievements and trophies were awarded to those who have made an outstanding contribution to their key sport. Special awards, named the "Triple Crown", were awarded for those pupils who have represented the School at three key sports at 1st team level this year. This special honour was awarded to Callum Renshaw, Archie Dixon-Smith and Victoria Beglin.

Sam Quек gave a superb speech about her highs, lows and champagne moments in the lead-up to the Rio Olympics and inspired the pupils to remember that "Tough moments don't last but tough people do." Many thanks to Henry Larkin who brilliantly compered the evening.

Pictured above: Clara Haggie (2017-18 Hockey Vice-Captain), Sam Quек MBE and Victoria Begin (2017-18 Hockey Captain)

Miss Lauren Ellis, Head of Netball



Alexander Technique

Last week the Music Department hosted two workshops on the Alexander Technique, led by experienced Alexander teacher Lynn Boreham. The workshops were open to all members of the Stowe community and it was good to see staff and pupils from across the School. Frederick Alexander was an actor who was continually losing his voice. The medical profession were unable to help and eventually Alexander embarked on a lengthy process of self-observation to see if there were any physical tensions which might have an impact on his voice. The techniques he developed are in use world-wide and they

centre on releasing muscular tensions resulting in greater physical ease and efficiency. The first workshop was aimed at voice users, both singers and speakers, and the second workshop was aimed at instrumentalists. In both workshops, participants and observers were often startled by the noticeable changes in tone and power that came about by making apparently small adjustments in the body. It is hoped to run more sessions or arrange regular lessons in Alexander Technique. Please contact [Rachel Sherry](#) if you would be interested.

Rachel Sherry, Head of Vocal Studies.





CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT CHELSEA OLD CHURCH

64 Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, London SW3 5LT

Wednesday 6 December 2017
7.30pm

Followed by Drinks and Canapés in Petyt Hall

All Old Stoics, Stowe Parents and Friends of Stowe are warmly invited to attend.

Sing along carols and performances by Stowe Music School.

Tickets are free of charge. A collection will be taken in memory of Abby Webb (Nugent 09) to be given to her family's chosen charity.

Due to space limitations, please email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk to reserve places for yourself and your guests.

If you would like to join the OS Choir to perform one carol during the concert, please email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Awards

Restoration of the Blue Room was shortlisted in the Conservation Projects category of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Awards for South East England. Although the nomination was not successful, the competition was extremely strong and just being shortlisted alongside twelve other projects is testament to the quality of SHPT's research and project delivery. Anna McEvoy showed the judging panel around the room and they were very impressed, not just with the quality of restoration in the room itself but also by its relationship to other work completed by SHPT and the way in which SHPT and the School are working to the progressive restoration

of the whole Mansion. The judges' citation recorded: "Stowe's Blue Room was meticulously restored and re-presented in line with its former Victorian appearance. Informed by extensive research including paint analysis, this decorative scheme was chosen as it had the least impact on existing fabric. The flooring, decoration, framed silk damask, fireplace and mirror were faithfully recreated. Works addressed plaster failure, heating and security issues. Purcell's elegant transformation of the room enables its continued use for visitor tours, private functions and as a tuition space for Stowe School."

Nick Morris, Director of Operations



Abby's Memorial Hockey Festival

On Saturday 13 May over Exeat, Stowe hosted 'Abby's Memorial Hockey Festival' in memory of Old Stoic Abby Webb.

Abby was the star of Buckingham Ladies' Hockey Club and England Under-16 but sadly died of neuroendocrine cancer just before her 25th birthday in December 2015.

GB and England hockey stars including Zoe Shipperley, Sarah Haycroft, Hollie Webb, Susie Gilbert, Georgie Twigg, Jo Hunter, George Pinner and James Fair united with over 400 of Abby's family and friends for this inaugural event. An 11-a-side memorial match, for anyone who has ever played hockey with Abby including some Rio Olympic gold-winning players, started proceedings. Afterwards, hundreds of spectators enjoyed around 24 mixed teams of seven people competing in a half-pitch tournament.

GB and England men's goalkeepers George Pinner and James Fair hosted a fundraising penalty shuffle (shoot-out), and there were children's activities, refreshments, an auction and a raffle.

The event managed to raise nearly £7,000 for



@chrishobsonphotos.co.uk

Penny Brohn UK. Of this amazing charity, Abby had said: "It offers whole person support to people with cancer and their close supporters, in many different ways, to meet the needs of the individual. I cannot tell you what an incredible place it is, and the free courses I've been on and people I've met make it truly inspiring. The impact it has on people going through this life-changing journey is phenomenal. How it helps people take back control of health, wellbeing and their lives is just incredible, particularly when they've been in such a dark place, with no hope and light."

Abby was a wonderful ambassador for Stowe and this whole day was a great celebration of her life. Thanks to everyone involved for their support. If you would like to make a donation please follow this [link](#).



Classical Recitation

On Tuesday 9 May Ollie Vince (Lower Sixth, Cobham) recited by memory the first half of "Horatius", the most famous of Lord Macaulay's English poems, the "Lays of Ancient Rome". Ollie's father, Mr Tim Vince, then finished the poem, evoking the bravery of Horatius in defending Rome while the bridge behind him was demolished. The audience in the Blue Room were swept away by the vigour and empathy of the declamation, making it a memorable half hour of heroic endeavour and triumph.

Michael Bevington, Head of Classics



Stowe School
Stowe
Buckingham
MK18 5EH

t | +44 (0)1280 818000
f | +44 (0)1280 818181
e | enquiries@stowe.co.uk
w | www.stowe.co.uk

Editor: Mrs Tori Roddy

Follow news from Stowe on twitter



@stowemail

Find us on Facebook

