

THE HARROVIAN

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CHURCHILL SONGS

Speech Room, 15 November

The School gathered in Speech Room to sing Churchill Songs with guests including members of the Churchill family, governors, Old Harrovians and former Masters. The event commemorated the life of Sir Winston Churchill, OH and prime minister during the Second World War, and the Churchill family. The songs, accompanied excellently by the School Orchestra, with CST playing piano, PJE playing organ and conducted by DNW, were sung with energy from everyone. It was an evening to be remembered.



(Above: The whole School gathers in celebration of the greatest of OHs.)

The first song, *Stet Fortuna Domus*, meaning 'Let the fortune of the house stand', the Harrow School motto, describes Old Harrovians reminiscing on their time at Harrow, celebrating the 'Good and Great' of the School. The song has an additional fourth verse dedicated to Churchill, who changed the original line "Nor less we praise in darker days" to "Nor less we praise in sterner days". Between each song, the Head Master gave a brief talk about the background to the song. The second song, *Here Sir*, describes School Bill, an event that currently takes place on Speech Day in the Summer term. The School XII performed interjections of "Here Sir" during the refrain, reflecting the boys' response. The Shell soloist Rowland Eveleigh, *The Grove*, performed the next song, *Five Hundred Faces* exceptionally well throughout all of the verses, in front of a huge number of people. The song vividly describes what coming to the Hill is like, and the experiences gained during the first term, something that all the current and Old Harrovians have experienced.

The next song was *St. Joles*. The concept of Churchill Songs came about when the prime minister's secretary heard Churchill singing this song and convinced Churchill to come to a songs concert at Harrow School, starting the tradition. The text of the song describes the way in which the saint helps the 'lazy boy' through both academic and extracurricular activities. The next song, *Grandpapa's Grandpapa*, sung by the School XII and accompanied by Daniel Baker, *Moretons*, on piano, is similar to *Stet Fortuna Domus* in that it is about reminiscing on the time spent at Harrow, and how the School tradition of Songs has continued for many generations. Next was *Song of the Forwards*, describing the role of the forwards on the rugby pitch, as well as the harsh conditions of the winter season.

This song was sung boldly and with intensity, reflecting the vivid scene of the strength of the pack in the face of adversity.

Then we all rose to sing *John Lyon's Road*, which has a lovely lilting melody reflecting the winding of the road itself. The road to which this song refers still plays a key role in School life today, as it provides the route for Long Ducker. The words of this song also allow us all to remember the wonderful and generous founder of Harrow School, John Lyon, to whom we should all be grateful for laying the foundations of this historic school.

We then all sang *Left! Right!*. With its triumphant march-like rhythms and punchy lyrics, it has become favourite, especially amongst the Old Harrovians, who I could tell had been looking forward to vigorously singing along. This song tells the tale of 'a little boy barely five foot four' who strongly desires to join the Harrow Rifle Corps and, in the face of his adversities, he keeps striving forward until he becomes a Major-General. This cheeky tale also reminds us of how success might be guaranteed if we join the Rifle Corps.

We were then graced by the inspirational guest speaker General Sir Timothy Granville-Chapman, GBE, KCB. Sir Timothy, talked to us all about his many adventures in war and how they affected his life and his personal perspective on the world that we live in. From intently listening to his well-penned message, I gathered that he had become very wise over the years and had many experiences that had taught him a great deal. He went on to offer us some advice on how we might go forth into the world. This was a very uplifting speech and it was perfect for such an event, where we had all come together to celebrate the inspirational Winston Churchill, one of the greatest Old Harrovians.



(Above: The Shell Rowland Eveleigh, *The Grove*, performs *Five Hundred Faces*.)

After digesting the meaningful words of Sir Timothy, we all got up to sing *Silver Arrow*. This special song tells us more about the history of Harrow and how important the tradition of archery was at the School: so much that archery practice was compulsory after Mass every Sunday. Unknown to a lot of us, there also happens to be a fourth verse to this song. This verse was originally written for a visit by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to the School; this verse predominantly celebrates Churchill's success and the impact it has had on us for the future, and, of course, it ends with 'God save the Queen'.

Then, the rather majestically voiced School XII filled Speech Room with their dulcet tones and sang *Good Night*. This gentle

song tells us of long, tiring days spent at Harrow and how they all end with the comfort of a 'Good Night'. I believe The Old Harrovians appreciated the XII's singing the most as all their eyes were all transfixed on the group, yet I do wonder whether some of them were also truly reminiscing about their former glory days at Harrow, where saying "Good Night" was the best part of the busy Harrovian day.

The evening ended with everyone singing *Forty Years On*, along with the Churchill verse, specifically written for Churchill Songs, followed by *Auld Lang Syne* and the National Anthem. This was a great evening and I must congratulate boys and guests for their excellent singing.

Vernon Sankey (*The Park 1962*³) wrote in afterwards to say that 'Churchill Songs was truly inspiring and uplifting! The boys were brilliant, as they always are on these special occasions. Rowland Eveleigh was outstanding: a simply beautiful voice and delivery. Wonderfully organised and beautifully lead. The smoothness of the event is a real testimony to the deeply professional preparatory work and rehearsals. Timothy's speech, as expected, was thoughtful, strategic and a delight to hear. Well done Harrow! A real and unique treat!' Likewise, Adam Hart (*West Acre 1977*¹) mentioned how wonderful it was to hear the School in fine voice: 'Little do the boys understand now that the songs will stay with them throughout their lives!'; and Dale Vargas (*Druries 1952*³) wrote that 'The School sang well; the XII sang well, and the new boy sang very well. The Head Master compered the evening well and the General's historical lecture was interesting and clearly appreciated by the School who listened closely. But it was a pity we couldn't all sing *Grandpapa's Grandpapa* as its a good tune and we know it!'

Address by Sir Timothy Granville-Chapman

This year, Songs are being held four days after the day when, 100 years ago, the Armistice was signed and the guns fell silent on the Western front, running from the Belgian coast to Switzerland. The former Head Master's cunning plan to have a soldier standing here this evening was, I imagine, because he wished to remain on the theme of that significant event. A couple of months ago I spoke to your Director of Studies to understand the extent to which your education had been well attended to in First World War terms. His answer was favourable, and when I asked if the audience in front of me would understand that the outcome of the First World War had sown the seeds of what happened 20 years later, he said yes. This assurance, together with the fact that the coverage of the Great War in the last four years has been impressive, brought to a spectacular climax on Sunday by the Remembrance event itself and the film *They Shall Grow Not Old* that evening, means that I shall assume that the events from the outbreak of the War until the Armistice are well known to you.



(Above: Sir Timothy Granville-Chapman address the School.)

I don't know if you have noticed but, since Sunday, the First War media coverage has, correctly in my view, moved on to

explore the nature of that Armistice and what it meant then and thereafter. So let's stick to that theme and wind the clock forwards fairly rapidly through the 100 years since 1918 to see what it tells us.

First, though, we must establish a common starting point by being clear about what occurred between 1918 and 1939 when war in Europe broke out again. In so doing, let us be wary of the wisdom of hindsight and aware of the danger of judging people and events by how we view them today rather than by the standards of the time. The Armistice signed in a railway carriage in a forest clearing in northern France on 11 November was not a negotiation. Germany, with its armies in desperate retreat, its allies having already capitulated, needed to halt the war before its forces completely collapsed and the country was invaded. The Allies knew that they controlled the agenda. The terms were largely written by the French Marshal Foch who, as the Supreme Commander, represented all the Allied forces, including us. The president of the German delegation was a civilian politician, Matthias Erzberger, representing the new German Republic declared only three days earlier. The scale and severity of the surrender, when released, came as a cataclysmic shock to the German people, unaware, due to censorship, that its army was collapsing. This encounter on the train marked the start of a nation's humiliation, reinforced a year later in the Versailles Treaty, dubbed by Germans as 'The Dictator's Peace'.

