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ELMFIELD & PARK HOUSE PLAY

"A Few Good Men", Ryan Theatre, 8 November

On Thursday and Friday last week, Elmfield and The Park put on their House play *A Few Good Men*. The play is most famously known for the 1992 film starring Tom Cruise, Jack Nicholson and Kevin Bacon. For those who did not have the immense pleasure of seeing the play, spoilers for the plot will follow.



The play follows Lieutenant Daniel Kaffee (Jake Henson, *The Park*), an army lawyer trying to keep his head down until he finishes the mandatory public service required by his army scholarship to Harvard. Kaffee is assigned to the case of Lance Corporal Dawson (Kyle Debrah, *Elmfield*) and Private Downey (Shubh Malde, *Elmfield*), who are both serving as Marines in Guantanamo Bay. They are accused of the murder of Private Santiago (Humza Qureshi, *The Park*). Private Santiago was bound and gagged by the two and suffered a heart attack, seemingly due to poison on the gagging rag. Working alongside Kaffee is Joanne Galloway (Otto Heffer, *Elmfield*), an inexperienced but passionate lawyer, and Sam Weinberg (Paddy Breeze, *Elmfield*), a casual and humorous lawyer, whose attention keeps getting drawn to his infant daughter. Santiago, who had seen another Marine fire his weapon across the border into Cuba, had sent a letter to Colonel Nathan Jessop stating that he would give him the name of this Marine in exchange for transfer off the base. Santiago hated the life of a Marine, complaining of being bullied by his fellow soldiers and that he was suffering due to the intense training regime.

Colonel Jessop, who was appalled by Santiago's lack of resilience and breaking of the chain of command, orders Lieutenant Kendrick to train Santiago properly. Kaffee talks to the prosecutor (Tom Santini, *The Park*), who agrees to recommend Dawson and Downey a prison sentence of two years, with parole after six months, if they plead guilty. However, Dawson and Downey reject this deal, stating that they did not murder Santiago. They intended to give him a "Code Red", a process where the members of a Marine's squad punish him for some misconduct, such as being late or dropping a weapon. They said that they merely wanted to tie him up and shave his head and that they did not know there was poison on the rag. Dawson also states that Lieutenant Kendrick ordered him to do so, in a private meeting. Meanwhile, Colonel Jessop is desperately trying to tie up loose ends relating to his involvement in Santiago's death. He

summons Dr Stone (Robin Guthe, *Elmfield*) to his office. Dr Stone states that he is not sure whether or not it was poison, as those with heart troubles could suffer a heart attack under extreme stress and duress. Dr Stone also states that Santiago did complain of tightness in his chest, a sign of such problems. However, Jessop persuades him to tell the court room that it was poison that killed Santiago. Kaffee then visits Jessop and asks about Santiago's letter asking for transfer off the base. Jessop lies to Kaffee, saying that he organised for Santiago to be flown from Guantanamo Bay on the first available flight, which left shortly after Santiago's death. However, when Kaffee asks for the flight records of the base, which have already been doctored by Jessop, Jessop shouts angrily at Kaffee, demanding that he respect Jessop's service and "ask him nicely". In a short interlude, Lieutenant Colonel Markinson (Philip Richardson, *The Park*), the man in charge of the Marines in Guantanamo Bay, steals the undoctored flight records at gunpoint. He then photocopies the documents and sends them to Kaffee, intending this to prove that Jessop had no intention of sending Santiago off base. Markinson then commits suicide, ashamed about Santiago's death.

However, Markinson is of no help to Kaffee because photocopies are inadmissible evidence. During the trial, Kaffee proves to the jury that Code Reds are a common part of a Marine's life, that it may not have been poison that killed Santiago and that Lieutenant Kendrick had ordered the Marines not to touch Santiago. However, when attempting to prove that Kendrick had ordered Dawson and Downey to do otherwise, it is revealed that Downey was not present when Kendrick made the order, meaning that the case comes down to Dawson's word against Kendrick's.



The defence for the two looks bleak until Kaffee takes a risk and calls Jessop to the stand; unless he convicts Jessop, Kaffee will be court martialled for smearing a senior military officer. On the stand, he gets Jessop to state that a) Marines never disobey orders, and b) that he ordered Kendrick to tell the Marines that Santiago was not to be touched. Then, as Kaffee asks why Santiago had to be transferred off the base, Jessop starts to rant at Kaffee, admitting that he ordered the Code Red.

This play was the best I have ever been to at Harrow. The cast effectively managed to pull off American accents, even while shouting. The stand-out members of the cast are Jake Henson and Hamish Dicketts. Jake Henson effortlessly matches Tom

Cruise's charisma and challenges Harvey Specter over being the master of a courtroom, all while portraying his character's inherent opposition to the military. His chemistry with Paddy Breeze had the whole audience in stitches. Speaking of which, Breeze drove the humour of the whole performance, dropping clever one liners throughout. However, a play is only as good as its villain and it is here that Dicketts shone. He certainly convinced the audience that he fully believed in the rigid code that he was enforcing. Dicketts showed no remorse in his angry and sadistic portrayal, perfectly contrasting his character with Kaffee. All credit goes to GLJ for directing a play that rivals any Rattigan production in recent years. Furthermore, the stage looked impeccable and all of the transitions were remarkably lit. In short, congratulations to all involved on an excellent production.

There the charity collection after the performances raised £494.70 in aid of Help for Heroes.

AN EVENING OF REMEMBRANCE

Guild Performances on 11 November; War Memorial

On Remembrance Sunday, The Guild provided the opportunity to reflect once more on the those who gave their lives in the Great War. With music, readings and artwork, the service provided for a special commemoration.



(Above: SNT's artwork for the Commemoration Stone Ceremony).

The service began with a piece of polyphonic choral music written by Thomas Tallis during the English Renaissance. The text for which this music was written comes from Psalm 31 and reads thus: 'Into thy hands I commend my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.' The words were very appropriate, much like those taken from Robert Graves' novel *Goodbye to All That*, which were read by Freddie Heffer, *Elmfield*, following the choral work. The following is a short extract from the passage that Heffer chose to read:

'Sampson lay groaning about twenty yards beyond the front trench. Several attempts were made to rescue him. He was badly hit. Three men got killed in these attempts: two officers and two men, wounded. In the end his own orderly managed to crawl out to him. Sampson waved him back, saying he was riddled through and not worth rescuing; he sent his apologies to the company for making such a noise. At dusk we all went out to get the wounded, leaving only sentries in the line. The first dead body I came across was Sampson. He had been hit in seventeen places. I found that he had forced his knuckles into his mouth to stop himself crying out and attracting any more men to their death.'

The reading was followed by a recital of two pieces for piano by Josh Harris, *West Acre*. He played the Paderewski *Nocturne* and Scriabin's *Etude in C-sharp minor* to great effect, owing not only to his talent but the wonderful acoustic of the War Memorial building, enhanced by the position of the piano on the platform before the OH Room doors. Indeed, the experience downstairs was lovely, and our large audience

clearly enjoyed the music.

To achieve a balanced programme, music was once more followed by a reading. Max Evans-Tovey, *Drurries*, read a poem entitled *Break of Day in the Trenches*. Below are Rosenberg's most moving words, describing a rat about the battlefield:

What do you see in our eyes
At the shrieking iron and flame
Hurled through still heavens?
What quaver — what heart agast?
Poppies whose roots are in man's veins
Drop, and are ever dropping;
But mine in my ear is safe —
Just a little white with the dust.

The service in the War Memorial building was concluded with a second choral piece. Set to music by John Tavener, the words, written by Mikhail Lermontov (1814-41), echoed those of our readings:

Mother of God, here I stand now praying,
Before this icon of your radiant brightness,
Not praying to be saved from a battlefield,
Not giving thanks, nor seeking forgiveness
For the sins of my soul, nor for all the souls.
Numb, joyless and desolate on earth,
But for her alone, whom I wholly give you.

Following the service, members of the audience were warmly invited to view an exhibition of artwork in the Pasmore Gallery, which explored the themes of memory, transition and loss. The works were produced by both current Harrovians and OHs who used aspects of the genres of vanitas and memento mori, as well as an exploration of the self, to express their thoughts in a variety of different forms, including painting, drawing, sculpture and mixed media. It was a wonderful evening and a fitting tribute.

COMMEMORATION STONE

We remember the Old Harrovian First World War Dead

In commemoration of those Harrovians who lost their lives fighting in World War I, a remembrance service took place on Sunday 11 November for the World War One centenary. As boys gathered around the Memorial Stone, bagpipes were played, setting the scene for the afternoon.



The service began with an introduction from Father Tivey, followed by a recital of *The Soldier*, a poem by Rupert Brooke, by Rafe Wendelken-Dickson, *Drurries*. This poem is about what happens when a soldier dies in the middle of a conflict in a 'foreign field'. The poem is also about national identity. Even though the soldier will not die in England, his thoughts will be of 'Breathing English air' and of an 'English heaven'. The poet was a volunteer for the Royal Naval Division, and saw combat during the fight for Antwerp in 1914, adding to the

realism of the poem.

Next, the hymn, *I Vow To Thee My Country*, was sung set to music by the composer Gustav Holst. The melody of this hymn is taken from Holst's Suite *The Planets*, specifically, from a section of 'Jupiter'. The text of this song is very patriotic and served as a reminder of those who lost their lives fighting for their country, including making a "final sacrifice". The dedication of the Memorial Stone took place after the hymn, when the cover of the stone was removed, serving as a remembrance to the Old Harrovians who lost their lives.

The second recital was *The Soldier Addresses His Body*, a poem by Edgell Rickword, read by Max Evans-Tovey, *Druries*. This poem is about a soldier talking to his body, reminiscing on the 'good times', they have had together, although there are plenty of things that they have not experienced. The poet served as an army officer during the First World War, and was awarded a Military Cross in 1916. The Service ended with a blessing, and the bagpipes played as the School departed.

REQUIEM MASS FOR THE FALLEN

Homily by SPS, School Chapel, 11 November

I want to tell you a story. A woman had several sons fighting in the army. One by one, each son got killed, until there was only one son left. Then one day, the mother looked out of the window and saw the army chaplain walking up her drive. By now, she knew what this meant. It meant her last son, too, was dead. The woman was angry. She rushed out of the house and before the chaplain could say anything she said, "Don't talk to me about God. Where was your God when my son was dying on the battlefield?" The Chaplain was given these words to say: "I suppose He was in the same place He was in when His own Son was dying on the cross."



The Mass or the Holy Communion is the best remembrance service we can offer. This is because Jesus himself makes it a remembrance service: Do this in the remembrance of me, he says of this service. The climax of the Mass comes when we hear the words of Jesus spoken over the bread and wine: "This is my body, which is given for you," he says, "This is my blood which is shed for you." To understand this service, think of those words as if Jesus had said them when he was hanging on the cross. "This is my body, which is given for you. This is my blood which is shed for you."

