

THE HARROVIAN

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PLUMPTRE CLASSICS PRIZE

Adjudicated by Dr John Taylor, University of
Manchester, Fourth Form Room, 17 May

Latin unseens (Watkins): Musa Ali, *Moretons*; proxime Monty Powell, *The Grove*, George Wauchope, *The Knoll*

Latin prose composition Lower Sixth (Peel), Calum Butler, *The Knoll*, George Herron, *The Grove*, Columbus Mason, *The Head Master's*

Latin prose composition Upper Sixth (Peel): Monty Powell proxime Musa Ali

Latin literature (Jones): Monty Powell proxime Freddy Gibson, *Lyon's*

Greek unseens (Gregory) George Wauchope proxime Musa Ali

Greek prose comp (Beresford): Musa Ali proxime George Herron, George Wauchope

Greek literature (Moore) George Herron proxime Musa Ali, George Wauchope

Ancient History (MacPherson): Freddy Gibson proxime William Tallentire, *Lyon's*

Overall best Lower Sixth (Pember): George Herron

Overall best Upper Sixth (Plumptre): Musa Ali

John Taylor began his adjudication by saying how great pleasure it was to be here, and an honour to judge this prestigious prize, or rather set of prizes. It's 25 years since he first visited Harrow, as adjudicator for a Fourth Form Latin translation prize. He thought then the standard required was quite bracing, and he certainly felt that again this time. After a half an hour of informal feedback, we all sat down for the adjudication.

First Latin unseen translation. Two passages: in prose an extract from Tacitus' *Germania*, an ethnographic treatise from the around AD 100 about an enemy of Rome, portrayed up to a point as noble savages, who would get steadily more formidable over the next three centuries. Here he's describing their fighting methods and motivation. Tacitean Latin was notoriously knotty, and so it proved; but a pushover compared to the verse passage. Lucan's epic on the Roman civil wars of the mid-first century BC was written a century later when the Republic had expired and been replaced by emperors: here he's describing the burial of Pompey's cremated remains on the shore of Egypt and, like the whole poem, it's a firework display of OTT rhetoric. A tough call especially for the Lower Sixth, though they beat their seniors in scansion of two hexameters, and there were creditable overall attempts by Calum Butler and Columbus Mason. In the Upper Sixth, there were very competent scripts from Monty Powell and George Wauchope, but the Fred Watkins prize was awarded to Musa Ali.

Prose composition traditionally separated the men from the boys, but the Lower Sixth got landed with the men's passage, a formidable chunk of Cicero's essay on friendship to be put back into Latin. Unsurprisingly no-one completed it. The standard prose advice 'keep it simple, stick to what you know' was generally followed; if there was a recurrent fault, it was failure to use the grammar details supplied with the glossed words. There were respectable versions from George Herron

and again Columbus Mason, but the Lower Sixth Peel Medal went to Calum Butler. The Upper Sixth had, in comparison, an easy ride with a passage about the pietas of Manlius Torquatus. Although prose composition was never free from hazards, its great compensation was that there's no one correct answer: you can (and to an extent should) reshape the passage into something you can put into Latin. Here there was a very *proxime accessit* in the shape again of Musa Ali, but the winner of the Upper Sixth Peel Medal was Monty Powell.

The Latin literature essay asked candidates whether Roman authors were overly emotional in their writings. This sort of question tests intellectual bog-trotting: leaping confidently from one well-chosen tuft to another, then moving swiftly on before you start to sink. Harrovians seem to be quite good at this. Most could provide a reasonable range of examples, with set texts inevitably the main quarry: Dido and Pallas in the *Aeneid*, love but also hatred in Catullus. There were interesting comments on the inevitably emotive nature of a Ciceronian murder trial, and on the single most recurrent theme in ancient literature, *carpe diem*. In Ovid a contrast was seen between contrived *Amores* and plangently sincere exile poems. Diametrically opposite views were held about how emotional Tacitus was in his sardonic portrayal of emperors. The best essays looked also at restraining factors: at one level metre and word order, at another the Roman ideal of stiff-upper-lippery. In the Lower Sixth, the best answers were those of Messrs Butler and Mason. In the Upper Sixth, Freddy Gibson was a strong runner-up. An outstanding essay taking us via First World War poetry, modern novels and films to a judiciously agnostic conclusion won the Jones Prize for Monty Powell.



(Above: Dr John Taylor, with Musa Ali, *Moretons*, with the Cruikshank Cup as Plumptre winner.)

Turning now and more briefly to Greek, the unseen translation paper comprised on the prose side a famous passage from halfway through Plato's *Republic*, where Socrates says that the ideal society described in the dialogue thus far could only be made a reality if philosophers were to become rulers or rulers become philosophers. As often in Plato, the Greek looks straightforward and consists mainly of common words, but sentences can get convoluted and you need to think quite hard about the best English. In verse, we had an extract from Euripides' *Bacchae*, one of the very greatest Greek tragedies, where the blustering and insecure young king Pentheus describes the havoc being created by a recently arrived young stranger (in fact the god

Dionysus, and his own cousin) who has induced the women of Thebes to exchange their domestic responsibilities for Bacchic revelry – all this expressed in the conventions of iambic trimeter verse. George Herron in the Lower Sixth made a good stab at both passages, and Musa Ali was *proxime accessit*, but the Gregory Prize was awarded to George Wauchope.

Greek prose composition was arguably easier than Latin (with more flexible word order, and generally more like English), and so he sensed candidates found it. The passage from William Pitt (in a parliamentary speech on emancipation) was a nice choice, calling for the familiar Greek vocabulary of slavery to express very un-Greek thoughts. The three scripts here were all good, Lower Sixth Former George Herron virtually neck and neck with Upper Sixth Former George Wauchope, but the Beresford Hope Prize went to Musa Ali.

The Greek literature essay question asked candidates to discuss the proposition that ‘Putting on Greek tragedies in the modern world was a pointless act, since the plays have no relevance to a modern audience’. All the Hellenists shot this down quite easily. Sophocles’ *Antigone* was seen to raise issues about individual rights, despotic rulers, citizenship and nationalism. Euripides’ *Medea* offered feminism and the status of immigrants. More abstract concepts considered included revenge in the latter play, natural law in *Antigone*, and free will in *Oedipus Tyrannus*. It was also well pointed out that dramatic effectiveness was its own justification, despite or even because of remoteness from modern life. All essays were good, but range of reference and consideration of theory won the Ralph Moore Prize for George Herron.

Finally the Ancient History essay: ‘To what extent did ancient historians aim to entertain more than to inform?’ All the answers were interesting to read, with some wonderfully robust views expressed: Suetonius ‘is like the *Daily Mail*'; Tacitus ‘whom I strongly dislike ... was almost completely unreliable’. Collective scope ranged from the Old Testament book of Joshua, through Homer, Herodotus, Thucydides, and Xenophon to Livy and Plutarch. General issues raised included the presence or absence of gods, speeches, bias, and self-description in the third person to make trumpet-blowing a bit less obvious. The best essays emphasised the central fact that ancient historical writing was part of literature. A close *proxime accessit* here was William Tallentire, and the MacPherson Ancient History prize goes to Freddy Gibson.

There remain the two overall prizes. The Pember Prize for best Lower Sixth Classicist goes to George Herron, and the Plumptre Prize for best Upper Sixth Classicist goes to Musa Ali.

Well done to them, to all winners and all entrants. Dr Taylor finished by stating that he hoped the boys enjoyed the competition and learned something from doing it, as he certainly did. He ended by extolling the study of Classics and said that the Harrow Classics department was clearly in very good shape and heart, and long may that continue. His own view is that Classics is not just for school but for life. You rarely meet a discontented classicist. If you don’t yet have one or both languages, it’s never too late to start. Knowledge of Latin grammar (a building with the plumbing on the outside) was the best basis for understanding other languages, including English. You should do a degree in something you like. If you study a more obviously useful subject, much of its specific content may soon be out of date; Classics never will be. It was highly valued by discerning employers. And there has never been a better time to study it. Dr Taylor remarked that “forty years on” from his student days there has been a revolution not only in the range and richness of resources available but also in their user-friendliness: snobbery and stuffiness have been decisively defenestrated. The ancient world was poised at a crucial distance from ours: similar enough to be relevant, different enough to be provocative. Above all was the privilege of reading what has been read, and allowing it to speak to you.