I suspect many people watching events last Sunday will have been left with the impression that the Armistice was the end of the Great War. In reality, its impact continued and still informs and shapes our modern world. Militarism, political assassinations, ethnic cleansing and deportations which featured then are with us still. Today, historians, with hindsight, aptly describe the Armistice in terms of a transient pause, not an ending. Whilst the news of the ceasefire was celebrated and troops started to return home (very slowly, some not getting there until 1920), it was not long before extreme right-wing paramilitaries, the Freikorps, attacked politicians and the new Republic as those behind a peace deal which had brought humiliation and deprivation in its wake. The story thereafter is well known. Radical right-wing groups dreamt of a new nationalist future of ethnically pure conservative states. Militant socialists aspired to the extremes of a communist revolution. Both espoused the languages of populism and violence. Europe did not move from war to peace. Children were starving to death in some major cities. In Western and Eastern Europe, ethnic minorities were deported. With the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman empires, violence grew across much of Europe, bringing with it ethnic cleansing and anti-semitism. The needs of the colonies whose soldiers had taken part in the war were disregarded. And, by 1939, the economic crisis and the rise of fascism plunged Europe into war for the next six years.

So what's the lesson from all this? The notion of magnanimity in victory perhaps? Yet magnanimity in this context is a difficult concept, allied as it has to be with firmness of purpose in the national interest. As a matter of interest, where did Churchill stand on this? I am not qualified to answer that, not least given that an outstanding book on him has recently been published by Andrew Roberts – and he is speaking here in January. But, as it happens, I did ask him a couple of weeks ago. His answer was that Churchill was very struck by the concept. He had felt strongly about the outcome of the Boer War and was of the view that the Treaty of Versailles was deficient in this respect. Nevertheless, in those days, cabinet collective responsibility meant what it said and the majority view prevailed. So, for now, let's just put the lesson in the simplest of terms and say that good quality long-term strategic thinking tends to pay off – and the converse is true.

The question now is whether the outcome of the Second World War led to something recognisable as a lasting peace. The answer is it did. The reasons are many and various, but one to

dwelling on is that as early as 1941 Churchill and his planners were anticipating the need for a proper strategic outcome in Europe on the assumption the allies would eventually defeat Hitler and bearing in mind that the agreement would need to take into account the part played by Russia in that success. Again, the detail need not concern us but the result was one that focused on the rebuilding of Germany itself and the establishment of some form of stable Europe. We know that it was successful but only on the basis of a fundamental split of West and East Europe, characterised for the next 40 years by the Cold War. Let's dwell on the Western European aspect and give credit where it is due. For one thing, the actual settlement was not punitive in the way that Versailles was. The aim was to rebuild Europe, boosted by the generosity of the United States manifest in the Marshall Plan, which amounted to nearly \$100 billion at 2016 rates. Britain sent many of its best planners and senior civil servants to populate the military government that started the process of rebuilding. Other allies did the same despite all having massive reconstruction jobs of their own to attend to. The strategic breakthrough came when NATO was formed in 1950 and Germany was thereby brought into the fold as an ally of the victors of the Second World War, united in ensuring that the schism that had emerged between East and West was handled in the safest possible way. Many historians argue, convincingly I think, that 1950 was therefore the true end of the First World War. Meanwhile, the United Nations came into being in 1942 to recognise that world government had a part to play in stabilising what had happened following a war that had been truly global. And the needs of those countries still under colonial rule were progressively recognised, starting with the independence of India in 1947. The Cold War was actually strategically successful in avoiding the most disastrous consequences that could have emerged from the existence of two superpowers with the ability to destroy much of the world. It was a supreme example of deterrence theory being put responsibly to the test, and I think we can say that, up until its end in 1989, the lessons of the First World War had been learnt and generally put to good effect.

The question is what has happened since? The record is, I suggest, patchy.



As it happens, I found myself as a full colonel in January 1989 in the Directorate of Defence Policy in the MoD, just as the negotiations for what became known as the Conventional Forces in Europe talks started. It was becoming obvious that the arms race was finally reaching the stage where it was unsustainable in every way, not least economic. The predictions were that the talks would move slowly and ponderously in the way that the previous talks had done to no effect over 14 years. In the event, the talks moved with extraordinary speed and within 18 months had reached what was viewed as a triumphal outcome with the collapse of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the subsequent treaty in November the following year. My task was to articulate UK defence policy in relation to CFE working directly to the four-star Chiefs of Staff. Every fortnight, new propositions were on the table. The period was an extraordinary combination of brilliant diplomacy and quick and well thought

through decision-making at the highest level, spectacularly so in Germany. The talks took place in the Hofburg Palace in Vienna, but also in the cafés of that city, where much of the essential dialogue took place. The CFE talks became known as the 'Café talks' for good reason. It was there where I came to meet for the first time my opposite numbers in the East German, Russian and Warsaw Pact armies. They were clever and engaging but anxious about what they were sure would be the humiliation ahead of them. The talks were clearly going to bring to an end institutions in which they had served and change their lives forever. They were fearful for the future.

When the talks came to an end, they were quite rightly hailed as successful and the world sighed with relief. I remember attending a very high-powered celebratory lunch party in Café Sacher where I was by far the most junior person present. The conversation did turn to how the former Soviet Union should now be helped to develop and the notion of magnanimity was in the air as it should have been. In fact, in the immediate aftermath, there was due attention given to how the substantial number of former Soviet Union forces would withdraw from the former East Germany in a dignified manner. They were given five years to achieve it under the terms of what was known as the 2 plus 3 treaty. In the first two years, none of us in the West (and I was commanding a brigade in West Germany by that time) were allowed to enter former East Germany in uniform or to conduct any form of military manoeuvres in that country. It was a common sight to see Russian soldiers walking through the streets of former East German towns – nobody reviled them. In the remaining three years, we were allowed to go into the East unrestricted but, actually, considerable restraint was exercised even then. But one could not fail to observe that, towards the end, the morale of those troops was exceptionally low as they came to realise the true humiliation that my friends in Vienna years earlier had predicted. It had dawned on them that there would be very little going for them back in Russia on their return. So there were occasions when the trains heading east every week were being loaded with bricks and building materials, often dismantled from the barracks in which they lived, to make provision for accommodation that might be lacking. Unserviceable military equipment was simply left behind to make way for it.

It was a reminder that the end of the Cold War was effectively a military victory for the West, even though no shots had been fired. By the same token, it was viewed as a humiliating defeat by the former Soviet Union. I don't think the West had appreciated that the subsequent strategy of expanding NATO to absorb the former central European states as well as expanding the EU was bound to be viewed by Russia as a threat. So we should hardly be surprised nearly 30 years on by the extent to which that most patriotic of nations, Russia, has reasserted itself as a nation in a way that we now find threatening and difficult to handle. Perhaps there are echoes of Versailles to be heard. And we can look more widely and see populism and violence becoming increasingly evident across the globe. Only a week or so back, Monsieur Macron alerted France to the distinction between patriotism and extreme nationalism.

But as the Cold War came to an end, there was a happier tale to be told and that was what happened in Germany itself, a country that had been physically and spiritually deeply divided for 40 years. While the idea of a unified Germany was clearly attractive, it was viewed with severe misgiving by some in the West. But the German government embraced this task in a truly impressive fashion. They created an organ of government known as the TreuHand, which exists to this day. Literally translated as the 'Trust Agency', it is probably best understood in terms of 'even-handedness'. Both sides were considered and treated equally in creating the new unified Germany. In 1990, I was at a distinctly smart lunch party in Westphalia and found myself sitting next to a lady in her late thirties who I discovered was a senior official in the TreuHand. I asked her how she had set

about her awesome task. She replied simply: “I am surprised you ask the question Brigadier. We simply took the plans developed by the British military government for the rebuilding of Germany off-the-shelf and have used them.” Evidence, if ever it was needed, that there was much that was right about how the Second World War ended. Earlier this year, my wife and I were in East Berlin (a part of the city with which we were familiar as we were allowed to go there during the Cold War) and had supper in an unpretentious restaurant one evening. The waitress was, I judged, in her early thirties. I asked her in German whether we were eating in the former East Berlin. She replied in English ‘I don’t know’. A grand strategic success had been captured in three words.

I suggested earlier that the way the lessons of the First War had been applied since 1989 had been patchy. Let me give one last example of why that may be so. When the Cold War ended, everyone predicted correctly that fault lines which had been beneath the surface in the Cold War would open up, and we have seen it in many places. The question we need to ask ourselves is did we embark upon these engagements with the same foresight that Churchill displayed in being clear on where we were going and how we would handle the aftermath. The Balkans, I think, is a bit of a mixed bag, but it was the first intervention as we knew it would be – as historically the fault line in Europe. The Gulf Wars were military victories but it is now commonly acknowledged that what happened in the years that followed had not been thought through and were very unsatisfactorily handled. Did we enter Afghanistan better prepared? To some degree I think so, and the notion of ‘stabilisation’, as it has become known, is now well-established in security and defence doctrine – even though it has been almost impossible to achieve.

