

StoweBots - the year so far

Having lost the majority of our founding team members last year, Robotics has continued at Stowe as a learning experience for the younger members who have stepped up to the challenge. Valentin Rummel (Fifth Form, Temple) has led the more senior team and has used the robot and its design to apply for an Arkwright Scholarship in Engineering (a well-respected national engineering award). Crispin Marshall-Rowan (Fourth Form, Walpole) has stepped up to take the leading role with the Junior team.

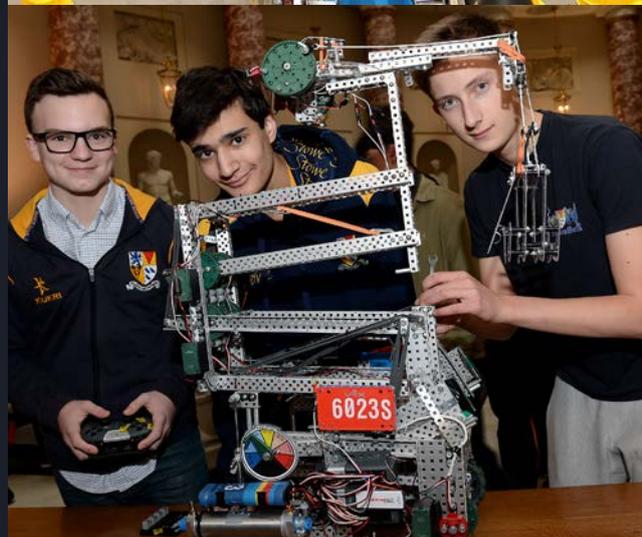
Both the Stowe teams have been competitive over the year, ranking highly in Regionals and making quarter and semi-final matches, but the elusive tournament win eluded them across the first four regional competitions we attended. The Senior 6023S team picked up a judges award early on for the quality and ingenuity of their design, but suffered mechanical issues that prevented them winning the semi-final of that event.

Our last regional and last chance to qualify for the National Finals came on 31 January when 27 robotics teams descended on Stowe to compete for National final places. The Stowe Regional was once again a very competitive affair and a huge challenge for all teams. There were many strong teams at the event with excellent robots which made for a tough day for the Stowe teams. By the end of the qualification matches (eight randomly

arranged matches) the Stowe teams ranked 7th (6023J) and 11th (6023S) of the 27 teams. The Junior team were selected by the fourth ranked alliance as their partner for the playoffs. The Senior team found themselves in a lower ranked alliance, but still had good chance to progress. Both teams played well through the quarter-finals, with the Senior team narrowly losing their last match and the Junior team winning theirs to progress on. The Junior team then went on to win their semi-final match and made it to the final. They won the first final match 86-77, but lost the second match 54-77. This meant it all came down to a final decider. The opposition started well scoring an early bonus to put them 10 points ahead, but with excellent strategy between their alliance they came back and out scored their opponents to win 100-91 which was an outstanding achievement and score. This has put the Junior team straight into the national finals in March. The Senior team are left to hear if they will be granted a roll back place into the national finals from one of the events this year. The Senior team did however once again pick up a judges award for the clever and well thought-out design of their robot.

Both teams are now rebuilding and improving on their designs to lift their abilities for the National Finals (with the seniors still hopeful of a place).

Paul Thompson, Physics Teacher & MiC Robots





Champagne and Jazz

Champagne and Jazz is always a sparkling event. This year's concert proved to be one of our best so far. This time we chose to support YC2 (Buckingham and Winslow Young Carers Youth Club). They are a local voluntary group who offer children and young people from 7-18 years with substantial caring responsibilities for one or more family members, a few hours of fun, friendship and freedom each month. As with many local charities their funding has been cut by the County Council, so all donations really do help them to survive.

