





Award Holders' Concert

On Wednesday 14 September, this year's new Music Award holders gave a recital in the Ugland Auditorium. Covering a wide variety of instruments, each performer demonstrated immense skill and musicianship. Anastasiia Nazarova (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) opened the concert with a lyrical and thoughtful performance of 'Erster Schmerz' (First Sorrow) by Russian composer and pianist, Sergei Bortkiewicz. This was followed by one of Anastasiia's own compositions, which was full of very interesting ideas and expressions. Alexander Gabison (Third Form, Temple) gave a lovely, stately performance of the first movement from Telemann's 'Concerto for Viola and Orchestra'. Rosia Li (Third Form, Lyttelton) then gave a beautiful performance of Glazunov's 'Elegie' on the viola followed by an assured playing of Liszt's 'Valse oubliee no.1'. All of the musicians were very at home on the stage and they delivered their performances with real authority.

Charlotte Brennan (Lower Sixth, West) gave a heavenly performance of Pachelbel's 'Canon in D' arranged for solo harp which was followed by Ellen Arnall's (Lower Sixth, West) stylish and lyrical rendition of a Waltz by Chopin on the piano and the celestial 'Metamorphoses after Ovid' for solo oboe, by Benjamin Britten. To conclude the recital, Audrey Au (Third Form, Lyttelton) played the first movement of Rieding's 'Concerto no.1' for violin and orchestra accompanied by her brother Jeffrey Au (Fourth Form, Walpole). It was evident that Jeffrey and Audrey were listening intently to each other as they played and the ensemble between them was delightful. Audrey then performed the fiendishly difficult 'Caprice no.16' for solo violin by the great Italian virtuoso, Paganini.

I would like to congratulate all of the musicians for their memorable performances and I look forward to hearing them all again in various concerts throughout the term.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard

British Columbia University visits Stowe

Thirty three Lower Sixth Formers met on Thursday 22 September to hear Tom Whittaker talk about what the University of British Columbia University has to offer. This was university outside the UK, and his advice formed an excellent introduction to the topic: focus on academics, check out the campus and ethos of curricular life of the university has to offer you.

With two campuses, in Vancouver and Okanagan, UBC has something for everyone. Following some stunning time-lapse video footage of Vancouver, the Q&A session covered important topics such as fees (for Canadian citizens, remarkably low), admissions (A Levels accepted, no need for SAT/ACT), the Medical

School (Canadian citizens only), and the international percentage of the student body (high). UBC has set the bar high for other North American universities hoping to recruit Stoics.

David Critchley, UCAS Applications Tutor



In the block fixture against RGS High Wycombe on Saturday 10 September there were some strong performances from our Senior sides. Although the 1st XV lost 13-3, the 2nd XV had an impressive after going down by a converted try.

> On Saturday 17 September the 1st XV were on the brink of a memorable victory only to be thwarted in the dying seconds by a last gasp kick and chase try by Warwick. In the other Senior games against Warwick, the 2nd XV were resolute in defence and clinical in attack and held firm to win 17-14. The 3rd XV and 4th XV also had storming performances winning 21-12 and 29-17 respectively.

> The 1st XV recorded their first win of the season with a strong performance against a very big Stamford side on Saturday 24 September. Taju Atta (Lower Sixth, Temple) scored an amazing individual try to seal the 24-6 win. The 2nd XV continued their impressive start to the season and remain unbeaten after their 29-14 victory. The Junior sides continued their recent progress with narrow losses for the Colts As by 16 points to 15, the Colts B team 10-7 and the Colts C team with the A team losing 9-7 and the C team losing

Alan Hughes, Head of Rugby



Ben Duckett (Grafton 2013) flew out to Bangladesh with the ODI team on Thursday 29 September. It has been an incredible season for Ben with runs in all domestic competitions this summer for Northants County Cricket Club, including two double hundreds, and in four games for the England Lions team he scored two centuries (including another record breaking double century). On Wednesday 28 September, Ben became the first cricketer to win the Professional Cricketers' Association Player of the Year and Young Player of the Year awards in the same year. Ben certainly deserves his call up to both the Test and ODI squads and we wish him well for the upcoming series.

Old Stoic, Graeme White (Bruce 2005), also had a successful season for Northants helping them win the NatWest T20 Blast for the second time in four years. Graeme has been rewarded with a call up to play for 'The North' in the new North v South tournament organised by Director of English Cricket - Andrew Strauss, which will be held in Dubai in March 2017. Graeme's form for Northants in the Royal London Cup was so prolific that he managed to secure the number one ranking in the player MVP rankings issued by the Professional Cricketers' Association - well done

University Success

130 Stoics and Old Stoics obtained places in Higher Education this summer. 103 Upper Sixth Formers and 20 Old Stoics obtained places at UK universities, with two places at Oxford and 66 places at other Russell Group universities. Five Stoics obtained places abroad, with one winning a scholarship to the Pratt Institute in New York and another obtaining a sports award at Stanford. Two Stoics obtained places at Art College.

The most popular UK university was Newcastle, with 14 places, followed by Bristol and Oxford Brookes (the latter highly valued for its courses in Property and Business) with nine each. Leeds Beckett with eight, Edinburgh with seven and Exeter with six followed close behind.

The most popular subject areas were Business and Administrative Studies (25 places) and Social Studies (21 places), both ahead of Historical and Philosophical Studies (10 places), Biological Sciences (eight places) and Physical Sciences (seven places).

A notable feature this year was the range and quality of places available on Results Day. The title 'Clearing' is increasingly a misnomer and a growing number of UCAS applicants now see results day as an opportunity to transfer to a course closer to their personal preferences.

