

THE HARROVIAN

VOL. CXXXIII NO.6

October 17, 2020

SLAVONIC SOCIETY

The Ambassador of Russia, His Excellency Mr Andrei Vladimirovich Kelin, OH Room, 6 October

The Slavonic Society event calendar of 2020/21 started on a high note with a visit from the recently appointed Ambassador of Russia to the United Kingdom, his Excellency Andrei Vladimirovich Kelin.



Mr Kelin has dedicated a great number of years to public service, taking on a variety of positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 1979. In addition to serving in various posts in Russian embassies in Europe, he was also Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to NATO, Representative to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe and Head of the Department of Pan-European Cooperation. After fulfilling these highly ranked posts, he was appointed as the Ambassador of Russia to the United Kingdom on 22 November 2019, at which point he formally assumed his duties.

His Excellency began by outlining the constantly shifting diplomatic relationship between the United Kingdom and Russia over the last 450 years, from 1553 i.e. just a few years before Harrow School was founded. He emphasised that, regardless of the political climate, the relationship between the two countries has been maintained. Russia and the United Kingdom were also at odds during the Crimean War but, shortly after that, trade activities were reinstated and connections were gradually rebuilt. Fighting against a common enemy during WWII brought the two countries together; however, the Cold War that followed again led to a tense geopolitical climate, during which the two nations were on different sides of the Iron Curtain that divided Europe for many decades. Ultimately, the two partners have sustained their diplomatic relationship even through the uncertain times of conflict.

Another crucial and thought-provoking stage of the lecture involved the topics of fake news, negative views perpetuated about Russia, and about Russia's duty to protect her interests on the international stage. It was made clear that the interests of Russia did not align exactly with the goals of the European Union and the United States of America. This was one of the reasons given by Mr Kelin when asked about the current political tension between the two countries; he stated "the political relationship with London is currently not good", despite the fact that "no ideological differences remain" in contrast to the Communist v capitalist thinking for the majority of the 20th

century. Both the UK and Russia, in the Ambassador's words, are very similar in terms of cultural, economic and technological advancements. Mr Kelin also addressed the perpetuation of fake news by other nations, collectively against Russia. It was stated that "British journalists are very good at disseminating negative information about Russia".

The Ambassador then discussed how coronavirus had affected economic activity in the Russian Federation. The drop in Russian GDP, 8.5% in the second quarter, was minimal compared to other European countries. And, on a more positive note, Russia had a coronavirus vaccine in phase 3 of testing. The Ambassador mentioned that he was extremely hopeful for the potential of Russian medicine and vaccine development, emphasising the need for the unity between nations, and for "combining forces", while trying to avoid "politicising" the vaccine. Much scepticism had been raised, according to Mr Kelin, by the US and the UK about this, which is why Russia has not involved them in discussions concerning the vaccination.

After his fascinating speech, His Excellency welcomed questions from the public. Naturally, the topics of questions were widespread and displayed Harrovians' interest in global affairs. The first question concerned the alleged poisoning of Alexei Navalny. The Ambassador responded that it was "very much staged" and that Russian doctors who had examined Navalny had not found any traces of poisonous substances in his body. The Russian authorities are investigating the case now. Other themes covered included Brexit, the upcoming US presidential elections, international relations, in particular with Belarus, Ukraine, China and North Korea, foreign investment, technological advancement, education and many others. Having answered all the sometimes challenging questions, the Ambassador praised the Harrovians for their knowledge of the foreign affairs, saying that some of the questions that he had received had been more eloquent than those that he had been asked by Oxford students.



The Slavonic Society and the wider School community would like to sincerely thank His Excellency Mr Andrei Kelin for visiting us in person despite the unprecedented circumstances brought upon us by the COVID-19 global pandemic, and all his colleagues at the Russian Embassy who facilitated this visit.

Last but not least, we would like to thank KAF for her efforts and time invested in organising this memorable event, which we hope will be followed by other high-calibre events planned for this academic year.

HOUSE SCENES COMPETITION

Second Edition, Ryan Theatre

There was much excitement in the (fully socially distanced!) Ryan Theatre for the staging of the second edition of the House Scenes Competition. The two compères of George Gallagher, *The Grove*, and Gabe Rogers, *The Knoll*, kicked off the competition in style and they must be commended for the insightful introductions to each scene as well as their occasional quips.

Newlands were handed the tricky task of being the first House on. Their scene was taken from *Ink* and they were clearly unfazed by the prospect of going first, with Herbie Smith showing some flair and Freddie Strange displaying the outstanding acting skills that we have been so accustomed to seeing over the years.



West Acre managed to produce an equally impressive scene from *This is Our Youth*, with Tobias Adetula delighting the audience with some tremendous acting.

Elmfield's scene from *Waiting for Godot* fantastically presented the theme of blind faith, and Shubh Malde's brilliant directing resulted in Elmfield taking advantage of the expansive stage. Hugo Heffer effectively presented Godot's emotionless yet calm character in mesmerising fashion too.

Lyon's production of *Fences* followed and the audience was honoured with the chance to admire some outstanding acting from Marcos Kantaris but most notably Remi Jokosenumi, who was rewarded by being chosen as one of the two actors to be awarded the Best Individual Acting Performance.

The Knoll's *Death of a Salesman* offered those present in the theatre a jump into the cut-throat environment which a salesman has to endure. William Wauchope portrayed the role of a young, stoic salesman in impressive fashion and Leo Jiang played the role of a veteran salesman so convincingly that he was awarded Best Individual Acting Performance along with Remi Jokosenumi.

Jake Henson's impressive directing skills in producing The Park's *The Importance of Being Earnest* caused several in the theatre to fear that the Park would retain the House Scenes trophy - especially when the likes of George Fenwick and Maxi Farah were able effectively to bring out Oscar Wilde's unique humour from the scene.