So what's happening in the Mass, when I repeat those words of Jesus in a few minutes, is that God is bringing the death of his Son, on the crucifix, across 2000 years, and placing it here on the altar, in our midst. In the Mass, therefore, we stand at the foot of the cross as Christ offers himself in love for the salvation of whole world: This is my body which is given for you. This is my blood which is shed for you.

And what we are doing in the Mass is, through our prayers, bringing all the fallen from the wars to the foot of the cross of Jesus. And by our prayers, we unite the fallen in the love of God in Jesus Christ, as he offers himself for them, and for us. For God is not a God who stays on the outside of the world, looking in, distant from our sufferings. Rather, God comes into our world as a man, as Jesus, and lovingly shares in the sufferings and death of humanity, in order that by his resurrection he can overcome them.

So when we come to that moment, when I take the bread and wine and repeat those words of Jesus: "This is my body, this is my blood," I invite you to think of us as being at the foot of the cross. When you see me lift up the body of Christ and the blood of Christ above my head, think of Christ being lifted up on the cross for the sake of the whole world: arms outstretched as if he would embrace us in all the brokenness of the world. And in that moment, as we come to cross of Jesus, I ask you to pray for all the fallen from the wars, asking that as they have shared in a death like Christ's, so they may also share in the glory of his resurrection.

PALMERSTON SOCIETY

Lord Patten, Chancellor of Oxford,

OH Room, 6 November

On Tuesday 6 November, Lord Patten gave a lecture to the Palmerston Society. Lord Patten is the current Chancellor of Oxford and has been an MP for Bath, the Chairman of the BBC and, most notably, the last ever Governor of Hong Kong.

Lord Patten began by giving those packed into the OSRG a thought-provoking statement: that he is the first Oxford Chancellor in 80 years who did not have to fight in a World War. The First and Second World Wars defined the second half of the 20th century and still have very real repercussions today. Lord Patten, who was born in 1944, marvelled at the success of the second half of the 20th century, and that we recovered from these devastating wars. He put a lot of this down to strong American leadership, which created global values and institutions, such as the UN and the World Trade Organisation. These organisations provided economic success and stability, which in turn garnered international co-operation, which, in turn, provided more stability and success. So much so that, after the fall of communism in 1989, the people around the world were declaring an "end to history". Lord Patten attributes the fall of communism to the success of welfare capitalism: communist nations simply could not match their economies with those who adopted welfare capitalism. The fall of communism also encouraged other dictatorial regimes to open up to the rest of the world: China increased its exports to America by 1600% in one year.

However, the ideological politics that led the second half of the 20th century has now been replaced by identity politics. Lord Patten is against identity politics, stating that it causes people to "push aside morality" and accept an obligation only to those of a similar identity, whether it be to those of a similar race or to those of a certain nationality. A current example of this would be Donald Trump's famous "America First" slogan. Lord Patten also proposed another example, highlighting the rise in identity politics. Enoch Powell was a Classical scholar who made a speech on English culture, highlighting the triumphs of Shakespeare and also, quite peculiarly, the British garden. Enoch Powell then went on to state that, while there were many threats to this culture, it would always exist. As a Classicist, he used the illustration of the Athenians returning to Athens, which had been razed in the Peloponnesian war, only to see a lone olive tree, the ancient symbol of Athens, standing untouched.

However, Enoch Powell made a similar speech six years later, although this speech contained much more provocative language. Enoch Powell specified immigrants as the root of this danger to quintessential British values, calling them “whip hands”, a clear reference to the subjugation their ancestors suffered. Enoch Powell then recounted tales of such immigrants forcing excrement into the letters of old ladies. This speech was met with outrage, but also some support, and was certainly more contentious than his previous speech. Lord Patten also warned against the corruption of and oversubscription to patriotism, stating that when patriotism gets corrupted, division and conflict are the results. Bertrand Russell famously argued that the only way to remove this is through education, a stance with which Lord Patten agrees. He argued that the only way to reduce these “irrational fears” is through education.



Lord Patten fielded questions of those assembled, a position which earned him sympathy from all those who have had the misfortune of being caught at the raving end of Harrovians.

One of the questions asked of Lord Patten was “Is Brexit Britain choosing its place in the world?” Lord Patten then responded by putting forward his view that Britain is not big enough to survive on its own. We are a small nation and, as Lord Patten argued, our place on the UN Security Council is not enough. Lord Patten showed our treatment by Russia as one such example of us being weak when alone. He viewed the recent execution, using nerve toxin, on our shores by Russia as a demonstration of their blatant disregard. Another question posed to Lord Patten was “Is there hope for democracy in Hong Kong?”. Hong Kong was seized from China during particularly embarrassing circumstances for them: they had just lost the Opium War. Hong Kong has also historically been a thorn in China’s side because the majority of the original population were refugees from Communist China and were more successful than them. Lord Patten also remarked that the current ruler of China is President Xi Jinping. President Jinping was once photographed next to ex-president Obama in a photograph that the internet decided looked remarkably like a photo of Winnie the Pooh and Eeyore. In response, President Jinping removed Winnie the Pooh from the internet. Lord Patten stated that a president who reacts this way to a joke is almost certainly not going to introduce the freedom of speech that democracy requires.

Thanks to AGC and all the members of the Palmerston Society for organising this talk and many thanks to Lord Patten for taking time out of his busy schedule to address the society.

MEDICAL SOCIETY

Lecture Competition, Wycombe Abbey, 1 November

On Thursday 1 November the Medical Society was delighted to attend the finals for the Medical Lecture Competition held at Wycombe Abbey School. The finals were to be judged by representatives from the three schools attending – Harrow

School, Wycombe Abbey and Radley College. The competition was to be followed by a dinner for the participants. It promised to be a very informative and entertaining night.

The first speaker was from Wycombe and spoke about ‘Nicotine – addiction therapy and the NHS’. She opened by telling us that nicotine was found in plants from the nightshade family and that it was a parasympathetic stimulant (a drug that affects the parasympathetic nervous system which controls heart rate and gland activity among other things). She explained that the drug caused the release of dopamine and serotonin, which helped give the user a ‘rush’. She also explained that, because it was such an easy drug to get hold of and that it caused these chemicals to be released, it was easy to have relapses, which can easily lead to chronic relapsing disease. She went on to talk about how someone can also receive nicotine poisoning from ingesting 500–1000 mg of nicotine. She explained, however, that the real danger of nicotine was that it was a lethal suppressant which came about in two stages: first nausea, sweating, hypertension and tachycardia (a resting heart rate over 100 bpm), which can quickly lead to depression, CNS depression and bradycardia (an exceptionally slow heart rate). All these problems, she said, stemmed from the overuse of nicotine in cigarettes and suggested that e-cigarettes could be one of the ways out. She said that a recent study found that e-cigarettes had a 95% lower risk than cigarette consumption and that it could be used as an active treatment to cigarettes rather than gum or patches. However, she was not unafraid to highlight some of the more dubious aspects of e-cigarettes, such as the fact that some doctors view it as a gateway substance and that different studies have claimed that the vapour and nicotine content of the vapour liquid causes the same problems as traditional cigarettes. Despite this, the fact that large cigarette companies are investing in vapes and e-cigarettes, and that many people have put off smoking because of such substances, bodes well for a future free of cigarettes. Overall her presentation was informative, succinct and very well presented.



The second speaker was Corran Stewart, *Lyon’s*, who gave a concise presentation on the ‘Origin, effects and treatment of HIV’. He started by explaining the two kinds of HIV and its four strains, and where they may have originated, specifically looking at the Hunter Theory that states the disease was transmitted through the blood of primates carrying SIV (Simian Immunodeficiency Disease). He explained that HIV was a lentivirus (a chronic disease characterised by long incubation periods) and that it would take many years for the symptoms of the disease to show, or for it to become AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). He went on to talk about how there are two strains of HIV, named HIV 1 and HIV 2 (very inventive), and that the two strains originated from different primates (chimpanzees and Manga bey monkeys respectively). He explained how AIDS affects the CD4+ cells (or T helper cells) in the body and that a patient is said to have AIDS once their CD4+ count drops below 200 per micro litre. He also told us that AIDS could lead to neuropsychiatric disorders such as seizures, attention deficits, cognitive deficits, palsies, uncontrolled anger, migraine headaches, addictions, eating disorders, depression, and anxiety. The most surprising part of

Stewart's talk was how devastating HIV/AIDS could be not just on individuals but whole economies, as was the case in Tanzania in 2010 when the government said that the disease may have reduced economic activity by about 15–20%, a remarkable amount considering how robust an entire nation's economy can be. He continued his lecture by explaining that the disease cannot be eliminated or cured, but it can be slowed down by a combination of three or more antiretroviral drugs, also known as antiretroviral therapy (ART). The drugs help to block the integrase inhibitor of the virus and so stop it from multiplying as rapidly. This allows people to manage the disease and live relatively normal lives. Stewart's talk was remarkable in its ability to educate the audience and give a sense of appreciation of the disease.

The third speaker was Mattias from Radley College, who asked a rather challenging question: 'Is life extension through deceleration or arrested ageing a treatment we ought to be pursuing?'. He opened by redefining the common description of ageing as not us getting older but the cells in our body wasting away and dying, thus causing the breakdown in our body to increase exponentially (so much that every eight years you chance of dying doubles). By that description, he wondered whether ageing should be categorised as a disease. He went on to say that thinking of it in this way makes it seem that ageing may be treatable, much like the common cold or pneumonia. He gave some surprising facts uncovered by scientists, such as the fact that ageing was not useful for evolutionary purposes. He also challenged the claim that, because ageing is natural, we assume that it is good and that we shouldn't attack it. He argued that combatting aging was the ultimate form of medicine, as we would be able to treat most disease that kill us in our old age. However, he also said that attempting to solve such a problem in today's unequal world would be unethical: we should not prolong the life of the rich and wealthy when many will never even reach old age. Moreover, he argued that it would only increase the already large longevity gap between the rich and poor, as richer people would be able to receive such care whereas many would not be able to afford it. He also briefly touched on the problem that people from lower levels of society were already disadvantaged from birth compared to those in the higher levels, and giving more tools to those at the top would only increase this disadvantage. All in all, it was a very ethically focused lecture that challenged many of the modern ideas about ageing.

The fourth speaker was James from Radley College, who spoke about the Buruli Ulcer and how important research is for the development of medicine. He explained how it was caused by a bacterium that caused small painless nodules to appear on your skin. As the nodule grows it causes severe tissue damage. The disease is most prevalent in Australia and West Africa. He explained that the key aspect of the disease was a chemical called Mycolactone, which inhibits the production of cytokines such as il-2 and il-6. He went on to speak about how the chemical stopped the sec-61 complex from reaching the endoplasmic reticulum and so new neurones produced would be hyperpolarised and, therefore, painless because the neurones would be less efficient at transmitting information. This remarkable property of Mycolactone is what some scientists believe could make it a successful painkiller in the future. He explained how Buruli Ulcer could be easily treated by educating the public, however, this deep understanding of the disease was just as important because a very effective painkiller could now be produced. He stated that this kind of research made information gained from study useful not just for treating the disease but also other diseases and maybe other aspects of one's life. This core message underpinned his entire talk and was quite eye opening.

