

The Corinthian 2013

THE MAGAZINE FOR OLD STOICS

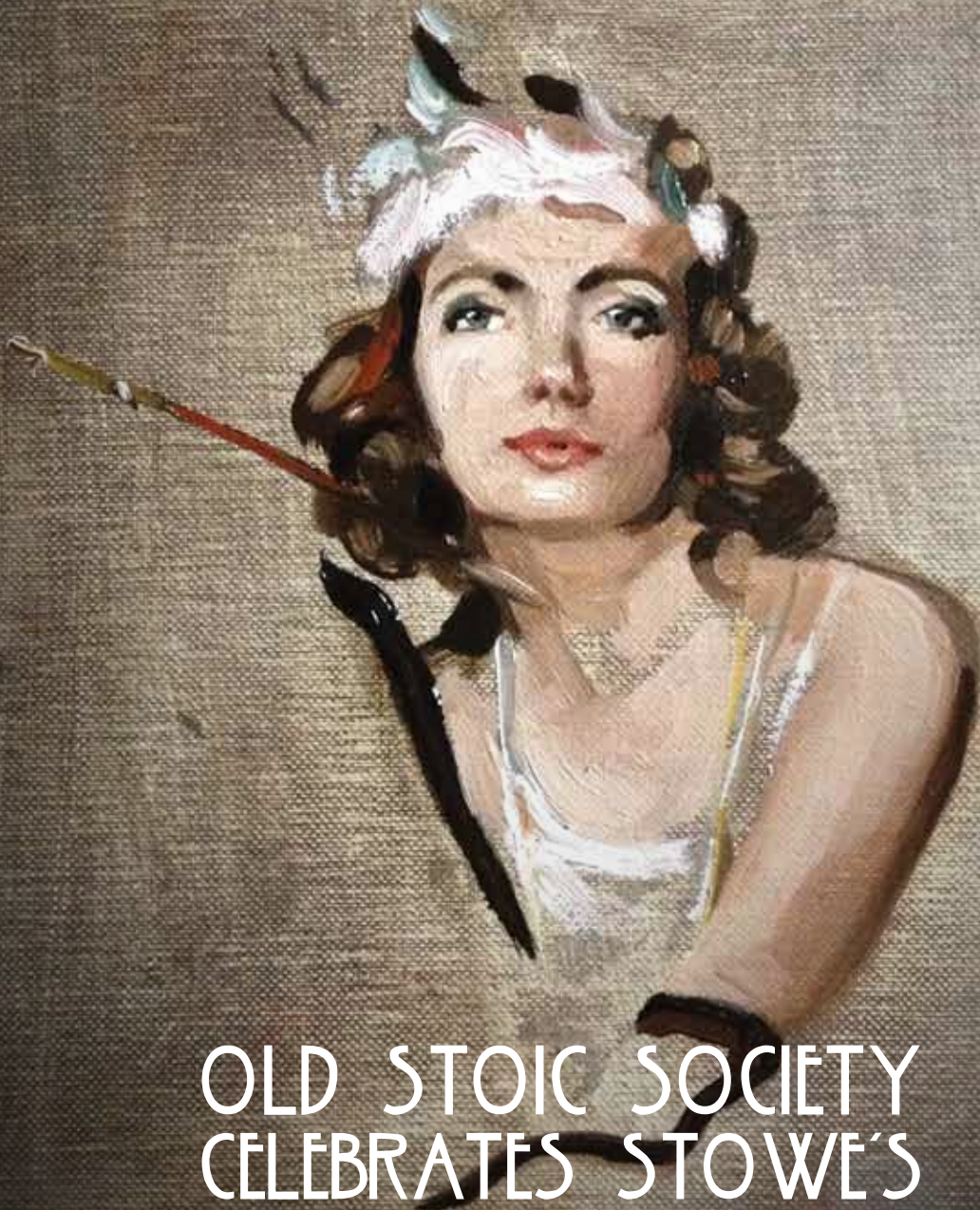
Issue 3



STOVE AT 90

Stove

NOSTALGIC AT NINETY



OLD STOIC SOCIETY
CELEBRATES STOWE'S
90TH ANNIVERSARY

SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER 2013

PARK LANE HOTEL, LONDON

SAVE THE DATE

INVITATIONS TO FOLLOW



Welcome to the 90th anniversary edition of *The Corinthian* – the magazine for Old Stoics.

This magazine chronicles the Society's activities over the last year and includes news from Old Stoics across the globe. In celebration of the 90th anniversary, this edition includes features inspired by Stowe's history through the years. I hope you enjoy reading it.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their news, and to all those who have written articles. Thank you, also, for the time you have given to make this magazine burst at the seams, to the OS advertisers who have supported the magazine, and to Caroline Whitlock, for spending countless hours collating your news.

Lastly, a reminder: please ensure we have your up-to-date contact details so I can keep you up to speed with the Society, its events and services for members. If in doubt, email me at: oldstoic@stowe.co.uk

Anna Semler (Nugent 05)
Old Stoic Society Director

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THE MAGAZINE FOR OLD STOICS

Issue 3

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WELCOME FROM THE NEW OSS CHAIRMAN



Welcome to this third issue of *The Corinthian* which is, once again, a wonderful reflection of the breadth of activities with which Old Stoics are involved, both through the Society and in their careers or personal lives.

In addition, this year is Stowe's 90th anniversary, so we are looking back on nine decades as well as forward to the next one.

The last year has been very busy for the Old Stoic Society and we have combined a very full programme of events with further development of the support services we offer to OSs. It has been great to see so many of you on various occasions. During the summer Tim Scarff left for pastures new, actually ice fields new, because he has joined a company that organises car rallies on frozen lakes in Norway. In his place we were delighted to appoint Anna Semler as our new OS Director, who is just as happy to organise car rallies on the North Front. As she is a relatively recent leaver (Nugent 05), the school staff can still remember teaching her – and, even worse, they can still remember her hangover after the Leavers' Ball!

The Old Stoic Society may not be able to help you with hangovers but we do aim to help and enrich your life after leaving Stowe. As well as dinners, parties and networking events, we support the many sports clubs and a number of special interest groups, such as the recently formed OS Wine Society and the OS group in Hong Kong. We are keen to encourage and facilitate even more groups or activities and modest funds are available too, so please get in touch with Anna and she will help to get things started.

We are also developing our online presence, with an improved website and active groups on Facebook and LinkedIn. After some delays we are now able to connect people with fellow OSs who have agreed to offer career advice or work experience. If you need help, or can offer help, please contact Anna.

Next, please let us know if you have a business that can provide added-value offers to fellow Old Stoics.

We encourage everyone to use those businesses that already do this – they are on the OS website.

Finally, it's YOUR Society so please let us know if you like what we are doing or, better still, join the Committee! Meanwhile, enjoy *The Corinthian* and I hope we will see you at an OS event this year.

Best wishes

*Simon Shneerson (Temple 72)
Old Stoic Society Chairman*



IVO FORDE (WALPOLE 67) CHAIRMAN 2009-2012

Ivo stood down last November at the end of his three year term of office. He was a truly excellent Chairman, steering the OSS with wisdom, foresight, leadership, diplomacy and, most importantly, a ready smile. There has been much change over the last three years and, at a strategic level, he oversaw the strengthening of our finances as well as management change and a raft of new activities.

All this demanded time as well as ability and Ivo gave very generously of both, attending numerous meetings at Stowe as well as in London, in working time as well as in the evenings. Thank you, Ivo – you are a great friend, and we are delighted you are remaining on the Committee.

*Simon Shneerson (Temple 72),
Old Stoic Society Chairman*

MEET THE OS TEAM

The pages of this magazine bring to life the extraordinary breadth of activities Old Stoics have been involved with over the last year; behind the scenes is a dedicated team who form the General Committee, and work hard to ensure that the society thrives.



President:
Anthony Bolton
(Chatham 67)



Vice President:
Dr Anthony
Wallersteiner,
Headmaster

Chairman: Simon Shneerson (Temple 72)



Simon has a business degree and spent his "first career" in marketing, where he managed major brands in companies such as Colgate-Palmolive. For the last ten years he has been providing strategy and management advice to independent schools. He has been closely involved with the Stowe Club in London ('The Pineapple') ever since he was at school and is particularly proud that a new £5 million building was constructed in 2005 – it is the UK's showcase youth centre. He joined the OS committee in 2006 and was elected Chairman in November 2012. Simon is married with two children, both at university.

Vice-Chairman: Patrick Cooper (Cobham 72)



Christopher Turner, the then Headmaster of Stowe wrote in Patrick's leaving report that he doubted whether he was suited to further education. He was right! Patrick found himself in the City and has stayed in the Investment Management industry ever since. "I have stayed in touch with Stowe throughout, my father was an OS and I hope my daughter will become a Stoic in

September.” His input to the committee centres on events and keeping OSs, who he meets through work and social events, informed about the strong progress of the school.

Old Stoic Director: Anna Semler (Nugent 05)



Anna returned to Stowe to take up the role of Director last September. During her absence from Stowe, she read History of Art at Warwick, and then went on to run Althorp, a stately home in Northamptonshire. Delighted at having returned to Stowe, she hopes to build on the good work of her predecessor by delivering more events and services for Old Stoics. Based in the Old Stoic Office, she welcomes all Old Stoics to get in touch if they are in the area, and looks forward to increasing the amount of opportunities the Society can provide to all Old Stoics.

Old Stoic Event Co-ordinator: Caroline Whitlock



Caroline started working part-time in the Old Stoic office in July 2007 but this soon became a full-time post. She spends her time dealing with varied and diverse queries from Old Stoics all over the world, preparing and organising the OS events both at Stowe and in London, keeping the database updated with members' contact details, helping to collate *The Corinthian*, searching for 'lost' OSs, and generally keeping in touch with members of the Society. She adds, "I have enjoyed meeting many Old Stoics at events over the years and I have two daughters, one of whom is an OS."

Chairman of NME Sub Committee: Nigel Milne (Chandos 68)



Nigel is a jewellery designer and has a shop in Piccadilly Arcade in London's West End. He has been on the Old Stoic committee for just over three years. He is Chairman of the OS sub-committee – Networking, Marketing and Events. "I try to maintain a good balance of adhering to the ethos of JF Roxburgh that Stowe must not be hidebound by quirky traditions and meaningless rituals, in order to attract the younger OSs into joining the Society whilst keeping those with a more traditional 'Old School' bent happy as well. Whether I succeed or not, we shall have to wait and see!"

John Arkwright (Cobham 69)



John Arkwright is a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors with some 40 years experience in the property business. He runs his own business, John Arkwright & Co, a property investment and development consultancy. John is a past Chairman of the Old Stoic Society and as a Governor is a Trustee of the Stowe House Preservation Trust, and Chairman of the Development, Building and Works Committee. John is married to Sally with three sons.

His family have had a long association with Stowe from John's father's time in the 1930's during the Roxburgh era, John's own time at Stowe during the 1960s through to 2004 when John's youngest son, Harry, left Stowe.

Development Director: Colin Dudgeon



With a degree in law and a previous career in marketing and business (commercial radio and breakfast cereals included), Colin has worked at Stowe for nearly eight years, where his principal role is in raising awareness and the essential funds needed for a range of important school development projects, along with the continued restoration of the mansion. He is delighted to be involved closely with the Old Stoic Society, helping to organise events both in the UK and overseas and developing ideas that allow Old Stoics to reconnect with each other and the School.

Hannah Durden (Nugent 01)



Hannah joined the committee in 2005 when she moved to London as a graduate surveyor. She writes, "I enjoy meeting Old Stoics across all walks of life, through work and socially. Many of them have exceptionally varied careers and hobbies, many of whom were far from 'academics' at school. They are now superbly successful in a professional capacity and have a notable lust for life. I am sure the school will continue to produce these hugely interesting individuals and I will do my best on the OS committee to support both our recent leavers and more established members throughout their lives."

Peter Farquhar (Former staff)



"I sometimes feel that my membership of the committee, though well over a decade in tenure, is held under false pretences as I am not an Old Stoic." However, Peter's association with Stowe goes back 30 years, to when he first joined the staff as Head of English. His main contribution is the extensive network of contacts he has built up over the years. During 'retirement', he has had two novels published and he teaches English Literature part-time at Buckingham University.

John Fingleton (Chatham 66)



World-renowned cricket buff, leading international charity auctioneer, one-time PR guru, fun-loving wit, bon viveur and grammatical pedant, "Fingers" brings colour to the Committee (and to a seemingly increasingly colourless world in general) and all the wisdom of one of our elder statesmen. A true enthusiast, his passion for Stowe and all things Stoic shines out. "I've never really left Stowe – and Stowe has never left me", he says. Eighteen years on the Committee and a past chairman, he also takes on the sad task of representing us at OS funerals, alongside the usually jollier one of attending thanksgiving services.

Ivo Forde (Walpole 67)



Ivo has been a committee member for several years and is currently the member responsible for finance. His day job is running a financial public relations business. His previous career involved him in roles as a marketing director in an investment management business and prior to that in merchant banking. He has fond memories of housemaster, Ronnie Adams (OS), who was humorous, fair and universally respected, and both Jimmy Temple and Brian Mead, who taught engagingly and inspired Stoics on the rugby field.

Timothy Hart (Chandos 92)



"As a film director and producer, I am fascinated with people and their stories especially those surrounding love. The good bits and the bad bits, the highs and the earth shattering lows." Having gatecrashed a networking event several years ago at the Ritz, Tim voiced a couple of slightly crazy ideas to a committee member and was surprised to be asked to join. Ever since, he has enjoyed bringing his 'outside-the-box ideas' into the fray in which several of the wackier ideas have been extinguished. "It has been a privilege to work with the OSS committee on such an exciting opportunity as developing the vast potential of the Old Stoic Society for its members."

Katie Lamb (Lyttelton 06)



Katie joined the committee this year. She works in Events and Marketing, and hopes to assist in getting more Old Stoics back in touch through the social events during the year. "Clearly some of us never truly leave school! This is certainly true of me and my fellow committee members. With the 90th anniversary of Stowe to celebrate, I am looking forward to organising some truly special events that represent Stowe."

Ben Scholfield (Temple 99)



Ben brings creative ideas to life. As the founder of Jambow, he manages and licenses intellectual property as well as producing content across film, television and music, having looked after singer-songwriters such as Bob Marley, Gloria Gaynor, FREE and Johnny Nash. Since joining the Committee three years ago, he has assisted Nigel and the NME committee, developing new concepts. "It's been a real pleasure to be part of the team, and I look forward to the years to come."

If you are interested in being part of the committee please email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk



FROM THE HEADMASTER

NINETY YEARS ON...

I am delighted to be writing an article to celebrate the School's foundation ninety years ago: on 2 December 1922 final interviews took place for the post of headmaster of a new school which was to be established in the ducal palace of Stowe.

Among the five candidates on the short-list was the tall, elegant and cultured thirty-five year old John Fergusson Roxburgh, better known by his initials JF. A gifted Trinity Cambridge classicist, Roxburgh was also fluent in French and had been awarded the License-és-Lettres degree from the Sorbonne after only a year of study (and came second in the French Essay, a notable achievement for someone working in his second language). He was widely regarded as one of the most gifted teachers at Lancing under the reforming headmaster, H T Bowlby, where he exercised a profound influence over a generation of boys (including Evelyn Waugh) through his combination of intellectual superiority, sartorial flamboyance, cosmopolitan sophistication and wit. Roxburgh showed a courtesy and consideration for the individual pupil which was unusual in schoolmasters before the First World War, a remote breed of men who looked askance at "beaks" who fraternised with boys and generally left the day-to-day running of the school and boarding houses to the prefects.

Roxburgh's appointment as Stowe's founding headmaster was anything but a foregone conclusion. An attempt in 1921 to meet the growing demand for public school places from the burgeoning ranks of the professional middle classes by creating a school in "the fair majestic paradise of Stowe" had been led by the Hon. Mr Justice Croom-Johnson and Edward Montauban, headmaster of The Hall prep school in Hampstead, but foundered due to insufficient funds and opposition from The Times. It was left to the Martyrs Memorial and Church of England Trust, guided by its visionary and entrepreneurial Secretary, the Reverend Percy Warrington, vicar of Monkton Combe and known as

"the financier in a surplice", to put together a financial proposal to buy the house and grounds so that Stowe could take its place amid a roster of schools dedicated to propagating "the Protestant principles of the Church of England, for boys of classes above those ordinarily attending public elementary schools." Using Wrekin College as collateral, Warrington arranged to buy Stowe and then used the same financial mechanism to raise a mortgage and guarantee to acquire Canford in 1923. The cycle of mortgage and advance, advance and mortgage, was used to purchase Westonbirt, Felixstowe College, Harrogate College, Seaford College, Lowther College, St Monica's and even a girls' high school in Kenya. Roxburgh, a housemaster at Lancing, a school founded in 1848 by Nathaniel Woodard to enshrine the High Church Anglo-Catholicism of the Oxford Movement, was unlikely to find favour among the Martyrs' Memorial Trustees. While clearly the outstanding candidate at interview, it is claimed that Warrington attempted to use the proxy votes of four absentee members of the Council to prevent Roxburgh's appointment. Fortunately, Stowe's first chairman of governors, Lord Gisborough, interceded to invalidate any attempts at electoral chicanery and Roxburgh was duly appointed. He became one of the greatest headmasters of the twentieth century.

It was pure serendipity that the place chosen to combat the insidious spread of Anglo-Catholic incense, bells and vestments, also embodied some quite different ideas to those espoused by the Evangelical wing of the Church of England. Viscount Cobham and his heir, Richard Grenville, Earl Temple, had employed a veritable Who's Who of eighteenth century architects, artists and landscape gardeners to realise their vision of Whig principles, an Arcadian celebration of civil and religious freedom, and to make Stowe the headquarters of the great cousinhood of Temples and Grenvilles, Pitts and Lytteltons. Sadly, however, by the early 1920s the estate had fallen into disrepair after the first and second Dukes of Buckingham had frittered away the family fortune and the third Duke died without male heirs. Lady Kinloss, daughter of the third Duke,

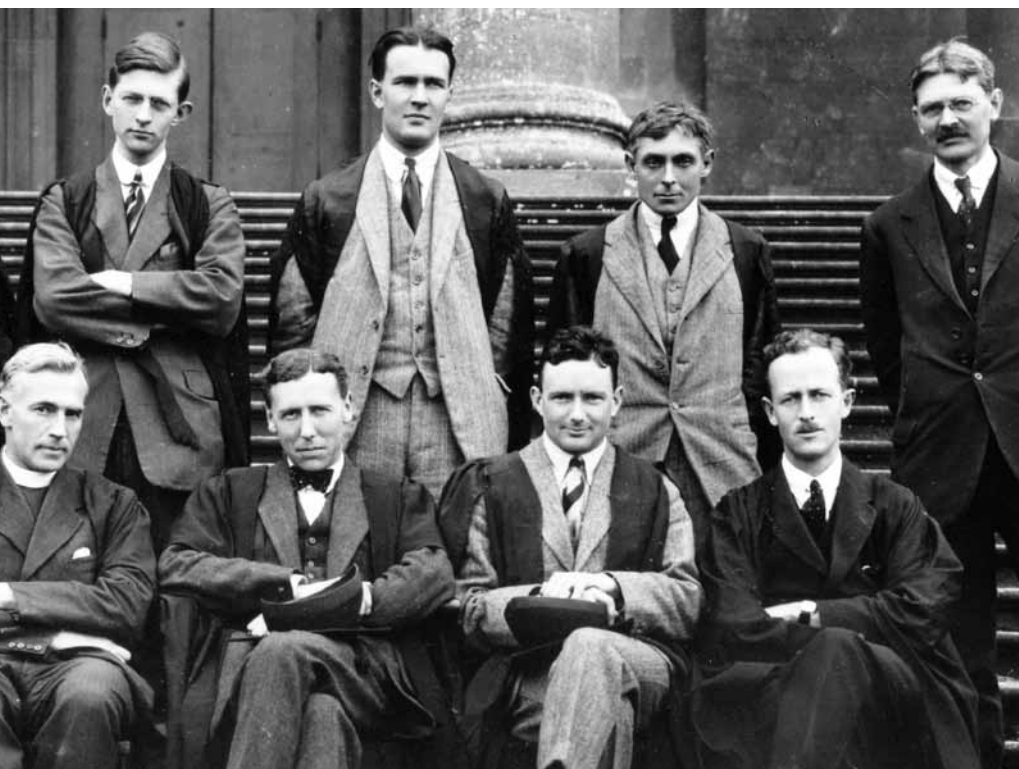


✓ The teaching staff from 1923, with Roxburgh at the centre in a bow tie.

struggled to maintain Stowe, leasing the house to the Comte de Paris, the Bourbon claimant to the French throne, but she eventually decided to sell the house and estate after her son and heir, the Master of Kinloss, was killed in action in December 1914.

The Martyrs Memorial Trust governors were able to buy Stowe in September 1922 for £34,500 (it is estimated that it had cost the Temple-Grenville family some £4 million in eighteenth century currency to build and design the Mansion and landscape gardens). It was the School's great good fortune that the values of the English Enlightenment resonated with Roxburgh's drive to liberalise and humanise boarding school education while inculcating the virtues of tolerance, intellectual curiosity, love of reason and an aesthetic appreciation of Stowe's sublime surroundings. While creating a school that prized individuality and diversity, Roxburgh was enough of a son of the Manse (his paternal grandfather, the Reverend John Roxburgh, led the Presbyterian congregation of St John's Free Church in Glasgow) not to fall out with his governors on theological matters: in 1931 when parents agitated about the lack of a cross on the Lord's Table (never an altar) in Chapel, Roxburgh negotiated the skilful compromise of placing a Crusader's sword behind the Table to allow the hilt of the sword to serve as a substitute for a cross. Roxburgh's own beliefs can be summed up in a sermon in which he quoted St John as uttering a "final and crowning statement of the Christian faith – God is Love."

On 11 May 1923, Roxburgh, resplendent in trilby, spats and a bow tie, greeted the first



- 🕒 The new boys arriving on 11 May 1923.
- 🕒 Roxburgh greets the first arrivals.

99 boys on the North Front steps. To ease identification, boys and masters wore tickets on their lapels bearing their names and houses. Although four senior boys came with Roxburgh from Lancing, the average age of a Stoic was 13 ½ and Stowe felt more like a prep school than an embryonic major public school. It is testament to Roxburgh's genius that the School expanded quickly, with 108 new arrivals in the autumn and within a year there were more than a thousand names on the Admissions Register. By 1926 he was able to turn away sixty academically weak boys who had failed their Common Entrance and in 1930 there were nearly 500 Stoics. He had achieved his ambition of placing Stowe in the first rank of public schools.

A true polymath, Roxburgh worked closely with Sir Clough Williams-Ellis, the architect and designer of Portmeirion, to convert the eastern and western pavilions of the Mansion into boarding houses and to ensure that new buildings were sympathetic to the architecture of Vanbrugh, Adam and Kent (Chatham's red brick posterior facing Sir Robert Lorimer's imposing and noble Chapel was the only significant discordant note). Grounds were levelled to create playing fields, classrooms were built, the single bath sunk into the ground for ducal ablutions was covered over while 60 baths and washbasins were installed for the boys (the first bursar estimated that he was responsible for 35 miles of piping – he joined a religious order soon after the School opened). Quixotically, a small zoo was established where Walpole now stands, although it did not last long and a bear presented by Sir Auckland Geddes has the doleful distinction of being the first expulsion from Stowe. The Great Avenue from

the Corinthian Arch to Buckingham was saved from the depredations of the developers and timber merchants by a subscription organised by Etonians and Old Etonians as a gift from "one of the oldest and not the least famous of our public schools."

Roxburgh organised the Upper School into Sides so that a pupil would come under the tutelage of a subject specialist and appointed masters who generally shared his educational views. He was convinced that schoolmasters achieved their best results when they treated pupils as

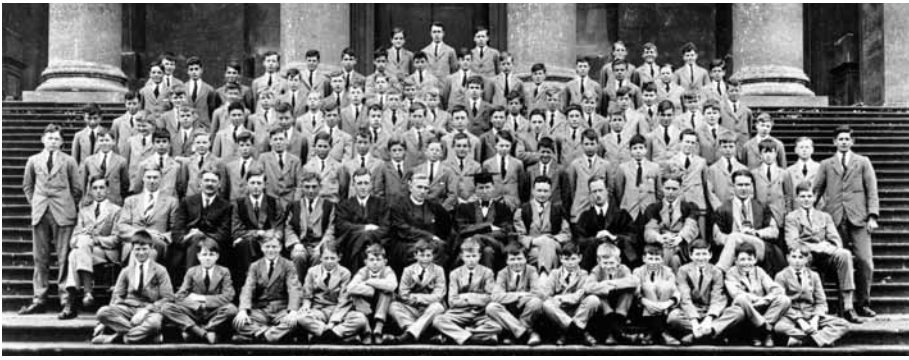
individuals and he did not insist on uniform teaching methods that stamped out idiosyncratic and eccentric teaching styles. It was not how a teacher taught that really mattered, but whether he inspired pupils to take charge of their own learning, getting them to think clearly and to appreciate what is great and good: "the centre of every boy's education is (or ought to be) the work he does on a subject that appeals to him". He was unusual among headmasters in having a strong interest in aesthetics (he was a keen and skilful photographer) and famously announced that "Every boy who goes out from Stowe will know beauty when he sees it all the rest of his life." He had an intellectually generous cast of mind and championed new disciplines, for example he wrote an article for The Daily Telegraph in

1931 promoting the teaching of Economics in the Sixth Form. He recognised that some boys produced their best work in the Art Department or in more practical subjects. Characteristically, he donated a £5,000 cheque given to him by the Old Stoics on his retirement in 1949 to the School to build carpentry and metal workshops.

School rules were based on common sense and there were no made up rules about "bloods" wearing patterned waistcoats or junior boys tipping boaters to acknowledge a prefect. Roxburgh would not tolerate adolescent boorishness, bad manners or

STOICS ARE STILL ENCOURAGED TO
BREATHE THE SPIRIT OF THE ENGLISH ENLIGHTENMENT,
 RELISH THE BEAUTY THAT SURROUNDS THEM

lack of punctuality – but he was the opposite of a martinet. Instead, he expected self-regulation and self-restraint and preferred gentle persuasion and exposition to hectoring admonition and collective punishments (for example, when he came across a group of boys thoughtlessly chipping away at the stucco of a column on the South Front portico, Roxburgh gave them a brief architectural history of the evolution of the house, encompassing Earl Temple's modifications of the original designs by Borra and Adam: "And you young gentlemen are lounging on the portico watching some sporting contest, and slowly demolishing this stately pile by perforating these pillars with the points of your plebian umbrellas." Roxburgh showed great solicitude and care for each and every Stoic, never failing to



1 First 99 and teaching staff on the South Front Steps, 11 May 1923.

2 Roxburgh teaching a French class in 1933.



remember a birthday (“I believe, my dear fellow, I have to congratulate you on an auspicious occasion... many happy returns of the day – you don’t look a day older”). He never referred to Stoics as “boys”, addressing them instead as “members of the School”. Prefects’ dinners were civilised and civilising occasions: “he gave me my first glass of port and my last Egyptian cigarette”, a prefect later recalled.

How Stowe would differentiate itself from other educational establishments is explained in the first edition of *The Stoic*, published in July 1923:

If we have a character of our own, we do not claim to take praise on that account. It is due to our surroundings and to our youth, and we owe neither of these to our own exertions. The place we live in is of a singular and moving beauty, but we did not build the house or plant the trees. It has associations with some of the great makers of English history, but their history was made before we were born. All this is inherited wealth, not earned. For our youth we can take no credit either, indeed the time has not yet come for us to take credit for anything at all. That will be later on, perhaps. Meanwhile we can only acknowledge thankfully the beauty with which this place surrounds us, the stimulus which it gives to all honourable ambitions, and also in particular the unusual freedom which it allows us from rules and bounds and restrictions of all kinds... Our youth provides us with further freedom too – freedom from the traditions of speech and conduct which in older communities provide for every generation a ready made standard of behaviour.

The success of Roxburgh’s mission to create a school that did not churn out stereotypical public school boys ready to take their place in the patrician class that still dominated the Army, Church and Colonial Service can be measured in the achievements of some early Stoics: Leonard Cheshire won a VC for his heroism in Bomber Command and was later awarded the Order of Merit for his humanitarian work as the founder and director of Cheshire Homes; David Niven starred in numerous Hollywood films and was Britain’s best-known screen actor in the 1930s and 1940s; Michael Ventris, inspired by a school trip to Burlington House in 1936 for an exhibition of Minoan finds and a lecture by Sir Arthur Evans, deciphered a previously unknown ancient script, Linear B, and established that Cretan civilisation had been part of Mycenaean Greece; Bernard Gadney captained the England Rugby team on eight occasions and became Headmaster of Malsis; David Shepherd and David Wynne established themselves as leading figurative artists, both specialising in wildlife, while Laurence Whistler was the twentieth century’s most gifted glass engraver; John Sainsbury created the modern supermarket chain and continues to be one of Britain’s most generous philanthropists; Anthony Quinton’s distinguished career as an academic philosopher led him to the Presidency of Trinity College Oxford; George Melly, an expert on Surrealism, brought jazz music to a new audience through the medium of radio, television and his annual residency at Ronnie Scott’s; Peregrine Worsthorpe, incapable of writing a dull article or book, edited *The Sunday Telegraph*. The oldest living Old Stoic, Sir Nicholas Winton, born on 19 May 1909, joined the School in its second term and went on to rescue 669 Jewish children from Czechoslovakia on the eve of the outbreak of World War Two.

It is said that Roxburgh never recovered from the terrible sense of personal loss caused by the high casualties among Old Stoics in The Second World War. All were young when war broke and of the 1,918 Old Stoics who served in the Forces, 270 lost their lives – just over one in seven. The number of Stoics decorated was 242 – just under one in eight – and the list includes two VCs, 28 DSOs,

21 DSCs, 111 MCs and 46 DFCs. Roxburgh’s health had begun to suffer, made worse by his refusal to curtail his heavy teaching load during the war. The School had also suffered financial degradation during the Great Depression when Warrington’s Byzantine financial arrangements were revealed to have created a debt of £1 million for the Martyrs’ Memorial Trust schools. The Legal and General came to the rescue and took over the financial management of the schools, creating The Allied Schools Agency, to supervise accounting and impose financial rigour. Roxburgh left Stowe in 1949 after a magisterial headship that had lasted more than a quarter of a century. He spent his retirement in a small cottage in Great Brickhill where he read, cultivated prize roses and taught part-time Classics, English and French at a prep school, The Old Ride near Little Horwood. He died on 6 May 1954 and his ashes were interred in the chancel of the Chapel.

The six headmasters who followed Roxburgh each added impressive facilities to Roxburgh’s original school and today the pupil roll stands at 773 Stoics, there are twelve boarding houses and one hundred and twenty members of the Common Room. 2013 will see the completion of the new Music School, the final stage of the refurbishment of the Roxburgh Hall (built in JF’s memory – the inscription above the proscenium begins with the words “Magister Sapientissimus, Eruditissimus Dilectissimus”) and the development of plans to rebuild Design and Technology to meet the needs of this innovative and popular subject. Last summer’s leavers achieved record exam results and the School’s achievements in sport are at an all time high. Yet the shade of JF would recognise his school as fundamentally unchanged. He would delight in the restoration of the house and gardens which allows a new generation of Stoics to enjoy the sweep of the colonnades as they first approach the tall portico of the North Front, walk into the Marble Saloon to admire the neo-classical frieze of nearly 300 figures, gaze at Vincenzo Valdré’s extraordinary decorative schemes in the Music Room, find inspiration and wisdom in the surroundings of the neo-classical splendour of the Library, before stepping out onto the South Front loggia for that unparalleled view across the Octagon Lake towards the Corinthian Arch. More importantly, Stoics are still encouraged to breathe the spirit of the English Enlightenment, relish the beauty that surrounds them and appreciate the School’s continuing commitment to bring out the unique qualities and talents in each and every one of them.

Dr Anthony Wallersteiner



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1923 – 2013

NINETY YEARS OF STOWE

Ninety years ago, on 11 May, 1923, JF Roxburgh welcomed the first 99 boys to Stowe – a remarkable moment in the history of this ducal estate, described in the preceding pages by Dr Wallersteiner, the School's seventh Headmaster. Over these years, many events have shaped and defined the history, ethos and fortunes of the School. What follows is a very brisk canter through the annals of the School – with one thing plucked from the account of each year of the School's life. By its very nature, therefore, it is a gross distillation and simplification – and we apologise to all those who would consider that we have missed something of particular note or importance... I'm afraid that we certainly will have done! But in the variety of what follows, there will hopefully emerge something of a picture of the first ninety glorious years of Stowe School. Persto et Praesto!

Anna Semler (Nugent 05)

The First '99' arrive

My Darling Mums and Dad ... The new boys are nearly all very nice chaps in this house. W. Cross is very nice in Form. We are having very good food this term; we have had porridge as well as the bacon or whatever it is, most mornings so far. My bike is so useful and it does go so very well. The radiators are now working and they make the place so nice and warm. I am getting on quite well with my work the Latin is rather hard but I am getting it done all right. We play quite a lot of rugger, I enjoy the games very much. I have put a little light in my locker it works quite nicely. This term we are having chapel in the Music Room.

The labs are wonderful Dad they have the Master's huge desk at one end with a sink and electric gas burners, also a lantern screen and two huge black boards at the same end. Then we have huge sort of tables 3 chaps to each, all down the middle of the room with sinks and electric burners. We all have a draw and cupboard. There are all sorts of things I don't understand and a huge aquarium a case of balances and we all have stools to sit on. I can't explain how nice they are but they are absolutely up to date and seem to have everything you want in them.

So ever so much love to you all, your ever loving son Ron.
Ronald Alford Andrews, Age 14, First 99

1923

"Prince Arthur drove up the full length of the Avenue, once again and forever Stowe's, with Eton ribbon streaming from both sides of his car".
Alasdair Macdonald (Former Staff)

Presentation of Avenue Tide Deeds by HRH Prince Arthur of Connaught on behalf of Eton (17 July).

"One point in our future seems fairly well assured: we are not going to suffer from a shortage of inhabitants. So many boys now want to come to Stowe that we shall be lucky if we can accept a fifth of the applicants for the next three years."
The Stoic

1924

1925



1st Grafton Hunt Meet

"All I have to say is that Stowe is the best two-year-old in England."

Speech Day of 1925, Marquis of Lincolnshire

1926



New Lions are expected to appear shortly on the long vacant pedestals below the South Front steps.

"The weather was appropriately royal, with cloudless sunshine throughout the full length of the day. Before the stone was actually laid, a lead casket containing a copy of The Times of the day, a school 'Blue Book', and a complete set of gold, silver and copper coins bearing the date 1927, was soldered down and placed in a cavity beneath the stone".

Alasdair Macdonald (Former Staff)



1927

Foundation stone of new Chapel laid by Queen Mary, 13 June 1927.

First Cricket match between Stowe and the 1st XI of another School; draw with Radley.

1928

Next term it is hoped to start building a hut at Stowe for the use of the Pineapple Club.

The Stoic

1929



Prince George Dedication of Chapel 11 July 1929.

1932

Ghostly sighting on South Front
 "As they mounted the steps one would have expected to hear the light trip of feet on stones. But no such sound was heard. Silently he saw them disappear into the gloom of the Portico."

The Stoic

1931

The Lord Mayor of London (Sir William Phene Neal) was the chief speaker at the ninth Speech Day of Stowe School, on Wednesday, 24 June.



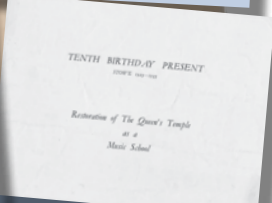
1930

JF said that the seventh birthday of the School might also be called the Festival of the Thousand. In May, they numbered 550 Old Stoics and 450 present Stoics, which meant that just one thousand boys had been, or were, members of the School.
The Stoic

10th Anniversary

"You have an opportunity of showing that the English public school system is not as antiquated as some people are apt to make out. It has not only a past but a future, and the future lies in your hands."
HRH Prince of Wales, 1933

1933



1934

When it became ten years old the School decided to give itself a tenth birthday present, and with the assistance of Old Stoics, parents and various other friends, money was raised to rebuild the Queen's Temple as a Music School.