CONCERTO EVENING

Speech Room, 11 May

On Saturday 11 May, Concerto Evening took place in Speech Room. This concert saw boys perform solos accompanied by an orchestra made up of both boys and professional players. The first to perform was Jonathan Yuan, *The Head Master's*, playing Allegro ma non troppo from *Violin Concerto in D major*, composed by Beethoven. This is the only violin concerto that Beethoven wrote and is one of the most frequently performed concertos for violin. The piece was performed excellently, with both control and flair, and the cadenzas were played exceptionally well.



The second to perform was Pasa Suksmith, *Elmfield*, playing Moderato from *Cello Concerto No 1 in C major* by Haydn. The piece was composed between 1761 and 1765 for Joseph Weigl, who was a cellist in Haydn's orchestra. The piece was played fantastically and both the orchestra and soloist were perfectly balanced to allow the cello to project greatly over the other instruments.

The third performer was Graham Lambert, *Lyon's*, playing Rondo from *Trumpet Concerto in Eb major*, composed by Hummel. This was composed in 1803 for the trumpet virtuoso and the inventor of the keyed trumpet Anton Weidinger, with the original key being E major. The piece was played exceptionally well, especially during the difficult passages, and showed off the capabilities of the instrument.

The fourth performer was Jun Wha Shin, *Elmfield*, playing Rondo; Allegretto from *Clarinet Concerto No 1 in F minor*, composed by Weber. This piece is highly regarded in the clarinet repertoire, with the third movement of the concerto, the Rondo; Allegretto, having a light character, contrast with the other two movements. This light character was expressed well by the performer, and the fast, difficult passages were handled fantastically.

The Fifth to perform was Corran Stewart, *Lyon's*, on bassoon playing *Lucy Long*, composed by Fred Godfrey. This piece is a theme and variations that was first performed in Blackpool. The contrasts in mood for each variation was handled well by the performer, as well as the various changes in tempo throughout the piece.

The sixth performer was Kingston Lee, *Elmfield*, playing Allegro from *Horn Concerto No 1 in Bb major*, by Gliere. This piece was composed in 1951 in a neoclassical style with Romantic influences and is one of the major works for in repertoire. The difficult cadenza was played excellently, and the control of the difficult instrument was handled well.

After a brief interval, Brian Chang, *Druries*, was next to perform. The piece was *Carmen Fantasy* by Sarasate, performed on violin. This piece is a violin fantasy on the themes from Bizet's opera *Carmen*, and is considered to be one of the most challenging and technically demanding pieces on the violin. The difficult piece was performed fantastically, and the handling the challenging passages was exceptional.

The final performer was Josh Harris, *West Acre*, on piano, playing *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*, composed by

Rachmaninov. This piece is a theme and variations based on Paganini's 24th Caprice for violin. There are 24 variations of the theme, mirroring the number of caprices Paganini wrote. The difficult piece was played exceptionally well, and the performer handled all the contrast between each of the different variations greatly.

ICELAND TRIP

Forty early-woken boys in an airport terminal could be perceived as a bad idea, but a buzzing excitement resonated through the group. Despite setbacks in the take-off schedule, the inventive Harrovian spirit shone through in us, allowing us to find interest in Terminal 2, and before we knew it we were in the sky, ready for the Icelandic adventure that lay ahead of us. We swiftly made our way through the sleek, morning quiet Keflavik airport and we were released into the vast, rugged Icelandic plains and towering volcanic landscapes. We made our acquaintance with our fantastic guide Tony Escritt, and set off to our first destination, the world-famous Blue Lagoon. The whole coach, mesmerised by the captivating Icelandic scenery, was abruptly made aware of the close proximity to the lagoon, by a displeasing odour which wafted its way into the coach. Soon we arrived at the Blue Lagoon, quickly changed and made our way to the water.



A murky silvery blue pool lay in front of us and we made our way to the edge. The water was surprisingly warm, driven by the excess of geothermal water coming from the Svartsengi power station. The suspended silica and minerals, which give the water its characteristic colour, could be felt underfoot in the grey sand. The water was an interesting experience, rather like bath water with many interesting touches such as water features and a tap which allowed us to drink the filtered Icelandic water. The lagoon was also surprisingly large, and with plenty of time was interesting to explore. Soon, after the hour which we had been allocated at the lagoon was up, we returned to the coach. After going for dinner and arriving and unpacking in the guesthouse, we were all soon asleep.

The next day brought with it a new set of interesting expeditions and the morning began with a trip to the Thingvellir national park. Thingvellir is part of a rift valley on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Since what we now know to be Iceland was previously completely submerged underwater, there are fissures caused by the sea floor splitting. Thingvellir also serves as an important historical landmark as it is the site of the first-ever democratic parliament by the Vikings in AD930. With incredible landscapes and interesting features shaped by the tectonic movement underneath Iceland, this proved to be an informative part of the trip. Next, we moved onto the lava tubes, quite literally tubes formed from the cooling of lava from previous eruptions. As we edged our way into the narrow entrance, any claustrophobia that might have been present in the group was put to the test,

but thankfully everyone made it through the narrow entrance and the slippery, icy descent into the part of the tube which we decided to take rest in. Illuminated by our headtorches, the wonderful rocks and lava shaped walls, ceiling and floor became clear. What made the experience even more enjoyable was when everybody in the cavity turned off their headtorches, and we were left in a pitch-black environment. Despite our eyes' best effort, the room remained pitch black for the entirety of our stay there and it provided an interesting experience.



Our next stop was at Geysir, famous for its erupting geysers. Geysir was renowned for the geyser Strokkur, which erupts about every ten minutes. Driven by heat from a magma chamber below, the geyser produces quite the spectacle of water driven out of the ground. Accompanied by lots of smaller geysers, Geysir was a great place to see the power of tectonics in action and it was certainly worth the venture. After also seeing a football-stadium-sized caldera, as well as a breathtakingly large waterfall, Day 2 was quite exciting.

We arose the next morning excited for the day ahead, as we had the trip to the glacier ahead of us. After a 90-minute journey, we arrived at our destination, ready to scale it. After putting our crampons and boots on, we were given a stark reminder about how our planet is significantly changing. It was eye-opening to see how much the glacier has receded in the last 40 years and even more shocking to find out that they forecast this wonderful place will be gone within the next 20 years. Scaling the glacier provided a fun challenge and there were a few slips along the way, but all managed to reach the meeting point unscathed. Fantastic views across the valley we had just come through were accessible. We were also reminded of how the ash on the glacier slows down the melting of the glacier. After going back down, we gained a full appreciation for the scale of the glacier but also the relatively little time it has left. After a couple of trips to the coast and to see another waterfall - this time we were able to walk behind it - we made our way to the Lava Centre. The Lava Centre is a relatively new building which shows Iceland's fiery history and has interactive elements. It was very informative without overloading us with information and gave an insight into the key volcanoes in Iceland and what gives them such a reputation.

The final day began with an early start, but soon we were off to the power plant. The geothermal power plant was a very informative building and videos of how it works and views inside of the plant itself were very interesting. With also museum-like aspects to it. Soon we were off again and heading through Reykjavik, which gave us a great insight into Icelandic culture and how the capital has significantly changed over the last few decades. It also showed us how the power plant we visited earlier is supporting the growing demands of Reykjavik. Before we knew it, we were at Reykjavik airport and back in Terminal 2 again.

All considered, this expedition was extremely interesting, providing great geographical theory and also showing the material learnt in lessons in practice. My personal favourite part was the lava tube, especially considering the eerie atmosphere created when the lights were turned off. I'm sure the group would agree that this trip is definitely worth it for future Shell year groups.

ITALIAN SOCIETY

Modern Languages Lecture, British Academy.
"Transnational Italian culture and the ghosts of empire"

On a Tuesday afternoon, a group of boys studying Italian Pre-U took a stroll into London, accompanied by their beaks HAH and NGI. Their destination? The British Academy, where a Modern Languages Lecture is held once every three years. This year, Professor Charles Burdett from Durham University discussed transnational Italian culture and the ghosts of Italy's empire, with Professor Robert Gordon FBA from Cambridge University as chair.

Professor Burdett first explained why the British Academy was the ideal place for a lecture on the importance of the study of modern languages as it is the head institution in the research of humanities and, indeed, it became clear to all those attending that the topic researched was part of a wider project which involved different faculties and many researchers.

However, this did not stop the lecture from being very advanced and academically challenging, allowing the boys to stretch themselves on previously unknown aspects of Italian fascism.