The scene of *Abandon Ship* by Bradbys was littered with jokes and both Federico Greaves and Sam McGougan managed to get across the comedic element of the scene with great success.

The Head Master's followed with a fascinating scene that questioned the purpose of humans in life. Phoenix Ashworth displayed his impeccable acting skills and great credit must be handed to George Davies who was the only boy in the competition to write their House's scene. Given that, it was impressive how the profound ideas of the scene mixed nicely with comedic interspersions.

Druries' scene was taken from the production of *Art* and stand-out performances came from Adam Ait El Caid and Zac Yardley,

who magnificently conveyed how the three-way friendship had reached its boiling point, and Finlay Matheson's directing skills ensured that there was a certain slickness to the scene.

Moretons had the chance to close the night with a bang and Tom Emery and Max Morgan managed to capture the audience with their fine acting. They did indeed ensure that the event ended on a high!

Yet you may say, where is The Grove's review? Well, after much deliberation between APC and the guest adjudicator Mr James Trapmore, Head of Curricular Drama at King's College School in Wimbledon, The Grove were chosen as the deserved winners. The chemistry between George Gallagher and Peter Cartwright was enthralling to see from an audience member's perspective, and the captivating portrayal of their respective characters maintained the audience's absolute attention throughout their whole scene. The Grove duo made sure that they used the enormous Ryan Theatre stage to good effect and they truly did deserve to win the title of Overall Best Scene for their simply astonishing rendition of a scene from *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.



With the second edition of the House Scenes Competition coming to its conclusion, there remains no doubt that Harrow continues to have a boundless number of extremely talented actors and I am sure many boys will be looking forward to having another go at the event next year.

Thanks must go to all the theatre staff involved who are so dedicated to the smooth-running of the night and also our guest adjudicator, Mr James Trapmore, who kindly gave up his spare time to judge the event.

SENIOR INTER-HOUSE DEBATING

Old Schools, 7 October

On Wednesday 7 October, the Senior Debating Society met in Old Schools to hear the first wave of arguments from House teams on the motion that 'This house would never lie'.

Before the debate began, it was evident to all that this would be an evening of intrigue, for due to speak first was Elmfield, who had just received the unfortunate impact of losing several competitors to the positive COVID case within the School. As a result, SPS and JEP had to get creative with the game mechanics and devised a new format to stand against the traditional and conventional one we know and love.

Undeterred by the sheer size of his opposition, Archie Kyd, *The Park*, began by telling us that we each lie a whopping 11 times every single week. This leads to mental health problems, generally low self-esteem and sleep deprivation, which in turn leads to a poor mental health. Overall, it seemed that the proposition's argument would be based on the premise that lying is not good for you, and thus that it should be avoided.

For the opposition, we first heard from Farhan Ashiq, *The Head Master's*, who immediately gave the impression of being loud, proud and dangerous to deceive. Although it would perhaps be a violation of the doctrine of journalistic impartiality to say that his speech was riddled with logical fallacies, it was unequivocally true that the speaker's strong delivery and unmissable rhetoric failed to be matched by the quality of the arguments he presented. The speaker argued that the feelings of individuals can only be helped by telling lies, and this extended to hiding war crimes from the general population.

This was matched by the speech of Nathaniel Franklyn, *The Head Master's*, who presented his thesis on Santa Claus. He set out to prove that lies oriented to help others could be a positive thing. For example, if one is asked the question "Am I very good at the piano?", one would have to respond with a polite nicety, whether I had talent or not. However, it was noticeable that the speaker omitted to consider silence as an alternative option when asked those kind of questions. Perhaps this was the point Elmfield were so expertly trying to make.

Next, we had the second speaker from the opposition in the shape of Ilyas Qureshi, *The Park*. He argued that lies can spiral out of control and destroy relationships. Although the writer of this article struggled to follow the logic of how telling one little white lie would lead to the utter decimation of the universe (which seemed to be the point that Mr Qureshi was presenting), it was clear that his premise of lying being dangerous stood. In a calm manner that contrasted strongly to the traditional manner of speaking in House debating, Qureshi came across as measured and reasonable.

This was followed by a refreshing reframing of the debate by Ryan Cullen, *The Grove*, who argued that deception is a natural instinct and is therefore impossible for one to escape. This house could not avoid lying, and thus would not avoid lying. Although this argument may have been slightly against the spirit of the motion, it was certainly the most logically sound yet and seemed to resonate with one part of the partisan audience.

Finally, was Indi Abrams, *The Grove*, who was clad in debating tie and ready to use his senior position within the society as means of friendly intimidation. In the speech of the fourth speaker, it was clear that we were dealing with an actor, as the dramatic tension could have been sliced with a butter knife. Although he was guilty of the mental gymnastics of attempting the first non-mathematical proof by contradiction, he managed to speak strongly and effectively. We even managed to forgive him for saying that this house would "never, never, never, never, never" lie, creating a counting error that even confused the most mentally advanced members of the audience.

Overall, although this may not have been a vintage outing, all sides certainly showed convincing promise and I'd like to thank SPS and JEP for organising such a fantastic evening's entertainment.

ALEXANDER SOCIETY

Daniel Sidhom, The Knoll, "The Forgotten Battle of Penobscot Bay", Vaughan Library, 6 October

On 6 October Daniel Sidhom, *The Knoll*, gave a talk to the Alexander Society on the forgotten battle of Penobscot Bay. This was an intriguing talk on a subject that no-one in the audience had ever heard of. Penobscot Bay was a naval and land battle in which the continental army was humiliated by the British army in their attempts to regain the mid-Maine Coast from the British. In fact, it was the worst naval defeat in American history before Pearl Harbour.

