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SWISS ALPS EXPEDITION

Via Ferrata and Beyond, 30 June

Heading off to Heathrow to fly to Geneva early on the day School broke up, the boys were filled with a mixture of dread, excitement and tiredness. Having landed, we boarded a coach for the three-hour trip to the Swiss ski resort of Saas Fee – one of the most picturesque service stations in the world! After unpacking, we met some of the mountain guides who would look after us during our visit. Following a hearty meal we prepped our kit and got an early night to prepare for the following day's activity.

We awoke to beautiful rays of sunshine reflecting off of a cable car before an initial walk for an hour to the start of the via ferrata. Literally translating into 'iron way', these pathways were first set and used by the British army to cross the Dolomites during the First World War: basically an inflated Go Ape off the side of a 3,000 metre mountain! After a quick demonstration on how to use our 'cow's tails', we began our summit of the Jegihorn. Initially, the climbing wasn't too taxing, but this quickly changed as we began climbing up very narrow and vertical gullies. In the back of everyone's mind was the looming wire bridge, the main challenge that we had been told about when we had initially signed up. The "legendary" bridge certainly lived up to expectations, spanning over 200m with a drop of at least 300m. Fortunately, everybody was able to hold their nerve and cross, though the boys did wonder why the ropes suddenly started shaking as soon as PSL started walking across, perhaps not the best activity choice for a beak with a fear of heights...



The following day we caught a bus up the valley to the Mattmark dam to begin our walk to the Britannia Hut. The steep uphill climb was made even more difficult as we had to carry our clothes and equipment for our planned ascent of the Allalinhorn the following day. We stopped for a quick lunch before descending onto the glacier. This was our first experience of all being roped together and walking in crampons across the ice. I'm told those roped into SMS's group were given the added pleasure of a detailed explanation of the processes of glacial erosion and its features – rookie mistake for those who thought they could avoid any application of their mental faculties given it was the summer holidays.

After a final push, we reached the hut at a height of 2996m. There was a quick briefing on hut etiquette before we headed in to rest and recover, by which time PSL had already passed out on his deck chair. We awoke at the unsavoury time of 6.15am for breakfast – considered a late start in mountain climbing terms – before a brief walk to the train, which took us up to 3,400m. This was to be our first proper summit and we were certainly not disappointed. Despite the fact that it was early July, there were six inches of fresh snow alongside the reduced amount of oxygen in the air, which increased the difficulty of the climb. All groups were able to reach the summit at 4,027m in reasonable time before heading into Saas Fee for a much-deserved pizza break.



The next day was our "recovery" day. We were treated to a lie-in before heading up to do some rock climbing. With a wide variety of abilities, our guides did an incredible job finding areas that had routes of varying difficulty. Unfortunately, due to bad weather, it would have been too difficult to attempt the pre-planned summit of the Dom, so instead we headed to Zermatt the following day to do some more via ferrata through a narrow slippery gorge.

The final two days of our expedition were spent climbing the Weissmies. We began our climb with a short chair-lift ride – a very different experience without skis – before continuing towards the Allmagella Hut. We stopped halfway up for a quick break in another hut before pushing on to reach the Allmagella just after lunch. During the afternoon, we rested up and prepared our kit for the following morning. We awoke at 3.45am to freezing air and had a quick breakfast before heading out into the darkness with just our headtorches for light. After an hour of walking, we were treated to a spectacular sunrise. This was our most technical climb, involving a fair bit of scrambling on our hands and knees up rock faces as well as walking in crampons along some very exposed ridges. After around six hours of climbing, we reached the summit before beginning the long and painful descent. We all made it back to safety for perhaps the trip's ultimate climax: England's World Cup quarter-final victory over Sweden – at this point it was still firmly coming home! The chanting contingent of Harrovians plus the Swedish defeat made for a disappointing evening for the Swedish group who were also staying at the hotel. We returned to London the following day exhausted but having had an incredible time.

On behalf of all the boys who went I would like to thank SMS and PSL for taking us on this trip as well as the brilliant mountain guides who looked after us so well despite the weather conditions.

OTHELLO AT THE GLOBE

Drama off the Hill, 13 September

Last Thursday, 13 September, the cast of *Twelfth Night* enjoyed an excursion into London to see *Othello* at the Globe. We took a trip along the riverside, watching the London tide pulling out beneath Southwark Bridge. It was pleasant to be off the Hill.

Shakespeare's tragedy is about a self-made Moor who is employed by the Republic of Venice to defend Cyprus against the Turks. However, Othello's cool temperament is torn by his love for Desdemona, something that soon turns to a torrent of passion and reckless jealousy. Iago, Othello's 'honest' junior officer, takes advantage of this and, as he deftly scurries about the stage and minds of his fellow characters, he twists the tale into one of deceit and death. It seems that as Iago strums merrily on his guitar it is not only the instrument that he plays upon but the men he seeks to control too.



The gloriously charming Mark Rylance may not seem the obvious choice then of this devilish Iago, but it is this that, initially at least, makes Claire Van Kampen's production striking. Most critics find Rylance's interpretation of the villain as something of a revelation. Dominic Cavendish in *The Telegraph* states aptly that 'Rylance is a great Shakespearean actor because he refuses to be the great Shakespearean actor.' This is evident throughout the whole play as Rylance, in his overtly offhand manner, undercuts the dark trickle of words pouring from his mouth by his 'customary gentleness'. Even the audience is thus in a state of confusion; we are supposed to be the only group that understands Iago through his soliloquies but even these are a mystery because they seem to be a mystery even to himself. This creates an Iago who subtly pulls strings with agonising effect but who is so self-contained it seems he is a character not acting within the play's constructs but on his own terms.



The Globe is a unique space for any actor to inhabit, with the 'brave o'erhanging firmament' above and the 'wooden o' stretching around in a circle – the exposure can be terrifying. Not only this but the comical timing of the helicopters at the very outset of the play further marked the Globe out as a uniquely demanding acting experience. The pared back stage, nothing but wooden boards and the occasional prop, means that actors interact closely with the audience. Thinking of us – a group of immature people who like to think of ourselves as bohemian reprobates – acting upon this stage was almost

unbelievable. A certain confidence and command is more than necessary when alone in such a vast space and I think it will take some getting used to. The interaction with the audience appears to come so naturally to those on stage and this creates a way to experience Shakespeare that is hard to emulate, yet pure and refreshing. Van Kampen clearly puts emphasis on a Shakespeare not driven by decorative, modern-day concepts that are often clunky and obtrusive, but rather a Shakespeare that is wholesomely gimmick-free. Of course, this does not mean, if you'll excuse another appallingly obvious *Hamlet* quote, that *Othello* does not 'hold as 'twere the mirror up to nature'. On the contrary, with the lack of any overbearingly overt wink to modern times, the play can find a certain dignity, and the text rings true.

Rylance is not the only Hollywood star treading the Globe's boards. Andre Holland, too, the Moonlight Star that 'exudes a majestic dignity' according to Michael Billington, creates a performance that simultaneously represents an unknowingly naïve Othello whilst also portraying a quiet grace, command and gravity that commands trust. A chillingly determined Iago spits out 'I hate the moor' and this palpable hatred is shockingly forceful. The natural simplicity of the phrase and the verging-on-casual delivery imparts a sense that what we believe to be Iago's motives may merely be another disguise. This multi-layered performance by Rylance points again to the actor's supreme skill. An interesting moment in the play came about as Iago scurries back stage and, knowing he has played his part badly, sinks his head into his hands. As the doors are opened, we peer back, past the stage, into the caverns within and take a rare glimpse into a real Iago, one not contorted by his need to impress on other people his innocence. As the play goes on, we witness the stretching consequence of Iago's doing. His ever-present maledictions reminded me of Milton's Satan, the 'mist' that toxifies the landscape it inhabits. As Othello put it to Iago, he is the 'demi-devil that ensnared my soul and body'.