Professor Burdett described Mussolini's expansionist aims – namely, the desire to recapture and reconquer lands which had previously belonged to the Italian empire at various times throughout history (the Roman period being an obvious one). Such territories included Libya, Ethiopia (then known as Abyssinia), Somalia and Eritrea. The audience were also given an insight into the legacy of such conquests and how Italy's presence in these countries has affected them to this very day. He discussed the physical impacts of Italy's imperial presence, namely to the countries' infrastructure (the most famous example of which being in the form of the Casa del Fascio), but also the cultural effects that it had on the locals, evidenced by literary texts describing the natives' experiences of the convergence of Italian and native culture (resulting in some famous books written in Italian by citizens of ex-colonies). The audience were shown another notable example of the impact of Italian culture on ex-colonies through the Addis Ababa Juventus supporters' club, which is larger than any other local football club. This stemmed from Mussolini's aim to create two separate districts, one for the European visitors and the other for the Ethiopian locals. The importance of the Juventus supporters' club, which now lies at the centre of the capital's football spirit, shows the strength of the unity of the two districts, and how the separation never really happened and very quickly became redundant.

Professor Burdett then approached the topic of transnationalism, describing it as a process that encourages nations to think of the entanglement of cultures between nationalistic bodies thanks to increased mobility; not only this, but also the transnationalisation of modern languages. Professor Burdett to convey an idea of the processes of mobility and exchange that lie at the core of his research. This introduced his next point of discussion, which was the importance of studying modern languages at university and, more notably, the ongoing crisis of the falling number of applicants going to university to study modern languages and the decreasing number of GCSE and A level students in these subjects. Professor Burdett blamed an overreliance on the spread of the English language as well as a failure to understand the extent to which the study of languages helps us to 'translate' cultures (which is becoming more and more crucial in an increasingly globalised and transnational world) as the reason for this troubling situation. When explaining the importance of modern languages, Professor Burdett observed that literary texts are modes of intervention for thoughts that involve the subjectivity of the author and the reader. However, he reflected on the fact that literary texts and the subjectivity of the authors and readers cannot function on their own, and require

modern languages to enable the study of literary texts and thus acting as a key to understanding history and society as a whole.

Concluding, Professor Burdett explained that instead of being haunted by the ghosts of the past, we should develop a greater understanding of how modes of thought belonging in the past can help us to anticipate the future, hence highlighting the need for modern languages at the heart of the arts and humanities.

After the lecture, the Harrow boys had the opportunity to catch up with their former beak AJH, and then went to Franco Manca for an enjoyable Italian meal, while watching Liverpool's thrilling comeback against Barcelona. The boys returned to the Hill after an enjoyable afternoon and evening. Many thanks must go to HAH and NGI for organising this event and making it possible.

HIBERNIAN SOCIETY LECTURE

8 May

On Wednesday 8 May, the Hibernian Society hosted Rt Hon. Nigel Dodds OBE, the leader of the DUP in Westminster. The DUP, or the Democratic Unionist Party, is the largest Irish party and the only party to have seats in Westminster, as the others do not take their seats. The DUP is currently entered into a Confidence and Supply with the Conservative Government, meaning that they will support the Conservative Party in votes of confidence and budget approvals by either voting in favour or abstaining. This agreement will last until the end of this parliamentary term, triggered either by a snap election or on June 8 2022, the next scheduled general election. Nigel Dodds was elected to the city council of Belfast in 1985 and served there until 2010, during which he has the Lord Mayor twice and was the youngest-ever person to hold the post. He was promoted to DUP Deputy Leader in 2008, after being its secretary from 1992. Nigel Dodds outlined the DUP's political beliefs concerning Brexit and the Irish border.

The DUP supports Brexit and is currently working to enact a Brexit with the prime minister Theresa May, which he believes benefits the whole UK, including those who didn't vote for Brexit. However, the DUP disagrees with Theresa May on her Brexit plan. They have stated that they cannot support any Brexit deal which contains the Irish backstop in its current form. The backstop originated from a demand from the Irish prime minister that there should be no hard border in Ireland, over fears of violence over the violation of the Good Friday agreement. However, the DUP believe that, since there is already a physical border between Ireland and Northern Ireland, the introduction of a hard border would not incite greater violence. The current border between Ireland and Northern Ireland has cameras, border checks, along with random service and compulsory declaration of goods. As there has been no serious cases of aggression against this physical border, the DUP believe that increasing the intensity of this border would not result in the violence that the Irish prime minister has implied. The solution which the Irish prime minister has proposed involves the whole UK remaining in the Customs Union. While the DUP believe that such an agreement would do no violence to the UK, they would attempt to prevent this, believing that this is not the outcome which the UK voted for. They state that a hard Brexit was the aim of the Brexit-voting populace.

The DUP takes issue with the Irish backstop for several reasons. The majority of Northern Irish trade is done with the UK. If Northern Ireland were to remain part of the Customs Union while the UK leaves, all trade going between the two would be subject to checks, seriously damaging trade relations. This could have a seriously negative effect on the Northern Irish economy. Furthermore, being part of the European Union would mean that Northern Ireland could not choose their own policies, the most worrying of which is their agricultural policy. In order to change their own policies, they would have

to lobby the EU, which would make them dependent on other countries, including Ireland. The DUP, being a unionist party, therefore cannot support it. The DUP also doubt whether, once imposed, the backstop will ever be lifted. To lift the backstop in its current form, Northern Ireland would have to gain approval from the EU. However, they regard this as unlikely, considering many nations, such as Ireland, have a vested interest in keeping Northern Ireland within the customs union. Finally, the idea of Northern Ireland being treated differently from the rest of the UK clashes with their Unionist ideals. The DUP has fought to be on equal standing with the rest of the UK and believe that the backstop would undo these efforts.

After his lecture, Nigel Dodds obliged the audience by answering some of their burning questions. A member from the floor asked the speaker how the DUP could call themselves a Unionist party, while opposing the backstop quantifiably increases the chance of Northern Ireland (and Scotland) leaving the Union. The response was that the DUP believed that enacting the backstop would create an even greater risk to the union of the UK. The backstop would make Northern Ireland dependent on Ireland, increasing the risk to the union. Furthermore, the SNP support the backstop, as this would allow them to demand the same preferential treatment as Northern Ireland, which they can use as ammunition for their bid for independence. Further evidence is that Sinn Fein, which believe in Irish unity, support the backstop. In response to another question, Nigel Dodds stated that he did not believe that the lack of progress for the backstop would promote violence, stating that, although Northern Ireland has been subjected to horrific attacks, it always has been and their intensity will not be increased.

Many thanks to Nigel Dodds for coming and lecturing to the Hibernian Society. Additional thanks to JDBM for organising this lecture.

BYRON CONSORT

Evensong at Chichester Cathedral, 8 May

Last Wednesday, the Byron Consort set off after 2c to sing Evensong at Chichester Cathedral. After leaving 30 minutes late, as is customary for the Byron Consort, and after a long 90-minute drive, we finally arrived at Chichester Cathedral and were warmly greeted by the vergers.



Soon afterwards, we rehearsed the pieces we were going to sing that evening, including *Ego sum pastor bonus* by Waclaw de Szamotuly, *I sat down* by Edward Bairstow, *Preces and Responses* by Richard Ayleward and *The Lord's Prayer* by Robert Stone. After a relatively short rehearsal, we visited the surrounding town area, before we went to the Cathedral's café for tea and cake. However, after a relatively short break, we went for a final rehearsal in the cathedral. Shortly afterwards in the late evening, there was the concert. With such a big space, the sound was beautiful, bringing a smile even to PJE's face. After a successful concert, we were taken to Real Burger Kitchen, a Consort favourite. Leaving the restaurant, feeling rewarded and full, we set out for a long journey back to School.

JUNIOR CLASSICAL SOCIETY

14 May

On Tuesday 14 May, the Junior Classical Society hosted Archie Kyd and Alexander Von Kumberg, both *The Park*, two active members of the Classics community. Kyd gave a lecture entitled 'The Peloponnesian War', and Von Kumberg spoke on 'The Samnites'.