The talk started with a timeline on the beginning of the War of Independence and detailing how the Americans almost gave

up on the war before the French joined them in 1778. The next section was about the purpose of the expedition, where the fighting was and how many ships and people each side had.

While the British were heavily outnumbered by the continental army at Penobscot Bay, they had gained a great deal of experience over the years. The two generals of the American army, Brigadier General Solomon Lovell (leader of the land forces) and Dudley Saltonstall (leader of the naval forces), also proved unable to co-operate with each other, which ultimately caused the disastrous outcome of the battle.

After touching on the key figures, we learnt about what happened during the battle and the key moments that defined it. After Congress decided that they would stand a better chance with a naval battle, they sent over 19 warships and 25 support vessels with 1,000 marines and a 100-man artillery unit to back them up. A day later, General Lovell landed four ships and progressed up to the British fort. After a determined fight with significantly fewer men, Sir John Moore of the British lost the fort and it was taken over by the Americans.

After losing the fort, Moore sought revenge and ordered his men into piston formation, which allowed them to devastate the Americans who pursued them after their tactical withdrawal. This caused the Americans to retreat from the land engagement. The Americans did not fare much better on the sea either and by 12 August both the American navy and army were in full retreat. As the British bore down, the Americans burned and sank their own ships and disappeared into the woods. Revere and the others made their way back to Massachusetts. In the end, Americans lost all their ships but one, which the British captured. The Americans lost 470 men and the British only 13. Many people concluded that this was the biggest failure in the War of Independence; it was such a disaster that the Congress briefly considered giving up the war and coming to terms with their former masters. The talk finished with a plethora of questions from the audience, which were well answered by our speaker Sidhom. Overall, this proved to be a very interesting and educational talk and the writer would like to thank DF for organising such a fantastic event and Sidhom for speaking at it.

JUNIOR LABORDE SOCIETY

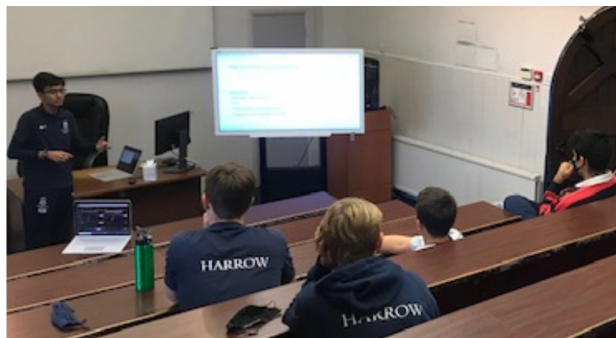
Aum Amin, Elmfield, "Geographical Impacts of Mineral Extraction", OMS, 8 October

On Thursday 8 October, junior boys settled in at Old Music Schools for the opening lecture of the Junior Laborde Society, delivered by the intelligent and charismatic Aum Amin, *Elmfield*. The talk was 'Geographical Impacts of Mineral Extraction', an eye-opening presentation on a huge, largely unspoken world of economic triumph and importance. He kept it succinct, without compromising on the unquestionably fascinating facts.

He started out with giving the basics: "Ore is natural rock or sediment that contains one or more valuable minerals, typically metals, that can be mined, treated and sold at a profit." Then he told us the many reasons why they are so crucial in the modern world, such as minerals being a commodity that can help industries can develop. Moreover, some countries' economies are heavily dependent on mineral export (e.g. Chile and Australia). These minerals are also used in our daily technology, such as the Surface Book you are reading this on right now! However, all this comes with downsides, as they are being depleted quickly and their extraction has led to ecological disasters.

Physical impacts from mineral extraction are water pollution, deforestation and, most interestingly, biomagnification. This is the concentration of a toxin in the tissues of tolerant organisms at successively higher levels in a food chain. For example,

there could only be a miniscule amount of the toxin in the water, but as it climbs up the food chain (plankton, fish, bird) it becomes drastically more saturated. Amin showed us the Minamata disaster, a prime example of biomagnification. Methyl mercury, a product of mining and factories, entered Minamata bay in Japan in the 1950s and 1960s. This bioaccumulated in shellfish and fish, which climbed the food chain all the way up to humans, affecting 10,000 people. Unborn babies and infants are very sensitive to methyl mercury, which is why there are suggestions of restricted tuna consumption during pregnancy. It can also cause damage to the central nervous system, which could affect the brain and spinal cord.



Deforestation is also a major downside to mining. Nearly 10% of deforestation in 2005 and 2015 was due to mining activities. Previously, it was thought to cause just 1–2%, so not only does it have a big impact but people don't even know about it. Deforestation from mining covered 11,670sq km in the Amazon. The Carajas iron mine in Brazil is responsible for 6,100km sq of deforestation annually to fuel pig iron plants. Furthermore, 90% of fish caught by rural villagers south of gold mining areas of the Tapajós River in Brazil were found to be contaminated with methyl mercury.

He also touched upon 'natural resource curse theory' and corruption. The problem starts when all a country's resources are devoted to mining, and the resources aren't used wisely. This has potential for corruption due to high revenues and monopolisation of industries. Also, collusion between public and private sectors create an oligarchy.

To finish off the lecture, Amin showed us how we can improve the situation. There is no replacement for naturally occurring minerals, and artificial minerals would be difficult to manage in larger amounts than is currently the case, so we need to 'reduce, reuse, recycle'. In a consumerist culture, we need to be mindful about the objects we use and perhaps not buy a new iPhone every year, despite the temptation, as it contains many rare minerals.