David Critchley, UCAS Applications Tutor



Piano Recital

On Tuesday 13 September, three Stoic musicians gave a piano recital at St Paul's Church, Bedford. The concerts at St Paul's are usually only reserved for London based musicians who are on a full time course at one of the music conservatoires, so this was a wonderful opportunity for the Stoics who performed in this beautiful church.

Jeffrey Au (Fourth Form, Walpole) opened the concert with a performance of Scriabin's 'Etude in E major' which

was highly poetic and well-shaped. Lewis Bell (Upper Sixth, Grenville) delivered a varied programme of works by Bach, Haydn and Gershwin. I was particularly impressed with the way Lewis used the acoustics to maximum effect in his heartfelt performance of Debussy's 'La Cathédrale Engloutie'. To finish the concert, Theodore Hayes (Fourth Form, Chatham) gave a rousing performance of Chopin's notoriously difficult 'Polonaise in A flat op.53', much to the delight of the audience.

I would like to thank the three pianists who took part and a special thank you to Heather Turnham who organises this wonderful series of lunchtime concerts. We very much look forward to returning to St Paul's in the Summer term.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard

Corkscrew Society

The Corkscrew Society held its first meeting of its 45th year on Friday 23 September. The evening began with seven groups each giving a three minute presentation. This took us quickly, informatively and enjoyably through the entire tasting experience, from the appearance of wine in a glass, and the hints this may give as to what the wine could taste like, to where different taste buds lie on the tongue and how teenage palates differ from adults. We even took a popular diversion into how to correctly eat a bread roll!

We then began a journey through traditional dinner and drinks party grapes. We started by comparing Champagne to Prosecco, then Chardonnay to Sauvignon Blanc, followed by Bordeaux to Pinot Noir and finally to Sauternes and Port. It wasn't just a blind tasting, but a deaf one as well. This allowed us to completely shut out the outside world and concentrate on the aroma and flavour of the wines - we were all surprised to find hints ofmarmalade and honey

in Sauternes. This has now provided us with an excellent base for discovering and enjoying more. It was a fun evening and the Stoics behaved impeccably. I think we may surprise ourselves by how much we picked up in those two short hours.

Ben Mercer, MiC Corkscrew Society





Over the summer break there was also cricketing success for current Stoics. Adam King (Lower Sixth, Bruce) kept wicket for Northants 2nd XI throughout July and August and when he found the time also represented Buckingham Town 1st XI and Bucks U17s. Oli Clarke (Upper Sixth, Chandos) had a phenomenal time with Oxfordshire U17s. After opening the batting for Banbury 1st XI and taking an 8 wicket haul against Worcestershire, Oli made his debut for Oxfordshire CCC 1st XI. He has since been rewarded with interest from Sussex and has been asked to tour Cape Town with their academy in December.

In addition Calum Renshaw (Lower Sixth, Bruce) scored his maiden century for Northants U17s against a London Schools XI and Holly Phillips (Third Form, Nugent) was the leading run scorer for Northants Girls' U13 XI. She scored four fifties, including 81 against Lincolnshire, 60 against Oxfordshire, 70 and 57 against Buckinghamshire. When an injury occurred to the Northants Boys' U13 wicket keeper, Holly kept wicket for the boy's County side as well. In that team Rhys Noble (Third Form, Chandos) was the leading run scorer for Northants with over 200 runs and he was the sixth highest run scorer across the county age groups. Ed Snushall (Fourth Form, Temple) kept wicket with aplomb for Buckinghamshire U14s and in that same side George Holmes (Forth Form, Grafton) had the highest average of any of the batsman in the team

With a lot of young talent coming through it is another exciting year ahead for Stowe's cricketers - there is a Junior cricket tour to Cape Town during the February Half term to look forward to, as well as a 1st XI tour to Dubai at Easter. During the season, those playing on the North Front will enjoy our new digital scoreboard, which will not only display scores but can also play footage of matches.

To cap the summer off Stowe has the honour of hosting the Bunbury Festival in July 2017. The festival is in its 31st year and David English and 60 or so of the country's best young players will have the pleasure of playing on the North and South Fronts – there really are no two settings better for a game of cricket. Roll on 2017!

James Knott, Head of Cricket



StoweSport.co.uk

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

@stowesport



Art for Tusk UK

Over the past eight months I have been quietly organising a Charity Art Exhibition in support of the charity Tusk UK. This Art Exhibition is for my EPQ which is part of Stowe's 3 plus 1 scheme in the Sixth Form. It is an option that Sixth Formers are offered as an alternative to taking a fourth A Level. This project allowed me to experience something that I would not otherwise have been able to do if I had not opted to do an EPQ.

I decided to do a Charity Art Exhibition because it is something I feel very strongly about. I am a passionate artist and I am a strong believer in conservation, especially animals such as Rhinos and Elephants, which brings me neatly on to explaining why I choose Tusk UK. Not only is it an excellent charity with the work it does with African wildlife and educating future generations; it also has links with Stowe.

I organised this Exhibition with the aim of raising awareness and funds for Tusk UK to support their fight in Africa. On Friday 23 September I hosted the opening night. The Exhibition is open to the public in the Watson Art Gallery. If you have a spare moment it would be fantastic to see as many Stowe Parents in the Art School supporting such a worth while cause. Pictures of the Exhibition and the opening night can be seen on the School website.

Archie Dixon-Smith (Upper Sixth, Chatham)

There was a superb atmosphere at the Inter-House football on Sunday 11 September with all Houses in great spirits. Chandos were victorious in the Third Form competition beating Bruce in the final; Temple retained the Fourth Form trophy in a nail-biting final against Bruce and Chatham claimed the Fifth Form trophy. The Senior final between Bruce and Cobham went to penalties with Adam King (Lower Sixth, Bruce) scoring the decisive penalty in sudden death.