The Peloponnesian War was directly influenced by the Graeco-Persian wars, which took place from 499 to 449BC. After first being defeated at Marathon and subsequently at Thermopylae and Salamis, the Persian empire, which was the super-power of the ancient world, had been successfully thrown by an alliance of the Greek city states, led by Athens and Sparta. Although they had defeated Persia, the city states formed defensive leagues to protect against future threats. There were two main leagues: the Peloponnesian League, led by Sparta, and the Delian League, led by Athens. Athens, by demanding tribute from the other members of the Delian League, formed an immense navy, capable of challenging the Persians at sea and protecting the interests of the league and, more importantly, Athens. This money also went to build Athens into the envy of the ancient world. After Athens began to incite rebellion in the city state of Corinth, which was a member of the Peloponnesian League, Sparta began the First Peloponnesian War, which ended with the 'thirty years of peace', which lasted from 445 to 431BC: 14 years. In 431 BC, Corinth persuaded Sparta to go to war with Athens, with the aim of destroying the Delian League and becoming the only Greek power. The Spartans, in an attempt to get the Athenians to fight them head on, pillaged and burned the countryside around Athens. However, the Athenians, having predicted this and being unwilling to fight the superior Spartan land forces, had organised a constant flow of grain into the city and had staged a blockade of the Peloponnesian peninsula, all using their vastly superior navy. This superiority meant that Athens was winning the war. However, due to some tainted grain, a plague began to spread through Athens, infecting both the inhabitants and those who were seeking shelter from the Spartan armies; the plague ended up killing one in every four, causing mercenaries to refuse to fight for Athens for fear of catching the plague. Sparta was unaffected by this tainted grain due to the Athenian blockade. Afterwards, the two sides agreed to 'fifty years' peace', although this never truly occurred: each continued to raid the other and attack through proxies. In an attempt to rebuild their navy, which had been decimated by the plague, the Athenians intended to attack the wealthy city state of Syracuse in Sicily which, with Athens and Carthage, controlled the lion's share of the trade in the Mediterranean. However, the Spartans warned the city and Athens ended up losing 10,000 hoplites and two thirds of their navy, including 30,000 professional oarsmen. This spelt doom for the Athenians. The main Athenian commanders defected to Sparta, who had built a larger navy, having been funded by the Persians, as they viewed Athens as their greatest threat. The Spartans finally won the war, after defeating the Athenian navy at Aegospotami. However, the Spartan state was weakened severely by the war and was unable to later resist the attack of the Macedonians.

The Samnites were an ancient Italic people who lived in Samnium in south-central Italy. They would later become involved in three long and bitter conflicts with the Roman Republic until the 1st century BC. The location of the Samnites is key to understanding them as a people. To the South were the Greek colonies of Magna Graecia and to the East mainland Greece both of which greatly influenced them through trade and diplomatic relations. Samnite armour, dress and, indeed, their culture and religion was Hellenic in many ways. Moreover, the presence of the Etruscans and Umbrians in the north influenced their political and military ways. Many historians believe that the Samnites had been native to the area of Sabbinia since human

migration and growth of civilisation in Italy. Others claim that the Samnites were Lapygians (the earliest humans to settle in Italy) emigrants who settled on a hill called ‘Samninium’. The Lapygians settled in the Italian peninsula around 800 BC. The fact that the Samnites became concentrated on mountainous terrain in the Southern Apennine Range indicates their defensive motives and hints at a desire to flee from an enemy. Nonetheless, the Samnites developed Oscan as their tongue and therefore grew to be Oscan and Umbrian in ethnicity. Livy is the only preserved source describing the conflict. The origin of the war came when the Samnites attacked the Sidicini, a tribe located in northern Campania. Unable to defend themselves, they fell to the hands of the Samnite forces. The survivors were compelled to ask Rome for help. The Romans denied them this as it would be braking an existing treaty with the Samnites. The Campanians, hearing the refusal of Rome, decided to give the Romans the city of Capua unconditionally. The Roman senate now had to defend the citizens of Capua and thus asked the Samnites to halt their attack on the city. The Samnites refused and thus Rome was at war with Samnium. Two Roman consuls, Marcus Valerius Corvus and Cornelius Cossus, marched armies against the Samnites. Valerius lead his army into Capua and Campania while Cornelius attacked Samnium itself. This conflict began with the victory at Mount Gaurus. Rome’s sphere of influence then kicked in with many of its allies joining the war. The Battle of Vesuvius followed, ensuring Roman dominance in the Campania region and concluding the war. The Roman liberation of Campania allowed it to become a Roman protectorate with its capital in Capua. However, after being defeated at Samnite Forks, years later, the Romans were forced to make peace with the Samnites. However, the Samnites were tired of Roman rule in the area and tried to make allies in Italy. They asked the Lucanians, who rejected the offer. In order to compel them to accept the offer, the Samnites forced them, threatening to declare war. The Lucanians then complained to the Romans, who decided to help them. Consul Quintus Fabius was sent into Samnium where he defeated the Samnites in the Battle of Tifernum. The Samnites fled to Etruria to ask for support, and it was given. Gaelic tribes also entered the conflict. Nonetheless, Roman forces excelled against all odds but, again, the Samnites did not give in. With the Roman victory in the Battle of Luceria, followed by an epidemic in Samnium, the Samnites finally sued for peace after Consul Curius Dentatus defeated an army comprised of the Samnites and the Gauls in the battle of Sentinum. This war ensured Rome’s power in Italy once and for all. Samnium was largely annexed, and more Roman colonies positioned throughout the area.

Many thanks to Kyd and Von Kumberg for their lectures and to SMK for helping to organise and chair the meeting.

JUNIOR LABORDE

Megatsunamis, Jai Raithatha, Druries

Megatsunamis. Though the term may sound like yet another pseudoscientific term coined in the personality-stripped dungeons of modern action B-movies (see the *Sharknado* series), the possibility of such occurrences is not to be discounted. Last week, Jai Raithatha, *Druries* – notable for his delivering a lecture in only his third term at the School – set out to convey to the attendants at the Junior Laborde Society that megatsunamis are scientifically viable and have the potential to result in enormous consequences, but it is not worth evacuating to the nearest mountain, as the theoretical does not always manifest in the physical.

Raithatha began with an image detailing a scene from *San Andreas* (see aforesaid B-movie, but with a higher budget). Despite the apparent absurdity of the image, it would appear that such enormous tsunamis are very much possible – as he

showed towards the end of the lecture. Firstly, he explained the nature of a standard tsunami. As any Shell geographer who has done his money’s worth of revision would agree, he stated that the focae of a subduction zone can occur underneath an ocean. The destructive plate boundary then has the possibility of becoming “stuck” (for want of a better word), building pressure until an explosive release forms an underwater earthquake. This earthquake then manifests at a surface level as a tsunami.

One example of a highly powerful *standard* tsunami is that of the Boxing Day tsunami (26 December 2004), which killed an estimated 277,000 people across 14 nations. The ‘undersea megathrust earthquake’ (thanks Wikipedia) had an estimated magnitude of 9.1-9.3 on the Richter scale, also known in layman’s terms as ‘a lot’. This resulted in multiple tsunamis, some up to 40 metres tall, that caused the untold destruction.

This enormous tsunami, however, cannot compare to the incredible dimensions of a megatsunami, on account of one reason: a difference in causation. As opposed to their less dramatic counterparts, megatsunamis are caused by mass displacement of water (Archimedes would approve), which results in an excess flowing on the surface. The most prominent example of a *megatsunami* is that of Cituya Bay (Alaska, 1958). An earthquake of magnitude 7.8 on the Richter scale occurred (although its Mercalli scale measurement was higher than its Boxing Day counterpart), resulting in mass landfall from the mountains into the narrow Cituya inlet, with approximately 90 million tons of material falling over 90 metres into the water. This resulted in an enormous displacement of water, enough to show a high-waterline 520 metres (!) above the water itself. For comparison, the Leaning tower of Pisa is 57 metres tall. This was shown to be true by the vegetative strata at the 520m mark up the mountain, as well as an eyewitness account from a father and son who somehow managed to survive the ordeal.

Through the citation of these examples, multiple key conclusions can be observed and derived. Firstly, although tsunamis have adequate potential for devastation, they have observable limits. Their power is proportional to the earthquake that caused them (among other factors), and they cannot exceed a certain theoretical limit. The impact of megatsunamis, however, is only proportional to the volume of water displaced by a material; thus, it is (for all intents and apocalyptic purposes) unlimited.

This propensity for enormity is manifested in the Chickxulub Megatsunami, a theorised event that borders on myth (for those who spend their time creating a tsunami mythos). Sometimes proposed as the event that did the dinosaurs in, it is said that, had the asteroid that caused it (don your tinfoil hats) landed in deep ocean, it could have caused a tsunami 4.6km in height. Unfortunately, such magnitudes are so unlikely that they barely need mentioning (aside from the fact that they propose a large number and are thus deemed interesting), as well as not being rooted in concrete evidence.

The real pinnacle of the argument occurs when one cites an aborted research paper formerly conducted by Day and Ward, the scientists famous for making a BBC documentary on their idea before publishing their thesis (which was swiftly debunked). If one takes as an example the island of La Palma in the Canary Islands – the most volcanically active of the Canary Islands, which has a very conspicuous gorge running down its centre due to volcanic activity (see where this is going?) – if La Palma were to have another incident with the Caldera de Taburiente, its largest volcano, one may begin to believe that one half of the island is unstable. If that half of the island were to weaken significantly, to the point where it may collapse into the surrounding waters (which are relatively deep), one may begin to believe that it will fall into the water. Scientists theorized that La Palma had a possibility of splitting, with one half becoming a brutally enormous ocean feature.