As with previous years, the evening was presented by the Stowe Big Band with a number of guest vocalists, who were all expertly accompanied by Miles Nottage on the piano. The band displayed their amazing performing ability with a wide variety of pieces from their very extensive repertoire. They included great solos from Finlay Sutherland (Upper Sixth, Grafton) on trumpet and Ellen Arnall (Upper Sixth, West) on Alto sax in Chuck Mangione's Feels So Good; and from Sebastian Foxwell (Third Form, Walpole) on Flugel Horn in Gershwin's The Nearness of You. Theo Hayes (Fifth Form, Chatham) certainly did not

disappoint, with his consistently fantastic piano playing, and he worked really well with both Henry McQuitty (Upper Sixth, Walpole) and Nissa Dotson (Fourth Form, Lyttelton) on drums. It was also great to see Thor Mager (Fifth Form, Bruce) do his first trumpet solo with the band, and on his birthday.

All of the singers deserve a mention, as do Rachel Sherry and the Vocal Department, they demonstrated the depth of quality that Stowe is so fortunate to have. They were: Olivia Omatajo (Fourth Form, Stanhope), Ekaterina Savina (Third Form, Nugent), Emily Banks (Fifth Form, Lyttelton), Isabella Leondiou (Upper Sixth, Queen's), Marika Guguberidze (Fifth Form, Lyttelton), Celest Lamberti (Fourth Form, Stanhope), Katie Lee (Fourth Form, Nugent), Paris O'Broughton (Third Form, Queen's) and Olivia Elliott (Fifth Form, Stanhope).

Many thanks must also go to Sarah Searle for all of her backstage and front of house support.

Nigel Gibbon, Head of Brass, Woodwind & Percussion



Storage Bays

Our Grounds team have just completed building six new storage bays at our workshops. Following several quotations from outside contractors, which we felt were very high, we decided to tackle this project in-house. Subsequently this vital work cost half the quoted prices saving the School a substantial sum. We are proud to say that the team have done an outstanding job and the storage bays look amazing.

Steve Curley, Grounds Manager

Work Experience SUMMARY

Isabella Leondiou (Upper Sixth, Queen's)

Over the course of last year, I undertook a number of work experience placements, in order to gain an insight into Medicine as a career. Medicine is one of the most demanding careers there is, and having work experience under my belt was incredibly beneficial in consolidating my desire to become a doctor.

Prior to my work experience, I was still fairly undecided as to whether I was quite cut-out for a career in Medicine, but having had a glimpse into the hospital environment, I am completely committed to becoming a doctor – however, for many others whom I have read about and spoken to, the work experience most often has the opposite effect, as the reality of a Medical career can come as a shock to many – therefore, work experience is essential.

I gained and organised all of my work experience placements independently, which required relentless emails, phone calls and determination to even get through the door – this in itself was very beneficial in improving my understanding of hospital protocols and communications.

- I volunteered at a nursing home for two years, working with people with advanced dementia, which was very demanding, yet rewarding – just keeping the elderly company when they have no one else, accentuates your compassion, and desire to help those around you.
- I shadowed a paediatric consultant at the John Radcliffe Hospital, where I witnessed critical decision-making and diagnosis in the case of a newborn with meningitis.
- Also at the JR Hospital, I aided a Renal consultant in the complicated catheterisation of a dialysis patient, awaiting a kidney transplant.
- I spent a week on a specialised dementia ward, exposing me to the very current and relevant, geriatric side of medicine - dealing with unstable patients, and conducting mental assessments, and depression assessments on often violent patients was very challenging, yet eye-opening and entirely necessary to my understanding of the true nature of a Medical career.
- At Southend Hospital I shadowed an orthopaedic trauma team – this really accentuated the need for teamwork in medical environments, as nurses, physiotherapists and psychiatrists all work hand in hand to provide the best patient care. During this placement, I witnessed the cardiac arrest, and death of an elderly man – this was very difficult, but again a necessity, as it was so reflective of the true career of a doctor, and the hospital environment.
- At Southend, I was also lucky enough to sit in on an Orthopaedic trauma clinic, and see the vast range and diversity of presenting complaints. Seeing the methodical working manner of the doctor and his patient contact skills and techniques was invaluable.
- I was able to go into an operating theatre, and watch as the surgeons operated on a severely broken leg, which introduced me to the brutalities involved in Medicine, as orthopaedic surgery is often regarded as the most brutal of surgeries to perform. There were difficulties in putting the patient to sleep, in fact just the anaesthesia took two hours to complete, therefore showing me that Medicine isn't all perfect...
- Shadowing a haemophilia consultant at St Thomas' Hospital was very beneficial, as I saw how Medicine varies and is similar across many different specialties, especially as haemophilia is so specialised.