Our fifth speaker for the evening was Matthew Ong, *Elmfield*, who spoke about 'Memory and the effects of Alzheimer's'. Ong explained how the disease was a chronic neurodegenerative

disease and caused many problems not only for those who have the disease but also those who are around the afflicted. Indeed, the disease in the sixth leading cause of death in the USA and the leading cause of dementia – a surprising figure considering how little attention it receives. Ong went on to explain that much of what we understand about memory today comes from Eric Kandel's experiments with *Aplysias*, which are a kind of sea slug and so easy to test on. Kandel would shock the sea slugs after giving them a stimulus in order to see if the sea slugs would associate the stimulus with the shock, and for how long. His findings led to him categorising memory into three sections: sensory memory, short-term memory (STM) and long-term memory (LTM). Ong went on to explain how memories were categorised depending on how useful they were to us, how often we thought of them or if we experienced the same memory very often, such as walking down the same street to work (also known as long-term potentiation). He also explained that memories did not form as a single solid 'file' as in computers, but as fragments that were called upon when required for the brain. He followed this up by explaining how a memory was formed in four stages: encoding, consolidation, storage and retrieval. He then explained how Alzheimer's breaks down cells in the brain and so causes problems either during the formation of a new memory or the retrieval of an old one. Overall, Ong gave a very informative and detailed lecture on the effect of Alzheimer's.

Our final speaker for the evening was Inny from Wycombe Abbey who spoke about 'Alopecia' which is a hardly spoken-about autoimmune disorder, despite there being over 6.8 million people who suffer from the disease, which causes severe hair loss. She explained that it is a skin disorder and comes in three forms: alopecia areata totalis (the complete loss of hair on your scalp and head), localised alopecia (loss of hair in a certain area) and alopecia universalis (the complete hair loss on the scalp and body). She said that no one knows what causes the disease, but that some scientists and dermatologists pin it down to stress, genetics and pre-existing immune system disorders. Inny explained that to receive a diagnosis you have to be referred to a dermatologist, get a scalp biopsy and run tests on blood samples, as was the case with her. She then explained that the disease can be treated with corticosteroids, topical immunotherapy, UV light therapy, scalp reduction therapy and the use of drugs such as Regaine and diphenylcyclopropenone. She explained that the disease has more social effects than actual physical problems, such as social withdrawal and more stress. She concluded by highlighting the surprisingly large amount of research that was taking place, citing Dr Matthew Harries' nanokicking project. Overall, Inny's lecture was both personal and eye opening about yet another little-known disease.

At the end of the night, after a very enjoyable evening listening to some very well-researched lectures and a superb dinner hosted by Wycombe Abbey, the results were announced. After a tense introductory speech by one of the judges, it was James from Radley College who took home the trophy. The Medical Society would like to congratulate Ong and Stewart for taking part and to thank CDLM for creating the opportunity to take not only the participants but also some boys to the event.

SHELL DRAMA

The Festival of Dionysus, Ryan Theatre, 14 October

First Half

The theme for this year's Shell Drama was The Festival of Dionysus. It was great to have the Shells sitting in the front rows, their excitement visibly lighting up the whole Ryan with nervous anticipation. The stage looked resplendent and bare in its white decking. Similarly to last year, a sign announced the

festival and this lent a secluded atmosphere to the stage, an intimate, Forest of Arden feel that is hard to put one's finger on. OH Toby Deacon got the performances off to a comical start. Strumming on his guitar, he played the part of a conservation officer/teacher who, while reprimanding the boys for wanting to perform in such a sacred ruin, proceeded himself to dance to the ancient gods of Classical mythology. To kick start the performances, Lyon's rushed onto the stage.

This performance of 'The Olympian Myths' was directed by Henry Lozinski and Finn Teepsuwan. I was struck by the ensemble element immediately, each boy contributing to the overall effect of each moment. This was particularly clear when one boy's dramatic calling was heightened by the ominous movement of the actors around him. Every line could be heard with great clarity and this made the storytelling flow smoothly and effectively.

As with the Lyon's performance, The Head Master's relied heavily upon the talented oration of a number of boys. Every play had a significant level of narrative storytelling to it, which meant that these actors were crucial in driving the plot forward in a convincing and exciting manner. The Head Masters's performed 'Dionysus and The Bacchae'. This tale maps Dionysus's decline from a benevolent God to a destructive monster, and this really came across in the performance, which was directed by Theodore Seely, Kit Akinluyi and Columbus Mason.

Thirdly, we had The Park, who performed 'The Odyssey'. There were some stand-out performances, and one particular boy performed in a way such that with every line delivered there was a confidence and consciousness that came with it, supplying a subtle sense that he knew more than you – he was merely giving the bare bones of his own experience. This play was expertly directed by Geroge Mingay and Finn Deacon, who, having recently excelled in the Elmfield/The Park's House play, has clearly not yet shown all he has for the Ryan stage.

Next it was Rendalls with 'King Midas and the Golden Touch'. This story warns against greed and lust for material possessions. Rendalls deftly retold the story of Midas who, already the richest king in the world, wishes everything he touches to turn instantly to gold. I especially enjoyed the grief of King Midas. It was seriously moving and poignant to see how such a simple concept can carry so much weight.

The penultimate play was West Acre's, who performed well in 'The Twelve Labours of Hercules.' This was directed by Myles Dismont-Robinson, Archie Rowllins and Jake Shepherd. It was no surprise that the face paint was magnificent, Dismont-Robinson being one of the Lower Sixth's stand-out artists. Through all the performances was clear that these ancient myths were perfectly suited to the Shell Drama Festival; there was a sense of authenticity through the uncluttered stage, the minimal effects and ensemble acting. This was most obviously true in West Acre's production, which added something new to such a famous fable, a freshness that was almost essential for the audience's enjoyment. This they managed to pull off, the Nemean lion being especially well crafted into a frightful beast.

Finally, The Knoll was up on the stage. Each actor managed to deliver each line with such a professional intention and purpose that the play stood up brilliantly (such must have been the intention of directors Alex Saunders, Harry Saunders and Archie Ross). This was a fitting end to a wildly amusing evening.

Second Half

Bradby's produced a very entertaining production of 'Orpheus and Eurydice'. The part of Orpheus was very well played and encapsulated the character well. The hunter, who chases Eurydice, provided some great comic relief during a very emotional love story. The direction was accomplished, with the ingenious idea of Cerberus, the three-headed dog, being played by three different boys bouncing off each other. Overall, it was a great performance with some wonderful violin playing accompanying it.

The Grove proposed an amusing take on 'The Judgement of Paris'. The bickering Aphrodite, Athena and Hera were well played. The awkward aggression of Athena contrasted with the other goddesses' femininity wonderfully and followed on from a scene reminiscent of *The Full Monty*, as the goddesses show off their unparalleled beauty. Paris was played with the nervousness one would expect in the presence of the gods. Generally, it was one of the funniest Shell plays to be put on.



Druries offered a performance of the myth of 'King Midas and the Golden Touch', but the message behind it was still very much apparent. This mature production was coaxed along by the powerful stage presences of Joe Mclean, and Tom Pollock as the narrators. The greedy and powerful Midas was portrayed with a gusto and confidence that made us both dislike and admire the him. Dionysus, the God of Wine, was persistently drunk and provided the comic relief. The message conveyed, like the performance, was far from forgettable. King Midas paid for his greed by turning his daughter, played by Arthur Virgin, to solid gold, showing the audience the dreadful consequences of avarice and self-interest. A very well directed performance for which credit must go to Harry Lempriere-Johnston. The performance was undoubtedly the one with the most powerfully conveyed message.

In a good dramatisation of 'Echo', the directors of the Moretons play gave us some comedy and a lot of arrogance to think about. The story prompted this comedy, with Echo only being able to repeat the last word she has heard and nothing else, leading to the self-indulgent Narcissus becoming confused when he meets her. Narcissus was obsessed with himself to the point that he would complement his beauty when looking at a reflection of himself. Ultimately, as with many myths, there was the tragedy of Echo's unrequited love for Narcissus. An accomplished Shell play with many entertaining aspects.

Newlands took on the great philosophical question of the source of all evil, their solution being 'Pandora's Box', where Zeus puts all evils inside. Pandora, who was played cleverly with innocence, succumbs to human greed and curiosity and opens the box releasing all the evils. Fortunately, Hope blesses mankind in a powerful scene that allowed humans to hang onto hope in the darkest of times. In this story, Hesiod conveys the idea of human greed giving rise to evils, which for a pre-Socratic man is a very interesting point. All of this message was well conveyed by the boys of Newlands, and the directors certainly deserve credit as well.

To round off the evening was the poignant love story of 'Pyramus and Thisbe', as portrayed by Elmfield. This well-directed production featured intelligent use of space, as the boys moved around to represent the wall between the two lovers. Both protagonists were well acted and had great stage presence, along with some good narration. The escape scene was particularly exciting and creative, with the addition of live piano music to make the scene tense and thrilling. This story was, in fact, the inspiration for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, with the ending scene being almost the same. So, as you

will have gathered, the ending is thoroughly emotional and features a wonderful final lament from Thisbe that concluded the evening beautifully.

The calibre of Shell drama has improved over the last few years, and I think that the credit for making the Shell Drama Festival a great event in the calendar must be given to APC and the brilliant theatre team behind him.

There was a charity collection at the end of the performances which raised £919.98 for the Long Ducker 2018 charities: Harrow Carers, the Harrow Club and the School's Shaftesbury Enterprise projects.

YARROW FEATURES ON NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Photo by Cameron Yarrow, Druries, selected by editors to feature on website

Congratulations must go to Cameron Yarrow, *Druries*, whose magnificent photograph was featured on *National Geographic's* 'YourShot' Instagram page. Photographers from around the world send in their images, with the page receiving around 20,000 per day. From these, the editors pick 12 and post them on the *National Geographic* website, where the public can vote for their favourite. The winning photograph is then posted on the Instagram page, with Yarrow's photograph starring on 12 November. Below, Cameron describes the circumstances in which the picture was shot.



'Over the summer holidays, I travelled to Alaska in North America with my dad and a few other friends. Alaska is home to the largest salmon run in the world, which normally starts in August, so there is an abundance of bears in the area. We stayed in a place called Iliamna, where the population is as little as 109, and there is only one single newsagent! Each morning, we would wake up at 4am and get a 30-minute sea plane to Funnel Creek, where most of the bears hang out during the salmon run. The first day we saw one bear, which retreated from the river after realising there were still no salmon. In the past two years when I had been there, I would see up to 20 bears in one day. However, the salmon hadn't arrived yet this year so there were none, which made everyone upset and disappointed. We decided it was still worth going out again the next day. Once more we woke up at 4am and got the sea plane. We sat down by the river in the freezing cold with strong winds and heavy rain and waited. There was still no bear. There was some salmon every now and then, but not nearly as many as when the run gets going. When the run is in full swing, all you can see when you look at the river is red, as if it were full of blood. We sat and continued waiting – two hours passed. Some of the gang suggested we leave, but we waited. After a few hours, a bear walked out of the bushes and sat right in the middle of the river on a little island of pebbles and sat down. We knew this was probably our first and last chance. We moved towards

it and lay down 10 metres away from the grizzly bear. It sat there and stared at the river for over 30 minutes. Then, out of nowhere, it rushed straight over the water and darted to catch the salmon it saw. I moved my camera in its general direction and just hoped that I could capture its immense stride.'