The result of this is a desperation embodied in the line 'will me tomorrow but let me live tonight'. I was struck by Desdemona's obsession with the present moment, how so quickly all can be swept from one's mind but one question.

We must thank APC now with vigour as it was he who hauled us all there and back with no injuries or misbehaviour.

SHERIDAN SOCIETY

Sam Allen, Newlands, 'Literary Adaptation in Hollywood'

This week, the Sheridan Society began the year by welcoming Sam Allen, *Newlands*, who presented a fascinating discussion regarding the subject of how people in the Hollywood industry depict works of art that were originally written in the literary form. The talk was therefore suitably titled 'Literary Adaptation in Hollywood'.

To familiarise the audience with the concept of film adaptations in today's media, Allen started the presentation by displaying multiple examples of popular films. Going through each film individually, Allen asked the audience to see whether they were able to identify which films were originally based on novels and which ones were not. Well-known films like *Harry Potter*, *The Bourne Identity* and *The Shawshank Redemption* were easily recognised as adaptations, whilst other motion pictures, such as Quentin Tarantino's *Pulp Fiction* or *The Incredibles*, were not. However, there were some surprising films that people falsely interpreted as not having been film adaptations, such as Steven Spielberg's *Jaws* or Francis Ford Coppola's *The Godfather* trilogy – which were all based on novels.

After establishing the impact that literature has had (and is still having) on the Hollywood industry, Allen gave an insight into the history of the relationship between this old art form and this newly developed form of entertainment. For example,

directly from the birth of the film industry, its main inspiration derived from the stories and themes that could be found in popular novels. The first attempted literary adaptation was in 1924 when an Austrian director by the name of Erich von Stroheim undertook a literal adaptation of Frank Norris's novel *McTeague* with his moving picture *Greed*. However, despite its boldness, the film, which turned out to be nine and a half hours long and was later cut down to two hours, was a major failure.

What Stroheim had failed to do, explained Allen, was to use the now commonly practised method known as elision. Elision is the technique used by film makers when they adapt a novel into a film. The idea is to deliberately miss certain aspects of the novel in order to further dramatise other scenes and reduce the length of the picture. However, if performed incorrectly, this can result in a film adaptation that has left out key aspects from the original book, leaving many audiences and fans of the original stories upset.

An example used by Allen of an ideal adaption is the film of the novel *Fight Club* written by Chuck Palahniuk (1997) and later directed by David Fincher (1999). The movie proved to be successful despite its multiple changes, such as the ending, which consisted of different characters from the original. Many critics believed it was because Fincher was able to adapt the book and illustrate the main character's insomnia in a way that the book was unable to. However, an example which failed to do so was the recent 2013 adaptation of *The Great Gatsby* directed by Baz Luhrmann due to its lack of original story and character development.

Overall, Allen provided the Sheridan Society with a stimulating lecture and I look forward to the next meeting of the society.

SCIENCE SOCIETY

Amar Patel, Elmfield, 'The wonders of chirality and its impact on the pharmaceutical industry', 14 September

This week the Science Society was delighted to have Amar Patel, *Elmfield*, as the second lecturer this year. His talk was entitled 'The wonders of chirality and its impact on the pharmaceutical industry' and explored the dangers of chirality in the pharmaceutical industry and its potential to form mutations and prevent drugs from acting in the correct manner. He spoke on how thalidomide had become such a danger to babies and their mothers due to the lack of prior testing.

Amar first introduced us to how chirality works using a pair of hands as an example: they are mirrored rather than flipped. He then went on to say that chiral molecules are not super-imposable as they can't overlap. However, any improper rotations will not make it the same and only a 90 degree rotation will. Amar then went on to explain what enantiomers are and their relation to chirality. An enantiomer is a pair of molecules that are reflected on each other and which have different abilities to rotate a beam of polarised light. These enantiomers can slow down polarised light. Differing sides slow down the light by different amounts and this difference causes the rotation.

Amar moved on to the use of thalidomide and how it affected women in 46 countries. It was prescribed as a sedative and sleeping drug for pregnant women. There was one molecule that could express chirality in the drug, and it was the s-type, which rotated light to the right. This caused the growth of limbs on the torsos of the foetus if taken during the early stages of pregnancy. Amar suggested that the drug could have been blocking genes and that if the drug couldn't fit into the enzyme cycle there would be a bad reaction. It went undetected during testing as, for obvious ethical reasons, drugs cannot be tested on pregnant women. Furthermore, it serves as additional evidence for the dangers of taking drugs during early (if not throughout) pregnancy, and why it is strongly advised against.

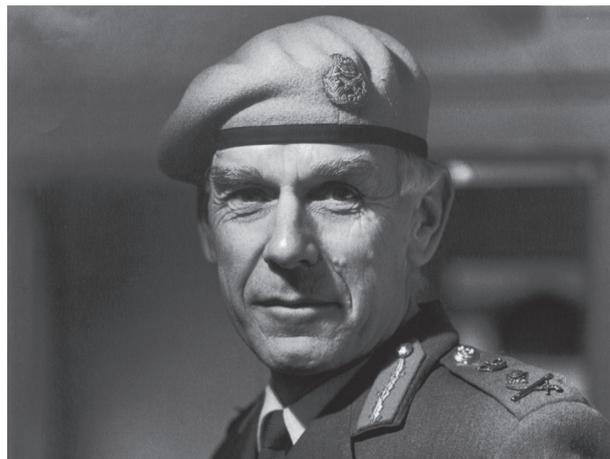
Amar went on to explain how ibuprofen was in the same boat as thalidomide and how prescribing drugs that may not have an effect poses an ethical issue. The liver also poses a problem, since it can rotate the chiral molecules into its various different forms. Consequently, even if a drug is successfully converted only into the safe isomer, it can still have negative impacts once taken.

He concluded the talk by talking about his own idea of synthesising cholesterol, as most of the cholesterol in our body is bad as it increases the chance of heart disease. However, he stated that a lot of biology research now involves genetic modification, which is dangerous as it can cause many harmful side effects.

It was a truly riveting talk that was able to condense a difficult subject matter and express it in a form that was accessible to the everyone while still being interesting to the more knowledgeable members of the audience.

OH WISDOM

"There are only two people I have known whom I set above all others. Hussein, the man rather than the king, is one of them. I admired his loyalty to friends and country; I respected his leadership, at home and in international affairs; I loved his kindness, his concern for others and his humility. Above all, I respect and admire his personal courage and integrity."



Portrait by Gilbert Adams, 1993.

General Sir Peter de la Billière KCB KBE DSO MC (*The Grove 1947*³) speaking about fellow Old Harrovian, featured in last week's OH Wisdom, King Hussein of Jordan (*The Park 1951*³)

General Sir Peter de la Billière retired from his career as an army officer in 1992 having seen more action than any modern British general. He won the Military Cross in 1959 for his part in the assault on the Jebel Akhdar, a legendary operation in the history of the SAS. He was appointed director SAS in 1978, during which time he directed the assault on the Iranian Embassy in London and SAS operations during the Falklands War, after which he was appointed CBE. He was promoted to Major-General in 1984 and, just as he was contemplating retirement in 1990, he was appointed to lead the 45,000-strong British contingent of the multinational force that defeated Iraq and restored independence to Kuwait following Iraq's invasion. On his return to the UK, he was promoted to full general, appointed KBE and made Chief Commander of the Legion of Merit, the highest decoration given by the USA to foreigners. He was President of the Harrow Association from 2001 until 2005.

CROSS-CURRICULAR LECTURE

SMK on 'Writing, Memory and Immortality',
OSRG, 10 September

As the OSRG gradually stocked itself with Harrovians on the first Monday night of term, SMK kicked off the Cross-Curricular Lecture Series of 2018. The key theme connecting all the lectures this year is 'memory' and SMK set out to include as much material as needed relating to the connection between writing and memory while avoiding the danger of an endless lecture.