This possibility would result in absolutely untold destruction. The volume of water displaced would be equivalent to 376bn (three hundred and seventy-six billion) Boeing factories (the

largest building in the world). Should this happen, our hapless scientists found that there would be a barrage of 1km-high waves, traveling at 450km/h, destroying the Canary Islands, Africa, Britain and even the East Coast of America (where shoaling would increase the size of the wave) in the space of six hours.

This idea was, however, swiftly sent to the dark hollow where baseless, weak-founded theses lie. Many geographers (who appeared to have done more research than Day and Ward) suggested that the side of the island was not even slipping. Furthermore, the volcano appears to only erupt twice per century, if that, resulting in further exacerbation of the crack being unlikely and distant. Even the size of the gargantuan waves appear to have been dramatised; similarly, the time until such waves reached the East coast would be far longer than the study suggested.

Overall, this lecture provided a thorough and balanced insight to one of the many geographical terrors that could befall humanity (which everyone is terrified of when reminded, then proceeds to forget about when presented with AS tracking). The lecturer, Raithatha, put forth clear explanations as well as explaining some of the overdramatised portrayals of the event before proceeding to axe them with the blade of common sense. In essence; megatsunamis are *theoretically* possible, however there is no need to pack the bags and head for the Hebrides just yet.

when he sacked me the following week in favour of the boxer Frank Bruno. As an MA in PPE, I should have seen it coming.

At a party we gave in Holland Park in 1993, I proudly introduced Lord Sutch to Lord Merlin Sudeley, an equally singular politician. You can see each of them speaking on YouTube.

Inspired by Sutch, I stood in the Newbury by-election in 1993, on the ticket GIVE THE ROYAL BILLIONS TO SCHOOLS. This was the *annus horribilis* for the Royals, with Diana, Fergie and Charles running amok. I adjudged that to be bad form. And I got a great number of votes, a fine achievement considering I was fighting against 18 other candidates in the 'Royal' county of Berkshire, did no canvassing, and organised only one interview, that of my wife, The Hon Cate, holding forth as my Education Spokesperson, though she had never been to school, being taught by nuns.

The full result of that by-election, including Sutch's and my total of votes, can be found in Wikipedia, under *Newbury By-Election 1993*. Of course Sutch defeated me, as he always did. Yet I much regret the passing of the 3rd Earl. I am glad that he is buried so near Harrow, in Pinner cemetery.

His music, by the way, was also revolutionary. He employed a drummer with no sense of rhythm at all.

Yours sincerely,
MIKE STONE (MORETONS 1957²)

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the Editors of *The Harrovian*

DEAR SIRS,

The 3rd Earl of Harrow was a well-known statesman whose inspiration came directly from our School. His entry can be found in Wikipedia. This confirms that David Edward Sutch (1940–1999), 3rd Earl of Harrow, was also known as Screaming Lord Sutch, a lead singer with his own band, and founder of the Monster Raving Loony Party.

Sutch was recognisable at election counts by his crazy clothes and top hat. He added "Lord" to his name by deed poll. In the 1980s they raised the deposit paid by parliamentary candidates to £500 from £150, but this did nothing to deter him. His highest poll was in Rotherham in 1994, with 4.2 % of the vote. He stood and lost in more than 40 parliamentary elections, a record.

I acquired Lord Sutch's home address from his bass player. He lived with his mum at the foot of Harrow Hill. I cold-called this statesman at his home and he told me that the inspiration for his career came from seeing Winston Churchill, when prime minister in the 1950s, being driven up the Hill to attend Harrow Songs.

Like Churchill, Sutch's policies were radical. He wanted the rate of VAT raised to increase the value of everything. To secure data, he wanted it all stored in the PM's underpants drawer. Quitters would be encouraged not to start in the first place. Cars would be made more economic by fitting bungy ropes for return journeys. To promote both equality and economy, grey squirrels would be painted red. Air bags would be fitted to the Exchequer in preparation for the next crash. The Defence Department would economise on shoe leather by making squaddies march longer paces. The NHS would economise by having X-ray machines manned by a skeleton staff. Class divides would be reduced by making all ministers speak Mockney. A Frivolous Fraud Office would be established to lighten the load on the Serious Fraud Office. Greyhound racing will be subsidised to stop the country going to the dogs.

I asked David Sutch if I could be his Education Minister in his forthcoming government and he gave me that position right there on his mum's doorstep. But I was shocked and surprised

DAME VAUGHAN AGONY AUNT

Dear Dame Vaughan,

Let's be honest, O Zenith of Zen in your cloud-drizzled colonnades, times are a wee bit tense at the moment. I know talking about emotions and admitting vulnerability is soooo not what men do – hey, we're Harrovians, we've got to live up to the Giants of Old and feel no weakness, right – but, I'm feeling a bit stressed at the minute, and slightly anxious about it all. It's hardly like I haven't a valid reason: it's exam season, that's stress enough. But even that seems a bit worthless in today's political and social uncertainty, never mind the worrying threat of climate change – exacerbated by the older generation's inability to acknowledge its threat and treat it seriously – kind of makes everything seem a bit, well, futile. It's enough to make one nervous. I know we're supposed to think it's "unmanly" to share emotional weakness, but I'm going to defy that useless idea and say, dear Dame, I'd like a bit of help and support. Any book recommendations to help a guy in need would be gratefully appreciated.

Yours fretfully,
A boy

Dear My Brilliantly Brave Boy,

It is perfectly natural to feel stressed and anxious – it's a valid human emotion – and more boys need to learn that there is a strength in vulnerability; emotional honesty is an admirable virtue in all humans, not simply a gendered entity. So thank you for sharing and coming to me. Normally I would share a witty anecdote here, full of iridescent charm and fascinating tales from my past. However, I think if you talk to your peers and provide a space for them to feel safe and not judged, they could all provide far more useful anecdotes than I, which share your concerns and engage you in a supportive, friendly community. I'll leave them to speak for themselves and teach us all about what 'male-ness' really is. In the meantime, may I suggest the perfect book for you: *Notes on a Nervous Planet* by Matt Haig. A frank, honest and refreshing discussion about living with stress and anxiety in today's society, and written

from a male perspective, Matt Haig is seen as a staple for de-gendering emotional vulnerability and providing empathetic support. Tackling questions such as ‘how do we stay sane on a planet that makes us mad?’ and ‘how do we feel happy when the world makes us anxious?’ (all from Haig’s personal experience of suffering from anxiety and panic attacks), *Notes on a Nervous Planet* is a personal and vital look at how to feel happy, human and whole in the 21st century. A book that has almost a cult following, born from the number of people – especially men – who can personally testify that Matt Haig has helped them open up emotionally and deal with stress and anxiety, I hope you find it useful. Furthermore, always feel like you can talk to someone: a friend, your tutor, your House Master or Matron, a beak you like. A problem shared is a problem halved, and being emotionally or mentally down is never a cause for guilt or shame. We here in the Vaughan are always here to help, literally or otherwise.

Yours fondly,
Dame Vaughan

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

OH WISDOM



Sir Winston Churchill said, “Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”

Adam Hart (*West Acre* 1977), Harrow Association Chairman, and all the team in the HA would like to wish this year's Leavers – soon to be Old Harrovians – and all those sitting exams in the coming weeks the very best of luck. *Stet Fortuna Domus.*

RACKETS *Review 2018–19 Season*

With a strong cohort of Sixth Form players and plenty of promise in the Lower School, hopes were high for the season. Julian Owston, *Moretons*, fulfilled the role of captain in the Autumn term and Otto Stroyan, *The Grove*, stepped forward in the Spring term. Over the year, we won 14 of 21 matches at 1st pair level. Owston played in the vast majority of the matches, mostly with Stroyan. Charlie Witter, *Elmfield*, and Rishi Wijeratne, *The Head Master's*, both played in several matches and gained experience that proved priceless at the end of the season.

In the National Schools Rackets Singles at Queen's in December, the stand out performances came from Owston in the Renny Cup. He showed great determination to reach the semi final where, despite a valiant effort, he lost 2-3 to the eventual

winner. Owston has transformed his game through sheer hard work and has been an excellent role model in this respect to the younger boys. Stroyan played some fine rackets to get to the quarter final of the same event and played particularly well against Witter in the last 16 match. Luke Harrington-Myers, *Bradbys*, Cameron Mahal, *The Grove*, Wijeratne, James Cullimore, *Rendalls*, and Henry Wilson, *Elmfield*, all gave highly creditable performances in the Renny Cup.