OSRG SOCIETY

John Hudson Talk: "Revolutions and their Impact on the Art Market", 4 October

The OSRG was lucky enough to have John Hudson come to talk about his personal life in the collector's world, and to show the boys some of the porcelain he has collected over his lifetime.

Mr Hudson began by talking about how the dictionary definition of revolution is 'the overthrow of a government by force in favour of a new system', but also 'a dramatic and far reaching change'. In England, the execution of Charles I in 1649 and the new system of government by Oliver Cromwell of the Protectorate and Commonwealth caused the state to sell the collection of pictures and tapestries belonging to the late king. During the summer holidays, there was an exhibition at the Royal Academy of some of these works, which are now fortunately back in the Royal Collection. Mr Hudson was happy to see that many of the boys present in the room had seen the exhibition. Even today, some of the paintings still appear in auctions and are recognised with a small crown over the letters CR meaning *Carolus Regius*.

Mr Hudson spoke about France, where royalty and emperors also had to sell their collections. In the late 18th century, King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antionette were guillotined during the French revolution. In Russia, the revolution in the early 20th century caused many fleeing Russians to take with them their jewels, silver and objets d'art. The reason Mr Hudson was listing all these rebellions was because the common people who overthrew these monarchs did not care for the finer items that the monarchs owned. One picture showed that, during the execution of King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antionette, two men were about to take an axe to a valuable commode. Commodes similar to those in the photo now sell for hundreds of thousands of pounds.

During the talk, Mr Hudson was kind enough to let the boys hold and examine some porcelain, which was handed out by Leopold Florescu, *The Head Master's*, on small trays. Some of the tea cups and plates were previously owned by King Louis XVI and even Napoleon. Mrs Walton watched eagerly, making sure the boys handled the porcelain with care, as some of the boys didn't realise that most of the items they were handling cost between £2,000 and £10,000. However, the boys were very respectful and careful of the fine porcelain, realising how lucky they were that Mr Hudson was even letting them handle them at all.

In the summer of 1808, Prince Borghese ordered a tea set decorated with individual butterflies. Napoleon, his brother in law, must have been very impressed with his pattern as he ordered similar pattern for a dinner service. Mr Hudson then astonished the room. This year in May, an auction saw part of the Napoleonic dinner service comprising 12 dinner plates, eight various bowls, compotes etc, sold for \$1,812,500. The room fell silent as the boys dwelt on the price. But, Mr Hudson did say that worth is not measured by the quality of a piece, but by its historic associations and who had owned it.

Before Mr Hudson got to the valuation part of the talk, one or two boys asked questions. One asked if Mr Hudson had always wanted to go in to the art market? Mr Hudson answered that, up until the age of 19, he had wanted to work in medicine, as his father, uncle and most of his family had done so. Quite the change from medicine to art...

Then came the final part of the talk. This comprised a small valuation task of six items. The boy with the closest answer to how much all the items were worth would win one small porcelain tea cup. The boys were given a few minutes but, in the end, there was a whole spread of answers ranging from £21,000 to £3,000,000. In the end, the real price was £19,150, with the most expensive item being a 1806 Napoleon plate at £9,500. Mark Reed, *Rendalls*, won the tea cup for closest valuation and Daniel Eldridge, *The Grove*, won a small catalogue for the most extravagant cost of £3,000,000!

The OSRG was very grateful to have Mr Hudson come and talk. Mrs Walton looks forward to seeing plenty of new faces for the next major talk for the OSRG.

CROSS-CURRICULAR LECTURE

GHW on "Why Pi?", OSRG, 5 November

The Cross-Curricular Lecture Series resumed after the half term as if it had never left, with the seventh instalment. The OSRG was full, and still a half dozen committed souls came, dragging their poor record card along with them.

While GHW was the star of the show, CST took to the spotlight first with his musical (and indeed, mathematical – more on this later) prelude as the seats filled up. However, by 9.10pm GHW could see the keenness bubbling over from some of the boys to get back into some maths after the break, and so he got the show on the road.

The title 'Why Pi?' is perhaps less a question than a series of questions combined. 'What is Pi?', 'When was Pi invented (or discovered)?' and 'Why the symbol π ?' were all considered.

GHW's slideshow began with a boy reciting Pi to a considerable number of digits. Anyone in the audience who had begun to hide under their blazers from the numbers were quickly calmed as Homer Simpson came to their rescue with a slice of pie. Pi, as an irrational number, has infinite digits – however, the current record stands at a jaw-dropping 22 trillion consecutive digits of Pi, which have been recorded by Peter Trueb. Of course, these 22 trillion digits were not found by human labour, but rather the raw processing power of modern-day supercomputers. However, GHW pointed out that relatively accurate approximations of Pi have been used by civilizations over the millennia. For example, in 3BC, Archimedes believed that pi lay in the range of 3.141-3.142. He used a 96-side polygon to work this out without a calculator – shock horror! This is accurate enough for America's Pi Day at the least (America celebrates Pi Day on 14 March since they express the date as 3/14), but how much more?

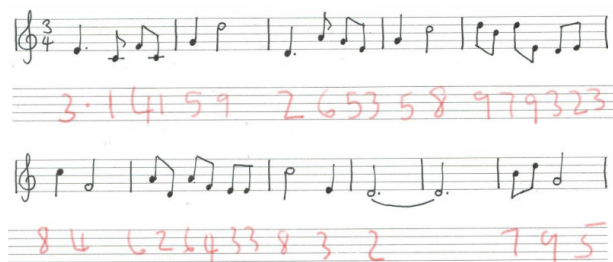
It is probably true that, for most purposes, even Archimedes' approximations would suffice. However, athletics made its compulsory appearance in the talk as GHW pointed out the importance of a highly accurate value for Pi to make competition even around a track, such that the runners in each lane all run the same distance. However, how many of the 22 trillion digits were used, no one will ever know.

Other attempts to calculate Pi have produced less spectacular results. The state of Indiana, for instance, wrote into its constitution in 1897 that $\pi = 3.2$, even when better approximations had been around for at least a millennium.

'How can Pi be calculated accurately?', you may ask. For the sake of paper, algebra shall be avoided here, however, GHW explained multiple different methods for finding Pi – notably infinite series expansion using the arctan function.

The backstory to the symbol/name π is somewhat less precise than the mathematics behind it – until the start of the 1700s, π had been attributed different symbols/names across the globe. In fact, it is not entirely clear why the Greek letter π became the general accepted symbol, however, it is accredited to a man named William Jones who used it in his work.

CST then made his second major stage appearance as tech support. To show that Pi is not entirely random, a website was used to find strings of digits within Pi. To keep the audience on their toes, GHW asked for the birthdays of a few members of the audience, and CST entered these into a website to find how many times each date (eg 01122000 for 1 December 2000) appeared within the first 20 million digits of Pi.



With his cover behind the piano blown, the secret of CST's unusual piano piece was finally uncovered – it was actually written by CST himself. However, this was no ordinary piano piece – having assigned the note B to the number 0, and each of the corresponding notes of the C major scale to another digit – he quite literally played Pi, even employing a dotted crochet after the initial E to resemble the decimal point at 3.14... . Note: CST's 'Pi' may be recorded shortly and will likely be on Firefly at a later date. Anyone who wishes to outdo CST's achievement must compose a piece resembling 71 or more significant figures!

To conclude, GHW gave a thoroughly interesting talk, the entirety of which could not be covered in this article lest the printing budget be increased by a few digits! The Cross-Curricular Lecture Series on 'Memory' continues on 12 November with MJG's lecture titled 'Memory is Power: How old stories shape new religions'.

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

"Roman Satire", Dr Llewelyn Morgan, Brasenose, OSRG, 8 November

Last week, the Classical Society was honoured to receive Dr Morgan from Brasenose College, Oxford. Dr Morgan is Vice Principal and a Tutorial Fellow at the college and is highly regarded in the domain of Classics. Therefore, it was with great anticipation that both boys from the School and external guests awaited Dr Morgan's talk on the hotly debated topic of Roman satire. To many, Dr Morgan needed no introduction, the eloquence with which he spoke being no surprise to those of us who have had the pleasure of reading some of his work. Dr Morgan started with Lucilius in the 2nd century BC, whose epic-esque hexameter he discussed before examining the merits of the Apolocyntosis. His discussion of satire revealed idea that satire can be defined by the way in which it counters epic, and he even used the description that satire is epic's "evil twin". Concomitantly, he presented the idea that satire itself is a form that is deeply Roman and also conversational, as seen by the example of Horace. Dr Morgan went on to discuss the poet Juvenal and touched on the episode in which Sejanus' statue is melted down. By discussing this, he was able to add another dynamic to the questions arising out of his analysis of Roman satire.

Throughout the evening, Dr Morgan was able to keep the audience thoroughly engaged and all were very grateful for his insights. Interesting debate and questions arose afterwards, ranging from Juvenal and Horace to the arguments surrounding the narrowness of the modern A-level and GCSE syllabuses. Despite everyone's differing opinions on the authors mentioned, Dr Morgan's request for people to expand the horizons of their

reading and delve into works that they are as yet unfamiliar with undoubtedly gained traction with the audience. Overall, Dr Morgan contributed to a great evening for those attending; the Classical Society is very grateful for his words and looks forward to the forthcoming lectures later on this term.

A SIGNATURE DISH FOR HARROW?

England is home to several public schools including Eton established in 1440, Harrow in 1572 and Radley in 1847. With old schools come old traditions including the public-school lingo, hierarchy, dress regulations etc. If an old boy was asked what was his favourite memory of his schooldays, it would be the school tuck shop (sock shop or tucker). The rush of getting to the shop before the crowd; seeing 'Ma' at the counter (old Harrow language); counting the coins; and, finally, getting the treat you want, were unforgettable experiences for OHs. Several public schools are known for their 'signature' dishes.



(Above: A school tuckshop, 1930s)

The most famous is the Eton Mess, known worldwide, which originated from the Harrow v Eton match at Lord's in 1893. By the 1930s, it was a staple at the Eton tuck 'sock' shop. Lancing College in West Sussex heard news of the delightful wonder and modified the recipe by replacing strawberries with banana, creating the Lancing Mess. Radley College in Oxfordshire, provided their pupils with the Chicken Roll, a mayonnaise-based chicken sandwich. It was introduced in the 1980s and is still being served to this day. Many other schools have had a selection of sandwiches in their shops like the classic bacon roll.