Since writing has been around for so long, it was inevitable that different points of view would be exposed relating to the topic of writing. SMK introduced the lecture with the bold statement that "writing externalises our memory and hence life, so what are we but our memory?" The question of where writing and memory first combined arose, and Cicero's philosophical book on death and immortality as he sat down on the hills of Tuscany in 44BC seemed like a good place to start. There he discussed what the mind truly was and what it meant to remember.

A couple of metaphors were exposed to the audience: one presenting ideas (and hence memories) as water being poured into a jar, which SMK disagreed with as he viewed that memory could not be measured; the other of the mind being described like wax and memory being the footprint of nature implanting itself upon ourselves, which proved to be a more fitting analogy.

It was clear that with such a complex theme memory and writing, various opinions on the subject were bound to arise. However, one aspect of such an intricate topic which everyone seemed to agree on, ancient philosophers and modern scientists alike, was the problematic nature of a physical action becoming a mere thought. Whichever way you looked at it, memory always seemed to impregnate itself in our brains in a way that made it impossible to either recall or forget certain events or emotions. The connection to the art of writing was in the physical reaction that reading about certain events created, yet in print, it was safe from the passage of time and something that lived on past all of us.

The linguistic connection behind the word 'memory' was established next. Whether it be Latin, Greek or Sanskrit, all etymologies of the word seemed to convey the belief that the word memory was itself the process of recording something. The Greeks defined it as 'the cause of anxiety,' as they associated remembering events as causes of pain. Other languages defined it as 'carving, drawing or painting and even to score letters by cutting them.' Whatever the definition used, it was clear that the act of writing was the act of perpetuating one's memory.

Following this logic, humanity's earliest memories (roughly 24,000 years ago) were discovered in 1994 in the French Chauvet Cave, where carvings depicted animals (but not humans, as this is believed to have been an ominous action for the superstitious human society of the time). Whilst these drawings were the pre-cursor to writing, other dots and zigzags that had been previously dismissed as forms of communication were discovered in Indonesia (and were thought to be 39,000 years old). Whatever form of communication anyone accepts as the 'first,' it is clearly hard to adhere to the idea that writing simply came about at any one point in time. The theory of a world that underwent a creative explosion when human beings decided to put their mark on nature instead of nature marking their memory (and since we are our memories, marking us) is a more feasible one. From that point, SMK established that writing was one vast metaphor for marking one's presence on the Earth.

These first impulses to paint were the first stages of the metaphor; written meanings were more recent and were the subsequent stages of the metaphor. The earliest known form of 'proper' writing was the Limestone Kish tablet from Sumer in 3,500 BC. Whilst its meaning remains unknown to this day, the exponential growth of writing from that point onwards marked

this date as the second creative explosion in the world of writing. Students started practising to 'write' as a profession, often in order to mark the achievements of kings into eternity. The next key date was in 2,600 BC when the first signs of editing started to appear and writers began to claim works as their own by signing them off. This was the proof that writers established their works as a way of being remembered, of their memories being externalised and living on after their deaths. To follow this, the oldest 'epic' was that of *Gilgamesh*, written in 2,100 BC in lapis lazuli. The fact that the writer asks the reader to 'read' his work and the durability of the material on which the story is written shows that it was one that was intended to last. Finally, Egyptian papyri of the 19th Dynasty entitled 'the immortality of writer' were found. The writer is unusually (for his time) sceptical of any afterlife and explains of writers that: 'death made their names forgotten but books made them live.' He clearly highlights that, despite every record or memory of you being destroyed, if your memory was externalised on paper and your name written down, you would live on past death.

Interestingly, Homer's *Iliad* only mentions writing once and instead refers to the achievements of Achilles being sung, probably as the Muse, and Greeks had forgotten how to write and instead stories were passed down orally.

Perhaps one of the greatest critics of writing was Plato, who (ironically?) wrote down his denunciation of writing by explaining that 'writing is not an aid to memory, but to reminiscence, and you give your disciples not truth, but the semblance of truth.'

In a truly university-style lecture where the members of the audience were encouraged to think for themselves rather than being spoon-fed opinions, SMK concluded by providing food for thought. To him, it was clear that whilst for 40,000 years men have been putting their memory on stone in order to become immortals, Plato argued that they are only mummifying memories.

So, as I am externalising my memories of this lecture by writing this article, I would like to immortalise this lecture by thanking SMK for an extremely stimulating talk!

FINANCIAL CRISIS LOOMS

15 September, or rather Saturday just gone, was the ten-year anniversary of the Lehman Brothers filing for bankruptcy – it was the fourth-biggest investment bank in America, a global player, and its collapse almost brought down the world's financial system. Now, in 2018, leading economists believe that the threat of another banking crisis is looming.

The end for Lehman Brothers began in 2000 when, to expand their mortgage origination pipeline, Lehman purchased West Coast subprime mortgage lender BNC Mortgage LLC. Lehman quickly became a force in the subprime market; by 2006 their subsidiaries were lending almost \$50bn per month. Yet the huge profits made during this period also brought huge risks – after all, these subprime mortgages were just loans to people who were likely to have trouble making the repayment schedule. To fund these loans, furthermore, Lehman borrowed significant amounts in a process called 'leveraging'. This, however, only made their position more vulnerable – in fact, just a 3-5% decrease in real estate values would wipe out all of Lehman's capital.

Then, in 2006, as if on cue, US house prices began to slump, only to fall dramatically in March 2007 when (according to NAR Data) sales were down 13% from the peak in March 2006 whilst the median price was down 6%. This would later become known as the subprime mortgage crisis after which the eventual liquidation of Lehman Brothers in 2008, after consistent unprecedented monthly losses, would accelerate and lead to the US, UK and multiple other governments having to 'bail out' every other bank to avoid a repeat of what had happened to Lehman. Other banks, unsurprisingly, had done

the same as Lehman: they diversified into the risky subprime mortgage market.

Ten years on: the US government has an annual gross domestic product of \$20tn but a debt of more than \$21tn, and the debt is growing by around \$1tn per year, whilst, in the UK public sector the net debt to GDP stands at 84.3%, whereas in 2008 it was at only 35.4%. For both economies, this is largely due to a process of quantitative easing since the crisis, where the UK has injected a total of £445bn and the US has injected a significantly larger amount.

For Ann Pettifor, a leading economist who predicted the 2008 crisis more than two years before it struck, there will naturally come a time when these amounting debts are 'not going to be repaid, and naturally there is going to come a point when that debt triggers the next crisis'. She also believes that it 'will be worse than the last crisis because we don't have the tools. It will be really difficult to start pumping out quantitative easing, buying back all those assets'. Furthermore, her warning is echoed by others; for instance Tom Russo, who was Lehman's managing director when it filed for bankruptcy, told Sky News 'that the seeds of it [the next crisis] are certainly there today in leveraged debt,' which, as aforementioned, was the very reason the Lehman Brothers went under in 2008.

Most worryingly, the process may have already started; in the UK, on 2 August 2018, we saw a 0.25% increase in the interest rates, which has led to it being more difficult for those already borrowing to pay it back and thus has led to further increases in toxic debt; in the USA, the Federal Reserve's decision to reverse its programme of quantitative easing suggests that, just ten years on from the Lehman Brothers' collapse, foundations are being laid for another financial crisis.

DEATH OF THE MEME

Europe's new "Article 13" approved

Last week, the European Parliament approved Article 13 – a new law that encourages content platforms (any website that hosts media) to "co-operate" with copyright holders, and by cooperate, I mean serve. Existing copyright filters will become even more ubiquitous and unscrupulous. It's all part of a widespread conspiracy to oppress free speech, at least that is what overzealous critics might claim. The law, in its essence, makes websites fully responsible for copyright infringements that occur on their platform, which, in turn, makes excessive and paranoid filtering systems a highly probable outcome.

Media platforms have been using 'fair use' for a long time now. If content falls under fair use, then its use of copyrighted material counts as transitive – it takes the copyrighted material in a new direction. This law only exists in the United States, but has, for the most part, been the basis of Youtube and Facebook's policy worldwide. When disagreements used to arise between rightsholders and media creators, the platform would evaluate the content's fair use. This determined whether the content would remain on the website. Article 13, however, pushes media platforms towards an automated algorithm – the algorithm filters copyrighted material to protect the company from any liability. It's not clear how this algorithm will work, or how companies will balance the drastically different EU and US laws.