Holocaust Memorial Evening - The Power of Words

On 24 January, Stowe commemorated International Holocaust Memorial Day (27 January) with an evening of music and spoken word. The theme for this year's Holocaust Memorial day was 'The Power of Words' and both Stoics and staff joined together from different departments to honour the memory of those who lost their lives in the Holocaust, and to honour Old Stoic Sir Nicholas Winton (Grenville 1923), who rescued 669 children from Czechoslovakia during the second world war. This year we were privileged to host Holocaust survivor Hava Salter, who came to speak about her deeply moving story as a young girl growing up in Poland during 1939.

The event marked many different facets of Jewish culture, conveyed through words and music. Even in the horrific conditions of the ghetto, words and music played a vital role in people's lives and became a symbol of both hope and defiance in the face of adversity and oppression. A collection of songs were sung in Yiddish, Polish, English and Hebrew which poignantly captured these sentiments, as well as the sense of desolation and grief experienced by victims of the Holocaust. Other musical items included a sensitive and expressive rendition of Ernest Bloch's 'Jewish Song' performed by Archie Morley (Lower Sixth, Walpole) on the Cello, and a stirring performance of the first movement from Shostakovich's string quartet by Chris Windass (Head of Strings), Rosia Li (Fourth Form, Stanhope), Amalia Aitchison (Upper Sixth Nugent) and Audrey Au (Fourth Form, Lyttelton). It was a privilege for me to perform the theme from Schindler's List composed by John Williams. There were several powerful recitations of poems including Todesfuge (Death Fugue) by Paul Celan, a poem comprised of the writings of Holocaust survivors themselves about

life in the Nazi concentration camps. Drama teacher Nick Bayley gave an impassioned recital of an excerpt from Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice'. Vlasta Pickering Polláková read from the writings of Auschwitz survivor Jean Améry and Heather Eisenhut gave an engaging performance of Judith Kerr's 'When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit'.

The centrepiece of the evening was Hava's story and the audience were utterly captivated as she recounted her horrendous experience as a young girl. Her son Ben assisted her on the evening, framing her story within a historical and geographical context. Hava was born in 1935, to a Jewish family in a small town, Turka, which was then in Eastern Poland. Her life was dramatically changed when the German army took control in 1941 and what is now known as the Holocaust, or Shoah, began. Hava was the only member of her close family to survive and was taken from Eastern Europe by her uncle in 1945 just before the Iron Curtain began to descend. She was allowed to join her remaining family in British ruled Palestine in 1946 and grew up in the newly born State of Israel where she served in the army and qualified as a physiotherapist, despite having no education to the age of 10. In 1960 she visited England, met her husband and they have brought up their family here together, which now includes grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Hava shared her story in the hope of giving a new generation a sense of what it felt like to be a child in such a terrible time and to help preserve a living memory of what should never be forgotten.

I would like to thank all those involved for making the evening a truly memorable one.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard

SKIING

Over the January Exeat, Stowe sent three teams to compete in the British Schoolboys' and Schoolgirls' International Races in Wengen and Flaine respectively.