After the talk, there was a healthy dose of questions, calmly tackled by Amin, showing his clear passion and knowledge for the topic. Many thanks to Amin for giving a fantastic and thought-provoking lecture. If you would like to get involved with the Junior Laborde Society and potentially even give a lecture, please email GJBC and we hope to see you at the next one!

INDEPENDENT LINGUISTIC RESEARCH PROJECT PRIZE

30 September, OH Room

The inaugural Sixth Form Independent Linguistics Research Prize, organised by the Modern Languages Department and kindly sponsored by the Shumeyko family, took place on Wednesday 30 September in the OH Room, filled to the brim but with the required social distancing in place with boys from all years and Houses. The two competitors Richard Hayward,

The Knoll, who spoke on the efficacy of translation of children's literature, and Jan Kryca, *Moretons*, who conducted a data-science-based comparative analysis of machine and human translation, warmly welcomed the audience and swiftly moved to presenting their projects.

Kryca opened the competition with his lecture on 'The Limitations of Machine Translation in Natural Language Translation', in which he discussed the respective conclusions drawn from his research. He collected over 300 data points for his translation, with the help of many Russian native speakers (both Harrovians and external). The lecture began with Kryca introducing us to the conceptual aims of translation, its origins and inherent limitations, consequently allowing us to understand the linguistic fundamentals upon which his research relied. The highlight was a set of insightful and intriguing data visualizations, which creatively demonstrated the different correlations and impacts of various elements of language on the translations collected in his study. Kryca's thorough analysis of the data and effective communication of its implications gave the audience a unique perspective on the similarities, strengths and weaknesses of both machine and human translation.



Hayward, as is usual in his talks (for he likes to force his audience to wait, in order to build anticipation before he begins), spoke second. After briefly explaining the outline of his project, Hayward introduced us to his latest linguistic thesis: 'The Haywardian Target', eponymously named (of course). He used this analogy to state that: "speaking is like firing an arrow at a target, you aim for the yellow in the centre but often hit the blue or the black, and thus the listener receives the message differently from how you intended". He argued that this happens with almost every single word we speak, and thus he decided to examine how effectively one could 'hit the yellow' when translating *Winnie the Pooh* from English into four of the languages that he is studying at Harrow (Russian, French, Polish and Hungarian). He proceeded to demonstrate the significant amount of AO2 which he conducted within this project – a feat that makes A level English Literature look like a Shell boy's Winston Churchill essay when compared to the works of Shakespeare. Then, and to the thrill of his now-on-edge audience, Hayward introduced his team of native speakers whom he had interviewed for the practical part of his research project. Finally, Hayward went into the examination of his findings, stating that the best translations are based upon standards of lexical similarity, and that the stronger the lineages between languages the easier and more effective the translation would be – fundamentally concluding, in turn, that 'perfect translation' is a myth. Thus, once Hayward had finished, the bewildered audience, now all equivalent to PhD students on various translations of *Winnie the Pooh*, headed for the biscuits that HKJ had so kindly mustered.

After a detailed adjudication, Kryca came out with the first prize of £300, and Hayward came in second, securing himself £200 for runner-up.

Huge thanks must go to KAF for her incredible assistance, time and commitment to the development of both projects, as well as HKJ for reading and adjudicating the projects. Last but not least, the two winners and the Modern Languages

Department would like to thank the Shumeyko family for this brilliant initiative and for kindly sponsoring the prize for the years to come. Any Lower Sixth boy wishing to enter next year will strongly encouraged to do so, post HKJ's email in the Summer term.

METROPOLITAN

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

1 October

This year's National Poetry Day competition was on the theme of vision. The challenge was to write a poem in exactly 12 words that explored the theme in any way the writer wished. Staff and boys were invited to submit entries, with midnight as the deadline for this one-day competition. With 116 entries, there was an excellent variety in approach, with poems about sight, new ideas, knowledge, different perspectives, wisdom, the future, blindness, x-ray vision, telescopes or microscopes, and more. Joe McLean, *Druries*, won the boys' competition and Peter Davison-Rieber from the Maths Department won the staff competition.

Grandpa
Colossal giant,
Filled with tales,
Pouring wisdom,
Suddenly, not the same
Joe McLean

Required:
Self reflector
Introspector
Must be able
To see in the dark
PDR

Below is a selection of some of the poems from staff and boys:

Plumbing
the
earth for fat worms
I lost my
way
and eyes.
TGE

Resuscitation from a silent world
Crayons and paints dazzle, unite
Vision on.
Estelle Marshall

Vers une vie
verte. Des verres verts
traversent la mer.
La mère.
TLR

Saw the ripples
Spied the lark
Yanked my rod
Eyeballed the carp
Mick Broadbent

The Pale Horse,
His neck bent,
Drinking...
His Horseman's eyes
Reflecting...
Ready?
KAF
Two gelatinous spheres
uncovered each sunrise,
reflect light
upon 7,655,957,369 new worlds
RMT

My Perennial Daffodils.
Once self-seen
Rippled reflections
Of ravishingly radiant
Ruddy boyhood.
SWB

At the end of the rainbow, reality....
Dreams cast aside, long forgotten.
Karina Gumm

heavenly vision.
now blinding,
once invisible,
lens, focus,
dark emptiness,
Look up,
Laura Prince

Was blind but now I see!
Scales fall and set me free...
NT

Pupils reacting
Flashing wide
Dilated
Illuminated darkness and
learning?
Or maybe scared....
MJMR

Distance, eye,
Travel to a...
Far obscure parallel dimension.
Sky, purple.
Deus.
JDBM

Faults, bluffs,
blue-grey
City towers untethered,
Swaddled in fish-egg
Blooms.
Fred Sugarman Warner

Azure veil clad
Visor gleams
with woes and dreams
her view unobstructed
Sultan Aben