When the responsibility of defining a 'copyright infringement' falls into the hands of politicians, I daresay things become quite political. People have a growing concern about content creators falling victim to companies with big bucks and expensive lawyers. This is a fair concern, especially if the content creator is using media that is in some way detrimental to the rightsholder. Furthermore, when there's a dispute about copyrighted content (if the content even makes it through the filtering system), companies like Google and Facebook will likely side with the

rightsholders and remove the content immediately. This, again, is because there's no reason to risk liability.

Trying to imagine what media platforms will look like is like diving into obscurity. Firstly, they need to find a balance between EU and US legislation, which for the moment doesn't exist. If they implement the same filtering algorithm worldwide, then the whole landscape of internet media will change but, more specifically, the old landscape will be supplanted by a new one. On the other hand, media platforms could keep the same type of content everywhere else, and simply restrict their content in the EU. Either way, the new landscape is one that is simply impossible to imagine; a lot of internet media stems from the use of copyrighted material and simply getting rid of this content will essentially create a blank canvas.

One couldn't possibly write an article about an article called Article 13 without discussing memes. On social media, the headline of the day wasn't anything to do with EU copyright law – the headline was a meme about the EU banning memes. It's difficult to say exactly what will happen to memes. Whilst they do use a lot of copyrighted intellectual property, their fate depends on their perceived risk. Whether or not rightsholders will go after memes is unclear, so from Facebook and Youtube's point of view, the risk is also unclear.

The future of internet media (at least in the EU) is going to be characterised by uncertainty and obscurity. The UK just needs to hope that Theresa May will close the deal soon.

WEEKLY WINDUP

An exercise of wit on the week's events

I am sure that all of you will recall the poisoning of Sergei Skripal (a double-agent for the MI6) and his daughter Yulia with a Novichok nerve agent in Salisbury in March. Just a few days ago, two suspects were "interrogated" in an interview by Kremlin-backed *Russia Today*. The pair, journeying approximately four hours from Moscow to Gatwick, claim to have been on a two-day holiday to the UK. The interview was peppered with blatant lies and not even the slightest effort to make it come across as genuine. The two-day outing to Salisbury was actually only one day by the end of it all, as their first efforts on "visiting the Salisbury cathedral" were thwarted by slush and unexpected weather. Whilst this may be to some extent a valid excuse for tourists from the more balmy regions on Earth, it is surely not for a pair coming from Moscow which was -8°C and snowing at the time of the attack. Secondly, and fashioning perhaps the most comical moment of the interview, was when one of the accused pointed out that Salisbury Cathedral is world famous! Picking out it's 123 metre spire and one of the first clocks ever made as outstanding features. Evidently he doesn't have the plagiarism masquerade for Wikipedia that Harrovians possess in an attempt to amass a 500-word essay at 6 o'clock in the morning. Two days in the UK, London and Edinburgh, Oxford and Cambridge or Salisbury and Salisbury?!

Moving on, in the last few days, Nike launched a major advertising campaign featuring controversial athlete Colin Kaepernick who knelt during the US anthem in protest against police brutality. The campaign brought two things to the table: a whole heap of controversy and a wave of internet memes. Instantly after the campaign was unveiled, it didn't take long for disgusted fans and an offended president to have a good old social media rant. Having said that, if you didn't see it coming, particularly from the latter, I would be entirely shocked. On top of verbal histrionics, certain audacious individuals went to the extent of burning their Nike merchandise. Audacious at least until you realise that the gear burnt was probably 70% off at the local thrift shop rather than the more valued Jordan trainers or other similar products.



Finally, the police of Lancashire have been educated about teenage slang in an attempt to decode modern youth lingo. Coming from a school whose Urban Dictionary page claims it helps remove lower-class citizens from half-decent areas of the country, I may not be fit to deliver a verdict on street slang. However, that definition was almost certainly published by a tumultuous Etonian and thus should be completely discounted. While I can understand that police should recognise what words such as beef (dispute) mean, surely they don't need to be told that Stormzy is a rapper from Croydon and *not* because they shouldn't know that already.

CENSORED SATIRE

Why some good-natured lampooning would go a long way to improve this paper

The Harrovian, as the School's prestigious 'forum for comment', holds great gravitas around our home of the Hill. Week in week out, this testament of Harrow life is filled with truly exhilarating recitations of the many society meetings and sports reviews that I know for a fact have a healthy attendance. I assume the piles of pristine copies left in the main room of our House are just boys ensuring that the next reader of the piece has just as fantastic a time taking in every detail of the lectures they didn't attend. I do enjoy the role of killjoy, so can we please take a moment to think about how different the reception is between an appearance of Katie Hopkins and a Remove boy from The Grove delivering a riveting lecture on Caecilius. I know which one I would choose, and that is because I would have attended it. Alas readers, ripping into the very publication we write for is not our goal at the moment, but instead it is to highlight the abhorrent headache of writing a satirical piece.

From time to time, a budding journalist decides to bless us and endow the paper with something a bit amusing to spice up its pages. Now, one would have thought that an esteemed publication of such a quintessential establishment as ours would welcome these with open arms. However, as with many things about this School as I am sure Shells are beginning to learn, it is not quite that easy. Any satire sent in is subject to a whole-scale reworking to make sure that it is not actually funny. An understandable process, if I am honest, to scalpel and dissect each and every detail down to the letter. Pah fun, I can hear the SMT cackling like witches over the broiling pot of double and outrageous Hill Shop prices. Fun, of course, is an offence so dire in this School that, if some had their way, the filthy criminal would join *The Harrovian* blacklist (the existence of which is a rumour I have heard swirling around). If a piece is lucky enough to pass this forensic examination then, for some reason that is impossible to find, School management has a sort of veto, which is probably an Existing Custom that is not actually spread to the boys, in which they can decide what goes in the paper and what gets the boot. Boys know what rules I

am referring to, like the double for a compilation of events over the last few weeks or the double for turning up not as early as everyone else. Classic beak moves. I mean, let's be honest here, it's really only going to be minor things such as size of School meals or length of lessons, so what are beaks so afraid of? Goodness forbid that an article even mentioning the alarming size of pizza portions makes the hallowed pages of the School magazine: what else is a school newspaper for? Such a publication should be a fantastic opportunity to greater develop not only boys' academic ability but also their feeling of being able to drive the School to better things.

Any piece that is lucky enough to slip through the net, whether through the editors actually making a stand or through the management being insufficiently focused as they flick through its pages over a cup of morning coffee, such as 'Disharmony Choir' last year or the remarkable 'Hold the Phone' recently, is subject to an organised torrent of suppression by the beak class. Most prevalent in response to 'Disharmony Choir' was a coordinated effort amongst beaks to write in angry letters and to initiate a witch hunt to find the "terrible boy" who dared to express an opinion in public. We wholeheartedly agree that it was not quite politically correct in today's modern society to express an opinion. The days of teenagers storming onto the beaches guns blazing to fight for their motherland are gone, and now feelings matter. In fact, I believe the School's Latin mottos are offensive to those who don't speak Latin and we should replace it with something fully inclusive of all walks of life in our School. For example, 'words hurt feelings' would be spiffing.

On a serious note, if Harrow wants to be considered a place in which boys can learn freely and dare to argue their views, then this sort of censorship must be stopped. For example, how can the School expect boys to be free thinking in their essays, when possibly the best medium for expressing a controversial view is strangled off by an over-zealous management team of authority addicts and punishment's praetorian guard?

If there is ever going to be a change, then people must realise that there is no harm in a light-hearted, well-meant ribbing nor in the occasional controversial article in order to invoke a change so that we may make a case for the betterment of our delicate society.

