

# THE HARROVIAN

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## COUTTS LECTURE

*The Century of Biology: Taking Control of our DNA*  
Dr Emily Saunderson, Barts Cancer Institute Research  
Fellow, 6 February

Last Tuesday, Dr Emily Saunderson came to deliver the Coutts Lecture in Biology. Dr Saunderson's own research path began at the University of Bristol where she completed both her undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. Today, she's a Postdoctoral Fellow at Barts Cancer Institute.

Her talk explored the ever-growing area of gene editing in order to treat illness, and Dr. Saunderson posed one of the biggest questions currently asked in medicine: "Can we find and cure cancer before it starts?" The answer isn't simple – a look into the past and a reflection on the present will explain why.



DNA was only first sequenced in 2000 when the Genome Project was concluded, and the entire human genome first mapped, after ten years. There is a plethora of reasons for this, but mainly that it is so huge – there are approximately three billion bases, measuring two metres, in each strand of DNA. Thankfully, we can now map DNA in a matter of hours, not years, but the answer to the initial question is still far away.

The mutations that cause many illnesses, including some forms of cancer, are already known and, theoretically, treatments such as CRISPR – a tool that can cut DNA strands and place in donor bases – could fix these. However, the accuracy of CRISPR is sometimes questionable and it isn't ready for the commercial scale, especially when it comes to cancer and other illnesses caused by multiple mutations. Perhaps alternative approaches, such as tagging or "switching off" mutated genes (epigenetics), are a way to take control of our DNA. For now, preventative suggestions, such as not smoking (because substances such as tar are more likely to cause base mutations in cell division), are the best advice doctors can give to patients who wish to avoid getting cancer. It's not quite the dream of curing cancer.

However, genome mapping isn't exclusively for treating "mutant" patients. It has a variety of other uses, such as ancestor tracking, and could soon be used in personalised medicine to prescribe drugs that will work more effectively on certain patients because of their genetic sequence.

All in all, Dr Saunderson's two-day visit (she lectured to members of the Upper School about some of her research in more depth and taught them how to interpret genetic data on her second day) was a very pleasurable experience that opened many of our eyes to the growing field of genetics and, we hope, inspired some of the next generation of genetic engineers.

## BYRON CONSORT TRIP

*Moscow, Russia, 16 February*

At the beginning of half term, the Byron Consort set off to Heathrow to catch their flight to Moscow. This was the third time the Byron Consort had visited Russia, but the first for many of the boys in the choir. It a relatively smooth trip through the airport, apart for Rowland Eveleigh, *The Grove*, who had forgotten the presence of scissors in his luggage! On arriving in Moscow, the choir was greeted by a coach to the Lotte Hotel, arriving at two in the morning. However, some boys were too amazed by the incredible rooms, which had both double beds and heated loo seats! The long day of travelling had finally ended and what was going to be an incredible tour had begun.

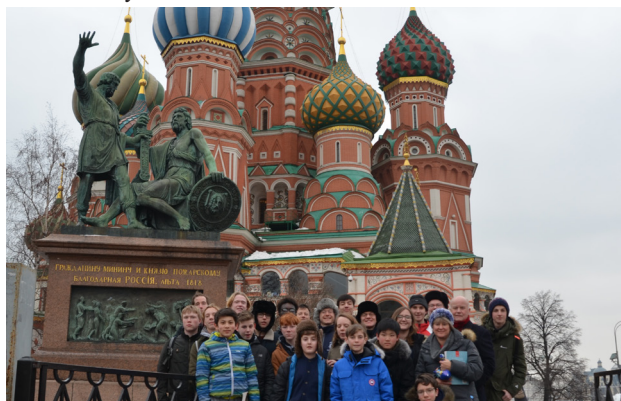
The choir rose to a sunny but cold day in Moscow, and headed down to the breakfast buffet. This was no ordinary buffet as it ranged from champagne to caviar and even a pizza or ice-cream bar, yet there were still the essentials to make a full English breakfast. After breakfast, the boys had some time to take full advantage of the hotel's swimming pool and spa. The boys then set off to their first experience of a Moscow tube station. As they walked down the steps into the metro, one could have confused it for a museum as it was covered in marble, gold, and wonderful bronze statues. Without the constant bombardment of advertising, as in the London tube, the boys were able to take in the incredible architecture. On arriving in Red Square, the choir was met by their tour guide. Up first was the Mausoleum of Vladimir Lenin. One boy commented on how impressive the wax figure was and was quickly told that it was the actual preserved body of Lenin! After walking along the wall of the Kremlin, and seeing where former presidents such as Stalin were buried, the choir was given some free time



around Red Square. Most boys headed straight for the café in Gum (the Harrods of Moscow), but some went around looking at monuments such as the Centre of Moscow, marked by a gold plaque in the ground. It was time to head off to the first venue, the Cathedral of Christ our Saviour.

There was an opportunity to take some group photos, and even some wacky ones of SPS and Michael Fitzgibbon, *Rendalls*, "slav squatting" in front of the cathedral. The choir was then presented with lunch in the cafeteria of the cathedral, which included various native dishes like Russian salad and borsch (beetroot soup). The choir was then taken on a tour of the cathedral, which stands by the Moscow river, so they were also able to see the famous monument of Peter the Great who

founded the Moscow Navy. The cathedral alone is 131 meters high, so, when the boys went up to the towers, there were some great views. Up in the towers, they were given a chance to have a look at the bells of the cathedral, which are some of the largest in Moscow. At the end of the tour, there was a short rehearsal before the choir headed up to perform. Not many choirs are given the chance to sing in the cathedral, so the choir really was lucky to be there. Once the recital was over, they watched the first ten minutes of the Russian Orthodox liturgy, during which they stood where Putin usually sits. It was time for the choir to head back to the hotel and get ready for dinner at the Sixty Bar restaurant at the top of one of Moscow's tallest skyscrapers. The choir was dressed smartly, and was ready for their first "proper" night in Moscow. With delicious food and a glorious view over Moscow, it was a terrific evening, with the restaurant opening its windows to allow some photos to be taken of the city. Another late night, but boys who have been on previous tours know that the Byron Consort does it no other way!



Another day began with caviar and smoked salmon, and some time to relax in the spa. However, this day was not going to be very relaxing, as the choir had four events. First was a service at St Andrew's Church, which was thankfully done in English. The choir had sung there twice before in its previous trips to Russia. The service ran smoothly, with an interesting sermon. One moment which stuck in the boys' minds was when the vicar used the phrase "splash and dash" at least five times when describing the interval between the service and the recital. The choir then got into position while the audience participated in the "splash and dash." The recital followed, and went very well. The church kindly supplied the choir with a delicious lunch. After this, the boys returned to the hotel for some down time and time for some shopping in Old Arbat Street, which is near the hotel and is particularly good for tourists. After a relaxing hour or so, the choir set off to the Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception where they would be taking part in mass (which would be in Russian) and performing a recital afterwards. The mass did drag on for quite a while, allowing Harry Lempriere-Johnston, *Druries*, to catch up on some sleep! Even SPS admitted to almost nodding off due to the lack of comprehension! The recital, on the other hand, was extremely exciting, with a completely packed audience! The solos were sung extremely well, and there was even a standing ovation at the end. The cathedral was very grateful to the choir, and the boys thoroughly enjoyed the praise they received. The day was ending, and the choir was exhausted! Dinner was at Boemi, a Serbian restaurant very close to the cathedral. Various meat and cheese platters were brought to the table, and the choir enjoyed the cosy atmosphere of the restaurant. The restaurant was empty, so the waiters asked the choir to sing a piece for them. Luckily, the choir knew Bruckner's *Locus Iste* by heart, and were able to give a short performance for them, which was very amusing.