Now, what does Harrow have to offer – the biltong in the Hill Shop; the donut in the Hill Café? Is that really it? I have always wondered why Harrow never had its own 'signature' dish. There have been alleged rumours of a Harrow Mess, based on the Eton Mess. However, I cannot find a recipe for it anywhere. I think it is time we start having our own Harrow 'signature' dish. I would be interested in hearing suggestions for such a dish in *The Harrovian* next week. If there are any OHs reading this article, please share your memories of the tuck shop during your schooldays.

VENICE

History of Art half term trip to the city now under water

Having just visited the BBC website and read that 75% of Venice is currently underwater, I do think what charming luck we all had on our trip. The picture that accompanies the article shows a woman wading through thigh-deep, Venetian murk. The sky is light grey and in the background sits Basilica San Marco. It appears the pricey coffee shops that line the square

are not enjoying their usual business. A week on, Venice has retained her seductive hold over my imagination, willing a spontaneous return just before the School's dreary call comes a-knocking. The submerged Venice displayed on my computer screen is more than enough to fire up the memory and realise that actually it seems entirely apt that Venice flood periodically; the city being already so crammed with intrigue and romance. The added excitement of wet legs would only further the intense unreality of the city.

There were six of us boys on the trip along with JESB and SNP. We chugged into Venice late at night and a brilliant silence fell softly around us as we glided beneath bridges. This initial exchange with Venice was to become one of the most special in the whole trip. All was dark apart from the occasional thick, orange light from the lamps, gently illuminating the soft-edged stone that rose from the canals. We babbled away in the stern, SNP dreamily wondering what Venetians actually did all day. As far as we could work out, they drank heavily from expensive bottles of wine, wrote copiously of love, swam like Lord Byron, painted, drew, read, smoked, slept, thought seriously, foraged for oysters and simply observed. We surmised that this was the life to live – not sweating it out in London or Harrow, endlessly walking up the same leafy, suburban streets. When stepping onto our boat, SNP suffered a heavy bump on the head thanks to the varnished plank of wood that signalled the end of the cabin. This knock shuddered through the whole vessel and we all thought, including SNP, what a lark it would be to have to resign oneself entirely from Leaf School teaching and the modern world, to instead live out one's hedonistic days in Venice.

We stepped from our swaying boat and were bundled into a hotel and greeted by a friendly, young-looking Italian who handed over our room cards. A crucified Jesus looked sternly down on us from the avocado-coloured wall.

We awoke on Saturday to clear skies and glistening water. It is always such a joy to arrive somewhere under night's gown only to explore next day in such glorious lucidity. This was never more true than in Venice and, having walked timidly to the Grand Canal, I sat in the square opposite our hotel. A man approached and, eager as I was to engage with any locals/anyone I found, I was friendly enough. He happened to be a refugee from Nigeria, three scars emblazoned across his torso. I ended up giving him five Euros, in a sympathetic act that intended to embrace Venice's reputation as the cosmopolitan capital of the world.

Our first excursion was an initiation stroll to Venice's Ferrovia. We swerved and dashed between streams of fellow travellers, similarly intoxicated by merely the stones beneath their feet. Indeed, partly why Venice seemed to me so outrageously unique and special was quite simply the quantity of ancient and beautiful buildings coupled with the lack of any horribly modern structures. As we crossed cobbled squares, walked over rounded bridges and bustled through tight alleys, this became more apparent than ever. My camera seems to be filled with photos of crumbling stone or plaster, the blood reds turning to faded yellows. This dignified degeneration lent Venice a sober superiority, a humble confidence that a more beautiful city was nowhere to be found. We questioned how modern buildings using artificial materials age; probably unattractively, we concluded. SNP also made the astute comment that almost any single bridge/building in Venice would be the highlight of an English town. This speedily checked our neglect of the beauty around us. Having been blindly led by JESB, we stopped and hopped onto a vaporetto. This was a large boat that delivered us steadily down the Grand Canal. The water was packed with busy vessels, an unexpected contrast to last night's tranquil glide. We were shouted at, too by a ginger Italian, who, understandably infuriated by fat (mainly American) tourists, went charging around the boat sullenly helping people off and on. It was properly sunny by this time and really rather hot. Thomas Mann's reflection that Venice's 'lulling tones of somniferous

eroticism' inspired composers, seemed perfectly suitable when drawing in the shade of San Giorgio Maggiore. The small island of San Giorgio Maggiore was given to the Benedictines in the 10th century and the convent became the most important in the lagoon. The church's white façade, modelled on a temple front, is inspiring as it rises from the panelled square beneath. We later ascended the tower and let our eyes feast on the crowded mass of civilisation that sprawled before us. The bell tolled almost incessantly, which was also amusing.



After a short lunch break of cokes, pizzas and a dribble of chilli oil, we headed for the Biennale. The Giardini consisted of national pavilions each displaying their most eminent and forward-thinking architects. Unfortunately, Great Britain was empty but Denmark displayed a vast plastic installation. They were rather revolting cell-like beings that appeared to emanate life. This turn of phrase does sound a little like abstract piffle but actually echoes quite well the general tone of the show. It was a consciously innovative and energetic fair that radiated abstracted ideas through architecture. The secondary section of the Biennale was the Arsenale, a vast warehouse with exhibits running the full length of the structure. The Biennale's theme of 'Free Space' seemed more evident here, with Rafael Mono commenting that the perception of free space appears at the 'moment when a building's condition as an artefact gives way, and space is felt as a sensorial expression of freedom, letting us briefly forget the built world.' The paradox being that the best architecture allows one to be oblivious of one's built environment.

The following day we visited the Gallerie dell'Accademia. Titians and Tintoretto's adorned the walls. I found particular pleasure in attempting to become part of the painting as a whole and then focusing in on a specific child, for example, dragging a severed lambs head, or a few monks breaststroking in the canal to find their relic. We next walked determinedly through the rain to Peggy Guggenheim's collection. An Alexander Calder delicately occupied the first room. A painting by Robert Motherwell particularly caught my eye, perhaps it's closeness to Hilton inspiring this. Outside on the Marino Marini Terrace, the rain was dashing down. Marini's sculpture *The Angel of the City* proudly looked out onto the choppy canal, gondolas slapping about on the waves. It had been somewhat stuffy in the exhibition and this exposure, the cold wind surrounded by Venice, sculpture and dark clouds was thrilling. The Osvaldo Licini exhibition opposite Peggy's collection was also a highlight, his work concerning the figure, both mysterious and ephemeral.

We next made a turn around an exhibition entitled *Dancing with Myself*. Our lovely guide delivered a brilliant explanation of this title and we began the tour. It was interesting to have such specific theme labelling the entire collection but I thought this worked brilliantly. The gallery was extensive and managed to surprise one at almost every turn.

It was on our third day that we visited Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari. I seem to be claiming everything is either huge or long or extensive but this church really was vast. At 90m long, the length of the brick building led to the altar, the climatic zenith of the church. Titian's *Assumption of the Virgin* took first station,

the glory of God was all around us. I thought the frescoes were the most beautiful, however, the rusty colours contrasting the glossy finish of Titian's paintings in a beautifully understated way. JESB reminded us that Florence's frescoes were in a much brighter state than Venice's because, of course, Venice is prone to the swell of the sea and a damp climate that are no good for the preservation of frescoes. I thought how lovely it would be to plant a couple in my future French chateau. This evening we went to the opera, an intensely moving *La Traviata*. A pianist, a cellist and a violinist all strutted in and everything kicked off. At the end of each act we all stood around drinking champagne and looking out of the mullioned windows onto the busy canal below. We would then change room. The intimate setting gave an appropriate mood of privacy to the second act and this heightened the drama, all of us perched on the edges of plush Venetian chairs.

The final and fourth day of the Venice trip commenced with pastries and cappuccini. We sat prostrate in the sun, attempting to draw the passersby, the square opposite the café, an old man smoking whilst enjoying his paper. After this dalliance with Venetian life, we trod back to the Doge's palace, a place of such opulence that writing as a means of description seems almost redundant. The most engaging part of this trip was the Tintoretto exhibition. I think the whole trip had built up to this point and my appreciation of Tintoretto reached a small crest. In every drawing, straining calves contorted with power and strength which genuinely amazed. I was pounced on a couple of times for attempting to discreetly take pictures of the paintings. It was a special exhibition.

It is inevitable, I think, that in reporting something you must omit certain joys just to get to the end of your report. This was certainly true in writing this, and yet I must not forget to praise and praise JESB and SNP for creating such a moving and uplifting trip to start the half term.

THE GAMBIA

A photo report by Shubh Malde, Elmfield

I would like to bring to the readers' attention a few photos I took over the half term in The Gambia. The Gambia is a Commonwealth nation in West Africa and Prince Charles visited the country on his trip to Africa last week as well.

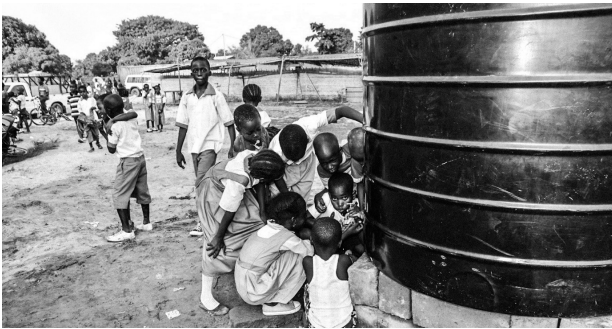
The photos are taken at the opening of a school, Radville Nemaikumku Lower Basic School, which will give access to free education and opportunities to up to 1,600 children between the ages of six and 18 years old. A lot of the children have previously had to travel for miles to get to a school and a considerable number even stayed at home previously as their parents weren't comfortable them walking for upto 5km.



This image was shot from the second floor of the school down onto the crowds of happy children. More than a thousand of the students gathered and were singing and clapping.

I also managed to get a great shot through the shutters of one of the 18 classrooms, children busy at work, to capture a

group of excited children posing for the camera. The picture below captures children gathering at the large water tank taking a much needed drink in the boiling weather. At Harrow, we are of course tremendously lucky and privileged. The opportunity to see the happy faces and such a positive life-changing effect was a very special experience.



REASON, NOT RELIGION

“Morality without God”, by Oliver Bater, Rendalls

I would like to belatedly respond to Max Evans-Tovey’s, *Druries*, article titled ‘Bloody Atheism’, where he argued that atheism cannot provide a transcendent value system, and only through religion (in particular Christianity) where we are able to provide a framework where individual rights are respected and society can flourish. I would instead argue that Western societies’ success arises from our tolerance of different beliefs: whether Christian, Muslim or ‘god-forbid’ atheist, and that we do not require religion in order to provide our moral beliefs with meaning.

Evans-Tovey’s argument rested on the fundamental assumption that self-interested individuals have no reason to act morally without the backing of a God. Hence without religion, there is nothing but a state’s weak and arbitrary laws to prevent mass atrocities like Stalin or Mao’s slaughtering of millions, where given “atheistic morality, the solution was to simply slaughter” those unnecessary to society. Besides falsely conflating Stalin’s atrocities with atheism (merely the lack of belief in the existence of a God), this line of reasoning fails to recognise the motivations behind most people’s actions.