So what has this rapid journey told us? I think it should be evident that the quality of long-term thought given to problems determines most of the outcomes in life. It is a truism. But the fact is that quality strategic thought is in very short supply. I need hardly mention BREXIT. In my experience, the truth is that very few people can really do this. But I think your upbringing and the education that Harrow has given you should equip you well to be represented amongst the few who can.

In 20 minutes, we have cantered through a 100 years of change where the unit of currency has been decades. But when you finish your university education you will not canter through decades. You will gallop and the units of time will be less. If nothing else, the rate of technological change is well known – doubling every two years. That fact will redefine the notion of long-term thinking and the premium put upon it. It will fundamentally affect the way we live.

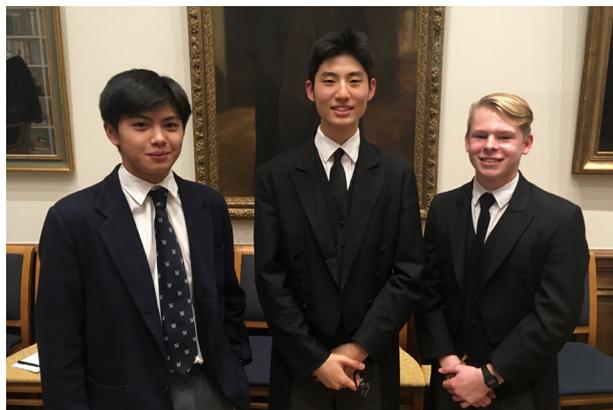
It is difficult to offer advice with that degree of change in prospect. I well remember being told on my 21st birthday that if you want to do anything significant in life at senior level, Tim, you will need to think beyond your experience and plan beyond your tenure. I think that still holds good and it was, above all, what Winston Churchill understood – so continue to be inspired by him.

SENIOR SCIENCE LECTURE COMPETITION

OH Room, 15 November

A healthy audience of boys and beaks assembled in the OH Room on Thursday evening to listen to three excellent presentations from Freddie Murley, *The Park*, Eugene Kin, *West Acre*, and Matthew Ong, *Elmfield*. The format is very challenging and ten minutes can seem an unfeasibly short amount of time to communicate a complex scientific idea with clarity and sufficient detail. Our three finalists this year, however, succeeded in doing exactly that and delivered an illuminating and entertaining series of lectures.

First up was Murley with his talk entitled ‘De-Extinction’. De-extinction is bringing extinct organisms back to life. This can be done through three distinct processes: selective breeding, cloning, or genetic modification. Selective breeding has already been carried out successfully with quaggas (a type of zebra), and scientists could try to breed aurochs, the ancestor of all cattle, with modern cattle. Cloning has been attempted on the Pyrenean ibex with genetic material from an ibex being fused with an empty egg cell from a goat. These attempts, however, have thus far been unsuccessful. Genetic modification involves editing the genetic information in the DNA of an organism using the gene editing technology CRISPR-Cas9. Scientists are currently trying to bring back the passenger pigeon, which was a very common bird in North America that was hunted to extinction. De-extinction has limitations: it’s expensive, time consuming, it can clash with current conservation efforts, and DNA degrades after 1.5 million years, limiting its scope for bringing back long-extinct species – such as dinosaurs! There is, however, still the enticing prospect of seeing dodos in a zoo in the near future.



In his talk ‘The Fusion Revolution’, Kim proposed that nuclear fusion was the optimal solution to the global energy crisis. After exploring the science behind the strong force and binding energy, we were shown how the deuterium-tritium nuclear reaction releases an unfathomable amount of energy (one glass of water contains enough Deuterium to charge your iPhone for 2,000 years!). An overview of the various techniques currently being investigated and developed to create nuclear fusion reactors identified the daunting engineering challenges that need to be overcome if we are to make nuclear fusion a viable alternative to other forms of renewable energy production, such as wind power. The two designs which seem most promising (namely, the Tokamak reactor and Laser-Confinement Techniques) were explored in some detail and their relative merits compared. Although fusion still has a long way to go, individual entrepreneurs like Michel Laberge will be the ones to pave the way for a better society by bringing the secrets of the Sun down to Earth. The prospect of achieving limitless, clean and cheap energy production surely justifies continuing investment in this research, even if we clearly still have much work to do.

Lastly, Ong gave a talk entitled ‘Humans: a bioluminescent species’. In his presentation, he first gave some context as to what bioluminescence is, outlining how it is the ability of any living organism to produce light. It is used both as a defensive smokescreen by vampire squids and also as a means of communication for fireflies. The mechanism for bioluminescence starts with a luciferin molecule being adenylated by luciferase to form an enzyme-adenyl-luciferin complex, better known as ‘LH-AMP2’. This complex is then oxygenated to form oxyluciferin, which is unstable due to being in an electronically excited state. It thus returns to a more stable form by releasing the energy as a photon. Surprisingly, humans can also exhibit bioluminescence. Researchers in Japan had managed to image

human bioluminescence using a cryogenic charge-coupled device (CCD) in a darkroom, showing images which highlighted the fact that the rate of human bioluminescence rhythmically fluctuated in a day, peaking at around 4pm and tapering away at the ends of a day – possibly due to energy metabolism changes which relate to our circadian clocks.

Ong then explained the mechanical difference in human bioluminescence, initially stating that there were two methods of ‘autophosphorescence’ – that is, natural bioluminescence. Firstly, it could occur through the degradation of fat in the body, known as lipid peroxidation, which resulted in hydroxyl free radicals which then transferred the energy and triggered triplet state excited carbonyl compounds to release photons. Secondly, it could also occur via the acceptance of hydroxyl radicals (from the Haber-Weiss reaction) into melanin fluorophores. Through Forster Resonance Energy Transfer, the radical’s energy would then trigger the melanin fluorophore to luminesce. This is explained the stronger luminescing effect from the face, as there are more melanin fluorophores there due to greater sun exposure than anywhere else in the body.

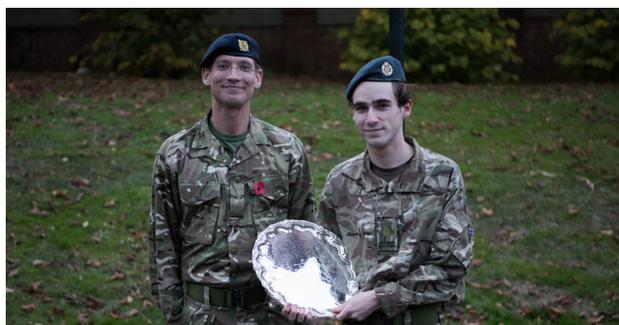
Human bioluminescence can be used to analyse ‘pathogenesis’, the start and progress of diseases such as Alzheimer’s and prostate cancer. Fascinatingly, researchers are experimenting with bioluminescence to trigger ‘cancer cell suicide’, in which the cancer cell would have the bioluminescent gene inserted into it. Hypothetically, when it then does luminesce, the energy produced would rupture the cell and destroy it. Overall, Ong’s talk gave a fascinating angle on a relatively little known phenomenon, explaining much of the complex technicality within the various mechanisms.

It was then down to CMC, MGP and JAA, three beaks covering the three science departments, to choose a winner. After a great deal of deliberation, our adjudicators finally decided on Kim, whose presentational panache narrowly gave him the very slight edge on the night.

HOUSE DRILL

Parade Ground, 5 November

The Monday after Long Ducker, lots of aching bodies made their way down to the Parade Ground for the next item on the Calendar, House Drill. Lyon’s were up first, led by H Cleeve, and set the standard high: with a good turn out and precise movements, they marched in good form. Newlands went next and, with clear orders being barked by Du Toit, it was clear that they were a sharp squad who knew what they were doing, keeping the standard high and the pressure on. The Knoll were next up, led by the Head of Corps A Saunders. A slip at the beginning put them back slightly, but not for long, as they recovered well and carried on marching through, finishing off in style. The Head Master’s then stepped up for their turn, led by C Paice, and put on a good show, not letting a few slips



deter them in any way. Following on was Elmfied, who kept the standard high and put on a good show. Bradbys were up next, and the standard was still high. After a lengthy inspection, they started their marching, which went very well. Druries then stepped up to the challenge. Led by C Hamwee, they started well

and kept getting better. With great precision, they stepped up to challenge and raised the bar even higher with clear orders and accuracy from all round; the confidence was earned and deserved. Following this was Rendalls, who managed to keep everything together despite the huge differences in height within the group, which would have proved challenging when keeping in step. The Grove then took their turn. Led by D Cook, who didn’t let a few mistakes get in the way of an overall very well-rounded performance. The Park then took to the challenge and started confidently, which was rightly so. Precision and accuracy was all there, even with one boy in a sling. Led by corps RSM, A de Broe-Ferguson, they more than kept to the standard. West Acre had the challenge of going last, and stepped up to it; with only a few minor slips, they held their own in the competition.