I open my eyes
to look outside.
Externally it's bleak
I sighed.
Jude Esposito

9 Months
 Needles, medicine
 No answers given.
 Scared, adrenaline
 mind depressed yet quietly hidden.
George Williams

Those who wonder
 Those who seek
 Only few will find
 Their glasses
Cameron Elliott

Black Lives Matter,
 Black history matters,
 On a mission
 with 2020 vision.
Henry Hancock

Perception of paradise,
 Optics of Omens,
 Vast, plentiful emptiness,
 Senses,
 Appearance,
 Existence.
Aditya Asnani

The gentle touch of fingers
 Inquisitively explores eyes, nose, jaw
 Tactile sight
Adam Ait El Caid

In fields of crimson,
 battles are won,
 but the war is lost.
Q Sun

Greta est-ce que tu veux être ma copine, et détruire les machines
Leo Wright

.It
 sees everything -
 Deed and Sin
 - all seeing eye that,
 terrorizes
 It.
George Chan

Keep your vision clear.
 For if it's blurred,
 This poem will disappear.
Luca Cox

Pandem-optics
 A faded future
 Obscured by a sticky glaucoma,
 A foreseeable end,
 Invisible.
Olufemi Lijadu

President is affiliated with
 [REDACTED] [REDACTED],
 While Biden qod [CENSORED]
 Russian REDACTED
 The societal trashcan is aflame.
Que Akhavan Zanjani

Statues
 Yesterday's heroes,
 Today's villains,
 Tomorrow's forgotten,
 A societal vision: productive or destructive?
Fynn Maydon

Life once was boring,
 Aimless and slow.
 Then came the dreamers,
 Visionaries
Dylan Winward

Braille
 A restaurant,
 An offer,
 A menu,
 A smile.
 A finger.
 Recognition. Independence.
Ryan Cullen

When a pigeon's imprisoned,
 forgetting 'tradition'.
 A Gryphon's envisioned,
 a modern condition.
George Gallagher

unimageable plummet into a pool of
 inefficiency and blackness,
 carcass-like memories remain
Phoenix Ashworth

wet gel on her belly
 monochrome foetal blur
 'peach-sized' she says
Max Morgan

Sight -
 Open eyes see
 The physical an open mind
 Reveals the mystical
Alexander Adefarasin

Illusions of truth
 Flutter before weary eyes.
 Do you see my world?
Indi Abrams

A BOY'S LIFE IN THE TIME OF COVID

7:20 -> Wake up and wonder whether GCSEs being cancelled due to a deadly international pandemic was in fact a dream. Realise that you did indeed spend six months of your life playing FIFA. Get dressed.

7:50 -> Go downstairs. Realise that you forgot your mask and go back upstairs.

8:00 -> Consume your daily dose of sausages, making mundane remarks about the weather and speculating about who might make the first XI next term.

8:15 -> Remember to sanitise your hands after the boy at the other end of the table let out a cough. Promise yourself that you will start to obey the COVID rules in a pseudo-religious manner from now on.

8:50 -> Go into 2a and slightly wish you were back at home where you were able to cook your second breakfast during morning lessons.

9:30 -> Go to 2b, where the beak has (again) forgotten about the online hybrid boys, who join about half way through the lesson in a manner which attempts to veil their indignation.

10:20 -> Line up in full military parade formations outside Old Schools so you can enter in a manner that allows for you to procrastinate some of the work you would otherwise you would be doing.

11:00 -> Go back to the House and stuff yourselves with oranges because you've suddenly remembered that somebody breathed on you earlier and you need to boost your immune system.

11:25 -> Conduct a double lesson of "work" while in reality checking BBC Sport.

12:50 -> Walk to the Shepherd Churchill in anticipation of a midday feed after spending the morning hungry, only to be turned away because it isn't your House time yet.

13:00 -> Conduct Bill in an abstract School location where most of the members of your House probably never would have visited without a global pandemic.

13:10 -> Eat the daily selection of generic chicken. Grumble about how now you are really annoyed about COVID, as if the lack of small comfort-food items was more significant than international chaos.

13:40 -> Return to House to finish off some midday prep that you had forgotten about because you had spent the previous evening too busy watching TikToks about politicians who had downplayed COVID and then contracted it.

14:15 -> Leave the House early to get to your lesson on time for once.

14:20 -> Arrive at period 3 only to realise that you have forgotten your mask and you are unable to walk the short four yards into the form room to your seat without it. Begin the Olympic sprint to the House.

14:26 -> Arrive for your lesson late.

15:10 -> Begin to wonder if faking a deep cough is better than spending your afternoon in a lesson.

15:55 -> Watch the seconds tick on your Surface Book clock, while realising that the beak required to stand at the front of the form room means that they are not able to see what is on your screen.

16:35 -> Play some socially distanced sport, taking extra care to point your masked mouth in the opposite direction to the player you are tackling.

18:15 -> Hear the shrill bell that indicates you need to come downstairs so you can walk in close proximity to others who might have a deadly virus.

18:20 -> Ruminant on the meaning of life and mortality when a boy accidentally fires a projectile of spit onto your previously appetising spaghetti.

19:10 -> Attend Bill and hear about the need for "renewed vigour" in these "unprecedented times"

19:30 -> Enjoy some quality memes while procrastinating.

20:00 -> Wonder whether hoping one of your beaks gets COVID so you don't have to write their essay makes you a morally reprehensible human.

20:30 -> Decide that you need to do some prep and end up sketching bad stick figure drawings on your tablet mode Surface Book.

21:00 -> Walk to a society event.

21:05 -> Arrive, realising that you have forgotten your Surface Book and are thus unable to sign in for School's home-made Track-'n'-Trace.