Most Christians follow the moral teachings of Jesus not out of a selfish desire to ensure salvation to heaven, but because the lessons represent incredibly insightful and sound guidance on how to live one’s life. Einstein emphasises this through “A man’s ethical behaviour should be based effectually on sympathy, education and social ties and needs; no religious basis is necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained by fear of punishment and hopes of reward after death.” Indeed, the importance of respecting individual rights is not reliant on a belief in Christianity, but instead only relies on evaluating the benefits of supporting such rights and how their respect leads to undeniably positive outcomes for society.

Father Stuart or Father Nic don’t merely saunter up to the pulpit and state do X because this passage says so. They show how Christian teachings, using our faculties of compassion and reason, are not only likely to lead to the most peaceful and harmonious society, but are also likely to bring greater personal fulfilment to us as individuals. Hence, to argue that only the potential for redemption or retribution from a transcendent being encourages individuals to be moral and gives meaning to morality massively under-simplifies the motivation behind human actions.

Perhaps Christianity’s most important maxim: “do unto others as you would have them do unto you” has been repeated in

several other religious and humanist (the school of thought I believe Evans-Tovey’s was attempting to elude to when citing “atheism, as a collective philosophy”) doctrines. Immanuel Kant, in attempting to design a moral framework that was not contingent on religious belief, theorised a modified form of the Golden rule with the categorical imperative: act only according to a maxim that can be made universal law - showing how a secular text has just as much potential to respect individual rights as Christian doctrines.

The idea that biblical texts do not hold their value due to the source of the texts themselves is further shown as we collectively reject passages, which do not fit with our relativist interpretation of morality. Biblical Lines like “Slaves, be subject to your masters with all reverence, not only to those who are good and equitable but also to those who are perverse.” (1 Peter 2:18) legitimising slavery, or “I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent.” (1 Timothy 2:12) supporting the oppression of women have lost their value and significance over time. Thus, religion’s value does not depend on humans fearing God’s ultimate judgement or wrath, but on its ability to provide positive moral guidance for society. Humanist or atheist philosophy have therefore just the same potential as Christianity or other religions to guide people towards moral outcomes and a “just and prosperous state.

In particular, Evans-Tovey’s notion that only the Christian faith has respected individual rights and religious freedoms, following secular Canadian laws against the use of certain general pronouns, is frankly laughable. Christianity has just as much culpability as other religions in persecuting dissenters and heretics, exemplified most powerfully through the Crusades- a horrific attempt by the Christian authorities to impose its religion on foreign lands- not unlike the modern Islamist extremists we reject today. Whilst, it is true notable Protestants like Thomas Helwys in both the 16th and 17th centuries argued for religious tolerance, these reformers were the exception rather than the norm. John Stuart Mill writing his “On Liberty” (which my email footnote will tell you I have reading for over a month) in as late as 1858 highlights a social culture, where although religious freedom was legally allowed, heresy lead to social exclusion and the removal of any position of power.

Hence, it was only the Enlightenment, which encouraged the separation of the Church from the state centering on reason as the primary source of authority, which provided a platform for the development of Europe and America to its current position of strength. Contrary to Evans-Tovey’s idea that Christianity was the vessel through which the ability to speak and think and live was promoted, the development of empiricism and the scientific revolution of the 18th century, coupled with the ability to challenge traditional dogmas is what has made Western nations so successful. Questioning these dogmas has also lead to some of the greatest political and social achievements of the past centuries. The recognition of equality between men and women was the product of Mary Wollstonecraft’s initial treatises arguing for a society based on reason, where she argued that women should be treated as rational beings, rather than mere servants to their husbands - an idea reinforced by contemporary churches preventing women from serving as priests or deacons.

I would instead suggest that what differentiates most developed Western countries, as well as prosperous nations like Japan and Singapore (which lack a Christian foundation) are their tolerant constitutions, which respects an individual’s freedom of expression/belief regardless of their faith or background. While Japan has a strong Shinto moral fabric, Singapore is a multi-religious state, but both crucially recognise an individuals’ ability to freely choose their beliefs. This secular development has lead to the ability to question assumed ideas about the world we inhabit, promoting the use of the scientific method to understand the world rather than just established religious truths. Indeed, Evans-Tovey’s suggested causal chain between Christianity and prosperity seems to disappear when analysing

the relationship between Christianity and equally religious nations, but poverty stricken nations in Asia, Latin America and Africa. Hence, rather than criticise secular beliefs which do not align with their subjective interpretation of morality, perhaps it would be better for some to recognise that our religious values can be just as socially contingent as our secular virtues, and to accept the significant role of skepticism and by extension atheism in our society.

WILL TECHNOLOGY LEAD TO LOW EMPLOYMENT?

Technology is destroying jobs, leading to a dystopia in which computers cement the wealth of a fractional minority whilst pushing the majority into poverty.

Or at least that's an option envisioned by Erik Brynjolfsson and Andrew McAfee, senior professors at MIT and authors of *The Second Machine Age* – a book that questions what will result from, in the words of the authors, 'computers and other digital advances... doing for mental power... what the steam engine and its descendants did for muscle power'. Indeed, this possibility is echoed by a plethora of others; for instance, Brian Arthur, a former economics professor at Stanford University, who has taken to calling it the 'autonomous economy' and has warned that 'it will change every profession in ways we have barely seen yet'. An overbearing and ominous prediction, but is it warranted? Is this really the future?

Brynjolfsson and McAfee's argument is that 'People are falling behind because technology is advancing so fast and our skills and organizations aren't keeping up.' And point to the fact that 'Productivity is at record levels, innovation has never been faster, and yet at the same time, we have a falling median income' which they argue shows that technology is instead leading to 'fewer jobs'.

Indeed, in most countries GDP per capita has risen faster than median household income; the UK that has seen a 0.21% divergence in 31 years. However, this problem is most relevant in the USA where 'there is a stark contrast between growth in real GDP of over 1.5% per annum versus stagnation (for the most part) in median house income in the USA' according to Brian Nohler, Max Roser and Stefan Thewissen in their INET Oxford Working Paper 'GDP per capita versus median household income: what gives rise to divergence over time?'. In this paper, however, the authors explore other factors which can contribute to producing this divergence and find that in doing so it complicates the picture. Their findings suggest that the divergence is the product of different factors at different times, 'sometimes related to factors such as changes in producer versus consumer prices, falling household size or increasing inequality that may be teased out but on other occasions due to differences between national accounts and survey-based figures that are much less easy to interpret'. In this way, perhaps, it can be suggested that Brynjolfsson and McAfee's conclusion that the divergence is due to technological advances is not correct, or at least not as clean cut as they propose.

Indeed, many labour economists have suggested that the results are, at best, far from conclusive. Richard Freeman, a labour economist at Harvard University has said that it's because it's very difficult to 'extricate' the effects of technology from other macroeconomic effects. Whilst David Autor, an economist at MIT, has said that 'no one knows the cause... but there's not a lot of evidence it's linked to computers'.

Let's assume, however, that the divergence in GDP per capita to household income is in fact due to technological advances. Anecdotal evidence suggests that it is most likely to be temporary as workers adjust their skills and entrepreneurs

create opportunities based on the new technologies, which will then lead to increased employment. Employment levels in the UK over the last 47 years have risen just 3.3 basis points whilst technology has greatly improved – we now hold more powerful computers in our hands every day than NASA used to place Neil Armstrong on the Moon in 1969. We have, as Lawrence Katz a Harvard economist suggests 'never run out of jobs. There is no long-term trend of eliminating work for people... People have always been able to create new jobs.'

The question is whether the historical pattern will hold? And the answer is why not? Take for instance the car industry who are the forefront of employing robots as a substitute for human resource and perhaps also at the forefront of other technological advances. Graetz and Michaels' (2017) confirm that where robots have been employed in production, productivity has increased, as have wages of the remaining workers. McKinsey's reinforce this, proposing that whilst up to 30% of every job content could be automated by 2030, very few jobs could be entirely automated.

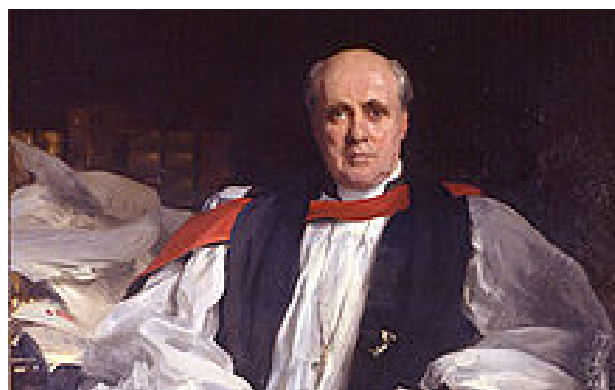
Even in industries where technological advances and thus increased efficiency have led to decreased employment in that industry, it has been found that this is offset by the productivity increase having led to greater employment in another industry. For instance, in Germany the reduction in employment in the manufacturing sector through industrial automation was found to be offset against an increase in non-manufacturing sectors (Dauth et al 2017). Which, exemplifies an argument proposed by Paul Krugman in his book *The Accidental Theorist* in which he argues that a productivity increase that may reduce employment in a sector will lead to no net job loss. Furthermore, he also dispels the fallacy that increased supply will lead to a shortage of demand in which he notes that there is not a shortfall in consumption simply because an economy produces more.

In conclusion, it seems even if technology is a factor leading to a decrease in employment it is not something to worry about since it has only a temporary effect. Thus, I would suggest that the panic expressed by certain journalists and professors is unfounded. In my opinion, the future is instead auspicious and promising; technology will not 'steal' jobs. And in NET terms it has never done so either.

OH WISDOM

"And for our brother Harrovians, who died the death of honour, let us make our prayer in the spirit of fellowship and hope." The Most Reverend Randall, Baron Davidson of Lambeth, Archbishop of Canterbury (*Grove Hill and Moretons 1862*)

Extract of a prayer read at the opening of the War Memorial in 1926.



We remember every one of the 642 Old Harrovians and two Masters who died 100 years ago serving in the armed forces during WWI.

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from Around the Hill

“So in the Bible there was Genesis then Exodus then what?”
 “The Book of Adam and Eve, sir?”

“The Surface Book is mightier than the sword.”

“You know what’s worse than a Nazi, is one of yo..” “Woah, Sir, now just calm down!”

“Actually, boy, that point isn’t correct – which is why I marked it wrong. I think you might have said it last lesson, and I said it was correct just to be nice, but it’s actually wrong.”

“Now boys, it’s not that I don’t like marking – I actually really enjoy it – but I thought you could mark your own work this lesson.”

“What if Custos was Jesus? Would he let late people into Chapel?”

“What is the wind doing? I mean in terms of a wind turbine.”
 “The whole thing blows, sir.”