The winners were then announced, with David Gibbons, *The Park*, winning best cadet in drill for his excellent performance. Du-Toit, *Newlands*, won the best instructor award for his clear orders and control of his squad. The best turn out upon inspection was won by Druries for their smart turn out and uniformity in presentation. The best drill was won by Druries, who beat The Park for the first time in a while, was deservedly won. The overall winning House went to Druries, the effort they had put in clearly paying off. All the Houses put in lots of effort and set the overall standard high for next years competition.

ELITE RUGBY TRAINING

On the pitch with Billy Vunipola, Bradbys 2009³ and Jonathan Davies

On Wednesday 14 November, the Junior Colts A and Yearling A were lucky enough to experience a training session with England, British and Irish Lions, Saracens and former Bradbian Billy Vunipola, and Wales, British and Irish Lions ‘Man of the Series’ and Scarlets outside centre Jonathan Davies.



On Julian 1 and 2, we split up into three groups and warmed up with some adapted touch matches. Then, in the groups, we split, with one group doing handling drills, which were watched and coached by Jonathan Davies, who gave some great advice about stepping inside and making sure the defender is drawn before giving your pass to the man out wide who would be in for the score. He also commented on how communication was most important when dealing with scrambled defences and told us stories of playing at the Millennium Stadium with the roof closed and the Welsh fans causing so much noise that he had to shout at his other centre just to be heard!

Then Billy Vunipola came over and we did drills on tackling, rucking and body position. He gave some extremely helpful comments. He helped us with 1-on-1 tackling and taught us about using the touchline to our advantage and showing the attacker a shoulder by closing your body. He also showed us how to quickly close down the man and give him no space. It was great to meet him in person and see just how big he is; he was also keen to hear more about how life at the School was these days and told the boys a few funny stories about his time at Harrow.

Afterwards, both teams came together and had an opportunity for photos before heading back in to lessons. Overall it was a brilliant experience and I am sure that both teams will take a lot from the day. Hopefully, both teams can put all the work into practice in the up and coming cup matches. Thank you to BTM, JLM, GBF, CEGB, DMM and the team at Nike for putting the day together.

ENGLISH LEARNT POETRY

*Final Round, Adjudicator Mr Tony Chan,
OSRG, 7 November*

This year, unlike most, the Learnt Poetry final took place in the OSRG. SWB managed to conduct this competition perfectly, and to whittle down the best of five years to the final 19. This year, it was judged by the poet Tony Chan, who is currently Director of Studies at Sussex House.

To begin with, SWB gave a short introduction outlining how important learnt poetry can be, as “the poem is no longer the poets, but it is yours.” This point was repeated by Mr Chan at the very end. SWB then handed over to Connor O’Flaherty, *The Head Master’s*, who performed *The Glorious Game* by Keith Oldrey. This was a very dramatic performance, which was unlike the poetry protocol that Harrow was used to. His South African accent complemented the expressive “howzat,” and various other cricket terminologies. Mr Chan was very complimentary, but felt that there could have been a larger variety of pace towards the end. Up next was Yizi Wei, *Elmfield*, with a recitation of the *Jabberwocky* by Lewis Carol. Once again, this was a very dramatic performance, full of long strides across the podium. Mr Chan was impressed by the unique pronunciation choices Wei made, as the ‘Jabberwocky’ contains many make-believe words which are up for interpretation. Next was Joshua Soyemi, *The Head Master’s*, with *Oh Captain my Captain* by Walt Whitman. He had a very strong and confident tone, and drew the audience in with the lowering of his voice with a meaningful tone, which is what Mr Chan picked up on. Max Morgan, *Moretons*, performed *If* by Rudyard Kipling. This was a slightly simpler performance with just varied hand gestures, but, as MPS added during the competition, ‘less is more.’ Morgan ended softly, which drew the audience in, much like Soyemi. To end with, Inpan Adiran, *Bradlys*, read *The Oxen* by Thomas Hardy. Much like Morgan, this was a simpler performance, which was highly effective and, as Mr Chan said, very naturalistic. In the end, Mr Chan commended O’Flaherty and Adiran, and gave first place to Morgan.

In the Removes and Fifth Form, Leon Kinaro, *Moretons*, read *The Second Coming* by William Butler Yeats. He had a firm but soft voice, which was complemented by some dramatic pauses, especially in his final sentences. Next was Will Tate, *The Knoll*, performing the *Jabberwocky* by Lewis Carrol. Even though this was a paced performance, it was sometimes too quiet, but this did not stop the sense of the piece getting across to the audience according to Mr Chan. Alexander von Kumberg, *The Park*, was next, with *Do not go gentle into that good night* by Dylan Thomas. This had very clear articulation, with some very strong consonants. However, it was sometimes a bit too fast. Next was Max Wilson, *The Park*, who performed *Stop all the clocks* by W H Auden. He had a steady pace and some clear articulation, but Mr Chan said that it was an intelligent reading, with the pauses in all the right places. William Wauchope, *The Knoll*, read *And Yet the Books* by Czeslaw Milosz. Although this was a quick reading, it still had clarity. Then it was Indi Abrams, *The Grove*, with *The Donkey* by G K Chesterton. A

good use of hand gestures and a strong yet soft voice made for an effective performance. Finally, Max Morgan, *Rendalls*, performed *Drummer Hodge* by Thomas Hardy. Mr Chan was highly complimentary about Morgan’s controlled pauses which really added to the piece. Mr Chan gave commendations to Kinaro, Tate, and Wilson, and gave first place to Wauchope.

To end the evening, the Sixth Form competition started with Aleks Predolac-Miller, *Druries*, performing *One Art* by Elizabeth Bishop. This was a very moving piece and Predolac-Miller gave sensible gestures and movements throughout the piece, creating a very effective overall performance. Next was Monty Powell, *The Grove*, performing *After the Titanic* by Derek Mahon. Powell had a powerful tone throughout this piece, and used a crescendo to add to the building tension of the performance. Theodore Seely, *The Head Master’s*, read *Voice* by Ann Sansom. This was a highly comical performance which showed off Seely’s acting abilities. Mr Chan was moved to say that it brought out all his dramatic range and said that it was good to place different voices on all the impressions throughout the poem. On next was Leopold Florescu, *The Head Master’s*, with *A, a, a, Domine Deus* by David Jones. Even MPS was moved to say that this was a brave choice, as the free verse really does create difficulties in learning it. However, Florescu created a sombre tone with his soft voice, and Mr Chan said that it was a highly considered reading. Columbus Mason, *The Head Master’s*, read *A Poison Tree* by William Blake. This had a soft yet powerful mood to it and Mr Chan said that although it was a simple poem, there was so much more which Mason captured. Then, John Bonas, *Rendalls*, performed *The Destruction of Sennacherib* by Lord Byron. Bonas decided to take a seat for this one and lounge back in an arm chair. Mr Chan felt that the image he chose depicted the stylish womaniser that Lord Byron was. To end the night, we had Ben Davies, *The Grove*, reading *Albert and the Lion* by Marriott Edgar. It was a highly amusing performance, with an uplifting Yorkshire accent, which added to the already comical text of the poem. In the end, Mr Chan decided to give commendations to all the Sixth Form boys and to give first place to Predolac-Miller for his brilliant performance.

Once again, a thank you to SWB and to Tony Chan, who took time out to judge this prestigious competition. Both SWB and Mr Chan couldn’t express how important learnt poetry is, and the skill one needs to perform. Another thank you to all the boys who put in the effort for learning a poem this year.