On Monday, the boys needed to be on their best behaviour as they were being taken round the Grand Kremlin Palace on a

private tour. On arriving at the Kremlin, the choir had a chance to have a look at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which was to mark the Soviet soldiers killed during WW2. The tomb had one or two frightening guards, which JPBH had an unsuccessful go at making laugh, but did cause great amusement for the boys watching. On arriving at the palace, the choir went through a strict security briefing, where they were told rules such as sticking to the red carpet and not taking photos. This was not a museum, and the choir were very lucky to be given access to look round it. Each room was covered in gold and marble, and some even in malachite. The tour guide kindly allowed the boys to take photos in certain rooms. The choir was then taken to the top floor of the palace, which was much older with wooden floors and beautiful stained-glass windows. When the choir was taken back into the main hall, there was a chance to sing *Locus Iste*; it was quite incredible to be able to sing in the palace. It was time for lunch, so the choir returned to Red Square, where they were greeted by some Russian delicacies and a pair of ice skates for each boy! However, some of the boys declined the opportunity to skate, as they didn't want to "show-up" any of the boys with their skills (CST especially). There was now some time to go see some of the sights of Moscow. Five or six boys headed out of Red Square and to the main city, where they saw Lubyanka, the headquarters of the KGB until 1991, and went up to the viewing platform on the top of Tsentrallyy Detskiy market to get some amazing views over the city. While returning to the hotel, they passed the Bolshoi Theatre where various ballets and operas are held each year. There was then quick turnaround at the hotel. The next venue was the Lutheran Cathedral, where the choir would be doing a long recital with solos in between, and even an organ recital. As well as lighting for the choir during the recital, there would be projections of the Virgin Mary, the Sagrada Familia and other pictures on the wall behind the altar. The recital came to an end and there was a quick "splash and dash" before heading off to dinner at Luciano, an Italian restaurant just opposite the hotel. Another delicious meal but, thankfully, no *Locus Iste*! By the time the choir did get to bed, they would be getting up six hours later for a coach ride to the Donskoy Monastery.



Tuesday was an early morning with a 7am breakfast. The choir arrived at the monastery just in time to hear the end of their service which, just like at the Cathedral of Christ our Saviour and all other Russian Orthodox services, is completely sung! The recital was wonderful, and the monastery was a beautiful place to sing in. The choir was given a tour of the monastery by a local monk and a translator. The ikons surrounded by gold were a centre piece of the monastery, and the monk explained that is "not us looking at them, but the ikons looking at us", a very philosophical start to the day. The monastery was covered in snow, which was a change from the main city. The choir was taken into the crypt chapel and around the cemetery. The monastery very kindly supplied the boys with lunch, and then it was time for the choir to depart on a boat trip. The boat was a modern ice-cutter and looked very chic on the outside, so the boys were looking forward to another luxurious afternoon. The trip took the choir past the Olympic stadium, University of



Moscow City, the Grand Kremlin Palace, which was incredible to see from the river, and the Residence of the British Ambassador, which the choir would be singing in later. During the boat trip, PJE kindly bought the boys some delicious meat and cheese platters which were wolfed down within seconds (by some more than others). Gliding through the ice was spectacular, as the river was completely frozen over. On returning to the hotel, there was just enough time for some of the boys to head to the spa and then get ready for the British Ambassador's.

The Residence of the British Ambassador was directly across the river from the Grand Kremlin Palace, offering an incredible view for the ambassador. The residence was spectacular, and the ambassador was very welcoming and hospitable to the choir during their short trip there. The choir joined in on the mingling as the guests slowly arrived, and then started the recital. Just after one of the solos, the choir returned to the hall, and was about to begin singing, when one boy's alarm went off. PJE stopped to look around and when he realised who it was, the boy fainted, rather dramatically due to everyone looking at him. This certainly changed the mood of the room for a minute or two but SPS stepped into the role of matron and looked after the boy for a few minutes before returning to the hall. Apart from that small mishap, the recital ran smoothly and the choir was ready for their last dinner in Moscow. Drinks and canapés were served after the recital, with a chance for some of the audience to talk to the boys, one or two of whom were OHs. The choir said their goodbyes, and headed off to Café Pushkin for their last dinner in Moscow. With some delicious wine and fantastic food, the boys couldn't ask for more; however, in Russia, there is always more, so the choir was serenaded by a gorgeous string quartet. Once again, another late night, but the dinner would not be complete until the waiters had heard the famous *Locus Iste*. Now the boys could head back to the hotel knowing they had fulfilled their duty as a choir.



The boys arose to their last day, and were expecting to sing at St Basil's Cathedral in the morning. Unfortunately, due to Vladimir Putin giving a state announcement in the Kremlin, the whole of Red Square was cut off. Therefore, PJE had to think on his feet, and organised a few activities for the choir, one being a trip to the Novodevichy Cemetery, where famous composers such as Shostakovich are buried. This was no ordinary cemetery as it is where only the best of the best were buried. The first grave they saw was that of Boris Yeltsin, the former President of Russia, who had a huge grave shaped and coloured like the Russian flag. There was also Gorbachev's wife's grave (the wife of the former Soviet Union President) and next to that grave is where Gorbachev will be buried when he dies. Stanislavski, the theatre practitioner, and Gherman Titov, the second person ever to orbit the earth, were some others. A short taxi back to the hotel was taken before the boys checked out and headed to lunch near Red Square, which was opened once Putin had finished. During lunch, Rafe Wendelken-Dickson, *Druries*, made a short speech and handed out some presents for all the beaks involved. It was time to head to their last venue, St Basil's Cathedral. This building is remarkable on the outside,

but the interior is not what you expect. Instead of having one large hall like most cathedrals or churches, it was much more like a labyrinth with small corridors and rooms. The choir sang three pieces of music, and then had a short amount of time to look around the cathedral. It was time to say goodbye to Moscow, and the choir returned to the hotel one last time. They couldn't leave the hotel without singing *Locus Iste* just once more, this time in front of the staff of the hotel. They highly appreciated it. A coach took them to the airport and they said goodbye to Russia.



An enormous thanks to PJE and all the sponsors who helped make this trip possible. PJE would be particularly thankful to anybody who goes to check out the videos of the choir on YouTube, or goes to the Facebook page, which is updated regularly. The Byron Consort was delighted to return to Russia and looks forward to its next trip.