“Sir, I’m banging these questions out!” “What now? Who’s banging what?” “I am, sir.” “I’m sorry, I’m not quite clear. What are we banging?” “...Never mind sir.”

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the Editors of *The Harrovian*

DEAR SIRs,

Both of us understand Henry Empson’s empathy with the old Long Ducker route, this debate has continued since the route was changed in 2016. At that time, letters were written to *The Harrovian* supporting the change. One boy wrote ‘Wembley Stadium, the home of England football, is a much more iconic place today than Albert Memorial.’ He added, ‘The many health risks have been reduced, such as the vast decrease in the number of road crossings. There have already been many near misses and it would be terrible to have something serious happen.’ Another boy wrote: ‘Long Ducker is much more than a 20-mile run. It’s a way for the whole School to come together for a truly noble cause. Just because the distance that we are running has been lessened doesn’t mean that the need of those that we are running for has been diminished.’

The route was changed owing to a number of genuine reasons. On the old route, marshals could not effectively and safely monitor all the road crossings, nor would it have been possible to close off all the public roads while we ran through them. In the meantime, British Athletics threw a spanner in the works by warning against younger boys running longer distances. The staggering of the starts has occurred because, for example with 813 people running 10km this year, the organisers naturally wish to avoid any ‘pitfalls’ when such a large crowd starts a run.

Moreover, there is no evidence that a significant reduction in either the number of participants or the funding raised for our chosen charities has occurred. Long Ducker has become – and still is – a considerable festival of sponsored sporting events. The majority choose to run – we think this year a record number; more than 800 starting the 10km, over 100 the half-marathon and many others who choose to swim or to row (in the gym); while a considerable number elect to do a combination of sports. The fundraising has also remained extremely healthy. Before the alteration, in 2014, the sum raised (when the main charity was

the Harrow Club) was £96,000; in 2015, it climbed to a record £121,000 (Action for Stammering Children); in 2016 (after the alteration) it raised £102,000 (Harrow Firm Foundation); £114,000 in 2017 (Harrow Certitude) and this year, we forecast reaching £120,000 (Harrow Carers) or more when all the funds have been collected. If members of the School community make one final push, it is possible that this could be a record year.

It is clear that Henry understands the importance of Long Ducker to the community and we welcome his comments: it is important to ask these questions and look at how Long Ducker has developed and so the organisers will welcome any comments or suggestions from boys and all participants who may wish to write in to either of us.

Yours sincerely,

TMD, DIRECTOR, SHAFTESBURY ENTERPRISE, &
 RCHA MASTER-IN-CHARGE, LONG DUCKER

DEAR SIRs,

Henry Empson’s, *The Grove*, letter from 10 November on Long Ducker is spot on: the route to Marble Arch was a wonderful opportunity to see and learn about London’s diversity and history – a long, storied and sadly lapsed tradition! I should know; in 1976 after a discussion with my grandfather L C Royle, *Church Hill & The Grove* 1912³, and an Olympic athlete (Paris 1924), he informed me of the tradition that a boy running the Long Ducker earned the whole School a half day. No one at that point had run the Long Ducker in many years.

Later that week, I cornered the Head Master Brian Hoban, (along with GRRT) near the Vaughan and informed him not only of my intention to run the Long Ducker, but that I had it on impeccable authority (my grandfather having been a Governor), that he would need to authorise a half day.

Consternation ensued! BMH gathered the beaks’ Common Room and it was decided that I could run, along with any others that would like to join me (and from an admittedly hazy memory, quite a few did), but, this would be the last occasion where a Long Ducker resulted in a half day for the School. Rounding Marble Arch was a wonderful experience and real feeling of accomplishment.

Sadly, the whole process then got formalised for a variety of reasons, including a desire for control and of course ‘elf & safety’, resulting in the Long Ducker being a shadow of its former self – I will however commend any amounts of money raised for good causes, something I failed to capitalise on 40 years odd back!

Sincerely,

NICK ROYLE, THE GROVE 1974²

DEAR SIRs,

I write with regard with mounting – and with my deepest regrets, not unfounded – concerns what appears to be a change of style of some reports of School events in *The Harrovian* – and not for the better. Due to this change, I have been increasingly finding it difficult to glean what had actually happened in said reported events, which, in my humble opinion, rather defeats the purpose of writing a report in the first place.

The one thing that I have grown to passionately love with the School is the sheer volume of opportunities being quite literally thrown at us, leaving us near-overwhelmed – which, unfortunately, comes with its less welcome counterpart of the regret of having to make difficult choices! As a result of this, I have come to really appreciate the weekly arrival of the welcoming, yellow stack of Harrovian copies at the boarding House – to me, it serves as a stalwart companion to at least catch up on the endless debates, lectures or competitions that I may have missed.

From my perspective, the concept of the writing of commissioned reports falls broadly under the concept of journalism, which, according to the Cambridge Dictionary, is ‘the work of collecting, writing and publishing news stories and articles in newspapers or other media. To me, the purpose of

journalism has always boiled down to a single, critically simple objective, which is echoed quite succinctly by the American Press Institute: to 'keep us informed of the changing events, issues, and characters in the world outside'.

To achieve such a goal, I believe it is the journalist's duty to remain, at least to the best of his ability, impartial. I have always considered the position of the journalist to be a messenger – a conveyor of information – from the event to the reader, such that the reader can then indulge in the received information and form his own conclusions. It is not necessary for the writer to express his opinions – emotion and opinion distort information. Should the agenda of the agent move past this single motive, he ceases to be a journalist. He becomes a politician, a debater or a propagandist.

It occurs to me that I have perhaps been inadvertently beating around the bush too much by now – what I would like to point out is the theme of strong opinions creeping into some of the recent *Harrovian* reports. The first major instance of this was in a recent report about Junior Inter-House Debating, where, to my slight irritation, the writer of the report seemed to be very enthusiastic about providing his expert insight into the performances of each debater, with rather unsubtle lines such as 'his timing, or rather lack of it, of his speech, which ended at a diminutive 1 minute 48 seconds out of a speaking slot of four minutes...', '[Boy's name] was my speaker of the day...' and '[Boy's name] was the third, and second-best speaker from the opposition'. This not helped by the somewhat premature line '[Boy's name] put the final nail in the coffin, definitely securing [Name of boarding house]'s place in the semi-finals' (I have omitted all names as they are not relevant). I would have liked to remind this enthusiastic writer that it is rather early to comment when the first round is not over yet, but I digress – more importantly, the writer in this instance seems to be more interested in demonstrating his own debating insight (over that of the adjudicator?) than actually informing the general School on what had happened.

Sadly, this does not appear to be an isolated incident; in another edition of *The Harrovian*, published at a different date, another writer appeared again to be more judgemental than I would have otherwise liked. In phrases like '[Boy's name] decided to take a tangential stroll into... despite the fact that it has little relevance...', '... Finally having got back on track...' and 'to which [Boy's name] did not give a convincing response'. I shall make no comment upon the validity of such claims, but to me, such phrases has clearly demonstrated that the interest of said writer has extended well past informing the School community.

These somewhat negative phrases also have a second undesirable outcome – *The Harrovian* is designed to celebrate participation and promote achievement, and said objectives are cleanly jeopardised by derogatory phrases. By phrases such as these, boys who may be on the receiving end may (not surprisingly) be upset or discouraged from partaking in future activities – in my opinion, such sentences are no better than (or perhaps even worse than) saying similar phrases like 'Your responses are completely unconvincing and irrelevant' in said boy's face. Perhaps it is the anonymity of journalism that gives certain contributors a sense of security to ruthlessly judge others without the fear of damage to their own reputation; perhaps it is the desire of the writer to demonstrate that he is a capable logician and writing such derogatory phrases helps, in ways I cannot comprehend, improve his self-esteem. Either way, while light humour is more than welcome in a report, phrases designed to humiliate fellow boys are most certainly not helpful to the School at large, or indeed, anybody.

That is not to say that the expression of opinion should be allowed – and that is what the 'Correspondence' section of *The Harrovian* is for! I have seen some genuinely interesting discussions go on there, and some cases, evenly back-and-forth debates between multiple beaks and boys. Opinion is a gift to

be celebrated, and what I plea for is very simple – let us keep opinion and information in *The Harrovian* separate.

Yours sincerely,
LONG HEI NG, NEWLANDS

DEAR SIRs,

Apologies for sending this email from my office! I thought it might be of interest for possible publication in *The Harrovian* in the near future as to the speech given by Winston Churchill at the School on the 1st December 1944 (some five months prior to V E Day the following May 7th 1945.)

The speech in question is enclosed and it struck me that much of its content might be appropriate and of relevance today.

In any event, may I congratulate you upon the high standards set in the publication of *The Harrovian*.

Yours sincerely,
W R S PAYNE, NEWLANDS 1967³

CHURCHILL'S ADDRESS TO THE SCHOOL

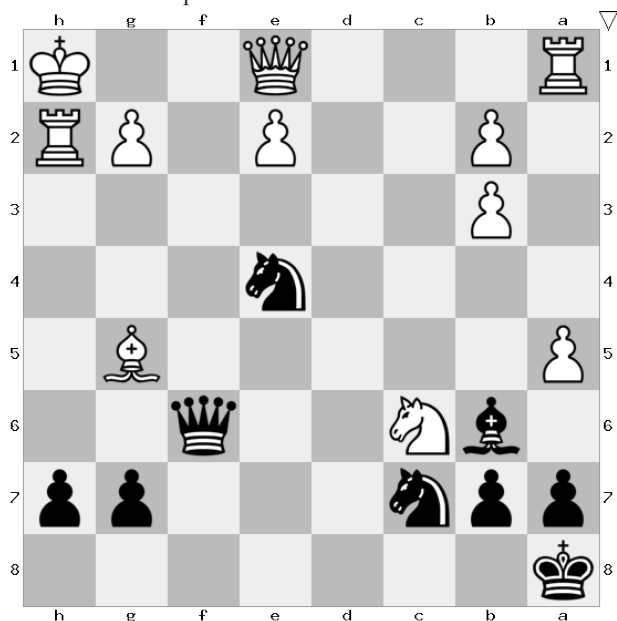
1 December, 1944

The Memorial to those who fell in the last war rises clear and solid, and on it will be graven the names of those who carried on their fathers' work. It is that in all the changing circumstances of our social and economic life, it is better to concentrate the Memorial Fund as far as possible upon the life, strength and resources of the School, and on giving Harrow as much as possible of the power to remain this extraordinarily coherent and elevating entity from which so much inspiration has been derived. With Field-Marshal Gort and Field-Marshal Alexander in the military field, you have much to be proud of. I think no better idea could be devised than to establish a fund which will make it easy for Harrovians who may not otherwise have sufficient money to send their sons here. It shall be made easy, and not unduly expensive for those who be hampered, as many will be in the changing course of our affairs to come, to carry on in a still further generation the wishes, the hopes, the memories and achievements of their parents. Nothing could be better than that. You read in the newspapers a great deal about the future of the public schools. I can assure you that during this war great changes have taken place in the minds of men, and there is no change which is more marked in our country than the continual and rapid effacement of class differences. I do not wish to see the public schools fall into desuetude. We cannot afford to pull down the great and beneficent institutions which helped to make us what we were in the last war and to keep us what we are in this. But it is by broadening the intake, and by the schools becoming more and more based upon aspiring youth in every class of the nation and coming from every part of the Kingdom, that you will preserve all the traditions and inspirations which are gathered in the great public schools, and make them the possession of all our fellow countrymen and of lads from all over the land. It has been said that the prerogatives of the Crown have become the privileges of the people. The public schools have also their gift to give, and I hope and trust that after this war is over, there will not only be a Harrow Fund to help the sons of Old Harrovians to come back to the school, but that the institution of scholarships and so forth may from all over the country bring the youth of our nation to enjoy our songs, our amenities, our memories, and all that so many years has centred here. Some there may be who would go to a place where there is, I believe, a river of some sort. (*Laughter.*) But wherever it may be, we are a united nation as we have never been before, and as no other nation is in any part of the world. Let us keep that true sense of unity. Let us feel that brotherhood which knows no barriers. Very great and