HERE AND THERE

Rafe Wendelken-Dickson, *Druries*, was successful in gaining an Army Officer Scholarship after attending the Army Officer Selection Board at Westbury.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the Editors of *The Harrovian*

DEAR SIRS,

I write in no little admiration for the excellent (and brave!) argument put forward by Mr Winward regarding the use of mobile phones – it is certainly very thought-provoking indeed. While, I express my deepest respects, it is equally true that my opinions are not completely aligned with his. On that note, I should like to take this opportunity to provide perhaps an alternative view from a fellow boy's perspective.

The first point raised by Mr Winward regards the element of safety. I disagree with the idea that boys need to have a phone at hand to feel safe on the Hill. The High Street is a street laced with heavy foot traffic, and any accident would immediately attract the attention of many. It would, indeed, be my contention that the existence of (active) mobile phones on the High Street actually increases health and safety risks – a smartphone reduces the awareness of a user to his surroundings and that could be anything from a snapping branch to a careless driver. We already receive chilling reports of near-misses at a rate more

frequently than we would have liked – should mobile phones start appearing on the High Street, I only fear the ‘dangerous world’ is about to get even more dangerous.

While I certainly make no attempt to deny the mobile phone its rightful place as an important tool in modern society, I see no reason to rush it in our youth. Mr Winward attempts to further his interests by claiming that ‘many other schools... have accepted that... and they only make their equivalent of Shells hand in their phones at night... This is true for most other schools across the country’. Ignoring the obvious doubt raised upon the actual authenticity of this ‘fact’ – I find it difficult to believe Mr Winward has such information for every school across this country – the real weakness of this argument is its basis upon *argumentum ad populum* – or in simple English, “If many believe so, it is so.” Mr Winward seems to argue that mainstream practices and ideas are always good and worthy of replication (even if his facts are indeed correct), which, if we look at the rise of ‘vaping’ and drugs in recent years, is not a good line of logic to hold.

It would be a grievous misunderstanding and mistake to conclude that I should propose abolishing the use of mobile phones at school – phones are inseparable with modern life, and it is undeniable that they bring many benefits. However, it is crucial to ensure we have the chance to master control over their devices and not to be slaves to their gadgets (I am slightly guilty of that myself). The current phone policy slowly allocates more ‘phone time’ to boys as their sense of responsibility grows – a system that I am in favour of. I write, therefore, not in opposition to Mr Winward’s beliefs; the only difference is that I believe adequate time should be allocated for a more gradual learning curve.

Yours sincerely,
LONG HEI NG, NEWLANDS

DEAR SIRs,

In my opinion, the mobile phone is probably one of the best inventions since sliced bread. It is incredible what mobile phones can do nowadays, and as recent articles and correspondence have highlighted, they are integral to modern life. However, on a number of the points raised, I might beg to differ: when it comes to teaching and learning tools, I would rate my Surface Book much more highly than my phone; when wanting to check the time, a watch is very useful and less hassle than reaching for a phone (or my Surface!); and over the matter of safety, we are fortunate to live in one of the safest wards, in one of the safest boroughs of London, surrounded by School buildings and Masters’ houses, all of which contain phones and responsible adults, many of whom are first aid trained. The one time I have ever been mugged (not in Harrow) was when I pulled my phone out to report a mugging incident; the mugger saw me and proceeded, with an irony most likely lost on him, to help himself to my phone.

As many will know, Existing Customs is a Deputy Head Master’s favourite bedtime reading, and both the recent article and last week’s letter have made me wonder if boys have read the section on mobile phones (p7), which rather than becoming more draconian, may even have softened slightly. Boys are allowed to take mobile phones with them on trips, both for communication and for safety. Boys now only have their phones confiscated if they are used out of the House, and before the Surface Project, some Masters would ask boys to bring mobiles to lessons for a specific purpose. The key, as Mr Winward, *Lyon’s*, rightly points out and Existing Customs attempts to articulate, is learning where and when to use them. During the School day, on the streets, between and during lessons and at lunch we want boys to be engaging with each other and with the real world around them. During prep and after lights out we want boys to be able to focus on working and to sleep without distraction.

I recently visited another boarding school of a not dissimilar nature. A senior master with whom I was walking in the street,

having remonstrated with a passing boy who had his mobile phone out in the street, commented to me, “we need to sort out the mobile phone issue”. So I am interested to note that junior boys at Eton are now being asked to hand in their phones. Recent articles in the national press report that this is already being considered for older years too. It will be interesting to see which way this goes under pressure from parents and the press over concerns about screen-time, social media and mental health. Maybe this is another area in which Eton are following our example.

As always, boys must feel able to make proper representations about these and other important matters, and the best way to do this in this case might be through their House reps on the two IT Committees. The first meeting of the senior and junior IT Committees will be during the week after the exeat and boys will be asked to put forward items for discussion in two weeks’ time.

Yours sincerely,
AKM, DEPUTY HEAD MASTER

DEAR SIRs,

I am writing to you this week with the learnt poetry competition in mind. It has always been a wonder to me why this event is still compulsory for Harrow boys when it is moot in this day and age.

I understand the merit behind studying poetry. It is a wonderful skill and craft to master, but I do not believe that learning and reciting will really help prepare us for our lives to come. What is the point of letting my delivery of *The Tiger* by William Blake overwhelm my prep time? I could instead be learning how to rewire my computer or studying a foreign language. What is the point of spending hour upon hour desperately trying to grasp the ever more irrelevant words used?

Now, I know at this point that some do-gooder over-zealous English teacher is going to inform me that “*presentation and delivery are important in everyday life*”. I understand the merit in this too. But why don’t we practise this? Why don’t we have competitions to see who can present the best PowerPoint on the stock market? Why don’t we speak about something we are passionate about? This would be a better use of our time?

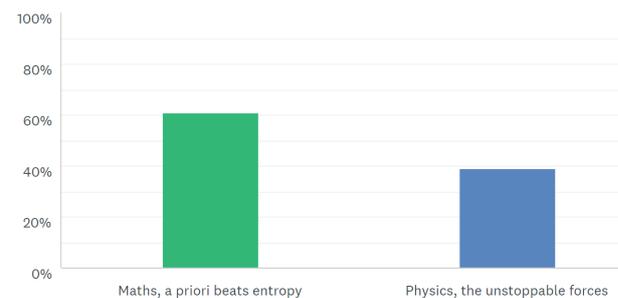
Of course, this is just my opinion and I do not mean to offend any lovers of poetry recitation. I would love to hear what your opinions are, so please feel free to write to SMK at *The Harrovian*. This, like all things, should be subject to vigorous debate.

Many thanks,
DYLAN WINWARD, LYON’S

POLL OF THE WEEK

“A brawl breaks out in Math Schools. Which department would win the fight?”

With 486 responses returned from boys, it was a clear victory for the Maths department. *The Harrovian* Editors analyse why below.



The Editors believe that results clearly show that Maths simply outnumbers Physics, and it’s a case that a *a priori* strength would

overcome the (nearly) unstoppable force. However, there could be a few weak spots in Maths defensive play. TMD would refuse to take part as it doesn't help further the community spirit, and IH wouldn't get involved, though he probably eggs the others on and take bets. TSS is a serious danger, however: with the New Zealand blood, nasty rugby tackles could be expected. SAH and EWH would be saving their strength for more important battles to come.

Physics would fight dirty, like with gamma rays. MTG with his judo skills would be the tip of the spear, while RRU would don his Army fatigues and scream as he charged. CMC would sneak around the back on his electric skateboard and attack the rear with a guitar. The brawl would be nasty, but numbers would lean in Maths' favour.

Next week's poll: Zombies attack the School (the fast kind, like in *28 Days Later*). Which School building would you be safest in?

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from Around the Hill

"Sir, did any Romans get killed by guns?"

"Did I just hear someone say that the *Daily Mail* is a real newspaper? We do not read that here. (*disgusted*) They are very left wing."

"In some schools around the country, students sell sweets for extra money. For example a boy could sell Coke to other boys."
"In cans or in lines, sir?"

