

# THE HARROVIAN

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## PALMERSTON SOCIETY

*His Excellency Mr Johnson, US Ambassador to the UK,  
OH Room, 3 October*

Last Thursday, the Palmerston Society were delighted to welcome His Excellency Mr Woody Johnson, the United States of America Ambassador to the United Kingdom. We were lucky enough to be afforded the opportunity to listen to and question this distinguished diplomat. He started by talking about the UK's special relationship with the US and how ties between the two countries have never been closer. He also talked about the importance of President Trump's State visit to the UK. He spoke at length about how the UK has a great opportunity to forge a bold new future with Brexit and how important it was that there should be a trade deal between the two countries once we have left. After this brief introduction, I proceeded to have a "fireside chat" with the ambassador. This involved asking the ambassador a series of questions on global politics.



I started by asking him what was it that made him want to become an ambassador – as an owner of a sports team he did not have the same career path as other diplomats. He said that he didn't even know that he was going to be an ambassador until Donald Trump phoned his wife and, by then, he president had already confirmed it to several people in the administration, leaving him with little choice! I then questioned him on his relationship with the president and whether or not he believed that the president would win the next election? His answer was an emphatic yes! He went on to explain how close he is to President Trump and how he sees him as a very close friend. He went on to explain that, in his opinion, President Trump is doing so well in the White House because he isn't trying to make friends but is instead putting America first. In doing this, he isn't worrying about re-election but is instead focusing on improving his country. I then asked him about his opinion on the "right to bear arms" and whether he believes that the constitution needs changing? He was firmly of the belief that the constitution could, in fact, not be changed as it would never be possible to achieve the majority needed to do this. He declared that it was up to us to solve our knife problems, and they would solve their gun problems. I then asked him his opinion on the China-US trade war and whether or not it had had detrimental effects on relations between the two countries. He was of the belief that the trade war had not affected relations

over the long term but was just a result of different aims for the countries. He stated that Donald Trump was a great president because of things like not giving in to the Chinese bullying tactics. Next, I asked the ambassador his opinions on North Korea's nuclear weapons. He tried to flip the question and ask me my opinion but, having no expertise on the US foreign policy, I was unable to answer. He then proceeded to talk about how Donald Trump had taken great steps never made before by an American President. While meeting the leader of North Korea is an admirable first step, no agreement has in fact yet been made, so perhaps this could be seen as an over-reaction. Finally, I asked him his opinion on the crisis in the Gulf. He believed that the escalating tensions there were a huge worry, especially the recent drone strikes that took out huge amounts of the regions oil reserves. He believed the next step was to stabilise the region. WMAL ended the talk by presenting the ambassador with a copy of Churchill's greatest quotes, a classic gift for anyone visiting the School! Overall, the talk was very useful in giving us an understanding of the US foreign policy and we are grateful to AGC for arranging it.

## DA VINCI SOCIETY

*Prof Sir David Payne, University of Southampton  
"From Glass to Google", Physics Lab 6, 24 September*

The Da Vinci Society was very lucky to have Professor Sir David Payne from the University of Southampton to speak on the technology of optical fibres to a group of boys, visitors from the North London Collegiate School and some fascinated beaks. Professor Sir David Payne is director of the optoelectronics research centre and has been working on optical fibres for more than 50 years. He is the creator of the technology that underpins the internet and phone calls; without engineers and researchers like Professor Payne and his team, our lives would be very different.



He started his talk by asking a very fundamental question. While pulling out his smartphone, he asked the audience "Does anyone know how these (referring to phones) work?". Unsurprisingly, no one could answer his simple question. He began by introducing communication in a historical sense, from the Ancient Greek plays of Aeschylus to the Atlantic telegraph, and reinforced the idea of the importance in his work and changed our perception on the technology behind optical fibres.

One of the main problems in the early stages of optical fibres was the difficulty that the signal dimmed over distance, which led to the professor and his team to produce amplifiers that allowed the signal to be carried over thousands of miles, trans-Pacific, trans-Atlantic etc. The optical amplifier his team produced allowed for different colours to be used, as well as including wavelength division multiplexing, which allowed systems to handle more signals to speeds of 1.6Tbit/second. He explained how revolutionary his design was because it laid the groundwork of the internet and high-speed telecommunications. The development of laser technology has also stretched from optical fibres, with the Professor Payne describing several practical uses in the form of high-power fibre lasers for processes such as micromachining and cutting coronary stents.

Professor Payne ended his lecture on a high, with a few inspirational messages urging young people like those in the audience to dive deep into science with passion and help accelerate the progress of scientific research so that, one day, they might perhaps create spacecrafts that could accelerate with the aid of lasers to half the speed of light!

## JUNIOR CLASSICAL SOCIETY

*Joseph Wragg, The Grove, "How the Masters did it: Warfare in the Ancient World", Deno Leventis Library, 2 October*

The Junior Classical Society hosted its inaugural talk of the term with Joseph Wragg's, *The Grove*, talk on Ancient Warfare. Wragg identified a few elements of warfare that when they were put together correctly, made victory possible. These elements were as follows: terrain, manoeuvring, morale and the choice of troops.

Terrain, Wragg explained, was vital in how an army was able to deploy their troops. For example, it would not have been desirable for an army with large numbers of cavalry to be placed at the bottom of a hill or slope but it would be effective if they were placed at the top. Forests and lakes were often used as sites of ambush by the Carthaginians, for instance at Lake Trasimene against the Romans, and they were also used by the Germanic tribes at Teutoburg Forest, also against the Romans. Perhaps, though, one of the most decisive uses of terrain is when a "choke point" can be found on the battlefield. At the choke point, one army is able to exploit the weakness of constriction by simply raining down arrows or, in the case of the Spartans at Thermopylae, using their strength in a more concentrated manner thus using it more effectively. It is often mistakenly believed that, in the ancient world, armies would simply meet and fight. What usually happened, however, was that armies would mutually agree on an area that was best for both the armies. For example, at the Battle of Cannae, both generals believed that the flat plains would be desirable for both the Carthaginians and the Romans. The fact that the Romans were slaughtered at Cannae was the result of Wragg's second element: manoeuvring.

The correct movement of an army was deadly and effective in ancient warfare. For cavalry in particular, being able to move swiftly around an army and strike a decisive blow was essential. Furthermore, being able to move out of the range of an enemy's skirmishers or missile infantry was important too. One only has to look at a handful of ancient battles to see the importance of good manoeuvring. Take Cannae, Gaugamela, Pharsalus and Hydaspes as examples. At Cannae, Hannibal was able to use the compact nature of the Roman legions against them and crush them in a bloodbath envelopment. Although successful manoeuvring was deadly against an opponent, it could be just as deadly for the army trying to move. It was essential that the army gathered together in certain places so that the weaker areas of the army were not exposed. In an attempt to

move his army at Gaugamela, Darius inadvertently weakened his army as the heavy cavalry became separated from the bulk of the army, enabling the Macedonians to engage the Persians with less resistance. The lack of heavy cavalry was not the only factor in the defeat of the Persians at Gaugamela; the lack of morale also played its part.

Towards the end of the battle, as Alexander closed in, Darius fled, suspecting the worst, leaving his men to suspect the worse too. Without their deified king and their commander, the Persians' morale collapsed and their faith was shattered. Their fighting was poor, and they were routed more quickly. Since warfare began, morale has been an essential part in sustaining an army and keeping it fighting well. Morale determined the length of time an army would and could fight, as well as their thirst for victory. Several of the ancient world's greatest leaders recognised its utility and aimed to sustain it for as long as they could. Hannibal, Caesar and Alexander the Great all led from the front, showing their dedication and bravery and encouraging their men to do the same. Alexander was known for talking to troops after the battle and taking care of them. Their high morale encouraged them to fight harder and more fiercely. Leaders who tended to stay at the back as onlookers, such as Darius III, were more likely to lose the support of the army. Soldiers enjoyed fighting with their commander and seeing him charge with them, seen clearly in Alexander's leadership style. However, an army does not thrive on morale alone. They also relied on having strong and suitable infantry for the enemy and terrain, which brings me onto Wragg's fourth element: the choice of troops.

In the ancient Mediterranean world, where fighting was arguably dominated by land battles, having the right infantrymen in one's army was crucial to the level of success at a battle (of course always in tandem with the other factors). The melee infantry in the army could be divided into three categories: shock infantry, heavy line infantry and light line infantry. Shock infantry tended to be armed with heavy weapons such as axes or swords that were primarily used simply to slash through an enemy line. As the name suggests, heavy line infantry were infantry that were armed and protected by heavier breastplates and weapons like pikes and spears. Legionaries, the Immortals or the phalanx were the most famous examples of heavy infantry. Light infantry, however, is a broad term for any soldier who was lightly armed with anything from a sword and shield to an axe. It was important for an ancient Mediterranean general to know how to use each type and to use them appropriately and with great effect. Often, light infantry were from poorer backgrounds, as seen in Ancient Rome, where the plebeians would dominate this group. It was important for the general to take into account the other elements mentioned here, but is equally important to know how much of each type of soldier to use, which brings me to the final element.

Having a mixture of each type of infantry and cavalry that is appropriate and effective for a specific scenario is essential for victory. For example, horses were terrified of camels and so using large numbers of cavalrymen against an army of camels was foolish. In the case of Alexander the Great, he used large numbers of heavy cavalry at Gaugamela against the vast numbers of infantry used by the Persians. Alexander was able to cut through Persian lines this way with little difficulty. Bringing too few or too many of a certain unit to a battle could be a fatal flaw and lead to defeat, such as when the Spartans used heavy cavalry at the battle of Olynthus and were cut down by a hail of arrow fire.

To conclude, Wragg explained how he would conduct himself as an ancient commander. Assuming the terrain was a vast flat plain, Wragg would use heavy infantry to pierce the enemy centre, while shock infantry would flank the enemy. To finish the enemy, heavy cavalry would crush them from the rear. The plan was hinged on the success of the heavy infantry with the enemy centre. A fatal flaw or a sound strategy?

## SCIENCE SOCIETY

Freddie Murley, *The Park*, "Reviving and restoring a damaged planet", 27 September

The Science Society welcomed its first student lecturer of the term; Freddie Murley, whose talk was titled 'Reviving, Rewilding and Restoring a Damaged Planet'. Climate change and global warming are currently important topics in the world, especially in the last month or two. Leaders from across the globe have talked about it at UN conferences and various summits, and awareness and discussion of it is at levels unheard of over the past decade. What has changed? More teenagers and children around the world have raised their voices, going on climate change campaigns and protests, trying to raise awareness about it. Among the different acts of protest, most controversial is protesting during school weekday hours. *The Harrovian* released a poll showing that 77% of Harrovians supported protesting on a weekday, which is testament to the support for climate change action that has swept through schools around the UK.