Opening of the new Cricket Pavilion

The Southern Railway Company presented to the School a large photograph of the engine named STOWE.



1937
Richard Booth (Walpole 38) played for England in the Boys' Golf International.

The Duke of Gloucester planted the cedar of Lebanon on the western side of the south lawn
"I am glad that Stowe has a character of its own, because variety is desirable among public schools, and it is in accordance with the habits of English schools in general to develop individualities and traditions of their own."
HRH The Duke of Gloucester

1940
"We have every type in the ranks here. One is an Earl and one is a butcher's roundsman. Sometimes some remarkable friendships result. Everyone gets the dirty jobs in turn. An amusing incident occurred the other day. The floor of my dug-out was being brushed and scraped by a man who did not seem to be making too good a job of it. After a few minutes he looked up and said, "They never taught us to do this sort of thing at Stowe, did they, sir?" This surprising remark led to a cup of tea and a long talk about Stowe. It proved to be S.F., who was in Temple a year or two before I arrived in Bruce. He is a magnificent fellow and I take my hat off to him."
Old Stoic on Service



1941 Air Raid
"The bombs started less than 200 yards due south of the front and curved round to miss Vanbrugh's Rotunda...and end ignominiously in the mud at the edge of the Eleven Acre. It was true that more than a hundred panes of glass were smashed in the main buildings and classrooms, but no one was hurt by glass or splinter."
Alasdair Macdonald (Former Staff)

1942
Through the kindness of Mr PC Hall a particularly fine collection of British Birds has been presented to the School.

1939
The outbreak of WWII.

"I arrived at Stowe in the summer of 1949. After a week or two, on a Sunday afternoon I had gone out exploring the exciting overgrown landscape gardens. I was near the swimming enclosure on the Eleven Acre when I realised I would probably be late for chapel. I started running back when a small car stopped between the lakes and the driver offered me a lift. He knew my name and asked if I was finding my way around alright and when we got to the balustrade on the South Front he stopped and said he was going to the right but felt that if I ran fast to the left I might make chapel in time. At that moment I realised the driver was JF, the Headmaster."
Derek Jorgensen (Temple 53)



VE day was celebrated by a colossal bonfire on the South Front.



Monday, 5 July, was observed as a whole holiday to mark the award of a Victoria Cross to Major J T McKellar Anderson, the first Old Stoic to win the V.C.

The King has approved the award of the Victoria Cross to Wing Commander Geoffrey Leonard Cheshire DSO and two bars, DFC (C.1935). Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, 617 Squadron.
The Stoic



VE Day: "On the night of the 7 May, 1945, the British government announced that the next day would celebrate the victory of the Allied Forces in Europe. This was the day that Stoics had been expected to return to Stowe for the summer term. During the war, the house room windows had been blacked out at sunset with thick cardboard screens mounted on thin wooden frames. There being no further need for these, the screens were carried to the South Front where they made a significant bonfire. The School Chaplain, Mr Windsor Richards, played a piano mounted on school tables, and popular songs were sung. It was a dry sunny evening."
Dr John Marsden (Walpole 49)

1943
"I remember the thrill and honour of showing Field Marshall Montgomery around the School during his visit in 1946. During his speech in the Marble Hall, he turned ruefully to me and said "I am asking the Headmaster to give you all a whole holiday" of course, JF knew nothing of his plan and gave me, as head of School, a look of despair, to which Montgomery retaliated by saying, "In fact I will ask him to give you two", at which point the whole School cheered!"
Edmund Skepper (Temple 46)



Straight Course Avenue Purchased.

1947
Geoffrey Chibbett (Cobham 47) won the Junior Lawn Tennis Association Singles Championship.

1945

1950
First School Dance since the beginning of the war.



1951
Performance of Othello at Queens Temple.



The chief event of this term was the Inspection of the Contingent on June 2nd by the Army Commander, General Sir O L Roberts, KCB, KBE, DSO.

1948
The decennial photograph of the whole school and staff was taken, beneath the East Colonnade.



JF's retirement from Stowe
"For all his generosity and his devotion, his graciousness and his sincerity, for all his belief in us, we owe JF our thanks."
The Stoic

Death of Roxburgh
On 18 September, at a private service in Chapel, the casket containing the ashes of the late Mr JF Roxburgh, was placed beneath the Chancel floor.
1954



Clearing the Oxford Water
It took over three weeks to complete the job of excavation, and some thousands of tons of silt were removed.

1956
The School has been the scene of much building activity this term. The Headmaster's house on the edge of Chatham Field is near to completion, the Memorial Hall is rising swiftly, and a new master's house is being built on Paper Mill Hill.

"In the history of education he will go down as one who added another great school to the country; and in the history of Stowe he was the man who fused the spirit of the past with the present and made us feel that we were the heirs of the rulers and poets of England who two centuries ago sauntered on these lawns."
N G Annan (Temple 1935)

1957

Earl Mountbatten of Burma is greeted by the headmaster EV Reynolds.

"I can remember the excitement of the helicopter landing on the North Front, a rare sight in those days."

Sandy Doggart (Chatham 58)

1958

The first Assembly of the term found the School in unfamiliar surroundings, the main body in the stalls, prefects and monitors in the gallery, and the masters, rather self-consciously, seated in a double semi-circle on the stage behind the Headmaster; for the new Hall, is at last completed and in regular use; it is to be called the Roxburgh Hall.

At the beginning of this term Nugent, the new waiting house, opened its doors to thirteen boys, including the son of an Old Stoic.

1959

George returns after 4 years absence Of the 608 members of the School only 150 have ever set eyes on him, but nevertheless 608 turned out to welcome him. His absence was so deeply felt when he was abducted eleven terms ago that on the very next day (whether through grief or because it was the first of April) his pedestal became the seat no longer of a monarch mounted on a horse but of a scarecrow straddled across a bicycle. "Peter Jarvis and I erected the replacement for the missing statue in the middle of the night towards the end of the Easter term in 1957. We used a bicycle scrounged from a nearby Bruce bike shed, RAF denims and a beret from the CCF, stuffed with newspaper."

Mike Andrews (Chatham 57)

1961

Third successive win of the Youll Cup (Tennis).

1962



Stowe Beagles Founded.

Running Track

"I won the Stowe under 15 220yds in 1962, the inaugural year of the running track. John Burden was in second place and Lindsay Wilcox third. The next day I won the under 15 440yds in 55.7secs from John Burden. That time still stands as the Stowe under 15 400 metres record to this day – 50 years later."

John Kinahan (Temple 65)

"For me the landmark event in 1963 has to be the visit of the Queen Mother. She spent most of the day with us including lunch in the Garter Room (at which I had the honour of sitting next to her). As I remember it, the visit was very much "boy" centric including HM fooling the system by asking Isla Sitwell and myself to get in her car with her by the Chapel to go to the 11 Acre lake. The staff were a little confused when we emerged first from the car (at her instruction) before HM!"

Tim Kilpatrick (Cobham 63)

1963

The Beatles concert

"I remember being stunned by the length of their hair, as Bob Drayson was always keen to stop us looking like a bunch of broken down apostles!"

Ivo Forde (Walpole 67)



"Stowe earned five places in the England Schools' team that competed against Wales, Scotland and Ireland in the annual international in Cardiff. Buckinghamshire represented in running order, by J H G Kinahan, AS Thomson, R Herbert (not a Stoic) and N K Rice, won the 4x110 yards relay at the English Schools' Championships in Hendon, and were thereby selected to represent England a fortnight later. Three-quarters of the England team were Stoics, a feat that no other school had or is ever likely to match. Furthermore, they won and the baton resides at Stowe with other memorabilia. Kinahan and Rice also represented England in the 120yds hurdles and 220 yds respectively."

Nigel Rice (Chatham 64)

1964

The 'Unbeaten Rugby Side'

For the first time since 1938, the XV went through the season undefeated – both in school and club matches.

1965

Foundation Stone for Lyttelton House.

1966



Sixth Form challenge.

1967



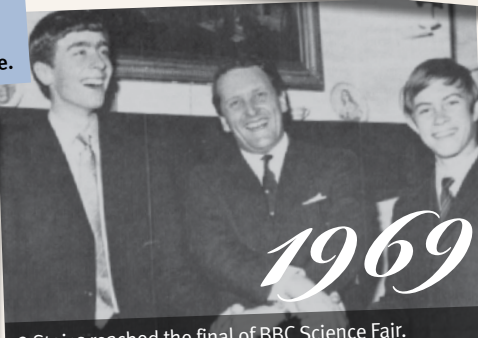
The Trout Hatchery being built.

1968



New CCF Building: CCF moved from Gothic Temple to the new armory.

1969



2 Stoics reached the final of BBC Science Fair.

1970



New Science Block under construction.

1971

Oswald Mosley

The final meeting of the Political Club featured a speech by Sir Oswald Mosley. This was bound to be controversial, but the fact that Stowe clapped for two minutes represents how convincing he was.

1972

A mysterious new club is rising in our midst, which glories in the name of Corkscrew.

1973



The opening of the Swimming Pool.



1974

First Girls at Stowe

The question of co-education has been considered at Stowe for several years now and next term sees Stowe co-educational with the arrival of four girls. Well you have got to start somewhere.

The Stoic



1975

Winning the Micklem Trophy – Golf.

"I remember the heat wave in summer 1976 because if I recall correctly, it was so hot that we were allowed to wear shorts to sit the exams!"

Simon Clegg (Chatham 78)



1976



1977

Foundation Stone for Drayson Hall laid

"God bless this gymnastic Sports Hall, and all who 'Stowe' away in it."

Earl Mountbatten of Burma

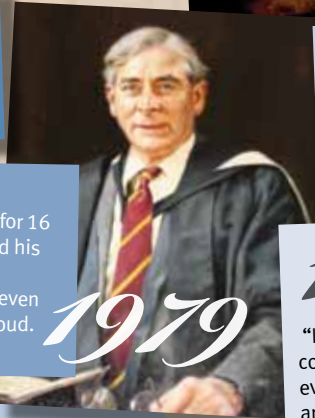
1978

16 members of the School gained places at Oxbridge.

Departure of Drayson

Bob Drayson has been at Stowe for 16 years. The best tribute to him and his work is that he leaves Stowe in a position and condition of which even JF Roxburgh would have been proud.

The Stoic



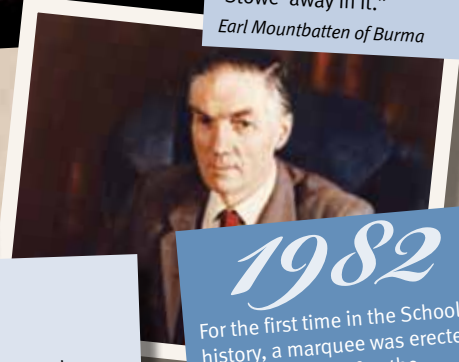
1980

Best Hockey Season to date for first XI with only one school match lost.

1981

"It is time to look ahead. I have stressed my concern to see a fuller involvement by Stoics in every part of the School's life-creative, musical, artistic, practical, athletic, academic and even in our day to day management and thinking. There are hopeful signs on all sides, with a vast reservoir of ability among our pupils."

The Reverend Christopher Turner (Headmaster)



1982

For the first time in the School's history, a marquee was erected for Speech Day, after the disastrous weather of Mr Turner's first two Speech Days.

The Stoic

1983

60th Jubilee Year – Archbishop of Canterbury
"Stowe opened its doors sixty years ago today. It was started by a group of pioneer individualists who wanted to create a new style public school – your first Headmaster, your architect, and those vigorous new boys who are with us today. I am not at all sure that your pioneers would have approved of such a traditional and formal figure as the Archbishop of Canterbury singing their praises; but they might have applauded my somewhat bumpy, last minute descent by helicopter into your beautiful grounds. Stoics in my experience have always had a taste for the dramatic – sometimes for the flamboyant – and have certainly never been predictable cardboard cut-out characters."

Archbishop of Canterbury

"I clearly remember the School's 60th anniversary and continually talk about the Marillion concert, only now do I remember that the then Archbishop of Canterbury preached in Chapel that day!"

Patrick Cooper (Chatham 86)

1984

Foundation Stone for Bruce is laid.

1985

The 1st Cricket Team won all but one match.

1986

"Wise is the Head who keeps quiet about the winter of 1986. It was a long, cold haul, starting with a blizzard which took five weeks to melt and ending with a gale which destroyed 300 trees. There was illness galore and standards slipped and tempers frayed towards the end."

The Stoic

Athletics team won the Harold Abrahams Cup at Iffley Road in the Inter-Schools Achilles Relay.



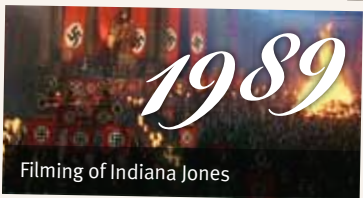
1987

The Computer Centre has again improved its technology and has now moved into the much talked of world of 'Desk-top Publishing'. The arrival of the latest of 'Laser Printers' now permits almost full type-setting and letter quality printing at the touch of a button.



1988

Excellent season for Stowe Cross-country Team
Bucks Schools Cross-country County Championships held at Stowe – 400 runners; 100 Stoic helpers.



1989

Filming of Indiana Jones

The strongest winds arrived on the afternoon of Thursday, 25 January. A vast weight of lead covering the length of the State Dining Room suddenly sprung loose with a loud crack. It quickly rolled itself up like the top of a sardine tin to the surprise of some Stoics in the new Temple House room.

1990

1991

Opening of the Dobinson Theatre
Perhaps John's most lasting contribution to Stowe will be the new small theatre created in memory of Paul, their younger son tragically killed in an accident a few months after leaving Walpole in 1988.

The Stoic

1992

The Voice reached runner-up in the Daily Telegraph's school newspaper competition.



1993

Re-opening of Lyttelton as a girls House.



1994

Birt-athon in support of The Andy Birt Trust.

Bust of Leonard Cheshire by David Wynne is unveiled by HRH The Duke of Kent.

1995



1996

The magnificent Temple of Concord has been restored, allowing it to once again dominate its Grecian Valley.



1997

European immigration, mad cows, Dutch drugs and missing bicycles... just some of the lasting memories from the Stowe Model European Parliament.

1998

95 Choristers of the Stowe Chapel Choir perform at St Pauls.



1999

Aristophanes' Frogs – Junior Congreve.

2000

Fire in Bruce House

We were all left helpless as we watched the firemen battle with the fire, as our House went up in smoke.
Piers Craven (Bruce 01)



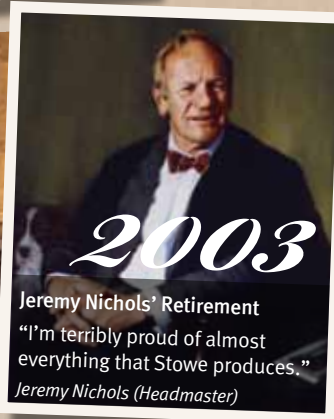
2001

HRH The Prince of Wales visit.



2002

Completion of the North Front restoration.



2003

Jeremy Nichols' Retirement

"I'm terribly proud of almost everything that Stowe produces."
Jeremy Nichols (Headmaster)

2004

Whole School 15-mile Sponsored Walk in aid of Muscular Dystrophy Campaign.

2005

"In a few months' time we will be welcoming a new cohort of 24 thirteen year old girls into Lyttelton to join Natalie and Charlotte who have blazed the trail for full co-education."
AKW



2006

Lacrosse Victory at The Abbots Hill Tournament

Against all the odds the team championed at The Abbots Hill tournament, winning for the first time in the School's history.



2007

Visit of Her Majesty The Queen

"It was a magical experience – I felt so privileged."
Lara Simpkin (Lyttelton 08)



2008

Sir Nicholas Winton Opens Stanhope House.



2009

First South African Scholars

"I simply cannot lyrically express my experiences throughout the year in England. I have been through obstacles, failures, achievements, tears, joy and laughter with Stoics."
Makhotso Maiko (Stanhope 09)



Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover (Grenville 45) opened the renovated Art School which he so generously funded.

Stowe reached the semi-finals of the Daily Mail Cup.



2010



2012

The Equestrian Centre opened in September and fourteen horses are now stabled in this superb development. In the spring, we will start building the cross-country course.

2011

FOR A STOIC OF THE FUTURE

When you from out another age
Shall come to claim your heritage,
You shall discover ere you go
The mysteries we use to know.
For you shall winter timely grace
The enchanted trees with snowy lace;
Summer shall be a strip of blue
Above the Chestnut Avenue;
The Grecian Valley's dew-drenched grass
In spring shall sparkle as you pass;
Not in vain shall be your search
For rabbits by the little church,
And like flash across your way
Squirrels shall dart their streaks of grey.
Then, as of old, the sun shall fall
On pillar and arch and mellow wall;
For you shall windows nightly make
Gleans gold in the silent lake.
Along your path, as daylight fades
Shall flit the elect augustan shades;
Dimly a spectral Pope shall glide,
Our younger phantoms by his side.
Solemnly through the starlit gloom
The Chapel's classic grace shall loom;
And you will slowly turn to keep
Contested tryst with night and sleep...

And we – shall we have left it all,
Dead and forgotten, past recall?
Or shall we wake to hear your spell
Rustle the fields of asphodel?
Surely some murmur oft may glide
Across the dark Lethaeian tide;
Faintly and far the ages long
Shall ring your cheering and your song,
Mingles with laughter that bestirs
Laughing echoes adown the years;
Faintly and far from time to time
Shall sound your sweet, unpunctual chime.
If these thing be, shall we or you
Best love the mysteries we knew?
Happier he whose bat he wields
In Bourbon or Elysian Fields?
And shall not you at length agree
To share our immortality?

J. M Reeves (27)

HOLLYWOOD COMPOSER IN RESIDENCE

This year, Stowe became home to one of the most prolific film composers in Hollywood, Harry Gregson-Williams (Chatham 80). How he came to be teaching and working at Stowe is an extraordinary story and one which tells you so much about what a kind, warm and generous hearted man exists behind the glitz and glamour of a Hollywood composer.

When I first arrived at Stowe, I remember researching Old Stoic musicians with outstanding careers: George Melly, the extraordinary Jazz Musician; Howard Goodall, the amazing Choral Composer and Educator, who also wrote TV theme tunes including *The Vicar of Dibley* and *Black Adder*; Harry Gregson-Williams, the Hollywood film composer with *Man on Fire*, *Domino*, *Chicken Run*, *Bridget Jones' Diary: the Edge of Reason*, *Kingdom of Heaven*, *the Shrek Series*, *The Narnia Chronicles* and recently *Total Recall*, as just some of the titles for which he has written scores. I had admired Harry's films for years, having always been struck by his ability to write powerful themes which stir the emotions.

The Headmaster, Colin Dudgeon and I had been working tirelessly to find ways to raise money to develop and build a new Music School. In November 2009, Colin and I sat looking out over the South Front talking about the West Coast of America and the number of Old Stoics out there; Harry's name came up. With the help of the American Friends of Stowe, Colin raised money to fund the Chamber Choir and String Orchestra to travel to LA. Sir Howard Stringer, a current parent, laid foundations for a large gathering of Old Stoics at Sony in Culver City. At the end of a tremendous evening, two name badges lay unused: our two star guests had not come; Jennifer Lopez and Harry Gregson-Williams.

Anthony, Colin and I returned to the hotel a little disappointed. Not least that the beautiful and glamorous Jenifer Lopez had developed a cold but Harry had not appeared. I had so looked forward to meeting him because his music was filled with so much energy and character; I felt he must be, too. We said goodnight and Anthony looked

over and ruefully remarked, "A shame not to meet Harry Gregson-Williams".

At 8 o'clock the following morning Colin knocked at my door; he had received a call from Harry's studio in Venice Beach: Harry had explained that the Director for *Cowboys and Aliens* had insisted on a music meeting about the new film, forcing him to miss the concert. Harry wondered could we come over now: Anthony and I jumped in a taxi immediately. Thirty minutes later we were walking up the staircase of a large building called Wavecrest Studios, a couple of blocks up from Venice Beach, bedazzled by the 50 or so framed posters of movies decorating the stairwell for which Harry had written the music.

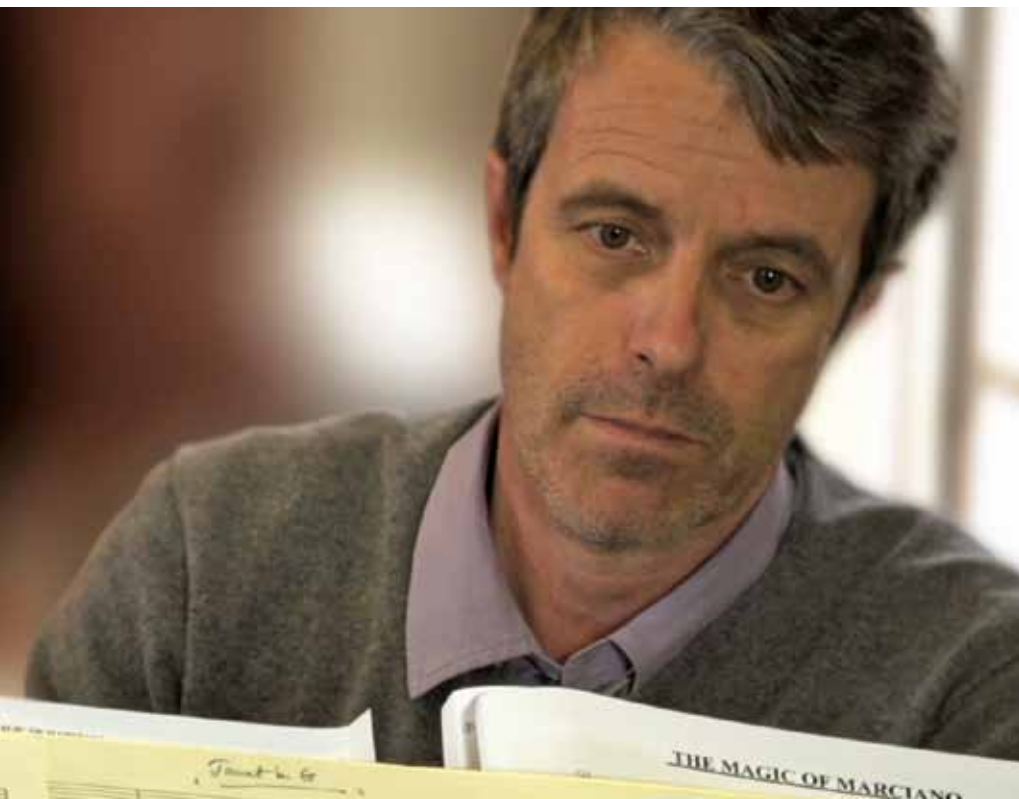
When we arrived Harry was already sparking with energy, he looked at us both, and asked who was Headmaster and who was Director of Music. Frankly, he remarked, "we both looked way too friendly to be either". We made our introductions and spoke about Stowe and Harry's time there. Harry was a music scholar and had come from St John's College Choir. As we talked, Anthony suggested he should come back and, with Anthony's characteristic sense of largesse, he invited Harry to return to Stowe for a sabbatical year: we would give over the Queen's Temple for Harry's use and, if necessary, find a way to put him and his family up in the Gothic Temple.

Before we left, Harry asked if we wanted to see inside his studio. He was working on the film *Cowboys and Aliens*, with Daniel Craig and Harrison Ford as the lead actors. Harry's studio was a vision of 21st century music making. A grand piano to one side, an 88 note keyboard in front of a dazzling array of wide screens, the very gentle hum of a number of computers in the background and a very large

flat screen TV, mounted on the wall. He pushed about 600 buttons in a matter of 10 seconds and suddenly a moment from *Cowboys and Aliens* appeared on the flat screen. He pushed a further 300 buttons and sliders, and flew to the piano. He explained the confluence of Wild West and Science Fiction, from a musical point of view, and played a melody which was related to the love interest in the film. Within 4 minutes, he was back at the desk with all the kit. Anthony and I were mesmerised as Harry placed the melody onto a French horn, set up a counter-melody, and then harmonised it with strings, before adding the all important percussion and demanding rhythm which gently underlaid the melody, adding tension and a unique sense of bewildering anticipation for an event not yet imagined. It was so extraordinary to witness such directed creativity and such mastery of the tools, essential to film composition in the 21st century.

Colin arrived and explained the exciting plans for the new Music School; Harry was kind and generous. As we left, Anthony raised the idea of a sabbatical at Stowe again, entreating Harry to give the idea serious thought. A few days later we flew home. I was elated and inspired at having met Harry but in all honesty didn't think for one moment that I would ever meet him again.

We had left sunny Los Angeles in late February and later, during an almost Tuscan day in May, we heard from Harry. He and his family had decided to leave their home and Harry's Studio in LA, and come and live in the village of Wicken, bringing Harry's entire Venice Beach studio to the top floor of Queen Charlotte's Sewing Room, in the Queen's Temple.



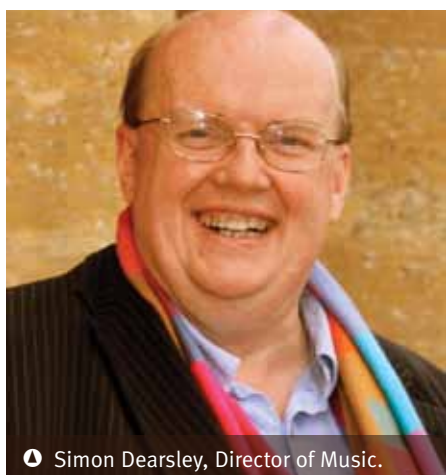
model, they see a man who has grasped each opportunity as it presented itself.

The Stoics have been writing songs, recording songs, creating soundscapes to accompany songs and, of course, they have been learning about the world of film music. On Wednesday 6 September, Harry gave a presentation in the newly refurbished Roxburgh Hall. It was a really tough gig: without the team of Upper Sixth Stoics, the presentation would not have happened because every bit of technology was so new; it was taking a while to understand how everything worked. Stoics, parents and governors sat amazed as Harry brought up film after film and showed how he had created themes, motifs and percussion backdrops. He showed how he manipulated sounds, how he brought orchestras to life and, how they intricately framed and enhanced the images moving on the big screen.

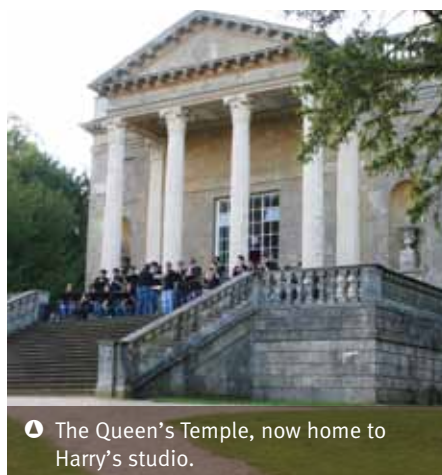
The presentation made your jaw drop, not because it was so impressive or because you recognised every movie he showed, nor because of his dextrous use of the advanced and complex technology. Simply because of his manner: kind, funny and warm, a style clear, precise and driven, all underpinned by a very natural humility and self-deprecating sense of humour. The combination of Harry's gregarious and generous nature inspired all who listened.

As a result of this, many Stoics went up to the Queen's Temple to work with Harry and they continue to do so on a daily basis. When I ask them how they are getting on, they regale me with stories of what Harry said, what Harry did, how Harry helped them. One Stoic was looking in a catalogue of music technology instruments. Harry asked what he was gazing at. It was a drum machine with really awesome coloured buttons on it. The student thought it looked really fun, Harry ordered it! When it arrived he laughed, "It's a really good buy and a really cool piece of kit!" He will be taking it back to LA with him, but he has also bought one to leave behind at Stowe. He is generous not only with objects but with his thinking, his time and his patience as he helps the Stoics he has worked with, grow in stature as musicians, and sportsmen and women (Yes! Harry is out at least two afternoons a week coaching on the sports' fields).

On yet another Tuscan day in the first week of September, I stood on the steps of The Queen's Temple and smiled as a Third Form left their very first class at Stowe: their first period at Stowe had been taught by an Old Stoic, Harry Gregson-Williams. Their first experience at Stowe had given them the aspiration to work towards an unknown future but with such a start to their school career, I felt Stowe and, particularly Harry, had given them a singular and extraordinarily good start.



▲ Simon Dearsley, Director of Music.



▲ The Queen's Temple, now home to Harry's studio.

In late August it seemed impossible to me that Harry would actually arrive. But when I returned for the academic year, Harry was sitting in the State Music Room, at the first Common Room meeting. That afternoon I went up to the Queen's Temple and was amazed by the amount of equipment. The large screen, the projector and the full-size keyboard; the various computers, 3 or 4 guitars and numerous smaller keyboards, reminding me of the Moog synthesizers of my youth, sets of speakers and the grand piano just sitting at his right hand-side. It was a transformation of 18th Century grandeur into 21st Century music making. The contrasts overwhelmed the senses; the 18th century vision remained, quietly in the background, a backdrop that composers only dream of, let alone one who had come from the frantic and competitive world of LA.

After Stowe, Harry went onto the Guildhall School of Music and Drama to study singing. He then became Head of Music and Head of

Gym at Amesbury School in Hindhead, Surrey. Sport has always been a passion in Harry's life. Later in his career he found himself in Egypt, where he taught music and also graduated from Alexandria University. In 1995, he met Hans Zimmer at composer Richard Harvey's studio on The King's Road, London. He created some choral music for Hans Zimmer; Zimmer was so impressed by Harry that he suggested he get a one-way ticket to Los Angeles.

Harry tells this story to the Stoics and they always listen enthralled by the energy and dynamism that pours off him when he talks of this moment that changed his life. He laughs, and comically explains how for a couple of years he spent his time in a room that was no more than a cupboard, and learnt all the technical computer software that allowed him to work as Hans Zimmer's assistant before he launched his own career. The Stoics smile and laugh and you can see them contemplating their own futures. Looking at Harry as a role



◀ Sir Nicholas Winton opening Stanhope House in 2008.

AN AFTERNOON WITH SIR NICHOLAS WINTON

Current Stoics, Saskia Leboff and Imo Wallersteiner, went to meet Sir Nicholas Winton on a snowy afternoon last December.

With the 90th Anniversary of the School fast approaching, we were lucky enough to secure a meeting with an Old Stoic who joined the School in 1923. Yet, as we set off to Berkshire armed with questions about the school food in the 1920s and what the teachers were like, little did we know that we were about to meet such an inspiring and modest gentleman.

Sir Nicholas Winton is not only the oldest Old Stoic alive, he will be 104 in May, but he is also one of our greatest Old Stoics. In 1939 he evacuated 669 endangered children out of Prague, saving their lives. There are now over five thousand descendants of these children who owe their lives to Sir Nicholas and his efforts to help the children in mortal danger. Yet, his achievements went unnoticed for more than half a century. In 1988 Greta, Sir Nicholas' wife, found an old leather briefcase in their attic and discovered lists of children's names, letters from parents and official documents. Only then did his achievements come to light.

During the interview, we hoped to find out about his school days, his later life, and if his time at Stowe had helped him with his humanitarian mission before the outbreak of the Second World War. We had our work cut out: Sir Nicholas is by nature incredibly modest. When asked about the children he

rescued he simply accounted it as, "...just a small part of my life – something I had to do."

Sir Nicholas was one of Stowe's first pupils, as he started at the School in 1923, just one term after it opened. All things considered – it was, after all, 90 years ago – his recollections of life at the School were very good. It was particularly reassuring to hear that he is proud to be an Old Stoic. As current Stoics, it was fascinating for us to hear about what it was like to be at the School when it first opened and to discover how much has changed at Stowe and how much has remained the same.

“THERE ARE ONLY TWO WORDS TO SAVE THE WORLD TODAY, ONE IS ETHICS AND THE OTHER IS COMPROMISE.”

He didn't remember much about his first day at school, but did recall that he had to request permission to "go to Egypt" every time he needed the loo. Sir Nicholas also had a great deal of respect for his Headmaster, JF Roxburgh. He remembered him as a very commanding presence, a "good organiser" and "an imposing character." Roxburgh seemed to make a great impression on Sir Nicholas and he said, "You can't forget him. He always remembered everyone's names and their birthdays."

He ruefully told us about one of his teachers Mr Heckstall-Smith (who taught Sir Nicholas' favourite subject, Mathematics) who built a boat in his study, but had to take half his study down to

extricate the boat, when finished. In fact, all of the stories he remembered from his days at Stowe were incredibly entertaining and told with such wit that we feel certain not only that he enjoyed his time at Stowe, but that he has a characteristic Old Stoic excellent sense of humour.

Sir Nicholas was in Grenville and was a keen fencer mainly, apparently because it meant that he could avoid playing cricket. Indeed, when we asked what he gained from Stowe he was positive that "the best thing was teaching me to fence and not play cricket. I fenced for 40 years after that." Was this the only activity he enjoyed,

we asked, to which he recounted that his riding experience ended promptly when his horse deposited him in a tree. When asked if he acted while at Stowe, he whimsically remembered a 'near death' experience during a performance of Hamlet. As he uttered the words, "Thus I die" and pushed a knife into his stomach, he accidentally cut himself. Yet, such was his modesty, he didn't think it important that he had taken the lead role.

The course of his life after he left Stowe in December 1926 was determined by the economic situation of the age, "The General Strike had taken place and food arrived by horse and cart, so those were difficult times."

He went into banking and trained in Germany and Paris, in order to gain wide experience in the international markets. "I don't think I enjoyed it" Sir Nicholas recalled, "It was the only job I could get, because my father was in it. You couldn't choose in those days, it was the first big slump."

Conversation turned to the activity for which he is most famous, saving hundreds of Czech children from the Nazis before the Second World War. First, we learnt about his background; his paternal grandparents had moved from Germany to England in 1860s and were Jewish. His mother was German, so his family had friends and relatives in the country and links remained strong.

At the start of the Nazi movement in Germany, in the late 1920s, he remembered that his family seemed to know more about what was going on at that time than the politicians did, due to their links in Germany. He still takes the rather sober view that today's politicians "don't know what they are doing now." When we asked about the friends he had met in Germany before the war, it was clear that they did not see the impending danger. "They were either for the Nazi party or against. The movement had hardly started and nobody took it very seriously."

As the war approached, Sir Nicholas told us he felt that he was in a better position than most to appreciate the situation emerging. He was friends with Stafford Cripps and Aneurin Bevan, which made him better informed than most politicians. In fact, it was a friend who encouraged him to cancel his skiing holiday in the winter of 1938, and instead fly straight to Prague. A large number of refugees had fled from the Sudetenland to Czechoslovakia ahead of Hitler's army. Efforts were being made to evacuate the adults in the gravest danger, but one major problem was unresolved: who could help the children?



Saskia Leboff, Sir Nicholas Winton and Imo Wallersteiner.

Sir Nicholas gave us fascinating insights into his humanitarian work, and when asked what his greatest challenge in life had been, he told us it was "getting the British Government to take the children: after all, no other country would." He then gave us a long description of the laborious process of finding the children homes, which he described as "the most difficult part." He told us that extracting the lists of endangered children from societies in Czechoslovakia was incredibly difficult and said "this was the only time I used blackmail in my life."

One of the lucky rescued children is Ruth Humphreys; she was on the last train out of Prague before war broke out. In 2009, when Sir Nicholas opened Stanhope House, the newest girls' boarding house at Stowe, he was introduced to Ruth. By chance, Ruth attends Stowe Parish Church, and heard that Sir Nicholas would be coming to Stowe. Until then she had no idea Sir Nicholas was an Old Stoic.

We were both astounded by the 'matter-of-fact' way that Sir Nicholas recalled his mission. He was incredibly modest about his work and simply suggested he did what had to be done and anyone would have done the same, in his position.

We were left wondering what knowledge this inspiring Old Stoic could impart to

future generations of Stoics: "I think the most important thing in life today is ethics: love, honesty, decency and kindness and that's what matters. Ethics and compromise are the things to go for." Sir Nicholas's belief is that "there are only two words to save the world today, one is ethics and the other is compromise." Finally, when we asked Sir Nicholas what piece of advice he would give to past and present Stoics he answered, "Always have an aim in life and be quite certain it's not going to come off. Be flexible – life is largely a matter of luck and being in the right place at the right time."