"Sir, when I was younger, I ran into a fireplace and cracked my skull." "Well, that explains a lot."

"So boys, has anyone found x yet?" "Yes sir! It's here, at the top right hand side of the equation."

"Just the other day, I went up the Shard." "Wait, is the Shard actually real?"

RACKETS

The School v Winchester College, 13 September

Senior 1st Pair, Lost 2-3

Julian Owson, *Moretons* and Rishi Wijeratne, *The Head Master's*, played well and came from a game down twice to level at 2-2 but just missed out in a tight final game.

Senior 2nd Pair, Lost 1-3

A spirited effort in a narrow 1-3 defeat from Otto Stroyan, *The Grove* and Cameron Mahal, *The Grove*.

Senior 2nd Pair, Won 3-0

Alex Saunders and Harry Saunders, both *The Knoll*, played a very strong match to win 3-0.

Colts 1st Pair, Lost 0-3

A slightly rusty display against strong opponents for Ben Hope, *Rendalls*, and Sasha Sebag-Montefiore, *The Knoll*.

Junior Colts 1st Pair, Lost 1-2

A promising effort despite a defeat for Henry Oelhafen, *Lyon's*, and Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*.

Junior Colts 2nd Pair, Won 2-1

A fine performance for a 2-1 win for Sam Owston, *Moretons*, and Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*.

SUDOKU

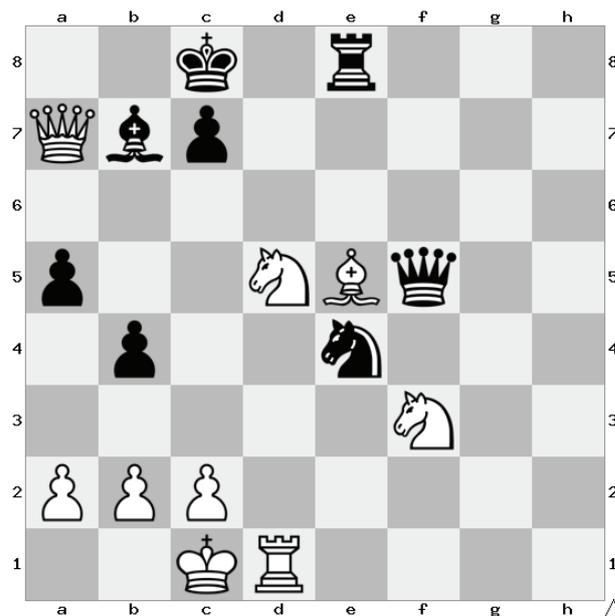
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CHESS PUZZLE

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.

This week's puzzle: White to play and mate in 2.



Last week's solution: 1....Qxh2+ 2.Bg2 Re2+ 3.Kf1 Qxg2#

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!

FENCING

The School v St Benedict's, 15 September, Away

The first match of the term went well for the fencing team who beat St Benedict's by 2 blades to 1. The Foil A team was up against some strong opposition in the form of the winner of the British Youth Championships 2018 and, despite some dogged resistance by Yujin Koshiba, *Lyon's*, the team sadly lost 23-45. The Foil B team, fencing at the same time, fared better and although there were some tight bouts, especially in the middle of the game, the boys kept their cool and eventually won 45-38. With the match locked at 1 blade apiece, it was up to the Epée team to seal the win and they didn't disappoint, walking it home at the end, 45-31. A great start to the season and well done to all involved.

BADMINTON

The School v Abingdon School, 15 September,

1st Lost 3-5

This Saturday, the badminton team played their biggest competitor, Abingdon School. The standard of play was excellent and was even more impressive due to the fact that it was the first fixture of the season. Well done to Pair One, Kingston Lee, *Elmfield*, and Victor Chan, *Rendalls*, who won both of their matches.

GOLF

Public Schools' Invitational, West Sussex Golf Club, Pulborough, 13 September

Almost perfect golfing weather greeted us: sun, a slight breeze and a temperature of around 20 C. Even after the dry summer, the course looked wonderful. It is always a huge pleasure to see the rolling countryside of the Downs emerging as the coach passes Billingshurst. It would be hard to imagine a more glorious context for golf than this most charming course. If the golf is bad, you still have inspiring views to admire.

Twenty-eight teams from 14 schools competed for the Benka Trophy. The standard of golf was varied, but at the top end many of the players have near-to-scratch handicaps.

Hitting straight was going to be absolutely essential in order to have a chance in the competition. The foursomes format means that every shot matters. The test of this course is to keep out of the heather and to stay in play. Harrow's Team A did this, but Team B were not so fortunate.

In Team A Charlie Witter (captain), *Elmfield*, and Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, started well with a birdie on the first hole and some solid pars after that. After a good wedge shot to 10 foot on the 9th from Shirvell, Witter converted a good putt, meaning that they reached the turn at level par. Another birdie on 11 took them into the lead in the field. Unfortunately, this was followed by a slight downturn in fortune. Some poor long putting and one lost ball off the tee meant they slipped away to end five over, gross, with 31 stableford points.

There is a song by Pink Floyd in which the only lyrics are 'One of these days I'm gonna cut you up into little pieces'. This could certainly be used as to how the West Sussex golf course treated the pairing of Hamish Dicketts, *Elmfield*, and Johnny Connell, *Rendalls*. Any drive five yards off line and the ball was either lost in the heather or practically unplayable. They were surprised to find that the slopes seemed to divert the ball well away from where it was heading. One would have thought Connell's consistent driving coupled with Dicketts' stellar iron play would be a combo hard to beat, but West Sussex had other ideas. It was a promising start with three pars and a birdie in the

opening five holes, yet the slowness of their playing partners (Westminster B) affected the pair and they started to lose shape as the round went on. They finished with 18 stableford points (28 if you include handicaps) and by the end were willing to accept that the course had got the better of them. Until next time West Sussex, until next time...

The combined score of 49 points placed Harrow in a very respectable fifth place of a field of 14 schools. Overall, an encouraging start to the golfing year.

The Results

Combined gross score of 49 points. Fifth overall of 14 schools.

Team A : Witter (captain) and Shirvell

Gross Stableford score 31 points

Team B: Dicketts and Connell

Gross Stableford score 18 points

Wellington College with a combined gross score of 66 points won the Benka Bowl.

NICK COMPTON BENEFIT YEAR

Middlesex has awarded Nick Compton, (*Druries* 1999²) a benefit year. Not only has Nick been a magnificent player for both club and country, he has also been a terrific ambassador for the game. He has made 16 Test appearances for England, scoring two centuries, scored over 12,000 first-class runs at an average of 40.45 and, in 2012, he won the PCA Cricketer of the Year award and was selected as one of Wisden's Five Cricketers of the Year. Nick has enjoyed a stunning career and many of Middlesex's friends and supporters will join together in supporting Nick this year. It is fitting that this is also the year that his legendary grandfather Denis would have been 100, which the club will also be celebrating at the gala dinner on 26 September. PCA and MIND are Nick's chosen charities for this year and many thanks to them for all their help.

For more information about Nick's benefit year, you can visit www.thecomptontestimonial.com.

From the desk of SJH

Given Nick's success as a player who likes to 'bat time' and build an innings in the time-honoured way, it is strange to think back to his schooldays at Harrow when he very much fancied himself as a stroke player and wanted to impress by demonstrating all the shots in every innings. He was always fiercely determined to make it in the game and set an example by staying behind after sessions to throw balls at a stump or even hatting with a stump. As captain in his final year, he demanded great commitment from his team and was also fond of giving himself a bowl. With an action that was borderline in terms of legality, he would throw down a few off-spinners that often turned extravagantly.

At St Edward's School, Nick scored a fluent hundred, most of it with a runner due to a pulled muscle. So the St Edward's coach was not impressed when Nick put himself on to bowl to break a stubborn partnership when he had not been fit enough to run between the wickets. Things were made considerably worse when Nick promptly took a hat-trick!