## BUCK SOCIETY

*Rafe Wendelken-Dickson, Druries, and Corran Stewart, Lyon's, on The Beatles, 4 March*

On Monday 4 March, Rafe Wendelken-Dickson, *Druries*, and Corran Stewart, *Lyon's*, addressed the Buck Society in an exclusive lecture about The Beatles. After some general introduction from Wendelken-Dickson about the band, Stewart started to delve into some of the songs from the successful album *Revolver*. Beginning with 'Eleanor Rigby' and 'Here there and Everywhere', they highlighted some of the musical structures that The Beatles employed, including the use of double string quartet in 'Eleanor Rigby' and the use of barber-shop style in 'Here there and Everywhere'. Following that, he touched on the George Harrison written (and sung) 'I Want to Tell You', including its evolution from Harrison's experimentation with LSD and the influence of Indian music. From here, Wendelken-Dickson picked up on some of the technological developments that The Beatles used, including the 'Beatles' microphone (the Neumann U67) and the AKG D19, the latter known for becoming more directional at low frequencies unlike most other microphones. He then proceeded to talk about The Beatles' recording engineer Geoff Emerick and some of his innovations, such as the unusual process of creating a carnival sound in 'Being for the Benefit of Mr Kite' by recording fairground music and throwing it in the air, picking the pieces up at random before re-assembly! It was particularly interesting to discover that the song 'Blue Jay Way' features the so-called *musique concrete* technique of recording sound and then playing it back in reverse while re-recording it. Stewart and Wendelken-Dickson ended with some interesting facts about The Beatles, which include Ringo Starr narrating the voice of the favourite children's TV character Thomas the Tank Engine in the first two series. Thanks are due to Wendelken-Dickson and Stewart for an altogether fascinating talk.

## SHERIDAN SOCIETY

*The Films of David Lynch by Hamish Dicketts*

22 January

On a cold and bleak Tuesday afternoon, the Sheridan Society welcomed Hamish Dicketts, *Elmfield*, to talk about David Lynch, the American filmmaker and the themes that run through some of his films. Hamish was going to be paying particular attention to *Blue Velvet*, *Twin Peaks* and *Mulholland Drive*.

Dicketts began with a bit of history about David Lynch, talking about how his parents had a huge influence on him but still didn't allow him a colouring book, possibly to avoid restricting his creative ideas. When growing up, Lynch moved around a lot and usually lived near big open fields where he would freely roam. When the time came to get a job, Lynch first wanted to become an artist until he began watching films, at which point he decided to become a filmmaker saying, "Wow, that would be amazing!" (Dicketts did a very good impression of the well-known Lynch voice, which caused some laughter during the talk). Lynch's first film, *Eraserhead*, 1977, was a body horror loosely based on how Lynch once accidentally got someone pregnant. However, in the film, the woman gives birth to an alien. Hamish outlined how most of Lynch's films are closely related to him and can be linked with a part of his life. The main theme that runs through almost all his films is the idea of small-town America but also of Lynch's interest in the unconscious.

The first film discussed by Hamish was *Blue Velvet*; he started with the first two minutes of the movie where we saw a lovely little town, red roses, a long white garden fence and an old man watering his garden all whilst the song *Blue Velvet* by Bobby Vinton was being played. Lynch drew you into this fantasy world then crushed it with the man suddenly collapsing due to a stroke and the camera panning down a hole in the grass, revealing inside the colony of an ants nest, shown to be quite alien like. The story here is that the metaphorical meaning of this can be represented by the physical darkness underground. The second film was *Mulholland Drive*, which started with a jazzy dance with multiple shots and duplicates being shown on the screen. This was all to reflect on the Hollywood dream and the beginning of being a star with the bright spotlight shining down on you. What this really shows, as Dicketts explained, was how one's expectations are quite different from reality, and how Lynch always throws in a bit of "rose-tinted optimism" as Dicketts put it. Lastly, Dicketts showed the introduction of the film *Twin Peaks*, which begins with the POV from the front of a car going down a long highway at night time while the starting credits roll onto the screen.

One theme that Lynch focused on was the music he used and how that could affect you. For example, the song *Blue Velvet* has very simple yet moving lyrics with the meaning of love embedded in them. With this song, Lynch intended to create an emotional effect on the audience. One scene in *Mulholland Drive* features the song *16 reasons why I love you*, which messes with the head of one of the characters and causes the song to have a much deeper meaning as it is being used to manipulate someone. As well as being the main theme of the film *Blue Velvet*, in one scene, Frank (one of the main characters) hears a song being played and then begins to sing along to it and it begins to tear him apart emotionally before he destroys the record player. At this moment, he is the one being tormented.

Lynch did not only embed music in his movies; cars were also a prominent aspect of his work. The reason for this is that cars represent wealth and the American dream. Dicketts went on to describe the classic image of going down Route 66 into the sunset... the classic American dream. *Twin Peaks* begins with a trip down a highway and *Mulholland Drive* even begins with a car crash that causes Rita, one of the main characters, to forget who she is! The cars are a constant reminder of America

and that dream of making it big which so many people look for.

Dicketts then moved on to his last theme: names. Most notably in *Twin Peaks*, Lynch used extremely ordinary names to possibly contrast with the unsettling events that happen. In *Mulholland Drive*, Rita forgets her name and stumbles across Betty, who may have been named after the singer Betty Davis. Finally, in *Blue Velvet*, the main character is called Dorothy after Lynch's favourite film, *The Wizard of Oz*. What is quite disturbing is that for Dorothy in *Blue Velvet*, the idea of knowledge and knowing where her family is very disturbing and scary, as Frank used that knowledge to torment her because he was keeping the family hostage. However, in *The Wizard of Oz*, Dorothy just wants to return home and see her family.

The Sheridan Society thanks Dicketts for his incredibly detailed lecture showing us his passion for David Lynch. He ended by saying how Lynch did not hate America, although it may seem so due to his distortion of the place. On the contrary, Lynch loved America so much he was able to take that love and create a dystopian world with it because of his deep understanding of the place.

## L.P. HARTLEY AND SHERIDAN SOCIETIES

*Joe Treasure, Inventing a Future, 28 February*

The L.P. Hartley and Sheridan Societies were delighted to welcome the author Joe Treasure. We were treated to an excellent talk on his recent novel *The Book of Air*, and discussion on the topics of imaginative speculation, inspiration for writing and how to create a fictional future. Dystopian, post-apocalyptic literature holds an important role in our culture. It turns our eyes inward and outward, forcing us to look at the state of our own society, while also providing a warning for the future. Joe Treasure has captured this with impressive creativity in his novel, and we enjoyed listening to extracts from *The Book of Air* and explanations for the choices he made in his work.

Two narratives drive the novel: Jason is trying to survive in the countryside after a deadly air-borne virus wipes out the majority of the human population; Agnes is living in a future time when society has regressed many hundreds of years to a state of both simplicity and struggle. The two narratives collide in places, with Agnes finding relics from Jason's time and battling to make sense of them. Very few books have survived, and the ability to read them has been limited to a tiny number of people who attempt to tease out a meaning from their words. One of these books is Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*. The novel's survival has turned it into a religious text, biblical in the weight that is given to its narrative, and Agnes' society turn moments from the novel into ceremonial rites that govern the way they shape meaning. The audience asked Treasure if this impulse for religion was integral to our ability to find meaning in life. He responded with a discussion of the incessant need to find meaning, and that it is often done through socially constructed belief systems, such as religions or political beliefs. He made reference to Big Brother in Orwell's *1984* and the use of religion as a form of control in Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*. Drawing on Karl Marx's idea of religion as the 'opiate of the masses', *Jane Eyre* in *The Book of Air* becomes a religion that both brings people together, but also provides an excuse to punish and control.

Treasure told us how his original plan had not been to write a dystopian novel, but to explore the ways in which our culture would be interpreted by a different time and a different society. There is much humour in this, for example trying to make use of a microwave or computer without access to electricity. Another surviving book in Agnes' time is *The Book of Windows*, and one character, Brendan, spends his life trying to tease out meaning from what turns out, both comically and tragically,



to be a computer manual. The virus in Jason's narrative is also a wonderfully creative moment. Treasure said he was determined to make it more than a clichéd tool for humanity's destruction. Instead, he develops it into an almost mystical journey, where the victim goes through 'the blessing' where they have an outpouring of artistic creativity at the height of a fever. He argued that this was humanity's determination to leave something of value, that we are highly creative beings but it can take the threat of extinction to bring it out.