We asked Sir Nicholas if he had a role model or someone he admired. He simply responded by asking us both the same question. We were both floundering, stumped, struggling to recall someone we admire. Having met Sir Nicholas we both agree, if we are asked the same question in the future we will reply immediately: Sir Nicholas is truly inspirational, not solely for his humanitarian work, for which he is famed, but for his charm, wit, knowledge and charming personality. Meeting him was a real honour and is certainly something we will never forget: he is an inspiration to Stoics young and old.

Saskia Leboff (Nugent, Upper Sixth) and Imo Wallersteiner (Stanhope, Lower Sixth)

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NEWS

Many thanks to all those Old Stoics who submitted news items for this edition. Please accept the editor's apologies that some entries have had to be abridged and that some photographs have been omitted due to their print quality.

Please keep sending in your entries for the next issue of *The Corinthian* to oldstoic@stowe.co.uk or post them to **Old Stoic Office, Stowe School, Buckingham MK18 5EH.**

1930s

Alexander Baxter (Grenville 39)

Charles and his wife, Eleanor, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on 28 March 2012.

1940s

Ian Robertson (Grafton 44)

Ian has recently published, *The Exploits of Ensign Bakewell: With the Inniskillings in the Peninsula, 1810-11; and in Paris, 1815*.

Dr Peter Rossdale OBE (Temple 46)

In 2004 Peter retired from equine veterinary practice after 50 years; and after 31 years as editor of Equine Veterinary Journal in 2009, he now runs Romney Publications Ltd (www.romneypublications.co.uk) and is working on a book entitled *The Power of Whitby*, illustrated by the artist James Power, containing accounts of past denizens of the town, be they Churchmen, Authors, Explorers or Mariners. Of his time at Stowe, he writes, "I was at Stowe during the war years and remember its austerity in terms of the bleakness of its buildings, and steady loss of Old Stoic lives. If I remember as a towering figure with the intonation worthy of compelling respect. He attempted, unsuccessfully, to change my intention to enter the veterinary profession in favour of medicine, with the classical alliteration that the former was full of crooks, cranks and conchies. I shall always be grateful that he facilitated my entry to Trinity College, Cambridge via his friendship with the senior tutor, George Kitson Clark (1900-1975). My literacy career, such as it has been, was fostered initially by the English master Mr. Meldrum; and my biological interests by the Boyd family."

Rodney Shirley (Temple 46)

Rodney and his wife, Barbara, enjoy what is now a fairly quiet retired life. In 2011, they were both surprised to be reminded that they'd been

happily married for 50 years! They've both had mutually overlapping interests, including a lot of travel in fairly wild places – North Yemen, camping in Sinai, hiking across the jungles of Thailand, trekking in Nepal. Now no longer, as they're both in their mid 80s but have no regrets, they've had a good innings.

Richard Cox TD (Temple 48)

Richard has published a biography of his ancestor, William Cox, who built the first road across the NSW Blue Mountains in 1814. The Sydney Morning Herald called it 'well researched and well written'. It is titled *William Cox: Blue Mountains Road Builder and Pastoralist* and obtained from sales@gazellebooks.co.uk He is giving a presentation on 15 April 2013 at the Royal Geographical Society in London commemorating the exploits of the explorers who found a way across the Blue Mountains in 1813 and, following in whose tracks, William built the road. This coincides with events in Australia organised by the Royal Australian Historical Society.

John Burrows-Watson (Grafton 49)

John writes, "Having recently exceeded my biblical four score, I have wound down a little, but am still keeping busy at Guildford Cathedral as a steward and, following a period of 30 years as a professional lay clerk, I am now singing with the Guildford Camerata, plus the Cathedral's voluntary choir and the London Cantata Choir, deputising at various cathedrals around the UK, including Canterbury, Gloucester and Hereford, plus some charity work with Age UK. I try to get along to Stowe whenever I can and continue to follow with enthusiasm the progress of the new music school and other developments there, plus of course the scholastic and sporting achievements."

John Lindgren (Bruce 49)



John continues to make annual visits to Kenya, to their holiday home, Chale Reefs, on the south coast.

Special rates for Old Stoics!
Please email, john168@aol.com

1950s

David Duckworth (Grafton 50)



David writes "Having moved to Christchurch, New Zealand, in 2006, to see grandchildren grow up, we have become Kiwi citizens.

We experienced the earthquakes on 4/9/2010 and 22/2/2011 and the 11,000 aftershocks since. On 22/2/2011 we emerged from a large building damaged by the quake, dodging falling masonry to reach our car, to get home. Our house foundations have broken, but we still live here, with water, power and sewerage; basics are easy to take for granted and cherished by us. One of about 8,000 similar houses, we will be rebuilt in 2014."

Oliver Wall (Chandos 50)

Oliver passed his eightieth birthday in the summer of 2012, celebrating in a Munich beer garden, and is presently the proud grandfather of two boys, Konstantin and Christopher.

Michael Kelton (Walpole 51)

Michael writes that he is still alive in his 80th year! His eldest grandson is now at Oxford which makes him feel even older. However, his contemporaries might like to know that he is still managing to do quite a lot of fishing and shooting.

Ian Marshall (Chandos 51)

Ian has recently moved into what seems likely to be the final architectural project, a studio/house on a lakeshore in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. He recently completed a 4-year term as President of the American Society of Marine Artists. His latest book: *Cruisers & La Guerre de Course*, is published by Mystic Maritime Museum. His OS son, Paxton is a lawyer in Miami, he has two married

daughters in London and Dallas, and three grandchildren. He celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary in 2012.

Richard Allan (Temple 52)



Over 20 years ago Richard restored a classic yacht www.marigold1892.co.uk and she is still in his possession. At present she is in the South of France and, if anybody is interested, she is for charter and because he is getting on a bit, she is regretfully for sale. Contact him for details at: info@marigold1892.co.uk

Dr Stephen Cross (Grafton 52)

Stephen has recently returned from a month in northern India as adviser on a film on Hindu religious life being produced in France for the Axis Mundi Foundation. His new book, *Schopenhauer's Encounter with Indian Thought: 'Representation' and 'Will' and their Indian Parallels*, will be published in the spring of 2013 by the University of Hawaii Press in association with the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy. Meanwhile he continues to serve on the Academic Board of the Temenos Academy in London.

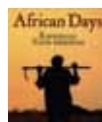
George Kent (Cobham 52)



George is still active as Chairman of Childrens Homes in India Trust (chitonline.co.uk). Trustees include

Rev Christopher Turner, former Headmaster, and Pauline Stanton-Saringer, former staff member and wife of Chaplain Maurice. CHIT is a Christian Charity nurturing 240 needy Children in one of the poorest parts of Andhra Pradesh in South East India. They particularly want experienced teachers to visit and help in their High School, even if it is only for a couple of weeks. If you are interested, email him at agkentsilver@btinternet.com The photo is George being presented with a hibiscus from Santha Kumari, whose father died when she was three.

Robin Dean (Grafton 53)



Robin has published a book *African Days – Rhodesian Farm Memories*, a short collection of some of his letters home to his parents in 1956-7 while living and working with a farming family. He includes reference to the happy times he spent at Stowe in the early 1950s. The ISBN number is 978-1-84624-757-6.

Prof James Humes OBE (Chandos 53)

James attended the Old Stoic dinner at The Globe and sat next to our great Headmaster. He went to China in February 2012 for the 40th anniversary of Nixon's visit to Beijing in 1972. Madam Li Ming, daughter of Mao, hosted a State Dinner for Nixon's brother, Edward, and the rest of his delegation. He has a new book just out: *Churchill: The Prophetic Statesman* (Regnery Publishers, 19/11/12).

Richard Meredith (Grenville 53)

In June 2012, Richard celebrated fifty-five years since his licensing as a Church of England Reader. He continues to exercise his ministry regularly at St Mary in Charnwood, Loughborough in the diocese of Leicester.

Peter Shaw (Cobham 53)

Peter writes, "Marilyn, my wife for 40 years, passed away in February so it has not been an easy year for me. Luckily, I have five Donedaire Irish Terriers living here and they have done a great job of looking after me. The Donedaire Irish Terriers have continued to do well in the show ring with several Best of Breeds and two new American Kennel Club Champions and a Grand Champion. Star, Ch. Donedaire Star Sapphire, who will be 15 in December, had the crowd cheering and the judge in tears for her performance as a veteran at the Southern California Irish Terrier Club Specialty Show in Long Beach, CA. The Long Beach show ground was next to the RMS Queen Mary, which is berthed there as a tourist attraction and hotel, and I celebrated the 50th anniversary of my emigration to the US with dinner on board her, again with friends."

James Alexander (Grenville 54)

James has spent most of his career teaching Maths, in particular at Ashdown House in Sussex, where he was Deputy Head. He is on a lengthy visit to New Zealand, preparatory to emigrating there next autumn to join his son, Rory Alexander (Grenville 84) who is in business there. Quite an undertaking at the age of 77!

Michael Ferrier (Temple 54)

Michael writes, "In my autobiography (*Propellers and Purple Socks*) I mention a few anecdotes (a little racy) of my time at Stowe in the 50s. The most amusing includes the expedition of four raw and pimply youths visiting a lady of ill-repute in Buckingham one Saturday afternoon. There are a couple of less 'questionable' stories." Copies at £10 can be obtained from Mike at mike.ferrier@mail.com

Michael Fincham (Cobham 55)



Michael writes, "Having retired from my post of Chief Executive of Altro Ltd over ten years ago I had two main

objectives in my retirement. One was to visit all four tennis grand slam major tournaments. This was achieved by 2009. The other was to see if I could write a book. This was finished a couple of years ago and so I decided to publish this year. It is an historical novel set in the time of Charlemagne (800AD) and very loosely based on the life of a real life character whose tomb can be seen in the small village of St Guilhem le Désert in the Herault SW France. It is called *A Certain Doubt*. Available through the usual channels! Currently we live in Cambridge and spend quite a lot of time in our house in SW France not too far from the tomb of my hero!"

John Mayers (Grafton 55)

After a lifetime of living in Kenya, John sold his farm there and at the end of July 2011, he and his wife returned to the UK. At present they are living temporarily in Dorset while they look for a permanent abode. Life here is very different to life in Kenya but they are finding it extremely stimulating and highly enjoyable with a huge variety of interests available to them. He very much looks forward to visiting Stowe again and hopes that he will be able to catch up with some of his friends who were with him at Stowe.

The Revd Donald Reece (Walpole 55)

Donald writes, "At Michaelmas 2011, I celebrated 50 years ordination as priest in the Church of England. I have served in the Dioceses of Chester, Derby, Mashonaland (Zimbabwe), Leicester, Southwark and London. Most of my ministry has been in urban priority areas, except in our Putney parish where Ivo Forde (former OS Society Chair) and family were keen members. I have now retired to Oxford and have permission to officiate in an honorary capacity in the University Church."

Sir Michael Ridley (Cobham 56)



Michael writes, "On 23 August 23 2012, four of us who shared a study together in Cobham in 1955 met at the new National Trust visitor centre for lunch. The four were: Robin

Charlton, Michael Fincham, myself and Roger Trevor. We were accompanied by our carers, posing as our wives. After lunch we thought it would be a good idea to nip round to the South Front and have our photograph taken at the top of the steps. This we did, but nipped a little too quickly and passed the school entry kiosk (there was a tractor partially obscuring it) without stopping and were chased and severely reprimanded! The photograph was successfully taken, and we returned to the Corinthian Arch to collect a buggy from the Trust in which to tour the grounds. This was a huge benefit and enabled one of us, who uses crutches, to roam over all the old familiar haunts with his delighted passengers. This buggy is provided free. The National Trust could not have been kinder or more helpful in loaning this, and they have also managed to make the landscape that we knew and loved, even more beautiful. A day indeed to remember."

Rodney Golton (Temple 57)

Rodney writes, "I still work for "The White Eagle Lodge" (a spiritual organisation). The Lodge in the UK has split into 14 regions and I run the North of England Regional Centre. This covers all 4 Yorkshires, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire. I have about 800 or so souls in my patch and look after any queries, applications for new membership, requests for healing, funerals, christenings etc., but not marriages. I am also the Treasurer and Chief Healer. The main centre is in Leeds where we run our principal activities and services. It keeps me very busy (and off the streets!). In my spare time I also write procedure manuals for the Lodge (sometimes worldwide as we have regional centres in most countries) as and when called upon to do so."

Richard Lord (Bruce 57)

Richard has, over the years, been awarded an Honorary Fellowship of The College of Estate Management and made an Honorary Fellow of The National Association of Estate Agents. For the last eight years, he has been a Director and Trustee of Cotswold Archaeology and now chairs the Finance & General Purposes Committee. As one of the leading UK archaeological companies, they have continued to expand through these difficult and challenging times and opened two new offices, together with a specialist marine department.

Donough O'Brien (Chandos 57)

Donough has recently released his sixth book, *WHO? The Most Remarkable People You've Never Heard Of* and his wife, Liz Cowley,

has her next poetry book *And Guess Who He Was With?* launched on Valentine's Day 2013.

Mark Gilbert (Temple 58)



Mark had an exhibition of his paintings in London in May 2012, which went very well. He sold about 29 oils and watercolours. His website is www.markgilbertartist.com

Ian Mackenzie (Grafton 58)



Ian is married with five children and three grandchildren and is an

'almost-retired Patent Attorney'. His youngest daughter, Harriet, is a violinist and plays in a duo, under the name Retorica. They have given many recitals in the major concert halls of Beijing, Shanghai and three other cities.

Tom Wills-Sandford (Grafton 58)



Tom retired at the end of 2011 after 49 years in the IT and technology industry. After attending university

in the USA and learning a computer language in 1963 at MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), he worked at Bell Labs, IBM in US and UK and a UK high tech start up. In 1998, he joined Intellect, the trade body for the UK IT industry, becoming Deputy Director General. He spent much time trying to persuade HM Treasury, the Business Department, Parliament and other public bodies of the importance of the IT industry to the UK economy. He also undertook a number of overseas missions with the Government including to India, Israel, the Palestinian West Bank and China. He served for several years on the Main Committee (Board) of The Hurlingham Club where he is an active member. He writes, "I am no geek, but I was persuaded by the club when I retired to teach (unpaid) an IT workshop at the club for those who had missed the IT revolution at work." He has recently become very involved with the museum at No 1 Royal Crescent in Bath. They are undertaking a major project of putting the house and a former annex back together again. In the process, it was discovered that the first resident (1776-1796) was his direct ancestor, Henry Sandford. He is lending a number of family paintings, miniatures and other artefacts to the museum for the opening. It will be worth a visit after it is re-opened in mid 2013! To maintain the family tradition, Tom's portrait was recently painted. The artist was David Parfitt.

NEWS

1960s

William Parry (Walpole 60)

After 15 years as a District Councillor on West Lindsey D.C., William became Chairman of the Council for the civic year 2011/12, which together with his wife Janet, made for a busy year, particularly attending events and charity fund-raisers in all the surrounding authorities.

John Blayney (Chandos 61)



John continues his work in the biomass energy industry towards the launch of a standard industrial wood pellet contract on an exchange. This will be the first time wood pellets for power and heat generation have been traded electronically as a commodity. Any interested party involved in the finance, broking, trading or supply of woody biomass is invited to contact john@blayney.uk.com for further information. He has also published a short photographic history of his Bentley motor car and how his late father, A J Blayney (Chandos 27), came to own it. The book contains interesting references to Stowe, WW2, the Royal Auxiliary Air Force and some well-known Old Stoic Bentley owners. The book is entitled *A Gentleman's Bentley* and is published by Blurb Booksmart.

John Jackson (Chatham 61)



John held a celebration 70th birthday party on 20 October 2012, at the Oxford Spire Hotel. About 20 people attended, including Old Stoics Nigel Rice, Anthony Shillington both in Chatham and Jeremy Hamp in Walpole. All 4 loved sport at Stowe. Nigel and Anthony were outstanding athletes and Jeremy a triple colour. They had a great time at the party, with short speeches by Anthony and John, himself, followed by 2 singers from "Opera on the Run," performing popular arias.

Michael Chapman (Chatham 62)



Michael started the year in Cairo as Consultant Adviser on a large Saudi water system with Lahmeyer (German) then to Manila, Nairobi and South Sudan as auditor and adviser for 7 regional capitals water project – the photographs from Kenya are at Lake Naivasha. His first time in sub-Saharan Africa was great. He is now in Kiribati doing a sanitation project to clean up their environment – sea water flushing system – another beautiful place – but so far from everyone including his family. He has one daughter doing dentistry in London and another farming in Australia, his wife and son are in Manila whom he hopes to see at Christmas.

Sir Robert Ffolkes OBE (Bruce 62)

Robert writes that, "I am now retired and living in Norfolk. I do spend part of the year in Ladakh (India) where I stay in a house I have built in Leh and travel round the villages on a woolly grey pony. I also try to go to Tibet when I can."

Christopher Wintle (Chatham 62)

Christopher continues as a Senior Research Fellow in Music at King's College, London, and is busy preparing for the centenary of Benjamin Britten's birth in 2013. Boydell and Brewer have reissued his Britten monograph *All the Gods* (2006) in paperback, Plumbago Books are publishing his edition of *Hans Keller's essays on Britten* (2013), and Oxford University Press are including his study of the working relationship between Britten and Peter Pears during the first staging of *Death in Venice* in their *Rethinking Britten* (2013). He also writes regularly for the Royal Opera programmes.

Dick Clegg (Walpole 63)



Dick writes, "My wife Carol and I, along with my sister Cindy and her husband Tony Beresford, attended the Diamond Jubilee Speech Day activities. Sadly, with the speeches

running terribly late, we missed several of the demonstrations/sports events. Nonetheless, and despite the chilly weather, a good picnic lunch, amidst the plentiful red, white and blue colours, was enjoyed by ourselves and many others." Left to right: Dick Clegg (Walpole 63) and his wife, Carol, sister Cindy and husband Tony Beresford (Old Denstonian, poor fellow)!

Philip Martino (Chatham 63)

Philip writes that "After 30 odd years of working as a structural engineer, mainly in the UK, I 'retired' in 1997/8 to run a hardy plant nursery in Warwickshire with my partner Christine. Maybe a peasant's life suits me but it has been an enjoyable experience, although one which we are both beginning to wind down now with approaching (dare I say it?) old age. As a keen 'workshopper' during my time at Stowe (do you still have machine tools or has H&S forced them out I wonder) I continue with my hobby of running a 60 ft steam driven canal tug on the Grand Union canal. Last summer, a friend and I organised the largest ever gathering of steam canal boats in Coventry and hope to do so again in 2013. Memories of Stowe include trying to boil a kettle on DC electricity as the cold weather resulted in ever lowering voltage and the use of 6" nails as fuses. This was surely the one thing Edison was seriously wrong about! And lighting a match as 'Skin' MacDonald (my housemaster) entered the class for Latin (I think), putting the match back in the box and the box in my trouser pocket; one slight error, match put in the wrong way round – result extremely hot, burnt leg and a strong smell of sulphur. 'Skin' was, I think, well aware of what had happened but being an intelligent man never said a word realising I was unlikely ever to do it again!"

Anthony Negus (Bruce 64)

After 35 years on the Welsh National Opera music staff, Anthony retired in the summer of 2011. He had assisted many distinguished conductors, including Sir Reginald Goodall, Pierre Boulez and Sir Charles Mackerras; and conducted operas ranging from Beethoven, Gluck, Handel, Martinu, Mozart (especially), to R. Strauss, Wagner (notably Parsifal), Berg and James MacMillan whose *The Sacrifice* he conducted for the BBC broadcast now on Chandos CD. On 10 June 2011, 2 days after his 65th birthday, he conducted a performance of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg at Glyndebourne; this, together with *Götterdämmerung* at Longborough 2012, has been a highpoint in his performing life. He is Music Director of the Longborough Festival in the Cotswolds where, in a privately run

opera house, owned by Martin and Lizzie Graham, Wagner's works are central. After a shortened Ring Cycle with 24 players, (2002, 2004), they have, since 2007, been building the full version with an orchestra of 70 players. Audience and critical reception has grown year by year. The culmination of their work will come in June-July 2013, when they perform 3 Ring Cycles in the Bicentenary year of Wagner's birth. Now that he is freelance, he can take on more outside work. This year he conducted a revival of *Figaro* for WNO, and in October a performance of *Parsifal* in Lübeck, North Germany. A Beethoven concert last year in Bucharest (Georges Enescu Philharmonic) was the beginning of more concert work. His wife Carmen is a stage director, they married in her hometown Breisach am Rhein near Freiburg, South Germany in 1985. In 2014 they will share the exciting project of *Tristan und Isolde* at Longborough. After the Ring Cycle, this should be a fulfilling experience.

His Honour Judge Anthony Scott-Gall (Temple 64)

Anthony writes about The Armadillos CC restoring cricket at Sheffield Park Garden. This cricket ground in Sussex is one of the most historic in the country. Created by the 3rd Earl of Sheffield in the 19th Century it hosted many famous matches with the Earl's team captained by W G Grace, playing the touring Australians, the South Africans and the Parsees. After the Earl died, cricket at Sheffield Park ceased and the ground went to waste. It remained a forest until 2005 when the National Trust cleared it with a view to restoring the cricket ground. The Armadillos Cricket Club was founded in 1983 by Anthony Scott-Gall (Temple 64) and friends. The Armadillos signed a tenancy agreement in 2008 and the Club set about restoring the ground to its former glory. Cricket now flourishes there and the Club has many Old Stoic members, both players and supporters, spanning the generations from the 1960s to the present day. For information please see the Armadillos Cricket Club website.

Bill Evans (Grafton 65)



Bill has sent in a photograph of ice hockey at Stowe.

Mark Burton (Grafton 66)

Mark came back from a most enjoyable 10 year stint in Abu Dhabi in June 2010 and now, very fortunately, has 10 part-time roles all around the world in Real Estate.

James Grantham
(Temple 66)



James is President of DigitalDispense USA LLC, whose Guinness-endorsed "exactap" for stadia will dispense a Guinness in 4 seconds, without spillage, rather than the 119.53 seconds previously recommended by Guinness for a "perfect pint". He is also Chairman of INNOVATIUM Limited, whose new revolutionary "PINTpoint" beer font system for restaurants and pubs will deliver high-margin chilled draught beverages without the need for a bulky and expensive EUR500-1200 in-line cooler. He gives occasional pen-and-watercolour lessons in Canterbury for U3A, (work on www.CharityArt.webs.com) and held 2 exhibitions before leaving Malta. He has written a book on his Calcutta childhood, which Joanna Lumley said was "wonderful".

Revd Richard Lloyd Morgan (Temple 66)



Richard is still working as Chaplain at King's College, Cambridge. The work is predominantly pastoral, but with the King's choir and his background as an opera singer, there's a good deal of music with which he's involved. A good place to work. He had a sabbatical last year, and went cattle ranching in Montana – very much to be recommended!

Robert Nisbet
(Temple 66)



After their move to deepest Herefordshire a few years back, Robert and his wife have now got the 'west wing' of their old black-and-white farmhouse ready for letting as a holiday cottage. Excellent walking, cycling, etc – they're looking forward to enjoying some themselves, after all the DIY. If any Old Stoic would like to enjoy a rural break close to the Welsh border, search online for Chimney Cottage Sykes.

Angus McDonagh
(Grafton 67)

Angus has had his book *The Stamp Collection*, featured in last year's *Corinthian*, reviewed as "a magnificent hoax" and this can be downloaded onto an iPad from the online bookstore at Blurb.com He will donate a copy to the School library.

Jess Miller
(Cobham 67)

Jess is giving talks and one on one help based out of Evolution in Fore Street, Exeter, Devon. He is helping people with dependency, emotional and life problems of all kinds and his self help books are available in Evolution at a discount of just £4.95 each. Contact Jess on **07813 908999** to make appointments. Evolution can be found at: www.EvolutionExeter.com

David Keeling
(Chandos 68)

David has written about the family of the Dukes of Buckingham and Chandos, with regard to Jamaica, West Indies. If you would like to read his research, it is available on the OS website.

Lt Col Charles Thwaites MBE (Bruce 68)



Charles was appointed the High Sheriff of Herefordshire for 2012/13. This is a particular honour for Charles who, other than his Army service, has lived in Herefordshire all his life.

Neil Wallace
(Chandos 68)



Neil has recently joined a new U.S. company (DaVinci 3D) that has a unique and impressive 3D without glasses technology. We can convert 2D content to 3D content with or without glasses. He's the one on the right!

Philip Wolfe
(Grafton 68)

Philip writes to let us know that Routledge has recently published his book *Solar Photovoltaic Projects in the Mainstream Energy Market*. It's not yet competing with 50 Shades of Grey on the bestseller list!

1970s

The Hon Anthony Russell
(Temple 70)



Anthony has written a memoir of his childhood growing up at Leeds Castle, Kent, where his Anglo-American grandmother, Lady Baillie, was the last private owner. The book, titled *Outrageous Fortune* will be published in Spring/Summer 2013.

Ian Ritchie
(Temple 71)



Since 2005, Ian has been the Director of the City of London Festival, which in summer 2012 celebrated its 50th anniversary. In November, he was named by the Evening Standard as one of 'London's 1000 most influential people'. He will step down in summer 2013, after eight Festivals, so as to devote more time to his other musical interests; as Artistic Director of both the Setúbal Music Festival in Portugal and of the Musical Brain (Arts, Science & the Mind) as well as his work on the Boards of a number of Arts Charities.

Neil Davidson
(Cobham 72)

Neil developed a revolutionary video technology for the web through his company My Web Presenters. He has a film studio close to the BBC at White City, and provides film and video marketing for many of the FTSE 100. His film for Virgin Atlantic won the E-Commerce award for the most innovative way to engage and convert web visitors. He recently worked with Joe Pelissier (Walpole 81) on a video campaign for L'Oreal at New York Fashion Week.

Etienne Millner
(Grenville 72)



Etienne is a Fellow of the Royal British Society of Sculptors and President of the Society of Portrait Sculptors and has received two major sculpture commissions. The Leathersellers' Company has commissioned him to make a life-size and a quarter bronze statue of a 'Flesher' to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The statue will be placed in St Helen's Place, off Bishopsgate in the City of London. He has been commissioned to make a life-size and a half statue of the First World War poet and painter, Isaac Rosenberg. The statue will be placed in the grounds of the University of London, Birkbeck College. Fund raising has started for this statue.

Salvador Potter
(Cobham 72)

Salvador plans to retire from full time work at the end of 2012 after 6 years running the Processors and Growers Research Organisation, near Peterborough. He has also been enjoying Old Stoic 'coverage' on the popular TV series 'Fresh Meat'!

John de Borman
(Chatham 73)



John has recently finished photographing Dustin Hoffman's directorial debut 'Quartet' which came out in the cinemas on 1 January 2013.

Joseph Miro
(Grafton 73)



Joseph writes, "There have been many memorable moments during my five years at Stowe. However, nothing is more important or more memorable than the camaraderie and life-long friendships that were formed at Stowe. The photographs are a snapshot of a memorable moment when I photographed friends (all Grafton) at the Temple of British Worthies. They were then developed in the small darkroom at Stowe to which I kept a key. We did not always appreciate how lucky we were to be surrounded by the extraordinarily spectacular gardens and temples of Stowe. However, this is a moment that captures something of the magic of the temples mixed with school boys in the seventies."

Shaun Springer
(Chandos 74)

Shaun, as reported by his brother, Keith Springer (Chandos 79), sadly suffered a heart attack in March 2011. During resuscitation there was a brief period when his blood was not flowing properly, thereby causing significant brain damage. He is currently at a top neuro rehabilitation unit in Purley but progress is slow. His cognitive ability does not seem to have been affected, meaning that he clearly recognises everyone who visits him. Likewise, his sense of humour seems in no way impaired. Keith knows he made some close friends at Stowe and that seeing them will make a big difference. If you'd like to visit him or drop him a line then do please get in touch with Keith by email ellybmine@aol.com, who would be delighted to make the necessary arrangements. Failing that, your prayers are always welcome.

Perry Coysh
(Grafton 75)



Perry and his wife, Charlotte, are running an up-market bed and breakfast from their home, near Ipswich.
www.holbecks.com
01473 823211

1970s cont...

Christopher Drake (Walpole 75)

Christopher writes, "In my continuing role as Chairman of The Asia-Pacific Network for Moral Education, we held a successful conference in Taiwan in June 2012 and are now planning for a large event in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in June 2013 with the theme of "Learning from Diversity and Commonality: Ways Forward for Moral Education in the Asia-Pacific", see www.apnme2013.org. Earlier in 2012, I joined with a few friends in forming a new charity in Hong Kong: TCK Learning Centre for Migrant Workers, which offers courses to some of the many migrant workers in Hong Kong www.tcklearningcentre.org while another charity of which I am a trustee, The Mother and Child Health and Education Trust, has been making great progress (and winning some awards) for its HealthPhone project: www.healthphone.org. I also recently became the Chairman of the University of Oxford's China Office Hong Kong Advisory Group."

Simon Gornall (Walpole 75)

After a corporate career with Reckitt and Colman, Tesco, John Lewis and Waitrose, Simon has worked since 2004 as an Interim Manager supporting both suppliers and retailers wishing to improve their marketing and trading performance. For example, he recently spent 14 months helping NAAFI transform its business model in those parts of the world where British armed forces operate, including HM warships.

Robert Syngé (Grenville 75)



Robert writes, "My company – Apollo Business Parks – recently finished a new small-office

business complex called Apollo Office Court, near Buckingham. We were honoured at the opening ceremony by a guest appearance from Charlie Duke, an Apollo astronaut who spent three days exploring the moon back in 1972 during the historic Apollo 16 mission. The attached picture shows Charlie performing the opening ceremony along with myself and the Mayor of Buckingham, Hedley Cadd."

Jonty Crosse (Walpole 76)

Jonty writes that at the October 2012 annual reunion he had a



wonderful time catching up with old friends and also meeting chums who used

to be in Bahrain but are now Stoic and OS parents! He also met up with his old housemaster, Michael Kirk, whom he hadn't seen for about 35 years and took a tour of Walpole with him. He was impressed with all of the study bed rooms but says he preferred the idea of having the old studies, which separated sleep from play, rather than it all being in one place. He spent some time with Simon Creedy Smith and Chris Wightman during the day and into the night!! He just wandered around the grounds as he used to do, appreciating the beauty. We were truly blessed with the weather.

Major General Sir William Cubitt CBE (Temple 76)

William left the Army in October 2011 after 34 years. He now runs a family estate in Norfolk. He and his wife, Lucy, have a daughter at Durham University, a son at Oxford Brookes University and another son on a gap year.

Howard Goodall CBE (Lyttelton 76)

Howard was awarded a CBE for Services to Music Education in the 2011 New Year's Honours. He was commissioned to compose some new Water Music for the Queen's Jubilee River Pageant (not that BBC TV viewers heard any of the 10 musical barges, even if Her Majesty did!); he was musically responsible for Rowan Atkinson's memorable moment in the London 2012 Olympic Opening Ceremony. He continues to present his weekly show for Classic FM, for whom he is composer-in-residence, 'Saturday Night at the Movies', his musical A Winter's Tale is enjoying its London première season as he writes, his musical Love Story had its US première in Philadelphia in September and he is currently working on the stage musical adaptation of Bend it like Beckham with its writer-director Gurinder Chadha. He has a new 6-part BBC2 series on the history of music being broadcast from January 2013 with an accompanying Chatto & Windus book, *The Story of Music*, and a new CD on Decca Classics, *INSPIRED*, also released in January. His Eternal Light: A Requiem has had its 250th live performance (during a weekend in November where it was performed simultaneously in Canada, New Jersey, Texas, Stockholm and Lincoln) and he recently composed the music for the tenth series of Red Dwarf.

Frank Egerton (Temple 77)

Frank was appointed Secretary to the Bodleian Libraries Academic Library Services Strategy Group, in October 2011 and attended the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) congress, San Francisco, May 2012 for Bodleian Libraries. He was appointed Assessor for Oxford University Certificate of Higher Education, Creative Writing, in Michaelmas 2012 and is publishing *A Conscious Englishman* by Margaret Keeping, a novel about the last years of the WWI poet, Edward Thomas, under his StreetBooks imprint www.streetbooks.co.uk

Alastair Jessel (Grenville 77)



Alastair started the year by launching the UK's first ever doggie ice cream (actually a sorbet, since dogs shouldn't eat dairy) and the company behind it – Billy + Margot – appeared on Dragon's Den in September; Deborah Meaden invested £60,000 for a 40% stake. He also appeared with Mary Berry on 'The Great British Food Revival' in October concerning the manufacture of proper, dairy ice cream and his company, Taywell Ice Creams, even has the afternoon tea in the OXO Tower named after it. Taywell has helped develop, together with a famous Michelin-starred chef, a new, dairy-free and sugar-free ice cream which will be launched in the New Year. It has so far attracted some very serious interest around the world prior to launch. As the company rapidly expands into the foodservice sector, it is breaking new ground by supplying restaurants with Japanese, Thai, Chinese, Mexican, Spanish and Argentinian flavours of ice creams and sorbets. Alastair is putting his work experience back into the educational system by becoming an Oxford Brookes mentor for BA and MA hospitality students. He has also become a trustee for the educational charity of the Golden Hind ship docked at London Bridge, which helps educate children about Sir Francis Drake's history and his forward thinking towards treatment of slaves in the 16th century. The photograph is of the OXO Tower's 'Taywell Tea'.

Dr Stuart Miller (Chatham 77)

Stuart writes, "I was appointed Lead Sports physician for the Olympic and Paralympic Games in London. This was an amazing, exhausting, fascinating assignment, spending a year or two preparing and 3 months full-time in London overseeing medical care to the athletes in village Polyclinic and all the venues

throughout the country. I continue to be National Lead for Paralympic Sport and Sports physician in the English Institute of Sport and Clinical Director of the University of Bath Sport and Exercise MSc programme. With all this, spare time activities are in short supply but I continue to enjoy life in the Bristol area!"

Tim Richardson (Cobham 77)



Tim is a Managing Partner at Kidd Rapinet solicitors. He recently achieved a long held ambition to do a skydive. Next is a cage dive with a great white shark!

Simon Clegg CBE (Chatham 78)



Simon who, as Chief Executive of the British Olympic Association (1997-2008), led the national campaign to persuade the Government and the Mayor of London to bid for the 2012 Olympic Games and who was one of the three British signatories on the host city contract in Singapore in 2005, carries the Olympic flame through the streets of Keswick.

Edward Hall (Walpole 78)



Edward has been recruited to set up a new Estate Agency team for Smiths Gore in Marlborough. Smiths Gore is one of the UK's leading firms of rural chartered surveyors and property consultants. Developing a new business out of Marlborough is a perfect challenge for Edward, building on 10 years as a Partner for Strutt and Parker, and with a track record of business development and sales, he relishes the challenge.

Charles Hugill (Walpole 78)

After almost 20 years working at the same international advertising agency group, Charles has now started his own independent consultancy, providing specialist advice to a range of clients. Advertisers, agencies and media owners, both here and overseas, are now making use of his international experience in what is a fast-moving and dynamic sector. Any Old Stoics operating in these areas and who seek help are welcome to make contact through LinkedIn to discuss potential co-operative ventures.

Chris Gregory
(Cobham 79)



Chris writes, "I'm celebrating 10 years since setting up in Indd Training, providing Adobe training to organisations such as Boden, Condé Nast, BBC Worldwide, HM Treasury and Associated Newspapers. Latterly I've been specialising in helping companies to create their own apps for the iPad and other tablets using Adobe's software. I've also just produced my first ebook for Kindle and iPad, *Behind the Scenes of Motor Racing*, the first volume of my father's autobiography. This tells the tale of his involvement with the early days of Formula 1 – he not only drove himself, but also organised the very first race meeting at Brands Hatch, managed both Stirling Moss and Peter Collins and founded the first commercially sponsored Formula 1 team years before it became the norm. Of particular interest to Old Stoics might be the description of Silverstone in its formative years, not to mention the astonishing bravery shown by the drivers racing there."

Marc Hope
(Cobham 79)



Marc pictured with Clyde the Games's mascot is playing a key role on the commercial sponsorship programme for The Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. He is also a Non Executive Director of three Boards – GB Taekwondo which achieved a glorious gold with Jade Jones in 2012, London Youth Games and Pro-Active East London.