OSRG ARTS SOCIETY

*Trip to the Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize
2018, National Portrait Gallery*

The Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize 2018 is a leading international competition to celebrate and promote the very best in contemporary portrait photography from around the world. The Prize showcases an inspiring selection of works that explore both traditional and contemporary approaches to the photographic portrait, whilst capturing a range of characters and locations. The 57 works were selected from 4,462 submissions, entered by 1,973 professional and amateur photographers from 70 countries. An initial digital sift, selected 341 works for physical judging, of which the final 57 works chosen for this year’s exhibition present a wide range of styles and approaches.

The total number of prizewinning works is higher than in previous years, which reflects the outstanding quality of works entered.

This year’s exhibition also featured an In Focus display, with works by the Tokyo-based photographer Rinko Kawauchi. Her innovative photographic works that capture the unique and remarkable in everyday settings are internationally celebrated.

There were two third-prize winners this year. The first was a portrait of 'Strong' Joe Smart, taken by Joey Lawrence, as a part of the series *Tombo's Wound*. It shows a young Sierra Leonean boy, Joe, wearing a 'crown' of leaves. The portrait was made in the remote village of Tombohuau, in Sierra Leone's Eastern Province, where Joey Lawrence was working with the charity WaterAid to highlight the dangers of dirty water. In addition to suffering an outbreak of the ebola virus, the community has been without clean water for 16 years. Lawrence posed his sitters in an improvised 'studio'. However this portrait came about in a more spontaneous way. 'Joe had made a mask out of grass with his friends that morning, and wanted to keep it on during his portrait,' recalls Lawrence. 'In between giggling, he always held this very empowered look. I snapped just a few close-up frames of him and only noticed his expression later on.' The judges had this to say about the piece: 'Emerging from a lush palette of green foliage, 'Strong' Joe Smart's expression proves utterly captivating. Lawrence's use of focus draws attention to the young boy's grass headdress, suggesting childhood games. This contrasts with his resolved gaze, of a maturity that belies his age.'



The other third-prize winner went to Max Barstow for his untitled portrait of two shoppers. He is a London-born photographer with an interest in images about city life. His work is inspired by a combination of studio and documentary photography. The photograph selected has been taken from Barstow's series entitled *Londoners*. Barstow says, 'I began creating the series with the aim to make un-posed portraits with the intensity of images made by great studio portrait photographers such as Richard Avedon and Irving Penn. The photograph selected is a strongly composed and graphically-arresting image. It freezes a pair of friends shopping in the flow of a busy Summer Sunday afternoon in the centre of London. I believe the image is peculiarly interesting as a portrait, in that it was taken swiftly in the middle of a crowd of passers-by – it is, unusually, both a formally successful portrait with a classic studio-aesthetic, and a street photograph in the broad idiom of Henri Cartier-Bresson and Garry Winogrand.' The judges commented, 'The precision and tonal balance of the composition is all the more remarkable for having been taken in a fleeting moment on a busy London street.'

The second prize went to Enda Bowe's portrait entitled *Cybil McAddy with daughter Lulu*. This portrait of Cybil and Lulu is part of Bowe's ongoing collaborative project with Gillian O'Brien, Clapton Blossom, which focuses on the residents of a housing estate in Clapton, East London. Bowe used a cherry blossom tree as the connecting point to portray the overlapping lives of local people who pass by the tree each day, or who view it from their windows. 'The transience of the blossoms has often been associated with mortality – new beginnings and endings,' says Bowe. 'I wanted to create a positive portrait of Cybil and Lulu which resonated with the people on the estate, and to use colours symbolising the blossom, in this instance the pink ribbon in Lulu's hair.' The judges said, 'Bowe's tender portrait traces the emotional connection between a new parent and her baby, evoking traditional compositions of a mother and child.' Further scrutiny reveals details, including Cybil's piercings, tattoos and adorned nails, which with the urban

setting, give a contemporary update to this classical theme.

The winner of the 2018 Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait was Alice Mann, with her portraits of Keisha Ncube and Taylim Prince, taken in Cape Town in South Africa. An article in a local newspaper first alerted the South African photographer to the drum majorette competitions that take place throughout the country. Intrigued, Mann spent three months photographing teams of 'drummies' across South Africa's Western province. Many of the majorettes come from disadvantaged communities. Despite the challenge of raising funds for costumes and equipment, being a drummer is considered a major accomplishment. Mann says: 'I have seen how identifying as drummers offer the girls a powerful sense of belonging and visibly emboldens their self-worth. Through the sport, the value of pride and confidence is emphasised to the girls, something that is vital in communities where opportunities for young women are often severely limited.'

JUNIOR CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Conor Cushley, *The Grove*, on "The Phoenicians"
and Adam Ait El Caid, *Druries*: "Early Greek
Philosophers", Deno Leventis Library, 14 November

Once again JCS met in the Deno Leventis at 2.30pm to hear Conor Cushley, *The Grove*, and Adam Ait El Caid, *Druries*, speak on 'The Phoenicians' and 'Early Greek Philosophers' respectively. There was a crowd of about a dozen who were mysteriously all from The Grove.

Cushley began by telling us where Phoenicia is, modern-day Lebanon, and that as it was a coastal region it was a seafaring nation that loved to trade. It had three main ports of Byblos, Sidon and Tyre and it founded the colonies of Carthage and Leptis. Due to it having colonies all around the Mediterranean, it brought trade from Arabia and Persia all the way to Italy and North Africa. There is even evidence that they traded with Britain!

Cushley made the point that the Phoenicians fixed prices on goods and they had a tribute system. They traded lots of wood as they had an abundance of trees, especially cedar, and they traded this for grain and barley as they had little agriculture.

Tyre is famous for its purple dye and the Phoenicians' name comes from a Greek word literally meaning 'The men who bring purple things'. They also invented transparent glass, as the glass invented by the Egyptians at that time had been slightly opaque. They imported metals and precious goods from places such as Spain, India and Arabia. Cushley also stated that Tyre was founded in 2750 BC and has a reference in the Bible because they were allied with Israel. The city was attacked many times and was finally taken by Alexander the Great after a nine-month siege. He had to build a giant causeway out to the island, so that his troops could storm the walls.

Cushley also talked a little about Tyrian mythology. The most famous story is that of Dido, who founded Carthage and became its queen. She killed herself after being left by Aeneas, vowing that Carthage would have its revenge on his descendants. Another story is that of Europa, whose father was the King of Tyre. Zeus made her Queen of Crete and she was the mother of Minos.

Cushley stressed the most important Phoenician invention, the invention of the first proper alphabet. This originated from Proto-Canaanite and had 22 letters but no vowels. Their alphabet inspired the Greek alphabet.

Cushley concluded with this and then Ait El Caid began. He started by telling us that the philosophers that predated Socrates were known as the Pro-Socratics and those who came after were the Hellenistics. He also told us that philosophy had either originated from Southern Italy or Ionia (in modern day Turkey). While the Pre-Socratics dealt with metaphysics those after Socrates thought more about epistemology.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the Editors of *The Harrovian*

DEAR SIRS,

Thank you for your coverage of Remembrance Sunday. This year the day had even greater significance not only marking the centenary of the Armistice but by falling on the anniversary itself. I am proud of the service we have developed here at Harrow and I now model the service at St Mary's on what happens in Chapel. For many years, the School has contributed to the Parish commemoration by providing boys to play the Last Post and Reveille; this year I was particularly grateful to Joe McGuinness, The Park and Angus Labrum, The Head Master's for their "note-perfect" trumpeting and "second-accurate" timing. In School, in recent years we have been inviting relatively recent OHs who are either still serving in the Forces or have just left to speak at the Remembrance Day Service. This year, on this unique occasion, I know those of you who heard Freddy Paske, West Acre 1999-3, will have been inspired by his words and we are profoundly grateful to him for continuing this tradition.

Since being at Harrow, I have developed a deep interest in the First World War. This may be due partly to the fact that I once worked for a charity whose roots were in chaplaincy work on the Western Front, Toc H. That initial interest has undoubtedly been developed by celebrating the Eucharist almost every day for over 25 years in the Crypt Chapel where all 644 names of our First World War fatalities are recorded chronologically on the walls. If there is anything I miss in combining the role at St Mary's with Chaplaincy in School it is daily prayer in the Crypt. If you are not familiar with the Crypt Chapel, then do please visit it; it is a hidden gem in the heart of the School.