21:40 -> End of lecture. Wonder if the lecture was the best idea after all, as you loudly and furiously sanitise your hands using your secret pocket stash of ethanol.

22:00 -> Return to the House.

22:15 -> Set the alarm for the same wrong time the next morning.

22:30 -> Bed.

JOHN LOCKE ESSAY ON LAW

On behalf of the Somervell Society,

Trevor Yip, The Park

"Do the underlying principles of common law require that juries be informed about jury nullification?"

In a common law system, juries have the power to return verdicts of 'Not Guilty' even if they believe that the defendant did in fact commit the crime. This is known as jury nullification--or a perverse verdict in the UK -- and can occur in circumstances where the jury believe that the law does not fit or under extenuating circumstances. In the US, the power of nullification is a perhaps unintended consequence of the constitution and the legal system's protection of the jury's verdict. In the UK, the power for the jury to nullify has existed in their system for years. Informing juries about jury nullification involves giving them the right to deliver nullified verdicts, rather than merely giving them the power to do so. I will draw on some key principles of common law to argue that there are good arguments to be made for jury nullification to be a right possessed by juries rather than a mere power.

A common law system is one where the law is derived from judicial principles and customs rather than duly enacted statute. Law is created 'incrementally', with judges resolving disputes as they arise on the basis of their own "own sense of fairness, reasonableness, custom, and good policy." These decisions are written down in order for the judiciary to apply them in the next case, through the system of precedent. Thus, in a common law system, the courtroom is an important site of the law's development, with judges taking an active part in interpreting, defining and reshaping the law through their rulings. A consequence of this iterative and discretionary process is the defining flexibility of the common law system. Freund argues that systems which rely heavily on strict adherence to statutory terms can result in "impracticability" and the possibility of "injustice." Eisenberg writes that the common law is "tentative... continuously subject to modification as new situations arise." Legal rules may thus be adapted to a "changing reality", and constantly refined. It has been argued that the English common law is based on 'a bargain between the Law and the People'. This will be discussed in greater detail below; however, I argue that an essential feature of the common law system in the UK and in the US is the role played by the jury--a role that is practical as well as symbolic. Thus, I will argue in this essay that juries should be informed of jury nullification, thus elevating it from a power to a right. My argument will draw on key principles of common law described above: flexibility, precedent and the role of the common law jury.

The role of the common law jury is important and significant in the justification of jury nullification. The role of the jury is commonly understood as a finder of fact. However, I argue that the source of the jury's power as well as its symbolic function is derived from democratic values. This is important for two reasons: first, the legitimating power of the jury to the system and second, the importance of the jury to participatory democracy.

Whittington draws on Habermas' theory of autonomy to argue that the key 'legitimizing concept' of the legal system is the participation of citizens through juries. In a modern democratic system, "the laws must be written by those who live under them." This process of self-legislation, proximate as it is to the idea of autonomy, requires the jury to be able to exercise their powers without restraints on their power. To not inform the jury about their power to nullify, or to conceal vital information about the legal process is to limit the ability of juries to perform the important process of self-legislation, hence denying the system of a significant source of legitimacy.

However, it has been argued by those such as Arnstein that the participation of citizens in (democracies) should not be viewed

in a “solely instrumental” manner, in terms of its legitimating function. Participation in juries is inherently valuable as one of the two significant ways in which people can participate in the systems that they live under. As argued above, participation is important because it allows for autonomy and self-governance. Philosophers such as Kant and Mill place a great deal of importance on the moral significance of self-governance. They argue that one’s authentic self can only be fulfilled through participation in making the laws that govern oneself. To not inform juries of jury nullification is to limit their participatory potential. Thus, their moral autonomy is compromised, and they are used as pawns to legitimize the legal system.

This not only defeats the point of the jury’s role in a common law system but delegitimizes the legal system as a whole. By giving juries the right to use their power to nullify, this creates a system which trusts in participatory democracy as well as verifies the common law system. Looking at this from another angle, by restricting citizens from being informed of jury nullification, they are infringing and limiting citizens’ rights. This is ironic, as jury nullification is seen as a symbol of hope to prevent government oppression, yet it is censored in such democratic countries. By giving the jury their right to nullify, it legitimises the citizens’ rights and their representations in the legal process.

As stated above, flexibility is what defines a common law system, where the judge and the jury are able to have their own interpretations of the law, and are able to respond to unforeseen cases, facts and situations. The jury consists of twelve ordinary citizens who come to a consensus verdict on cases. Many argue that decisions that are based on consensus tend to be high-quality and with a low margin of error, preventing radical or abhorrent verdicts from being as a matter of course. This means that if the jury nullifies a verdict, it is reasonable to assume that it is similarly as high quality as normal decisions. Flexibility allows for jurors to come to a conclusion “according to their conscience, not merely in line with evidence.” Such verdicts of conscience are in keeping with their role as autonomous participants in self-governance. Thus, perverse or nullified verdicts, rather than diminishing the quality of justice being delivered, improve on it by using the flexibility of the common law to reflect values that citizens agree on in order to deliver justice in cases where it could not where the law is applied blindly. By their nature, juries serve a different role, with their right to nullification as an essential aspect, where judges may be confined by issues of precedent and legality.

Finally, the most important argument in favor of elevating jury nullification from a power into a right is to examine the source of this power in the first place. In the US, it is the natural consequence of the protection accorded to the verdict of the jury by the 5th Amendment, which prevents a person from being tried twice for the same crime. To question the verdict of a jury for any reason is thus unconstitutional, thus juries may use any reasoning they please to deliver a verdict that they believe to be correct. This allows juries to deliver nullified verdicts for which they cannot be punished. Without the right against double jeopardy, the government could retry any acquittals that it disagrees with the jury. This would be unfair to the jury and the defense, delegitimising the jury’s rights and the court system. If the right against double jeopardy exists in the US constitution, it would be fair for juries to be informed of their right to jury nullification as a natural consequence.