Peter Neufeld
(Chandos 79)

Peter has continued to light several new plays by Australia's best known playwright, David Williamson, to sold out seasons in Sydney. One of his major projects for 2013 is as technical designer on a major international event in Sydney with 185 countries participating taking place over 5 days. He also continues his teaching at 5 universities in the Computer Aided Design programme Vectorworks of which he is a world authority. Some of his work can be seen at www.limelight.cc

1980s

Adrian Beney
(Grafton 80)

Adrian has been appointed to the Board of the Association of English Cathedrals. He was one of the co-authors of a recent report which looked at the development of philanthropy towards universities

and colleges in the UK, and which lays out recommendations to triple the annual amount given to universities, by 2022. The panel to whom they reported was chaired by Professor Shirley Pearce, formerly Vice-Chancellor of Loughborough University, and the report was commissioned by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

Mike Tresise
(Lyttelton 80)



Mike has been coaching cricket in his spare time for many years, and is now Head of Colts Cricket at Eversley Cricket Club. With its own indoor cricket facility the 225 year old club has an annual charity fixture against Lashings (the 'Harlem Globetrotters' of cricket) and this year Mike, who managed to get selected for the 1st XI on the day, faced up to Devon Malcolm and retired not out! They will be hosting Lashings again on 31 May 2013, followed by their annual summer ball the following evening and all Old Stoics will be very welcome. For information, email eversleycc@talktalk.net

Antonia Clark
(née Mitchell, Stanhope 81)

Antonia is now working as a careers consultant at City University.

Sonya Martin
(née Nightingale, Stanhope 81)



Sonya writes, "My biggest news is that I was selected as a 'Gamesmaker' at London 2012 and worked all my shifts as a Veterinary Physiotherapist on the headquarters' Vet Team at Greenwich. Team GB did brilliantly and to be there, when medals were won and the National Anthem played, was just unbelievable. We were very busy but it was a huge privilege to be treating these elite horses and enabling them to compete at such a high level. The feedback we received was superb and friendships made will last forever!"

Charles Hopkinson-Woolley (Temple 82)

Having worked in London for 23 years, he moved to Monaco at the end of March 2012. They are thoroughly enjoying life on the Riviera and recently visited Michael Likierman's (Chandos 58) restaurant, Mirazur, in Menton, which they can heartily recommend.

William Marsden-Smedley
(Walpole 82)



William has recently moved to Knight Frank as a partner in their Hungerford office, specialising in country house sales. Having not been back to Stowe for many years, he is really enjoying having both their children at the School who are working harder and getting much more out of Stowe than he ever did. Rosie is in her final year in Lyttelton and Alfie is the third generation of M-S's to be in Walpole. Great to see the School in such good shape.

Doro Morrison
(Cobham 82)

Doro writes "The documentary I made in 2010 called 'Standing at The Touchlines' about whether the FIFA World Cup would unite Africa, and with which a few Old Stoics helped us along our journey through Africa, has aired in Asia and Africa. My latest documentary 'No Apologies' about two Aboriginal girls playing football at the Women's World Cup, has aired in Australia this year."

Will Isherwood-Smith
(Walpole 83)

Will is now a Type Rating Training Captain with Thomson Airways.

Jonathan Portman
(Chatham 83)

Jonathan has recently relocated their racehorse training business to Lambourn, Berkshire following the purchase of a modern 60 stable yard with top notch facilities. They have enjoyed their two best seasons on the flat recently and are looking forward to 2013, with one or two jumping horses to train in the meantime. They welcome any Old Stoic to visit the yard or better still join one of their racing syndicates as an owner!

Toby Priestly
(Grenville 83)

Toby was a nominated finalist in the Innovation Category of the Lloyd's List Asia Awards 2012. Having invented and patented a cheap simple valve (Container Sinka) that sinks shipping containers lost at sea, reducing risk to life, property and the environment – this would have been something another Old Stoic might have been grateful for on his first Blue Riband attempt! There are also Customs and National Security aspects to the invention. Toby also recently co-founded another business – Idax Software – specialising in data mining identity access information and analysing risk for businesses.

Miles Savage
(Walpole 83)

Miles is getting married to Nicola Robson in March 2013. Best man will be Andrew Keith (Chandos 83). Miles now lives in Brooke, near Norwich and works as the Senior Partner in the NFU Mutual Suffolk Coastal office, in Halesworth.

Tim Hall
(Cobham 84)

Tim has recently shot a new worldwide billboard campaign in New York for Martini. He has also opened a gallery space in Notting Hill (118 Talbot Road) to showcase his and other photographers' works. He has recently had exhibitions in Singapore, Paris and London – his most recent being Inside Out, photographs from Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

John Young
(Lyttelton 84)

John recently marked ten years as a newsreader and reporter for BBC South East Today, and is slightly embarrassed to admit he has now been working at the BBC in one form or another since graduating in 1989. In late 2010, he and his partner Henry took nine months off to save cheetahs in Africa, teach monks in Laos and rummage around in a vineyard in New Zealand. They live in a house overlooking the sea in Sussex.

Justin Anderson
(Cobham 85)

Justin and Richard Saville's software company they co-founded in 2005 recently won funding for a £1m R&D project from the Technology Strategy Board, in collaboration with Jaguar Land Rover, recognising its leadership in Cloud Computing. See www.flexeyetech.com/about-us/history.html to read their story which starts at Stowe.

Laura Louthan
(Stanhope 85)



Laura writes "I'm still living in Atlanta and have been working for Equifax since late last year in the Information Security arena, which has been quite something and very challenging, especially bearing in mind our only product is sensitive data. I've been lucky enough to travel all over North and South America this year for work, but have yet to make it back to the UK office on their dollar! Maybe next year. In the meantime, I'm still in touch with a few Old Stoics and I get to hear current Stowe news from my nephew who seems to be having a great time in his last couple of years there."

1980s cont...

Simon Billington (Chandos 86)



Simon is CEO of Private Yacht Group, a full-service luxury yachting business based in the UK and

France. In November 2012, PYG acquired the European sales agency for Cape Scott Yachts, a range of luxury expedition yachts from 54 to 111ft: www.capescottyachts.com

Nick Fincham (Cobham 86)

Nicholas is currently Sales and Marketing Director with eCamion Inc, but also has a consulting company, Brent Pelham Associates Ltd.

Charles Inkin (Chatham 86)



The Felin Fach Griffin, owned by brothers Charles and Edmund Inkin under their company Eatdrinksleep

Ltd, has received a number of accolades this year: Good Pub Guide Inn of the Year; Pub Wine List of the Year at the Roederer/Imbibe Wine List of the Year awards; AA Wine Award for Wales; Inn; and a César award in the 2013 Edition of the Good Hotel Guide where it was also named Welsh Inn of the Year. It also maintained its Michelin Bib Gourmand. The newest member of their stable, The Old Coastguard in Mousehole, which they acquired in 2012 was named County Dining Pub of the Year for Cornwall in the 2013 edition of the Good Pub Guide taking the title from The Gurnard's Head which held the title for the previous two years.

Alex Lewis (née Goldsmith, Stanhope 87)

Alex now has a new job as VP and Director of Marketing, Warner Bros Pictures International UK.

Titus Ogilvy (Grafton 87)

Titus and his wife's documentary feature Film 'Trashed' premiered in May 2012 at the Cannes Film Festival, winning several prestigious awards since then. The film follows Jeremy Irons as he travels around the world and discovers the issues surrounding waste and sustainability. The film score was composed and performed by Vangelis. 'Trashed' opens in cinemas in the USA in December 2012 and in the UK in March 2013.

Toby Baker (Bruce 89)

Toby is managing the UK office of OnlyOne, the exclusive personal insurance broker on the French Riviera – Suisscortage Assurances SA. This new division was created to serve the Group's global VIP clientele. Based in the City of London, Toby can be contacted via the website at www.onlyone.mc where he will be pleased to offer reduced rates to Old Stoics, staff and parents.

James Cridland (Temple 89)



It's been a crazy year for James... His new estate agency business

has increased far beyond expectations and he has been asked to consult for several Council departments as well as writing a monthly blog for the Oxford Times newspaper, and his business was shortlisted for the Best Newcomer award at the Estate Agency of the Year awards! It's been a fun year too, 6 year old twins, and an 11 year old keep him busy with rugby, ballet, and swimming, not to mention trying to keep his 1927 Morris up to scratch, both for family trips and advertising the business. James' family keep a yacht in Falmouth but he reports this year's August trip was somewhat amusing with a ripped gib, jammed anchor chain, plus a dinghy outboard that failed, leaving him with just oars one of which broke immediately! He still lives near Oxford and keeps in touch with a few Old Stoics but would love to hear from more, feel free to email him at james@crilandlands.co.uk if you want a chat and catch up.

Jonathan Fish (Temple 89)

Jonathan is Chief Operating Officer and a founding shareholder of Ombu Group, a new UK investment company that provides capital and management support to fast-growing companies in the fields of advanced industrial technology, energy technology and water technology. He is currently a non-executive director of a number of companies including Open Energi, P2i, Phase Focus and Bluewater Bio International.

Christian Hesketh (Chandos 89)



In 2012, Geoff MacLeod-Smith (Walpole 72) on the left and

Christian Hesketh, on the right, both captained opposing teams in a cricket match in Santiago de Chile. Geoff was on tour from New Zealand captaining the Vintage Cricket Tour of South America and Christian is the captain of the Chilean Masters. Chile won. The meeting was a coincidence and not arranged beforehand. Christian has recently become the OS representative for Chile.

Ed Hopley (Grenville 89)



2012 has been a successful year for Ed with exhibitions at Quaglino's, The Wet Fish, and

Shutterbug in London, 1950 Gallery in Los Angeles and Maison Euzéby Art Contemporain in Nîmes. Selected as a finalist in the Photography Open Salon 2012, a selection of recent works went on display at Galerie Huit during Les Rencontres D'Arles, and one of his images was awarded bronze medal in the FMOIPA International Photography Competition, for which he received honorary membership of the Florida Museum of Photographic Arts in Tampa. The photograph shows one of his images from his next show at Galerie Saint Laurent, Marseille as part of the events for the European Capital of Culture, Marseille Provence 2013.

Chris Lascelles (Temple 89)

His book *A Short History of the World* is currently a best-seller in the Barnes and Noble History list under World History. He's working on his next book which is about the future.

Alexander Talbot Rice (Cobham 89)

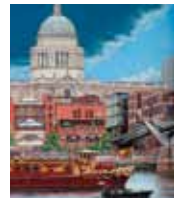
Alexander spent the summer with the Welsh Guards in Southern Afghanistan, working as a war artist. He is currently based at Stowe as 'Artist in Residence', developing work for an exhibition next autumn at Stowe, proceeds from which are going to the Welsh Guards Afghan Appeal and providing bursaries for Stoics. He intends to return to Afghanistan in the spring holidays to finish his book, *A Horse With No Name*.

The Reverend Christopher Turner (Former Headmaster 1979-1989)

Christopher Turner writes that his son, Matthew, now resident in New Zealand, has won the Auckland Libraries 'Create a Character' competition with his cartoon story "Blest pair of spiders" against 500 competitors. In that country that is quite a prestigious award. He writes "That is really our only bit of news, alongside the happy event that our son-in-law, Joe Mitchell, is at present playing the bass guitar with Jerry and the Pacemakers."

1990s

Hugh Beattie (Chandos 91)



Hugh painted the Royal Thames Jubilee Regatta as part of his exhibition in Farringdon. He continues to paint portraits in

his studio in Fulham. www.jhnb.co.uk He is also the Second in Command of the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry (Reserves), from which a call goes out to any Nottinghamshire Stoics to join up!

Charles Gartside (Chandos 91)

Charlie started up his own engineering recruitment business in November 2012, called 'FutureGen Recruitment Solutions' having spent the last 6 years with the largest Oil and Gas recruitment business in the world as a Business Manager. The business will focus on technical engineering clients across the UK and European markets. Based in Manchester, he would welcome any extra PR opportunities.

James Snyder (Bruce 91)

James recently recorded in a masterclass concert with a Virtuosi orchestra. Playing the lead Eb clarinet, the three day recording session was supported by sound engineers from the Royal Air Force and the BBC. His CD and iTunes album was released in December 2012. Over the summer, he performed in a band called Deep Blue in the Lake District with his brother, John Snyder (Bruce 83) on the Saxophone. He is currently busy working as a lecturer in Computer Science for degree level students, having learnt programming principles, firstly from his father, Bruce Snyder (Bruce 56). In his spare time, he has been using his foreign language skills to provide services as a qualified interpreter for the Police forces.

Hannah Wright (née Baker, Nugent 91)



Since the last Corinthian Hannah has been promoted to Head of Security, Cisco Systems, Europe, Middle East and Africa

and Russia. She is also running Cisco's Connected Women in IT, which is an organisation to inspire, encourage and promote girls and women into the world of Information Technology.

Rafic Barrage (Lyttelton 92)

Rafic became a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of the global law firm Baker & McKenzie, where his practice continues to focus on advising multinational clients on international taxation matters. Prior to joining Baker, he was a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Mayer Brown, where he had worked since 2002.

Vicky Nice (née Thompson, Stanhope 92)

Vicky now lives in Rudgwick on the Sussex/Surrey border. Alongside bringing up her young family she runs an interior design practice, Vicky Nice Interiors, from home. She specialises in domestic interiors and tackles anything from a one-room makeover to total refurbishment of large family homes. Her website is www.vickyniceinteriors.co.uk so do get in touch if you think she might be able to be of any help with making your house and home.

Oliver Wilson (Cobham 92)



Oliver's paintings offer an insight into a dreamlike world using models in and around pools to portray figure studies in a contemporary setting. He uses photography to capture the images initially, enabling the viewer to see refractions of flesh and fabric under the water. The subjects have a distortion bordering on abstraction whilst maintaining a subtle photographic realism. The titles of his recent works reflect the setting of the scenes in the Greek Isles and also evoke the mythologies of the ancient sea gods and nymphs. He has exhibited in London, New York, Chicago, Athens and the Bahamas and is in collections from Nassau to Delhi.

Rupert Alexander (née Atkinson, Chatham 93)



Rupert's portrait of Rob Fahey, the World Champion real tennis player, spent last summer hanging at the National Portrait Gallery as part of the BP Portrait Award. It then travelled to the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh where it presently hangs. His portraits of the Royal Family, including his 2010 portrait of the Queen, (which featured on the front of the Daily Telegraph on 27 April 2010), formed part of the QEST exhibition at Fortnum and Mason last summer, as part of an exhibition which celebrated British craft marking the Diamond Jubilee, opened by the Queen.

Paul Drayton (Former Staff 1972-1993)

Paul continues as the music director of Duchy Opera in Cornwall and has recently conducted eight performances of Bizet's Carmen. A recent BBC Radio 4 programme told the story of the first ever stage performance of The Hobbit (attended by Tolkien himself) for which he wrote the music in 1967 when he taught at New College Choir School in Oxford. There were interviews with himself and the original Gandalf, who at the age of twelve predated Ian McKellen by some years!

William Evelyn (Chandos 93)



William would certainly like our fellow Old Stoics to know that Tumuñan Lodge is the number 1 rated lodge in the Colchagua region of Chile, and they have just planted a vineyard of Cabernet Sauvignon, the highest Cabernet Sauvignon in the region. This is the first bottling in 4 years.

Dr Nick Smith (Bruce 93)

Nick has curated the display 'Collecting Abroad for the V&A 1851-1914', Victoria and Albert Museum (Library Landing, Room 85), 2 October 2012 - 26 May 2013.

Dr Peter Straker (Cobham 93)

Peter, having lost a career in surgery to MS, has set up a charity which funds research into MS. Donations are always welcome to: www.whitecoatwonders.com In 2012, he was appointed as Coroner to West Yorkshire (Western District), where he is moving to with his daughter and wife, who is expecting their second child.

Camilla Hampton (née Wilson, Nugent 94)

Camilla left the City in March 2012 to embark on a new career. She has set up an Interior Design and Soft Furnishing company called Camilla Hampton Interiors. They provide design advice, make curtains, blinds and cushions and sell beautiful antiques and pictures. They are just about to open a shop in Wandsworth town. www.camillahampton.com

Paul McSweeney (Cobham 94)

Paul is currently training to be a barrister at the College of Law in Birmingham, and will be called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn in July 2013. He is grateful still to be in touch regularly with a number of Old Stoics.

Alexander Nairn (Bruce 94)

Alexander and Tara Nairn (née Hay, Stanhope/Lyttelton 94) have moved back to Scotland from Australia where they had been for 5 years with their two children Lochie (4) and Jasper (2). Alex works as a Chartered Surveyor for Savills in Edinburgh and Tara has put her teaching career on hold, while she looks after their two boys and oversees the construction of their new house in Elie, Fife.

James Lane (Walpole 95)

James is currently the International Sales Manager for Princess Motor Yacht Sales based out of London. www.princess.co.uk He is living in Thames Ditton, with his Doris, Emma.

Matt Newnham (Temple 95)

Matt is a Partner with the law firm Birketts LLP based throughout the East of England practising employment law.

Miranda Raison (Lyttelton 95)



Miranda writes, "In October 2011, I played Anne Boleyn in Howard Brenton's new play 'Anne Boleyn' at The Globe Theatre. It actually opened as a new play at The Globe in 2010 but we were invited back in 2011 as the first new play at The Globe ever to have sold out. I then went on to film Merlino (BBC), Dirk Gently (BBC) and Sinbad (Sky) before going to Dublin to film 'Vexed' for the BBC alongside Toby Stephens as DI's Georgina Dixon and Jack Armstrong. I returned to London in April to start rehearsals for 'The Physicists' at the Donmar Warehouse which ran until July 2012. Through August and September I filmed the last 2 ever episodes of Lewis as the guest lead alongside Alison Steadman and then went to Paris to film a new police series starring Jean Reno. I'm now at the Royal Court doing the new Jez Butterworth (Jerusalem) play directed by Ian Rickson (Jerusalem) with Dominic West (The Wire) called 'The River'.

Will Kemble-Clarkson (Bruce 96)

Will has founded a brand consultancy called Perlin Design.

Richard Plyer (Grenville 96)



Richard now lives in France and is the 2012 French Amateur Jetski Freestyle Champion. He and his brother, Rowland Plyer (Grenville 99) are the owners of Jetpower, and they

sell parts and accessories for jetskis, and build race and freestyle machines that are sent all over the world. www.jetpower.fr

Ben Styche (Walpole 96)

Ben is living in Warwickshire and works in the City heading up sales at Cafedirect, one of the fastest growing coffee brands in the UK.

Charles Bell (Walpole 97)

Charles is involved in a venture (and the opening) of a new 6 star boutique hotel property in London called The Wellesley, located in Knightsbridge, which opened in December 2012. He is their new Night Manager. The website is www.thewellesley.co.uk It will be a gem of a small boutique hotel and a haven for those Old Stoics who enjoy a cigar. We will be holding cigar tasting events in the near future! The hotel will be home to the largest walk in humidior and selection of cigars.

Tom Mulroy (Temple 97)



Tom writes, "2012 has been a very busy and exciting year, both personally and professionally. It started in February with the birth of our son, Maximilian. At the start of the summer, we moved from Manchester to Surrey, to set up the new office of Calderpeel Architects, to focus on the high end residential market of one off superhomes. Please get in contact should you need any architectural services or advice. So, this year has been children, move across the country, new job and marriage – hopefully next year will be a little bit calmer!"

Matt Rader (Temple 97)

Matt finished his MBA at Wharton/University of Pennsylvania in May 2011. He spent six months travelling, hiking and exploring around Europe and the US and enjoying life without work – including a visit to the summer party at the Roof Gardens last June and the New York Old Stoic event in October. In October, he started work at McKinsey and Company as a management consultant. He lives in Philadelphia and would love to see any Old Stoics who "make it this way"!

Edward Bowring (Grenville 98)

Ed qualified as an occupational therapist in the summer of 2012 and is now working at the Huntercombe Hospital in Roehampton with patients with brain injury and mental health issues.

1990s cont...

Kristjan Byfield (Grafton 98)

Kristjan writes that 2012 has been a huge year for his London Estate Agency and property services company – base property specialists. They won Gold as the ‘Best London Letting Agent north of the River Thames’ at the ESTAS in April; their website was shortlisted as one of the best in the UK at the Digital Entrepreneur Awards; they were shortlisted for both ‘Best UK Independent Letting Agent’ and ‘Best UK Property Marketing Team’ at The Negotiator Awards; they won Gold as ‘London’s Best Letting Agent’ and Bronze for ‘Best UK Letting Customer Service’ and ‘Best UK Lettings Website’ at The Landlord and Letting Agent Awards and finally they were shortlisted for ‘Best UK Estate Agency Website’ at The Times and Sunday Times Estate Agency of the Year Awards 2012. All this was topped off by a 25% growth in business and a 35% increase in profits. A very exciting year with big plans for 2013. They welcome London property enquiries from Old Stoics and offer special rates for them too – contact Kristjan at kristjan@baseps.co.uk our website is www.baseps.co.uk

Verity Scott (Nugent 98)

Verity has been working as a ‘production buyer’ for the BBC at the new Media City in Manchester and is pleased to announce that the CBBC show The 4’0 Clock Club (on which she has been working for 2 series) has been nominated for 3 Baftas. For now she is taking some well earned time off to go travelling around Malaysia and Australia until August 2013 so fellow OSs, please get in touch with her on verity@verityscott.co.uk

Gideon Ashworth (Walpole 99)

Gideon would like to mention news of his latest business – www.bespokegardenfeatures.co.uk He’s still designing and building gardens all over the country, as well as specialising in garden features and structures, tailored to the individual.

Sarah Dalby (Lyttelton 99)

Sarah started a new job as Head of Science at Worksoop College, Nottinghamshire (an HMC school).

Christopher Davis (Chandos 99)

Christopher qualified as a commercial solicitor in September 2012.

Pietro Melloni (Grenville 99)

Pietro has managed to turn his 3 passions of art, architecture and skiing into daily fun and work. He now lives in St Moritz, runs his own architecture office www.psstudio.ch and works in an art gallery with Gallerie Gmurzynska from Zürich. He married Simsa McNally Melloni and they have 2 “bellissime” daughters. Greta 4 and Elena 2.

Rory Scott (Bruce 99)



Rory went to Matt Williams’ (Bruce 99) wedding last summer in

Ibiza when he married India Masson-Taylor. The wedding was attended by the following Old Stoics all of whom were in Bruce, and ushers at the wedding. Back row, left to right: Adam Cottrell (99), Mark Williams (95), Henry Wood (99), James Haselwood (99) Front row, left to right: Rory Scott (99), Matt Williams, the bridegroom, and Chris Reeves (00).

2000

Stephen Davis (Chandos 00)

Stephen has recently changed jobs, moving from marketing in the music industry to heading the marketing at Vouchercloud, overseeing its European strategy. This is based in Bristol. Vodafone recently took a controlling stake in the company and has recently launched in the Netherlands, with Germany opening in February 2013. Further countries across Europe and beyond are planned for 2013 and into 2014.

Nichola Eddery (Lyttelton 00)



Nichola writes, “Whilst at Stowe I was heavily encouraged by my art teachers to develop my

art work. On leaving Stowe and after a gap year travelling through Africa, I studied at the Charles H. Cecil Studios in Florence, Italy. During 2009, I continued my studies at Studio Escalier in the Loire Valley, France, during which time I spent

three months working in Theodore Gericault’s original studio in Paris and copying directly from the finest Old Masters in the Louvre. From April 2010, I returned to the Loire Valley to spend a further 6 months studying under the tutelage of Ted Seth Jacobs at his school, École Albert Defois. In February 2011, I spent an additional four months with an accomplished fine artist, Ryan Wurmser in his studio in Los Angeles, California. While in Italy, France and California I developed my ability and understanding in figurative painting, still life painting, portraiture, landscape painting and composition. Each school taught traditional methods that can be traced back to the Old Masters and is the basis of much of my work. Due to being born into a family of equine enthusiasts, and brought up on a stud, one can easily understand my keen interest in painting my chosen subject matters. For many years I have studied the composition of the horse and drawn great inspiration from my involvement in the horse racing industry. I also take great delight in portraiture, still life and landscapes. I have exhibited numerous times in London and my first international solo exhibition was in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in January 2010. I have collectors from all over the world, including members of the Saudi Arabian Royal family and world leading race horse owners, such as Mr and Mrs John Magnier and Mr and Mrs Derrick Smith to name but a few. I am now in the process of preparing a sporting themed solo show for June 2013 at the Osborne Studio Gallery, Belgravia, London. For more information please visit my website www.nicholaedderly.co.uk”

Tom Furse-Roberts (Bruce 00)

Tom is now a Director at Boundary Space Ltd, a London based architects specialising in high end residential buildings and hotels.

Dr James Pegrum (Chatham 00)



James has had a busy 12 months. He finished his basic surgical training in Brighton

and now is only one of two people to obtain a permanent position as a specialist Orthopaedic Trauma Surgeon in Oxford. James has been fortunate enough to travel the world presenting research in neck injuries, sustained playing rugby and lower leg stress fractures in athletes. The summer was hectic with getting married to Julia at Stowe Chapel on 21 July 2012, followed by working as a Trauma Surgeon and Sports Medicine Doctor at the Olympics games covering BMX, Equestrian and modern pentathlon.

Darcy Terry (Chandos 00)

Darcy has started his training at Ripon College, Cuddesdon to be ordained as a vicar in the Church of England. He will be completing 3 years and will be ordained in 2015.

Hugo Wilson (Grenville 00)



Hugo has shown a lot internationally over the last year, including exhibitions in London, Madrid,

Bologna, New York and most recently a solo show ‘Ideal Hauntology’ at the Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles. In this exhibition Hugo brought together a collection of paintings, drawings and installations to investigate the philosophical concept of hauntology, which suggests that we are drawn to the aesthetics and ideas of the past. Hugo’s work juxtaposed the primal mysteries of life against the logic of modern science to create a unique dynamic of “organised chaos” that blurs the boundaries between faith and reason. Hugo unites the seemingly divergent realms of science and humanity by placing his art at the intersection of both these worlds. Hugo will also be featured in the acclaimed Phaidon catalogue, Vitamin D2, which is an up-to-date survey of contemporary drawing featuring 115 artists from around the world, due for release in May. Later this year, he will be exhibiting at the MODAM Centre for Modern and Contemporary Arts in Hungary. The drawing, inset, forms part of the Deutsche Bank Collection.

Juliane Althoff (Nugent 01)

Juliane is now working as a lawyer for Michael Simkins LLP, a media and entertainment law firm in London.

Amelia Annfield (Nugent 01)

Amelia has have been living in Melbourne for the last 2 years working as a film production coordinator. She moved to New Zealand in December 2012 to continue work in Auckland.

Tom Baxendale (Grenville 01)

Tom writes, “I have been living in Shanghai, China for the last 5 years and have set up an industrial procurement, design & supply chain management company specialising in aiding mostly European companies manage their purchasing operations and engineering solutions in the Far East. Next year, we are expanding and will have a second office opening in Mumbai, India”. www.zg-sourcing.com

Mark Harper (Bruce 01)

Mark is currently studying an MBA at NYU Stern in New York. Next year he will start working for JP Morgan in the Investment Banking division, focusing on Latin America.

Caroline Hughesdon (née Tovey, Lyttelton 01)

Caroline and her husband, James, moved back to London from Westcott House, where James had just completed his ordination training, then two weeks later James was ordained in St Paul's Cathedral and ready to start his new job. It has been a busy but exciting few months living in the Parish of St Paul Old Ford in East London, as well as becoming new parents to Emma.

Alex Rogers (Walpole 01)



Alex graduated from LAMDA in July 2012, and now runs Smoke & Mirrors. Working with five of the UK's premiere property agents, Smoke & Mirrors creates fully interactive murder mystery events for exclusive private parties – and they all take place in ingeniously haunted houses. Alex would be very happy to hear from any Old Stoics planning a weekend away and, indeed, to offer them a special rate. Full details – including a video trailer filmed on location at Stowe – can be found at www.hauntedmysteryweekend.co.uk

Nick Verney (Temple 01)

Nick is engaged to be married to Alexandra Munro Ferguson (not herself an OS, but her father Ronald is!) and they will be married at Inverness Cathedral on 4 May 2013.

Christopher Dalton (Grenville 03)

Christopher graduated from his architecture course with a distinction at The University of Nottingham in 2010; he is currently working for Sheppard Robson Architects in London in their residential sector.

Will Gallimore (Bruce 03)

William is working in the City as Head of Actuarial for High Finance Group. He is playing lots of golf and in the process of trying to join Royal St George's Golf Club in Kent. He continues to raise money for spinal research through golf events and charity dinners.

Lucy Mullen (Nugent 03)

Lucy has been on the board for the Chain of Hope since 2004.

They organise a big fundraiser ball every November and various other fundraising events throughout the year. She has written a documentary featuring the charity and is now producing it and making it alongside a fantastic NYC based director which is also very exciting and will be seen at the end of 2013. She has gathered together an 8 man team to run in the London 2013 London Marathon for the charity. In that team are 3 Old Stoic girls; Tara Nolan (Nugent 2003), Zara White (Lyttelton 06) and Lucy Mullen. A bit about the charity: Chain of Hope exists to provide children suffering from life-threatening heart disease with the corrective surgery and treatment to which they do not have access. Chain of Hope does this in two ways: by sending out medical teams to treat children in their own country, by setting up training programmes for local surgeons and medical staff and by bringing children to the UK for operations as an interim measure.

Jamie Ryde (Chatham 03)

Jamie is currently residing in Australia working as a consultant in construction and he writes, "I would love to hear from any OSs who live out here!"

Caroline de Peyrecave (Nugent 04)



Last year, Caroline was commissioned by Halcyon Days to draw HM The Queen and HRH Duke of Edinburgh for their Diamond Jubilee Charcoal collection. Lately, she has been painting Luke Donald, the world's number one golfer for Beaconsfield Golf Club. She also painted Angela Rippon for the Lady Tavers in a demonstration at the Mall Galleries. This is the link for the Halcyon Days collection: www.halcyondays.co.uk/shop.aspx?cat=3

George Cox (Grenville 05)

Geordie is living in London and working as a trainee solicitor with a City law firm, called Macfarlanes. He is due to qualify in September 2013.

Regan Gardner (Nugent 05)



Regan's passion for music before, during and after her time at Stowe made it inevitable that she would make this her world of work. Regan fronts alternative rock outfit Ryker Sear. Playing established rock venues like London's Camden Barfly and Water Rats, Regan has written most of the band's material and handles lead vocals and rhythm guitar. The band's

music is available on the website and from all the usual download sites including iTunes. www.rykersear.com

Lisa Greatwood (Former staff 1995-2005)

Lisa writes, "Although I am still working at Rugby School, I was granted a sabbatical for a year and so am currently in Australia studying at Moore College, Sydney. It is strange to be on the other side of the desk for a change but I am loving it. I am studying for a Diploma in Bible and Ministry to help me become a better Chaplain. Andy Pearce (Walpole 96) is also studying for a degree here as well, with his family."

Robert Parry (Grenville 05)

Robbie started his own company just over a year ago. Bassline Productions is a bespoke events and equipment hire company specialising in sound and lighting. They can assist with equipment for any event, including weddings, corporate days, private parties, festivals and night clubs to name a few. The most recent addition to his company is a mobile bar service. www.basslineproductions.co.uk

Thomas Blain (Grenville 06)

Thomas is working in the bloodstock industry and moved to Newmarket 2 years ago. In 2012, he obtained a new job with a bloodstock agency, called Blandford Bloodstock and has travelled all over the world, purchasing some of the best bred young race horses on offer. From January 2013, he has taken up a new and very exciting role of Assistant Manager at Barton Stud in Newmarket, which will be a huge challenge.

Clementine McGaw (Nugent 06)



Clementine writes, "I recently won my second award 'The Graingers Award for Young Artist 2012/2013' awarded by the NOAC. I am currently working in London and exhibiting and selling internationally, in Korea and Hamburg. I am represented by Shine Artists at the Albermarle Gallery in Green Park and working towards an MA at the Royal Academy for which I will shortly be applying."

Mark Stormont (Temple 06)

Upon graduating from Durham University in 2009, Mark founded Amethyst Music, an event music agency based in London and now acts as the premier supplier of live

music for the BBC Club, Coultts Concierge, Grange Hotels, Hotel du Vin, The Kensington Roof Gardens and Ten Group as well as working with many private events across the UK and Europe.

Dominic Farr (Chatham 07)

Dominic started up a Music and Arts festival called Farr Festival on his father's farm in Hertfordshire. Since 2010, it has grown in popularity and has become a great success. For more information please visit www.farrfestival.co.uk

Imogen Midwood (Nugent 07)



Imogen graduated in June 2012 from Bristol University, with a dentistry BDS qualification. She is now working in Prestbury, Cheltenham as a private and NHS dentist. When she was at Stowe, she was the only student whom the teachers remembered going on to do dentistry at University.

Krishan Thadani (Bruce 07)

Krishan became engaged to Renee Quirk in the summer of 2012.

Charles Thuillier (Bruce 07)



Charles has left a graduate position at Diageo to work full time on producing what is believed to be the world's first truly healthy ice cream. Launching early 2013. Charlie.Thuillier@gmail.com

Max Mackintosh (Chatham 08)

Max graduated from Manchester University in May 2012 with a 2.1 in environmental science and is planning to spend 4 months playing club cricket in Napier, New Zealand.

Henry Pilleau (Grafton 09)

Henry is currently in his final year at Oxford Brookes, studying Real Estate Management.

Albie Mackintosh (Chatham 10)

Albie is currently studying Medical Bio Chemistry at Oxford Brookes.

MARRIAGES

1950s

Colin Maher (Chatham 55)



Colin married his Russian fiancée of the past 10 years, Sveta. They married at the 'Palace of Weddings' in Moscow on 24 October 2011.

1970s

Harry Lendrum (Temple 73)

Harry married Elizabeth Anne Lockhart at Chelsea Old Church on 8 October 2011.

1980s

Nick Fincham (Cobham 86)



In January 2010, Nick married Dr Sarah Rauth a Radiation Oncologist, in Las Vegas. His brother, David Fincham (Walpole 91) was present as best man.

1990s

Maurits Gorlee (Walpole 91)

Maurits married Carolina Verhoeven on 21 March 2012.

Iain Hall (Grenville 93)



Iain married Katie Stuart on 16 June 2012 in North Berwick, near Edinburgh. Deborah Webster (Stanhope 93) attended the wedding.

Jo Rankin (née Francis, Stanhope/Lyttelton 94)

Jo married Richard Rankin on 20 October 2012 in North Berwick, near Edinburgh. Old Stoic, Tim Dew (Chandos 90) attended.

Robert Margossian (Chatham 95)



Robert married Ayse Erenel on 2 September 2011 at St. Yeghiche Armenian Church, London with the reception at The Natural History Museum. Old Stoics in attendance (left to right) are Alix Calvocoressi (née Stuart-Bruges, Nugent 95), Robert Margossian, Mark Williams (Bruce 95), Rupert Calvocoressi (Chatham 95), James Paravicini (Bruce 94), Richard Dobbin (Chatham 95), Francis Wallis (Bruce 95), Emanuele Pesenti (Grenville 95), Luke Smith (Bruce 95), Ed Roques (Chatham 95), Dan Wills (Temple 95), Nicholas Janson (Chatham 95), Christopher Janson (Chatham 03), Jason Cheng (Grenville 95), William Rudge (Walpole 95) and Ross Atherton (Bruce 95).

Matt Newnham (Temple 95)



Matt recently married Sally and is enjoying life very much. The marriage took place at Norwich on 29 September 2012. Old Stoics in attendance were best men Luke Smith (Bruce 95) and Ross Atherton (Bruce 95), and Richard Dobbin (Chatham 95).

Digby Oldridge (Chandos 95)



Digby married Katherine Mills on 8 September at Minchinhampton Church. Old Stoics in attendance were Richard Hoskins (Grenville 95) and Edward Morgan (Chandos 95).