The evening ended with drinks and canapés, allowing for further discussion with the author. Boys were queuing up to ask Joe Treasure to sign copies of his book, and many enjoyed the chance to discuss their own writing ideas and literary interests. We are hoping to ask Joe Treasure back again in the autumn to lead a joint English and Classics seminar on another of his literary passions: iambic pentameter.

## BYRON CONSORT

*Keble College, Oxford, 27 February*

A week after returning from the wonderful trip to Russia, the Byron Consort set out to Keble College, Oxford, to sing with their choristers at Evensong. We arrived at the beautiful college with its stunning 19th-century architecture and the more recent extension from 1980. After a short rehearsal, we walked to the city centre, where some chose to take in their surroundings and the most famous bookshop in Oxford and others went to McDonald's.

Upon returning to Keble, we had tea and biscuits before walking over to the chapel for a rehearsal with their choristers. Unfortunately, Matthew Martin, their Director of Music, couldn't be there to conduct, so Tom Hammond-Davies took his place, making sure that we were all watching (even more than PJE does). The rehearsal ended, giving us just enough time to stretch our legs before the Evensong started. The Introit was Philip Stopford's *If ye love me* with its spacious and dissonant chords. The responses were by Kenneth Leighton and are well known amongst Harrovians as they are sung by the Chapel Choir from time to time. We went on to sing the *Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis (Collegium and Regale)* by Herbert Howells, which has a stunning treble line and a dramatic Gloria in which the basses had great fun in scaring the trebles in front of them. Then Keble sang the Plainsong Office Hymn of the day before we all sung Vaughan Williams' *Let all the world in every corner sing*, which has an impressive organ part and is just very fun to sing. It was an extremely fitting piece to sing as it was the day that the Church of England celebrates the life and works of George Herbert, who wrote the text to which many composers have set music. To finish off the day, we went to Pizza Express where we all enjoyed a pizza and a dessert (mostly brownies except for the beaks who decided it better to have carrot cake!). PJE must be congratulated yet again for organising such a great trip and we look forward to singing at music for Lent next week.

## DA VINCI SOCIETY

*"Buy one get one free?", 12 February*

On the Tuesday before half term, the Da Vinci Society hosted an exceptional talk by Richard Chen (OH) on his study in the field of optoelectronics. He is currently a researcher at the Cavendish Laboratory of the University of Cambridge investigating how to improve the efficiency of solar cells.

Chen first briefed the audience on the principles of a solar cell, explaining how a photon would promote an electron in the valence band into the conduction band, where it would become an exciton and flow as a current. He then proceeded

to explain that the most significant factor which contributed to lower efficiency in solar cells is the process called thermalization (33% of energy loss). Richard's research into a theory named singlet fission addresses this problem by theoretically doubling the number of excitons produced (the exciton pair formed is called a triplet), by utilising the energy which would have been lost during the thermalization phase, hence resulting in more energy being generated.

Taking into account that singlet fission occurs on a femtosecond (10-15s) timescale, it is impossible to monitor the process using even the fastest camera. So Richard went on to describe how his team overcame this difficulty by utilising a technique called ultra-fast transient absorption spectroscopy. This technique, in essence, uses a powerful laser to fire short pulses less than 10fs in duration at a sample of singlet fission material and measure the level of absorption, which relates to the number of triplets produced. From Richard's recent experiments, an organic molecule known as pentacene has shown the highest triplet yield, but is still not the perfect substance due to other considerations that occur when applying this material as a top layer to existing solar panels.

This talk featured some challenging concepts in solid state physics and chemistry but Chen managed to communicate these complex ideas with clarity and enthusiasm.

## ORIENTAL SOCIETY

*Chinese New Year, 9 February*

The Oriental Society hosted its annual celebration of Chinese New Year on Saturday 9 February. After a tiring day of lessons and sports fixtures, members of the Oriental Society gladly enjoyed an extensive range of Chinese delicacies at the Royal Dragon restaurant in Chinatown. This included crispy aromatic duck, fried pork belly, stir-fried tofu and special fried rice, to name just a few dishes. While enjoying our delicious meal, we also had the chance to discuss the intriguing background to Chinese New Year and Chinatown. Chinese GCSE and Pre-U students also had an excellent opportunity to practise their everyday speaking skills with SWW.

Chinese New Year fell on 5 February and, this year, we celebrated the transition from the year of the dog to the year of the pig, the 12th zodiac animal. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor decided the order of the zodiac animals through the order in which they arrived at his party. The pig was the last to arrive because he overslept. Legend also states that men who are born in the year of the pig are optimistic and gentle, while women are full of excitement. The pig is also connected to the Earthly Branches and it lies between the ninth and 11th hours of the night. Furthermore, the pig is a symbol of wealth and fortune due to its long ears and chubby cheeks. Apart from Chinese New Year, the spring festival also involves various other celebrations, including the day of the horse, the human and the sheep. The 15-day festival officially begins the day after New Year's Eve and continues all the way through to the Lantern Festival.

The history of London's Chinatown dates back to Chinese sailors at the end of the 18th century. A century after the migrants first arrived, 30 businesses opened in Chinatown to provide for these sailors. Despite the delicious restaurants and authentic bakeries that define Chinatown today, at the time, Chinatown was an infamous, crime-infested slum, largely defined by its opium dens. During the Blitz of the Second World War, a large part of Chinatown was bombed and destroyed. However, Chinatown was resilient. It was able to rebuild itself and thrive after the war. The increasing popularity of Chinese cuisine and the influx of immigrants from Hong Kong meant that Chinatown continued to grow. Today, Chinatown has grown to become a

well-known and frequently visited area of London. However, crime-related issues persist in modern-day Chinatown, as they have done before. The presence of Chinese gangs, such as the Hong Kong Triad, still poses a significant threat in London's Chinatown, as it does in Chinatowns all across the world.

On behalf of the Oriental Society, I would like to thank SWW, RMT, and TS for all their efforts in organising this fantastic celebration. We were all very grateful for the opportunity to experience the excitement of Chinese New Year as one group. From a Western perspective, celebrating Chinese New Year was quite an extraordinary experience, and it reminded us that, while we all get caught up in our celebrations of Christmas and New Year, there are hundreds of millions of people who engage in an entirely different celebration.

## MUN CONFERENCE

*Youth Model United Nations, away at the LSE,  
8 February*

Last Friday, seven boys in the Sixth Form (and one in the Remove) trod off through the drizzle to LSE to take part in the fourth Youth Model United Nations (YouthMun).

Each delegate represented a given country across multiple councils and held the process of discourse in their respective groups. Although there were relatively low numbers attending this prestigious event, a great many successes were had by Harrow boys, with each one winning prizes (a feat accomplished by no other school in attendance).

While it would be impossible to give a full account of what occurred in all of the councils (for that would take at least five pages, if not more), this article's writer can give an account of the proceedings of their council (UNDP). Having departed after a rather chilly 2e, the group of participants made their way to Holborn by tube and arrived at LSE. Having had a brief lunch, we settled to attend the opening conference, which commenced with a chair's panel speaking on a multitude of political topics. Comprising three prestigious panellists, all graduates in their respective topics, the panel discussed several pressing issues such as the global geopolitical state with reference to tensions between America and China, as well as the rising tide of populism and its impending effects on climate change. Those who remained awake found it thoroughly enlightening.