The Colts players at Queen's were Jonny Connell, Ben Hope, both *Rendalls*, Jude Brankin-Frisby, *Newlands*, and Finn Matheson, *Drurries*. There is a strong camaraderie in the group and this has helped the enjoyment and significant improvements they have made. Hope had the best chance of going a long way in the event but just lost out to a talented Cheltonian in the second round. The others should be proud of the advances they have made, which sets them up well for the next two years.

The Junior Colts event featured Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*, Henry Oelhafen, *Lyon's*, and Sam Owston, *Moretons*.

Ashworth played well to get through a tough first match before losing to a Tonbridge boy who hit his straps from the first point. Ashworth has an elegant style and every chance of being a fine player as he develops physically. Owston played at the top of his game to win two rounds but Oelhafen was unfortunate to draw a finalist in the first round. Two Yearlings Gabriel Black, *West Acre*, and Tarquin Sotir, *Drurries*, gained valuable experience and showed promise in the same event.

Preparation then turned to the National School's Doubles Championships at Queen's in March. At first pair we had a tough draw against the 3rd seeds Wellington. The match became an epic struggle with Julian Owston and Otto Stroyan playing at the top of their games to push the Wellington boys right to the edge. After two and a half hours the denouement came in the set of the seventh and final game. Sadly we just couldn't get over the line and lost the last game 15-17. Owston developed his game further after the singles and was hugely determined. Stroyan added extra firepower to the high level of his natural racket skills. Both boys should be proud of their efforts in a truly dramatic match.

The Second Pair Doubles gave Harrow some wonderful matches and ultimately a final.

As a fourth pair Harry Saunders, *The Knoll*, and Cullimore won a round against Winchester before losing against the first seeds Eton. Our third pair of Harrington-Myers and Mahal played well but were just pipped in the final game by Radley. The second pair of Charlie Witter, *Elmfield*, and Wijeratne became the stand out performers of the season during the tournament. After a comfortable win in the first round Harrow had a tough assignment against the Tonbridge third pair. Witter and Wijeratne played really well and after an easy quarter final faced the Tonbridge second pair in the semi final. Witter and Wijeratne played superbly to win 3-0 to reach the final. With a packed gallery the final produced a high quality first game which Harrow won 17-14. After this point the Etonian pair served with great precision and cut out the errors in the rallies to win 3-1. Witter and Wijeratne were able to locate their best form in the tournament and to reach the final was a first-class achievement.

At Colts level Hope played with Brankin-Frisby in the 'A' pair and Connell played with Sasha Sebag-Montefiore, *The Knoll*, in the 'B' pair. At Junior Colts Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, played with Federico Ghersi, *The Head Master's*, in the 'A' pair. Sam Owston played with Oelhafen in the 'B' pair. All eight boys have plenty of potential for the future if they can replicate the passion and application shown by the senior boys.

TGE and GBF both showed tremendous enthusiasm and support for the boys over the season in their roles as Master-in-Charge. We should also play a big tribute to Gillian Whitmee, our outstanding supporter, who gives up an enormous amount of time to come to Queen's and is unfailingly encouraging towards the boys.

ATHLETICS

Harrow Borough Athletics Championships, 9 May

The Borough Championships (for Juniors and Intermediates only) are held annually at Harrow and offer athletes the chance to be selected to compete in the County Championships. As usual, Harrow dominated the competition and 33 boys (comprising 19 Intermediates and 14 Juniors) will represent the Borough at Allianz Park in June.



(Above: Charlie Young, *Newlands*, who placed second in the high jump at the Championships by clearing the bar which was higher than he is tall!)

Second place:

Henry Arundell, <i>The Knoll</i>	Under-17 100m
Luke Esposito, <i>Newlands</i>	Under-17 800m
George Ferguson, <i>Newlands</i>	Under-17 1500m
Eddie Jodrell, <i>Elmfield</i>	Under-17 3000m
Ayo Ajibola, <i>Bradbys</i>	Under-17 100m hurdles
George Gallagher, <i>The Grove</i>	Under-17 triple jump
Sam Lussier, <i>The Knoll</i>	Under-17 high jump
Guy White, <i>Lyon's</i>	Under-17 shot put
Nick Martin, <i>The Knoll</i>	Under-17 discus
Zack Morgan, <i>Lyon's</i>	Under-17 javelin
Jude Esposito, <i>Newlands</i>	Under-15 300m
Thomas Hobbs, <i>Newlands</i>	Under-15 1500m
Charlie Young, <i>Newlands</i>	Under-15 80m hurdles
Charlie Young	Under-15 high jump
Marcos Kantaris, <i>Lyon's</i>	Under-15 discus
Marcos Kantaris	Under-15 javelin

First place:

Ed Garuba, <i>Newlands</i>	Under-17 100m
Ayo Ajibola, <i>Bradbys</i>	Under-17 200m
Jack Gosden, <i>Lyon's</i>	Under-17 400m
Jack Gosden	Under-17 400m hurdles
Ed de Bray, <i>The Knoll</i>	Under-17 800m
Graham Lambert, <i>Lyon's</i>	Under-17 1500m
Caleb Efemuai, <i>Newlands</i>	Under-17 100m hurdles
Ify Ogbonna, <i>The Head Master's</i>	Under-17 long jump
Jack Joyce, <i>The Knoll</i>	Under-17 high jump
Nick Martin	Under-17 javelin
Ricky White, <i>The Knoll</i>	Under-17 shot put
Guy White	Under-17 discus
Tom Emery, <i>Moretons</i>	Under-15 1500m
Baba Obatoyinbo, <i>The Knoll</i>	Under-15 shot put
Archie Keith, <i>The Knoll</i>	Under-15 javelin

The School v Abingdon and St Albans, 18 May

In what was the last school athletics match for most Fifth Formers and Upper Sixth, the squad gave their all against somewhat depleted opposition in many cases. Nevertheless, the Harrow team kept their standards high, producing some excellent results throughout the afternoon.

An extraordinary number of boys produced personal bests on the day, proving again that there would be even more to

come if only the season were longer: Caleb Efemuai, *Newlands*, 100m hurdles, Ed de Bray, *The Knoll*, 800m, Jude Esposito, *Newlands*, 300m, Adam Ait El Caid, *Drurries*, 100m hurdles, Philipp Benigni, *Newlands*, javelin, Eddie Jodrell, *Elmfield*, steeplechase, Charlie Young, *Newlands*, high jump, Archie Keith, *The Knoll*, javelin, Graham Lambert, *Lyon's*, 1500m, George Ferguson, *Newlands*, 1500m, Monty Powell, *The Grove*, 1500m, Freddie Taylor, *Newlands*, 1500m, Nathaniel Franklyn, *The Head Master's*, 400m, Samuel Quist, *The Grove*, 100m, Tom Emery, *Moretons*, 1500m, Henry Arundell, *The Knoll*, 100m, Ayo Ajibola, *Bradbys*, 100m hurdles, Nick Martin, *The Knoll*, discus, Zack Morgan, *Lyon's*, javelin, Zeddie Johnson-Watts, *Lyon's*, high jump and 110m hurdles.

Results:

Juniors

1st	Harrow	227
2nd	Abingdon	200
3rd	St Albans	183

Intermediates

1st	Harrow	235
2nd	St Albans	204
3rd	Coopers'	175

Seniors

1st	Harrow	267
2nd	St Albans	191
3rd	Coopers'	169

Overall

1st	Harrow	729
2nd	St Albans	578
3rd	Coopers'	509

GOLF

British Schools, Collingtree Park, 19 May

Harrow achieved a great win at the British Schools Junior Trophy held at Collingtree Park on 19 May. Harrow's gross score of overall 141 was six shots better than Loretto and eight shots better than Merchiston. It should be remembered that Loretto and Merchiston are the top two golfing schools in Britain with academies of over 50 players each. Harrow's only golfing OT scholars, Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, and Toby Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, put together a great combined gross to destroy the field. Max Shirvell's amazing gross 68 also won him the individual prize, coming in three shots lower than the next player. A clean sweep for Harrow!