I have valued the many years I have been able to accompany our visits to the First World War battlefields and lead our commemorations. It was particular privilege to have dedicated with the Harrow Association the memorial in St George's Church, Ypres and to have been present there for the ringing of the newly installed bells last year, the largest of which is dedicated to "the Sons of Harrow".

In spite of the Great War being identified as the "war to end all wars", 21 short years later, the world found itself in armed conflict once more. It will not be long before our attention is drawn towards the commemoration of the Second World War and I am already working with our archivist, Ms Tace Fox in drawing up information on those killed between 1939-45. In comparison to those killed in the Great War, we do not have the same level of detail readily available on those who lost their lives in the Second World War.

I would very much appreciate the opportunity to record my gratitude to all those who made Sunday 11 November 2018 such a memorable day on the Hill: all those who contributed to the services of Remembrance in Chapel and St Mary's, the laying of the wreaths, the planning, planting and dedication of the Armistice wood and the moving cultural events in the evening culminating with the Durufle Requiem. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,
JEP

DEAR SIRS,

Every time I open my Firefly page I am confronted by a sweaty man gawping back at me. He has an awful expression smeared over his pallid features and blood oozing from open wounds. It is a horrible surprise when you just want to check your Elective prep. Written on the picture is a passive aggressive warning of 'two drinks ago you would have walked away'. Apparently it is Alcohol Awareness week, on whose authority I don't know, but it hasn't come up on Google yet so I suppose it's an internal initiative. Of course it's probably sensible. Drinking is not very

He started with Thales of Miletus, who didn't believe in a god and sought a rational explanation for everything that happened. He also realised that everything needed water to survive and believed that the land floated on water.

He moved on to Anaximander, who questioned how humans came into being. He believed that the first men had been created inside the belly of a giant fish and, once they could fend for themselves, the fish washed up and they set out into the world. Next, he spoke of Heraclitus. He believed that the universe was governed by universal cosmic law and was incredibly arrogant. He also thought that everything in the universe was in a constant state of flux. He died comically while sitting in sunburnt manure.

Ait El Caid told us about Democritus, who believed the universe was made up of atoms and there was no afterlife. Atom means 'uncuttable' and Democritus thought that every change was merely a reconfiguration of atoms. Zeno was next; he was most famous for the following paradox: to cover 100 metres, one must first run half that distance, and then half the remaining distance, and so on, essentially meaning one would never reach the end of the 100 metres. This paradox that he thought up was known to drive people mad!

Parmenides thought that change was impossible and said that something can't come from nothing. He is also known for writing his works in hexameter verse. Ait El Caid then spoke on the more famous Pythagoras. Well known for his theorem, he coined the term 'philosopher'. He believed in reincarnation, which he thought was a punishment. He started a vegetarian commune and thought that numbers governed everything.

Empedocles was an extremely arrogant philosopher who thought of himself as an immortal god. He believed everything was made up of the four elements: Earth, Fire, Water and Air. He also said that love and strife were in constant battle, with love trying to bring everything together and strife the opposite. He died by jumping into Mount Etna trying to prove his immortality. Protagoras was a Sophist who believed that there were always two sides to an argument and that nothing is inherently good or bad.

Ait El Caid then spoke about possibly the most famous philosopher of all, Socrates. He invented the Socratic argument, whereby he asked someone a question and then pointed out the flaws in their answer, creating a pointless argument. He believed it was his mission to bring the truth to the citizens of Athens and tried to understand what virtue really is. He believed that virtue was knowledge. He also argued that nobody commits evil knowingly. He was also put on trial for corrupting the youth where he drank hemlock and died.

Plato was Socrates' student who founded the Academy. This existed in one shape or form for over 900 years. He came up with the Allegory of the Cave, wherein prisoners are trapped in a cave and only able to look at one of the cave's walls. Behind them there is a fire, and in between them and the fire people are walking along carrying objects whose shadows are cast onto the wall. The prisoners think those objects represent real life. However, one prisoner escapes and sees the real objects, understanding the nature of the real world. He comes back to tell the prisoners that they have a skewed perception of the world, but they don't believe him. The Plato compared this man to the philosopher trying to free humans from their ignorance.

Finally, Ait El Caid spoke of Aristotle, who was a student of Plato's Academy and argued that everything has a function. The human function according to Aristotle is to be virtuous and there is a Golden Mean, which is a perfect average in everything.

Ait El Caid thought that Aristotle had the best philosophical ideas and that society is very different today because of philosophers and their ideas.

That concluded the meeting. JCS meets at 2.30pm (Winter timetable) on Wednesdays in the Deno Leventis Library. Please email SMK, Paddy Breeze, *Elmfield*, or Fred Prickett, *The Park*, if you would like to give a talk.

good for you and caused the far too early death of Roger Hilton (one of the greats) and Dylan Thomas, who famously claimed to have drunk 18 straight whiskies at The White Horse in New York before dying soon after. What I don't see, however, is a warning above the vast tub of Frosties every morning saying "Beware, a third of this tub is pure sugar." This is fact, each 30g serving of Frosties contains 11g of sugar. Jamie Oliver would be dismayed. However, this is not the point, merely a potent side argument. What is the real issue, besides obesity, diabetes and heart failure, is the sore displeasure I experience every time I open up good old Firefly. Everyone likes a drink at the pub, if you get into a fight the likelihood is that it'll end up being a terrifically good story.

Yours sincerely,
FREDDIE HEFFER, ELMFIELD

DEAR SIRs,

I think all Harrovians are familiar with the slamming of the Song book, frequently heard at the start of *Forty Years On*. It is done at every School Songs and House Songs. Although this Harrow tradition is fine and no harm is done by doing so, some boys may have been taking it too far. Some boys decided to take it into the realm of Chapel.

Since the Chapel service leading up to Remembrance Sunday, I have heard multiple hymnal slams/hymnal slaps at the end of the service. A chapel is a place of peace and worship. By slamming hymnals, it is disrespectful to the clergy, the entire congregation and certainly un-Harroviaan.

For those who know that they are guilty of this slamming practice in Chapel, I would encourage you to stop this crass habit.

Yours sincerely,
J.W. SHIN, ELMFIELD

HERE AND THERE

Boys from all year groups sat the Senior Maths Challenge shortly after half term, achieving some excellent results, earning 36 Gold certificates, 51 Silver and 31 Bronze. Particular congratulations are due to Andrew Zhou, *Lyon's*, who scored full marks; other boys worthy of commendation for earning scores over 100 were Junseok Choi, *Newlands*, Pasa Suksmith, *Elmfield*, Girk Yin, *Bradlys*, James Yuen, *Lyon's*, Ostap Stefak and Kostya Sidiakin, both *Newlands*.

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from Around the Hill

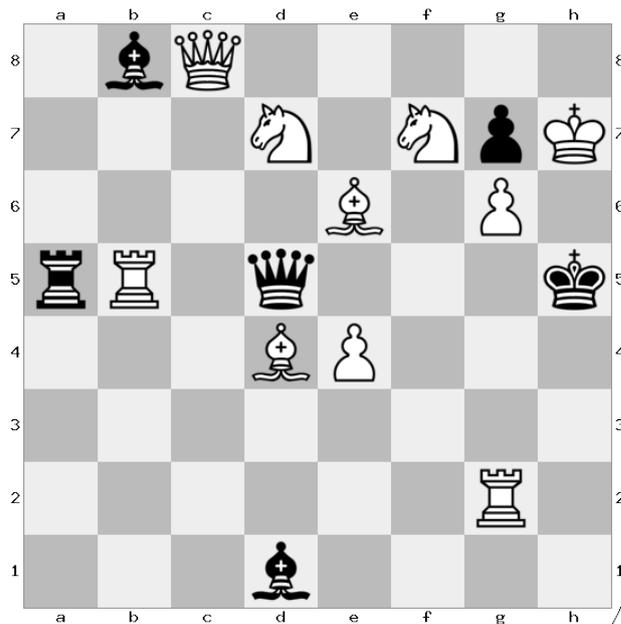
"Finish this exercise and I'll let you watch a moving picture."
"Sir, what's a moving picture?" "Why it's a picture that moves. I hear it's a new technology."

"Now boys remember to use P-E-A-L; point, evidence, analysis, link." "Oh yes, Miss, I've got loads of links."

"Now the verb *méfier* means 'to beware, or be careful about', like people down dark alleyways for example." "Or midgets, sir."

"Sir, I have spelt oxygen wrong four times now. How is it spelt?" "Of course, it's spelled I-C-A-N-T-S-P-E-L-L" "I don't think that's right, sir?"