The facts that were given during the talk were shocking: between 1970 and 2014, wildlife population sizes decreased 60%, and CO<sub>2</sub> levels are at their highest point in 650,000 years. Due to the rising heat levels, ice sheets are losing a mass of 40 gigatons every year. Furthermore, over 100,000 marine creatures die because of plastic waste and, every year, around 2,000 species around the world become extinct. These facts are only a few of the numerous catastrophic consequences of the world-changing phenomenon known as climate change.

How did such things happen? The increase in human population every year is an important reason. This increase has created more demand for food, water, housing and all the other physical needs of humans. Food is overwhelmingly harvested by machines rather than people, and these machines are often powered by fossil fuels. The need for large factories creates more excuses for the corporate bosses to release more and more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere in the pursuit of fulfilling the demand for their products. But fossil fuels will run out eventually, and this event comes closer and closer as we dig more and more of it out of the ground. Greenhouse gases are just a by-product, but never has a by-product caused such devastating amounts of damage. These gases create a problem called the greenhouse effect, where the gases that are stuck in our atmosphere cause more and more of the sun's heat to be trapped here on earth.

So why does it matter? Murley went on to explain that loss of biodiversity will have huge impacts on civilisation as it contributes to the creation of antibiotics and other medicines. Other reasons are that 4.2 million people die annually because of the pollution in our air; there will be ice- and snow-free Arctic winters and the melting ice sheets will cause sea levels to rise. Murley then proceeded to describe what will happen when the temperature increases by 1.5C or 2C, as well as what will happen in the actual event of the temperature increasing by 3C or 4C. If it increases by 1.5C or 2C, there will be inevitable damage to animals and the ecosystem. Furthermore, the problems the world faces due to climate change will get worse. If it increases by 3C or 4C, the heat levels will increase fivefold and the subsequent increase in heatwaves will lead to deaths. Areas that are already hot will become uninhabitable, perhaps causing mass migration. Marine ecosystems could collapse and many more animals and plants would become extinct.

What can we do? Murley proposed the idea of rewilding: a conservation method that aims to restore large areas of land to their previous wildness, without any human involvement apart from starting the process. The result should be the creation of a self-sustaining ecosystem. The method for doing this is very straightforward. It involves leaving large areas of a land and introducing apex predators in order to prevent overgrazing from herbivores. Ideas such as rewilding could be key in ensuring

the prevention of any major rises in temperature as trees can absorb the excess CO<sub>2</sub>. Other benefits that could come with rewilding are the improvement of the biodiversity of the area, reduced soil erosion, sequestering of carbon, increase in wildlife population and the prevention of flooding.

Reviving is another method of counteracting climate change. Murley put forward some ideas about how we could achieve this. These included selective breeding, which involves selectively breeding surviving relatives of extinct species to produce similar traits. Other methods could be cloning, which could bring back animals from extinction with the possibility of reintroducing into the environment to create greater biodiversity.

Murley ended with the fact that 'human activity had put Earth in a terrible state, and urgent action must be taken to prevent extinction'. There may be sometimes be exaggeration about climate change, but the mass extinction they talk of may occur if we, as humans, do not stand up to climate change.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE SOCIETY

Aakash Agarwall, *Lyon's*, on *Virtual Reality*,  
26 September

On Thursday 26 September, the Computer Science Society had the pleasure of welcoming Aakash Agarwall, *Lyon's*, for an informative and entertaining lecture on Virtual Reality (VR). Agarwall discussed the three main elements of VR: education, entertainment and enterprise, as well as what the future holds for VR.

VR features heavily in books, films, and television, but what is it really? The Oxford English dictionary states that VR is 'the use of computer technology to create a simulated environment'. This is not to be confused with Augmented Reality (AR) which adds digital elements to a live view, an example of which are Snapchat lenses. In contrast, VR implies a complete immersion that shuts out the physical world. VR is usually made up of three components: the headset which projects the virtual world onto you; the sensor which tracks where you are, generating new space as you move and tracking and applying your motions to the game; and the handset. Not every piece of VR technology has a headset but interactive VR does as it allows you to pick things up and actively affect and change the world around you.

VR is quickly becoming an useful tool in education. The best example is that it allows us to see and experience things outside the classroom from within. For example, if you were learning about the Niagara Falls in Geography, you would be able to put on a set of headphones and simulate the experience of being there. If you wanted to do a dissection in science, rather than bringing in dead frogs and mice, a student might be able to do it through VR. You can experience historical events and simulate dangerous science experiments, and, if something were to go wrong, there would be no danger, as none of it would be real.

Entertainment and particularly gaming are probably the largest sectors in the VR industry. VR allows people to experience games in a very real sense, as you are immersed in the action. The VR entertainment industry has also become more domestic, with applications such as big-screen VR, which takes you from the cinema to the comfort of your own living room. People would be able to save money on a film ticket and would be able to view the film from home. Applications like this are now also used as a form of socialising, as you would be able to meet up with your friends over VR, and to have face-to-face conversations with them.

The final use of VR is in enterprise. The VIVE Focus (a type of headset) allows people to sit together digitally in the same room on a conference call. As we become a more global community, companies can reduce the carbon footprint created by face-to-face meetings through the use of VR. VR can also be used for team-building days, as companies could use VR as opposed to spending money in a day paintballing, for instance.

The VR market is a currently a select one, as the equipment is relatively expensive. For the purpose of just viewing places and of getting a taste of the VR experience, the Google VR and other stand-alone headsets are the most accessible, but lack the quality of the higher-end technology. Currently, the most popular VR headsets and equipment are the PSVR, due to its compatibility with PS controllers and games, and the company's flagship products: the VIVE Pro (which the Computer Science Society had the pleasure of trying at the end of the lecture), and the Oculus Rift S. So, what's next for VR? Over the next ten years, it is expected that eyeball trackers will be put into headsets, meaning that you wouldn't have to turn your head to look around, but simply look as you would in real life. A 4K resolution is also being developed, meaning that there would be a two-time boost in visual quality, leading the way to VR films. However, as VR becomes more accessible to the wider community, we may see even more rapid advances.

In conclusion, we would like to thank the Computer Science Society and Aakash for such an engaging talk, and encourage everybody to try and make the most of the School's VR headsets.

## HOUSE SCENES

*Adjudicator, Mr Sam Jones, Head of Drama at  
John Lyon School*

Overall Best Scene, and winner of the House Scenes Trophy:  
The Park for *Neville's Island*

Runner-up Best Scene: The Grove for *City of Angels*

Best Individual Acting Performance: jointly awarded to Adam  
Ait El Caid and Zac Yardley, *Druries*, for *Arcadia*



From dramatic excerpts of Stoppard and Miller to *Bugsy Malone* and its comic thugs, the first-ever House Scenes competition saw a wide variety of talent in ten different pieces of theatre. Despite taking place two weeks ago, the comedy, tragedy and the chilling death of John Bonas' *Caesar* in the part he seemed born to play have stayed with those who were fortunate enough to attend.

Bradby's eased the audience in with a classic and comic murder mystery creditable for its slapstick humour and Federico Greaves' uncanny BTM accent. They were followed by *Druries* performing from *Arcadia*, in which Adam Ait El Caid's charismatic professor amusingly contrasted Zac Yardley's innocent character, being almost as entertaining as Harry Lempriere-Johnston's example of how one from Jersey pronounces 'rice pudding'. They deservedly received the prize for the best-acted piece. Then came a musical number from *The Grove* with a well-choreographed and tuneful George Gallagher and Ben Davies, with CST accompanying on the piano revealing why he'd been sat among and towering above the other performers. They were placed runners-up for their vibrant scene.

The Headmaster's followed with a unique take on Miller's classic American play *Death of a Salesman*, brought to life by

the momentous duo of Phoenix Ashworth and Columbus Mason. The Knoll continued with an abstract and more moving scene; a credit to the direction of Gabe Rodgers.

The next extract explored some more serious themes of inequality and poverty and Lyon's here displayed some very diverse acting and should be acknowledged also for their perseverance through some rather long 'dramatic pauses'. Next was *Newlands* with an equally dramatic piece. The Park then entered bringing some welcome comic relief in a well-rehearsed, energetic and frankly hilarious extract from *Neville's Island*. Congratulations to the cast of Jake Henson, Julien Robson, Finn Deacon and George Fenwick, who all contributed equally to secure the win for the house in this year's competition. They were commended for their clearly defined characters and relationships that enhanced the comedy of the scene.

Though this was a tough act to follow, Rendall's *Julius Caesar* held up. Though an ambitious scene, the drama of the climactic death scene was captured, and John Bonas was able to step into the shoes of his hero, though not quite at his hero's best moment. Moretons brought the occasion to a close with a typically comic and ridiculous excerpt from *Bugsy Malone* and our thoughts are with the poor actor thrown of stage who, from the sound he made, landed just shy of the pre-set beanbag. This was a suitably dramatic end to a successful evening.

Thank you to APC and all the Drama team involved in the organising of this event, to Mr Sam Jones, Head of Drama at John Lyon, for adjudicating, and to all those involved in the acting and directing of such a diverse and cultural event that we hope to continue in future years.

## CROSS-CURRICULAR LECTURE

*Mr JJA Murray, "Does it offend you, yeah?" Identity  
Politics and Free Speech", OSRG, 30 September*

On a Monday filled with excitement, JJAM addressed a bursting OSRG in the fourth instalment of the Cross-Curricular Lecture Series, which has been entitled *Difference and Diversity*. Mr Murray picked a particularly controversial title, "*Does it offend you, yeah?*".

The speaker first ventured to the idea of pronouns. We now live in a world in which pronouns must be used with consideration so that nobody who has a different gender identity to us can feel excluded. He looked (while being careful to avoid using pronouns) at the example of singer Sam Smith, who first came out as gay in May of 2014 before changing his pronouns to "they" and "them" in September 2019. This caused a major wave of outrage in the LGBT community because many people thought that he was renouncing his homosexual identity. Others argued that this simply another example of a singer who is going out of fashion seeking more attention. This also called in the wider question of whether it is right to change the nuances of our entire language just to accommodate a small group of people.

Mr Murray began by digging down into the liberty v security debate by speaking about the rise of university censorship. It is clear that there has been a rise in influential university student bodies revoking the speaking invitations of controversial lecturers from both extremes of the political spectrum. An example of this is when Julie Bindell (the co-founder of Justice for Women) was disinvited from a speaking slot at Manchester University because her address was to be on the topic of the relationship between feminism and free speech. At its core, this idea of "no platforming" conflicts with the basic idea of free speech.

He then went on to talk about the concept of a safe space. A safe space is a place where people who feel offended can congregate without certain controversial and potentially offensive

topics being discussed. Again, this has stifled free speech as many students have felt unable to express their opinions. Originally, these areas were created to stop physical harm to speakers but they have evolved so that many forms of mental and psychological harm have been included.