With an emphatic hammering of the mallet declaring the MUN open, the committees subsequently divided themselves into their respective groups and headed toward their conference rooms. Although the first session was devoted exclusively to administration and the opening of debate (the true first step in commencing the MUN), some debate took place, courtesy of the ever-bureaucratic general speaker's list and the agenda of setting the motion. In the UNDP, the motion of "promoting sustainable industrialisation in developing nations" (relevant to the EU's sustainable development plan phase 9) was decided upon after it became evident that topic B, "the creation of access to efficient capital markets for developing nations" was shown to be out of the depth of a minority of the nations there (all of whom, thankfully, did not represent Harrow). With the agenda having been set and the short session finished, we returned to the Hill in anticipation of the events of the following day.

The following day was, we found, the day around which all proceedings revolved; in our council, the UNDP, it began with fierce debate (led by a certain representative of China who sought to act as an irresponsible instrument of controversy at all points) with regards to the base importance of sustainability in industrialisation, and its moral implications for developing nations that would have to make concessions in its favour. Several similar debates followed before the basis of bloc management

came into effect; by means of diplomacy and negotiation, we found ourselves heading a bloc with 13 members in a council of 15, a number that, albeit realistic, was conducive to success. With this having been settled, Akhavan Zanjani, *Druries*, set about writing the resolution, while O'Dell, *West Acre*, garnered support for it amongst the other representatives.

To our surprise, China, at the last moment, decided to write their own resolution, amalgamating low-integrity interpretations of our policies into a haphazard imitation of our resolution. After adroit political manoeuvring by O'Dell, the Harrow resolution passed 13-2, while an intelligent backstab resulted in the other resolution being blocked 9-7.

With this success having been achieved, the motion to close debate succeeded and the UNDP council closed for the event; we then proceeded to undertake a brief crisis situation (which soon evolved into an hour-long unmoderated caucus until the closing ceremony).

At the closing ceremony, with a resounding hammer having signified the end of proceedings in much the same way as it had endeavoured to commence them, we proceeded to the award ceremony, where all eight Harrow delegates received some form of award.

Results are as follows:

UNDP: Que Akhavan Zanjani, *Druries*: Commendation; Sam O'Dell, *West Acre*: Best Delegate; UNHRC: Tommy Nguyen, *The Grove*: Honourable Delegate; SPECPOL: George Hall, *West Acre*: Best Delegate; Junsik Han, *Lyon's*: Commendation; Arab League: Ostap Stefak, *Newlands*: Honourable Delegate; Oliver Bater, *Rendalls*: Outstanding Delegate; UNSC: Harrison Layden-Fritz, *West Acre*: Best Delegate.

Overall, it was an impressive showing of tact and ability across the board, and a beneficial experience for all involved.

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## HERE AND THERE

During the half-term break, George Hall, *West Acre*, competed in the national final of the Institute of Economics Affairs Monetary Policy Essay Competition for undergraduates. George presented an analysis of the role of monetary aggregates in predicting inflationary pressure, and answered questions from a panel of judges - despite not having studied the topic at School at all. The other four finalists were undergraduates from Oxford, Cambridge, and LSE midway through their Economics degrees, and yet George was awarded runner-up in the competition. This is a tremendous achievement, especially for a boy in the L6. George has been offered a research internship with the IEA as a result.

Andrew Zhou, *Lyon's*, has been invited to the 2nd round of the Chemistry Olympiad for the second year in a row! It was an incredible achievement to have been invited last year as a L6 student and so he should be well prepared to attend again now in U6. After making light of a tough 1st round paper, Andrew would hope to complete for a place in the 4-man UK team through a series of workshops of both practical and theoretical problems to solve at Cambridge University.

## DAME VAUGHAN AGONY AUNT

Dear Dame Vaughan,

It is a truth universally acknowledged, O Lady of the beautifully built bibliothèque, that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a new novel. Tired am I of the fripperies and frivolities of the social life and the endless inane banalities of the bright young things. I yearn for substance, for intrigue and the witty delights of well-read persons of a respectable ilk, in whom I see a reflection of myself. I am from a small but respectable parish in -shire, where I live with my parents and my two sisters. A new family has just moved into the manor at the end of the lane, and my family are quite giddy with excitement. Honestly, it really does one's nut. I pine for the quiet solitude of a well-written, witty observation of this grotesque circus, preferably with a subtle yet distinct feminist slant, to slate my disdain for reality. Your advice, as ever, is gratefully appreciated.

Yours fondly, nay, ardently,  
JA

Dear My Parochially Pretentious Parishioner,  
I commend your sense, or is it your sensibilities? I shall leave that little distinction to the scholars. Nevertheless, you have, as ever, come to the right Dame. As I'm sure you will know, I am no stranger to the bright lights and dark nights of high society, and am not without my sway within the charmed coterie of the crème de la crème. Why, I have even been described by the great Lord Monomark as 'a shimmering constellation whose gravitational sway pulls even the strongest stars into my orbit'. One questions his grasp on astrophysics. I believe Paris Hilton stated it better: "She da girl". Thus, in my eminent status as an Instagram influencer, I once more proffer my solution: *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen (hands up who thought I was going for Evelyn Waugh?). One of the classics, this lovely novel, written in 1813, is the perfect wit-wrought commentary on the Regency era, and the role of the female within patriarchal, parochial politics. Laced with wry observations about family dynamics, education, manners, marriage and money, the novel follows the young Elizabeth Bennett as she learns the distinction between what is superficial and what is essential in life. From Austen's distinctive style and humorous world-making comes a shrewd critique of patriarchy and a modest yet ground-breaking feminist manifesto. Here, you may escape the petty politics of your family and hide from the shallow surfaces of high society, and seek solace and instruction in a novel of substance.

You're welcome.  
Yours universally,  
Dame Vaughan

[If you have a book-themed predicament and wish to seek advice from the omniscient Dame Vaughan, please email the editor or the Vaughan Library, who will pass it onto the Dame's people.]

## GAFFE AND GOWN *Quips from Around the Hill*

"Sir, I thought Hitler's first name was Heil?"

"Boys, the only way is ethics."

"Mass this Sunday is at 7.45pm, due to the fact that the bishop is coming to give it." (*As a boy sees the bishop walk in and notices the bishop's zucchetto*) "Oh wow, I didn't know the bishop was Jewish!"

"So, the formula for converting Celsius to Fahrenheit is 9/5... but you do not need to know this because its used in America. So 10 degrees Celsius would be 40 degrees Fahrenheit." "So sir, does that mean water boils at a different temperature in America?"

"So boys, some of you wrote that the first person present active indicative singular of *dispositus* was *disposito*, which sounds more like some sort of Spanish song than a verb."

(*in Harrow football*) "Sir, how long left of the game?" "It was 8 minutes about 3 minutes ago, so about 2 minutes left, I'd say."

(*A beak*) "Oh wait... I've been marking the mark scheme."

"Now this word is spelled  $\pi$ el... wait. Can anyone remember how to write the letter 'p'?"

## OH WISDOM



"The greatest privilege of childhood is to live totally in the present." Simon Sebag-Montefiori (*The Knoll 1978*) British historian, television presenter and author, taken from his novel *One Night In Winter* (2013).