In the UK, it has been integrated in the jury system for a long time and is argued by Lord Justice Auld to be a useful tool “against oppression by the State.” In English history, jurors were arrested and tried if they gave the wrong verdict. Hence, to give a perverse verdict was to break the juror’s oath. However, this is not the case in the present, as juries are not held liable for their verdicts. This allows juries to nullify verdicts without punishment. In a capitalistic society such as the UK, the absence of state oppression is what defines its characteristics and it

would be mandatory for jury nullification for that to occur.

However, there are possible concerns which could be used to address the use of jury nullification as a right. Such concerns include the possibility of misuse in which juries nullify more. A study concluded that juries functioned differently when “in receipt of nullification instructions.” This was especially significant in drunk driving and euthanasia cases. It was also shown that they focused more on factors such as “personal experiences” and “defendant characteristics” when deciding on a verdict. This could seem like an unreliable system but could be justified by the morality of the verdict (moral justice). Another common concern is in regard with precedent, where some may fear that the jury’s nullified verdict may be passed as a revised law. This is not an issue and is case specific, as precedent can only occur through the judge’s decision. Therefore, I will draw upon the argument that since the verdict is routed through the jury, it enables exceptions in the law to be made without disturbing the nature of the law itself.

In conclusion, through understanding the common law, I have proven as stated above that not only does jury nullification conform with the principles of the common law, but also supports the idea that juries should be informed about their right to nullify. I will justify my argument through the help of Patrick Devlin’s characterisation of the jury as a “mini-parliament”, hence proving once again for a final time that the jury should be given their right to jury nullification.

HERE AND THERE

William Wauchope, *The Knoll*, and Dylan Winward, *Lyon’s*, put in huge amounts of hard work this Friday and Saturday to represent Harrow at the International Calcutta Debate. They placed second, which is a huge achievement for them both, and for the School. (The other UK School was Headington School in Oxford) The online debate was hosted by BSS School in Calcutta, and was sponsored by the CDC (Calcutta Debating Society) to commemorate the B.P. Khaitan Memorial Discourse 2020. There are 12 teams in all: two from the UK, two from the Middle East, and eight from different cities in India including Varanasi, Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Kolkata and more. The boys spoke on opposing sides of two different motions over the two days, whether “technology has dulled the mind”, and whether “the masses define truth”. Their combined scores put Harrow second behind the host school BSS.



This year, four Harrow beaks have received the University of Chicago Outstanding Educator Award: MEPG, BJDS, KAF, and RMT. They have been nominated for this award by their former pupils who were accepted into the University of Chicago Class of 2024 this autumn in recognition of challenging them intellectually, opening new vistas of discovery and challenging their interests into paths for intellectual growth during their time at Harrow. Many congratulations to the four beaks! (Award pictured below.)

OPINION

CORRESPONDENCE

DEAR SIRs,

I write corresponding to Winward's countless correspondences to *The Harrovian*. With all due respect, I am starting to feel slightly annoyed, no, extremely annoyed, by his constant criticism. In the past three years of reading *The Harrovian*, Winward has critiqued a plethora of proposals and policies, including commercial activities of boys being banned (the most recent one), and one I recall from last year about wearing School uniform to away matches. Every single time I open *The Harrovian*, I reluctantly await turning to the Correspondence page, as I always expect to see Winward winge about something very few people care about. I understand that School rules are annoying at times, but I'm sure most beaks, and perhaps all beaks, do not like keeping track of the constant and numerous changes to Existing Customs and enforcing sanctions. The rules are there for a reason – to allow the life and wellbeing of the average Harrovian in Harrow to be better. Winward personally may not like the rule changes, but unfortunately democratic systems generally take a utilitarian approach to rules – the greatest good for the greatest number. The SMT, I'm sure, are extremely busy and have innumerable issues they have to keep track and take care of, and they wouldn't impose a rule change unless they deemed it necessary. I think the wise MPS (who left in 2019) summed up my thoughts brilliantly when he stated the following to me in class, and I think it is especially prevalent here: "Shut up and get on with it." I understand that complaining and advocating for change can be extremely beneficial and is one of the big advantages of having freedom of speech. Due to people advocating for change, women's rights were improved drastically, and slavery was abolished, but the issues that Winward is discussing simply don't affect most Harrovians and are extremely minor.

Perhaps this letter is badly timed, since Winward's most recent correspondence on the banning of commercial activities actually enacted change and was beneficial. Winward saved the great company J.W. Shin Co. from the depths of disaster, and in all sincerity, I commend him for that. I myself have sought the amazing services of J.W. Shin Co. when my hat fell apart, and I am extremely pleased that J.W. Shin Co. can continue to serve Harrovians. However, I simply don't seem to be persuaded by Winward's argument whatsoever, even though I do agree that the School shouldn't simply ban commercial activity – they should allow some exceptions to the rule.