Will Kemble-Clarkson (Bruce 96)



Will married Tara McKeen on 31 March 2012 at Chelsea Old Church, London. 23 Old Stoics attended the

wedding. Left to right Tom Barker (Bruce 95), Virginie Paessler (Nugent 96), Max Mlinaric (Temple 96), Joe Stewart (Chatham 96), Charlie Stevenson (Bruce 96), Hugh Carling (Grafton 96), Guy Harwood (Grafton 57), James Dewar-Durie (Chatham 96), Nabil Moutran (Bruce 96), Jamie Heriot Maitland (Bruce 97), Stuart Mun-Gavin (Chatham 96) (hidden!), best man Henry Titley (Chandos 96), Olly Gregson (Grafton 96) (hidden!), Alasdair Johnston (Bruce 96), Jeremy Pemberton (Chatham 96), Daniel Collier (Chandos 96), Victoria Casewell-Lunn (Lyttelton 96), Crispin Marsland-Roberts (Walpole 96) Alex Dewar-Durie (née Finch-Knightley, Nugent 96), Jenny Hudson (Lyttelton 96), Charlotte Jones (Lyttelton 96), Alexander Bodikian (Grafton 96).

Rachael Milford (née Jones, Lyttelton 96)

Rachael married Mark Milford on 18 August 2012. In attendance were other Old Stoics Alison Marston (Lyttelton 96), Ashley Jones (Grenville 94), Robin Jones (Grenville 99), James Defty (Temple 99) and Charles Howard (Grafton 99). They now live in Singapore.

Kate Papadimitriou (née Stephens, Nugent 96)

Kate married Michael Papadimitriou on 25 June 2011. Old Stoics in attendance were Amy Stephens (Nugent 99), Polly Stephens (Nugent 00), Alison Marston (Lyttelton 96), Henrietta Atkinson (Lyttelton 96), Fenella Hunt (Lyttelton 96), Kate Maxted (Lyttelton 96), Angus Havers (Temple 96).

Tom Mulroy (Temple 97)



Tom married his fiancée, Gayle Baty, in October 2012 at his parents' home in Mentmore, Buckinghamshire.

Laura Lamb (née McMaster, Nugent 99)

Laura married David Lamb on 12 May 2012 at Christ's Chapel of God's Gift in Dulwich.

Georgina Peace (née Lee, Nugent 99)



Georgina married Alex Peace on 14 July at Birtsmorton Court in Worcestershire. They both currently work at Monmouth School, where she is Head of English and Alex is a Housemaster.

Matthew Williams (Bruce 99)

Matthew married India Masson-Taylor on 6 October 2012 in Ibiza. The wedding was attended by 7 Old Stoics.

2000

Olivia Ashfield (née Burwood-Taylor, Lyttelton 00)



Olivia married James Ashfield on 28 April 2012 at St David's Cathedral, Pembrokeshire. Old Stoics in attendance, from left to right, were Clare Duncan (née Fraser-Smith, Lyttelton 00), Catesby Langer-Paget (Walpole 00), Rupert Bumell-Nugent (Walpole 00), Piers Winton (Walpole 00), Jay Ashfield, (Groom), Bride Olivia Ashfield (née Burwood-Taylor, Lyttelton 00), Charlotte Devonshire (Lyttelton 00), Naomi Powell (Nugent 00), Woody Morley (Chatham 00), Roo Corbishley (Chatham 00), Emily Almond (née Holloway, Lyttelton 00), Camilla Grounds (Lyttelton 00) and Emma Wainwright (Lyttelton 00). Other Old Stoics in attendance were Roddy Burwood-Taylor (Bruce 66), Louisa Burwood-Taylor (Lyttelton 03), Antony Berger (Grafton 82), Nigel Jamieson (Grenville 69) and Nicola Osborne (Lyttelton 03).

Catesby Langer-Paget (Walpole 00)



Catesby married Bayan Osborne on 20 August 2012 at Gretna Green in Scotland. From left to right best man Piers Winton (Walpole 00), Catesby Langer-Paget (Walpole 00), Bayan Langer-Paget, (née Osborne), and usher, Rodney Langer-Paget (Walpole 03).

David Widdick (Chatham 00)



David married Melissa Morgan on 13 October 2012 in Richmond, Surrey. Alexander Pooley (Grenville 00) was best man.

BIRTHS

Lucy Kelly

(née Wright, Nugent 01)

Lucy married Justin Kelly in March 2012 and they are expecting their first baby in March 2013.

Christopher Dalton

(Grenville 03)



Christopher married Catherine at Beeston Free Church, Nottingham on 16 October 2010.

Merlin Hanbury-Tenison

(Temple 03)



Merlin married Lizzie Hemstock on 2 June 2012 at Cardinham Church on Bodmin Moor.

Jeremy Nichols (former Headmaster) attended with his famous 1923 Bentley and Jamie Henderson (former Temple Housemaster) played the organ in the church.

Danielle Lilley

(née Goodger, Lyttelton 03)



Danielle married Ben Lilley on 21 July at Waddesdon Manor.

Sarah Walker

(née Collett, Lyttelton 06)



Sarah married Oliver Walker on 28 April 2012 at Crockwell Farm.

Anna Hughes

(née Jackson, Nugent 08)



Anna married Dr Jonathan Hughes on 18 December 2011 in Stowe Chapel. Her sisters Clare Jackson (Lyttelton 07) and Lucy Jackson (Nugent 11) were bridesmaids and her father, Reverend Jackson (Former Chaplain) walked her down the aisle. Anna's Godfather Pete Last (Walpole Housemaster) gave the address. Also in attendance were Nella O'Brien (Nugent 08) and Pippa Russell (Nugent 08). Left to right Lucy, Anna, Jon and Clare.

1980s

Mark Drage

(Chatham 86)



Calum David John Drage born 18 December 2011 in Preston, Lancashire to Kerry Ashcroft and

Mark Drage. His three sisters (Olivia, Ophelia and Sienna) as well as his parents think he's wonderful despite looking so much like his Daddy.

James Gartside

(Chandos 87)



James' wife Katie gave birth to twin girls in May 2012, Hollie Elizabeth and Poppy Lancashire, sisters to Phoebe.

Huw Thomas

(Chandos 87)

Huw and his wife, Leigh and daughter, Cameron, welcomed a baby boy, Graydon James Thomas, on 26 September 2012. (Initial impression being he'll be an upside flanker!)

Huw Burford-Taylor

(Grenville 88)

Huw and his wife, Anna, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Rafferty Christopher Burford-Taylor on 16 May 2012.

Helen Corner

(Stanhope 88)



Helen is engaged to Mace Bryant, and had a son, Albion Thomas Bryant born 6 March 2012.

She now lives in Dorset and travels to London for her business, Cornerstones, a literary consultancy.

1990s

Maurits Gorlee

(Walpole 91)



Maurits and his wife, Carolina had a son, Maxwell (Max) Gabriel Adriaan Gorlee on 26 May

2012 in The Hague, the Netherlands. "We are all doing well, and we're

especially thankful that Max doesn't wake up too often in night...!"

Rachel Bruins

(née Beer, Stanhope/Lyttelton 94)



Rachel and her husband, Jonathan, had a baby boy, William, on 23 May 2012, a brother to Abigail and Isabella.

Vishal Daryanani

(Temple 94)



Vishal and his wife, Priyanka, had a daughter, Mahika Aashna Daryanani born on 27 March 2012. Mahika was born in Manchester although they are all living in Lagos, Nigeria where he is the Managing Director of an Energy Solutions company.

Henrietta Black

(née Magan, Lyttelton 95)

Henrietta and Dan had a baby girl, Ella (Eleanor Anne) on 30 July 2011, a little sister for Jamie.

James Lane

(Walpole 95)



James and his partner, Emma, are pleased to announce the birth of their first daughter, Lola Lavender Lane, born on 20 May 2012 at a 'fighting' weight of 7lbs 3oz.

Kate Papadimitriou

(née Stephens, Nugent 96)



Kate and Michael had a son, Yanni, born 4 April 2012.

Ben Styche

(Walpole 96)



In 2012 Ben and his wife Annabel welcomed Toby Frederick Styche into the world on 17 September.

Emily Cosby

(née Williams, Lyttelton 97)



Emily and her husband, Alex, had Ethnie Zillah Judith Cosby who was born on 30 June 2012, a little sister to William, who will be 3 in January 2013. They are currently living in Ireland, having moved back there in March 2012.

Charlotte Southwell

(née Lee, Nugent 97)

Charlotte and her husband James are pleased to announce the arrival of Evelyn Rose on 18 October 2012, a sister for Olivia May.

Armand David

(Chatham 98)



Armand and Amanda are pleased to announce the birth of Isabel Lila Kingsmill David born on 19 October 2012. All, including proud big sister Emily (2), are doing well.

Laura Marshall

(née Humber, Lyttelton 98)



Laura and Robert had a new baby boy, Lucas Elliott Marshall, on 17 August 2012. A little brother for sister, Sophia.

Susannah Theophilus

(née Toynbee, Nugent 98)

Susannah and her husband, Luke, had a baby boy, Zac, on 3 January 2012.

Rowland Plyer

(Grenville 99)



Rowland now lives in France and married Eva Precigou on 20 August 2011. Their baby son, Edward, was born on 3 August 2012.

2000

Rupert Burnell-Nugent

(Walpole 00)

Rupert and Emily had a baby girl, Jemima Mary, born at the Chelsea & Westminster Hospital on 16 March 2012.

Caroline Hughesdon

(née Tovey, Lyttelton 01)



Caroline and her husband, James, had a daughter, Emma Rosemary who was born on 11 June 2012.

Emma Thompson

(née Blayney, Nugent 02)

Emma and Piers had a son, Wilfred Piers John on 19 July 2012.

OBITUARIES

We have provided information about the lives and careers of a number of particular Old Stoics. In so doing, we realise that there are many other Old Stoics who will have made no less a contribution to society, the country and the lives of others. We hope, though, that in reflecting upon the lives of these alumni and their achievements in the world of academe, politics, the arts, the services and business, we are able to demonstrate the enormously diverse contribution of Old Stoics to the world.

Col John Durie MBE (Cobham 38) 1920 – 2012

John Durie left Stowe, from Cobham House, in 1938 and went to the RMA Woolwich on a maths scholarship. He was commissioned, just before the outbreak of war, into the Royal Regiment of Artillery. He had an interesting and diverse career in the Gunners, serving in horse, field and amphibious appointments and was, variously, on the Staff of the Governor of Kenya during the Mau-Mau emergency, Defence Adviser in Iran and the senior army representative in the Corps of Royal Marines, as the Colonel AQ, and commander of the garrison fort at Plymouth – a ceremonial appointment. He was awarded an operational MBE during the Italian campaign in the War. On retirement from the Army, he was selected as the Secretary General of the Royal Yachting Association, an appointment he held for eleven years and found very fulfilling, if sometimes a little frustrating! One of the milestones with the RYA, was the establishment of Weymouth and Portland as an Olympic training facility. In his retirement years, he lived in Norfolk and his and Anne's major contribution to the community was the provision and cooking of a turkey for the local Royal Artillery Association Christmas lunch, which they did for a number of years! He was a keen sportsman and enjoyed sailing, skiing and riding, in particular.

1930s

Mr Charles Ashton

(Chatham 35) on 6 January 2012

Mr Michael Robinson OBE DL

(Grafton 37) on 27 November 2012

Col John Durie MBE

(Cobham 38) on 5 October 2012

Lt Col Richard Evans

(Grenville 38) on 12 November 2012

Mr Robert Kee CBE

(Grafton 38) on 11 January 2013

Mr Michael Webster

(Walpole 38) on 26 October 2012

Mr David Fenwick

(Walpole 39) on 24 January 2012

1940s

The Lord Fisher

(Temple 40) on 31 October 2012

Mr Edward Nettlefold

(Bruce 40) in 2012

Mr Malcolm Tweedy

(Bruce 41) in 2006

Mr John Burt

(Chatham 42) in February 2012

Mr John Colbeck

(Temple 42) on 30 October 2012

Mr John Black

(Chatham 43) on 19 October 2011

Mr John Jordan

(Temple 43) on 20 October 2012

Mr David Lunn-Rockliffe

(Chandos 43) on 23 August 2011

Mr John Harrington

(Grafton 44) on 8 October 2012

Mr John Mansfield

(Walpole 45) on 22 February 2012

Major Gen Colin Wallis-King CBE

(Grafton 44) on 10 April 2012

Mr Geoffrey Chibbett

(Cobham 47) on 31 March 2012

Captain David Egerton

(Temple 47) on 17 January 2012

Mr Toby Robertson OBE

(Bruce 47) on 4 July 2012

Mr Russell Brown

(Walpole 48) on 16 July 2012

Mr Michael Doyle

(Chatham 48) on 25 September 2012

Mr John Peplow

(Chandos 48) on 7 August 2012

Mr Colin Page

(Cobham 49) in May 2012

1950s

Mr Ian McAllester

(Temple 50) on 16 March 2012

Mr Richard Thornton

(Walpole 50) on 26 January 2013

Col David Fanshawe OBE

(Walpole 52) on 3 June 2012

Mr Michael Thompson

(Grafton 52) on 9 June 2012

Mr Richard Boddy DL

(Chatham 53) on 28 March 2012

Mr David Mann

(Grafton 53) in September 2012

Mr Julian Taylor

(Chatham 53) on 12 May 2012

Mr Muir Snow

(Cobham 54) on 2 July 2012

Mr Nigel Murray

(Cobham 56) on 3 November 2012

Mr Adrian Thorpe

(Bruce 56) on 27 March 2012

Count Zygmunt Zamoycki

(Grenville 56) on 26 September 2012

Mr William Rainbow

(Cobham 57) on 12 December 2012

Mr John Hancox

(Grenville 59) in November 2012

1960s

Mr Brian Borthwick

(Grenville 61) on 12 June 2012

Mr Howard Oakley

(Chandos 61) on 8 February 2012

Mr Gavin Vapenik

(Bruce 61) on 11 May 2012

Mr David Hadfield

(Walpole 63) on 1 December 2012

Mr J Alan Gibbs (Former Staff

1958-1965) on 4 March 2012

Mr Charles Henniker-Major

(Cobham 68) on 9 May 2012

Mr Roger Loodmer (Bruce 68)

on 23 July 2012, after a long illness

Mr Michael Webster

(Walpole 38)

1920 – 2012

Michael Webster was the last family chairman of the Watneys brewing empire before its hard-fought takeover by the Grand Metropolitan hotel group in the 1970s.

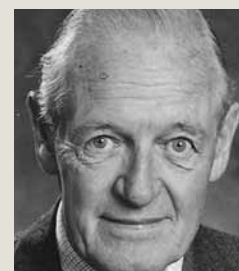
Webster's mother's family owned the London brewery, Combe Delafield & Co, which formed part of Watney, Combe & Reid. In 1958 it merged with Mann Crossman & Paulin to form one of Britain's "Big Six" brewing groups. Michael joined Watney, Combe & Reid on demobilisation from the Grenadier Guards in 1946 and became chairman in 1963.

In 1970 Michael succeeded a member of the Crossman family as chairman of the parent company, Watney Mann. He was faced with securing the future of the company: some of the group's breweries had already been closed; diversifications had been attempted with mixed success.

He aimed to expand the number of tied pubs selling Watneys beers, which led to a takeover battle for an East Anglian brewer. Watney Mann's £47 million bid was topped by Grand Metropolitan, the hotel and property group. Michael went on to launch a successful offer for the wines and spirits group International Distillers & Vintners (IDV).

But no sooner had this been completed than Watneys itself was the subject of a hostile £400 million bid – the largest of its kind at that time – from Grand Met. Grand Met prevailed in July 1972 by the narrowest of margins. Michael joined Grand Met's board and was briefly chairman of its combined brewing arm, Watney Mann & Truman, before retiring in 1974.

A countryman at heart, Michael particularly loved fishing for salmon on the Awe in Scotland and for trout on the Test. He was a past Master of the Brewers' Company and a fund-raiser for Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. He was also a Deputy Lieutenant and former High Sheriff of Berkshire.



1970s

Mr John Naumann
(Cobham 70) on 15 January 2012

Mr Richard Edridge
(Walpole 78) on 19 June 2012

Mrs Rachel Drayson, widow of the late, former Headmaster, Mr Robert Drayson (Former Headmaster 1964 – 1979)
on 6 May 2012

1980s

Mrs Kate Keville
(Stanhope 82) on 19 December 2011

Mrs Shirley Rainer, wife of Mr Charles Rainer (Former Staff 1963-1988) on 13 November 2012

Mr James Watson
(Walpole 89) on 29 August 2012

Mrs Rose Skuse (School Shop c.1980-2002) on 6 January 2013

Mr Robert Kee CBE (Grafton 38) 1919 – 2013

Robert Kee was well known as the presenter of Panorama, This Week, Yorkshire Television's Various Faces of Communism, and ITN's lunchtime news programme, which he launched in 1972. Arguably, he was best known as an historian of Irish nationalism.



Robert reported on conflicts in Algeria and the Congo, as well as the Prague Spring; as an historian, he also chronicled the key years of the Second World War. His interest in Ireland developed in the 1950s, when he embarked on a three-volume study, *The Green Flag: A History of Irish Nationalism*, published in 1972.

In the late 1970s he worked on a major 12-part BBC series, *Ireland: A Television History*. The series chronicled 800 years of hostilities between Ireland and England, relating contemporary troubles to the history from which they grew.

Robert was born Calcutta in 1919, where his father ran a jute business. After Stowe he went on to read Modern History at Magdalen College, Oxford. He trained as a pilot in the RAF and in July 1941 he flew Hampden bombers against naval targets.

After the war, Robert worked for *Picture Post* from 1948 to 1951, as a special correspondent for *The Observer*, followed by *The Sunday Times*. He was also, briefly, literary editor of *The Spectator*. Robert was unrivalled as a presenter, bringing clarity to complex issues, and was a skilful interviewer. He was appointed CBE in 1998.

Mr John Jordan (Temple 43) 1925 – 2012

John won an immediate Military Medal in Normandy in 1944 while serving with the Essex Regiment's 2nd Battalion, known as "The Pompadours".



The award came following operations in the Bas Brenil Wood. On 12 August 1944, John's regiment was advancing in difficult bocage country. His platoon's position was attacked, and he was wounded. Seeing his position overrun, he lay down and played dead, a ruse which succeeded. He then picked himself up and pursued the enemy. He approached two from the rear, took them by surprise and killed them. The citation for John's Military Medal praised his great courage and initiative under most difficult conditions.

John went on to serve in Africa, where he was part of the Guard of Honour for the tour in 1946-47 of King George VI. In Africa he was able to indulge his love of animals – his adopted orphan cheetah was so well trained that he allowed it to sleep at the foot of his camp bed.

After leaving the Army in 1950 he lived in the Dordogne, where he took up subsistence farming. One year he lost his automatic steel Rolex watch while ploughing a field – only to rediscover it in the mud when he ploughed the same field a year later (the watch still works to this day).

The Right Hon the Lord Fisher DSC (Temple 40)

1921 – 2012



The 3rd Lord Fisher, who has died aged 91, was the grandson of Admiral Lord "Jacky" Fisher, First Sea Lord during the Great War, and himself served in the Royal Navy during the Second World War. He was decorated for bravery in actions against German patrol vessels; after the conflict he opened a "Latin American" zoo at his estate at Kilverstone in Norfolk.

Despite his ancestry, Lord Fisher did not become a career officer but joined the RNVF in August 1941. He volunteered for coastal forces and became navigator and later first-lieutenant to Ken Gemmell, who commanded the 58th "Dog Boat" Flotilla from Motor Torpedo Boat 687.

In June 1944 Gemmell led his flotilla, based at Lowestoft, in two duels against German patrol ships which guarded the entrance to the Texel and the German inshore convoy route off Holland. The enemy opened fire at 2,000 yards, but the flotilla pressed on to fire torpedoes and followed up with a gun attack in which a tanker was sunk and two other enemy ships damaged. Fisher was awarded a DSC.

After the war, he returned to his family estate in Norfolk where he and his second wife, Rosamund, opened the Kilverstone Wildlife Park. They didn't have any special training and only 'romantic notions' about what running a zoo would involve. They specialised in the wildlife of South America.

Over the next 18 years the Fishers built up a collection of 700 animals and established Kilverstone as an internationally recognised centre for breeding and rearing endangered species. Many animals were hand reared. A jaguar born in 1977 was taken into the house, kept in a basket by the Fishers' bed and even accompanied them to Royal Ascot so as not to miss its three hourly feed. At the height of its popularity the zoo attracted some 160,000 visitors a year.

Major General Colin Wallis-King CBE (Grafton 44)

1926 – 2012



Cool headed Director of Service Intelligence, Major General Colin Wallis-King, played a significant role in Northern Ireland in the 1970s.

He took over command of 2nd Coldstream Guards in Germany in 1969. The battalion was converting from marching to mechanised infantry mounted in the FV (Fighting Vehicle) 432 armoured personnel carriers. In mid-1970, they were obliged to revert to the marching role when assigned to a tour of duty at the Belfast Catholic Lower Falls interface with the Protestant Shankill Road, at the end of which Wallis-King was appointed OBE.

Bloody Sunday, on 30 January 1972, led to his extraction from the Senior Officers' War Course at Greenwich and promotion to Colonel with urgent despatch to Londonderry as Deputy Commander 8th Infantry Brigade. The commander, Brigadier Pat MacLellan, was under pressure giving evidence to the Widgery Inquiry and needed support. Wallis-King undertook the planning of Operation Motorman in Londonderry, the clearing of the so-called no-go areas. On returning to England, he joined the MoD Combat Development, and was then appointed to command the 3rd Infantry Brigade in Ulster. This five-battalion group was responsible for security of the southern border with the Republic and the countryside between the two cities.

In 1975, Wallis-King was advanced to CBE and sent back to the MoD as the Brigadier of Intelligence. In 1977, on promotion to Major General, he became Director of Service Intelligence. The final decade of his military service was either wholly or indirectly concerned with the Northern Ireland security situation.

OBITUARIES

Mr Geoffrey Chibbett

(Cobham 47)

1928 – 2012

Geoffrey Chibbett, who died suddenly last March, was 4 years older than me, and, when I came to Stowe in 1945, already a demigod, to be worshipped from afar. 1st XV, Captain of hockey and tennis, a sport at which he particularly excelled, later playing both tennis and rugby for Cheshire.

As Head of School he inspired two memorable events – the first, a bicycle gymkhana. Many boys brought their bikes back each term, so there was no shortage of equipment, nor, with his imagination, any lack of variety in the events, which even included a hazardous form of bicycle hockey. Later, a school concert, more a grand entertainment. The evening ended with a performance by two senior tutors, Dr Huggins, in full white tie and tails, and JC (Grubby) Saunders, his nickname coming from his endemic and deep five-o'clock shadow. Grubby wore a rich blue flowing ballgown, contrasting well with his complexion, and the two sang and danced 'After the ball was over', to a delighted audience and tumultuous applause. To my deep regret, there was no repetition of either event!

I got to know him rather better as our relative age gap narrowed, and over the last few years regularly played bridge together at the golf club, a game to which he brought his own special dimension, even if, as he would instantly have agreed, his chances of playing for Cheshire were remote. The highlight of the afternoon would be the arrival of tea. "I do like jam," Geoff would say as he took a teacake. "I get two goes at the jam with a teacake, only one with a crumpet"! We still play on a Tuesday; we miss his fun, but still comment on the quality of the jam.

*Kindly supplied by
Richard de Zouche (Grafton 50)*

Mr Michael Doyle (Chatham 48)

1930 – 2012

After Stowe, Michael served with the Queen Victoria's Rifles. He then emigrated to Sri Lanka and embarked on his career in international trade. An accomplished athlete, he had a passion for rugby, water-polo and especially boxing.

Michael moved to Vancouver in 1956 where he met his wife Angela. He established a successful export trading company and became a leading authority on international letters of credit. He had an unwavering commitment to his family, reflected in his 50 year marriage to his loving wife. He was adored by his children, their spouses and his 11 grandchildren.

After many years of holidaying in Kaleden, Michael and Angela fulfilled their lifelong ambition to build a dream home and vineyard overlooking Skaha Lake. One of his great prides was spearheading the cleanup of decades of dumped rubbish along Skaha Lake, earning him RDOS Man of the Year and the nickname "Mr Clean".

Michael's love for history and literature was complemented by his Irish sense of humour and a gift for story telling that entertained many, especially his children and grandchildren. Michael made everyone feel special. He was a true gentleman, known for his warmth, humility, generosity and charm.

Mr Toby Robertson OBE (Bruce 47)

1928 – 2012

Toby Robertson believed in the importance of the regions as a vital source in British theatre. He toured the classics around the country as head of Prospect Productions for 15 years and ran the remote Theatr Clwyd in north Wales between 1985 and 1992.

Toby's regional work with Prospect breathed new life to the struggling theatre movement. Under his leadership, Prospect brought forward players such as Ian McKellen, Derek Jacobi, Dorothy Tutin, Eileen Atkins, Alec McCowen and Timothy West. Prospect achieved national and international acclaim for its ensemble work, worldwide tours and design style.

Based for its first five years at the Cambridge Arts Theatre, Prospect annually staged three or four classical plays. Among its most celebrated productions were Shakespeare's Richard II (1968) and Marlowe's Edward II (1969), in both of which Ian McKellen made his name long before the shows reached London.

As the first artistic director of Theatr Clwyd, Toby turned an unpromising municipal playhouse on a hill in a far-flung corner of north Wales into one of Britain's first equivalents of a French Maison de la Culture, persuading many of the country's leading actors (including Vanessa Redgrave, Sir Michael Hordern and Maria Aitken) to leave the capital to work for him.

Toby directed over 40 productions for Prospect, he also directed more than 25 television productions, including The Beggar's Opera, Richard II and Edward II, and for Scottish Opera and several American opera companies. He directed Measure For Measure in Beijing, Coriolanus in Spain, and worked on television for the BBC, ITV, Thames and London Weekend Television. In 1961 he was assistant director (to Peter Brook) on the film of Lord of the Flies.



Count Zygmunt Zamoyski (Grenville 56)

1937 – 2012

Count Zygmunt Zamoyski descended from a family of prominent Polish aristocrats, but lived for most of his life in England. In 1989, he went to live and work in Poland, where he achieved a degree of celebrity by launching a campaign against cheating in exams.

After Stowe and Christ Church, Oxford, Zygmunt did his National Service in the Navy. He was asked to stay on but instead chose to enrol as a trainee officer at a borstal institution for young offenders. He had to resign when a group of inmates he was supervising ran away. After two failed attempts to read for the Bar he settled on teaching, and was even a part-time caretaker. All the while he cultivated a well-deserved reputation for harmless eccentricity.

In 1989 Zygmunt went to live and work in Poland. He learned Polish from scratch, and taught English as a foreign language. Whilst teaching in Warsaw, he became appalled by the common practice among Polish students of cheating in exams. In 1998 he opened a travelling "anti-exam cheating" exhibition in a brave effort to eradicate the practice; the exhibits included a "vestment" of his own devising, without pockets, for students to wear in exams. A friend once pointedly bought him The Book of Heroic Failures for his birthday.



Mr David Hadfield (Walpole 63)

1945 – 2012

It is my very sad duty to inform the Old Stoic Society and, particularly, the members of the Old Stoic Golfing Society that our President, David Hadfield, died on 1 December 2012 after a short illness. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gill, his wife, and their children James, Christina and Philip and all their family at this time.

The Hadfield brothers, David and Christopher represented the Stowe golf team in the 60s and presented a formidable part of Walpole House's golf team. Careful planning had to be used to avoid a thrashing on the Stowe course by either one of the brothers. David was also a sprinter and held the 100 yards record at Stowe until 1963.

We normally appoint our President for three years, but due to his character and solid support of the Society, David was re-elected as President by the members of the OSGS at their autumn AGM in Norfolk for at least 7 terms. David will be sadly missed by everyone. He was a member of Stowe's winning Halford Hewitt side in 1988. David also held the post of northern secretary for the Society and contributed to the selection of Stowe's teams for the Birkdale Bucket held in March each year at Woodhall Spa.

The Society also plays in the Over 50s competition at Worplesdon each June in the Cyril Gray Golf Tournament and David has led and selected the team as captain for the last 3 years.

David was a public schools' member of Deal or more properly described as Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club, the natural 'home' of the Halford Hewitt Cup for 64 public school golf teams of 5 pairs held in March and April each year. David also became a member of the Cavaliers Golfing society who play foursome's matches at Deal (RCPGC), Sunningdale, West Hill, Worplesdon, the Berkshire and Woking.

David's other interests included the British Legion in Woodford, where he was also 'el Presidente'. The legendary visits by the BLOTS to the fleshpots of Europe have been recorded on film! Hazel Grove Golf Club was David's home club. He was a chartered Accountant and masterminded the structure and financials for the family firm of AtoV in Woodford. His other interests included his wife's golf and the family's sporting activities, skiing and holidays abroad.

David was a good friend to many Old Stoics, a wise and respected adviser to many friends and relations. He will be missed by all.

John Luddington was elected Vice-President of the OSGS at the Autumn AGM and became President of the OSGS from 1 January 2013.

*Charles Dimpfl (Chatham 66),
Honorary Secretary, OSGS*



✔ The stern of Mabel E Holland with a trench dug down to the ice to allow the sun's rays to eventually melt the ice around the boat.

POLAR BOUND

Having recently completed his fifth transit of the North West Passage, David Scott Cowper (Grafton 60), reports on his Arctic adventures.

When I compare the Arctic with that of 26 years ago, the difference is chalk from cheese. I first travelled up into the Arctic in August 1986, and the experience of transiting the North West Passage over the following three years still remains exceedingly vivid in my memory. There were many problems to overcome; not only considerably more difficult ice conditions, but the sinking of the boat, the retrieval and repair and the logistics of travelling to isolated places and being entirely self-sufficient with no-one to rely on but oneself.

Over the years, with global warming, the climate in the Arctic has changed dramatically and of the five transits I have made of the Passage, it has become easier each time. The last transit, just completed,

from East to West, via the most northerly route through Lancaster Sound, Viscount Melville Sound, the Parry Channel, and finally through the McClure Strait and out into the Beaufort Sea, has always been recognised as the ultimate route. This is not only the shortest distance, but the hardest route to undertake due to the very severe ice conditions.

In 1986, I departed from the Tyne on 14 July in the Mabel E Holland (an RNLI Watson 42ft Beach Lifeboat), considerably strengthened, to travel around the North of Scotland and across the North Atlantic. I had a fairly easy crossing until I was abeam Cape Farewell, where I encountered heavy weather conditions, and once past the Cape it was not long before a large area of small ice and icebergs were met.

I planned to call at Jacobshaven, close to Disco Island for refuelling, but it was very difficult to identify Jacobshaven amidst so much pack ice. Once refuelled, it was necessary to remain fairly close to the coast for open leads: the pack ice was not too far offshore. Navigation was mainly eyeball.

GPS as we know it today was in its infancy and to obtain a fix would take approximately six hours.

Entering Lancaster Sound was reasonably easy and visibility was very clear. I put in to the bay to take a rest only to find a Canadian icebreaker (Des Groseilliers) and a refuelling vessel at anchor. The Captain of the icebreaker invited me for supper that evening and pointed out that the prognosis of going further this season was exceedingly slim.

The Captain offered me an escort as far as Resolute, which I gladly accepted and certainly if I had been left to my own devices, it would have been out of the question. I knew the World Discoverer, a cruise ship, was intending to go through the Passage and was

I was told in no uncertain terms to remain where I was because my vessel would be crushed within seconds.

After the departure of the World Discoverer, I was left to cool my heels with the thought that the back door had closed behind me as Prince Regent Inlet became choked with ice.

After about four days, I had acclimatised. I accepted that I would be wintering at Fort Ross, and then out of the fog the World Discoverer appeared. It transpired that another icebreaker had been called in to give support, with the result that she was unable to follow the original icebreaker. It took two icebreakers to turn the World Discoverer around so that she could retrace her steps. As she made her way up Prince Regent Inlet,

the bay for the whole of the summer had cleared around the boat allowing her to be pulled ashore above the high water mark. The exercise took about six hours and then I knew that the boat would be safe and allow me to make the necessary repairs in 1988.

I returned again at the beginning of July 1988 and spent six weeks underneath the boat, placing tangles on vulnerable parts that were leaking. I had to watch my back as the odd polar bear could, and did turn up to investigate.

Around mid August it looked as if there might be a possibility of breaking out from my present situation and making progress into the Franklin Strait. Again, I chartered a Twin Otter with all the winching kit to come and pull the boat back into the water. Once afloat, the engines running and equipment restowed, the boat was still leaking but a Honda generator and a good submersible pump were able to cope with the intake.

Mabel ventured out of the Bellot Strait and then into the Franklin Strait and made steady progress down a lead as far as the Tazmanian Islands where, for a 48 hour period, she remained drifting in the pack ice. With a change of wind direction, the pack opened, and a narrow lead developed allowing her to escape down into the St. Roche Channel and on to Tuk. With the boat still leaking, and with the need for her to be taken out of the water, I travelled up the McKenzie River to Inuvik where I was able to arrange for the boat to be lifted out of the water.

The boat was left there, and in 1989 I flew into Inuvik again, armed with material for the repairs, and spent nearly two months trying to make her more watertight. By mid August the ice had receded a very small amount, providing a narrow lead off the Alaskan coast. I was able to take the lagoon route along this coastline and edge around Point Barrow.

It took me three years to transit the North West Passage and the Mabel E Holland had the distinction of being the 38th vessel to transit the Passage since records were started when Amundsen transitted it in Gjoa in 1903 to 1906.

The next time I travelled the Passage was from West to East in 2003 in a purpose built boat called Polar Bound; I passed Point Barrow about mid August, and was making my way down to Herschel Island. After leaving the island, I certainly encountered heavy pack ice, and was not able to back track, and for three weeks I remained, being carried by the ice in that area. Eventually it opened up and I was able to escape, continuing on to Cambridge Bay. On arriving there, the prognosis for the ice in Franklin Strait and Peel Sound was not encouraging, but it is often said that the best time to navigate the Arctic is towards the end of September when the high winds can break up the ice.

ICEBREAKER CAPTAINS STRONGLY DISCOURAGED

THE WORLD DISCOVERER PROCEEDING ANY FURTHER,

SAYING THE ICE WAS VERY MUCH UNDER PRESSURE

due to arrive at Resolute around 20 August, 1986. On anchoring in the bay, it was quite obvious that not much progress would be made; not only was winter beginning to set in rapidly, with temperatures down to -10 degrees C, but there was a great deal of pack ice which was refusing to clear.

When the World Discoverer arrived at Resolute there were a number of discussions with the icebreaker captains and, in spite of the advice that the Passage was not going to be open that season, she wanted to take the Prince Regent Inlet and go through Bellot Strait out into the Franklin Sound. I am of the opinion that the icebreakers' advice was defied because the World Discoverer had fare paying passengers on board.

Captain Pullen negotiated an escort with a Canadian icebreaker, which would rendezvous on the east side of the Bellot Strait. They felt they could reach this point unassisted by backtracking down Lancaster Sound and travelling down Prince Regent Inlet.

In my naivety, I thought if I did the same route I might be able to tag along. So, I set off at the end of August from Resolute backtracking along Lancaster Sound with difficulty, at one point being beset in ice for 24 hours before breaking free to make my way down the east side of Prince Regent Inlet. I was exceedingly pleased with myself, having arrived at Fort Ross before the World Discoverer, who also encountered difficult ice conditions.

Icebreaker captains strongly discouraged the World Discoverer proceeding any further, saying the ice was very much under pressure, and it was much harder to force a passage. However, Captain Heinz Aye of the World Discoverer decided to proceed. At that stage,

a third icebreaker was called upon to give further assistance.

These were the sorts of conditions that prevailed in the eighties. Mabel E Holland overwintered at Fort Ross, and I was fortunate enough to be able to return to England having hitched a lift from an icebreaker, before joining an Esso oil carrier, as a supernumerary and work my passage down to Halifax.

In April 1987, I returned to the boat via a skidoo journey from Resolute over the frozen sea lanes down to Fort Ross to check the boat. She appeared to be perfectly intact. Returning to England at the beginning of July, I received a call from the Canadian Coastguard who, having flown over Mabel's position, reported that she appeared to have sunk.