Today, we largely strive for political correctness and, although most people are considerably more central on the political spectrum, political opinions dominate the narrative. Mr Murray spoke of every Harrovian's favourite podcaster, Ben Shapiro, who criticised a BBC presenter for asking difficult questions. For Shapiro, free speech is simply an illusion that poses an existential threat to his online echo chamber and, as a result, needs to be eradicated. There has been a rise of the "us and them" mentality in contemporary geo-politics that leads to each side trying to avoid giving opponents the opportunity to speak.

But this is nothing new. As anybody who stays awake during SMK's Latin class should know, Coriolanus was an extremely talented Roman politician. However, he lost any chance he ever had at the consulship by failing to get the people of Rome (rather than just the city's elite) to identify with him.

Finally, the speaker made a stinging attack on those whose entire identity was based on one quality. Many people now entirely define themselves by their religion, race, sexuality, nationality or political affiliation without recognising that they should be well-rounded individuals with a range of things that make them who they are.

A lively debate ensued, with questions coming in on labels, language and safe spaces. To his credit, the speaker managed to escape this pummelling of questions without being so bold as to voice an opinion, leaving us all with plenty of food for thought for the rest of the week. Thanks must go to JJAM for a highly informative lecture and ADT for organising what is shaping up to be a wonderful series (dare I say perhaps the best yet?).

## THEATRE PRODUCTION CREW

*Ryan Theatre, 2 October*

On Wednesday, the inaugural meeting of the theatre production crew was held in the Ryan Theatre. This event was attended by a smattering of boys from throughout the School: there were people in attendance from ten of the 12 houses.

The theatre production crew is the backstage team behind every production at Harrow. This includes a range of disciplines including lighting, sound, stage management, scenic design, props, costumes and music. The Ryan Theatre has a fantastic number of productions every year – often with only two weeks of turnover time in which to build the set for a new production.

The meeting was held primarily to recruit volunteers for the house plays that will be put on in the Autumn and Spring terms this year. There was a range of exhibits showing off historic productions and how they were affected by the boys that had an influence on them, such as the 2018 Junior Rattigan Society production of *Treasure Island* and last year's production of *Twelfth Night* at the Globe in London.

We then had a tour of the building, showing off to some excitable Shells our flying capabilities and trapdoors. Many people don't know that the Ryan Theatre takes down and redesigns the physical location of each light for every production the School does (yes, including Shell drama).

Finally, the group enjoyed some pizza while listening to a talk by the Theatre Manager on how they can involve themselves with this most noble aspect of the Super-Curriculum. If anybody is interested in joining the theatre technical team, they should just email Dylan Winward, *Lyon's*, or Edos Herwegh Vonk, *Newlands*, or come down to the theatre during working hours and speak to APC.

## ERIC MURANGWA MBE

As part of their Induction Day, the Lower Sixth were privileged to listen to the Rwandan Eric Murangwa MBE, the CEO of the Ishami Foundation, which uses the power of sport and football to build bridges and develop reconciliation. Eric was a football player and, in his opening, he explained that, as well as recounting his life story, he would detail what he has learnt from the values of sport and how those values have helped him lead his life off the pitch.

Twenty-five years ago, Rwanda experienced the most horrific tragedy that humankind can experience: genocide. It took more than one million lives, including over 85 members of his family. His uncle was a nurse and was one of the 32,000 people killed at his hospital. Belgian soldiers evacuated non-Rwandans from the hospital and left Rwandans to be killed.

Genocide doesn't happen overnight, but it comes from hate, prejudice and discrimination combined with politics, religion and anything that can influence everyday life. These factors build up to such an event. The genocide was carried out by the Hutus against the Tutsis. To understand why, it is necessary to look back into the country's history. Rwanda has been in existence for a thousand years and is comprised of three ethnic groups: the Hutu, the Tutsi and the Twa. These were always known as social classes: the Hutus worked the land, the Tutsis owned the cattle and the Twa worked mainly with crafts. The Tutsis were the upper class, as cattle were a symbol of wealth. It was possible to move between classes by losing or gaining cows. The Twa were removed from everyday Rwandan life as they were craftpeople and hunters. They weren't involved with the other two groups, and there were few of them.

Rwanda was colonised first by the Germans, and was then taken over by the Belgians when Germany lost the First World War. They found a very organised system; people knew what they were doing. It was in fact these Europeans who thought that Hutus and Tutsis were completely different – that Hutus came from one part of the world and Tutsis from another. They thought Tutsis were descended from the Middle East or North Africa, while the Hutus were from Central Africa. They spread this idea that Tutsis were superior and allowed Tutsis to go to modern schools; the Tutsis worked very closely with the colonial system. This is how the groups began to believe they were different. Identity cards were produced to cement the difference; on the cards, Hutu and Tutsi were classed as ethnicities.

In the mid-20th century, African countries started calling for independence. Tutsis were calling for change, as they'd been educated and knew the importance of independence. Rwanda adopted multiple parties in the process of becoming a democracy. At the time, there were kings, who were Tutsis but, in 1957, there was a Hutu revolution and the king was overthrown. The chief editor of Rwanda's only newspaper was the leader of the revolution and used violence; this was the first instance of violence between the two groups. Between 1959 and 1963, over 20,000 Tutsis were killed. Independence was achieved in 1961; the nation of Rwanda was formed with deep hatred occurring between its peoples.

The Tutsis were told not to speak about these occurrences in order to live. People of Eric's generation, born in the late 1970s, didn't really know what had happened during the revolution. Only at primary school did he learn about the Hutu-Tutsi issue: teachers would make students line up in lines of Hutu or Tutsi. His friends were now 'different'; it was a great shock for him. In a class of 50 to 60, there were ten Tutsis – it created a feeling of inferiority and fear. Hutus had created policies to oppress Tutsis: for example, they were forbidden to join the national army. From the 1960s 1990s, Tutsis lived in apartheid, although this is not widely known.

The children of the Tutsis who had been expatriated during

the revolution had created an army called the Arapiiev, which invaded Rwanda in 1990. The most extremist Hutus used it as an excuse to cause more harm to the Tutsis. During the first few weeks of the invasion, the government rounded up all Tutsis who were 'someone', such as doctors and teachers. The war went on for four years and, when the international community realised, the Arapiiev and Rwandan government were encouraged to talk and find a solution. In 1992, both sides agreed to negotiate. Negotiations went on for months, but, meanwhile, the most extremist Hutus in government were preparing for genocide. They thought if they exterminated Tutsis there would be no reason for the Arapiiev to want to enter Rwanda. The government trained militias and set up a radio to broadcast hate against the Tutsis. They published 'A Hutu's Ten Commandments', which listed things Hutus should do to hate Tutsis. According to it, Hutus should never marry, do business with or employ a Tutsi.

The President of Rwanda was shot down while flying back from Tanzania, allegedly by Tutsis – some people think the genocide was because of the people's immediate reaction of anger against the killing of their president. There is controversy over who shot him down: some say it was the Arapiiev, and others say those in the President's inner circle did it. Eric believes he was killed by those planning the genocide so that they could use it as an excuse. The genocide started on 6 April and went on for 100 days. There were 2,500 international peace-keepers in Rwanda, but those in charge of the genocide knew how to play the international community: they killed ten peace-keepers, which led the Security Council to cancel the peace-keeping missions. This worked in favour of the genocide leaders.

Eric played for RAYON Sport, the biggest football club in Rwanda (it is known as the Manchester United of Rwanda). He joined the club as a pre-teen, when the club started training not far from his parents' house. After school, he'd watch them train, standing behind the goal as a ball-boy. The big boys asked him to stand in goal if one of the goalkeepers didn't show up. Before he knew it, he was part of the squad and played his first game at 16. He became captain and was called up to the Rwandan national team. He lived a life that helped him not be affected by discrimination against Tutsis. Playing for a club loved by everyone, the Hutus felt he was one of them, so he didn't experience much hate or discrimination. He thinks this is why he survived the genocide. On 7 April 1994, Hutu soldiers entered his flat in order to kill him – they had made a list of Tutsis and their location. Six or seven soldiers came in screaming and ordered Eric to get on the floor, kicking him. They went around destroying the place, but found a photo album with his football photos. A soldier asked him if he was Toto (a nickname he'd been given meaning 'young boy'). The soldier told him to stand up, sat him down on the sofa and sat next to him. He asked his colleagues to step out of the room and for the next ten minutes the soldier spoke about football: they'd recently knocked out a Sudanese club in round 16 of the African Champions League. The soldier left and Eric stayed until the next day. He went to his parents' house; a group of his teammates lived nearby, three Hutus and one Tutsi. He went to that house, and if it weren't down to the sacrifices and efforts made by his Hutu teammates, he wouldn't have survived the genocide.

The teammates, even though the government and society said they should treat Eric like their enemy, refused to accept the propaganda. The bond they'd formed playing football meant they went out of their way to look for information that eventually allowed him to find food.

They got food for him and bribed soldiers who had come to take him away. Their actions influenced what happened to his parents, who were not killed. One member of the group was later killed by Hutu soldiers who caught him with his Tutsi girlfriend, trying to run away. They considered him a traitor; she was stabbed and thrown into a river, but was swept away and survived.

Many survivors were helped in one way or another by Hutus. For this reason, Rwanda has somehow managed to deal with the situation. French soldiers came to Rwanda during and after the genocide and were supportive of the ruling regime. Eric said that they partly bear responsibility. The genocide ended on 15 July, after the Arapiiev pushed out the Rwandan government. They then embarked upon a journey of rebuilding Rwandan spirit and mental health; they had been broken as people. Three million people had fled, with thousands returning after decades. They worked on infrastructure and invested a lot into helping Rwanda reconcile. It worked – Rwandans have learnt to live side by side again. The country has changed incredibly and is one of the safest African countries. The economy has improved dramatically and the education system is growing. Its parliament has the highest number of females in the world; there are more girls going to school than boys.

Eric established the Ishami Foundation to try to use the positive values of sport and football in particular to nurture the citizens of Rwanda's future. If Rwandans can overcome such a terrible experience, surely anyone can overcome whatever challenges they face in life.

# METROPOLITAN

## JOURNEY

### *A Story, Part 1*

Brooke had lived in 334 Hoodo Crescent for as long as he could remember, though apparently this was not always the case. He had his doubts about that oh so dubious claim, however; after all, he had no recollection of any such "other house", and his memory was impeccable. For example, he could already remember his "ABCs", as well as how to count to twenty. If even these behemoths of recollective challenge could not escape his mind, how could an entire house?

He set these pointless thoughts aside in favour of planning his next grand adventure with Myles. It was to be in his house, this time.