In the boys' races, the U18 team came second in the dual parallel slalom plate competition and the U16 team came runners up in the dual parallel slalom trophy. In the Individual Registered category, Matteo Pangherz (Fourth Form, Chandos) came sixth in the slalom and 15th in the giant slalom and Louis Hay came 15th in the slalom and 17th in the GS. The following boys raced well in the Individual Unregistered category: Tom Scott (Fifth Form, Chandos); Archie Barnes (Fourth Form, Chandos); Ollie Horton (Fourth Form, Grafton); Xan Kenlock (Fourth Form, Chatham); Luke Holland-Bosworth (Third Form, Chatham) and Conrad Spencer (Third Form, Chatham).

In the Schoolgirls' races, the Stowe team of Elisabeth Pran (Lower Sixth, West), Sofia Wright (Third Form, Stanhope), Harriet Page (Fourth Form, Stanhope) and Lucy Walduck (Third Form, Queen's) had a very successful championship. In the U18 group, Elisabeth won Gold in the non-registered slalom, GS and combined competitions. She came second in the combined overall and third in GS overall. This was by far and away the most successful individual performance by a Stowe skier in the history of the School and bodes well for next year as Elisabeth is still only in the Lower Sixth. In the U14 Group, Sofia Wright came an impressive second in the Non-Registered slalom and GS competitions, which was the best performance ever by a third form Stoic in these Championships. The whole Stowe team came third overall in the Unregistered group.

It just remains for me to thank Miss Crockett and Mrs Browne for their help in accompanying the Stoics on these trips and for all their hard work in assisting with the training in the lead up to the competitions. If any current Stoics are interested in joining the Ski Racing Programme, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Philip Arnold, Head of Skiing

Charity Triathlon

In May 2018, I am planning on doing an Olympic Length Triathlon to raise money for the charity, Young Minds. Young Minds supports young people and children battling depression and other mental health issues as well as seeking to change legislation on mental health and promote awareness about mental health. This Triathlon is not just to raise money, but to raise awareness for the issue of mental health that affects almost everyone in their lives. One in four people will experience a mental health problem in any year, whilst 70% of children and adolescents who experience mental health issues have not had sufficient help at early stages. Mental health has been a significant issue for my family and ones closest to me and any donations will help greatly. No one deserves to suffer in silence, a problem shared is a problem solved. You can donate [here](#).

If you would like to get in touch with Young Minds the contact number is 0808-802-5544

Josh Landau (Upper Sixth, Grafton)





Piano Masterclass with Lucy Parnham

On 31 January, concert pianist Lucy Parnham visited Stowe to give a masterclass to Stoic pianists. Lucy regularly performs with some of the world's finest orchestras and she regularly presents on BBC Radio 3 and 4. David Choo (Lower Sixth, Chatham), Jeffrey Au (Fifth Form, Walpole), Annabel Hing (Third Form, Stanhope), Ben Li (Third Form, Cobham), Sebastian Foxwell (Third Form, Walpole) and Baz Calkin (Third Form, Chatham) took part in the masterclass and they all benefitted hugely from Lucy's experience as well as her down-to-earth and collaborative teaching style. It was wonderful to hear so many substantial works for piano being performed by Stoics, including Chopin's 3rd Ballade, Mephisto Waltz - Liszt and Schubert's A minor sonata D845. I would like to thank Lucy for her wonderful teaching and the Stoics for all their hard work and preparation leading up to the masterclass.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard

WATER POLO

On Tuesday 23 January, Stowe U18s travelled to Oundle and secured a strong victory. The match finished 8-0, with fantastic goals from Alex Girling (Fifth Form, Chatham) and Rory Trotman (Fifth Form, Temple) who played up from the U16 team.

On Tuesday 6 February we played away to Harrow with both U16 & U18 teams. The U16 was fought hard from the first whistle, final score 5-5. This was a well-deserved draw by both teams. The U18 game was truly the best performance from the senior Stowe Water Polo team of this season.

Secured by Ben Holloway (Upper Sixth, Grafton) in goal, the team played brilliantly against a very talented Harrow side. The Seniors carry on their undefeated season with the final score of 6-4.