In the girls' Inter-House competitions, Queen's won the Third Form trophy with 9 points and Stanhope came second with 4 points. In the Intermediate competition Stanhope came first and retained the trophy with 6 points, just one point ahead of Nugent. In the Senior competition both Nugent and Queen's finished on equal points but Queen's retained their title on goal difference.

Andrew Jackson, MiC Football

Time for Change

Time for Change was an historic global event which took place on Thursday 22 September on the 69th floor of The Shard in London to raise awareness of the plight of Africa's wildlife. The simultaneous event in London, Tokyo and Johannesburg delivered powerful conservation messages and calls to action ahead of the recent opening of the CITES conference, when the world's attention was focused on tackling the burgeoning illegal wildlife trade.

HRH Prince William delivered a speech to the assembled guests, including four Stoics who were present at the kind invitation of Mr Charlie Mayhew, CEO of Tusk which organised the event. Charlie's son Tom Mayhew (Lower Sixth, Grafton), John Balcon Perez (Lower Sixth, Walpole) and Imogen (Lower Sixth, Stanhope) and Tilly Fitzjohn (Lower Sixth, Stanhope) were four of the delegates mingling with the patrons, amongst whom were Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, William Hague, Andrea Leadsom and David Gower. The highlight of the event was the opportunity for the four Stoics to meet and talk to Prince William about his love of wildlife conservation.

Gavin Moffat, Grafton Housemaster





On Wednesday 28 September the Bursar's field was brought to life with the sounds of this term's first competitive shoot, as the Stowe clay pigeon shooting teams played Kimbolton at home. Kimbolton fielded their best and in a 50 bird shootout they narrowly lost to Stowe's A team, 211 to 229. Top Gun on the day was awarded to Ben Skinner (Upper Sixth, Grenville) with an outstanding score of 47 out of 50.

Gordon West, MiC Clay Pigeon Shooting

Phillipa Stacey (Upper Sixth, Nugent), Victoria Beglin (Lower Sixth, Nugent), Olivia Thomas (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and India Chadwick (Nugent 16) travelled to the US to play with the U19 England Squad against different North American teams. Phillipa captained the U19A team at the Oxton tournament later in the summer

On Sunday 25 September, at the first annual Super Counties Tournament, the Senior 1st team were placed second and had excellent wins against Wally Hall, North London Collegiate and Wycombe Abbey. The team just fell short in the final losing to Lady Eleanor Holles School.

Kaitlan Griffin, Head of Lacrosse

Abstract Expressionism

Thirty GCSE Art pupils paid a visit to the new acclaimed Abstract Expressionism exhibition at the Royal Academy on Tuesday 27 September to further their personal coursework projects and appreciation of the Arts. The display of world famous and lesser known artwork was outstanding and varied from the heavy-weights of the movement such as Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko to lesser known but enriching contributions from the likes of Barbara Morgan. It was impossible not to be bowled over by the sheer scale of some of the works by Barnett Newman and Clifford Still, while at the same time leaving the exhibition realising just how influential and wide ranging this movement was.

The enthusiasm and engagement by the Stoics reflected this impressive collection, the extent and overview of which has not been seen since the 'The New American Painting' Tate exhibition in 1959. The Telegraph's review aptly summed up the Stoic's response: "As to how the children of the digital age will respond, I would guess very positively. At a time when the virtual world has rendered most aspects of life slightly ersatz and people crave authenticity, the art here has all the realness and rawness anybody could possibly want." This is definitely an exhibition not to be missed.

Chris Grimble, Art Department



Charlotte Oswald (Upper Sixth, Queen's) and Thalia Felton (Upper Sixth, Queen's) were selected to represent one of three England U17 teams in the School Games 2016 competition that included teams from Wales, Scotland and Ulster. Congratulations to Thalia who was in the England Reds squad that won the gold medal.

The Yearlings As drew 4-4 against The Perse in a pulsating match on Saturday 10 September in their first ever match for Stowe after just two days of training.

In the fixtures against Oundle on Saturday 17 September, the Yearlings were on the wrong side of some very tight games and narrow losses. The A team lost 4-2, B team 1-0 and the C team 2-1. I am sure every effort will be made in the return matches later in the term to reverse the scorelines.

The Junior and Senior girls played some very strong Oakham sides in a block fixture on Saturday 17 September. Top performances came from the U15A team who secured a 2-2 draw and the U15B team who were the only team to win thanks to a last minute goal from Caitlin Thomas (Fourth Form, Lyttelton).

On Monday 19 September our girls' U14B team defeated Akeley Wood's U14A team 1-0. The 1st XI bounced back from their weekend defeat with a convincing 4-0 win against Wellingborough and the 2nd XI also had a fine 4-1 win against Wellingborough. On Wednesday 21 September the U15A team had a thumping 8-2 victory against Cokethorpe and the U15B team put in a strong performance to beat Akeley Wood's U15A team 3-0. The most outstanding performance of the week came from the U16A team who travelled to Uppingham and beat them 1-0 having lost to them 6-0 two years ago.

The girls' Inter-House Hockey competitions took place on Saturday 24 September. The first two group matches in the Seniors' competition were very tight with Lyttelton just overcoming Stanhope 1-0 and Queen's getting the better of Nugent by the same scoreline. Queen's were the overall winners winning all three group matches.

Nothing could separate Nugent and Queen's in the Inters competition, they drew 0-0 in the group stage and then again in the final, Nugent went on to win on penalties.