I brought forward my plans for returning to Resolute, chartering a seat on a Twin Otter to drop me off at Fort Ross. On arriving at the boat, I found her submerged to her decks. I set about rescuing the boat.

On establishing when high water was, I was able to pull Mabel towards the shore until she grounded, and as the tide went out I pumped and baled water out of the vessel. Eventually, when the boat was almost empty of water, I was able to find the leak. I had my work cut out trying to drain the engine and gearboxes of water, aiming to restart the engines before too much damage was done.

The boat needed to come out of the water. I managed to arrange a team of four people and obtain some heavy winching equipment with blocks and tackle, along some timber, and chartered a Twin Otter from Resolute to Fort Ross.

My guardian angels were smiling on me; conditions were clear and ice which had filled



- ❶ Skidoo and sledge used on my trek down to the boat from Resolute to inspect boat and the tent provided temporary accommodation each night.
- ❷ Polar Bound caught in the Pack Ice in Franklin Strait in September 2002 and at the time looked almost certain that there would be no escape as it was at the end of the season but fortunately at the 11th hour there was change in the wind direction which opened up a lead allowing Polar Bound to escape and return to Cambridge Bay where she wintered over.
- ❸ David Scott Cowper standing in front of Polar Bound after antifouling her at Whitehaven in preparation for her voyage across the top of Canada going through the McClure Strait which she had the distinction of being the first surface vessel apart from icebreakers to transit this area.
- ❹ Boat iced in at Fort Ross with footprints of Polar Bear inspecting boat.



With this in mind, I set off and successfully reached the Tazmanian Islands where the ice conditions then became very severe. However, with a gale force easterly wind forecast, I was rather hoping that a lead would appear and that I would be able to reach Bellot Strait and break out into Prince Regent Inlet. As the ice did move a small amount offshore, the gale did not last very long with the consequence that I was caught in the pack ice which then became pressurised. At that stage, it certainly looked as if there would be no escape.

A Canadian icebreaker came by this area and the only assistance they could give, due to the ice being under pressure, was a supply of fuel. However, they did stand by for 48 hours and again my guardian angels unexpectedly came to my aid in the way of a wind shift which just relieved the pressure of the ice to

allow the icebreaker to create a path for me to follow her approximately 25 miles, allowing me to return to Cambridge Bay, where the boat was left for the winter. For that year, the Passage was only passable for a few hours before ice sealed it again. The following year I was able to complete the transit.

The next three journeys through the Passage were all completed within the same season.

On my most recent trip in early autumn 2012, I broke with the tradition of sailing on my own and took an old friend. We left Portrush in Northern Ireland on 2 August 2012 and put into Nome in Alaska on 7 September 2012, having had three stops in Greenland for refuelling and two days hove to in the North Atlantic, due to heavy gale force winds from the west. The whole trip down to Dutch Harbour from Whitehaven took 42 days. On arriving at Cape Farewell at the southern

tip of Greenland, we entered the Prince Christian Sound which cuts off the tip of the peninsula, avoiding the worst of potential heavy weather. It was sobering to note the shrinkage of the mini glaciers that had formerly calved into this stretch. When I first passed this way thirty years ago, there was so much ice, now it was virtually clear with the glacier beds dry.

We had a straightforward trip up the west coast of Greenland, apart from patchy fog, and occasionally seeing a few icebergs. Day after day passed with exceedingly poor visibility and heavy reliance on the radar. We encountered a small amount of pack ice off Stefanson Island which was easily negotiated, then on to Banks Island up to the Prince of Wales Strait and on into the McClure Strait, finally exiting into the Beaufort Sea.

Jane kept her own log of the trip: as we approached the McClure straight, we had been experiencing 18 hours of high winds blowing 30-35 knots and creating a short sea which Polar Bound was taking on her beam and thus rolling heavily. This is an extract from her log:

“The ice pack was on the move with a strong South Easterly wind. To start with there was not even the ghost of a breeze, but gradually the open area of water took on a ruffled appearance and before long, the wavelets gave way to bigger seas. When I re-emerged after a couple of hours sleep, it was like a scene from Dante’s Inferno – there was a full gale blowing on the beam, and the entire frozen sea appeared to be on the march with great rafts of pack ice proceeding with remorseless power on their individual trajectories – some in full sail like huge, delicate lotus flowers, others looking like stacked-up railway sleepers.”

I have never seen such an amazing sight, and wouldn’t have believed it possible, that so many square miles of thick pack ice could be broken up and moved so quickly by the combined action of wind and waves.

It took 19 days, 20 hours and 20 minutes to cross the Arctic Circle in the Davis Strait, to re-crossing the Arctic Circle in the Chuckchi Sea. This would have been considered impossible back in the eighties and it is my thought that in five years’ time, the Arctic will be free of ice during the summer and only freezing during the winter, and that is how global warming has affected this area.

Before completing this narrative I would like to pay a high tribute to Peter Semotiuk who not only has given me tremendous support in the way of ice information, weather conditions and morale boosting when times have been tough, but has also helped many other yachtsmen to successfully succeed in passing through this route between the Pacific and Atlantic.

OS CAREER MENTORS, WORK EXPERIENCE AND INTERNSHIPS

Can you offer advice, work experience or internships to current Stoics or recent leavers?

We are looking to develop the career opportunities available for current Stoics and Old Stoics starting out in their careers. We would like to hear from you if you can offer any of the opportunities below:

- Careers' talk to current Stoics
- One/two week work placements for current Stoics/ recent leavers
- Careers' mentoring via email/telephone/blog
- 3 Month Internship
- 6 Month internship

Professional Dinners at Stowe – Old Stoics from a selection of industries will be invited to dine with current Stoics who are looking to move into these industries after leaving Stowe.

If you are able to help in any of the ways listed above, or indeed can help with other types of career opportunities, please email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk or telephone **01280 818252**.

Don't forget, if you are looking to recruit, you can list your job vacancy on the OS website and view CVs of OSs looking for a role, at www.stowe.co.uk/oldstoic

Old Stoics looking for careers' advice or work experience can email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk to find out if there is an Old Stoic who can help with your search.

Could you help with this project?

The OS Committee are looking for an Old Stoic to develop this project, with support from the OS Office. If you are able to give your advice and expertise please email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk to get involved.

OS MEMBERS' AREA

www.oldstoic.co.uk

Launched this time last year, the OS Members' Area is now a hive of activity.



For those of you who are yet to discover its charms, it contains the OS Business Directory, which lists special offers and discounts for Old Stoics, job boards for OS employers and a CV listing service for those looking for a new position. The Online OS Register is a detailed list of all Old Stoics and their careers, containing a protected email link to allow OSs to contact one another.

You can update your details, find lost friends from Stowe and even read online copies of Stoic magazines. If you live abroad, you can contact the OS Area Representatives and find out about more Old Stoics living in your country.

The OS Members' Area is password protected. Last year, we contacted everyone for whom we had email addresses, with their login credentials. If you need a reminder, or if we do not have your email address, please email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk or telephone **01280 818349**.

Check in regularly to find out about forthcoming networking events, reunions and dinners.



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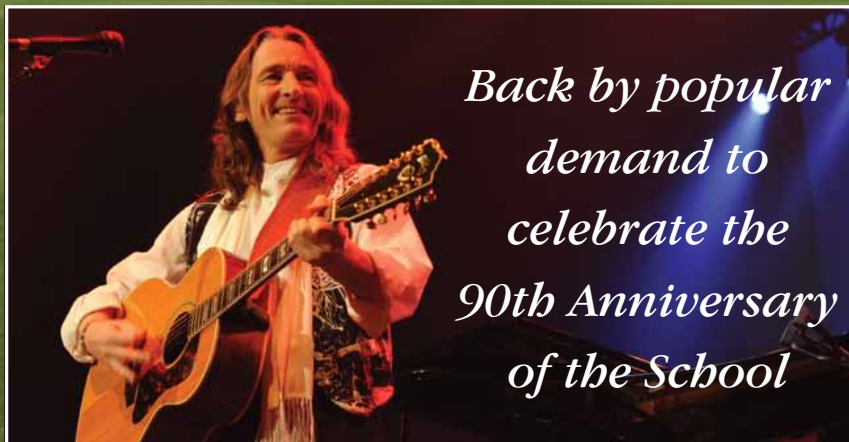
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OLD STOIC BANDS

An extraordinary thing happened in the 1950s – the birth of Rock ‘n’ Role. This so called ‘Devil’s Music’ captured the hearts and guided the ambitions of many youngsters frustrated by the confines of a more genteel music form.

The profusion of guitar and piano driven bands which, during that period, were playing Skiffle, Boogie Woogie and basic Rock ‘n’ Roll suddenly morphed into the iconic Sixties line up of lead guitar, rhythm, bass and drums and with the occasional addition of a piano and a harmonica vamping vocalist.

Suddenly, performing Rock ‘n’ Roll was open to everyone. Yes, prior to that it was open to everyone to a certain extent, but it was in the Sixties that more people wanted to become musical entrepreneurs than ever before.

On 4 April 1963, just six months after the release of their first single ‘Love me do’, The Beatles gave a performance in The Roxburgh Hall at Stowe. Alas, I arrived at Stowe two years later and so missed them. The Beatles, at that time, were not very well-known; their image and their music were very different from what had gone on before. There are some excellent photographs of the occasion showing crowds of Stowe boys looking curiously at the strangely dressed and coiffed quartet, who in turn, are looking back at the uniformly tweed jacket clad boys with a mixture of ‘us and them’ curiosity and resentment.

This performance proved to be a milestone in the cultural development of Stowe’s musical output. Gradually, alongside choirs, orchestras, brass bands and string quartets, rock bands began to develop. Okay, it was not to everybody’s taste, especially that of the older generation and those with a purist’s love of the classical format, but boy, was it exciting! There is an inherent and primeval excitement in the feel of pulsating



“I’LL TELL YOU ‘BOUT THE MAGIC AND IT’LL FREE YOUR SOUL –
**BUT IT’S LIKE TRYING TO TELL A STRANGER
‘BOUT ROCK ‘N’ ROLL.’**”

JOHN SEBASTIAN – ‘DO YOU BELIEVE IN MAGIC?’

rhythms and an adrenalin rush at the sound of a series of ridiculously fast guitar licks. This simile was borne out by the extraordinary blind and autistic pianist Derek Paravicini whose piano tutor recounts his talent of telling him, during a car journey, the exact moment at which the gear should be changed as the sound of the engine reached specific notes of a musical scale. It also made me understand why my father, whilst not sharing my love of the sound of loud rock music and I, who was unmoved by the screaming of a high performance car engine, could appreciate the kick each other got out of both experiences. Attempting to explain or describe such a feeling and emotion is impossible. It is as John Sebastian of THE LOVIN’ SPOONFUL explains in the quote at the top of this page.

When I arrived at Stowe in 1965 the main school rock band was The Mongrels who, from memory had Mike Avery, Phil Walker and possibly Dennis Gartrell and Jamie Doggart amongst its members. I recall there was great excitement when their single ‘My Love For You’ was released on the Decca label, with copies for sale in the School shop. This excitement grew even greater as we all lay in our beds (after lights out), with our transistor radios tuned into Radio Luxembourg, which had guaranteed a play slot for the single.

There was also a band which rejoiced in the name Muzbak, a clever use of the musical honour notation. I remember seeing them perform in the Roxy during my first term at Stowe and with their lead singer, Roger Watson, shouting out the lyrics of ‘Little Red Book’ alternated with blistering harmonica solos. Boy, was I impressed! I remember thinking “Yes, I should really like to be able to do that!” The band also included Jess Miller on drums, Barry Olorenshaw on lead guitar, James Atherton on rhythm guitar and John Stockwell on bass.

A third school group was called Wild Thyme. This band featured the Stoic with one of the best sixties Rock ‘n’ Roll names ever to grace the academy – Rory Stormont on guitar, David Jones on bass, James Atherton on rhythm guitar, Johnnie Greenstreet on drums and, on guitar and lead vocals, Roger Hodgson, destined later to take over the world as chief singer and writer/composer of Supertramp. Following the departure of James Atherton and Johnnie Greenstreet, (the latter who was replaced by Jess Miller), this band morphed into The Dream Merchants named after the Harold Robbins book of the same name: all sex and sophistication (the book, I mean, not the band!). From 1966 – 1967 Roger Hodgson and Jess Miller teamed up with Phil Walker and formed the trio Solid Silver.

📍 Nigel Milne (in the white shirt) fronting his band 'The Regime' in a production of Arnold Wesker's 'Chips with Everything' in 1966.



Alongside them were two more groups. The Jinx whose vocals were delivered with urbane elegance by Anthony Russell on guitar, accompanied by Peter Olofson also on guitar, Oliver Croom-Johnson on bass and Charles (Max) Wardell on drums.

The only other band during this period was The Regime with Chris Smith, John Buckingham on guitars, Rick Cressman on bass, Bill Shenkman on drums and Yours Truly on vocals. Yes, when we performed the crowd went – well, mild! No, joking apart, we did have a lot of fun performing at house dances both at home and away, at Tudor Hall, and in the Roxy. We even performed in the Naafi scene in Joe Bain's somewhat controversial production of Arnold Wesker's 'Chips With Everything', which, as I recall, featured Richard Branson as a Wing Commander!

In his final year at Stowe, Roger Hodgson fronted a new band wittily cylept Roger and Out. This particular combo featured Andrew Chance on drums. Andrew and the aforementioned Oliver Croom-Johnson, were later to find popularity on the social circuit as founding members of The Chance Band.

So, what happened in the 1970s? The only information that we have been able to find are two references in The Middle Voice of 1972 and 1973, which mention Guy Ponsford in Prometheus and another called The Soft Weed Factor. It was, of course, the decade when major rock stars were derided by the anguished demi-mond and which saw the emergence of Punk Rock raising its spiky head and spitting in the face of celebrity culture. Did this not happen at Stowe too? Apparently not, or is it a part of Stowe's musical heritage that has been

deemed best forgotten? There will, no doubt, be OSs who feel slighted at having been left out of this article but I can only apologise for the apparent oversight for this era.

In the 1980s, Christian Gaines, together with Richard Wheaton, Chris Marshall and Victoria Ward formed Kublah Khan who had the ignominy of being 'shut down' by the music teacher who decided that Kublah Khouldn't, after the audience rushed the stage in a mass fit of blind adoration – Oh, mayhem in the mosh pit indeed!

Latterly, Christian has met up with fellow OS Martin Dew in Los Angeles and have both teamed up with singer/songwriter J Scott Bergman and have been hammering home the riffs in fashionable spots such as Molly Malone's and The Silver Lake Lounge.

An OS of this decade whose residence at Stowe was, sadly, short lived is Crispian Mills whose spiritually driven band Kula Shaker made seismic waves within the music industry and charts but who has now gone ominously silent.

The nineties saw the emergence of the charismatic Orlando Seale who, after a spell flirting with the celluloid goddess in Hollywood, is now to be seen fronting a hugely fascinating Arcade Fire-like behemoth of a band called Orlando Seale and The Swell; the Swell being made up of cellists, violinists and other escapees from a symphony orchestra: strong and mesmerising stuff.

In the early 2000s, Mark Stormont, (son of the aforementioned Rory), assembled Pigs Might Fly with Charlie Reynolds; Hugh Viney; Luke Marchant; Charlie Margesson and others. Their zenith was performing covers of The Strokes and Arctic Monkeys at an event held in aid of Muscular Dystrophy sufferers. Mark also performed with Sam Holland and Edward Cohen in a combo that was dangerously close to being called The Cardboard Chaffinch Alliance but mercifully remained anonymous. Since leaving Stowe,



Mark performs regularly with his band The Redstone Collective.

Another OS band was Strayday (formerly The Wake) comprising Will Puxley; Hwei Joon Kim; Tom Elkington; Tom Allport and Jamie Wemyss. They were signed to Rockmaster Records and released a single 'Life like a Zoo'. However, they disbanded in 2008.

Stowe, being the sort of place that it is, always keeps abreast of the times and with the changing styles of music. The most recent success stories include Caspar Sheppard, whose school band was called Empire and whose current band Get People is making huge waves in the techno funk/ electronic arena. During their time at Stowe, Caspar's brother, Orlando Sheppard together with three other Old Stoics – Ella Girardot, Hamish and Elliot Barnes performed as ArtBeat but now, being older and more cryptic, perform as Arthur Beatrice. Both of these bands are about to go stratospheric with the release of their debut albums in 2013.

The most recent Stowe rocker I have seen performing, shares the honour of having an equally wonderful Rock 'n' Roll name as the previously mentioned Mr Stormont, and that is Regan Vincenza. Now here is a girl who knows exactly what a guitar is for! Great tunes and deliciously dirty guitar riffs; she and her band Ryker Sear are definitely ones to watch. Their debut album 'Outatime' is pretty impressive and their more recent output promises even greater things to come.

So, who is coming through now? We wait to hear great things from George Huxtable; Otto Balfour; Siana Vere-Nicoll; Shannon Devlin; Isaac Ajala; Rosie Devas; Lizzie Witkowski; Celia Marment; Lucy Alderton; Alice Gurr; Tris Rothschild; Patrick Keating and Antonio Muñoz, all of whom wowed the audience at last December's Junior Unplugged.

It is wonderful that Stowe gives its pupils the freedom and encouragement to develop



- 📍 Jess Miller performing at Stowe.
- 📍 Shannon Devlin (Stanhope) and George Huxtable (Chatham) perform in Junior Unplugged 2012.
- 📍 Regan Vincenza and her band Ryker Sear.



Strayday perform at Highclere in 2006.

the sounds du jour so readily. With the forthcoming completion of the new Music School with its designated band rehearsal room and recording studio, we are sure to hear some seriously exciting stuff echoing from Stowe soon.

One beautiful summer's day about ten years ago, long after I had left Stowe, I was walking with a friend towards the Gothic

Temple. Suddenly, scything through the languid summer's afternoon like a machine gun, we were assaulted by a barrage of blistering electric guitar riffs played at full volume. "F***!" I thought, "That's seriously not in keeping with these surroundings!" I borrowed my chum's hugely expensive camera and pointed the zoom lens in the direction of the sound. Through the lens, propped up insouciantly against the

balustrade of the Queen's Temple, a lone Stoic was totally absorbed in an outpouring of cadenzas and staccato fingering to; as the Bard would have it '... make the welkin ring'. It then hit me that I was completely wrong. Where could be a more fitting and inspirational place for a musician to practise, perfect his skill and fill the surroundings with his talent than here at Stowe where, generations back, play writes, musicians and composers would have been invited by Lord Cobham to try out their latest pieces to his house guests two hundred years before him? Perfect and idyllic. That is, after all, what Stowe is all about: a place where anyone can give free expression to their talent and art in beautiful and inspirational surroundings.

A lot has been written about popular music by those who appreciate it and by those who abhor its very existence. However, when it comes down to it, as was loudly proclaimed by a famous erstwhile Stowe parent, Sir Mick Jagger "it's only Rock 'n' Roll and I like it, like it" – YES, I DO!

Nigel Milne (Chandos 68)

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

Like so many great ideas, it all started with a speculative telephone call. Becky Armstrong, the Stowe Enterprises Manager approached the Antiques Roadshow production team to sound out their interest in filming at Stowe. Two visits later and the series producer was definitely interested, then came the inevitable long silence until we heard that Stowe had been included in the 2012/13 series.

It should come as no surprise that the filming process is well orchestrated but the relaxed and professional manner in which the whole thing unveiled itself before our eyes really impressed everyone. Large items of furniture were collected following pre-arranged visits to owners and assembled in the Marble Saloon for pre-viewing by the experts.

On the day, it was fascinating to see the eclectic mix of items presented and to watch reactions in real life and, as the familiar music sounded over the PA system, we knew that we were in for a fascinating day. The experts undertake to see anyone who arrives before the closing time and no one goes home without having had their item valued provided they register in time. Although the programme is not live, there is no rehearsal and no one



Graham Lay explains a fascinating piece of kit for manufacture of small arms.

has any inkling of what the experts will say when filming starts. Those of you who were able to see the first programme, will have seen the Headmaster presenting Beatles' memorabilia. Still to come, during the second programme on 12 May, is the National Trust with some garden guidebooks and Fiona Bruce talking to Joe Wotton, whose family (the Morgan-Grenvilles) has loaned the copper vases to enable copies to be made and re-instated on the South Front in preparation for restoration of the full balustrade.

Fiona also happened upon Sir Jackie Stewart in the crowd and another relaxed and delightful scene was captured for camera. The rain held off and, as the day progressed, so the cameras moved around to capture the best light. The experts proved indefatigable, their prize being the possibility of an unexpected find

(and some did indeed emerge towards the end of the day) plus the satisfaction of explaining provenance or significance to all their visitors. The House, the South Front newly restored, looked splendid and made a superb backdrop for the programme.

Quite apart from the fun and the privileged insight that we all enjoyed, the public relations benefit will be enormous. The production team were fully aware of Stowe School's role in rescuing Stowe House and our delight in continuing to care for the building and site. Hopefully, a reference to that will be included in the programme. As ever, none of it would have been possible without the help of our Events, House, Grounds and Catering staff to whom a massive vote of thanks is offered.

Nick Morris, Operational Director SHPT

The second programme filmed at Stowe is scheduled to air on Sunday 12 May 2013.



▶ Untitled Figure Study by Oliver Wilson (Cobham 92).

CELEBRATE ALL THINGS VISUAL

I was asked to write an article about Old Stoic Artists a few weeks ago and having made some inroads into researching a handful of artists, I can see this could be an ongoing, lifelong project.

I aim to highlight and celebrate the enormity of talent and variety in the approach to Art being explored by different generations of Stoics. I was a Stoic when William Dady and then Guy Scott ran the Art School back in the mid 1980s. There was great emphasis on drawing and that seems to be a constant, not only in the fabulous new Art School today, but also in the following Artists' work. The source material back then

ranged from the romantically run down grounds to a range of imaginative still life set ups with not-so-still life inserts such as a life model or a senior citizen dressed as a farmer (perhaps he was one), parked on a chair in the middle of scrap objects, yucca plants and cardboard boxes.

As the boundaries of Art seem ever more open and integrated, it seems we should celebrate all things visual from Old Stoics



- ▶ HM The Queen by Rupert Alexander (née Atkinson, Chatham 93).
- ▶ Sturm and Drang by Edgar Both (Bruce 61).
- ▶ Beefalo by Hugo Wilson (Grenville 00).
- ▶ Caroline de Peyrecave.
- ▶ School Run by Tim Hall (Cobham 84).
- ▶ David Shepherd (Chatham 49).
- ▶ Untitled Nude by Clementine McGaw (Nugent 06).
- ▶ Jockey by Nichola Eddery (Lyttelton 00).
- ▶ Alex Talbot-Rice's 'The Warrior'.

and perhaps pay more attention to the fact that all these Art makers share one thing in common: they lived part of their lives at Stowe. A good Art education will not simply produce painters and draughtsmen, but open up everything visual. Dominic Hyman (Temple 90), a contemporary of mine who painted very well, is now an award winning film set designer; his most famous work to date being the hugely imaginative Pacific film series sets. Hattie Rickards (Nugent 01) recalls "I remember becoming consumed with the architecture of Stowe and sketched it endlessly which really opened my eyes to seeing. This process taught me that I was lucky enough to be able to really communicate through drawing. At Stowe I was guided by great teachers and absorbed by an array of great books to learn from, which gave me the confidence and belief I needed. I then went straight on to a jewellery design degree at Central Saint Martin's and now, three years into my business, my drawing is still very much the linchpin for translating clients' visions into pieces of jewellery." In fact, Hattie's clients are often just as excited by her drawings as they are by the end product!

Until recently, when I started my own Art School, I was lucky enough to teach in the Stowe Art Department for 12 years. A very strong philosophy developed within the Art School that encouraged the individual student to learn to recognise creative development for themselves in their own work. An all-inclusive, open-minded approach quickly developed. It will be fascinating to watch for the new OS talent of the future. I strongly believe the Stowe Art School is giving the best possible grounding for students to arrive on Art Foundation courses with a confident, open minded ability to negotiate the world of Art and all its possibilities.

In the very early years of the Stowe Art Department, there was a Canadian couple who ran it. They subscribed to every Art periodical that came out of Paris. A Stoic called John Richardson (Chatham 42) began to read them obsessively and today is known as 'the man who knew Picasso best'. Richardson has become one of the world's most reliable authorities on Picasso and his Art. John has entertained Art students many times in recent years as part of the Art and History of Art trip to New York, where he talked about his own remarkable collection of Art and artefacts, most of which had incredible stories relating to the Artist behind them. This story highlights the importance of

teaching students about Art as well as how to make it!

David Shepherd (Chatham 49) has to be one of the most famous OS names. An analogy could be drawn between Drayson asking Richard Branson to get rid of his telephone in his study or he would have to leave and the story of Shepherd being turned away from the Slade School of Fine Art on the basis that he had no hope of becoming an Artist. They are both examples of dogged stoicism that end in remarkable success. Shepherd has painted four Stowe Headmasters. However, his fame really comes from his now iconic views of wildlife in Africa. Likewise Nichola Eddery (Lyttelton 00) seems to be forging ahead in the world of Equine Art and as the daughter of world famous champion flat jockey, Pat Eddery, Nichola is in a great position.

The Charles Cecil Studios in Florence have been a natural draw to many OS artists and I wonder if the classically influenced surroundings of Stowe made the transition a natural one? Perhaps the hugely informative History of Art trips to Florence taken by Crispin Robinson, Deputy Headmaster, reinforced this interest in traditional expertise? The emphasis on traditional Old Master technique at the Studios obviously draws those who want to understand the rules and methods employed by the Old Masters. The challenge for students is to absorb these methods rather than be absorbed by them and go on to develop an individual take on the world. For example, Hugo Wilson's (Grenville 00) work is a fascinating mixture of installation, drawing and painting that, although rooted in traditional training, takes the viewer into some challenging realms to do with the interaction between modern science and primal thought. Hugo will be included in Phaidon's catalogue, Vitamin D2 that is a who's who of contemporary drawing, a huge accolade/acclamation.

Caroline de Peyrecave (Nugent 04), Rupert Alexander (née Atkinson, Chatham 93), Nichola Eddery (Lyttelton 00), Hugh Beattie (Chandos 91) and Alexander Talbot Rice (Cobham 89) are but a few of a succession of OS Artists who are pursuing the world of the Society portrait with remarkable success. Rupert Alexander's portrait of the Queen featured on the front page of the Telegraph. The calm, personable yet authoritative air of his subject cleverly comes across; Rupert shows an impressive command of his medium and ability to employ chiaroscuro. Surely he is in strong contention for the next Stowe

Headmaster portrait! Alexander Talbot Rice (Cobham 89) is spending this year as Artist in Residence at Stowe.

It is always interesting looking at Art that challenges our boundaries of aesthetic appreciation. Clemmie McGaw has been taken notice of early on in her career by winning the Saatchi and Saatchi award "Best emerging Fine Artist" 2010-2011 having just left Central St. Martins School of Art. With Clemmie's paintings, one is immediately drawn in by her sensitive use of oil and household paint. She pours the paint, lets it bleed, and works back into it with thick impasto paint. But her subject matter highlights the complicated political issues surrounding modern warfare, culture and religion.

Although their work differs enormously both Oliver Wilson (Cobham 92) and Tim Hall (Cobham 84) perhaps share an interest in the links between photography and painting. I was struck by Hall's Battersea Power Station rising out of the mist. This image brings to mind the great tradition of painting the Thames, with Monet, Whistler and Turner's wonderfully atmospheric paintings being the best examples. Wilson's paintings of figures underwater in swimming pools are a nod to the photo realists such as Richard Estes who wanted to make a point, I believe, on the medium of paint and its unmatched ability to go beyond the photograph, amongst other hugely intellectual aims I am sure! If it is the Mediterranean you like, then Justin Tew's (Cobham 88) indulgent paintings of that part of the world literally focus on the deep, dark blues and light of the Med.

Edgar Both (Bruce 61) started painting in the 1950s and has consistently developed his interest in the American School of Abstract Expressionism. His works are indeed abstract and simply explore the ability of the gestural mark to express a human energy or spirit. They are paintings full of colour, form and space that transmit feeling rather than realism. Edgar developed his style during the emergence of Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, Willem De Kooning et al; that would have been an extraordinarily exciting time in the development of Modern Art.

There will be many Artists I have missed out and I hope that they will get in touch with the Old Stoic Office so that the School can continue to build a record of what people are up to in the Arts. Please send details of your work to oldstoic@stowe.co.uk

1957: FIRST SOLO ON CHATHAM FIELD



Michael Andrews piloting the Dagling.

My spirit was too independent to take kindly to discipline and I was never a fan of the compulsory CCF. Hours spent polishing brass and toecaps and being shouted at did not appeal. Even worse was to be put on ‘standing still parade’ for sneezing.

So it was a considerable relief when I was old enough to join the Air Force Section, renowned for its lack of square-bashing and bull. Here we could do much more exciting things like fly a Harvard (the World War 2 advanced trainer) from Kidlington airfield and go on a visit to the RAF Hawker Hunter fighter squadron at Bruggen in West Germany. I had been fascinated by flying since the age of four, when I could identify different war ‘planes from the sound of their engines. But at Stowe, at first, my flying was confined to building models.

There was a large cleaner’s cupboard upstairs in the Shell classroom block that was the lair of the Aeromodelling Club. Only about six of us dabbled with balsa

and ‘dope’, but we shared enthusiasm. I would take my plans and balsa-wood into a freezing classroom and build away the afternoon on the master’s desk. The most ambitious of my models was a flying scale model De Harilland Tiger Moth biplane. It was rather underpowered with a 1cc ED Bee engine, but it flew well, at least until it crashed into the Rotunda! I then had to borrow a ladder from the Power House Yard to get the pieces down from the rim.

I really wanted to get airborne. Climbing the cedar tree on the South Front gave me a bird’s eye view – there were about a dozen boys who could or dared to make the ascent, and the headmaster, Mr Reynolds, turned a blind eye – and it was blissful to lie on the sweet smelling uppermost branches on a summer day, at a delicious distance from discipline and ball games. But it wasn’t flying.

I used my pocket money to join the Southdown Gliding Club in the holidays, and spent days retrieving the tow cable with a Fordson tractor, but too little time in the air. There was only one dual-control trainer and too long a queue. The thrill of a first solo flight seemed so unattainable. The Air Force Section, however, had a glider. It returned from expensive repair

and was assembled on the Bourbon playing fields early in 1957. It was a Dagling, with a high wing, and an open-frame fuselage on which was perched a seat and the controls. It was under the command of Michael (Freddie) Fox who taught Maths. It was launched with a double bungee cord. Eight boys would walk and then run, stretching the elastic cords in a V until the glider was released at the tail. The only problem was that nobody knew how to fly it. We had only been taught the theory. Freddie sat me at the controls. “You have flown gliders haven’t you?” was his only instruction and I realised why the ‘plane had already been broken once.

Thus, on a flat field, I managed to get a modest four feet off the ground. I knew full well that on a tow or bungee launch you have to keep the nose down till you get full air speed, or you will stall. The fact that I wasn’t given a second ‘flight’, nor promoted to teach my fellow cadets, may not have been unconnected to the fact that I had earlier hosed Mr Fox with a soda syphon after too long a stay at the RAF bar (strictly out of bounds to us 17 year olds) at RAF Bruggen.

The following term was the annual CCF parade and no less grand a figure than

The First Sea Lord, Earl Louis Mountbatten, came to inspect us. To my incredulity, I was suddenly ordered, the very same morning, to make a demonstration flight in the Dagling. This would be the most spectacular event of the parade! I was even more amazed when I saw where the 'plane had been assembled – it was between Chatham House and the newly built Headmaster's House at the top of the long slope that is Chatham Field. This was a very different challenge to a flat field.

The sun shone, the top brass duly arrived and smiled at me. "Walk." I gave the command. "Run!" And off I went. I had no idea of the flying or stalling speed of this glider – but I had enough basic experience to guess, and, having at first kept the nose down, soon I was a good thirty feet up. For a transcendental moment as I flew down the shallow valley, I wondered whether to fly into the Eleven Acre Lake. I could certainly reach it, and it would make a grand splash in more senses than one! But on this occasion my Stoic's sense of discipline, duty and common sense prevailed. I banked to the right and landed gently on the opposite up-slope, far down the field, to distant applause.

The glider was dragged to the top again. Despite my protestations, the pilot counter-weights were incorrectly installed, and on the very next launch the 'plane stalled and fell to the ground, breaking



Michael Andrews with his model Tiger Moth biplane.

the fuselage and hurting the back of the unfortunate but overconfident young pilot. I thus became the first and probably the last boy to successfully fly a 'plane from Chatham Field.

After an exam that summer at the RAF training college at Hendon, I won a Flying Scholarship. This paid for powered pilot's training at the Southern Aero Club at Shoreham – the nearest airstrip to home. Appropriately enough, I trained and went solo on a Tiger Moth biplane. My instructor was a grumpy old man called Jack Pashley. But to me he was a hero as one of England's first aviators, who had built his own aircraft early in the century and flown it from Brighton sands.

I then joined the University Air Squadron at Cambridge and completed my training and gained my Private Pilot's Licence.

Now I could take passengers! A splendid way to impress the opposite sex, of which till then I had little experience. It also meant that I could fly an Auster back to Stowe and get that longed for aerial view of the South Front. Flying, quite literally, broadened my perspective of the world and my place within it. I know my love of flying was enjoyed by the public too – with the stunning footage we obtained for the 1982 BBC2 natural history series *The Flight of the Condor*. It was a noted hit.

Mike Andrews (Chatham 57) sold his first film to the BBC at the age of 22 and went on to make numerous programmes first for the BBC2 Horizon science series, and then for the BBC Natural History Unit. He won a score of international prizes and has had three best-selling books published.

Michael Andrews (Chatham 57)

FILMING IN NORTH KOREA

In September 2012, Mont Tombleson (Cobham 83) and the current Head of Communications for the vaccination charity the GAVI Alliance, Dan Thomas (Chatham 83) went to Pyongyang to make a film. Just a short one.

Many are sceptical about North Korea's very high rate of vaccination coverage. Why should we believe them they ask? Here's why – the government wants children vaccinated because it saves their NHS money and this is a country where people do what they're told. Like I said, it was a short film.

We travelled from Beijing with China Airlines. This was tough since Air Koryo, the North Korean national carrier is the world's only one star airline, and widely known as the worst. Our hotel was on an island, in the middle of the river, in the middle of town.

The Alcatraz of Fun was how Trip Advisor described it. Booking a taxi takes a week so there was no slipping into Pyongyang for cold noodles and beer. Next to us was a cinema, bizarrely modelled on the Royal Shakespeare theatre in Stratford.

The 11th Pyongyang Film Festival also opened the same week, no doubt buoyed by last year's break out success (an Old Stoic production), *Bend it like Beckham*.

We ate once in a revolving restaurant on top of the hotel where the turning mechanism was operated by a swift kick from a lonely waitress to a red button on the floor. The pace was glacial: in fact, tectonic. I'm not going to moan about the food because whatever we were presented with, it was like the last days of Rome compared to the diet of the general population.

We had four minders in attendance at all times, except mealtimes. They were polite, respectful and funny, even, after a couple of beers – and downright rapacious when it came to duty free cigarettes. "Tomblison!! Camel!!"

We chatted about the Olympics. They had seen the opening ceremony and like the rest of us hadn't understood it, but thought it marvellous nonetheless. "James Bond!", I said. Minders: Big smile and a nod in the affirmative. "You've heard of him?" Minders: Big smile and a nod in the negative. "The Queen of England?" Minders: Big smile. Total blankness.

On one of our in-country excursions, I had a go at explaining the United Kingdom and how it works, to increasingly pitying nods, also saying that Scotland (blank looks) was shortly to have a vote on independence. Pitying looks turned to grave ones as Mr Kim our translator said, "So there will be war...?"

After a week we returned to the airport, were given back our 'phones and breathed out loudly as a man waved us through. We turned around to wave goodbye to see the tight smiles and yearning expressions of four people who would have given a great deal for the pleasure of a journey on the world's worst airline.

Mont Tombleson (Cobham 83)

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JUBILEE RIVER PAGEANT

George Watson (Chandos 80), writes about his involvement with Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee River Pageant, as Royal Barge Officer.