In another match, Malvern, having been 15 for 7, were still battling it out for a draw two and a half hours later and, with one over left, were 9 down. Nick, never short on confidence, took the ball and wanted everyone round the bat. Not all the fielders were overjoyed at this, having seen Nick bowl his fair share of long hops in the past, but almost inevitably he took the final wicket with two balls to spare, caught at leg slip.

To play in the Lord's match against Eton is the aim and dream of every Harrovian cricketer and, in 2000, Nick was a member of Harrow's first winning team at Lord's since 1975. With Eton at 9B for 2, chasing 144, things did not look good, but Nick changed the game with a brilliant run-out, swooping at cover and making a direct hit with one stump to aim at. Needless to say his career was followed very closely by all at Harrow and, in 2012, when the annual Harrow Songs was held at a packed Royal Albert Hall, the compere Benedict Cumberbatch took a moment to wish him the best of luck on his tour to India with England.



Nick was always a polite and respectful person, one of the few to stay in touch and one of the very few to still call me "Sir" many years after he had left. He was very happy to give up his time to return to Harrow to give masterclasses and did not ask for payment. During his time at Somerset, I watched a day's play at Taunton and hung around afterwards to say hello. Despite probably being keen to get home after a long day, Nick insisted on walking to a pub for a chat and a drink. Nick was always thoughtful and often brutally honest, especially with regards to his own shortcomings. His self-analysis is the stuff of legend. As Richard Pybus, the former Middlesex coach, once told me, "Nick has a fractured brain, one day ecstatic, the next day in tears".

Nick may have had a tortured journey to the top, but watching him score hundreds for England was a heart-warming experience. And to think he averaged 15 in his first season in the Harrow 1st XI! I would like to wish Nick all the very best in his benefit year and in what remains of his career at the crease.

INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

The fields around the School, 12 September

With the new school year beginning around a fortnight ago, Inter-School Cross Country inevitably loomed in the distance. Last Wednesday, worried murmur filled the Hill as it was announced that the long-distance run would take place. In Newlands, emergency pep talks were given by every House tutor, after The Grove's shock victory EWH was determined to avoid defeat. Sources close to the lion's den reported the Deputy Head of School was even threatened with the removal of his floaters if he didn't score sufficient points. Some were raring to go – though some unfortunately were less eager. However, it was all round a strong performance from the School with everyone rising to the opportunity.

Both the seniors and the intermediates ran around the usual course. The seniors had to make their way through the circuit twice as part of their 3.8-mile jog. This contrasted with the Torpids, who took in a shorter 2.7-mile course. They had one lap of the normal course and then one final sprint around the Reddings pitches.

Newlands were victorious in both competitions. They dominated both races as EWH triumphed despite a valiant performance

from The Grove – who secured two podiums. The Knoll were able to come second in the seniors, whilst Lyon's ended up in third in the intermediates as well. It must also be mentioned that The Knoll had a competitor in first for both races, which is an achievement in itself.

Carlos Ohler, *The Knoll*, won the senior contest, flying through the long course. His final time was 21:39. Extra credit goes to Ohler as he is a year younger than some of the other contestants. Behind him was Monty Powell, *The Grove*, who finished roughly 20 seconds behind him in second place. There was a close battle for third place as Toby Gould, *Lyon's*, overtook Oliver Bater, *Rendalls*, at the start of the second lap, Bater paying for his early speed.

For the intermediates, the contest was much tighter in a close race. Ed De Bray, *The Knoll*, finished first in an outstanding time of 15:34. He exceeded his high expectations and was a well-deserved winner. Close behind him were both Graham Lambert, *Lyon's*, and Eddie Jodrell, *Elmfield*. Their times were 15:35 and 15:38 respectively. Both Removes finished in spectacular style as they fought until the final step. Lambert was only a second behind De Bray. Jodrell was moments behind as well. This made the final sprint jaw-dropping and must be one of the closest finishes ever seen in the competition's history.

At this moment, there is only one thought on our minds – the upcoming inter-House relays. The captains know that, from this moment onwards, they will have to select their line-ups. It will be exciting to see how they shape their teams in the upcoming week. That's all from this week, but next time I'm sure the races will be just as fascinating as the ones we've watched so far.

SWIMMING

*Gala v John Lyon School, Seniors Won
13 September*

On Thursday, our swimming squad welcomed ten John Lyon swimmers to a home gala friendly. The John Lyon swimmers joined in with our swimmers to create three full teams under the captaincies of Rafe Wendelken-Dickson, *Druries*, Ben Woolhouse, *Druries*, and Harrison Layden-Fritz, *West Acre*. As well as some excellent early-season performances by our veterans, there were also some encouraging debut swims for the Harrow squad. Jake Phillips and James Rates, both *Newlands*, swam exceptionally in their events as new OTs. Aidan Wong, *The Park*, came within a second of breaking a Shell School record in the 50m freestyle set over a decade ago. Data Photpipat, *The Head Master's*, rounded out this strong Shell quadruplet. Tommy Nguyen, *The Grove*, and Ahsab Chowdbury, *West Acre*, showed great potential as new Sixth Form swimmers. Competition was incredibly tight with nine points separating first to third place. Layden-Fritz's team prevailed in the end.

JUDO

The School v Merchant Taylors', 13 September

On Thursday, the judo team had their first fixture of the year against local rivals Merchant Taylors'. Harrow's team of 16 boys fought in 38 contests spanning all age and weight categories. The opposition were overwhelmed by a very strong display from Harrow. We finished with 27 wins to Merchant Taylors' 11. The outstanding performer of the day was Shell OT (Judo) Emmanuel Olowe, *The Grove*. He had four contests and won each of them decisively with an ippon score. The judo team looks forward to a masterclass on Thursday from Olympic silver medallist Ray Stevens. Judo training takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9.10pm in the Old Squash Courts Dojo.

SOCCER

The School A IX v Eton, 18 September, Won 2-1

Scorers: Carlo Agostinelli, *The Head Master's*, Christian Boland, *Newlands*

Playing the Eton 1st XI is never easy at the best of times. It becomes even more difficult when ADJT forgets the kit, the usually effervescent John Koutalides, *West Acre*, is coughing his guts up after every play, Ben Harrison, *West Acre*, is moaning about the dodgy prawn he ate at lunch and Thomas Walduck, *The Knoll*, has a recurrence of the fractured eyelash that was such a hindrance to him last year. However, on this sunny Tuesday afternoon in Windsor, Harrow hearts were stout and steadfast (even though their digestive systems were not quite as compliant) as they set about the task of dismantling a strong Eton side.

After eyebrows had been plucked and Toby Gould, *Lyon's*, had readjusted Carlo Agostinelli's, *The Head Master's*, head band, the match kicked off on a lush grassy oasis in a desert of dry, dusty fields. Harrow had a chance to go ahead in a matter of seconds. Agostinelli pounced on Eton's slow defensive play to go through one on one with the keeper but was unable to give Harrow the early advantage. Eton then enjoyed a period of dominance, exploiting the space left behind Harrow's wing backs. They took the lead in the tenth minute after Harrow failed to clear a cross properly, allowing the ball to fall to a striker who volleyed in from ten yards out.

This prompted a change in formation from Harrow. As news filtered through to an irate Mr Potter back at School that Harrow had changed from his favoured three at the back to a more conventional back four, the game swung back in Harrow's favour. Matthew Harrison's, *West Acre*, introduction in midfield added balance to the side and allowed Gould and Andrew Holmes, *The Grove*, more freedom to roam and cause damage further up the pitch. From this point on, Harrow were the dominant side, creating the chances and being solid in defence.

Harrow grabbed a deserved equaliser in the 22nd minute. Harrow's high-press once again allowed Agostinelli the opportunity to steal the ball from the Eton centre back and this time he made no mistake, rounding the keeper before finishing into an open net from eight yards out.