## THE MIDDLE STUMP

"Help!" I screamed from above the grass, "A missile's flying straight towards my head!" The ground fell deathly quiet. Fortunately, the missile whistled past, missing me by inches. It was 1642, the first year of the English Civil War, and I was stuck in the mud in a woodland clearing in Sussex. An enemy had fixed me upright into the ground, leaving me on my own, unable to move on a square of land usually occupied by sheep. I could hear a noisy group of men yelling at each other. They kept running towards me from the woods, throwing what looked like a hard lump of sheep's dung at me. Suddenly their captain told them to gather around.



"All right men, we've had our little practice! Now, let the battle commence! Take up arms!"

Half of the men picked out their weapons from the woods, while the other half spread themselves out across the outfield. A huge man then emerged with a mighty wooden club. To my horror, he began to advance slowly towards me, like Goliath bearing down on David.

Nearer and nearer he came until, finally, he waved the menacing club high above his head. I closed my eyes in terror as he brought it crashing down. But the end never came. The club had landed just in front of my nose as the man took his guard at the start of the match. And so, began the game of cricket, with me as the first-ever stump.

## SUDOKU

*Persevera per severa per se vera*

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## MUSINGS ON HATS

*The Padre, boater hat*



I thought I would share with you the history of the Harrow hat. The ancestor of the Harrow hat is the well-known boater hat, but Harrow decided to give it a slight twist. Its first appearance was on the cricket fields of Harrow. Charles Wordsworth (OH, 1820-1825) recalls his straw hat being broken by a ball after fielding near a batsman. In the 1830s, it became a popular item of dress in the Summer term, but it was not until later that they were permitted to be used instead of the top hats, except on Sundays. The famous two-inch low crown dates from the 1860s, but the brim length was narrow up to 1873. Between 1873 and 1877, the brim widened gradually to its present breadth of three inches.

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## FENCING

*The School v Eton College, 28 February*

Harrow lost a closely fought match v Eton College on Thursday by 3 blades to 1. Both Foil teams took to the piste first. Eton took an early lead in the Foil B and, despite some dogged resistance and rearguard action from Francois de Robert Hautequere, *Lyon's*, Eton won the match 45-35. The Foil A sadly fared no better and, despite an excellent performance, notably from Kit Akinluyi, *The Head Master's*, the Epée team also lost but by a very small margin, 45-42. Well done to all involved – this now bring the club's win rate to 75% over the year and the boys now look forward to the Public Schools' Fencing Championships at Crystal Palace in March.

Foil A: lost 26-45

Foil B: lost 35-45

Epée: lost 42-45

## BADMINTON

*The School v Epsom College, 2 March*

1st Won 7-5

The Badminton A team won 7-5 against Epsom College.

## HOCKEY

*The School v Aldenham School, 2 March*

1st XI, Lost 1-2

Scorer: Archie Rowllins, *West Acre*

The 1st XI played brilliantly in spells of this game and will feel aggrieved not to come away with a result. In the first half, the teams were fairly evenly matched. Rowllins scored a sharp deflection goal from a slick short corner routine but Harrow then switched off and let Aldenham back into the game. Despite being on top for nearly the whole second half, Harrow failed to convert many chances in front of goal and, in the last seconds of the game, Aldenham snatched it. Credit must go to the whole team for the intensity with which they played the whole match.

2nd XI, Lost 0-7

Harrow started with energy and determination and, in the first 20 minutes, the game looked competitive and balanced. Even after Aldenham scored, Harrow were still very much in the match and pushed forward, when they were slightly unfortunate to concede a second goal just on the stroke of half time. In the second half, Aldenham really turned up the heat and, at the same time, Harrow lost their edge, so it quickly turned into a more one-sided affair as Aldenham produced some fine displays of teamwork and individual skill. With the added challenge of tiring legs, it became a mere question of how many the final difference would be, with Aldenham eventually chalking up seven for a comfortable win.

Junior Colts A, Won 2-1

Junior Colts 1st Pair, Lost 0-3

Some promising rackets despite a 0-3 defeat for Sam Owston, *Moretons* and Henry Oelhafen, *Lyon's*.

Junior Colts 2nd Pair, Lost 1-3

Federico Gherisi, *The Head Master's* and Tarquin Sotir, *Druries* played some excellent rackets despite a losing 1-3 scoreline.



## PIGEON SHOOTING COMPETITION

*Fido May Trophy Competition at the E J Churchill,  
28 February*

Last Thursday Harrow hosted 140 competitors in 34 teams from 16 schools at the ninth annual Fido May Trophy Competition at the E J Churchill shooting ground. Shooting against some very strong competition, Harrow A Team, which won last year, took sixth position. Captain George Jenkins, *Newlands*, shot 37 out of a possible 50 clays but did not make High Gun, while our A team's score of 45/60 in the flush placed us third overall in that category.

## CROSS COUNTRY

*Seniors away at Marlborough, 3 March*

The Senior cross country team came a close second in Tuesday's fixture at Marlborough College. The course covered undulating playing fields and some tricky steep farmland terrain on the edge of Wiltshire downland. Monty Powell, *The Grove*, came in second place, but it was a striking team performance, with all Senior runners coming in the top 12 in a field of over 40 runners.

Harrow won the Intermediate age-category race, with Graham Lambert, *Lyon's*, and Eddie Jodrell, *Elmfield*, giving outstanding performances to take first and second place, showing great stamina and mental fortitude.

Yesterday saw the School host the South-East Schools Cross Country event involving over 250 runners from all over the country. Cross country captain Powell came in as the first Senior runner for Harrow and an impressive 10th place overall. Jodrell led the Intermediate team to third place, finishing just ahead of Lambert. In the Juniors, Tom Emery, *Moretons*, gained a top-ten finish with an outstanding run for Harrow.

## SQUASH

*National Cup - Round 4*

Senior 1st v Whitgift School, Won 3-2

A narrow and hard-fought 3-2 win against Whitgift meant that the first team qualified for the National Schools Finals for the third year running. This is the last eight schools in the country and the finals will be at Nottingham on 22 March. The key victories here came from fine performances from Brando Sodi, *West Acre*, Kareem Jafree, *Elmfield*, and David Gibbons, *The Park*.

Senior 1st v Felstead School, Won 5-0

The first team beat Felstead 5-0 in the third group stage of the National Schools Competition.

Senior 1st v Westminster School, Won 4-1

A 4-1 win against Westminster ensured that Harrow won their group at the third stage of the National Schools Competition. This ensured that they qualified for the finals at Nottingham: a fine achievement.

*The School v Charterhouse, Senior 1st, Won 5-0*

A 5-0 win for the first team sounds easy but it certainly wasn't. Tom Santini and David Gibbons, both *The Park*, had tough matches before winning 3-2. Declan Shortt, *Newlands*, won 3-1 while Brando Sodi, *West Acre*, and Kareem Jafree, *Elmfield*, both showed good form in winning 3-0.

Senior 2nd, Won 4-1

The 2nd team kept up their recent run of victories with a 4-1 win over Charterhouse. Sasha Sebag-Montifiore, *The Knoll*, played very well to win 3-0. Will Orr Ewing, *Elmfield*, Fred Murley, *The Park*, and Tiger Powell, *The Grove*, continued their winning streaks but Humza Qureshi, *The Park*, went down 3-2 in a thriller.