They would start in his parents' room: a grand cavern, complete with an en-suite. They must first sneak out, perhaps by crawling underneath the monolithic water-bed on which the dragons lie. From here, they must scour the other two branches of the cave system – these were, of course, two unused bedrooms – for something with which to defend themselves.

If not, they must venture down the mountain to the blacksmiths; a treasure trove of swords, hammers and LEGOs. If they could make it inside, they would have everything that they needed for the rest of their journey. *If*. Agador, the deadly hound would be standing guard, or rather, lying guard. There was good news, however: the owner of the blacksmith's was an organized man, so the weapons were sure to be neatly laid out for the taking upon entry. No time need be wasted.

From here, they must fight through hordes of enemy, all of whom were, no doubt, guarding the great tree-fortress situated in the chasmic valley. It would not be difficult to find, as the tip of the grand edifice pierced the sky, even from its position within the valley. Once they made it to the fortress, they must find a way to topple it. Brooke struggled to see how they could do it, but he knew that they would.

That would be the end of their journey, or at least that part of the journey. More quests were sure to follow. But for now, Brooke was needed at school.

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Elizabeth Rummel School was a mere stone's throw away from Hoodoo Crescent, so taking the school bus would simply

be a waste of time; the station was further away than the school.

His lessons were trivial and his classmates loud. That isn't to say that he did not enjoy school; he did very much, however that was perhaps in spite of these things, rather than because of them. He could take pleasure in the ridiculously slow pace of the lessons as it gave him time to daydream. It often seemed that he spent just as much time in his own head as he did focused on reality. Some would call this a negative, but Brooke saw it as a great boon. After all, he'd be constantly bored out of his mind if that weren't the case. He didn't know how everyone else coped.

Recess was spent either waging pinecone war – a battle in which ammunition was replaced by pinecones – or simply picking up garbage with Tressa and Myles. He enjoyed the strategic elements of the pinecone wars a great deal, however he would never engage if there were too many people; it was never as fun. Being a good citizen, however, was significantly more boring, but he simply could not stand litter. The company of his two closest friends certainly sweetened the deal as well.

Needless to say, he wasn't a sporty kid. No, he was the type to miss the football, then kick it backwards on the backswing, whilst tripping over his own feet. He did enjoy football, but got the impression that others had a far worse time when he was on their team, so for their sake (and likely his own as well) he seldom ventured onto the pitch.

Days were short at Elizabeth Rummel; only a few hours of lessons in total and a recess of too great a length, then back home. Home, where the quest would soon begin. It seemed that Myles could not take any longer to pack his bags!

## TOWERING

by Theo Nash, *The Grove*

When I was a sapling  
the forest didn't look quite like this.

I grew taller as my view got better and better  
with my family surrounding me  
we watched the seasons pass, together.

But as of recently my view has become greyer and spikier,  
and I can't remember the last time the air was crisp, not acrid,

And all that noise – those loud shiny beetles never seem to  
stop moving for long;  
when they come near  
that grinding noise is unbearable  
buzzing through me, right to the tips of my leaves.

Most of my family are long gone; cut up by apes and fed to a  
small vomiting beast,  
and the birds, those birds that once took refuge and brought  
up chicks between my branches, are no more, although I do  
get the odd parakeet.

Soon I expect I too will be fed, by the apes, to one of those  
beasts,  
everything is too grey  
and with my leaves crusted over I have trouble taking in water  
for my food making.

There are more loud, shiny birds,  
but they all go in the same direction, and don't fly together  
and never come and land on my branches.

I am quite frail, and there is nothing left for me in this ever-greier world.

Perhaps it's time for me to say goodbye – but wait, I have nobody left to say goodbye to  
I'll wait a little longer – things ought to go back to how they used to be, soon enough.

## THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE

By Aum Amin, *Elmfield*

Science arguably makes greater and more frequent advances than any other field of human discovery, constantly astounding us and provoking our curiosity, revealing more and more of this tightly rolled tapestry that is our universe. This column seeks to enlighten readers and make them aware of scientific events that often pass through the media channels unnoticed and are not covered as much as they deserve to be.

*Astronomers have come up with the theory regarding the cannibalistic nature of our neighbour Andromeda; turns out we're the main course!*

Australian National University: A theory regarding Andromeda has been put together by researchers at the ANU. Our neighbour galaxy has 'eaten' several smaller galaxies in the past and leftovers of this can be found in several dense streams of stars (known as globular clusters). The particularly disturbing part is that the Milky Way is on a collision course with Andromeda and we will collide in 4 billion years or so. The explanation for this nature is that Andromeda is a very large galaxy with heavy gravity and its stellar halo (the part that extends beyond the centre of the galaxy and contains lots of stars) is much bigger than all the galaxies it has consumed, allowing it to draw in victims and ingest them. Andromeda is larger than the Milky Way and hence it doesn't look too good for us. According to researchers, Andromeda has a 'bizarre plane of satellites' and 'an unexpected alignment of dwarf galaxies orbiting it'; previous research has shown that these planes are fragile and will easily be destroyed by Andromeda's immense gravity in a few billion years. It seems like our neighbours have got so fed up with us that they have decided to wipe us off the face of the universe once and for all.

*The three-dimensional structure of a protein involved in vertebrate vision at atomic resolution has been solved.*

Cornell University: The findings of this research show how photons get amplified in the eye. However, the more important implication of this research is that it shows us how G-protein-coupled receptors work in humans. Of course, everyone obviously knows what GPCRs are, but for the sake of the few of us who live under rocks, let me explain. GPCRs act like inboxes for messages transmitted by light energy, hormones, sugars, proteins and other things; these messages can inform cells about whether or not there is enough light or nutrients in the environment of the organism. They act as receptors and each GPCR has a particular signal which it is suited to, hence there are roughly 1,000 different types of these receptors. GPCRs are capable of amplifying a photon signal 100,000 times in conjunction with effectors. Over a third of drugs on the market target GPCRs due to their integral role in the human body and these findings could potentially be very lucrative for the Cornell researchers. Specialised electron microscopy was used to obtain high-resolution images of the GPCRs and the findings revealed how the G proteins are activated in the receptor. The main goal of this research is help in designing drugs that target GPCR signalling.

*Researchers develop a new concept that could make environmentally friendly batteries possible*

Chalmers University of Technology: New ideas for aluminium batteries could have two times the energy density of previous materials and could lead to a lower environmental impact due to the abundance of the substance. Previous designs for aluminium batteries have used aluminium as the anode (- terminal) and graphite as the cathode (+ terminal); however, graphite has too low an energy content to make the concept feasible. The new research proposes to replace graphite with an organic cathode made of the carbon-based molecule anthraquinone. Anthraquinone is currently used for making dyes, pulp and textiles, but it is possible for this molecule to store positive charge from the electrolyte solution through which ions move between electrodes, which are in turn connected to terminals. The next stage in the research is to find a better electrolyte solution to replace the current chlorine solution. Currently, aluminium batteries are only half as energy dense as their lithium counterparts and the hope is that with the aid of anthraquinone and a better electrolyte solution, lithium batteries can be phased out. Lithium mining is hugely polluting and curbing it would be a great step towards tackling climate change.

## REVIEW: WUTHERING HEIGHTS

As an avid reader of the Bronte sisters' literature, *Wuthering Heights* was an opportunity to jump further into "romantic" literature in the 19th century. Having finished *Jane Eyre* during the summer holidays, I can say that the shock after closing this volume was incomparable. Although the first few chapters might be a hurdle to understand, it is very important to stay on track and finish it. A piece of information which might help is the fact that Mr Lockwood, the resident of Thrushcross Grange, is listening to the narrative of Ellen, the elderly servant with whom he has made friends, through most of the novel. Thus, all ground is cleared to storm through the primal and high-tension pages.

These are the main characters: there are the two Catherines (one whom the reader will come across later); a certain Heathcliff – whose story I will not share – is of immense importance to the storyline. His monomaniac love for Catherine (the elder) eventually ends in the death of his love and the destruction of those in *Wuthering Heights*. There are others, who come later in the novel. Although they are of importance too, I do not want to spoil the reader's excitement while tearing through the pages for more. What is so different about this book from the others I have read is the primal instinct and savagery described. It is so true, yet difficult to imagine that it would happen in reality. The jealousy and visions of Heathcliff are ghastly and disgusting. It was he who left Catherine (the reasons for which the reader will come to understand) and abandoned her to the love of Edgar Linton, who, in my view, was a wonderful husband. The story continues three years later, when the couple is living in The Grange (Linton's home) and *Wuthering Heights* is deteriorating under the rule of Hindley Earnshaw (Catherine's brother), who became a drunkard after the death of his wife. It is also the place where Hindley, Cathy (her affectionate name), Ellen and Heathcliff lived together in the earlier years with Papa, who brought Heathcliff from the slums of Liverpool. In the three years before he left the Heights, Cathy and Heathcliff were inseparable. As the troublemakers of the house, they were savage and barbaric. Quick in temper, they were not children of a gentleman. On the day Edgar Linton proposed to Catherine, she confessed to Ellen that she and Heathcliff were one and that only Heathcliff could understand.

Until then, I viewed Heathcliff as a romantic hero fallen into the depths of true love. The pain described when they are apart from each other certainly makes the reader believe so. However,

his lust to wreak vengeance on those who took "Cathy" away from him destroys the character Bronte has built up so far, creating the most iconic anti-hero in English literature (in my opinion). First, Heathcliff misused the drunk Hindley to take control of *Wuthering Heights*. Second, he married Isabella Linton, the sister of Edgar, who had fallen for the charm of the new Heathcliff, now a gentleman in appearance. He misused her cruelly and despised her as she despised him. The sole purpose of the bond was so that he could gain Thrushcross Grange. However, for this to be legally possible, Catherine and Edgar's daughter, Cathy had to marry Linton, Isabella's son. Meanwhile, Catherine fell into hysterics when she saw Heathcliff return. It was her "true love"! Every day he visited the Grange, the hatred between Edgar and Heathcliff grew. Finally, Catherine fell ill from the fighting between her two lovers and died soon after she gave birth to her daughter.

Although I have disclosed most of the middle part of the novel, there is much more to Heathcliff and his strange, instinctive love story. The sense of supernaturalness is sustained throughout the novel by Bronte's excellent writing skills. The twists and turns of endless climax and buildup make it impossible to stay away from the book. The reason why I believe that this novel is a worthwhile read is that it contains a character and a storyline which does not exist in any other literature. Nowhere else will you find the anti-hero like Heathcliff. Nowhere else will you find Catherine. Nowhere else will you find young Linton and his foul change under his father. If you are a lover of 19th-century novels or gothic literature, I encourage you to devour this volume.

## NATIONAL POETRY DAY

Over 150 boys and staff took part in our National Poetry Day Competition on Thursday 3rd October. The theme was 'Truth' and the challenge was to write a poem in exactly twelve words. Participants had just 24 hours to make their entry and they embraced the topic in many ways: there were poems on deception, politicians, philosophy, current affairs, inner-truths, illusion, love, religion, and much more.