In the second half, Eton continued to be direct in their play, pumping the ball long to their big, quick strikers. However, they were up against a resolute Harrow back four. Ben Smith, *Bradbys*, was top quality in his debut for the A XI, Walduck and Ludo Palazzo, *West Acre*, were outstanding at centre back and Mustafa Akhtar, *The Head Master's*, had his best game in a Harrow shirt at left back. Max Little, *Rendalls*, in goal did not have a single save to make in the second half, a real testament to how well the players in front of him defended.

Harrow took the lead midway through the second half. Gould's free kick was parried into the penalty area and Christian Boland, *Newlands*, struck a sweet right-footed volley into the roof of the net from 12 yards out.

Harrow continued to have the better chances. Gould hit the post after a jinking run from out wide, while both Boland and Agostinelli had good chances to score. In truth, Harrow never looked like they would concede in the closing stages of the match. Every player worked incredibly hard to produce a great team performance that the boys should be proud of.

The School v Charterhouse Boys, 11 September

Development A XI Won 9-2

Harrow produced an excellent attacking display against a ragged Charterhouse side to stroll to a rampant win. Harrow played most of the match with a 3-1-6 formation and Charterhouse's defence could not deal with Harrow's relentless pressing and attacking. There was a sloppy period in the second half when

Harrow conceded two goals, but it was an enjoyable afternoon and a great win.

Scorers: Carlo Agostinelli, *The Head Master's*, (6), Ben Harrison, *West Acre*, (2), Christian Boland, *Newlands*

Development B XI Won 3-2

The boys got off to a fantastic start, scoring inside the first two minutes with a wonderful strike by Finn Scott, *Rendalls*, from the right edge of the box. A few minutes later, the lead was doubled after the ball fell to Scott again from close range. A late second goal from the opposition ensured a nervous last couple of minutes, but the solid defensive play from the back three of Cosmo Fisher, *Elmfield*, Ben Smith, *Bradbys*, and Edward Hunter, *Rendalls*, ensured a well-earned 3-2 victory. Man of the match was Fisher for keeping the game in control with a tireless effort at the back.

Development C XI, Draw 2-2

The C XI showed great tenacity to fight back from 2-0 down to achieve an impressive draw. Having been outclassed throughout most of the first half, Harrow gradually turned the momentum, with Ciaran Timlin, *Bradbys*, extending his scoring record to six in two games, and Nick Shishkarev, *The Grove*, particularly influential in central midfield.

Scorer: Ciaran Timlin (2), Man of the Match: Nick Shishkarev

FestiPhil, 15 September



The annual tournament in which the current boys and Old Harrovians combine was played in a great spirit once again. With a mixture of young and old, matches were close and exciting and there were a number of quality goals scored. It is a great event to advertise OH football to the boys and one which the boys thoroughly enjoyed. Toby Gould, *Lyon's*, won the Young Player of the Tournament award.

RUGBY UNION

*The School 1st XV v Warwick School, Lost 12-27
15 September*

A tough assignment for the XV, away to Warwick School. In the first half, with the wind behind them, Harrow had their moments but lacked composure, squandering three golden scoring opportunities. By half time, a fitter and tactically savvy Warwick were 12-0 up. Harrow showed more fight and purpose in the second half, pulling the match back to 17-12 with ten minutes left on the clock. However, as fatigue set in, Harrow's error count surged and a superior Warwick side ran away with the contest.

Tries: Pierce O'Toole, *Druries*, Daniel Adebayo, *The Head Master's*

2nd XV, Won 34-14

The 2nd XV had another physical encounter against Warwick and came away with a well-deserved 33-14 win. Joe Kirston, *Newlands*, produced the play of the day; Kirston glided through the Warwick midfield defence and then took on both the fullback and winger to score in the far right corner.

Tries: Michael Keith, *The Knoll* (2), Joe Kirston, *Newlands*, Callum Butler, *The Knoll*, Herbert Zumbika, *Lyon's*
Conversion: Arthur Leney, *The Knoll*, George Jenkins, *Newlands*, and Kirston (2).

3rd XV, Won 33-7

4th XV, Won 54-17

Tries: Glimmerveen, *Bradbys* (2), Zhang, *The Park* (3), Carden *Elmfield*, Wooding, *Bradbys* (2)

Cons: Anton-Smith, *The Head Masters's* (7)

Colts A, Lost 12-71

A tough afternoon on the Sunley saw the Colts lose heavily to a well-organised Warwick side. Two consolation tries from Charlie Howe, *Bradbys*, off driving mauls did little to soften a scoreline that did not flatter the opposition. The Colts will need to refocus and redouble their efforts for the match against Dulwich this Thursday.

Colts B, Won 27-14

The Colts B produced their best performance over the last two seasons in beating a very strong Warwick side 27-14 on Saturday. It was a complete team performance with attacking verve matched by defensive resilience, where each boy executed his role with meaning, confident that the player next to him would do the same. This was a phenomenal turnaround as, 12 months ago, that same Warwick side beat this Harrow team by more than 50 points.

Colts C v Robert Clack School, Won 26-23

This was a fantastic display of grit and determination to battle to a three-point win. The positivity and work ethic made for an excellent display of schoolboy rugby. Special mention to Jack Gosden, *Lyon's*, for some powerful and direct running on the left wing to carry the team forward at crucial times throughout the match.

Junior Colts A, Won 22-14

The Junior Colts A came away from Warwick with a win on the scorecard but with much to work on going into next week's fixture against Dulwich. A well-worked team try from Ehiada Garuba, *Newlands*, and two individual efforts from Ollie Newell *Druries*, and Hugo Anderson, *Newlands*, gave Harrow the victory. Man of the match: Kit Chetwynd-Talbot, *West Acre*
Tries: Ehiada Garuba, *Newlands*, Ollie Newell, *Druries*, Hugo Anderson, *Newlands*, Seb Philips, *Rendalls* (1 conversion and 1 penalty).

Junior Colts B, Lost 19-24

Despite two excellent tries from Ayo Ajibola, *Bradbys*, and Tomas Kemp, *The Park*, the Junior Colts B lost 24-19 to a resolute Warwick side.

Junior Colts C, Draw 17-17

A good start for the Harrow Junior Colts C XV with an

exciting 17-17 draw. Try fever in the last few plays thwarted a deserved away win. Outstanding all round performance by Jasper Blackwood, *Elmfield*, capped by a solo chip and chase try.

Junior Colts D, Won 25-12

An excellent start to the season. Five different try scorers, the pick of which coming from hooker Fred Bethell, *West Acre*. Jeran Jeyanthan, *Bradbys*, earned man of the match for his superb defence. Tries: Bethell, Ball, both *The Grove*, Kinaro, *Moretons*, Pagani, *Lyon's*, Pilkington, *Rendalls*.

Yearlings A, Won 35-0

The Yearlings A scored five tries, all of which were converted by captain Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, who scored and assisted Kit Keey, *Druries*. Conor O'Flaherty, *The Head Master's*, was man of the match with an enormous tackle count.

Tries: Ellis, Edjua, both *Lyon's*, Keey, Gaffaney, *Bradbys*, Neal, *Moretons*.

Cons: Ellis (5)

Yearlings B, Won 60-0

The Yearlings B made an outstanding start to the season, beating Warwick by 60-0. Not only were they scoring freely, but the commitment and aggression shown throughout was hugely promising and bodes well for the rest of the season.

Man of the match: Awomide Awolesi, *The Head Master's*.

Tries: Giancarlo Urselli, *The Grove* (2), Fin Smith, *The Knoll*, Ayomide Awolesi (3), Bebo Morales Quintanal, *Rendalls*, Louis Parry-George, *The Park*, Femi Adejolu, *West Acre*, Ayobami Awolesi, *The Head Master's*.

Yearlings C, Won 41-17

An excellent performance from the Yearlings Cs, winning their first fixture of the season 41-17 and scoring seven tries in the process.

Yearlings D, Won 41-0

In their first encounter of the season, the Yearlings Ds put in a strong performance with a 41-0 victory with Arthur Kay, *Lyon's*, and Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, scoring two tries each.

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