I was fortunate to serve in HMY Britannia from 1989 to 1991 and remain involved with The Association of Royal Yachtsmen, having retired from the navy in 2003. Two years before the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant, it was suggested to the Royal Household that it might be appropriate for the late HMY Britannia's Royal Barge and two Escort boats to be involved in the celebrations. This suggestion was received with great enthusiasm, and so started a vast amount of work and preparation for the big day, all willingly funded by The Royal Yacht Britannia Trust which nowadays lovingly cares for the former Royal Yacht.

The boats had not operated since 1997, so major reconditioning work had to be undertaken, with some former yachtsmen giving up their weekends and holidays for over six months. I was privileged to be chosen to come out of retirement by these former

yachtsmen and, as the Royal Barge Officer, I stepped back onto the Barge after an interval of over 20 years, when she was brought down to London by lorry at the end of March 2012 for a practice run.

This was a reconnaissance exercise on several fronts. Firstly, so that we could practise with Spirit of Chartwell, scout out Chelsea Harbour Pier and convince all concerned that a bunch of "HM retired yotties" could actually crew the Royal Barge. Secondly, we tested the new steps which had been expressly made to bridge between Britannia's Royal Barge and the shiny new one. We all knew that Her Majesty would be more than capable of negotiating the climb but this was essential training for Chartwell's crew. We were also extremely well fed as Chartwell tested her catering facilities! Thirdly, and perhaps most importantly, we established that Britannia's Royal Barge was seaworthy and therefore insurable under current regulations. The Barge was then shipped back to Edinburgh to continue preparing her for the pageant.

On the Thursday before the Pageant, the three boats were transported by lorry from Edinburgh to King George V Dock, about a mile downstream from the Thames Barrier. From here, we headed off upstream to Chelsea harbour.

All the way up the river, we passed historic vessels coming to be part of the Avenue of Sail, and even on Friday morning we were being cheered up the river as people realised they were seeing the Queen's faithful old Royal Barge and Escorts.

Friday afternoon and Saturday morning were spent ensuring the boats looked as immaculate as they always had done on Royal Duty. We did take a break on Saturday evening to host a party for all those in the harbour who

had supplied last minute essentials, from extension leads to agri tape! At lunchtime on Saturday we moved out into the river and moored alongside the Pier. We then took very wet turns to stand guard overnight to ensure there was no terrorist threat to the boats, and also that nothing came down the river to foul the propellers. We also kept an eye on the magnificent Gloriana, which had moored on the other side of the pier earlier that day.

We were all up very early on Sunday, as Spirit of Chartwell had come up to Cadogan Pier overnight. At 0730hrs we were alongside her for a final rehearsal, before heading back to the pier for a final deck scrub and tidy up.

At 1413hrs Her Majesty the Queen, having inspected a Guard of Chelsea Pensioners, stepped on board her Royal Barge, for the first time in 15 years. The look on her face as she saw her own boat, crewed by faces she knew so well, was the most wonderful reward for the months of hard work put in by so many, as were all the photographs of the Barge once again flying the biggest Royal Standard and White Ensign we could get away with!

With 13 minutes to get to the Spirit of Chartwell, I had to keep tabs on all the streets we passed, to ensure we were not behind schedule. However, even after closing the Thames barrier the tidal stream was running much faster than we had been led to expect; the biggest challenge was actually not to go too fast. This caused serious problems when we came alongside Chartwell as there was no one ready with our head and stern ropes, despite the rehearsals. The Queen's Coxswain very nearly lost the bow of the Barge as we sat alongside waiting for our ropes. Luckily, with some very nimble work by our Bowman, and skilful driving by the Coxswain, we just managed to get tied up before it went noticeably wrong.

Then I had to lower the steps down from Chartwell before becoming a piece of moveable ballast, ensuring that the Barge was perfectly balanced as Her Majesty The Queen, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, HRH The Prince of Wales and HRH The Duchess of Cornwall all climbed the steps up into Chartwell. It seemed somewhat ironic that as the only crew member in the whole of the Pageant not wearing a lifejacket, it was me, with my size 12 feet, balancing precariously on a 4 inch wide wooden ledge, saluting their departure and unable to hold on to anything. I was very relieved not to become a world wide laughing stock!

We then took our place at the head of the Royal Squadron, and carried on down the river to the finish at Tower Bridge. By now, it was pouring with rain, and we got wetter and colder as we headed off down river to take the boats back out of the water at Trinity Buoy Wharf. We sent them back to the care of the Trust in Edinburgh three hours later having celebrated with a couple of bottles of 1964 Madeira, the same year that the Barge was built. Then the party really started!



HIDDEN TREASURE!

During the spring of 2012, the State Music Room started its 5 month conservation project. With a grant from the Mellon Foundation through the World Monuments Fund, with a top up from Stowe House Preservation Trust's general fund (made up of grants from generous groups and individuals).



A selection of treasures found in the recess on the east side of the niche. All yet to be dated.

During the course of the project, it was necessary to lift floorboards to assess their condition – years of dancing, pacing up and down and furniture rearrangement have gradually worn them down – and to open up hidden recesses behind walls and the niche. And it was in those places that we found the hidden treasure...

Let us go back in time and look at the history of the Music Room. Extended from a drawing room and bedroom in the 1770s, when the South Front was rebuilt by Earl Temple to the magnificent façade we see today. The wall paintings were added in 1781 by Vincenzo Valdré, an Italian artist who spent half his working life at Stowe, and because they were painted straight onto the lathe and plaster wall, they couldn't be sold off.

Although the room is called the Music Room in the original guide book, it is clear from diary accounts that the State Rooms are used for the same purposes during the party season – eating and entertainment.

Although the fixtures and fittings in the room were offered up in the great Stowe Sale of 1848, only the furniture went. It was not until the second contents sale in 1922 that the fireplace surround, the mirror, the chandelier and the central canvas painting were sold off. With the arrival of boys and masters in May 1923 to create Stowe School, the Music Room and its sister room, the Drawing Room, were turned into house rooms for the first two houses – Bruce and Temple respectively.

During my seven years at Stowe, I have heard many tales from Old Stoics as to what they got up to in the House and Gardens. Some are unrepeatable, others enlightening! One I heard recently with regard to the Music Room was that the storeroom on the back room was the 'office' for the Head of House, who would be smoking in there! How the main mansion has never burnt down is more out of luck than due care!

I'm sure there are many more tales to hear but during the course of the restoration,

archaeological evidence was uncovered of what had actually gone on in the room.

Since the room was created out of two small rooms and extended southwards in the 1770s, recesses were formed, particularly around the niche on the north wall. During the course of repairs, the plain panels below the niche were taken out revealing a recess full of hidden treasures that entertained pupils of the past and will intrigue the pupils of today.

Also found in the recess were three out of the five original panels, placed carefully there by some considerate Bruce boy. These have been restored to their rightful position, reiterating the arabesque design repeated around the room. Search it out next time you are in the room!

While repairing the back of the niche itself, a recess was discovered to the right of the niche base that reached up into the ceiling. Here, again, was another mound of treasures found on the floor.

So what are all these treasures of which I speak? Whose are they? Where did they come from? What are they worth?

This is where I am asking for your help as those who were here when it happened. Can you date them for me? Find their owners? It's a decent mystery that we can work out together.

During the 1960s, the School commissioned two Old Stoics, Michael and Benjamin Gibbons, to undertake some remedial conservation work on the Music Room and in the 1980s, copied the central circular ceiling painting that had been sold in 1922. The fireplace surround was also found in the 1980s in an historic house that had suffered a small fire and sold back to Stowe – the cracks and breaks caused by the fire were filled in as part of the current project.

So how different does the room look now? The repair of the fireplace surround and mantle piece includes the replacement of the black concrete hearth (after the original white marble one was sold off in 1922) with a new white marble hearth, the replacement of some floorboards, the cleaning of the painted panels have brightened the room but also shows up the difference between the sun-drenched panels and those that have never seen the sun, the return of the gilding to the window shutters, backs of doors and column bases and the lift of the background colour from blue/grey to a light green/blue. Excitingly, one of the other discoveries was the remains of the gilded decoration on the window reveals and shutters. We've left one section exposed to show what the rest looked like – look out for it when you're next in.

Despite the need for a conservation project of the Music Room, it is amazing how well the room was kept from the 1780s – it's good to know that the Bruce boys of 40 years appreciated the room they were in!

Anna McEvoy, Stowe House Preservation Trust

ACROSS NEW ZEALAND ON FOOT

"My feet hurt almost every day and have been almost permanently blistered – certainly on the sole. I've had pain in my feet, ankles, knees, hips and back. I slept outside almost every night, including in sub-zero temperatures and in the snow. I walked through a blizzard, a couple of very windy hail storms, had a whole day of super-high winds which actually closed the route I wanted to take. I was almost blown over many a time! I lost 15 kilograms during the walk, my toenail fell off after two weeks, and I didn't shower with soap or even wash my hair for three months. I ran out of water a few times in the middle of nowhere, until I came across the next stream. I passed out at the end of my penultimate day."



Last year, Riley Curtis (Bruce 11) trekked 1,400 miles over 105 days, becoming the youngest person to walk the entire length of New Zealand. But, as his blog accounts, it was no walk in the park! That's because Riley carried a hammock on his journey and slept wherever he ended up, whether it was in a derelict building or under a tree.

Riley finally completed his journey on 13 November 2012. The route he walked took him 1,400 miles, from Cape Reinga, the northernmost tip of the country, to Bluff in the south. His epic journey through the land of Hobbits and The Lord of the Rings took him down coastlines, through forests, over volcanoes and mountain passes and through seven major cities. And apart from the pride of having completed such an arduous journey, Riley did it all in aid of Help for Heroes, so far raising £1,270.

You can read about his journey at <http://walknz.wordpress.com> or donate to his cause at www.helpforheroes.org.uk/events/walking_new_zealand

OLD STOIC MP!

After resolutely sticking with earlier unsuccessful attempts to prise the Plymouth Sutton & Devonport constituency away from Labour in the previous two General Elections, Oliver Colville MP (Bruce 76) managed to achieve a Conservative majority at the 2010 General Election. Since then he has been working tirelessly in his constituency and is making a name for himself, not least as a member of the HoC's Northern Ireland Select Committee and the vice-chairman of the All Party Parliamentary Group for the Armed Forces with special responsibility for the Royal Marines; and, particularly, just before Christmas, asking the Prime Minister, at weekly PMQs, to recognise the valiant efforts almost 70 years ago of those taking part on the Arctic convoys during World War II. A direct hit: the PM immediately responded by ensuring that the medals they had deserved for so long would finally be awarded.

He recently invited two fellow OSs, John Fingleton and Charlie Dimpfl (both Chatham 66) to PMQs on a particularly momentous day, following David Cameron's landmark speech a few hours earlier on Britain's future in the EU and the proposed introduction of a Referendum.

Furthermore, he even managed to win the 'champagne moment' playing cricket for the Lords & Commons CC in India in 2012 – somewhat improbably taking the wicket of one of the opening batsmen! It was watched by 20 million on Indian television.

John Fingleton (Chatham 66)

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THE BOOK OF BAIN

Verses, Orations and Essays
by Joe Bain



Many Old Stoics will remember Joe Bain (1928-2011) as an exceptional and inspirational teacher of English, German and French, first at Stowe (1954-73), then at Winchester College

(1974-88). At both schools he was a dominant figure who contributed hugely to the production of plays and later opera. A pianist from childhood, he took up painting after retiring to his native Wales. Betwixt and between he wrote poetry and, when he could be persuaded, prose for publication.

Privately published in paperback by Plumbago Books and Arts, and illustrated with photographs of Joe at different moments of his life, *The Book of Bain* is a collection of his writings: playful limericks and crafty clerihews; other shorter verses along with a handful of fine translations; thoughtful homilies to some of his Stowe colleagues – notably the Headmaster Eric Reynolds and Brian Stephan; lively, festive orations delivered at Winchester; and a group of five perceptive literary essays on

Robert Browning, A.E. Housman, Louis MacNeice, Edmund Rostand and W.B. Yeats.

The Book of Bain, an 80-page commemorative treasure, has been compiled and edited with a Foreword by Justin Wintle (Chatham 66) and prepared for publication by his brother Christopher (Chatham 62). It is offered to Old Stoics and others at the cost price of £7.95 per copy including p&p (except overseas). It can be ordered from *The Book of Bain*, 47 Ashburnham Mansions, Ashburnham Road, LONDON SW10 0PB. Cheques should be made payable to 'Book of Bain'. Email enquiries can be sent to dukeswood@aol.com

Justin Wintle (Chatham 66)

JOE BAIN'S PAINTINGS

Joe's large collection of sheet music has been donated to the new Music School, but it seems appropriate to commemorate further his happiness at Stowe.

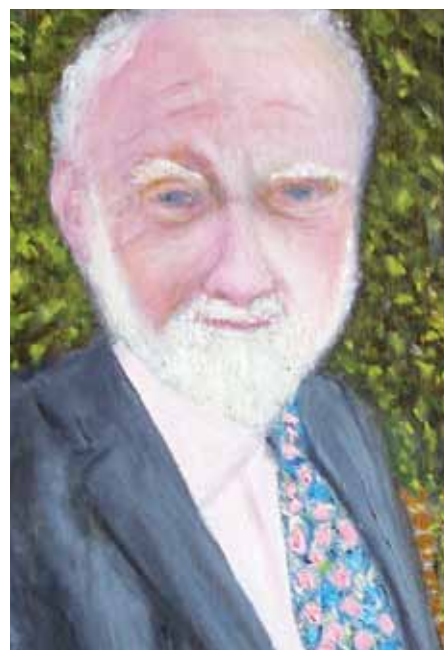
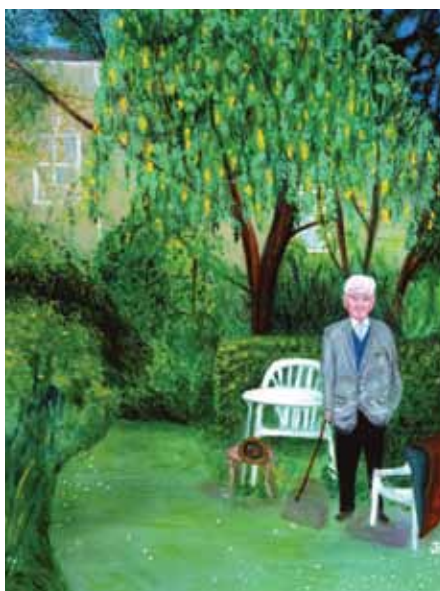
With this in mind, Priscilla Bain has offered some of Joe's paintings for sale at modest prices to raise a fund for a small memorial – or, if enthusiasts want to contribute more largely, to support an aspect of music or drama at Stowe.

The paintings which are available can be viewed at www.joebain.org.uk

Joe took to painting in the last two decades of his life. He needed an outlet for his effervescence now there was no one to instruct, and no more plays to direct. He developed a striking primitive style, describing himself as, 'The Grandma Moses of Tenby.'

Working initially in pastel and watercolour, he developed his technique by exploring still lifes and flower pieces, but as his confidence grew and he ventured into oils and acrylics his colouring grew bolder and more skilful, and more and more of his irrepressible humour found its way into the work. He relished a joke in paint as much as he did in talk. He turned out lugubrious self-portraits, unintentionally caricatured impressions of colleagues and friends – P.G. Longhurst a repeated victim – garden pictures; landscapes; odd historical or mythological subjects, and imaginary portraits of famous writers.

His paintings hung on the walls of his basement music room, on the stairs, wherever space could be found. Old friends will recall the annual apparition of Joe's



Christmas card with the latest frolic brushwork, the only circulation the works had during his lifetime. The pictures, notwithstanding their amateur style, have vivid presence: crude perhaps, but never bland, and they provoke smiles. If you would like to own one or more, please contact Chris Atkinson via the Old Stoic Office for more details. oldstoic@stowe.co.uk

Peter Yapp (Temple 62)

- 📍 A guest in the garden by Joe Bain.
- 📍 Swans by Joe Bain.
- 📍 Self portrait by Joe Bain.
- 📍 Joe Bain in action at Stowe.

Buttermilk Art School

Old Stoic and former art master, George Irvine (Grenville 90) set up Buttermilk Art School last year. The studios are housed in a large adapted 300 year old barn, set amidst 75 acres of beautiful Oxfordshire countryside, on his stud farm. Buttermilk Art School provides the perfect setting and excellent tuition for budding artists and art enthusiasts.

Born into an artistic family, George flourished at Stowe, filling his sketch books with impressions of the overgrown temples, like so many enrapt Stoics in awe of their surroundings. At the age of sixteen, he was the youngest exhibitor at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition. He went on to win a place at The Slade School of Fine Art. Later, deciding to teach, he couldn't resist the opportunity to return to Stowe, and took up a position in the art department. George played a key part in developing Stowe

into one of the most acclaimed and renowned secondary level art departments in the country.

“Starting up an art school at Buttermilk has always been a dream and is now a reality. It has been built on some of the main principles that were established in my teaching at Stowe.”

Buttermilk offers a variety of drawing and painting courses for both adults and children of all skill ranges, from professional artists to art students and complete beginners. Old Stoics, their family and friends are welcomed with open arms to enjoy all that Buttermilk Art School has to offer.

Email info@georgeirvinefineart.co.uk
www.georgeirvinefineart.co.uk/buttermilk-art-school





- ▶ Patrick returns a Shin salmon.
- ▼ Patrick and Rosie discuss their plan of attack on Eleanor's pool.

GAP YEAR GILLIE

Patrick Tillard (Walpole 07), Journalist for FieldSports & Scottish Sporting Gazette, tells the tale of his gap year on the River Shin.



Scotland or Thailand? For most 18 year olds contemplating their gap year options this would be a very simple decision, but as a salmon fishing addict and in search of something off the beaten track, the opportunity to spend a season as a fishing gillie was too tantalising to refuse.

So in early May, I substituted the Sussex Downs for the Highlands and travelled 650 miles north to Lairg in Sutherland. My home for the following months was an idyllic five-roomed bothy, sharing a plot with a herd of ginger, woolly cattle and overlooking the south-eastern point of Loch Shin as it funnelled into the Shin.

Under the supervision of Head Gillie, Alick Murray, we set to work on the multitude of season preparations. With no guests arriving until the start of June, I was given free rein on the river most evenings after work – an opportunity I rarely squandered. It was a great way to learn each and every pool on the beat intricately and I was lucky enough to land some stunning multi-sea winter salmon.

The entrance of June kick-started the season into action. Each week a new selection of guests pulled up at the lodge, eager to chuck a fly onto the water. Most were regulars to the Shin, and after only a few weeks of exploring the river, I could easily see why they followed the salmon's example and returned year after year.

When fish were running in healthy numbers and my net saw regular action, it was a role

that offered unmatched exhilaration. The anticipation and thrill of banking a fresh salmon never wore off. However, as any fisherman knows, the salmon season can be schizophrenic and hours of futile casting in unforgiving conditions made for tricky spells. Fortunately, these lows were few and far between as the constant supply of tumbling water from the hydro scheme meant that reel-ripping action was never too distant.

The highlight of the season became the diverse array of guests I met from week to week. A charismatic lady, Rosie, particularly stood out who on the brink of her 90-year-

with each slack line retrieve, the river had a change of heart. Her small Red Francis was seized and an enthusiastic behemoth erupted vehemently from the water, almost dragging Rosie in as she clung onto her rod for dear life.

After a mighty 20 minute grapple, the silver brute showed signs of fatigue, waving his tail as a flag of surrender. I waited anxiously downstream with my net poised in the flow. However, inches from the bank our champagne moment fizzled as the salmon took one last explosive surge for freedom and in a gut-wrenching moment, spat the fly and retreated into the depths of the pool.

HOWEVER, AS ANY FISHERMAN KNOWS, THE SALMON SEASON CAN BE SCHIZOPHRENIC AND HOURS OF FUTILE CASTING IN UNFORGIVING CONDITIONS MADE FOR TRICKY SPELLS

old landmark was still able to cast an immaculate line, despite her antique rod requiring more effort than caber tossing. Her character was infectious and on the closing Saturday afternoon, despite brief contact with a grilse midweek, we still had nothing to add to the game book.

Unperturbed by our lack of success, we ventured to the Eleanor's pool for a final flick. Rosie took position at the head of the pool and delicately sent her line slicing through the light drizzle. She covered the water faultlessly and, as hope was fading

Two minutes of open-mouthed shock summed up the utter disbelief. I was torn between whether to breakdown in tears or strip off and dive in to pursue the salmon myself. I turned to Rosie and beaming from ear to ear she broke the silence: "Wow that was fun. I won't forget him anytime soon."

I hope I am as sporting in my later years. A brilliant lady, and just one highlight from the hotchpotch of memories formed over those five epic months.

Patrick Tillard (Walpole 07)

THE ROXBURGH SOCIETY

a message from the President



In these uncertain financial times during which the word austerity is writ large, legacy-giving is becoming an ever more crucial element in supporting one's alma-mater or indeed any other favoured charity.

A year ago, I accepted the considerable honour of becoming the President of the Roxburgh Society – a Society for those of us who have chosen to support our School by leaving a legacy. For me, and for almost 100 other current members of the Society, it is a wonderful way of helping secure the future of the School and the Stowe estate. On taking over from Kit Clucas, I boldly stated back then that I wished to increase our membership to over 200 by 2015. We are making encouraging progress and I and the team at Stowe have learnt that being able to talk personally to those that show an interest, over the telephone or meeting for a beer, is a great way of explaining what membership of the Society involves.

The Stowe School Foundation (which supports the provision of scholarships and

bursaries, along with the continual need to update the School's facilities) or The Stowe House Preservation Trust (which supports the ongoing maintenance and restoration of the House) are the two registered charities that our legacy donors support. Leaving a charitable bequest can attract considerable tax advantages, and not just those in relation to Inheritance Tax.

I should stress that it is not necessary to quantify one's bequest on joining, just to confirm (in writing), that it is your wish to leave such a bequest. If you are prepared to inform the School where your donation is ultimately destined, this is appreciated but it is not essential. Meanwhile you will have added to our numbers, and hopefully have attended our very convivial annual lunch at Stowe. The date of 2013's gathering is Tuesday 18 June.

I would therefore ask anyone who would like to know more to email me or call Gabi Murphy at Stowe. If you would like to speak to me directly, I will be delighted to make contact with you. Thank you.

Nigel Rice (Chatham 64)

For more information about the Roxburgh Society, please contact either Nigel on nigelkrice@gmail.com / 07971 501750, or Gabi Murphy in the Development Office on gmurphy@stowe.co.uk or 01280 818326.

Book Review

A BITTER HEART

by Peter Farquhar



Former Head of English, Peter Farquhar has recently completed his second novel. *A Bitter Heart* begins

with tea and sympathy in the aftermath of tragedy. As with the author's, *Between Boy and Man*, (Published 2010), readers find themselves falling through a cracked social veneer into the characters' turbulent inner lives. Students Rob and Kate, and her mother, find love and trust replaced by guilt and resentment. The moral predicaments that follow are set principally in a superbly realised Manchester. Tension builds as we read to discover what fateful – and fatal – decisions are made. Assumed values are tested to breaking point. Who will most suffer the pain of moral isolation? *A Bitter Heart* is a story of great drive and serious interest, an engrossing and page turning read that leaves the reader reflecting on its rich pattern of meaning.

Copies of the book can be purchased direct from Peter Farquhar: £10 + £3 p&p. 01280 817464 or pasfarquhar@aol.com

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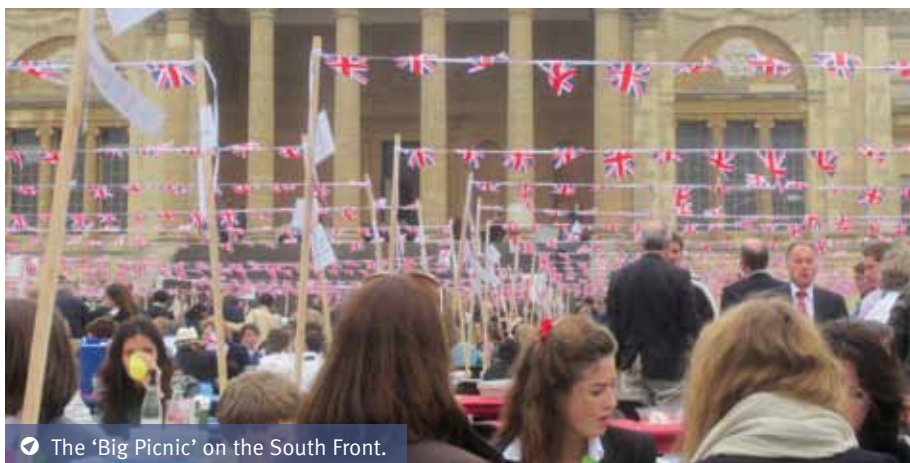
DIAMOND JUBILEE SPEECH DAY

Speech Day was a perfect opportunity to celebrate The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and was held on Saturday 2 June 2012. Stowe celebrated the Jubilee in appropriate style.

On arriving at Stowe, guests were greeted by a fine display of Classic Cars of differing styles and ages displayed on the North Front in front of the beautifully restored mansion. This provided an ideal backdrop for the annual Stowe Templars v Stowe 1st XI on the North Front cricket ground.

Music featured throughout the day with performances by the Stowe String Orchestra, Wind Band and Big Band, along with a performance by the Virtuosi GUS Band. Speeches were punctuated with brass performances on the South Front.

Other events and displays took place throughout the day including Old Stoics v Stowe clay pigeon shooting, the annual beagles display, a riding demonstration



The 'Big Picnic' on the South Front.

and Old Stoic matches against the Stowe tennis, water polo and golf teams.

The South Front became the focus of the day with excellent speeches by the Chairman of the Governors, the Headmaster, Head Boy and Head Girl. The guest speaker, Ed Smith, the former international cricketer and author of *Luck*, stepped in at short notice and gave an inspiring speech to the School. The South Front became a spectacular and colourful

venue for The Big Picnic with guests, patriotically dressed in red, white and blue, sitting at trestle tables festooned with bunting, adjacent to the marquee and a fun fair.

Despite cool weather, the events, displays and general feeling of wellbeing to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee provided us all with a memorable day.

John Arkwright (Cobham 69)

OLD CHANDOSIANS' GATHERING

September 2012

On 27 September a number of Old Chandosians gathered at Queen's Club for dinner in the Club Restaurant. The years covered were 1979 to 1990, with the year group of 1979 represented by Harry Marriott and that of 1990 by Matt Pumfrey and Tim Dew. The best represented group was that from 1984 with many of the key members of the cast of 'Journey's End', the Chandos House Play from 1983 present, including director and actor, Martyn Downer.

This prompted me to go onto the OS website and look at the review of the play in *The Stoic* for that year, which are now all online and a fascinating resource. The review by Alison Nightingale was fairly gushing: "It was widely agreed that this was one of the best acted and most memorable of the Drama Festival Plays." At the dinner was Fergus Wylie who apparently "had surprised everyone with his powerful performance as Captain Stanhope..." (pronounced by the way with a short 'hup' not as in 'hope' which somehow seems to have slipped into the pronunciation of one of the girls' houses!). James Patrick was also with us for the dinner. He had been Lieutenant Raleigh in the play "who had idolised Stanhope since childhood" and "who was very well portrayed". "Other commendable performances were given by Hertford King as Lieutenant Osbourne." Hertford was also with us, together with his youngest brother Chester. Others from 1984 present at the dinner were Nigel Browner and Adam Gurney.

The feedback from the dinner itself was very positive and the intention is to try and hold one every couple of years, the next one therefore being planned for 2014 which will be fitting for the year group of 1984 who will be marking 30 years since leaving Chandos and Stowe.

Richard Hopkinson-Woolley (Chandos 87)

OLD CHANDOSIANS' EXPEDITION TO FRANCE



Following on from the success of the Old Chandosian dinners held in London every 2-3 years, it was decided to move abroad for a change. As guests of Michael Likierman, (Chandos 1954-58), two groups – one in June, the other in October – were given a tour of the astonishing Ferdinand Bac architectural gardens at Les Colombières in Menton, Southern France (restored by Michael over many years) and a visit to the famous Hanbury Gardens just over the Italian border. With two splendid lunches and one semi formal dinner plus accommodation overlooking the sea, the foreign "expedition" was deemed an outstanding success.

Robin Hunter-Coddington (Chandos 59)

Left to right: Bill Bennett (Chandos 58), John Coleman (Chandos 58), John Utley (Chandos 57), Middle row: Anthony Whinney (Chandos 57), Michael Likierman (Chandos 58), Alexander Zafiropulo (Chandos 59), Robin Behar (Chandos 59) Front row, seated: Donough O'Brien (Chandos 57).

COLLECTING ABROAD FOR THE V&A 1851-1914

Nick Smith (Bruce 93) is an archivist at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Over the last year, he curated the exhibition Collecting Abroad for the V&A 1851-1914, which is on display until 26 May 2013. Nick outlines his work on the project below.

Collecting Abroad for the V&A 1851-1914 uses rarely-seen personal accounts and official records to introduce visitors to five intrepid curators and agents, whose mission was to find and buy the best of world art and design for the V&A. The display offers a rare insight into the history of collecting in the late nineteenth century.

My work started in May 2011: I submitted a proposal for a display on collecting abroad, an area in which the Museum's archival holdings are particularly rich. I wanted to showcase unpublished travelogues, curatorial notes, photographs, maps, correspondence and official papers, to promote lesser-known areas of the V&A's collections. The display was approved and I was allocated a space on the Library Landing.

The focus of Collecting Abroad for the V&A 1851-1914 is not so much on objects and their histories but on how and why these objects ended up at the V&A.

Defining the display's scope was a challenging task. First I decided to limit the display's timeframe to the period between the Great Exhibition of 1851 and the start of World War 1. Even then it was necessary to reduce the potential cast of characters. A major casualty was John Charles Robinson (1824-1913), the Museum's 'Art Referee', who frequently travelled across Continental Europe in search of objects. Eventually, I managed to narrow it down to five key characters: the display investigates the work of each agent and collector.

I felt it was important for the display to be geographically broad, to highlight the extent of the V&A's early international networks, so I selected tales of collecting set in Italy, Turkey, Iran and China.

The result is a tale of risky 'shopping' trips; dodgy dealers; hard-nosed customs officials; arduous travelling conditions and illness. The agents faced stiff competition from other European museums and private collectors, lengthy negotiations through brokers, a 'superstitious repugnance to sell family heirlooms', and the difficulty of obtaining permission for export.

These agents developed formidable expertise, made important contacts, befriended private collectors, and bought objects on more competitive terms than if they were sold on the London art market. The result of their efforts abroad is the outstanding collection housed at the V&A.

Nick Smith (Bruce 93)



1 Sir Henry Cole and Richard Redgrave in the garden at Gore House, 1854; albumen print by Charles Thurston Thompson Museum no. PH.835-1987 © Victoria and Albert Museum, London.



50th ANNIVERSARY RETURN TO STOWE

A visit to Stowe is always a pleasure, so an invitation to lunch for those who left in 1962 and a chance to meet up with some of those one had perhaps not seen for half a century, were not to be missed. October 10 turned out to be as glorious as only a sunny autumn day at Stowe can be. A welcoming drink on the beautifully restored South Front and an address from Colin Dudgeon, Development Director were followed by a splendid lunch in the Blue Room. After lunch there was the option of a tour round the House or the Gardens led by a helpful volunteer National Trust guide. Most retraced their steps round the grounds and all appreciated the efforts of the Old Stoic Society Director and the Events Co-ordinator to help bring back so many good memories of their time at Stowe.

Struan Robertson (Bruce 62)

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STOWE: FROM HOUSE TO SCHOOL

Stowe School's founding ethos reflected Sir Clough Williams-Ellis' vision to preserve and yet recreate Stowe.

It was doubly dependent on his marriage to Annabel Strachey in 1915. Clough wrote about Stowe's past and future for his father-in-law's magazine, *The Spectator*, in July 1921, just after Harry Shaw had bought Stowe. He likened Shaw's plan of giving Stowe to the nation to Lord Lee's of giving Chequers to the nation for "its educative effect on future Prime Ministers."

In December 1921, Maxwell Ayrton, architect of the old Wembley stadium, reported to the prep school committee for a new school at Stowe, that Stowe's buildings, "would lend themselves to adaptation for school purposes" with full living and classroom accommodation for 150 boys and staff. When the second sale was announced in July 1922, the Rev. Percy Warrington, backed by Lord Gisborough's Martyrs' Memorial Trust, provided the funding and asked Clough to become the architect for converting the house to a school. Clough, in turn, showed his vision by buying Stowe Avenue to preserve it from development.

Secondly, through his wife, Clough met JF Roxburgh, then a housemaster at Lancing College, whom he "had had to bully into putting in for the job" of headmaster. "JF" gave Stowe its special ethos and achieved national renown.

Clough had from October 1922 to 11 May 1923 to transform "this great echoing long neglected palace of 400 rooms" – he said that he counted them on the survey plan – into accommodation for 200 boys in four boarding houses. The building lacked an adequate water supply, drains, heating, lighting and even maintenance, supposedly

containing a single bath and one tap, cold. For the first few weeks of term, nearly 200 workmen were still laying the 30 miles of pipes and wires inside the house, and installing 60 baths and 120 washbasins.

In his four years as the architect, Clough aimed to add facilities with "minimum disturbance to the architectural integrity of the historic fabric", since he argued that "the boys must be trusted with Stowe as far as possible unaltered". Thus the wine cellars gave way to boots and drying racks, while the servants' hall and butlers' pantry became changing rooms. Until the sanatorium was built, the Bachelors' corridor on the top mains held the sick bay. Even the beer pipe from the brewery now supplied oil to the new boilers.

Stowe School started with 99 pupils, nearly all Third formers aged 13, with five Senior boys mainly from Lancing with JF, in Bruce and Temple, located in the west of the house, along with ten teachers. At first the reception rooms in the east pavilion were used as classrooms: "the ceiling is an education in itself – if all else fails", as *The Stoic* noted.

Four houses were planned for the main House, each served by a stone staircase. They were named after families linked with Stowe, keeping roughly to the order of the old names of the suites of rooms, except for Bruce which came first with its royal connections through Lady Kinloss. Bruce house room started in the Garter Room but later transferred to the Music Room. Its twin, the State Drawing Room on the other side of the Assembly Hall (the Marble Hall), became Temple house room. When Grenville and Chandos Houses were formed in September 1923, bringing numbers to 203, the Grenville house rooms occupied the present Blue Room and the neighbouring Green Room, with Chandos' at the end. By September 1924, numbers reached 342 and a year later 424 once Chatham House was completed, with 451 in September 1926.

The Library and the State Dining Room retained their uses, while the kitchens in their original seventeenth century location were updated. The house chapel soon became too small and services were moved to the Music Room and then the "gym", or Stowe church in two seatings.

When Grenville and Chandos house rooms took over the eastern pavilion state rooms, the classrooms were moved to the White Horse Block, the former stables (rebuilt as Grafton House). Nearby, inside the screen walls, Clough added three classroom blocks (Cobham House and Grenville Housemaster). In the eastern courtyards the indoor riding school became a temporary gym until the wooden gym/assembly/chapel/cinema was built where the Drayson Sports Hall is now. The riding school and adjoining carriage houses then became Cobham.

On the west side the old laundry (Nugent south wing) became Biology laboratories, while the orangery (now Adam classrooms) was turned into Chemistry and Physics laboratories with an art school above. Nearby a greenhouse wall formed the back of the fives courts, and in 1924 Mr T A Miall donated some squash courts (StoweBucks). The menagerie became the shop, while its "rather dismal box" garden was turned into tennis courts.

At first all teachers were unmarried and two even camped out in the portico of Concord, as had six emergency plumbers. The headmaster lived in the suite of rooms around the Gothic Library, previously occupied by the Master of Kinloss. Male and female servants' quarters were provided around Power House Yard, re-using old servants' accommodation, while the masters' common room started on the first floor of the Nugent central block.

A zoo was probably the first additional building, typifying the adventurous outlook of those early days. Creating a new educational ethos amid 18th century classical splendour was not easy but depended on a humane empathy for teenagers. Clough, who lost track of the Rysbrack statue he had bought, offered a reward to the first pupil who could find it, while JF dignified his pupils with classical connotations as "Stoics".