Max Shirvell got off to a hot start birdying holes 1 and 4. He then consolidated this fast start with pars at 5, 6 and 7. He made a thoughtless bogey on 8, finishing the front nine at -1. He scrambled from the trees on 11 to make a bogey and fall back to even par. Following with pars on 12 and 13. A great up and down on 14 from the side of the green making a welcome birdie on the tough par five. A solid par on 15, and on to the sixteenth at -1. He spanked a drive 300 yards down the centre and converted from 8 feet for birdie. He followed this with a solid par on 17 to keep the momentum going heading in to

the last. On 18 he hit the drive of the year, 320 yards down the centre stripe, to leave 175 yards into the long par five. He flushed a 7 iron into the island green to 2 feet, and rolled it on for eagle in front of the clubhouse. Finishing birdie, par, birdie, eagle to shoot an incredible -4 round of 68.

With this he won the individual gross competition and the team won both the team gross and the team net.

Toby Shirvell started his round with 4 pars and a birdie to the go sub par by the 5th, smashing all his drives at least 320 yards. Pars flooded his scorecard, until making a birdie on 14 to go to -2. All was looking good, and cruising onto 18 but sadly things went wayward at this late point. A few rules issues led to 3 dropped shots and a final score of +1.

*The School v Charterhouse,
Worplesdon Golf Club, 16 May, Won 2-1*

Max Shirvell and Toby Shirvell, both *The Head Master's*, won 7&5; Aidan Wong, *The Park*, and Jonty Williams, *Moretons*, won 7&5; Alfie Farr and Johnny Marsh, both *The Park*, lost 1 down

Toby Shirvell struggled on the first few holes, working hard to make some adjustments to his swing, but Max was there as a strong back up to start off the match. They started to find some rhythm with back to back birdies on 6 and 7 to gain a 3 up lead. After hitting two drives down the right, the boys struggled to find the green on 11 but demonstrated skillful short game with two pars to go 4 up. They won with a par to finish the match 7 and 5.

Aidan Wong, *The Park*, and Jonty Williams, *Moretons*, won 7 and 5

Wong had a poor start, slicing his drive way right, resulting in a double bogey. Williams, however, split the fairway and ended up with a solid par to win the first hole. Some steady golf from both meant that they were six up at the turn. At the signature 10th, Charterhouse struggled with the putting surface and a brand new Pro v1 made its way into the middle of the pond in frustration. Meanwhile, both Williams and Wong hit solid irons shots into the middle of the green, both lipping out for birdie. They were 7 up after 10 and took the lead home to win the match 7 and 5.

Alfie Farr and Johnny Marsh both *The Park*, lost 1 and 0

Farr and Marsh took on two 14-year-old golf prodigies from Charterhouse. The game teed off to a poor start after *Too Darn Hot* lost the third at York causing the Harrow boys to not only go 4 down in the game but also close to bankruptcy in their wallets. The mood was dire, as was Farr's golf as he spent the majority of the front 9 playing his own game deep in the rough. However, this did not faze the pair as they brought the game back to all square heading up the 15th, Marsh's outstanding long game helping them get there. Carrying on their winning run, the game went 1 up to Harrow but a few slight misfires onto the next-door fairways from Farr gave Charterhouse another chance as the game went back to all square moving onto the 18th. It was the crucial hole of the game and, unsurprisingly, Marsh buckled under the pressure and hit a truly woeful drive. Farr, on the other hand, played a holy grail of a drive. But, the pressure was too much and, with Marsh still looking for his drive while the others were putting, Charterhouse sunk a fast-moving 15 foot putt, leaving the flag in to stop the ball lipping out. Game lost.

TENNIS

The School v Westminster School

1st Team, Won 7 sets-2 sets

A much-weakened Westminster team meant that pairings moved during the match to produce some competitive games and good experience was gained by a number of players.

Yearlings A, Won 5 sets-4 sets

*RHMM Tournament – Magdalen College School,
Radley, Marlborough College
1st Team, finished 2nd with 168 games*

Magdalen College School 182, Harrow 168, Radley 118, Marlborough College 110

Seniors 2nd, Won with 182 games

Junior Colts A, Won with 166 games

Junior Colts B, 2nd with 42 games

Winners Radley won with 45 games

Yearlings A, won with 197 games

The (newly named) RHMM four-school tournament features three rounds, each worth 96 points. Each round involves four doubles matches and eight singles matches against one school. The Yearlings A got off to a flying start with an emphatic 71 to 25 point win against Radley in the first round. All played well but particular mention goes to Mete Kuner, *West Acre*, and Aiden Wong, *The Park*, who each nailed an 8-0 in their singles matches (something that was to become crucial later on). A fairly straightforward second round against Marlborough saw the Yearlings A dominate again, maintaining excellent focus to secure a 77 points to 19 win. Notable 8-0 singles wins in this round from Cameron Timlin, *Bradbys*, Wong and Max Ding, *The Park*, contributed significantly to the score. It became apparent over tea and some scrutinising of scores so far that we were yet to play what would undoubtedly be our stiffest opposition in the form of Magdalen College School, who had had similar victories over Radley and Marlborough in the previous rounds. We went in to the final round v MCS with only a buffer of four games ahead of them. A tremendous start in the doubles matches by all pairs saw our lead extended to 14 games. A particularly fine doubles performance in this final round came from Timlin and Alonso Fontana, *The Grove*, to hold a 6-2 win. Going in to the final crucial singles matches, the boys were confident but knew they had to hold MCS to a draw at the very least. Three losses in the singles matches slashed our lead to zero; it was neck and neck! Three singles came off at 4-4, the boys doing well to hold level scores against some very good MCS players – still neck and neck! The remaining two singles matches – Wong and Kunar. Never a doubt with these two, they had shown their superb singles play earlier in the afternoon. Wong with a 6-2 win and Kunar with a 5-3 win clinched it to put us six games ahead of MCS and win the trophy. Congratulations to all eight players – a true team effort. Yearlings A team: Timlin, Fontana, Jonty Williams, *Moretons*, Wong, Ding, Gabriel Black, *West Acre*, Bebo Morales, *Rendalls*, Kunar.

Yearlings B, finished 2nd with 176 points Winners Magdalen College School scored 199 games.

TRACK AND FIELD

Mile End, Cup Round One, 14 May

On Tuesday, 14 Shells and Removes travelled to Mile End for the first round of the Track and Field Cup. This is a national competition and a good score in round one ensures progression to the semi-final with the ultimate aim of being invited to the national final. Over 200 schools take part over various regions in England and so top results are paramount. The juniors produced some excellent track results on the day, progressing easily to the semi-finals.

CRICKET

Junior Colts A v Wheatley Park School - National Cup - Round 5
 Harrow Won by 96 runs, George Cutler, *The Knoll*, 68, Veer Patel, *The Knoll*, 67, Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, 36*, Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*, 3 for 28.

1st XI v MCC Harrow Lost by 39 runs, 16 May

	B	R
M Habib ct. T Ward	1	13
S Assani b. J Chohan	60	98
W Spencer c M Akhtar	19	48
S Chauda b. J Chohan	32	54
F Ruffell ct. M Ali	1	6
D Pratt b. M Ali	2	19
J Brown b. M Akhtar	32	36
H Thomas b J Chohan	25	45
N Defty ct. J Chohan	9	11
M Smith not out	8	15
A Spencer c M Akhtar	11	12
Extras		18
Total		218 all out

	O	M	R	W
T Ward	7	4	7	1
R Guthe	7	1	22	0
M Akhtar	12	2	45	3
J Chohan	22	4	94	4
M Ali	11	2	33	2

	B	R
L Harrington-Myers c F Ruffell	4	18
H Dicketts c F Ruffell	35	34
P Patel c S Chauda	35	62
T Sheopuri st. S Chauda	4	14
R Wijeratne run out	58	66
C Witter b. S Chauda	1	10
J Langston st. M Smith	11	20
J Chohan ct. S Chauda	5	31
M Ali b M Smith	0	1
T Ward not out	20	32
M Akhtar b. F Ruffell	3	5
Extras		2
Total		178 all out

	O	M	R	W
F Ruffell	13	1	46	3
M Habib	5	0	39	0
S Chauda	19	2	59	4
H Thomas	7	1	27	0
M Smith	5	1	7	2

A tough first defeat for the XI. The MCC side was once again well stocked with Old Harrovians keen to show the new guard that their generation was the golden generation. Harrow started well with Tom Ward and debutant Robin Guthe, *Elmfield*, bowling tight lines. Ward's reward for continually beating the bat was an edge from Habib and Sheopuri, *Lyon's*, took a good catch behind the sticks. No further breakthroughs occurred in their opening spell but the pressure was kept on. Jafer Chohan, *Lyon's*, then came on in the fifteenth over and proceeded to bowl 22 overs in a row from the same end. One assumes that on his departure from the School next year they will name that end in his honour. Mustafa Akhtar, *The Head Master's*, picked up his first wicket of the season just before lunch but the MCC were well poised at 120-2. A tight spell after lunch from the spin twins of Musa Ali, *Moretons*, and Chohan produced four wickets for just ten runs with two falling to both of the spinners.