Cheryl Davis, Head of Swimming & Water Polo



Cross Country

Stowe School Cross Country Squad:

Jodie Brogden (Third Form, Queen's), Rupert Fox (Third Form, Chatham), Luke Holland-Bosworth (Third Form, Chatham), Toby Buck (Third Form, Bruce), Wilf Wyatt (Third Form, Bruce), Benedict Hartigan (Third Form, Grafton), George Hopkinson-Woolley (Third Form, Temple), Maisie Roberts (Fourth Form, Lyttelton), Atlanta King (Fourth Form, Lyttelton), Tiffani Sole-Scarpellini (Fourth Form, Stanhope), Emilia Havard (Fourth Form, Stanhope), Theo Coley (Fourth Form, Chatham), Henry Hobby (Fourth Form, Chatham), Maxi McNally (Fourth Form, Chatham), Angus Pollock (Fourth Form, Grafton), Hugh Fox (Fifth Form, Chatham), Micky Shillington (Fifth Form, Bruce), Charlie Chick (Fourth Form, Grafton), Freddie Woods (Upper Sixth, Chatham) and Guy Woodhouse (Upper Sixth, Chatham).

On Wednesday 7 February, The Cottesloe School hosted the 2018 Buckinghamshire Schools' Cross Country Championships. We had 20 boys and girls run from Third Form to Upper Sixth in the various events. All Stoics were a credit to the School and gave their all on a very chilly afternoon. The course was a very good challenge for them with one particularly long ongoing hill.

In terms of the team scores, the Junior Boys were 6th/12 teams, the Inter-Girls were 5th/5 teams and the Inter-Boys were 4th/8 teams.

The two key individual highlights were Jodie

Brogden (Third Form, Queen's) finishing 11th out of 115 runners and receiving a letter for consideration for the National Schools' Championships and Benedict Hartigan (Third Form, Grafton) finished 6th out of 112 runners and also received a letter for consideration.

The top four finishers will definitely run in the National Championships later on in the year, with eight in total representing Buckinghamshire on the day. Four more runners are selected from the eight letters of consideration.

Nick Hill, Head of Cross Country





Hampton Court

On Thursday 25 January, Lower Sixth Early Modern historians along with Mr Swayne and Mr Cuddy, travelled for the day to Hampton Court Palace in London.

After a long bus journey in the early morning, we finally arrived and were welcomed by our tour guide. We walked in the footsteps of Cardinal Wolsey who built this grand palace and learnt about the history behind this beautiful historic building.

Apart from the interactive games and quizzes by our guide, we found out about other important figures that affected the rise and the fall of

Thomas Wolsey like the notorious Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. One key aspect we learnt was that Wolsey gave this palace to Henry VIII as a gift and it is only one of two surviving Henry VIII palaces.

In the late afternoon we had a nice lunch in the café of the residence and for the last two hours we were allowed to explore the rest of Hampton Court in groups before returning to Stowe.

It was an exciting and fun day so thank you to Mr Swayne and Mr Cuddy for organizing this great trip!

Emilia Pacia (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton)

James Larter, Percussionist

Dynamic percussionist, James Larter (Temple 12) graduated from the Royal Academy of Music on 12 July 2016, with a First. His talents have certainly been noticed as he took up a Scholarship place at the Manhattan School of Music in New York, to continue his studies. He has also received funding from the Countess of Munster Trust to support his position.

James arrived at Stowe in 2007 and during his studies he also played with the Junior Department of the Royal College of Music on Saturdays. Whilst at Stowe, James reached the percussion final of the BBC's Young Musician of the Year 2010 and again whilst at Purcell School. James writes, "I found Stowe a remarkable experience with fantastic regular performing opportunities. I left in 2010 to go on to the Purcell School of Music for my sixth-form

studies, gaining a place under the Government's Music and Dance scheme."