Queen's won the Third Form competition in dramatic fashion. After Nugent defeated Queen's 1-0 in the group stages both teams qualified for the final. Queen's held off Nugent and after a 0-0 draw were crowned winners after another penalty stroke competition.

Ben Scott, Head of Hockey

McElwee Award

Each summer, pairs of Lower Sixth Stoics take up the opportunity to travel to Europe and explore a cultural or historical theme. This is funded by the McElwee Award, a grant made in memory of Bill McElwee (Stowe's Head of History from 1932-62). The Award aims to foster the same love of history, travelling and culture that made Bill such a popular teacher. In order to share their experiences, Award winners are asked to give a presentation about their travels to the new Lower Sixth.

This year saw an incredibly strong set of presentations. The evening began with James Creedy Smith (Chatham) and Archie Forsyth (Chandos) explaining how an initial interest in the Habsburgs, fostered in Mr Swayne's A Level History class, led to them visiting Vienna. They skillfully elaborated on their discoveries about the culture and politics of Austria, using

about the culture and politics of Austria, using

light-hearted photos to engage their audience. This confident presentation won them the prize for the best presentation by the McElwee Committee

They were followed by Emily Osborne (Queen's) and Isabella Baillie (Queen's) who related their experience exploring the Italian city of Ravenna and its role in late-antiquity. Their enthusiasm for the topic and natural presentation style was very well received. Amy Jorgensen (Nugent) and Skye Longworth (Nugent) used their presentation to describe how their interest in Laurie Lee's 'As I Walked Out One Midsummer Morning' inspired a trip to Spain. They cleverly showed how each location was described by Lee, using quotes from his book and thoughtfully reflected on the changes that have shaped Spain since. Finally, Sam Montgomery (Temple) and Sebastian Wood (Temple) also made a fascinating comparison by contrasting the revolutions in Paris and Kiev. Although separated by over 200 years, they argued that there are potential parallels in their causation. Their stay in Kiev was particularly interesting for the audience who were shocked by scenes that unfurled in 2014.

The Award is now open to applications from the Lower Sixth, with registrations of interest to be made by Half term. The rigorous selection process will then begin with written applications submitted straight after the Christmas holidays.

Paul Griffin, Head of History

Chedworth Roman Villa

On Tuesday 20 September, Fourth Form Latinists visited Chedworth Roman Villa near Cirencester. They explored the fascinating remains of the bath complex and triclinium in the west wing, using the new walkway suspended over the original mosaics. Later they were able to handle original pottery fragments, bone and tesserae. It was a worthwhile experience which brought their literary studies to life.



Michael Bevington, Head of Classics

Senior Academic Scholars

The School is celebrating its second year running of record GCSE results, with half of the grades awarded standing at A or A*. Ten of the Stoics who have entered the Lower Sixth this September have been recognised as Senior Academic Scholars for achieving eight or more A*s in their GCSEs. Charlotte Bird (Lyttelton), Victoria Beglin (Nugent), Georgia Flawn-Thomas (Nugent) and Alex Orton (Lyttelton) all scored a total of ten A*s, with Charlotte, Victoria and Alex notching a further 'eleventh' A grade. Alex Orton was also awarded an A* for her Extended Project Qualification (worth half an A Level and usually only completed in the Sixth Form). Princey-Grace Athisayarasa (Lyttelton) joined the Sixth Form as an Academic Scholar from Thornton College.

Honorary Academic Scholarships were awarded to Ingrid Galler (Lyttelton), who achieved nine A*s and two As, Mina Haas (Stanhope), who achieved

nine A*s and one A, and Isabelle Leondiou (Queen's), Alice Pryse (Lyttelton), Lauren Taylor (Queen's) and John Balcon Perez (Walpole), who all achieved eight A*s and the rest A grades in their GCSEs at Stowe. Hugo Barnett (Bruce), who joined Stowe from Repton Dubai, was also awarded an Honorary Academic Scholarship for having achieved seven A*s at GCSE, plus an A grade (there is no A*) for Additional Maths, a very difficult qualification which can be taken by those already achieving A Level standard. A further 34 Stoics have also been awarded Academic Colours for having achieved either six or more A*s or eight or more A*/A grades. All Academic Scholars and those receiving Colours were presented with academic ties or pins in the first assembly of the term.

Julie Potter, Deputy Head (Academic)



Emily Barrett (Lower Sixth, Queen's) has been awarded an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship for the next two years after completing an application, an examination and an interview at Imperial College London over the last year.

The benefits of the scholarship include having access to a wide range of enrichment events and opportunities including industry-based engineering experience days, magazine subscriptions and technical lectures, the opportunity to receive mentoring and advice from past Arkwright Scholars, other professional engineers and Arkwright's Liaison Officers and as Arkwright Engineering Scholarships are widely respected by academia and industry, they enhance Scholars' university, higher-level apprenticeship and job applications.

Gaussian Group Junior

The Mathematics Department welcomes the 2016-2017 academic year with the opening of a new society; Gaussian Group Junior, exclusive to Lower School Stoics. The first meeting took place on Monday 26 September and was a joint event with the Lower School History Society led by Mr Cuddy. In the talk 'Geometry of Hate' I explored the connection between mathematics

and hate. How a failure in mathematical thinking could lead to fascist movements, civil wars and other catastrophes.

The Society is looking forward to upcoming events and talks. The future looks exciting for the progression of the Gaussian Group Junior.

Hakan Yadsan, Mathematics Department



On Saturday 17 September Stowe took part in the Isis Sculls at Oxford. Stowe was represented by Gleb Shcherbakov (Upper Sixth, Grenville), Ilya Riskin (Fourth Form, Chandos), James Pocklington (Lower Sixth, Grenville), Oscar Hill (Fifth Form, Temple), Tom Fox (Fifth Form, Temple), Ayrton Patel (Lower Sixth, Cobham), Max Bishop (Lower Sixth, Grafton) and Archie Morley (Fifth Form, Walpole).