Junior Colts, Lost 1-2

The Junior Colts lost 2-1 to Charterhouse with Ilyas Qureshi, *The Park*, the only winner on the day.

Yearlings, Won 5-0

The Yearlings beat Charterhouse 5-0 with emphatic wins for Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, Gabriel Black, Adi Gupte, both *West Acre*, Connor O'Flaherty, *The Head Master's*, and Arnaud Du Roy De Blicquy, *Elmfield*.

## SOCCER

*The School 1st XI v Tonbridge, at Home, 2 March  
Won 5-2*

It was a tough but ultimately successful afternoon on the Sunley for the 1st XI. There were several injury concerns going into the game. Max Little, *Rendalls*, has had to move from his room on the top floor of the house into the basement after suffering a bout of altitude sickness and severe vertigo, while Thomas Walduck, *The Knoll*, had to sit this one out while dealing with a fruit fly infestation in his room. Ludo Palazzo, *West Acre*, had a disciplinary issue during the week after refusing to be substituted in a house yarder session (the physio reported a fractured eyelash, but Palazzo claimed he was fit to carry on), which resulted in his manager, an irate Shell boy, putting an Upper Sixth substitute through a third-floor window.

Tonbridge started this one brightly and it looked like it was going to be a close afternoon for the 1st XI, until Carlo Agostinelli, *The Head Master's*, pulled a goal out of nowhere in the fifth minute. A long ball over the top was cleared straight up into the air by the Tonbridge goalkeeper, and the resulting spin of the ball and strong wind took the ball back towards him on the edge of the area. Agostinelli, with his back to goal, hit a ridiculous left-foot volley on the spin that sailed over the keeper's head and into the top corner: a sublime effort.

Harrow's second goal came ten minutes later. A Tonbridge clearance fell to Tom Ward, *West Acre*, who almost single-handedly held the midfield together all game, and his touch fell to Christian Boland, *Newlands*, whose turn and first-time strike from 20 yards caught the Tonbridge keeper off guard and his powerful effort evaded the keeper's dive and hit the back of the net.

Harrow then went down to ten men in the 25th minute, but this did not deter the boys from continuing their attacking football. In fact, they managed to extend their lead just before half time. This time, there was great attacking play from Agostinelli down the left-hand side and his cross wasn't cleared properly, which enabled Will Holyoake, *The Head Master's*, to steam in at the back post and finish with his left foot. Holyoake was an unlikely but a very deserving scorer. He was outstanding all afternoon and showed great fitness and stamina to play a full match at right wing-back, having to constantly get up and down the wing.

With the wind behind them and a man advantage, Tonbridge were always going to be a threat in the second half. Harrow began the half well and looked comfortable in defence, but Tonbridge continued to throw men forward and managed to grab two goals back after some tired defending from Harrow.

At 3-2 things started to look a bit shaky for Harrow, but the boys got a second wind and took the game by the scruff of the neck. Step up Oliver Johnson, *Rendalls*, and his superb wing play to set up a fourth Harrow goal. Johnson went on a barnstorming run down the left hand side, evading tackle after tackle to cross into Toby Gould, *West Acre*, who timed his run perfectly to open his body up and deflect the ball into the far corner.

Harrow were indebted to the defensive quality of Ludo Palazzo, Andrew Holmes, *The Grove*, and Ed Lewis, *Rendalls*, who kept out wave after wave of attacks from Tonbridge and still had the quality to play good passing football when the opportunity presented itself. Raef Tanner, *Bradlys*, was everywhere in midfield while Yuhki Koshiba, *Lyon's*, and Musty Akhtar, *The Head Master's*, worked tirelessly to press the opposition. Max Little, *Rendalls*, in goal also showed his quality once again with two incredible saves, one with his foot from point-blank range and one ridiculous save from a header that looked destined for the far corner.

Josh Davis, *Moretons*, came on for the last ten minutes to give the Tonbridge defence something else to worry about, and his strong hold-up play helped Agostinelli get his second of the match, and Harrow's fifth, in the final minute of the game when his right-footed volley flew into the bottom corner.

2nd XI, Drew 2-2

Scorers: Arthur Leney, *The Knoll*; Josh Davis, *Moretons*,

Man of the match: Trevor Tang, *The Grove*,

The 2nd XI has started to play some excellent football; it is frustrating that this has yet to be converted into a sequence of wins. However, Tonbridge was a strong opponent, physical and technical in all departments, and a draw was fair in what was an extremely entertaining encounter.

3rd XI, Won 1-0

The 3rd XI kept their title bid alive yesterday with the only goal of the game two minutes from time from Ollie Wiggan, *Bradlys*, to end Tonbridge's 100% start to the season after an inspired tactical switch from their charismatic young coach.

4th XI, Lost 0-1

5th XI, Lost 2-3

End-to-end action but they pipped us at the post with superior control. A sad day indeed.

6th XI, Drew 2-2

An excellent pair of goals from Archie Martine, *Lyon's*.

Colts A, Drew 3-3

Scorers: Ogbonna, *The Head Master's*, H. Smith, *Newlands*, Gray, *Newlands*,

The first game after the mid-season break proved tough. For the first 20 minutes, Harrow looked off the pace and were penalised, going two goals behind. This suddenly shook them into action and a well-worked move was finished off by Ogbonna. A glancing header from Smith brought it back to level pegging. However, more mistakes cost Harrow, again conceding a soft goal. The second was much brighter and Harrow dominated the chances. A Gray freekick brought them level and there the game stayed. Not one for the neutral but good spirit was shown to get a point on a difficult away fixture.

Colts B, Drew 1-1

Colts C, Drew 1-1 Scorer: Joe Smith, *Bradlys*

The Colts Cs came up against their toughest opponents thus far, earning a respectable 1-1 draw from a closely matched encounter. Joe Smith, *Bradlys*, finished in clinical style for

Harrow's only goal.

Colts D, Won 3-0

Goals: Lloyd, *Newlands*, x 2, Phillips, *The Head Master's*

Junior Colts A, Lost 0-3

Junior Colts B, Lost 3-5

Junior Colts C, Lost 0-5

Junior Colts D, Lost 1-2

*Yearlings matches v King's College School (KCS), Wimbledon*

Yearlings C v KCS A Team, Lost 2-4

Scorers: Casper Kingsley, *Elmfield*, Finlay Douglas, *Newlands*

Summary: The classic tale of two halves

Yearlings D v KCS B Team, Lost 0-3

Yearlings E v KCS C Team, Lost 1-3

Yearlings F, Won 6-2

Scorers: Jack Artis, *The Head Master's*, Monty Behar-Sheehan, *Bradlys*, Jojo Kunitomo, *The Knoll*, Dani Neal, *Moretons*, Jimmy Turner, *Elmfield*

In their first match of the season, Harrow put on a splendid and determined display of skill against a more experienced King's College School squad. Leading by two goals to one at half time, Harrow continued to pressurise their opponents right up to the dying minutes of the second half to take the final score to an impressive 6-2 win in their favour.

## RACKETS

*The School v Wellington College, 26 February*

Senior - 1st Pair, Won 3-1

The best performance of the year for the Harrow 1st Pair of Charlie Witter, *Elmfield* and Julian Owston, *Moretons* who won a very tight match against a strong Wellington pair 3-1.