He has played the Richard Rodney-Bennett Marimba Concerto with the BBC Philharmonic, performed regularly at the Wigmore Hall, Royal Festival Hall, The Sage Gateshead and the Barbican and was guest-principal timpanist with the St Petersburg Ballet Theatre in the summer of 2015.

Recently, James played at the Riverside Church in NYC with the Manhattan School of Music Symphony Orchestra. He played Jennifer Higdon's 'Percussion Concerto' and said it was a fantastic experience. His enjoyment is clear to see in this [livestream](#) from the concert;

James is certainly one to watch, please do keep abreast of his development and performances on his [website](#).



GIRLS' TENNIS

Senior girls power through to National Tennis Finals

On Wednesday 7 February the girls took on Cheltenham Ladies in the semi-finals of the knock out stage of the Team Tennis Schools Senior Students Competition. In the first round Kira Evans (Upper Sixth, Nugent)(Captain) won her single 6-1. On the court next to her Vicky Beglin (Upper Sixth, Nugent) came back from 5-4 down to win her singles 7-5. Yasmin Mama (Upper Sixth, Nugent) and Elisabeth Pran (Lower Sixth, West) played doubles in the first round and won 6-2.

In the second round Yasmin and Elisabeth played some excellent singles and overpowered their opposition. Kira and Vicky also had a convincing doubles win. This now puts the team into the National Final to be held at Bolton Arena on 9/10 March 2018.

John Skinner, Head of Tennis & Fives

SPORT IN BRIEF

Boys' Football

On Thursday 25 January, the 1st and 2nd XIs had their first wins of the season against St Edward's. The 1st XI won 3-1 and the 2nd XI won 3-2. The 2nd XI drew 1-1 with Kings Ely on Saturday 3 February.

Boys' Hockey

On Tuesday 30 January, the U14As won both their County Cup matches beating John Hampden 5-0 and RGS High Wycombe 4-0. The U15As drew 1-1 with RGS. The 2nd XI beat King Henry VIII 3-1 on Wednesday 31 January and the 3rd XI drew 1-1. The U16As beat John Hampden 5-1 and the U15As won their match 2-1. In the block fixture against Kimbolton the 1st XI won 3-0. There were also wins for the U16Bs and the U15As, 3-1 and 4-1 respectively. The U15C team drew 2-2.

Rugby

On Wednesday 24 January our Yearlings won three of the four fixtures against QES Barnet. The As won 38-0, the Bs 47-5 and the Cs 24-12. On Wednesday 31 January, the Yearlings B team beat Chesham 22-5. Last Saturday in the matches against Oundle, all our Yearlings sides were victorious. The As won 22-15, the Bs 48-5, the Cs 49-0 and the Ds won their thriller 39-37, scoring with the last play of the game.

Boys' Squash

The squash teams enjoyed a successful trip to Oundle on Tuesday 30 January, with both the 1st team and the 2nd team winning 4 matches to 1.

Boys' Basketball

In recent matches the U18 team beat Oakham 58-35, Stamford 69-44 and on Saturday 3 February beat Uppingham 70 - 25.

On Sunday 4 February in the Junior Inter-House basketball competition Bruce beat Chandos in the final.



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](#)



West House Photoshoot

On Sunday 4 February, West House engaged the award-winning photographer Fiona Scott to run a two hour shoot to promote the newly opened West '5' building. Ms Scott runs her own business and has recently had her images selected for Italian Vogue (among other publications!). She is also our Head of Polo and official photographer. Using the West House girls as models, Ms Scott ran a masterclass in naturalistic photography as well as portraiture. The shoot used a large number of locations around the new West '5' building, encompassing girls studying in house, returning to House from sport and demonstrating the relaxing nature of the West '5' TV room!

The final photographs from the project are stunning, taken in a relaxed yet "glossy magazine" style that will very well suit the West House homepage on the School website. As

an engaging and enjoyable weekend activity for our Boarding students, such a professional photography session proved to be a big hit with the Westites!