In the staff competition, the winner was Ms H Rhodes:

*Truth closes in  
wild eyed, merciless.  
I pause, gasping.  
God.  
Not today.*

In the boys' competition, the winner was Marcus Tung,  
*West Acre:*

*Masked behind myth,  
Obscured by fantasy,  
Covered up, The truth,  
Slowly, Fades*

# OPINION

## HONG KONG RIOTS

Recently there have been a lot of protests in Hong Kong, which started mainly on 9 June when thousands of people marched in the streets calling for the withdrawal of the extradition bill, which would allow some people accused of crimes to be extradited to Mainland China. It seems as if they are protesting for a good reason – wouldn't people in Hong Kong lose their freedom of speech? Would people in Hong Kong not be able to criticise the Chinese government anymore? The answer is no.

I believe the reason why people are protesting fiercely and violently is because the government has not done a good job

explaining what the extradition law really is. Fifty-five countries have extradition agreements with China. Nine EU members, including Bulgaria (Yao Jinqi, wanted for corruption), France (Chen Wenhua, wanted for embezzlement), Italy (Zhang, wanted for theft) and Spain (218 telecom fraud suspects, 94 of whom were returned just the week before the massive protests) have recently returned fugitives to China without any issues. In all these cases, China has honoured the guarantees asked of it, and anyone in their right mind would be entitled to conclude that it would also do likewise in respect of any criminals of Hong Kong. In fact, the procedures to extradite a person from Hong Kong to China are even stricter than from UK to China. In order to be extradited you need to meet three criteria: the crime has to be committed in Hong Kong; the crime has to be considered legally as such in both China and Hong Kong; the crime has to come with at least a seven-year sentence under Hong Kong law.

Imagine that a person were to insult Xi Jinping in China and managed to escape to Hong Kong. As Hong Kong allows complete freedom of speech, it would not be possible for him to be extradited. The crimes that carry a sentence of seven years or more are crimes like murder and rape. The judicial system of Hong Kong is separate from the government; they can reject extradition requests from China. It would be a fair system in which only people who were guilty of serious crimes would get extradited. Even Zhang (who was extradited from Italy) wouldn't have been extradited if he were in Hong Kong, as theft is not a crime worthy of a seven-year sentence there. Currently in Hong Kong, there are over 300 fugitives from China who are enjoying safe haven in Hong Kong. But because of the weakness of Hong Kong's laws, they are able to escape justice. Apart from China, no other country, not the US, not Russia, and certainly not the UK, tolerates a situation in which a suspect can simply evade justice by moving from one part of the country to another, and it is incumbent on Hong Kong to break the impasse. Therefore, Hong Kong isn't only letting itself down, but also its criminal justice system, and the time has come for them to shed its image as China's criminal sanctuary.

However, Carrie Lam, the Chief Executive of Hong Kong, said that the bill was "dead", probably because of the endless protests. But protests have continued throughout Hong Kong, and they are getting more and more violent. The original driver of the protests was to remove the extradition bill, and now that Lam has done that, the protests now have five new requests, namely:

- The removal of the extradition bill;
- To not classify the riots as "riots";
- To release all people that were arrested during the protests;
- To investigate the actions of the Hong Kong police; and
- To have universal suffrage (NB it was originally Carrie Lam stepping down as Chief Executive)

First of all, the extradition bill has already been removed, it's just that the protestors are trying to find an excuse by saying that they want the exact wording in Chinese. Secondly, who in their right mind would not classify them as riots? When they were protesting in the airport, a person from mainland China was tied to an airport cart using plastic straps. People kept kicking him and abusing him, and when the doctors tried to rescue him, they were blocked. If you would like to watch the horrifying scenes you can watch them with these two links:

<https://www.facebook.com/486392624735448/posts/3019697448071607/>

<https://www.facebook.com/448747665308662/posts/1254322301417857/>

If you have watched those videos, would you classify them as riots? I would go further than that, and would call those events attempted homicide.

The policemen in Hong Kong have been described as "violent" and "unreasonable" in Western media. They apparently "shot an

18-year-old student without warning". First of all, the police's action of pointing a gun towards you is already a warning. Are the policemen required to raise a black flag three times before they can fire a gun (the policemen raise a black flag every time they fire tear gas), when they are in life-threatening danger? I think people ignore the fact that in the US, between 2015 and 2017, 3,000 people have died by a policeman's gun, which is an average of two people getting killed by a policeman per day. 60% of the people killed didn't even attempt to escape when the gun was pointed at them. The Hong Kong police have only fired one shot that actually hit someone, and haven't killed a single person in these protests; the last time they killed someone was during the colonial period, over 20 years ago. Think about it; suspected criminals in America died without even trying to escape, while just two weeks ago in Tseun Wan, the protestors were assaulting the police left and right. Under Interpol standards, police in Hong Kong should have used guns way earlier. After four months of extreme violence in Hong Kong, only one person got shot, and you call those policemen violent?

Finally, the request for universal suffrage is just utterly ridiculous. It is simply not plausible for the system in Hong Kong to go from the state it is now to universal suffrage directly in this short period of time. In 2014, the Chinese government proposed a step-by-step solution towards universal suffrage, but people protested as they wanted it instantly, which just won't practically work. The protestors thought of this request just as an excuse to continue causing violence in Hong Kong, as they know that the HK government won't be able to fulfil that request.

All in all, the point I am trying to raise here is that the protestors are not only protesting for utterly ridiculous reasons, they are doing so in a life-threatening and sadistic way, and regardless of your feeling towards China, you shouldn't agree with the protestors.

## OH WISDOM



"Will this play be good or bad. Nothing else matters. Nothing at all." #ohwisdom

Sir Terence Rattigan CBE (*The Park 1925*<sup>2</sup>) Playwright and one of England's most popular mid-20th-century dramatists. Good luck to the members of the Rattigan Society, founded in 1983, with their annual production, *No Exit* by Jean-Paul Sartre, this week.

## CORRESPONDENCE

*Letters to the editor*

DEAR SIRs,

“The standard you walk past is the standard you accept”, Lieutenant-General David Morrison AO, Chief of the Australian Army

I am writing in objection to what Long Hei Ng, *Newlands*, wrote in *The Harrovian* last week (page 609). Typos in *The Harrovian* are “no small” thing and should be rooted out whenever possible. According to AJC, the reputation of the school is vitally important to Harrow. Being widely accessible to the public, *The Harrovian* is a showcase of our School and is what Old Harrovians and other people use to benchmark the high standards which we try to maintain. Typos are a blemish on our School’s reputation.

An editor’s work is of foremost importance; your efforts and commitment are greatly appreciated and deserve every bit of the Harrow Prize mentions and recognition you receive. I disagree with Ng’s description of you as a group of boys who are “not professional” and would trust you to be proud of what you are doing and are continuously striving for excellence. I wrote those comments on typos with the aims of openness and determination for improvement. The best way to convey the message maybe another matter, and so I would like to apologise for my previous comment if it was not taken lightly. “In doing what we ought because we deserve no praise, because it is our duty” shows a lack of understanding from Ng on the dedication to uphold the standards of Harrow.

Ng called my response “a storm in a teacup”. Then when can the price be paid for a “real storm”? Will that be when a doctor prescribes drug to a patient? when an officer writes orders to send his troops into battle? Or one day when one is editing a professional newspaper as editor-in-chief? Leonardo Da Vinci once said “details make perfection”. If perfection is not one drives for everyday in school, then what else can it be?

I would like to thank Ng for identifying the grammar mistake in my previous comment. This was a good test that someone actually read it! My real concern is that he did not even have time to “sit down and scrutinise”, instead using software to find it. I had a hard time persuading myself that this is indeed evolution (not devolution) of Harrovians in our current generation. Maybe Artificial Intelligence will eventually take over and one day there won’t be a need for editors but robots instead. However until the future reveals itself, the best way is still to “sit down and scrutinise”.

Sincerely Yours,  
CHRIS LIU, THE HEAD MASTER’S

DEAR SIRs,

I write in reply to Dylan Winward’s letter on Award Ties, *The Harrovian* (VOL. CXXXI NO.25). I am pleased that Mr Winward is concerned for this matter and I know that interest in ties and awards is shared by many boys in the School. I can remember well my time in Old Armoury earlier in the decade when scarcely a week would pass without a suggestion being made to me for a society or club and buried in the proposal would be mention of a tie, and a dinner.

Harrow’s awards for significant sporting, cultural and academic engagement and achievement are rich, historic and colourful and that is to be celebrated. The place of these awards, some of them ties, some of them fezzes, caps, waistcoats, flannels and other accoutrements, are eye-catching and part of our visual landscape and tradition. By way of example I am very glad that the impressive Mr Shin, *Elmfild*, has seen to the resurrection of the ‘speckled’ Harrow hat for those achieving their cricket flannels and these will be seen this coming season for the first time in twenty years. All of these awards are set against a background of uniform. The reason why the award

garments are successful is because they are exceptional, they stand out against the norm. These vestures of awards are something special and meaningful, indicative of authentic service and leadership and should not be allowed to become markers of passive participation and thus lapse into an everyday wallpaper. The School Triple Blood tie (maroon bow) retains its significance perhaps because it hasn’t been seen since 2012.

Readers of the *The Harrovian* will know that the School is engaged this term in a thorough review of awards (who has what and how did they get it) to ensure comparability, honesty and fairness. The review acknowledges that awards should be graded and incremental; an excess of well-meaning generosity cheapens the award, ultimately devaluing it for the recipient. In that review is already a question about awards and age thresholds and that will be considered carefully.

Yours faithfully,  
WMAL, HEAD MASTER

## DAME VAUGHAN AGONY AUNT

Dear Dame Vaughan,

You may recall, O Dame of the plethoric-paged palace, the rousing lyrics of that oft-bellowed Harrow Song October: ‘October, October / March to the dull and sober, / The suns of May for the school-girls’ play, / But give to the boys October’. As the chorus crashes through, and DNW winces but plasters a brave smile as the 1st XV join in and atonally roar at one of their few appealing moments of singing at Songs, it truly does capture that wonderful autumnal time when boys can be MEN! Little do people know however, that October is also Black History Month. Thus amidst the testosterone-fuelled triumphalism, an entire history of a race must attempt to muscle in and have their voices heard above the roar. Now dear Dame, I should be the first one to put my hands up and say that I am shamefully ignorant of large swathes of black history. Therefore, I’d like to take this opportunity to rectify my great lacuna, and ask whether you have a book suggestion not just for me, but for my wider – predominantly also white – Harrow School community? It may be that I am a minority in this regard, and that your book suggestion merely preaches to an already educated choir. Not our Chapel Choir of course, they too fall asleep during sermons every now and then, and god knows what the Harmony Choir is doing, but you get the idiom. Hopefully this way, I can make sure in my own small way, Black History Month resonates beyond Halloween.