The U17 Quad produced the most competitive result coming first with a time of 7 minutes 30 seconds and Old Stoic, James Rudkin (Walpole 12), recorded the fastest times in singles and doubles. James was impressed by the enthusiasm and competence of the eight Stowe boys who raced.

At the World Rowing U23 Championships in Rotterdam in August, James Rudkin achieved his ambition of winning a world medal. This was his fourth Worlds for Great Britain since his Junior World Championships as a Stoic in 2012.

The first half of the race saw the GB team overtake America, New Zealand, Germany and the reigning world champions, Romania to take second place with Austria in the lead. The second half of the race saw a titanic struggle as the Brits and Austrians went clear of the rest of the world. The Brits last 500m in 1:24 was the fastest split of the race, but the Austrians just clung on by 3 tenths of a second. Both crews came in at 5:50, just shy of the world record.

James is now in training with the GB rowing team at Caversham, aspiring to the Olympic team in 2020

Andrew Rudkin, Stowe Rowing Club











ITU WORLD TRIATHLON SERIES

Craig and Sarah Sutton travelled to Cozumel, Mexico to represent the GB age-group team in the ITU World Triathlon Championships. Racing in temperatures of 35 degrees with 90% humidity, they competed in the Sprint Distance event with Craig finishing 24th out of 86 and Sarah 18th out of 59. It was an incredible

experience to race with top level triathletes from all over the World and also to have the opportunity to see the dramatic unfolding of the elite men's race with Alistair Brownlee carrying his brother Jonny, suffering with heat exhaustion, over the finishing line.

Philip Arnold, Head of Sports Science and PE

CCF_{Round Up}

David Critchley Lt Cdr RNR CCF

Cadet joins Cross-Channel Cruise

At the end of July a group of cadets from schools across the country, myself included, set out to achieve our Helmsman's qualification during the week long Channel Motor Course. We set off from Portsmouth early one misty morning on a 45' ex-police launch powered by twin 450hp Volvo marine diesels. The conditions on the first day as we crossed to Cherbourg were better than we could have hoped for. However it was 'short and sweet', as over the next couple of days the weather deteriorated, forcing us to leave the ill protected Port Chantereyne to seek shelter in Guernsey's Saint Peter Port. The difficult conditions reduced the time available for the challenging training but luckily everyone on our boat was able to achieve the qualification and we had a great time whilst doing it.

Rowan Brudenell (Fifth Form, Grenville)

Cadet joins Army Cadet South Africa Expedition

In July I embarked on the trip of a lifetime to South Africa with the Army Cadet Force. The selection process had included the writing of a personal statement and an initial weekend of command tasks and fitness tests, followed by two weeks of training in the Lake District focused on completing the Summer Mountain Foundation course. Finally we were on our way to our first destination, Zingela Game Reserve.

The first week was spent acclimatising, working on our bushcraft skills ranging from cooking in the bush to tracking wild game. We stayed in a tented camp and with temperatures reaching -5° at night, we had to sprint in the morning from our sleeping bags to the pleasantly warm showers.

Then on to the Zulu Trail Expedition, a brand new 85km trail following some of the Army tracks from the Anglo-Zulu War. The first and longest day covered 27km, which we managed to complete in less than nine hours.

Our final week was one of rest and recuperation: we found ourselves in a German Christian retreat in the region of Elandskraal, an eerie place as the storms rolled in and we said goodbye to the good weather. We took part in Zulu pottery classes and dancing, and visited Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift – deeply moving places and full of significance to Army cadets. Mid-way through the week we visited the Twin Streams Eco-Reserve, where we learnt about the bio-diversity, the St Lucia Wetlands, visited a crocodile sanctuary and the Kruger National Park and took on a river cruise.

The final day came all too quickly. It was an amazing time. Thank you to Col. Ayres and all the team who made the trip possible.

Alex Harris (Lower Sixth, Grafton)

Cadets train at Thetford Army Camp

At the end of June, 46 Army cadets, primarily Fourth Form, went to 1 Artillery Brigade's Centralised week long Summer Camp in Thetford with cadets from other schools, country wide. The camp provided the opportunity to reinforce and put into practice all the knowledge gained throughout their first year in the CCF for the Junior cadets, whilst the Senior cadets were put through a more advanced programme.

Each day the cadets were faced with different challenges; the first two days were spent on field training and tactics, taking in various stands including survival and axe throwing, which was a competitive first for us all. Other stands included patrol harbours, learning some top tips for cooking with Army rations,

building a decent shelter, practising pairs fire and manoeuvring skills with blank rounds and a paintball close quarter battle exercise, before sleeping in the woods overnight. The following day they played their part in a large deliberate company level blank firing attack, alongside cadets from other schools.

A hot day was spent having fun and unwinding on a large lake where everyone had the opportunity to sail, kayak, paddle board, climb, abseil and shoot some arrows. The highlight of the week for many was the opportunity to live fire with the cadet A2 rifle on a formally recognised advanced shoot, with targets at 100, 200 and 300m. Every single cadet passed the advanced shoot, which is a real accolade and special mention must go to Leo Constantine (Upper Sixth, Grafton) and Mark Kanjana (Fifth Form, Walpole) who achieved a score high enough to earn them their first class shooting badge and the perk of live firing the LSW on burst fire.