West House invites staff and Stoics alike to drop by and view the exciting new West '5' building, with its modern glass-walled balconies, bright décor and seriously eye-catching carpet colours! If the new Cobham building is anything like as architecturally intriguing as West '5', the boys in that House are in for an exciting future! West House would like to thank Fiona Scott Photography for this opportunity and for the outstanding photographic results (available to West House parents. Contact Houseparents for further details), and to congratulate the Westite girls on being ready for their close up.

Julie Johnson, West Houseparent



Lower School Academic Scholars

LSAS this half-term has focused on truth, science, and knowledge, beginning with the question: "Does truth exist and can we know it?" Opinion was split between believers in objective truth and those who felt that truth, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder. Next up was a scientific demonstration with liquid nitrogen, led by Mr Donoghue. The Scholars

impressed us with their knowledge of physics, and Mr Donoghue found himself building a Newton's cradle out of superconductors at their behest. These experiments provided an ideal platform, in the final week, for a discussion of scientific method and the problem of induction.

Peter Dennis, Physics Department



LACROSSE

We were thrilled to find out that last year's 1st XII Captain and Old Stoic Phillipa Stacey (Nugent, 2017) has been selected for the U23 England team that will tour Japan in June. Philly has also been selected for the Senior Home Internationals squads that will play in April in Edinburgh, Scotland. With these selections, Philly becomes the most successful lacrosse player to come out of Stowe.

Alongside Philly's selection we also received the news that Olivia Thomas (Upper Sixth, Nugent) has been selected to represent England in the U20 European Championships this summer in Poland. Olivia has also been selected to represent and captain the South East A Regional squad.

This is an outstanding achievement for both young women.

Kaitlan Griffin, Head of Lacrosse

In the South East Schools' Finals on Saturday 3 February the 1st team reached the quarter-finals beating St Albans and Bedford Girls on the way.

The senior 2nd team had a convincing 16-2 win against Oakham and our U15A drew 8-8. The U14As won a thrilling game against Tudor Hall 7-5.

SWIMMING

The last couple of weeks saw all the Houses take part in the Inter-House swimming heats, the finals will take place on Sunday 25 February. Good luck to Lucas Davis Swimming in the County Swimming Championships at Aqua Vale this weekend.

Cheryl Davis, Head of Swimming & Water Polo

SPORT IN BRIEF

Girls' Basketball

On Wednesday 31 January the senior team beat Thornton 45-37. Olivia Thomas (Upper Sixth, Nugent) broke the School Record for individual points in a game by scoring 35 points.

On Sunday 4 January in the Junior Inter-House basketball competition Nugent won all of their matches to be crowned champions.

Netball

On 3 February our Junior Netballers had two wins against Bedford Girls, the U15Bs won 7-5 and the U14Cs won 5-3. On Thursday 25 January the senior 4th team beat Rugby School 15-13 and the U15As beat Waddesdon 23-7. The U15Bs beat Thornton 9-5. On Saturday 3 February 1st played their finest netball of the season to beat Bedford Modern 37-23.



One of the key attractions of being a member of the RAF CCF section is the regular opportunity to go flying. On Sunday 4 February four Fifth Form cadets; Cpl Harry Kirby (Temple), L/Cpl Sean Carslaw-Tricot (Grenville) L/Cpl Max McLeish (Walpole) and Cadet Rupert Mathers (Grenville) travelled to RAF Syerston in Nottinghamshire to spend the day gliding.

RAF Syerston is a station of notable heritage: a Lancaster bomber base during the Second World War, for a while it was the home station of Wing Commander Guy Gibson VC of 'Dambusters' fame. After the war, Syerston hosted jet flying training before becoming the RAF's centre of gliding excellence in the mid-1970s. It is currently the home station of No 644 Volunteer Gliding Squadron.