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.

White to play and mate in 2.

Last week's solution: 1...Qf1+ 2.Qxf1 Ng3#

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!

EUROPE'S OTHER PROBLEMS

With last week's volatile Brexit situation still evolving, I predict many of us will have failed to take note of problems also unfolding in other EU countries. That is not to say, however, that these problems are not noteworthy. Indeed, as Sky News suggested 'Europe has economic woes of its own beyond Brexit'.

One of these 'woes' seems to be that of lacklustre growth in the two countries we have always seen as the main home of everything EU – France and Germany.

Except for unemployment, France and the UK are in many ways economically similar; tradingeconomics.com quotes the GDP per capita as \$42,568 and Inflation at 2.2% in France, while in the UK it quotes the GDP per capita as \$42,514 and inflation at 2.4%. Yet, when it comes to forecast economic growth, it's another story. Annualised numbers show that France's economy will not grow for the rest of the year (it will remain at +0.4% as it was in September) in contrast to the UK's economy, which is forecast to grow by another 1% over the next nine months. It seems that, whilst France seemingly stagnates, the UK (despite Brexit) is forecast to grow at what is a reasonable historical rate for the UK.

Germany's economic troubles, furthermore, are even more notable. As the powerhouse of the EU, Germany has a trade surplus of €18.4 billion, which is enormous in comparison to the rest of Europe (UK with a deficit of €340 million). Despite this, the surplus is down approximately 25% in 12 months. Germany's economy is contracting (its September GDP growth figure is -0.2% which will be equivalent to a 0.8% shrinkage over 12 months if it continues).

Sky News suggests these figures may be somewhat due to the US-China trade war, but 'digging deeper reveals' that the effects of new vehicle emissions testing rules have caused

bottlenecks in the car industry, with VW having had at one stage 250,000 unsold cars in just the EU.

Apparently due to high temperatures during this year's summer, the main artery of German industry – the Rhine – has been shrinking. Levels are down. And with almost 50% of all European shipping using the Rhine, the lack of depth on some parts of the Rhine has severely reduced its capacity and the size of the ships using it. BASF for instance, the German chemicals giant, has had to cut production at its Ludwigshafen plant, while the industrial giant Thyssenkrupp has had to scale back steelmaking at Duisburg because raw materials cannot reach it.

Adding to these woes is the continuing turmoil in Italy's budget conflict with the EU in which Valdis Dombrovskis, the vice-president of the European Commission, said that Rome was "openly challenging" the budget rules agreed by all eurozone members. Yet as I have suggested in a previous article, Italy has little choice because of its stagnating economy; indeed, Italy's economy showed no growth in the most recent quarter of 2018.

Overall, the EU grew by just 0.2% in the last 12 months, just as the European Central Bank (ECB) is starting to withdraw its vast stimulus package that some argue has kept the EU going for the last ten years...

So, while the UK is embroiled in its self-inflicted political turmoil, its clearly not the only negative factor facing the rest of the EU. Whatever the effects of Brexit ultimately turn out to be, one thing is certain – it's only going to add to their existing problems.

SQUASH

The School v Charterhouse, away, 8 November

1st V Won 4-1

Brando Sodi, *West Acre*, Won 3-0

Declan Shortt, *Newlands*, Won 3-1

Kareem Jafree, *Elmfield*, Won 3-1

Tom Santini, *The Park*, Won 3-1

David Gibbons, *The Park*, Lost 0-3

2nd V Lost 0-5

Henry Wilson, *Elmfield*, Lost 2-3

Sasha Sebag-Montifiore, *The Knoll*, Lost 2-3

Paddy Kinnaird, *Elmfield*, Lost 1-3

William Orr Ewing, *Elmfield*, Lost 1-3

Freddie Murley, *The Park*, Lost 0-3

Junior Colts Drew 2-2

Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, Won 3-2

Hanno Sie, *Newlands*, Lost 0-3

Hugo Anderson, *Newlands*, Won 3-0

Connor O'Flaherty, *The Head Master's*, Lost 1-3

We are now less worried about the Psychiatric Unit (PU). A victory at Lancing had raised the evil spectre of Enhanced Self-Esteem (ESE) but at Charterhouse they were back in the familiar groove with a 5-0 defeat. Thank goodness we kept their feet on the ground after that isolated outbreak of success. This meant that they handled inevitable defeat with relative aplomb. However, there were signs of a dangerous new development in their reaction to defeat, a virus known as Petulant Reaction Attitude Type (PRAT).

At this point it may be worth outlining the various possible reactions to defeat known as The Santini Scale of which PRAT is Type 2. Most sports coaches will recognise the diagnostic types. It is a sliding scale with a decrease in emotion and intensity as we proceed from Type 1 to 4, but an increase in sanity, stability and health/well-being.

Type 1 is known as Move and Denial (MAD). Typical behaviour on losing may include refusal to shake hands with opponent,

loud abuse directed at the world in general or an individual such as the referee or the opponent or a religious icon, a very swift exit from the scene of the crime, the appearance of pools of water welling up around the eye region, the racket hurled with some velocity or racket demolished against a wall, and often the complete absence of the said competitor for the rest of the afternoon. MAD is in complete denial about his loss. He is utterly disillusioned about the level of his own ability. In his mind he lost only due to a range of factors that do not include his own utter ineptitude. The factors may include a cheating opponent, a biased or incompetent referee, or a lucky opponent, so lucky that he managed to win most of the points in each game. MAD types are often certifiable and need careful and sensitive handling such as being expelled or banned. Extreme cases of MAD are fortunately rare but there was a certain American Lad a few years ago and our own Last of Species (LOS), presently playing at one in the 1st team, showed tendencies towards MAD in his shell year. Both came through their problems to become reasonably sane by the upper sixth.

Type 2 is the PRAT and this is much more common than MAD. This group comes off court in an angry state in the belief, usually mistaken, that they could have won. This is often the result of the dreaded ESE emanating from a recent victory or a misguided coach suggesting that they have ability. They do not rant and rave like MAD but contain a quiet seething anger. In the PU, Kinnaird, Orr Ewing and Sebag-Montifiore all show tendencies in this direction. They maintain that their opponent was not very good and that they should have won. In the case of Sebag, the Only Fifth Former Playing Squash (OFFPS), he might have an argument given that he had two match points in the fifth game. However, the irritation shown by the others has to be diffused quickly in case ESE is allowed to develop.

Kinnaird: I should have won.

Coach: Why?

Kinnaird: He wasn't very good.

Coach: But good enough to beat you.

Jafree is in the first team but has PRAT tendencies as well. Some coaches think a bit of anger is good after a defeat because it suggests you care, have desire etc, but most of the time it hides a reality that the player cannot accept and to support him in his belief would lead to ESE and deeper mental issues down the line. Jafree is quite new to squash and still struggles to know what is going on. Lets and strokes are a complete mystery to him.

Jafree: I should have won, he was useless.

Coach: But you did win.

Jafree: Did I? Good. But he was still useless.

Type 3 is Relaxed Resignation Syndrome (RRS). This is quite old-fashioned and is more typical of the Glorious Amateur (GA) than the Ruthless Pro (RP). GAs take defeat in their stride and shrug it off as meaningless in the grand scheme of life. Normally, GAs are born and not made but our LOS has been transformed over time from one with MAD tendencies, through a PRAT phase, to the mellowed RRS that we see today. Defeat is more likely to produce giggles than sobs from him these days, as we saw against Aylesbury earlier this term.

Sodi: Did you like the shot I attempted on match point?

Coach: Yes, but hardly a percentage shot.

Sodi: But a pity it went down (laughs)

Coach: And handed him victory.

Sodi: Yes (laughs), but what if it had gone up?

This is classic GA behaviour and suggests that he has squash properly in perspective. However, his recent admission that he still loses sleep over the Aylesbury defeat may indicate that this RRS reaction is all a front. Bottling up those emotions may be worse than showing a PRAT reaction in terms of future mental stability. In the PU Murley and Wilson also demonstrate RRS. There is a sort of resigned sadness about Murley as if there is absolutely nothing he can do. He gazes into the distance and sighs. Wilson looks totally unconcerned by defeat and merely

admits to running out of steam. But Gibbons is the ultimate in displaying RRS type behaviour. His default expression is a toothy smile and even heavy defeat cannot get him down. He is not a GA because nothing he does is glorious but his reaction is always the same.