Yours in humble ignorance,  
AN ALLY

Dear My Friend,

I hear you totally, and you’re right. Black History Month should be every month, and the only way for that to happen is if white people start joining in the conversation supportively and with listening humility. I should start by stating that my wonderful colleagues in the Vaughan have compiled a fascinating and comprehensive display of books for Black History Month that is proudly presented in the main Chamber of the Vaughan. Containing fiction and non-fiction, it celebrates the voices and stories of the black community both through black authors, and in chronicling moments of black history. I highly recommend everyone peruse it. Your specific recommendation is the international bestseller and forthright book *White Fragility: Why it’s so hard for White People to talk about Racism* by Robin DiAngelo, a professor of racial critical discourse and specialist in anti-bias training. Identifying the pervading response of anger, fear, guilt, denial and silence when ordinary white people have it pointed out to them that something has unintentionally caused racial offence or hurt – and how this reaction sometimes silences honest feedback from people of colour – DiAngelo coined the term ‘white fragility’ in 2011 to describe this process and how

it upholds the system of white supremacy. The book templates how to open up more honest conversations, and change at a granular level systemic racism through white people taking responsibility for relinquishing their own white supremacy. In reading this book, hopefully for some, Black History Month will have a greater, more positive impact than before. Follow Up, Follow Up, Follow Up, Follow Up, Follow Up, Follow Up!

Yours in support and affirmation,  
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]

## ON FINANCIAL REGULATION

Scheduled for 2020, the UK government will introduce new financial regulation of the overdraft market. While not including a cap on unarranged bank overdraft fees, this regulation will do much to improve the market: dictating that there should be no difference between arranged and unarranged bank overdraft prices. The government should be commended.

Current high-overdraft fees are unjustifiable costwise (bearing little resemblance to the low costs to the bank and the acquired risk). They also incur the highest costs on the most vulnerable demographics of society: a CRL report (Parrish, 2009) finding that working families were spending about the same amount of money on overdraft fees as they were on necessities – a figure which ostensibly is still accurate today. High overdraft fees are not desirable and thus overdraft fees need to decrease.

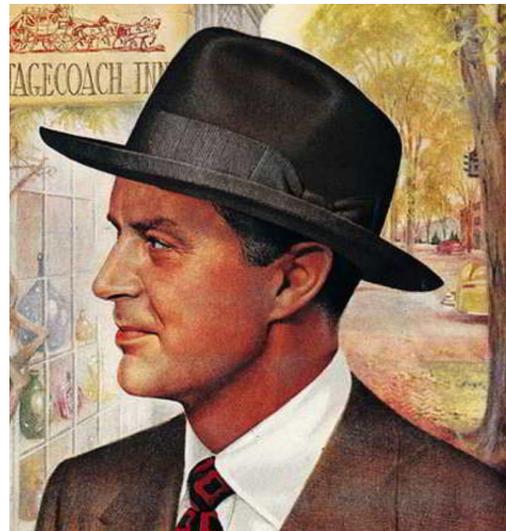
A cap could have been the answer, though A-Level Economics tells us it's unlikely to be the right answer. Governments are not omniscient and are likely to set the wrong cap rate. With growing political pressures to lower overdraft fees it's most likely is the government, burdened by this pressure, setting the cap to low. Often this would lead to demand increasing to a point where supply cannot keep up, so there would be a shortage of supply. However, this is unlikely in the overdraft market. Fractional reserve banking will enable a bank, if it meets a small reserve requirement, to create money electronically and extend it to the depositor – so supply should be able to keep up.

On the contrary, a market solution could will work much better. Indeed, with the current market seemingly dependent on deceptive and elaborate price signals, it undoubtedly infers that the market is not operating correctly and efficiently: price competition has failed to function correctly. Perhaps, this is the real cause of the excessive fees. Conceivably, restoring price competitiveness would then remove the excessive fees, bringing about a new equilibrium below the fees that succeed now. Despite a possible adverse selection problem, banks are likely to find it in their interest to attract overdrafts, even at lower fees.

There are still reservations, however. For one, the oligopolistic nature of the banking system could still limit price competition. For another, the forces of supply and demand for overdrafts may not consider the somewhat extended notion of rising consumer debt. Even so, these reservations lack robustness. Firstly, methods to reduce such collusion should then be added to the policy mantra, to ensure an efficient outcome further, rather than being used as an argument not to employ a market solution. Secondly, banks have an incentive for people to continue overdrawing, something that would not be possible if their debt creation was unsustainable and destabilised the economy, so the forces of supply and demand will consider the notion of rising consumer debt.

In any case, the theoretical extreme of a completely free market would be the best option here in determining the level of fees: with the price mechanism working tirelessly to ensure the most efficient outcome. In this case, the problem will solve.

However, even if one concedes the reservations noted and acknowledges that they may inhibit the market fully reaching its most efficient state, it would still be true that the fees will have reduced: tending towards their socially optimum level. So, at worst, the problem will only have been partially solved. Perhaps the Government recognised this when they created their new financial regulation of the overdraft market. Economics is shifting the Overton Window.



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## SUDOKU

*Persevera per severa per se vera*

	8			9			5	
4					2			
								7
	1							
						4		2
	9	5		8				
7					3			
						1	9	
3				2				

## GAFFE AND GOWN

*Quips from Around the Hill*

“You boy, you’re looking quite confused there.” “No, sir, that’s just my face.” “Well, you have an unfortunate face.”

(dog barking in distance) “Sir, what was that?” “Oh, that? That’s just Shell Div 8 – you know what they’re like.”

“Sir, as requested, I have bought myself a new battery for my Surface pen. However, I have a slight problem, insofar as I have forgotten my Surface pen.”

## POLL OF THE WEEK

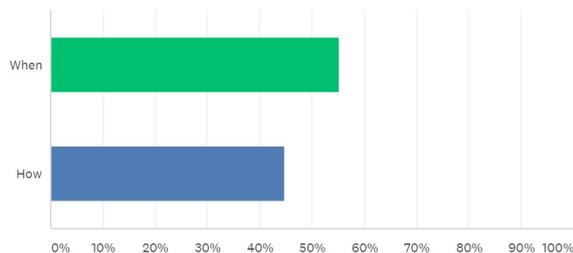
*θάνατος δέ τοι ἐξ ἄλλος αὐτῶ*

Inspired by (presumably) a topic raised in a Theology and Philosophy, there was an argument overheard on the High Street earlier this week on the way to lunch: would you rather know when you're going to die or how you're going to die?

It’s a problem that had occurred to Homer; near the end of the *Odyssey*,

*θάνατος δέ τοι ἐξ ἄλλος αὐτῶ  
ἀβληχρὸς μάλα τοῖος ἐλεύσεται, ὃς κέ σε πέφνη  
γῆρα ὑπο λιπαρῶ ἀρημένον· ἀμφὶ δὲ λαοὶ  
ὄλβιοι ἔσσονται.*

And then from the sea death will come  
To you in a gentle way, and it will kill you  
Already taken by a kind old age.



Why does Odysseus leave home again and how does he die? According to the prophecy, he still has to make amends with Poseidon. But his end is clear. And there are many other poor Greeks afterwards, through oracular utterances, who are told how they die, but not when. Torn between the two options, whether you would like to know (in advance) of a gruesome death at the hands of a Maenad or the hour of one’s doom, the boys generally were torn (as it were) between the two. A solid 54% chose to know the ‘when’ of their death – presumably to plan appropriately. The other (near) half of the School, at 46%, preferred to know the manner of their doom, so they could perhaps brace themselves for the moment.

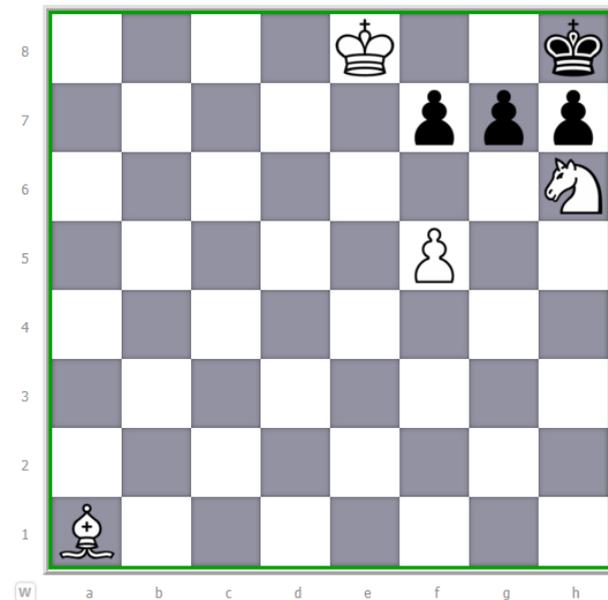
*pulvis et umbra sumus.  
quis scit an adiciant hodiernae crastina summae  
tempora di superi?*

If you read carefully, poor Job seemed to suggest that our days were predetermined, so that maybe, there could be a way to find them out, ‘his days are determined, and the number of his months is with God, and he has appointed limits that he cannot pass’. But the writer of Ecclesiastes says it’s unknowable, ‘man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in a net so are men snared in their time, when it falleth suddenly upon them’. But for now, the how and then when remain hidden, and in any case, that’s probably for the best.

## CHESS PUZZLE

The weekly Chess Puzzle set by JPBH. Email your solutions to him (jpbh@harrowschool.org.uk) to enter the termly competition. Answers are published with next week’s puzzle.

This edition’s puzzle: White to play and mate in 2 moves.



Last edition’s answer: 1. ... Qf1+ 2. Bg1 Qf3+ 3. Bxf3 Bxf3#

Fancy playing chess? Drop in to Chess Club – Tuesdays and Thursdays 4.30-6pm in Maths Schools 5. All abilities (boy, beak or non-teaching staff) are welcome!

## SPORTS

### SWIMMING

*Gala vs Dulwich College Won 163 -100*

- Under-14 Dulwich 28, Harrow 56
- Under-16 Dulwich 36, Harrow 47
- Under-18 Dulwich 32, Harrow 52

The Harrow swimmers went head to head with our most formidable opponents, Dulwich College. Out of 139 swims, there were 53 personal best times. The boys showed enormous resolve, stamina and force to win convincingly. The highlight swim of the gala came from Nicholas Finch, *Newlands*, who swam a new Shell record in the 50 metres butterfly in a time of 28.66. Other notable swims from the Shells came from Kiefer Yeo, *The Head Master’s*, Mark Zeng, *Elmfield*, and Henry Miell, *Lyon’s*. Key swims in the Intermediate group were from Maxwell Brooks, *West Acre*, Henry Pearce, *Newlands*, and Cosmo Freeland, *Lyon’s*. Spectacular swims in the Senior category were from Ethan Yeo and William Rudd, *The Head Master’s*, captains Andrew Hong, *Lyon’s*, and Thomas Khan, *West Acre* and Z-Za Bencharit, *Elmfield*. The camaraderie poolside, sense of purpose and drive were palpable and exhibited the strong characters that is necessary for this gruelling, time-consuming sport.