The cadets spent the morning completing mandatory parachute drills and learning about the aerodynamics of glider operations and principles of flight. This indoor element culminated in each cadet completing several landings in the Viking T1 glider simulator and prepared the cadets very well for their flying experience in the afternoon.

The main aim of the day was to progress towards the RAF's initial gliding qualification, the Cadet Blue Wings brevet. To achieve this, pilots need to log 20 minutes airborne gliding time or three winch launches; this was a tall order to achieve on a cold February day but conditions proved to be far better than expected. By the end of the afternoon, all four cadets had logged sufficient airborne time to qualify for their brevet, with Harry Kirby's 32 minute soaring flight being declared by his flying instructor to be the best sortie that the whole club has conducted so far this year!

To have the opportunity to experience as exciting, dynamic and enjoyable a thrill as unpowered gliding was fantastic in its own right; but to do so at an airfield with such a distinguished operational history was truly memorable. Congratulations to all four cadets on their award of the Blue Wings, which is all the more significant in that they are the first Stoics in memory to have achieved this feat.

Mr Jon Murnane, RAF Section Commander, Stowe CCF



CCF



Stowe Parents would like to extend a warm welcome to you all and we hope you will find something of interest in our selection of Events for Lent 2018.

If you would like to make a booking, please click on your chosen event below and you will be taken through to our online booking page on the [website](#).

If you have any queries, please contact Helen Jefferies at stoweparents@stowe.co.uk

Stowe Parents



Stowe House Tour

Saturday 24 February, 10:45am
£20.00

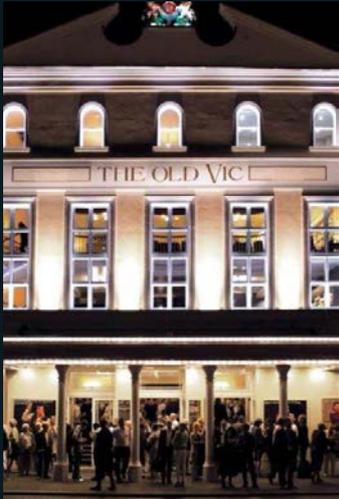
Anna McEvoy, Stowe House's Custodian, invites you to join her for a guided tour of the state rooms, looking at the historical and restoration stories behind the gilded doors. With 12 years of experience working at Stowe, Anna says she still learns something new every day. Come and discover something new for yourself.



Beagles Breakfast

Friday 9 March, 9:30am
£10.00

Beagles have been a tradition at Stowe since 1962 and we are one of only three schools in the country to have their own pack alongside Eton and Radley. Why not take this unique opportunity to meet them with Phil Kennedy, our Kennel Huntsman.



Old Vic Tour

Friday 16 March, 4:15pm
£40.00

This is a great opportunity to explore backstage at The Old Vic Theatre. The Old Vic will celebrate its 200th anniversary on 11 May 2018. The exclusive backstage tour given by legendary Ned, will take us to parts of the theatre not usually accessible to the public.



Stowe Music presents 2018 Concerto Concert

Sunday 18 March, 7pm
£20.00

Join us for an evening of outstanding performances by some of Stowe's exceptional Pianists. The concert will include pieces from Wagner, Liszt, Finzi and Gershwin.

Charity Cycle Tour

The children at the Azura's Rainbow Fund School on Benguerra Mozambique need new uniforms and I would like to raise the money to buy them. I am cycling the Cape Town Cycle Tour for the first time on 11 March 2018 and would like to do the race to raise money for this great cause.

The school was built by the Azura Rainbow Fund, our family charity, which supports this school, as well as other educational and environmental projects in Mozambique and Tanzania. I have been involved with these children since I was very small. There are 450 young children at the school, who live in very basic conditions in thatched huts on the island. Getting an education can change their lives, but they have very few items of clothing. The new uniforms will cost £10,000 and will encourage them to keep coming to school. I would like to **raise half of that** through my cycle ride and then the charity will contribute the rest.

Trennon Bettany (Third Form, Grafton)



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