Michael Bevington, Stowe Archivist



- ▲ Cobham House room and Courtyards.
- JF Roxburgh – reading over, Assembly.



THE BAOBAB TREE

Mike De Butts' company, PirateTechnics designs and builds temporary art installations for festivals, galleries, events and corporate retailers.

Last year, Mike was commissioned by the Southbank Centre to replace his 24ft straw sculpture 'Urban Fox' with an imposing 50ft upholstered tree. The piece was designed as a beacon outside the Royal Festival Hall during the Jubilee and Olympic season, drawing visitors closer and providing seating at its base. This was designed in the somewhat other worldly form of the Baobab tree: this sacred African tree can live for thousands of years and is often seen as a symbol of strength and community.

In keeping with this year's Arts Festival theme, 'Under the Baobab' displayed over 80 different fabrics, selected to represent the global community through familiar textiles.

The piece is constructed of stacked concentric rings, in the style of a coil pot. The canopy is a tangle of yarns and wools. Within it, representing the fruit, is a multitude of reclaimed cotton reels and bobbins from an abandoned cotton mill in Andalusia.

A key challenge was to ensure that the tree could pass beneath Waterloo Bridge, without necessitating too many separate pieces. Designed and prefabricated in Nottinghamshire, the four sections made a memorable journey to London, where they were up-righted, extended and craned into place in a single (unseasonably hot) day. Once attached together, and to the walls of the Hayward Gallery, two more days in a cherry picker saw the last touches made good.

Installed in May, 'Under the Baobab' was on display throughout the summer as part of the Southbank's Festival of the World. After its inclusion in the BBC's 'The Culture Show', it was selected to stay on as part of the Winter Festival. At the time of writing, it is still there.

More pictures and a short time-lapse video of the project, and of replica trees designed for John Lewis, are available at www.piratetechnics.com

Mike De Butts (Grenville 99)

NIGEL RICE'S VICTORY



In July 1963, Nigel Rice (Chatham 64) became the English Schools 220 yds champion. A measure of this outstanding sporting achievement can be gauged from the fact that today, 50 years later, he still holds the School's two sprint records and has a share in the 4 x 100 relay record.

David Donaldson
(Former Staff 1957-1973)

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OLLIE'S ODYSSEY



In December 2012, Oliver Plunket (Grafton 12) set off on an epic seven month, 24,000 mile, solo motorbike adventure.

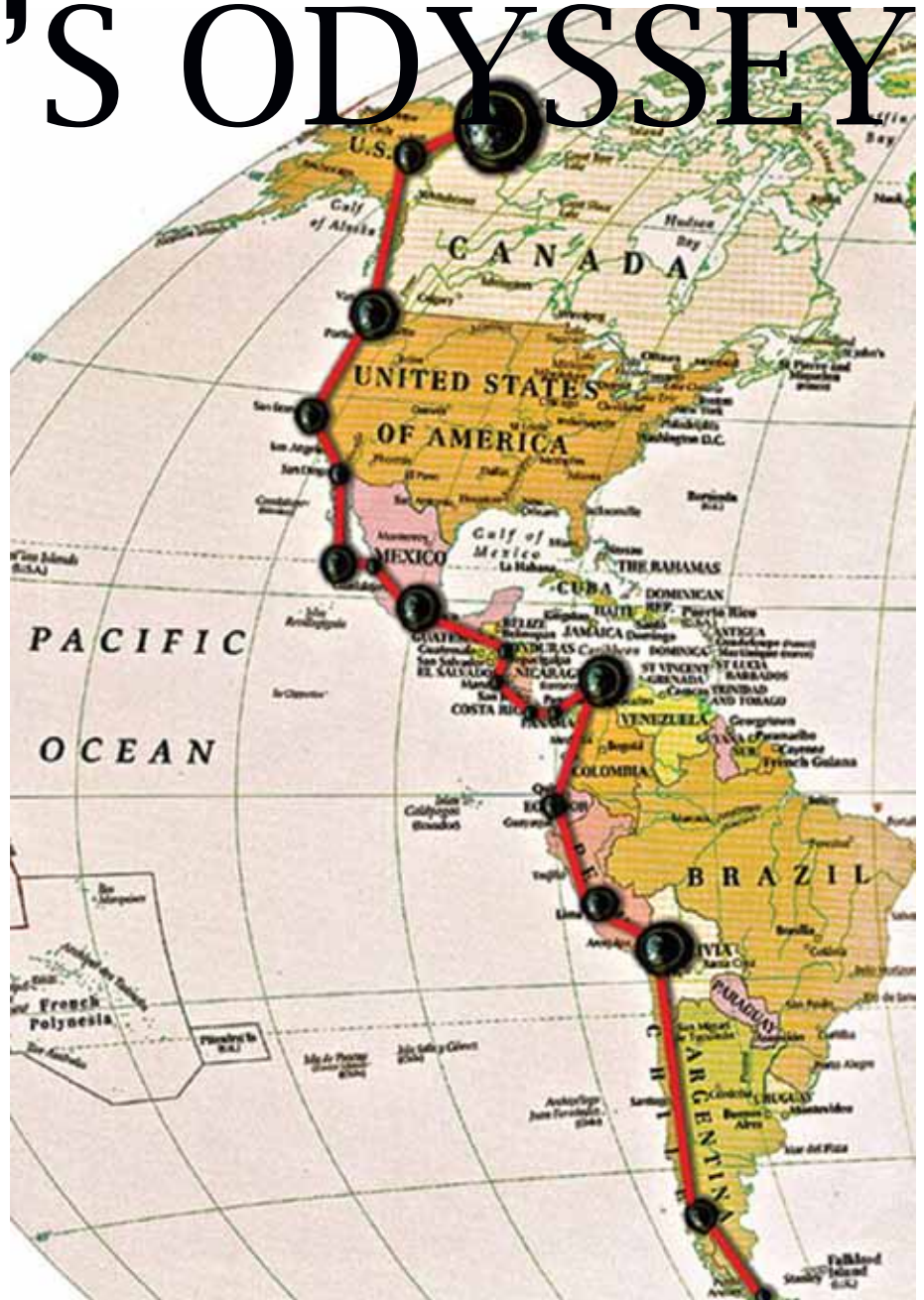
He is riding from the southernmost city of Argentina to the top of Alaska. Ollie was awarded an Old Stoic Gap Year Scholarship to help to fund his trip and is raising money for Fisher House UK, a charity which provides a home-away-from-home for the families of wounded soldiers.

"I wish I could explain what it's like being here. Being given the opportunity to have an adventure like this whilst meeting amazing people, seeing amazing landscapes and witnessing different cultures and traditions. I'm struck by it all and I know that as I head closer to Central America the impact is only going to be stronger!"

On completion of his adventure, Ollie will be going on to Exeter University on an Army Scholarship to read Politics and Philosophy. He writes "I wanted to fuse both my love of travel and my intention to do something useful with my gap year and this perfect combination also links to my future career in the armed forces. I hope this makes a real contribution to the welfare of wounded servicemen and their families."

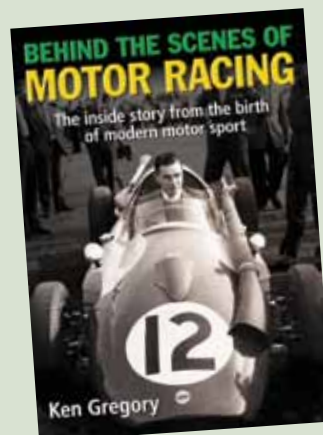
So far, we hear his trip is going well. You can follow Ollie's trip via the blog on his website www.olliesodyssey.org.uk All donations of any size will be gratefully welcomed and will go straight to Fisher House UK www.justgiving.com/olliebikeride

We eagerly await a full report on his trip in the next edition of *The Corinthian*.



Book Review

BEHIND THE SCENES OF MOTOR RACING



Chris Gregory (Cobham 79) recently produced his first ebook for Kindle and iPad, "*Behind the Scenes of Motor Racing*". The book tells the tale of his father's involvement with the early days of Formula 1 — he not only drove himself, but also organised the very first race meeting at Brands Hatch; managed both Stirling Moss and Peter Collins and founded the first commercially sponsored Formula 1 team, years before it became the norm. Old Stoics might be interested in the description of Silverstone in its formative years, not to mention the astonishing bravery shown by the drivers racing there.

Chris Gregory (Cobham 79)



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

There were some splendid articles in Issue 2 of *The Corinthian*, one of these being 'Stable Foundations' on page 4. I was, however, surprised by one omission in this article about racing, that of Peter Hastings-Bass (Temple 39). He was of course a pre-war Old Stoic and he died in 1964 at the age of 43. I feel that he merits some mention and so I am writing something about him below.

The two years immediately before World War 2 were a golden era for sport at Stowe and one of the outstanding sportsmen at the School during this time was Peter Hastings. In 1938 Stowe beat Oundle at rugby for the first time ever, 17-11. At Sports Day in 1939, JF announced that he had gathered together a collection of ladies who were mothers of captains of football (rugby), cricket and athletics, and the competitors who had established four new records in the Stowe Sports: Mrs Hastings would be representing them all! Her son of course was all of these things, as well as being a Prefect and an Under-Officer in the Corps.

Peter 'Robin Hood' Hastings was at Stowe from 1934-39. When he left, he went up to Christ Church, Oxford and achieved unofficial wartime 'blues' in rugby and athletics. He went into the Army (Welsh Guards) and played in wartime rugby internationals against Wales (1942) and Scotland (1943).

Peter Hastings was the son of National Hunt trainer Aubrey Hastings and, after the war, became assistant to his father's successor at Wroughton, near Swindon, Ivor Anthony. His aunt's husband, Sir William Bass, who died in 1952, left his considerable estate and fortune to Hastings on condition that he retained his family name – he changed his name to Hastings-Bass by deed poll in 1954. This legacy enabled him to buy the Kingsclere Stables, near Newbury in 1953 and to begin training horses there, on the flat. Between 1953 and 1964 he trained 340 winners. The owners for whom he trained included HM The Queen and Paul Mellon.

In 1947, Hastings had married Priscilla Bullock, the daughter of Sir Malcolm Bullock. Sadly, Peter Hastings-Bass died of cancer on 4 June 1964, shortly before his 44th birthday. The Kingsclere stables were taken over by his young assistant Ian Balding, but Priscilla, who had held the Stables together during her husband's illness, stayed on and continued to run the stud operations there.

Peter and Priscilla had four children. Their daughter, Emma, married Ian Balding. Emma and Ian's daughter, Clare, has made a name for herself as a racing commentator and particularly last year, covering the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and is to take charge of all racing broadcasting on Channel 4.

Jock Asbury-Bailey (Walpole 47)

THANK YOU CCF!

In 1962, while I was at Stowe, I applied for an RAF Scholarship. I cannot remember anyone else doing this but the offer of learning to fly at no cost was irresistible to me. I was sent to the Officers' and Aircrew Selection Centre at RAF Hornchurch, as it then was during term time, which was a great adventure. I did the tests and was then interviewed. It was explained to me that I did not do very well in the tests but they liked me, so I was in.

My home at the time was in South Devon so I was told to report to the Plymouth Aero Club at Plymouth (Roborough) Airfield during the second half of that summer holiday. I arrived on my BSA motor bike and was amazed to see 8 immaculate silver Tiger Moths, 5 belonging to the BRNC, Dartmouth and 3 belonging to the Club. It looked like a pre-war aerodrome, especially when I also saw the DH Dragon Rapide operating the air service to the Scilly Isles.

The flying training was easily the most exciting thing I had ever done. I went solo on 2 September 1962. Above is a photograph of my fellow cadets, other pupils and our instructors (I am standing fourth from the left).

I am pleased to say that I have a friend, David Wood OBE MC, who is an instructor and who owns a 79 year old Tiger Moth G-ACDI at Old Sarum, near where I now live. Thanks to his kindness I was, after some training, able to do a solo circuit in his aeroplane on 2 September 2012. That is 50 years since my last solo flight in a Tiger. I cannot tell you how exciting that was. Above is a photograph after the flight.

I was not a great success in the CCF. After my Flying Scholarship, Freddie Fox, who commanded the RAF section, reluctantly had me promoted to the rank of Corporal. Still, my time as an RAF cadet changed my life and gave me a lifelong interest in all matters to do with aviation. Thank you very much CCF.

Peter Hope (Temple 63)

STOWE OPERA



✔ Marc Callahan – Figaro and Helen Massey – Susanna in Stowe Opera's Marriage of Figaro at Winslow Hall.

Many of you will recall that Robert Secret, then on the music staff at the School, ran the much acclaimed Stowe Opera at Stowe from 1992 to 2005.

It was resurrected last summer (2012) in the grounds of nearby Winslow Hall, thanks to an approach by long standing Stowe Opera fan, Tom Cross Brown, to Christopher Gilmour, the new owner of Winslow Hall. Robert Secret's first

production at Winslow Hall (The Marriage of Figaro) was a resounding success "It's not easy to do Figaro right, and this was a treat" (Robert Thicknesse in Opera Now).

Following this success, plans are underway for Stowe Opera (which will be re-named Winslow Hall Opera) to perform again at Winslow Hall. Six performances of Bizet's Carmen will be staged between Thursday 25 July and Saturday 3 August, 2013. Tickets can be ordered from the Box Office by telephoning **07504 298575** on Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings, or email winslowhallopera@outlook.com More information can be obtained at www.winslowhallopera.co.uk

Since leaving Stowe, Robert Secret has had a very busy time running Festivals, concert series, playing the viola and conducting professionally. Following his concert with The Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra, he returned to Prague recently to conduct the Consortium Pragenese.

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Old Stoics will be eligible for a 10% discount on removals and storage. Please quote reference OS when making a booking.

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87 Kimber Road, London SW18 4FS **Tel:** 020 8874 4283 **Fax:** 020 7585 3663 **Mobile:** 07970 717 134
Email: info@gentlemanandavan.co.uk **Web:** www.gentlemanandavan.co.uk

AROUND LAKE LADOGA, RUSSIA, BY PUSH-BIKE

The articulate Russian on the plane, Ilya, said don't worry too much about the bears; he'd not heard of any recent attacks in Karelia Province where Caroline and I would be cycling (on our own and 'unsupported'); a promising start!

Perfect BA landing at Pulkova Airport, St Petersburg. Taxi driver on time, and an absolute star – the first of many 'couldn't be more helpful' Russians we would encounter over the following three weeks, despite zero shared language. An hour's drive out through the rush hour left us distinctly shell-shocked by the locals' robust motoring style; oh dear!

Next day, bikes re-assembled with advice and encouragement from the locals at our lovely Hotel, off we went full of porridge, fried eggs and high hopes; 'left here isn't it ...?'

Day 1; after 20 miles, the port-side trailer tyre gave way – disaster; on with the spare, being sworn at by a mad driver whose engine had overheated, insisting on occupying the exact same spot on the planet as us while pouring water through his moribund radiator; 580 miles to go.

Arrived Schlisselburg town 6.30pm; roadside sign said 28⁹; heavens, we expected frost-bite. A kind German on a bike showed the way to our hotel overlooking the historic River Neva fortress island and White Canal. Tomorrow the M18 St Petersburg – Murmansk highway awaits; 140 miles of quasi racetrack till we could turn off;

menacing hard shoulder of sharp rocks, glass and jagged metal scraps formed a continuous ambush for defenceless tyres.

North then, up the right-hand shores of the Lake; river-side communities, wooden churches, villages linked by winding, undulating roads, endless pine forests; chained dogs everywhere, buses, fuel and timber lorries, other huge trucks, vast tracts of barren sandy-soiled 'prairie'. Unmarked hotels (ours for 24th went bankrupt on 22nd), sporadic shops and cash machines; no pubs, caravans, fences or road-kill. Never ending birdsong.

Top of the Lake; close to the Finnish border, hints of tourism from car registration plates; sauna country but the worst roads of all; scant tarmac, mainly corrugated grit, choking dust and vindictive gradients. Occasionally we noted incongruously huge engineering projects. Our lovely trailer, 'Natasha', retired at Priozersk after 450 valiant miles – no more wheels; sad parting (in exchange for a commemorative wall clock!).

We passed the shiny Aero filling station and Macdonalds sign on St Petersburg's northern outskirts; lunch beside the huge and gracious Neva mid-city, as in-line skaters lazed by. At 8pm we were back at Izhora, relieved and thrilled to have made it round intact!

Charles Orr-Ewing (Grafton 69)



STOWE LODGE

The Stowe Lodge has met for its usual four meetings this past year, three times in London and once at Stowe, a highlight of the year when we meet and dine in the State Rooms. In addition to enjoying the social side of our meetings, the Lodge raised over £3,000 for charitable purposes during the year, either by way of regular commitments from members or through the collection passed round at dinner after our meetings.

We made donations of over £7,000 to charitable causes. We supported the St Bartholomew's Hospital Cyber Knife Appeal, a worthy cause to fund a new cancer treatment facility at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London which was supported particularly by London Freemasons. In addition, the Lodge has supported two current Stoics through bursaries to enable them to have stayed at Stowe when their parents might otherwise have struggled to keep paying the fees, through unfortunate circumstances beyond their control.

We welcome enquiries from existing Freemasons who might like to join their Old School Lodge or from Old Stoics who might be interested in finding out more about the institution generally and Stowe Lodge in particular. To get in touch with the Lodge Secretary, please enquire via the Old Stoic Office.

SPARTATHLON 2012



When is running 100 miles not running 100 miles? When it has the incline and descent of Everest! The Cotswold

100 is a non-stop footrace taking in some of the most breathtaking scenery of its namesake.

I took off from the start with some fast runners who I later discovered to be a Commonwealth team member and 24hr marathon champion.

The commonwealth runner and I broke away and put an hour or so between us and third place. I then took the lead until

about mile 60 when Commonwealth runner fought back.

By 75 miles the Commonwealth runner and I had pushed each other so hard that we had smashed the previous course record to this point by 2 hours and had run each other into the ground, literally. His stomach stopped working and I collapsed.

The 24hr champion took us both out in one hit. I managed to come home in 3rd and still broke the previous year's course record. Not bad for a training run!

*Matt Mahoney (Walpole 94)
Ultra-Athlete, British Team.*

OS SPORT



The OS Sports teams have had yet another busy year. In last year's update I brought you news of increased funding from the Society to encourage more Old Stoic participation and this continues.

This year, I am delighted to announce the foundation/revival of two teams. Adding to our established teams in sports such as golf, cricket, fives, cross-country, sailing, clay pigeon shooting and tennis, Old Stoics are now represented in squash – competing this year in the Londonderry Cup – and the OS football team has been rejuvenated by Hamish Eggins (Temple 09) in a bid to compete for entry to the Arthurian League.

We are so pleased to see more Old Stoics getting together to participate in the teams. Whether winning or losing, playing in OS teams forges friendships which last a life time and not just amongst the same year-groups. I recently attended an OS Templar's 30th and the range of OSs in attendance spanned at least 15 years. The OS Golfing Society suffered a blow at the end of the year, losing their President, David Hadfield (Walpole 63). As Charles Dimpfl reports, he will be missed terribly by his team.

As always, I am keen to encourage OS teams to challenge current Stoic teams on Speech Day. Plans are in place for matches against Stoic teams in fives, cricket, clays and tennis this year but I for one would love to see a female OS team challenge the school at lacrosse, netball or hockey. After a failed initial attempt to arrange an OS v school 'pre-season' lacrosse match I am keen to try again: I promise to dust off my lacrosse stick and play! Yes, girls, I am talking to you: there is little or no participation in OS Sport and now that we are so established throughout the school please get involved. You might find yourself playing alongside your future employer – who knows?!

With so many Old Stoic teams to choose from, I hope you will be jumping at the chance to join in. If you are keen to get involved please contact your relevant OS Sport Captain (details on the OS website) or, if your sport is not represented, please contact either myself or the OS office. I will be pleased to put you in touch with other Old Stoics who used to play or suggest a team to join.

Hannah Durden (Nugent 01), Old Stoic Sports

STOWE TEMPLARS

2012 was, as for pretty well every cricket team in the country, extremely frustrating. The weather ensured that little sensible cricket was played until the second half of the year, and even then, matches were just as likely to be rained off as played. It also contributed significantly to our demise in The Cricketer Cup, in that having had to call off the First Round game on the designated date due to the weather, most of the selected team were unavailable for the re-fixed game at Clifton and we had to withdraw.

The pre-season went well. We had a hugely successful supper evening at The Beaufort House on The King's Road, which was well attended and enormous fun. This is a function that has been re-introduced to the Templars' calendar after a few fallow years, and it is something we intend to keep going at least every two years and possibly more frequently.

The early games had to be cancelled due to either rain or water-logged pitches, but we played a good game against the 1st XI which was well won by the School and during which we considerably batted Ben Duckett back into

form. His hundred was a spectacular effort. The end of the season ended in marquee fashion with our game against Hurlingham, where Will Dudley scored 228 and still ended up on the losing side, when the opposition chased down 355 to win.

In the middle, came the focus of the year, the Cricket Week. Although games were cancelled due to weather in one form or another on the Monday, Friday and Saturday, there was good cricket played in between, with 2 wins and 2 losses leading up to a closely fought and exciting draw against The Frogs on the Sunday. In spite of the weather, the season was considered a success, with several new members being blooded, and we look forward to 2013 confident in the fact that we cannot possibly be subjected to weather similar to that endured in 2012.

We would love to hear from anybody who would like to be involved, the numbers at our end being Adam Cossins (07545 590710), Rupert Rowling (07833 694336), or Oliver Croom-Johnson (07909 962076).

Oliver Croom-Johnson (Temple 69)

SQUASH

The Londonderry Cup is an annual squash tournament held for alumni societies of schools throughout the country. It is a knock out tournament and the final is played at the Royal Automobile Club, in London, in April.

An Old Stoic team entered the tournament for the first time in over 15 years, this year. We were drawn against the Old Harrovians in the first round, a very strong team who had reached the final in each of the last three years, losing to an even stronger team from Norwich School on each occasion.

Our team of 5 players played our match at The Hurlingham Club on Monday 10 December. Whereas we lost 4-1 to a very strong side on our debut, our team put on a spirited and good performance.



Our thanks go to the players who represented the Old Stoics; Jamie Gubbins (Grafton 07), Arthur Hobhouse (Temple 12), Josh Sainsbury-Bow (Chatham 10), James Saunders (Bruce 11) and Hugh Stanley (Chatham 11) and particular thanks go to Roland Johnson, Stowe Squash Master, for his considerable support in putting the team together.

John Arkwright (Cobham 69)

If you would like to play Squash for the OS Team please email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk

TENNIS



The OS Team had a strong team out for Speech Day and beat the School 9-3 (in sets).

The team was (left to right): Chester King (Chandos 89), Nick Gorey (Temple 89), Witney King (Chandos 85), Hertford King (Chandos 84), Charlie Empson (Walpole 07) and Dominic Farr (Chatham 07).

During the year, the OS team played in the P.S.O.B.L.T.A.'s D' Abernion Cup and also played against Stoke Park and Campden Hill LTC. Unfortunately, we did not progress to the quarter finals of the Cup, but managed to remain unbeaten in the other fixtures.

Chester King (Chandos 89)



OS CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

The annual competition between the School and the Old Stoic teams was held, as usual, on Speech Day, which produced a close and exciting match in surprisingly better weather conditions than we have come to expect!

For the second year running, the Old Stoics failed to win the prized Galitzine Cup, losing by 3 points (76-73) to the School teams. The Cup, first presented nearly ninety years ago by Princess Galitzine, is one of the oldest (and certainly one of the most misshapen!) trophies in Stowe's

possession and the family continues to take an active interest in the competition.

The School teams' winning performance in competitions is testament to their excellent training from Bob Spademan over the last years and now Clive Harris and John Grace; so, with this in mind, the Old Stoics invite recent leavers to keep in touch and to get involved in Old Stoic clay pigeon shooting.

A second competition for what has historically been known as 'fathers and sons' (that's what it says on the cup) was held at the same time and jointly won, in a very hot competition, by the Grant-Rennick and Constantinides duos. We have seen that Stowe Ladies are a force to be reckoned with – well done Nugent in the inter-house matches this year – so we need to encourage mothers and sons or daughters to get involved in this competition, too. Contact Peter Staples at Stowe.

Speech Day 2013 will see a similar set of competitions, so if you wish to get involved, please contact David Pickavance, whose details are at: www.stowe.co.uk/old-stoics/sports-clubs/clay-shooting

David Pickavance (Walpole 72)

CROSS-COUNTRY REPORT

RACE v THE SCHOOL – 4 MARCH 2012

THAMES HARE & HOUNDS INVITATION RACE – 15 DECEMBER 2012

I start my annual report by completing the last one, from which the final paragraph got the editor's chop – the pork chop in fact. Readers with a good memory will recall that I opened the report by referring to the warning we were given to 'Beware of the pig'. This fearsome beast was to be found in Copper Bottom. There it was, sure enough, standing menacingly beside the track. I couldn't speak for the main field but from my perspective at the rear, I did not want my rear compromised so I passed by ever so carefully.

And so to the 2012 edition of the race over the usual course of 4.5 miles around the lakes and up the 'Japs' to the Gothic Temple, twice round. Sadly the Old Stoics, despite sterling efforts by the captain, Simon Gardner, with a time of 25:21, the ever dependable Chris Hutber 25:25 and Simon Ridley 25:46, the school buried us. We promise revenge in 2013.

Making up the eight Old Stoics were two young Shillingtons 29:05 and 33:02 sandwiching Peter Ham 29:41 with old

faithfuls Richard Weston 40:08 and Marc Hope 40:53.

No problems with livestock this time. The worst we can encounter on this course are curious sheep, errant waterfowl and the canine accessories of National Trust visitors.

A small team of five competed in the annual Thames Hare & Hounds five mile race on Wimbledon Common on 15 December 2012. This race is by invitation to selected schools and Stowe has proudly competed every year for decades. Only more senior members were available this year, apart from Simon Ridley who excelled with a time of 38:27.

Neil Harvey, Marc Hope and Mark Henderson (re-emerging from retirement!) and Richard Weston propped up the lower order. Abusing his privileged position as author of this report, Richard Weston (Chatham 65) adds a personal note that his time of 51:22 was only a minute slower than last year which had been his best time for a number of years. Records back to his first run in about 1965 and an unbroken annual appearance since then (subject to verification!) no doubt exist but are best archived.

Richard Weston (Chatham 65)

If you would like to join the OS Cross-country Team please email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk

GOLFING SOCIETY

As many of the Society know our President, David Hadfield, died on 1 December after a short illness. I did visit him late in October shortly after he came out of hospital. He was in good spirits and determined to fight. I have written a separate tribute which I hope you will read on page 33.

John Luddington succeeded David as our President from 1 January 2013. Peter Comber was elected the Society Captain at the AGM in succession to Stewart McNair, who will succeed David Hadfield as the Cyril Gray Captain for the next 3 years. Charles Rotheroe has accepted the role as Halford Hewitt & Grafton Morrish Captain for 2013/2015. I shall arrange accommodation and assist in team trials and selection. Charles Consett succeeds David Hadfield as Northern Secretary and will arrange the Birkdale Bucket team and assist in the Formby weekend organised by James Gartside.

We drew Clifton in the Hewitt first round and lost. We only played 2 rounds in the Plate. We did not field a team for the Grafton Morrish qualifier. Matches went well, we beat R.C.P.G.C, halved with Haileybury at Royal St George's, lost to Templars at Deal, beat Canford and the Gregorians, lost to Aldeburgh and Haileybury at Sunningdale. Numbers fell off for the spring, summer and autumn meetings, but players all enjoyed themselves and prizes were distributed.

We have a new venue for the qualifier for the Grafton Morrish at North Hants G.C in May. We have drawn Hurstpierpoint in the first round of the Hewitt to be played at Royal St George's on Thursday 11 April at 2.30pm. All supporters are welcome and the lunch at the Club is excellent. Please let me know if you will be there, so I can warn the Club? We are looking for new blood in the team so contact me to register your interest remembering that it is scratch foursomes.

There are plans to play another match with Canford this year consisting of 6 current pupils, and 6 old boys and 6 staff golfers, as yet we are trying to find a suitable date at Frilford Heath. If any members of the Society would like to donate to David Hadfield's fund for the support of young golfers in the Society's matches, please send your cheques to the Old Stoic Golfing Society, to the Hon: Secretary, High Hampton, 34 Holland Road, London NW10 5AU. I look forward to hearing from you in 2013.

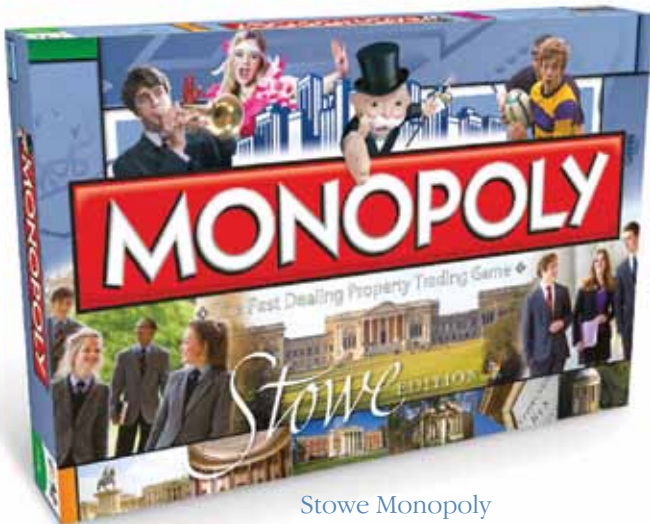
Charles Dimpfl (Chatham 66)

2013 Gift Collection

This page features some of the growing range of Stowe and Old Stoic merchandise available in the Shop at Stowe – a blend of traditional apparel and some new clothing and gift items that we have introduced in the last few months. We would be delighted to serve you in person, or to deliver an order to you by post. To order, please call 01280 818211 or email shop@stowe.co.uk. You can see the full gift collection on the OS website: www.stowe.co.uk/old-stoics



THE SHOP AT
STOWE



Stowe Monopoly

Featuring all of your favourite landmarks at Stowe, this special version of Monopoly has been produced exclusively for Stowe.

£30.00 87834



Scarf

100% Wool, fleece backed scarf in either Old Stoic or Stowe Colours, available in two lengths 64" or 72".

£34.95

OS 64" 88862 OS 72" 88886
STOWE 64" 88855 STOWE 72" 88879



Pyjamas

Available in blue/pink and white candy stripes. Made from 100% fine cotton with elasticated Stowe waistband and pockets.

£28.00

Blue and White in mens fit Sizes
S 8898, M 8899 or L 8900
Pink and White in ladies fit Sizes
S 8895, M 8896 or L 8897



Stowe Boxer Shorts

Suitable for underwear and sleepwear. Available in blue/pink and white candy stripes. Made from 100% fine cotton with elasticated Stowe waistband.

Blue and White Sizes

S 84512, M 84529 or L 84536

Pink and White Sizes

S 83430, M 83447 or L 83454



Silver-Plated Compact Mirror

A stylish gift with double mirror and engraved crest.

£30.00 84130



Old Stoic Ties

Two, recently refined, fine quality silk ties. One with a black background, known to some Old Stoics as the 'Town' colours and the other with a brown background, known to some as the 'Country' colours.

£30.00 Black 12164 Brown 12171



Old Stoic House Ties

No man's wardrobe should be without one of these splendid Old Stoic House ties made from 100% silk.

£30.00 (Left to right above):

Walpole 12256 Cobham 49160 Grafton 12249
Temple 123950 Bruce 12188 Lyttelton 27601
Chandos 12218 Grenville 12201 Chatham 12232



Old Stoic Cufflink with Oval Colours

Old Stoic chain-linked double-sided cufflinks. The Stowe crest in colour on one side and the Old Stoic colours on the other.

£28.00 84543

All cufflinks are boxed as seen above.



Old Stoic Cufflink with Shield Colours

Imprinted Old Stoic chain-linked double-sided cufflinks. The Stowe crest on one side and the Old Stoic colours on the reverse.

£28.00 84550



Golf Balls

High quality Srixon golf balls with the Stowe crest, pack of 3.

£5.25 65342

Pitch Mark Repairers

Souvenir pitch mark reparer with magnetic ball marker carrying the Stowe crest. A perfect gift for the avid golfer.

£5.00 84383

To order: Telephone 01280 818211 or Email shop@stowe.co.uk

2013 EVENTS

CALENDAR



We have endeavoured to organise a wide range of events in 2013 that will appeal to Old Stoics of all ages. To make enquiries or to book any of the events below please call the Old Stoic Office on **01280 818349** or email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk

10 March 2013

Cross-country: Old Stoics v Stowe

Stowe

The race starts at 2.30pm and is over five beautiful miles through Stowe's landscape gardens. All are welcome, both runners (at all levels) and supporters. To take part contact Simon Gardner oldstoics.crosscountry@googlemail.com

20 March 2013

Old Stoics in Property Networking Reception

42 Berkeley Square

All Old Stoics and their guests are invited to this networking drinks reception. Tickets include drinks and canapés and are £25 each.

20 April 2013

40th Anniversary Reunion Dinner

Stowe

For those who left Stowe in 1973. Afternoon tours of the House and landscape gardens followed by drinks in the Marble Saloon and dinner in the Temple Room.

14 May 2013

OS Drinks Party in Hong Kong

Hong Kong Club

All members of the Stowe community and their guests are invited to join us at the Hong Kong Club.

24 May 2013

Roger Hodgson at Stowe

Stowe

Back by popular demand, Roger Hodgson returns for an evening of entertainment on the South Front to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the Foundation of the School. All Old Stoics and guests are welcome, tickets £50.

25 May 2012

Speech Day and the Old Stoic Classic Car Meeting

Stowe

Old Stoics are warmly invited, by the Headmaster, to attend the 90th Anniversary Speech Day. The guest of honour will be Prince Michael of Kent. Once again, we are welcoming Old Stoics with classic cars to line the North Front and take part in the annual display. This year there's even a chance for a ride on the Stowe Routemaster Bus! OS Sports

matches, including the Templars' cricket match, will go ahead as usual.

18 June 2013

Roxburgh Society Lunch

Stowe

W/C 15 July

Templars' Cricket Week

Stowe

14 September 2013

Old Stoic Reunion Day

Stowe

Open to all Old Stoics. A short Chapel service will be followed by boarding house tours, drinks in the Marble Saloon, welcome by the Headmaster and Lunch. Afternoon options include tours of the new school facilities, landscape garden or House finishing with afternoon tea.

25 September 2013

50th Anniversary Lunch

Stowe

For those who left Stowe in 1963. Drinks in the Marble Saloon with lunch in the Music Room. Guided House or landscape garden tours, followed by afternoon tea.

12 October 2013

Nostalgic at Ninety

Park Lane Hotel, London

In honour of the School's 90th Birthday the Old Stoic Society will be hosting a celebratory event in London. Save the date and look out for your invitation soon.

14 December 2013

Cross-country Race

Wimbledon Common

The race starts at 2.30pm. To take part contact Simon Gardner oldstoics.crosscountry@googlemail.com

To make enquiries or to book any of the events above please call the Old Stoic Office on **01280 818349** or Email oldstoic@stowe.co.uk Please note, payment for events must be made in advance to secure your place.

Please note, the summer party and annual dinner have been replaced by the special 90th Anniversary event this year. Both events will return as usual in 2014.



- Annual Dinner at The Globe Theatre.
- Old Stoic Reunion Day 2012.
- Marketing, Events, Hospitality, Leisure and Travel Networking Event.

To see more photos visit the OS Event Gallery at www.oldstoic.co.uk

Old Stoic Society Committee

President:

Anthony Bolton (Chatham 67)

Vice President:

Dr Anthony Wallersteiner (Headmaster)

Chairman:

Simon Shneerson (Temple 72)

Vice Chairman:

Patrick Cooper (Chatham 86)

Director:

Anna Semler (Nugent 05)

Members:

John Arkwright (Cobham 69)

Colin Dudgeon (Associate Member)

Hannah Durden (Nugent 01)

Peter Farquhar (Associate Member)

John Fingleton (Chatham 66)

Ivo Forde (Walpole 67)

Tim Hart (Chandos 92)

Katie Lamb (Lyttelton 06)

Nigel Milne (Chandos 68)

Ben Scholfield (Temple 99)



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