The difference between the MCC side and regular schoolboy teams is the depth of quality. From 136-6 the MCC recovered well and built solidly and cashing in on some bowling which became too straight. Harrow conceded far too many runs through the leg side; we need to demonstrate a willingness to stick to plan A and build pressure by bowling in good areas rather than seeking the magic ball. Both Akhtar and Chohan picked up a further two wickets with the MCC eventually bowled out for 218. Chohan finished with 22-4-94-4 and Akhtar claiming his first three wickets of the season. On a difficult wicket Harrow would have to bat well to win.

Harrow started positively with Hamish Dicketts, *Elmfield*, playing several excellent straight drives and produced an engaging run a ball 35. His opening partner Luke Harrington-Myers, *Bradbys*, played an atypical loose cover drive and was caught behind leaving Harrow needing to rebuild. Sheopuri looked composed but missed a good delivery trying to manipulate the strike and was stumped. Panav Patel, *Elmfield*, and Rishi Wijeratne, *The Head Master's*, batted well but Patel could not build on another positive start and Charlie Witter, *Elmfield*, was dismissed before he could get going. The MCC had realised that it was tough to start an innings with pace off the ball and Chauda replicated the earlier efforts of Chohan bowling 19 overs in a row from the same end. The seamers rotated well from the top end and Harrow were never able to exert pressure. Wijeratne batted well once again but when he was run out for 58 Harrow had to convert to trying to save the game from chasing the win. The job was made harder as captain Ali was bowled first ball and James Langston, *Drurries*, was superbly stumped putting an end to a promising innings. The final two wickets needed to survive 11 overs and Chohan and Tom Ward, *West Acre*, did an exceptional job for the first eight before Chohan was caught behind. Ward and Akhtar did well and took it to the final over. Akhtar was on strike and he guided a ball through backward point. Here Harrow showed some cricket inexperience with both players turning and pushing for the second run. No blame is attached to any individual; it should not have come down to the last pair but important conversations did not take place early enough. Akhtar was then bowled off the penultimate ball of the game with OH and current Harrow cricket coach Ruffell bowling good heat to knock out the off stump. A good effort by Harrow but sadly falling just short. A big thanks to the MCC for another great game an in particular to the seven OHs including captain Alex Spencer. It is good to see the old boy cricketing community in such good health. We hope that several of our current community will push for such high level of cricket.

Colts A v Berkhamsted School Boys, Lost by 19 runs,
 Connell, *Rendalls*, 66, Hope, *Rendalls*, 55

Junior Colts A v St Paul's School National T20 Middlesex Area Cup, Won by 84 runs,

Max Ferreira, *The Grove*, 37,
 John Richardson 44,
 Jasper Blackwood, *Elmfield*, 3 for 7.

Yearlings A v Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet Middlesex County Cup, Won by 119 runs,

Veer Patel, *The Knoll*, 103*,
 Kit Keey, *Drurries*, 65,
 George Ansell 3 for 20

Yearlings B v John Lyon School Boys Won by 9 wickets

Jack Artis, *The Head Master's*, 4 for 11,
 Sam Harrison, *Moretons*, 30*

Yearlings F v Eton College Lost by 3 runs

David Liu, *Bradbys*, 30,
 Tom Haworth, *The Knoll*, 31

The School v Charterhouse, 18 May
Harrow Won by 5 wickets

	B	R
T Rawling c C Boland	2	25
O Sheen ct. C Boland	4	14
R Richardson b C Boland	7	13
A Wilman b M Akhtar	14	20
A Patel c P Patel	27	46
W Briggs RUN OUT	14	50
S Thomas b J Chohan	9	26
A Topley ct. M Ali	2	15
F Clinton ct. C Boland	3	8
J Miles b. C Boland	4	13
J Burns not out	5	12
Extras		19
Total		110 all out

	O	M	R	W
C Boland	11	3	35	5
R Guthe	3	1	9	0
M Akhtar	7	0	16	1
J Chohan	8	1	25	1
M Ali	9	2	13	1
P Patel	3	0	8	1

	B	R
L Harrington-Myers lbw A Wilman	19	32
H Dicketts c J Miles	5	6
P Patel ct. J Miles	6	9
T Sheopuri not out	22	61
R Wijeratne c F Clinton	24	34
C Witter ct. R Richardson	14	23
C Boland not out	5	4
J Chohan dnb		
M Ali dnb		
R Guthe dnb		
M Akhtar dnb		
Extras		6
Total		111 for 5

	O	M	R	W
O Sheen	7	0	33	0
J Miles	7	1	34	2
A Wilman	6	1	18	1
J Burns	4	0	15	0
F Clinton	3.2	0	9	2

A pleasing performance to return to winning ways for Harrow. Charterhouse won the toss and chose to bowl on a lovely looking square which promised to provide some bounce and energy. Robin Guthe, *Elmfield*, bowled slightly inconsistently but beat the bat on several occasions. Christian Boland, *Newlands*, was seduced by the bounce in the early overs and bowled a touch too short but as soon as he corrected his length he had Sheen caught well by Hamish Dicketts, *Elmfield*, at second slip. Two more wickets fell in his opening spell which was quick and dangerous. Tej Sheopuri, *Lyon's*, caught one behind the stumps and Richardson was clean bowled. Charterhouse then began to rebuild from 21-3 but Mustafa Akhtar's, *The Head Master's*, tight line was rewarded as Wilman was bowled between bat and pad. Panav Patel, *Elmfield*, dismissed his namesake with his first

delivery, an outstanding catch from Dicketts on the boundary. That ended a promising thirty run partnership and left Harrow in control with Charterhouse on 73/5. Immediately after lunch, Harrow exerted some serious control picking up three quick wickets through Jafer Chohan, *Lyon's*, Musa Ali, *Moretons*, and a good run out from Sheopuri. Boland was brought back for his third spell to end the innings and he did so to great effect. Firstly Clinton was caught at gully from an excellent bouncer and with the final ball of his spell Miles was bowled by a superb yorker. The Charterhouse total of 110 was better than it seemed on a tough wicket but still represented a great effort from Harrow. Boland finished with a well deserved Michelle Pfeiffer. Harrow batted well in response without ever looking in complete control. Wickets fell at regular intervals without ever seeming like they would struggle to win the game. Both Dicketts and Patel fell cheaply and when Luke Harrington-Myers, *Bradbys*, was lbw for just 19 Harrow looked a little vulnerable. Gladly, Sheopuri played an extremely mature and well-managed innings. It may not have been glamorous but it was effortlessly composed and ensured that Harrow always looked comfortable even after Wijeratne and Witter both fell playing positive strokes. Witter also earned good karma from the cricket gods as he walked for a nick behind even though the umpire would not have given him. Boland sealed an excellent personal game by pulling the ball to the boundary and victory was secured by five wickets. Much credit to Boland for his five wickets, Dicketts for his two excellent catches and Sheopuri for his composed innings.

2nd XI, Lost by 9 wickets

James Langston, *Drurries*, 90, George Burton, *Drurries*, 55, J Owston, *Moretons*, 58.

Colts A, Won by 203 runs

Ben Hope, *Rendalls*, 90, Jude Brankin-Frisby, *Newlands*, 74, Fred Prickett 4 for 14, John Koutalides, *West Acre*, 3 for 10.

Colts B, Won by 121 runs

Henry Farquhar, *Lyon's*, 36, Paddy Breeze, *Elmfield*, 40, Leo Wright, *Elmfield*, 4 for 15.

Junior Colts A, Won by 9 wickets

Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*, 4-17 and 39*, John Richardson, *Elmfield*, 3 for 17

Junior Colts B, Won by 118 runs

Luke Ritchie, *Newlands*, 88, Jack Hedley, *The Head Master's*, 38, George Leigh, *Elmfield*, 36*

Yearlings A, Won by 124 runs

Karan Zaveri, *Elmfield*, 61, Brij Sheopuri, *Lyon's*, 59 & 3 for 12, Connor O'Flaherty, *The Head Master's*, 55*

Yearlings B, Won by 126 runs

Arnaud Du Roy De Blicqy, *Elmfield*, 50, Sam Harrison, *Moretons*, 41, Philip Truscott, *Elmfield*, 4 for 6.

Yearlings C, Won by 78 runs

Paddy Elliott, *Drurries*, 56*, Elliott Taylor, *West Acre*, 34*, Finlay Douglas, *Newlands*, 4 for 11

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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