All of our cadets acquitted themselves well at the camp, they worked hard and maintained humour when lack of sleep and comfort were occasionally conspiring against them. They all discovered that they had a little more resilience than they may have given themselves credit for and earned a reputation for politeness and helpfulness with the camp catering staff.

Congratulations to the 24 who earned promotion to Lance Corporal and Alex Harris (Lower Sixth, Grafton) and Mar Martinez-Tomas (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) who were both promoted to Sergeant.

All of them have returned to the CCF in the Fifth and Sixth Form with a stronger knowledge base and greater confidence and resilience. Warm thanks go to Captains Standley, Wilson and Corthine and Lt Le Lacheur who accompanied me on the trip, for their fantastic support and camaraderie.

Major Jan de Gale, Adjutant/SSI Stowe School CCF

Cadets train in the Lake District

At the end of the Summer term, 15 cadets took part in our Lake District Adventure Training Camp, trying out climbing, ghyll-scrambling, kayaking, orienteering, drone flying and the traditional climb to the summit of Skiddaw. The drone enabled us to show some footage at the final Assembly of term – a first for Stowe! Congratulations to Eoin Ramos (Fifth Form, Temple), the drone pilot.

Rowan Brudenell (Fifth Form, Grenville) won the Smiley Face trophy; Will Perry (Fifth Form, Cobham), Thomas Chamberlain (Fifth Form, Grenville) and Oscar Hill (Fifth Form, Temple) won the Good Egg prizes; Thomas White (Fifth Form, Chatham) was Camp Sportsman; and Mrs McConnell won the trophy for The Most Appreciated Adult Volunteer. A special thank you goes to Mrs McConnell (Housekeeper's Department) and Miss Gough (Gardens Department) for their assistance and to Major Goodall for organising and leading the Camp.

David Critchley, Lt Cdr RNR CCF

Micky Finn

Micky Finn, legendary CCF Boats Officer, died on 8 August 2016. Stoics who have sailed on Black or Blue Swan or on Amaryllis all owe their experiences to Micky's untiring search for boats and his devoted approach to maintenance and housekeeping. He is seen here (first on left) with a party of Stoics in 2009. Thank you Micky!

David Critchley, Lt Cdr RNR CCF



Work Experience

The importance of work experience cannot be underestimated. It is an ideal learning opportunity for young Stoics; it can inspire future careers and is essential in helping pupils decide on which degree to study. It is when the Fifth Form enters the Lower Sixth that they start to think about higher education trajectories. According to research by City and Guilds (2015) two thirds of employers are more likely to hire a young person with work experience and 80 per cent of employers think work experience is essential.

At the beginning of September, the Careers Department, led by Mrs Dawson, conducted a survey of Stoics regarding Fifth Form work experience after they had finished their GCSEs. 97% of Stoics replied to the survey and some shared their experiences of work placements. The data was so fascinating the Careers Department is now conducting further case study research to identify trends and to identify where Stoics have benefited the most, with the aim of replicating outstanding work placement experiences.

We would like parents to start to think about supporting their children to source wonderful work placements during school breaks. Fifth Form work placements are an essential start on the journey towards Higher Education and the world of work. An example of an outstanding work placement can be seen through Tom Purdon (Lower Sixth, Grenville), who is studying Economics, French, Philosophy and

Religion and Spanish. During the summer Tom worked at BNP Paribas, a French Bank. His aim was to experience different roles within the bank and to gain an insight into banking. Finding the placement was his first obstacle but once he secured his placement he was ready for an exciting, fascinating and enriching working week at one of the world's leading financial institutions. Tom recounts his experience below:

"I came in on the first day thinking I knew at least a little bit about banking, but found that compared to these people, I knew nothing. I was nervous on my first day but the people working there were kind and patient and I ended up loving the whole week.

My week consisted of spending a day with each department and getting to speak with people in a variety of roles. One experience I won't forget is talking to one of the forex traders on a Monday morning, and him having to stop talking to me every two minutes due to the huge amount of work he was doing, which he claimed was a quiet day!

I believe the whole experience was tremendously useful as I now know much more about what it is like to work in a large bank. I will be a lot more prepared when it comes to my time to start work and feel I will be more knowledgeable than those who haven't had work experience. It will be very useful for my UCAS application and when I start applying for jobs."

Gordon West, Careers Advisor



Thinking the Unthinkable

For any business a fire within a building could be devastating. With a complex site such as Stowe the fire alarm system is imperative to ensure that early warning is given if the unthinkable was to happen. The Boarding Houses all have separate fire alarm systems and fire drills are carried out at the start of each term. These all took place at 6.50am in the first week back.

There are 32 separate alarm panels all of which are linked to the Security Cabin and are tested every Wednesday by Andy Shann and we have over 5,000 automatic smoke detectors. There is also a full fire suppression system that covers the kitchen area. Across the site we have 800 individual pieces of fire fighting equipment, such as fire extinguishers, and we store spares that are all inspected and serviced annually.

The importance of being prepared for an emergency not only applies to staff and pupils who attend fire awareness training and undertake the required drills, but is also important for the Fire Service. They regularly visit the site to undertake their own assessment of risk for each Boarding House and the spaces that are used for public events. Over the course of the last four years the Fire Service has visited Stowe to undertake planned drills of their own to test their systems and procedures alongside our own.

The School holds a 'Battle Box' in the Security Cabin with detailed site plans and Estate maps. These show each building in detail and outline site hazards and fire hydrant locations. It also contains key codes and spare keys in a folder to give quick and easy access to various areas required. The 'Battle Box' is used by the Fire Service to give clear and concise information when they visit

The issues we face as a Grade I listed building are the open void spaces and the areas that may not be seen by everyone that could allow fire and smoke to spread. They are covered by the automatic smoke detection systems but pose a risk due to the nature of the construction and design

In June 2000, Bruce suffered a major fire. Perhaps then it is not so 'unthinkable' but actually it could be the 'reality unless we are prepared!