Gibbons: (Brightly) Not quite at my best today, Sir.

Coach: When have you been at your best?

Gibbons: (Brightly) Oh I have my moments

Coach: We will need you to start getting some wins at number 5.

Gibbons: Don't worry Sir, I'll win.

This baseless confidence is typical of Gibbons and of course is utterly infuriating. But it is typical RRS-type behaviour, more at the "relaxed" end of the scale than the "resigned". Gibbons seems to suffer from ESE even when losing.

Type 4 of the Santini Scale is Santini Syndrome (SS) named after the school number 4 after he had confounded some of the most able psychiatric brains in North Harrow. Santini, a well-known serial loser, became famous for the way in which he could collapse in a heap under the very slightest of pressure, turning inevitable winning positions into abject defeat. Weeks of tests on Santini turned up nothing apart from the apparent discovery of the DNA of a number of root vegetables. The SS-type reaction is one of sad dejection and total acceptance of the futility of further effort. The great thing about this is that there is no chance of ESE developing and no need to cushion the victim after defeat, simply because defeat is hard-wired into the muscle memory of the patient. It is totally normal.

So what happened to Santini at Charterhouse? He played first because he had to get a train back to Harrow to make it in time for the Park House Play. He looked strangely calm as opposed to merely strange. He seemed to be operating in slow motion as he selected his shots with almost surgical precision. He did this for two games and was 2-0 up. We had been here before.

Coach: You are playing well.

Santini: Yes, but this is where I normally crumble.

How about that for self-belief? As predicted, Santini began to unravel. He was now 2-1 up.

Santini: It's happening again.

Coach: Just go back to what you were doing earlier.

Santini: I can't remember what I was doing.

He continued to unravel but more slowly. Fortunately, his opponent looked to be unravelling too and his later reaction was typical of the MAD group. Santini just about hung on to win the 4th game and the match. There was little need to keep his feet on the ground because his SS reaction kicked in as normal. He was expressionless and very white. He looked a bit frightened. There was no overt display of smiling.

Coach: You won.

Santini: Yes.

Coach: Why do you think it happened?

Santini: I was calm.

Coach: Could you be calm in future matches?

Santini: Probably not.

GOLF

The School v St Paul's, ISGA Matchplay Knockout Tournament, Round II, The Buckinghamshire Golf Club, 13 November, Match won 2-1

Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, won 3&2

Charlie Witter Capt, *Elmfield*, won 5&3

Toby Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, lost 1 down

This was a sweet victory for Harrow, having lost to St Pauls in this competition in 2016 and 2017. The handicaps of the St Paul's team at 1, 3, 5 reflect the talent of this formidable opponent. The match turned into a fierce battle that neither side

wanted to lose and the outcome was never obvious in any of the games until the back nine.

In the first game, Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, got off to a rough start and was 3 down through 5, however he dug in and won holes 6,7 and 9 with a birdie at the halfway point to bring it back to all square.

St Paul's had a fast start on the back nine with birdies on 10 and 11, and once again Shirvell was 2 down. But again, in determined fashion, Harrow dug in and won holes 12,13,14,15 and 16 with some stellar iron play and rock solid putting. Shirvell birdied 15 to go 2 up with 3 to play, and then hit the heart of the green on 16 to clinch the win over a very tough opposition. Match Score 3&2 to Harrow! On to the next round...

In the second game, Witter quickly went 2 up through 2 but was pulled back by a great birdie on 3 from St Paul's. However, a super chip in for birdie on 4 from Witter meant he retained his lead. Another birdie from St Paul's on five followed by a birdie on seven by Witter put him 1up at the turn. The match was in the balance after a birdie from St Paul's on 11 took it to all square. Five pars from then on for Witter was good enough for a five and three victory. Through 15 Witter was level par. A great win that showed real nerve, and at this point the match was in the bag for Harrow.

In the final game the pressure came off Toby Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, knowing that the victory was already Harrows. He had been battling hard and came to the 17th tee 1 up. St Paul's took 17 to put them all square coming down the 18th. Shirvell's approach to the green took an unfortunate kick and ended up in the water giving St Paul's the hole and the game.

FIVES

The School v Eton College, 15 November

Seniors Won 2-1

A terrific day for the seniors with a win for our second and thirds pairs. Freddie Anton-Smith, *The Head Master's*, and Anthony Cho, *Elmfield*, put in a strong performance to win at second pair and Rishi Wijeratne, *The Head Master's*, and Panav Patel, *Elmfield*, also proving too strong for their opponents at third pair.

Colts Lost 2-1

Fred Prickett, *The Park*, and Caleb Efemuai, *Newlands*, played some excellent Fives at second pair winning 3-0 and showed great match awareness combined with some intelligent cuts at crucial times.

Junior Colts Won 2-0

Jonathan Barley, *The Grove*, and Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*, won 3-0 at first pair along with John Richardson, *Elmfield*, and Nathan Shepard, *The Park*, also winning 3-0 at second pair. It was great to see both pairs playing with a real sense of purpose. Long may it continue!

Yearlings Won 3-0

Alonso Fontana, *The Grove*, and Adam Mohd, *Lyon's*, won 3-0 at first pair and remain unbeaten. They are also improving with more consistency from the back court in particular and work very well as a pair. Leo Gordon Pullar, *Newlands*, and Casper Stone, *The Park*, played some aggressive volleying in particular and ran out worthy winners 2-1 at second pair. Veer Patel, *The Knoll*, and Alexander Seely, *The Head Master's*, also won comfortably in the end after a slow start.

SWIMMING

*Gala v Coopers' Company & Coborn School,
Won 49-35*

The Senior squad won all of their races except for the final freestyle relay. William Pattle, *Newlands*, swam a personal best time in his 100m freestyle race, clocking in at 1:07:73. Ben Hooper, *The Head Master's*, swam a personal best time in the 100m breaststroke event, coming in at 1:14:23.

FOOTBALL

*1st XI vs Hampton School - ISFA national cup Rd 3
Lost 1-7*

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RACKETS

The School v Charterhouse

Senior - 1st Pair Won 3-0

A dominant performance in a 3-0 win from Luke Harrington-Myers, *Bradlys*, and Otto Stroyan, *The Grove*.

Senior - 2nd Pair Won 3-0

A fine performance from Harry and Alex Saunders, *The Knoll*, in a 3-0 win

Colts - 1st Pair Lost 1-3

A strong performance from Finlay Matheson, *Druries*, and Sasha Sebag Montefiore, *The Knoll*, despite a 1-3 loss

Junior Colts - 1st Pair Won 3-0

Some strong serving and steady play from Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, and Federico Ghersi, *The Head Master's*, in a 3-0 win.

Yearlings - 1st Pair Won 3-1

An excellent effort from Gabriel Black, *West Acre*, and Jonty Williams, *Moretons*, in a tight 3-1 win

Yearlings - 2nd Pair Won 3-0

A fine effort in a dominant 3-0 win from Charlie Young, *Newlands*, and Casper Kingsley, *Elmfield*.

RUGBY

The School v Various Schools

1st XV v Kirkham Grammar School Won 25-12

The XV put together an outstanding performance to upset an excellent and in form Kirkham 1st XV.

Lower Sixth XV v Charterhouse Boys 1st XV Won 77-0

A strong Lower Sixth XV travelled to Charterhouse to record an emphatic victory. Charterhouse started well, playing a tight attacking game however they struggled to live with the pace and handling of the Harrow XV. The team were keen to work on performance and never let complacency get in the way. They continued to run their structures and handled themselves as gentlemen, showing sportsmanship, in what was a very one-sided affair.

Tries: Debiase, Nicholls, Thompson, Biles, Butler, Carden, Ng, Moses-Taiga, Moses-Taiga(2), Benigni.

Yearlings E v School of Hard Knocks Won 36-12

A brilliant afternoon of rugby, with a combined Yearlings D/E team taking on the School of Hard Knocks, a charity that uses sport to tackle unemployment, crime and poor health in young people. It was many of the opposition players' first competitive rugby match, and it was a genuine contest, even though Harrow managed to win 36-12. The Spirit of Rugby was alive and well throughout, not least when the Harrovians played in mixed teams alongside the School of Hard Knocks boys for a fifteen-minute match at the end.

Tries: Wang, Francis, Gleason, Haworth, Chan, Kunitomo

Cons: Doughty, Haworth(2).

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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