## SQUASH

*The School v Aylesbury Grammar (home)*

3 October

1st V Lost 0-5

WA Orr Ewing, *Elmfield*, Lost 0-3FAW Murley, *The Park*, Lost 0-3H Qureshi, *The Park*, Lost 0-3CD Powell, *The Grove*, Lost 0-3HAX Sie, *Newlands*, Lost 1-3

2nd V Lost 0-5

I Qureshi, *The Park*, Lost 0-3SCP Smith, *The Head Master's*, Lost 0-3AC Seely, *The Head Master's*, Lost 0-3HAM O'Shea, *Druries*, Lost 1-3IYW Doyle, *The Park*, Lost 0-3

## RACKETS

*The School v Eton College, 3 October*

Senior – 1st Pair Lost 0-3

A fine effort from Rishi Wijeratne, *The Head Master's*, and Ben Hope, *Rendalls*, who competed well despite a 3-0 loss to the strongest pair on the circuit.

Senior – 2nd Pair Lost 0-3

Johnny Connell, *Rendalls*, and Jude Brankin-Frisby, *Newlands*, showed plenty of spirit despite a 0-3 loss to a strong 2nd Pair.

Senior – 3rd Pair Won 3-1

An excellent effort from Tej Sheopuri, *Lyon's*, and Freddy Anton-Smith, *The Head Master's*, who lost the first game but prevailed in the next three tight games to win 3-1. Their application and resilience were a key factor in the win.

Colts – 1st Pair Lost 1-3

Good signs of improvement from Federico Gherzi, *The Head Master's*, and Sam Owston, *Moretons*, who lost a tight match 1-3.

Junior Colts – 1st Pair Lost 2-3

Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, and Alonso Fontana, *The Grove*, played very high level rackets in a top-class match but just missed out and lost 2-3. Both boys competed well and showed plenty of promise for the future.

Junior Colts – 2nd Pair Won 3-2

A top effort from Veer Patel, *The Knoll*, and Jonty Williams, *Moretons*, who saved a match point in the third game and fought hard with strong mental skills to eventually prevail 3-2.

## BADMINTON

*The School v Bloxham School,*

1st Won 8-0

In our first-ever fixture against Bloxham, the 1st VIII played with characteristic precision and aggression. Pair 1 (Kingston Lee, *Elmfield*, and Lawrence Leekie, *West Acre*) set the bar high for their teammates and absolutely annihilated their opponents. Particular mention goes to Yi Zheng Gan, *Elmfield*, of Pair 2, who joined the School in September and has already proved to be an invaluable addition to the team. It was most pleasing to see Taaj Adetula and Marcus Tung, both *West Acre*, make their debut in the team this academic year. This pair have worked incredibly hard to earn their place and demonstrate that perseverance and dedication can take you far in sport. It is clear

that our new strength and conditioning sessions are paying off, as Marcus attributes his powerful smash to the blood, sweat and tears shed in the Middle Gym. William Wang, *The Head Master's*, made a guest appearance in Pair 2, where he certainly made a great impression.

The spirit of fellowship was certainly alive and well as eight club players came to score the fixture. They were: Arvind Asokan, Simon Luo, both *Bradlys*, Iggy Abaroa, Daniel Sandell, both *Moretons*, Cody Xu, *The Grove*, James Yuen, *Lyon's*, Kevin Zheng, *Newlands*, and Alex Locke, *West Acre*. They completed this task with aplomb, flicking the numbers on the scoreboards and bringing the fixture to life for those spectators who had come to watch.

## FIVES

*The School v Mill Hill & Belmont Schools*

Seniors Won 1-0

A convincing win for J Barley, *The Grove*, and F Prickett, *The Park*, who dominated from the start to easily overcome their opponents 3-0. Strong cutting from both boys snuffed out any chance of Mill Hill gaining a foothold.

Junior Colts Won 1-0

Yearlings Won 1-0

*The School v Various*

Seniors v St Olave's Grammar School, Kent Lost 0-2

A tough day for the boys with conditions being difficult to master. After a hop around the M25, it was apparent that the boys would need to be ready quickly as their opponents were very experienced and used to the slippery surface. While they all put up a good fight, particularly towards the end of the matches, I would like to signal out Fred Prickett, *The Park*, for raising his game and showing some amazing cutting in particular.

Yearlings v Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet Won 5-1

Some great performance from the Yearlings with the pairs being mixed around. Noteworthy performances from Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, James Feltham, *The Park*, Digby Emus, *Rendalls*, and Gus Stanhope, *Moretons*. Useful wins also for Rob McCorquodale, *Elmfield*, and Alex Anikin, *The Park*.

Yearlings v Aldenham School Won 2-0

A great performance from the team. Wins for both pairs with excellent cutting from James Felton, *The Park*, and strong all-round play from Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, who were too strong for their opponents. Gus Stanhope, *Moretons*, and Digby Emus, *Rendalls*, cut strongly and overcame their opponents comfortably in the end.

## GOLF

*School v Eton College*  
26 September, Win 4.5-1.5

Woods v Mickleson; Europe v USA; JRP v WJC, all are steeped in history, heated topics of conversation and shrouded in mystery and controversy (WJC yet to record a win), but none come close to the old grudge match, Harrow v Eton.

The boys were raring to go on the outward journey. Aidan Wong, *The Park*, could hardly control his nervous excitement, the symbiotic "self-combustion" of the fire extinguisher as we left the Hill adding to the atmosphere inside the bus (please don't tell Major Davies!). This week's minibus motivation (sponsored by Castello's Tickler Cheddar Cheese, The European champion of cheeses) came, again, from Leo Wright, *Elmfield*,

treating the team to various impressions of famous sporting commentaries from years gone by. Conversation turned to the “savage” Lower Sixth Maths block test. Thanks must go to IH for his weekly motivational slating of Finlay Matheson, *Druries*. He may not be able to answer the question on parabolic form of a golf ball in flight, but boy was he able to produce the goods on the course!

Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, as well as Johnny Connell, *Rendalls*, led the team out, Shirvell pumping a towering drive down the left-hand side of the fairway and Connell pumping a towering drive... into the water. (If golf was about hitting balls into the water, however, Eton would have won the match, hands down.) Shirvell followed his drive with a flushed 3-wood just over the back of the green and managed to make his up-and-down for birdie to go 1 up through 1 hole. He then parred holes 2 and 3 before winning hole 4 with a classic Tiger stinger around the corner and an iron to the middle of the green, enough to win the hole and go 2 up. Shirvell continued the rampage with wins on 6, 7, 8 and 9 due to some crisp iron play and monstrous drives downwind. On hole 10, he ripped a 3-wood over the corner and then preceded to hit a wedge shot to about 15 feet, despite the club snapping in his hands mid shot! This took him to 7 up through 10, with one more win all that was needed to secure the point for Harrow. He followed the disappointment of a broken club by smoking a punched driver 300 yards into the driving wind, carrying all the bunkers. This left about 220 yards up hill. Shirvell found the front bunker but after splashing out to about 8 feet and sinking the putt, he sealed the point for Harrow, winning 8&7, scoring level par gross. Meanwhile, it was a good job the rain came in, because Connell was on fire, and Eton were getting burned... Connell had won the opening seven holes, channelling his back 9 from the previous week, playing steady par golf throughout the front 9. Eton picked up their game towards the end of the front 9 and Connell was up to the challenge, holing a 15-foot putt for the half on 9 and therefore managing to regain momentum after a very brief lapse in concentration on 8. Going into the back 9, Harrow were 7 up, and back-to-back pars on 10 and 11 sealed a win of 9&7, which equals the School record of the biggest winning margin. Harrow were 2-0 up, bragging rights surely on the cards...

The second four-ball saw Wong and Wright facing a strong pair of Etonians. Again, there was a danger to aquatic life as more balls found the water on the opening par 5. Wong started off with poor striking but great scrambling. He managed to stay level par after the first three holes. A birdie on the par 5 was not enough even to halve as Eton made eagle. Some solid golf from both players meant that the match was all square at the turn and the tussle continued to see the match, again, all square after 15. A good up and down par was enough to win the par 3 16th, but on the long par 4 17th, Eton clawed it back to set up an epic finish, all square down the last. Two solid hybrids and a great wedge shot from Wong left him finishing with two putts for par. Eton hit their second shot into the water and surely the match was set to go 3-0. Eton had other ideas, pitching up to 20ft from the hole and sinking a monster put to halve the match.

Despite Wright's fierce minibus team-talk, his contraband linen shirt again got in the way of him finding success on the course. His golf game fluctuated just as much as the weather with duffs (rain) and frequent putts to extend the match (sunshine). After only 4, he was down 3 but pulled it back to 2 after 9. The match went back and forth and when he reached the 16th he was 2 down with 3 to play. Wright lipped out for birdie and his playing partner holed a 12-footer to have him on the brink. At 17 he holed another 7-footer to seal the point and win 2&1, leaving the match very much in the balance at 2-1.5 in Harrow's favour.

Up steps Finlay “the maverick” Matheson and the captain's wildcard pick, the young gun on debut, Henry Oelhafen, *Lyon's*.

Matheson, a clever young man, had witnessed unspeakable levels of water pollution in the groups ahead and wisely disclosed to JRP that he was going to both keep his 3-wood low into the breeze, and avoid the water on the right. He achieved one of these things, IH would have been proud of the trajectory... Oelhafen, on the other hand, showed his more experienced teammates how it should be done, smashing a drive right down the centre of the fairway to ease the nerves. Matheson was 2 down through 2 holes, not managing to find any rhythm in the opening exchanges. But then the rain came, and Matheson saw a rainbow. He loves rainbows, largely due to the way they form a negative parabola in the sky, “maths is all around us, Sir”. This saw him inject some consistency into his game, turning the tide to go 2 up. His opponent, however, refused to lie down and fought back admirably before Matheson decided enough was enough and that he wanted his McDonald's pronto. Matheson then bludgeoned his opponent to finish with a 3 up win with 2 holes to play. Oelhafen, meanwhile, continued from his opening assault, finding himself 3 up through 5 holes. He did not relent in his attack, punishing his opponent to reach the 13th 5 up. After two lost holes, the nerves began to jangle, but this young man is made of strong stuff. He regained his focus to make par on 16, sealing the final point for Harrow.

A fantastic victory for the Harrow boys, setting up the intense run of October of fixtures over the coming weeks.