Rebecca Donaldson, Health and Safety Manage



History of Art

On Friday 16 September the History of Art Society was pleased to welcome Dr Matt Lodder from the University of Essex who spoke enthusiastically about 'How to Burn a Million Pounds' This is an important point in the history of Conceptual Art and it was good to see the pupils' knowledge broadened by a really entertaining talk. Stoics changed their mind during the course of the presentation - so be prepared for wads of money to be set on fire!

Elizabeth Chubb, Head of History of Art







Manchester University visits Stowe

Rich Middleton, of Manchester University's Student Outreach Team, came to Stowe on Tuesday 13 September to talk to the new Lower Sixth about university choices. 'What to Choose and Where to Study' brought out the great variety of possibilities for which the Sixth Form years are just a preparation.

Manchester currently has the distinction of being top of the league table for the university most visited by employers, so this was an excellent talk to focus on as pupils orientate themselves for the Sixth Form.

David Critchley, UCAS Applications Tutor



In early August, Alex Orton (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) and Ellie Dudgeon (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton) set themselves a tough challenge - to cycle across England, from Whitehaven in the West, over the Pennines, to Sunderland in the East to raise money to help young people with mental health problems in the Buckinghamshire area.

The girls smashed their £300 fundraising target, raising over £1,000 for Buckinghamshire Mind. The money raised will go towards providing counselling and other support for teenagers who really need it.

Well done Alex and Ellie!

Val Green, Lyttelton Housemistress



On Thursday 21 July, Lewis Bell (Upper Sixth, Grenville) took his DipABRSM diploma in piano performance and we are delighted to report that he has now been awarded this prestigious title. The DipABRSM is the first of three professional qualifications where candidates must perform a recital where the standard of repertoire is significantly more challenging than that found on the Grade 8 syllabus. Congratulations Lewis.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard

Diploma Success

Deal or No Deal?

Behavioural Economics in Action

On Wednesday 27 September, the Business and Economics Department welcomed a wonderful guest speaker to Stowe to talk about a new topic to the AQA Economics curriculum; Behavioural Economics. Dr Richard Fairchild, Senior Lecturer at the University of Bath School of Management delivered an informative and engaging presentation of this evolving mix of modern economic theory, psychology and the emerging field of Neuroeconomics.

It was wonderful to see over 80 Stoics in attendance, joined by 28 pupils from The Royal Latin School, Buckingham. Ben Skinner (Upper Sixth, Grenville) and Kurt Leimer (Upper Sixth, Chandos) helped to host the open lecture and ensured our visiting guests were well looked after.

Dr Fairchild guided pupils through the maze of Homo Economicus vs. Homo Sapiens economic decision making preferences, and demonstrated how perceived rational behaviour can really be bounded rationality, overconfidence and emotions that affect our decision making processes. He even explained the links between fatigue and irrational decision making.

The talk ended with a competition between Stoics and our friends from the Royal Latin School; behavioural game theory was demonstrated through a wonderful activity resulting in some rather underhanded negotiations on the part of some pupils; all in good fun in the interest of pursuing a better understanding of the wonderful world of behavioural economics.

After Dr Fairchild's presentation, representative Stoics from the Upper Sixth accompanied Royal Latin pupils to supper to continue the discussions on the role of behavioural economics in modern business.

Gordon West, Business and Economics Department

Peter Alliss, around the golf course at what was a fabulous event. We very much look forward to seeing golf evolve at Stowe in the coming years with Andrew at the helm. Isaac Michael, Director of Sport On Sunday 25 September our budding Junior golf team battled it out in blustery and deceptive conditions in what was a closely fought singles Match Play contest against Caldicott Prep School. young golfers in this newly established fixture and there was some extremely exciting golf on display from both teams with notably strong performances Toby Stocks (Fourth Form, Chandos). The ball striking of Tom Youds (Fourth Form, Chandos) was also particularly impressive, along with the tenacious attitude displayed by Chanatip

We are delighted to announce the appointment

of Mr Andrew Hancox as our new PGA Golf

Professional and Head of Golf. Andrew brings

with him an illustrious playing and coaching career having competed across the globe on numerous professional tours, along with nurturing

many top young golfers from both the UK and

for the development of golf here at Stowe and was recently invited to the 50th Stowe Putter to

present some of his ideas to prospective pupils, along with escorting our Guest of Honour, Mr

The overall match result was an 'honourable' half (4-4) and it must be said that it was a real delight such a gentlemanly fashion. There were a number of parents from Caldicott in attendance and all were very impressed with Stowe's golf programme and facilities, along with the excellent condition of the course. We eagerly anticipate the return match

Andrew Hancox, Head of Golf



For weekly reports on all Stowe Sports visit our website www.stowesport.co.uk



Tour of the USA

recommended. There are an incredible range of museums in Washington but we selected the National Archives (containing the Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights)

Three Peaks

On Sunday 24 July Hugh Buxton (Upper Sixth, Temple), Bertie Alexander (Upper Sixth, Temple), Seb Wood (Upper Sixth, Temple), George Williams (Upper Sixth, Temple) and Sam Montgomery (Upper Sixth, Temple) went to Scotland to begin the National Three Peaks Challenge which involves climbing Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon in 24 hours - a total of 26 miles climbing 9,800ft.

The group took on the challenge to raise money for the Heaton Ellis Trust, a charity that is working to cure Motor Neurone Disease, in memory of Charles Harbord-Hamond who sadly passed away earlier this year; a godfather to one of the group and a family friend to another.