glorious is this Island. Far and wide across the surface of the globe there are few in any free community who do not regard us with respect, admiration and even wonder. For a whole year we stood alone against an overwhelming powerful force, a force armed to the teeth, long trained and prepared for war. Now that we are marching to a period of great stress and difficulty, now that you will go forward into a world where problems will be made greater by the victories which have been and will be won, where duty will become more compulsive because of the need to live up to what has happened in the past, you give to me by your voices and your aspect that feeling that there will never lack a youth in Britain capable of facing: enduring, and conquering every evil in the name of freedom and for the sake of their dearly-loved native land. We are no longer one small island and its Empire opposing the great embattled army of the enemy, but are now in the van of a concord of the greatest nations in the world, numbering more than thirty proclaimed Allies. with the vast majority of the human race setting their hopes on our forward advance and on our final end, as we can certainly say, assured victory.

CHESS PUZZLE

The weekly Chess Puzzle is set by JPBH. Email your solutions to him to enter the termly competition. Answers are published with next week's puzzle.



Black to play and mate in 2.

Last week's solution: 1...Rxc2+ Kxc2 2.Rg8+ 3.Kh2 Qg1#. Fancy playing chess? Drop in to Chess Club – Tuesdays and Thursdays 4.30-6pm in Maths Schools 5. All abilities (boy, beak or support staff) are welcome!

JUDO

The School v St Paul's, 9 November

Harrow won this match by seven bouts to four, with one drawn bout that went to time. The top Paulines proved to be pretty tough opponents.

Two of the lost matches were to quick, clean throws early in the bouts, with immediate wins (ippon) for Saint Paul's, George Davies, *The Head Master's*, being the only Harrovian to achieve victory in this manner. Harrow, however, definitely dominated in "ne waza", fighting on the ground. Only one Pauline won in this type of fighting, holding down Jake McDermid, *Rendalls*.

Jan Kryca, *Moretons*, Matthew Gaffaney, *Bradbys*, and Jude Esposito, *Newlands*, though, held their opponents down to win, and Harrow Judoka achieved three armlocks, by McDermid (taking his revenge in a second bout), George Biles, *Bradbys*, and our acting captain for the match, Ostap Stefak, *Newlands*, the last in the final five seconds of his bout after a very hard-fought contest. Two Harrow-to-Harrow bouts to make up the match were won by Giancarlo Urselli, *The Grove*, and Caspar Gurney, *Druries*. This was a most encouraging match with strong performances from the beginners, which should provide strength in depth in later matches.

CROSS COUNTRY

The cross-country team was split on Saturday, with the fastest juniors heading to St Albans for the second round of the ESAA cup. There were great performances from Eddie Jodrell, *Elmfield*, (7th), George Ferguson, *Newlands*, (9th) and Tom Emery, *Moretons*, (19th). Although they did not manage to qualify, this was a superb performance that shows much promise for the future of the squad.

The rest of the group journeyed to Lancing College. The senior team defended their title on a beautiful but treacherous course with strong runs from Carlos Ohler, *The Knoll*, (5th), Monty Powell, *The Grove*, (6th) and Oliver Bater, *Rendalls*, (9th) who ran admirably having after taking a wrong turn towards the finish. The intermediate team came in fourth position with good performance from Jamie Pound, *Rendalls*, (13th). The Harrow beaks also ran excellently with LSA winning a tightly contested women's race in a big field beating Bater; whilst JMA will be delighted to hear that RCHA continues his winning form with an emphatic victory. An investigation is still pending on LSA's capability in sending Bater the wrong direction.

RACKETS

The School v Cheltenham College

Senior – 1st Pair Won 4-2

A fine performance in a 4-2 win against a strong Cheltenham pair from Julian Owston, *Moretons*, and Otto Stroyan, *The Grove*.

Senior – 2nd Pair Won 3-0

A convincing 3-0 win for Luke Harrington-Myers, *Bradbys*, and Charlie Witter, *Elmfield*, who produced very good rackets.

Colts – 1st Pair Won 3-1

A gutsy performance from Ben Hope, *Rendalls*, and Jude Brankin-Frisby, *Newlands*, in a 3-1 victory.

Junior Colts – 1st Pair Won 3-0

Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*, and Henry Oelhafen, *Lyon's*, produced their best rackets in a dominant 3-0 win.

WATER POLO

The School v Charterhouse, Open, Won 8-4

Harrow showed dominance in the first half, with A. Heilpern, *The Knoll*, and J. Kirsten, *Newlands*, both scoring hat-tricks, and A. Hogben, *Newlands*, scoring once. In the second half, a rotated Harrow side held Charterhouse at bay, with a late goal from B. Woolhouse, *Druries*, taking the score to 8-4.

Juniors Lost 2-7

Although a disappointing result from a young Harrow side, the team showed great potential in what was their first match as a group. The two Harrow goals were scored by M. Brooks, *West Acre*, and W. Rudd, *The Head Master's*.

SQUASH

National Cup Round 1 and 2, 6 November

Senior 1st v Merchant Taylors' School, National Cup – Round 1 Won 5-0

Senior 1st v Haberdashers, National Cup – Round 2 Won 5-0
The team had an emphatic 5-0 win in the National Schools Competition. Only Brando Sodi, *West Acre*, had to work hard but he still managed to win his match 3-0.

The School v Charterhouse

Senior 1st Won 4-1

Sodi came through 3-0 in a really tough match and in doing so became the first person to record 100 career victories for the School, a fine achievement. Declan Shortt, *Newlands*, Tom Santini, *The Park*, and Kareem Jafree, *Elmfield*, all did well in winning their matches 3-1.

Senior 2nd Lost 5-0

The second team lost 5-0 at Charterhouse but there were good performances from Henry Wilson, *Elmfield*, and Sasha Sebag-Montifiore, *The Knoll*, who both lost 3-2 in very tight matches.

Junior Colts Drew 2-2

The Junior Colts drew 2-2 at Charterhouse. There were defeats for Conor O'Flaherty, *The Head Master's*, 3-1 and Hanno Sie, *Newlands*, 3-0, but Hugo Anderson, *Newlands*, won 3-0 and, in the crucial match, Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, came back from 2-1 down to win a great game 3-2.

RUGBY

Yearlings A v London Oratory School County Cup Semi-Final, 10 November

Won 53-5

The Yearlings A dominated their cup semi-final against London Oratory and have made it to the final which will be played at Allianz Park on Tuesday 27 November.

The School v Northampton School for Boys

1st XV Won 25-17

Harrow started brightly, and a well-worked string of phases was finished off by the powerful Alex Leung, *Lyon's*. Game management then became particularly challenging upon the arrival of a mini monsoon five minutes into the contest. A determined NSB side fought their way back into the contest, working hard at the break down and scrum, with Harrow lacking the accuracy required to finish of a series of powerful runs from the likes of Hal O'Connor, *Druries*, Ricki White, *The Knoll*, and Anjo Ademuwagun, *Druries*.

Scorers: Adebayo, Leung, Lewis, O'Connor, Coldicott: 1 penalty and 1 conversion

2nd XV Lost 13-19

Colts A Lost 0-39

The Colt's A showed character and heart as they lost to Northampton on Saturday. Harrow defended valiantly for long

periods of the match, but occasional lapses in concentration let the side down once again. The side showed determination and fight as they defended for the majority of the second half and came close to scoring on several occasions.

Junior Colts A Lost 10-13

This was an excellent game of schoolboy rugby between two well-drilled rugby sides on a miserable, wet, autumnal afternoon in north London. Despite the loss, this Harrow performance typified the four School values with aplomb.

Man of the match: Rupert Cullinane, *Newlands*

Yearlings A Won 46-17

Eight tries to three slightly flattered Harrow against a good Northampton outfit. Dani Neal, *Moretons*, was man of the match with four tries.

Tries: Neal x 4, Ellis x 2, *Rendalls*, Obatoyinbo, Edjua, *Lyon's*,
Cons: Ellis x 3

The School v The Oratory School

5th XV v The Oratory School 3rd team Won 19-0

A very tough match at The Oratory School in Reading saw the 5th XV win 19-0 in wet conditions. In the first half, there were tries from James Cullimore, *Rendalls*, and Zeddy Johnson-Watts, *Lyon's*, with Cullimore getting one conversion. Johnson-Watts scored again in the second half with Cullimore converting. Fierce defence from Harrow stopped Oratory gaining a single point. the 100% season continues. Tries: Cullimore, Johnson-Watts(2) Cons: Cullimore(2)

Colts B v The Oratory School Lost 0-30

Junior Colts C v The Oratory School - Under-15B Lost 7-34

A combined Junior Colts B and C team played The Oratory School's A team, where aggression at the tackle and breakdown was the difference between the two sides. Harrow presented The Oratory School with four tries in the first 20 minutes, then began to play rugby in a much more even contest. Full marks to Sam Quist, *The Grove*, for a super try showing his pace out wide.

Rugby matches v Various, all 10 November

3rd XV v Gordon's School 1st team Won 24-0

4th XV v Skinners' School Boys 3rd XV Lost 19-20

Tries: MacLeod, *The Head Master's*, Biles, *Bradlys*, Gurney, *Druries*

Cons: Anton-Smith, *The Head Master's* (2)

Colts D v Haileybury Boys C team Won 29-17

Yearlings F v Bedford School Under-14E Won 19-10

Despite some very inclement weather, the Yearlings F played extremely well against Bedford School. Harrow took the lead in the first half, only to be met with a spirited Bedford attack in the second; despite this, the boys kept their composure and went on the win the match 19-10.

The Academy v Bedford School Under-14F Lost 0-2

On a dismal wet afternoon, Harrow were convincingly beaten by Bedford 0-2.

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

Email the Master-in-Charge smk@harrowschool.org.uk

Read the latest issues of The Harrovian online at harrowschool.org.uk/Harroviaan