## FOOTBALL

### *Junior Colts A v Princethorpe College ISFA Cup Round 1, Won 5-1*

Scorers: Tito Edjua, *Lyon's*, Luke Walton, *West Acre*, Charlie Young, *Newlands*, Kit Keey, *Druries*, Walid Nsouli, *The Knoll*. Man of the Match: Elliott Taylor, *West Acre*.

An outstanding team performance that demonstrated real grit and considerable quality, enabling this Harrow team to win our first-ever game in this competition. In an evenly matched first-half Elliott Taylor and Luke Walton, both *West Acre*, provided calm authority in the middle of the park to help ease some nerves and exert pressure in the Princethorpe half. Harrow deservedly took the lead when Tito Edjua, *Lyon's*, poked home following superb work by Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, down the right flank. A wonder-goal from Luke Walton just before half time then put Harrow firmly in control. The final 20 minutes provided some of the best football seen by a Harrow footballing side, with high tempo passing and supporting runs giving a very solid Princethorpe team real headaches. This allowed Charlie Young, *Newlands*, Kit Keey, *Druries*, and Walid Nsouli, *The Knoll*, to give the score a more flattering outlook.

### *The School v Eton College*

Development B XI Won 2-0

Scorers: Finn Scott, *Rendalls*, Afure Moses-Taiga, *Druries*, Man of the Match: Afure Moses-Taiga, *Druries*.

After a scrappy first half in which neither team really got into a rhythm, it took a moment of real class from Yiannis Chatzigiannis, *The Park*, to spring a beautiful team goal involving fast one-touch play that was ultimately despatched by the superb Finn Scott, *Rendalls*. Harrow then took control of the game with better possession and quality on the ball with Jasper Gray, *Newlands*, and Afure Moses-Taiga, *Druries*, tying things together nicely in the middle of the park. Ultimately Eton were never really able to trouble Harry Scott in the Harrow goal and Harrow took a deserved win after Moses-Taiga managed to bundle home a second from a Luke Esposito corner. A positive second half now must lay the foundation for the rest of the term for this improving side.

Development C XI Won 3-1

Scorers: Ed Pagani, *Lyon's*; Sam Lussier x2, *The Knoll*,  
Man of the match: Hari Moondi, *The Park*,

The CXI achieved an excellent victory against Eton, battling back from an early concession to win. The home team started strongly and went ahead from a corner, the first of many dangerous deliveries into the Harrow box. The CXI settled quickly, though, and started to impose their own passing game, with Ify Ogbonna showing some silky touches and Kyle Debrah offering thrust down the left wing. It was, however, from a splendid team move on the right side that Harrow equalised, Felix Majumdar crossing for a composed finish from Ed Pagani. The remainder of the first half was somewhat scrappy, with the home side carving out a number of good chances but narrowly failing to score. It was a different story in the second period, though, due in no small part to the composed passing of Roger Litton and the drive of Andrew Cheung in midfield. Despite some fluent passing interchanges, it was two battling finishes from Sam Lussier that sealed the win: the first, a cute slot from a tight angle and the second a brave right-footed plant under pressure from the home defender. Harrow saw out the final minutes confidently, with an outstanding display in an unfamiliar role from Hari Moondi meriting the man of the match award.

## RUGBY UNION

*Junior Colts A v Mill Hill & Belmont Schools  
National Cup – Area Knockout Final, 32 Won 53-0*

The Junior Colts ventured out on the Sunley for their first-ever fixture on the plush, carpet-like turf. They faced... absolutely no one.

Mill Hill eventually arrived 20 minutes after the kick-off time just after our boys had headed back into the changing room for a rest after some excessive warming up. Walid Nsouli, *The Knoll*, did what he does best and scored first. He really is very hard to stop. He also offloaded superbly to Barimah Adomokah, *Newlands*, for the third score, who was in superb support. Barimah is honing his craft in the 7 position with Conor O'Flaherty, *The Head Master's*, out injured and now spending most of his time in the weights room. Baba Obatoyinbo, *The Knoll*, also injured, should be spending most of his time in the swimming pool (ask him, if you see him, how that is going).

Emmanuel Olowe, *The Grove*, scored a fourth try and carried well, as did Alex Ghani, *The Knoll*, and Luke Walton, *West Acre*, who missed all of last season but could be an extremely useful asset. Bobby Dunne, *Elmfield*, also barrelled over for his first A-team try.

Kit Keey, *Druries*, could not have been any more "gassed" as the boys would put it about his try. First on the Sunley? First for this team? First try ever? Not sure. But he distributed superbly well and looks the real deal at 10.

Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, also came off "gassed" about a touchline conversion he made... He forgot to mention the first three conversions he missed. He scored a couple of useful tries using his feet and the boot well.

Casper Davis, *Elmfield*, played a very good game at full back and scored the final try of the game before JLM called a close to proceedings with the final whistle.

This is only the first step of what we hope to be a lengthy cup run so the boys are trying not to get too "gassed up".

*The School v St Paul's  
1st XV Won 31-18*

The XV pushed out to a 17-3 lead at half-time after two excellent tries from Henry Arundell, *The Knoll*, and one from Ricky White, *The Knoll*. Despite a poor start to the second half

where St Paul's came back into the game, Bofe Moses-Taiga, *Druries*, scored a superb team try to take Harrow into a 24-18 lead with five minutes to go. After Harrow repelled a long spell of St Paul's pressure, the Harrow pack took over, driving a maul 25m with Louis Polturak, *The Knoll*, scoring to give Harrow the 31-18 lead.

2nd XV Lost 22-23

3rd XV Lost 12-15

4th XV Lost 5-54

Colts A Lost 12-17

They were fast out of the blocks and took the game straight to St Paul's from the kick-off, only for George Cutler, *The Knoll*, to be adjudged offside from a kick after having scored a try. St Paul's responded immediately and put the Harrow back under pressure. A freak bounce of the ball from a kick led to one of the St Paul's wingers scoring to give them a 5-0 lead after five minutes. Harrow refused to let this affect them and spent the next 30 minutes in the St Paul's half. With the penalty count against Harrow in double figures, the crowd must have been wondering if Harrow would ever cross the whitewash. Iyanu Ademawagun, *Druries*, eventually forced a Harrow score from a charge-down and the score was 5-5 at the half-time interval.

This try seemed to energise the boys and Harrow were quickest out of the blocks in the second-half. Oli Newall, *Druries*, linked up with Ed Garuba, *Newlands*, to give Harrow the lead 12-5. As Harrow's infringements at the breakdown and maul entered the teens, St Paul's gained sufficient field position to cross the whitewash from close range on two occasions. The team had showed tremendous character and composure despite their frustrations and earned the right for one last crack at the St Paul's line. Yet another breakdown infringement saw St Paul's turnover the ball and the match finished 17-12 to St Paul's. Harrow can be proud of their composure and resilience throughout the whole match and will look to bounce back against Epsom next week.

Colts B Lost 5-14

Colts C Lost 0-66

Junior Colts A Won 50-14

RWC 2019. What was this game reminiscent of? Not as tight as Japan v Ireland. Certainly not the gulf of New Zealand v Namibia. Probably more like Fiji v Georgia.

St Paul's had the better of early exchanges, snipping around the fringes with Harrow committed to the tackles, in particular Emmanuel Olowe, *The Grove*. The boys were probably over-committed as Gabriel Black, *West Acre*, pointed out. They didn't quite get the defensive balance right but it certainly improved as the game went on. The height of the tackles was pleasing. Certainly nothing of the Tomas Lavanini, Argentina, that precipitated his red card against England earlier in the day (or later in the day depending on how you look at time differences).

Samuel Harrison, *Moretons*, was good for another try and a sensational Michael Hooper/Richie Mcaw-esque turnover in the early exchanges. His transformation from back to forward is working well! Ollie Miall, *Newlands*, did what he does best and hit some outstanding direct and straight lines.

Waleed Nsouli, *The Knoll*, took a bobbled interception and threw a one-handed round the back pass which was reminiscent of Beaudon Barret, New Zealand. He scores yet another hat-trick.

Kurran Calvert-Davies, *Druries*, had an excellent game, finishing clinically in the corner, but Fin Smith, *The Knoll*, was simply electric, scoring on most occasions that the rock arrived in his hands. Tito Edjua, *Lyon's*, angry at missing out on a Sunley appearance on Thursday after vomiting in the morning and starting the bench, came on and simply refused to be tackled showing his worth.

Arnaud Du Roy, *Elmfield*, was the man of the match with a

huge tackle count and superb organisational and communication skills.

The opposition coaches commended the Harrow boys on their attitude and the spirit in which they played the game. Richard Finch, Director of Sport, (aka Action Man) returned the compliment. The St Paul's boys were gritty and never gave up and were worth their two tries, which they celebrated as if they had won the World Cup final.

Second round of the cup on Tuesday away at Champion School and a much tougher test against Epsom is around the corner.

Junior Colts B Won 54-0

Junior Colts C Won 38-19

Yearlings A Won 52-0

Tries: Theo Stockmeier, *Druries*, Griffin x2, *The Head Master's*, Henry Emerson, *Newlands*, Smith x2, *Newlands*, Abualsaud, *Elmfield*, Netanel Lawrence-Ojo, *The Knoll*,

Cons: Phillip Edstrom x 5, *Bradlys*,

The Yearlings A were clinical in the second half to run away with what in the first 25 minutes was a very tight and hard-fought contest. The team learnt an invaluable lesson about the necessity to remain clam under pressure, and composed themselves excellently at the return of the half to run in four well-worked tries in 15 minutes to break the shackles of their valiant opponents.

Yearlings B Won 52-0

Yearlings C Lost 12-15

Yearlings D Won 48-5

Yearlings E Won 20-15

Yearlings F Won 29-20

## CROSS COUNTRY

### *ESAA XC Cup Round 1*

On Thursday, the cross-country team hosted the first round of the English Schools Cross-Country Cup. The Harrow team came second in their race, with notable performances by Tom Emery, *Moretons*, Julian Abass, *Elmfield*, and Thomas Hobbs, *Newlands*. Arrington Culbertson, *The Grove*, showed great grit and determination, finishing strongly to ensure the team passes through to the the next round.

### *Simon Houghton Trophy, away at Sevenoaks*

The cross-country team travelled away to Sevenoaks on Saturday to take part in the Simon Houghton Trophy. The Harrow 'army' came out in full force to come third overall. There were some excellent performances from Eddie Jodrell and George Ferguson, who came fifth and seventh respectively on a tough, undulating course.



As ever, there was strong encouragement from the beaks and both RCHA and LSA ran the course. This is only the second fixture of the term so far for the team, which seems to be progressing very well with some young talent bringing a new dynamic to the squad.

### **Ways to contact *The Harrovian***

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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