They completed the challenge with 25 minutes to spare and have raised an amazing £3,201.75 which is 64% of their target of £5,000. You can still donate to the cause by visiting their JustGiving page.



Bill Boswell trophy for being the highest place Stoics' at the event. Sophia Galione (Fourth Form, Queen's) and Cecilia Mayne (Fourth Form,

great camaraderie and sportsmanship to win their class. Not only did they win but Katie also took sixth place individually and Josh tenth. Cecilia then took on the challenging Open Class finishing in an impressive fourth place and was only 4







In the Junior boys' Inter-House competition held on Sunday 18 September, Hector Smiley (Fifth Form, Bruce) beat Louis Redfern (Fifth Form, Temple) in the singles final. Bruce also beat Grafton in the doubles final making them the overall winners.

In the girls' competition Una Barclay (Fifth Form, Stanhope) beat Chloe Hechle (Fifth Form, Stanhope) in the singles final. Nugent beat Queen's in the doubles final but Stanhope was the overall winners.

Hazel Browne, MiC Badminton

New York, New York!

If you have plans to be in New York at Half term, please do come and join the Headmaster, parents and Old Stoics at the American Friends of Stowe Cocktail Party on Thursday 27 October. We will be honouring Hollywood composer and music producer Harry Gregson-Wiliams (Chatham 78). Harry, who recently spent a year at Stowe as Composer in Residence, has penned soundtracks for blockbuster films including 'Armageddon', 'The Martian', 'Shrek' and 'The Chronicles of Narnia'. Joining us from Los Angeles, he will give a unique presentation using the latest technology and will cover many of the projects he has worked on during his glittering career.

The party takes place at 6.30pm at Steinway Hall, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, NY 10036. If you are able to attend please contact Ben Mercer, Development Director.

Janet King, Development Executive



In the summer of 2017, Poppy de Salis (Fifth Form, Stanhope) and I, Esme Foster (Fifth Form, Stanhope), will be travelling to Ecuador with Camps International for a four week expedition. We will be taking part in a number of volunteering community projects such as helping with the harvest, building and painting classrooms for schools and installing water pumps, just to name a few. We will also be working in the Amazon rainforest by planting trees and getting involved in conservation work. At the end of three weeks hard work, we will be trekking for five days across Ecuador's three tallest peaks which will be a tough challenge for both of us

We have been encouraged to raise the funds for this incredible opportunity ourselves so have been working hard for the past six months. On Saturday 24 September, we both completed a five mile sponsored run as one of our main fundraising events. This was very testing for both of us but since we had trained hard we managed to successfully complete the course in a good time. We would be delighted and most grateful if anyone would like to donate to our cause so we can fulfil our goal of improving the lives of others who are less fortunate than ourselves. Please take a look at our fundraising page.

Esme Foster, (Fifth Form, Stanhope)

Stowe on a Stamp

The Royal Mail is celebrating the 300th anniversary of the birth of 'Capability' Brown by releasing a Landscape Gardens Presentation Pack of stamps. This stunning set of eight

special stamps reveals the gardening icon's most notable works including Stowe Landscape Gardens.





Harvest Service

Sunday 9 October 2016 10.30am School Chapel

food items and toiletries to give to the Buckingham Food Bank who distribute food to the poorest

non-perishable food or toiletries back with you and bring them to the service.

Parents and visitors are also welcome to attend.



South African Scholars

On my usual delightful annual five week trip to the Dominican Convent School in July this summer, I was, as always welcomed with such grace and kindness.

The purpose is to settle in the five South African Scholars who have returned to Johannesburg after spending a year in Stowe's Fourth Form. Their orientation is crucial to their wellbeing, and returning back to the Dominican having been away from their South African studies.

It is always a pleasure to see past Scholars, who have been at Stowe. Smanga, who was in Chandos, is this year's Head of School at the Dominican.

This is a photograph of this year's South African Scholars, a delightful group of five. Sadly one of the girls could not attend the photoshoot the day this picture was taken.

Mrs Clare Hill-Hall, Pastoral Care South African Scholars

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





Headmaster's Lunch at the Lansdowne Club

Stowe Parents' annual and widely popular luncheon with the Headmaster will this year be held at the Lansdowne Club in the heart of Mayfair, just off Berkeley Square.

The purpose of this lunch is to provide parents with an opportunity to meet each other and has traditionally been well attended by new parents, as well as those with older pupils at Stowe.

Tickets include a drinks reception followed by a two course lunch with wine and coffee. This event does sell out quickly so please do get in touch

Tickets are £55 per person. To book tickets please email Stowe Parents with the number of tickets, the name of your child/children and if you have any dietary requirements, or seating preferences.



Tavern Tour

This 1.5 mile (approximately) walk around some of the most historic parts of London, focuses on the Holborn and Fleet Street area frequented by Johnson and Dickens. We will visit four historic pubs, and whilst enjoying a quick drink in each, listen to fascinating stories. During the walk between the pubs we will also learn about the history and people who lived in the area.

These tours have been rated as a top London activity by TripAdvisor, and Stowe Parents are extremely lucky to be offered an exclusive tour, at a great price.

The evening starts at 6.00pm, so a great way to wind down after a hard day at work, a fun end to a day out shopping, or just a fascinating evening in London!

To book tickets please email Stowe Parents with the number of tickets and the name of your child/

The cost of this event is still to be confirmed.



On Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 October high quality coaches, including T20 Blast winners Steven Crook and David Ripley, along with Sally Walton (England and GB hockey) and David Capel (Northants and England cricket), will be holding sports masterclasses at Stowe. They are open to experienced cricket and hockey players of any age.

For more information and to book please email



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