Senior - 2nd Pair, Won 3-0

A comfortable 3-0 win for Rishi Wijeratne, *The Head Master's* and Luke Harrington-Myers, *Bradlys*

Colts - 1st Pair, Won 3-1

Some fine rackets from Johnny Connell, *Rendalls* and Ben Hope, *Rendalls*

*The School v Marlborough College, 28 February*

Senior - 1st Pair

Won 3-0

A dominant display in a 3-0 win for Julian Owston, *Moretons* and Otto Stroyan, *The Grove*

Senior - 2nd Pair, Won 3-1

Cameron Mahal, *The Grove* and Luke Harrington -Myers, *Bradlys*, played competitively to win a tight 3-1 match

Colts - 1st Pair, Lost 0-3

Some fine rackets despite a 0-3 loss for Jude Brankin -Friday, *Newlands* and Ben Hope, *Rendalls*

Colts - 2nd Pair, Won 3-0

A very good 3-0 win for Finn Matheson, *Druries* and Sasha Sebag-Montefiore, *The Knoll*.



## RUGBY

*1st VII away in Hereford, 3 March*

The 1st VII started off the 7s season with a strong showing at the prestigious Marches 7s tournament in Hereford. Harrow won its group with convincing wins against Dean Close (42-0), RGS Worcester (24-12) and Llandaff (62-0). This led into the knockout rounds and a quarter final with traditional Welsh powerhouse Glantaf. Harrow dominated the tie, playing their best rugby of the day to win comfortably 33-0. In the semi final, battling heavy winds and horizontal rain, Harrow faced a well-drilled Blundells side, the competition's reigning champions. Despite a 12-10 lead at half time, Harrow couldn't hold on and eventually succumbed 20-12. A disappointing outcome but plenty of promising signs ahead of the next few tournaments.

## POLO

*National Schools tournament, 3 March*

This weekend at Rugby Polo Club over 40 teams played in the National Schools tournament divided into 5 decisions.

The B team captained by Johnny Marsh, *The Park*, played in the second division winning against Marlborough 1:0 and Heathfield 2:1. They lost against Milton Abbey 2:1 and against Millfield 1:0 to come third overall.



The A Team played their first chukka against Cheltenham and won 4:2, lost their second chukka against Seaford with a score of 1:2, and won their 3rd chukka against Stowe 2:1, coming 3rd in the top division. Hugo Taylor won Most Valuable player of the tournament.

## HARROW FOOTBALL XI

*The Thompson XI v The School XI, 3 March*

*The Thompson XI:* H C J Cousens *The Head Master's* 2005<sup>3</sup>, G H Craven *The Grove* 2015<sup>3</sup>, T A Dryden *Bradlys* 2005<sup>3</sup>, J V Evans *Moretons* 2007<sup>3</sup>, G W R Green *Moretons* 2005<sup>3</sup>, E J T Hills *Moretons* 2006<sup>3</sup>, J J P Jolly *Moretons* 2005<sup>3</sup>, T J Lyon's *Bradlys* 2005<sup>3</sup>, A B N Nicholls *Bradlys* 2015<sup>3</sup>, A T R D Oliver *The Grove* 2004<sup>3</sup>, A F S Thompson *Moretons* 2005<sup>3</sup>, W Y Thompson *The Park* 2007<sup>3</sup>

It was a very unusual day for Harrow football, insofar as the usual complaints of cold hands were replaced by panting and new qualms about just how hot it was. The sun smiled on us that day, far too much. However, the School came out ready for a win, and managed an early first half by battling uphill. Alex



de Broë scored an early base, before slotting another later on in the match. The School extended this lead with goals from Keith and Johnson Watts, but the OHs, after a long half time rest, came back guns firing, with three quick goals from Craven, Oliver and Thompson. At this point, the School became scared of defeat and began pushing back at full force, managing to hold onto the lead and win the game.

*The Outcasts v The Bailey XI, 3 March*

The Bailey XI: C E G Bailey *The Head Master's* 2002<sup>3</sup>, C C Gallagher *The Head Master's* 2010<sup>3</sup>, C H Gallagher *The Head Master's* 1972<sup>3</sup>, D A Gallagher *The Head Master's* 1974<sup>1</sup>, R R McMahon *The Head Master's* 2007<sup>3</sup>, JLM



An enjoyable but competitive match was played out on Hemstel 5 in which the OHs were soon powering into a lead. With the hill behind them, JLM grabbed a first-half hat-trick, and there was a fourth added by Morr. The only reply from the Outcasts was from the tenancies Johnny Marsh, *The Park*. The match was delayed when the ball burst and no spare could be found. A quick visit to a nearby changer saw a replacement arrive and a well-earned extra half-time break for the players. In the second half, the Outcasts were fortified by the assistance of the hill and the wavering fitness of the OHs. There were bases from Cullimore, *Rendalls*, Farr, *The Park*, and Owston, *Moretons*. Farr thought he had grabbed the winner but this was disallowed for offside. An honourable 4-4 draw.

*The School XI v The Oxford OHs*

*The Oxford OHs:* A Cartwright *The Grove* 2011<sup>3</sup>, F Denison-Smith *Elmfield* 2011<sup>3</sup>, A Edwards *The Park* 2011<sup>3</sup>, L Findlay *Elmfield* 2011<sup>3</sup>, O Gardiner *West Acre* 2011<sup>3</sup>, J Herholdt *Newlands* 2012<sup>3</sup>, S Karim *Newlands* 2011<sup>3</sup>, E Mackay *The Grove* 2011<sup>3</sup>, S Miller *Newlands* 2014<sup>3</sup>, H Mingay *The Park* 2011<sup>3</sup>, A Tremlett *The Park* 2013<sup>3</sup>, Connor Smith, Ludo Finlay, Oliver Gardiner *The School:* A J de Broë-Ferguson, A H S Farr, both *The Park*, O H Glimmerveen, *Bradlys*, G B S Jenkins, *Rendalls*, A W H Johnson-Watts, *Lyon's*, M W Keith, *The Knoll*, J G J Owston, *Moretons*, J Cullimore, *Rendalls*, A N Predolac Miller, *Druries*, A A J Saunders, *The Knoll*, H A Stephenson, *West Acre*, O S Taylor, *Rendalls*.



The OHs started very well with Mingay scoring a well-taken yards base. At this point, the XI thought that we could be in for a long afternoon, with the OH team consisting of some pretty large players such as Miller. However, this wasn't to be. Momentum was gained through a good transfer from de Broe Ferguson to Farr, who slotted the kick to level the game, but the OHs still seemed to be playing the better footer. To add to this matter, the XI took a blow when a Finds dinner the previous night took its toll on Predolac Miller, who had to leave the field due to a "head injury" – and so the School was 11 in a match that was 12 v 12. The OHs capitalised, with Miller scoring from distance and taking the lead going into half time. However, Jenkins scored two bases in quick succession, one rattling the cross bar of the rugby post but being allowed, giving the XI a lead. Fitness started to take its toll on both sides: with it being played on a rugby pitch, it was very fast-moving game. A few big hits from the OHs stunned members of the XI such as Keith. The game then opened up and a big break from Johnson-Watts, with Saunders following up, led to a base from de Broe Ferguson. In the final minutes, Taylor, who was very proudly wearing his newly awarded Outcast colours, produced what he would call magic, others luck, to give Keith a long shot at a yard's base, which he took well to make the score 5-2. A seemingly convincing win for the XI, but that wasn't the case. The OHs missed numerous chances of scoring throughout the game but were unable to capitalise on them, and good defence from Cullimore and Owston proved vital.

### Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

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