When I was in Shells, many of the Upper Sixth were attempting to sell their sports kit, and they were being quite insistent about it. I almost succumbed to the pressure and bought overpriced sports kit (they did try to overcharge me), but luckily I gathered my courage and refused. Fortunately, the Druries Upper Sixth were kind people, and they stopped trying to sell me their kit. However, not all people in all Houses are as kind. Imagine the situation where a timid Shell is approached by an Upper Sixth boy who tries to sell his kit. Do you think a Shell would refuse? The Shell would also be unfamiliar with the prices of the sports kit at the outfitters and could easily be scammed. I think it is ridiculous to justify Winward's argument by stating that the great man John Lyon founded our School in 1572, obtaining his wealth due to entrepreneurship, and as a result commercial activity should be allowed. That to me is a logical fallacy – a fallacy of inconsistency. There honestly is nothing entrepreneurial about selling your kit to someone – it requires almost no skill and it is an action a five-year-old could

perform. I remember playing Monopoly when I was very little, and even I, with no knowledge of entrepreneurial skills at the time, managed to convince my parents to trade Pennsylvania Avenue for Marvin Gardens. I think I ended up winning that game actually.

Winward mentioned a boy needing a calculator and a boy having two calculators. As a mathematician myself, I can firmly state that having two calculators isn't necessarily a bad thing. A lot of teachers give double for forgetting your calculator. Don't you think that owning a spare is exceedingly useful? Not only can you avoid double if you ever lose your calculator, since you can simply bring your spare – if someone in your House is in desperate need of a calculator for his next lesson to avoid double, you will be able to lend your calculator to him for the time being. The action of refusing to own a spare just because currently no one desperately requires one is selfish and foolish. I recently did a peer-mentoring session, and one of the traits in D7 is preparation. I'm sure Winward also has to do peer-mentoring sessions, but getting rid of your calculator doesn't seem to be good preparation for the future. As for the boy who needed a calculator, if he thinks the Hill Shop is overcharging him, then simply buy one from Amazon – the prices are generally reasonable and it will probably arrive in less than a week. You may ask: What should he do this week then? As far as I'm aware, there is no School rule disallowing borrowing with permission, and perhaps Winward can confer on this one, since he seems to have studied in great depth every single word in Existing Customs. To summarise, here is my solution:

Let Person A be person with two calculators and Person B be person with no calculator

1. Person A borrows calculator to Person B, and Person B orders a calculator on Amazon. All is well, and neither person gets double.

2. Person B's calculator arrives, and Person B gives Person A's calculator back to Person A.

3. Person A keeps his spare calculator, since he prepares in advance and is selfless – he anticipates someone in his House forgetting his calculator.

Furthermore, the School has implemented many positive changes in the last three to four years that, funnily enough, Winward has neglected to mention. Just this year, the School has tightened on the issue of racism, and capped double at 100, which are both very positive changes. Just imagine if Winward were as thankful as he was sceptical about the School – I would close my copy of *The Harrovian* with a smile on my face instead of being annoyed.

On a separate note, I am appalled that Winward misquoted the great Churchill at the end of his correspondence: "If you have 1,000 regulations, you lose all respect for the law." Churchill actually said, "If you make ten thousand regulations, you destroy all respect for the law." Those of you who do Maths will know that one thousand and ten thousand is a difference of an entire magnitude. This is an extremely big difference, and completely misses the point of the quotation. If you get 10% in a test, you wouldn't feel extremely pleased about yourself, but if you get 100%, you would be. If a jug has a capacity of one litre and you put 500ml of water in, it won't overflow, but if you put five litres of water in, it will. Lastly, if the R number for COVID was 0.2, there wouldn't be a pandemic, but if it was at 2, you arrive at where we are today. One order of magnitude is a colossal difference. I eagerly wait for Winward's reply. (On a final note, I hope the reader has discovered the subtle irony of the entire letter.)

Kind regards,

BRANDON CHANG, DRURIES

P.S. Winward and I are on good terms (as far as I know), and I hope this letter finds him well.

DEAR SIRs,

In your 3 October edition, Tom Wickson paid tribute to the surreal Squash Reports of SJH, who recently retired. I had found SJH's Squash Report dated April 29 2017 so hilarious that in your 20 May 2017 edition I wrote a letter explaining in detail why it was such an entertaining masterpiece.

Inspired by SJH, I then wrote in many letters to *The Harrovian* in similar surreal style. *The Harrovian* kindly published consecutively no less than 34 of my letters, a series record for an OH. There was only one letter censored because the Head Master, JBH, did not care for my jests about caning. But he generally dubbed my letters "scintillating".

My Top Twenty letters were

2017 10/6 A Disappointing Speech Day. 9/9 Cleopatra Visits Lord's. 16/9 The Top 8 OH Authors. 23/9 Cumberbach With No Name. 30/9 Canis Angelicus Dogginum. 21/10 All The School's A Stage. 11/11 642 OHs Who Died in WW1. 18/11 Why Only We Can Fill The Albert Hall.

2018 13/1 Dave Cameron Our Headmaster. 27/1 Admiral Sir George Zambellas. 3/2 My Mother-in-law And Von Ribbentrop. 3/3 How To Be An MP (1). 10/3 How To Be An MP (2). 17/3 Try To Be fffair = Interfere. 21/4 Literary Integrity Of *The Harrovian*. 28/4 My English Department Dinner. 5/5 Catholic Heiress With Low Self-Esteem. 12/5 Bonkers Inmates Of A Trisected Asylum. 19/5 Another Illusion Gone. 9/6 Etonian At The Jockey Club.

The fun had to stop not because I ran out of inspiration. Indeed on 25 May 2019 I managed to squeeze in a tribute to my friend "Screaming Lord Sutch", the 3rd Earl of Harrow. Even my sober appreciations of Lord Butler OH and Lord Guthrie OH failed to save me. I wrote just one letter a month, if I was lucky. How could Harrow possibly survive without my glittering weekly wit? Outrage! I resigned.

In time, I have realised, everyone goes on too long. Every speechmaker, every toast-giver, every lecturer, and every columnist is in danger of becoming inebriated with the exuberance of their own verbosity. Writing in to *The Harrovian* was all great fun while it lasted. I felt quite the jocular teenage lad at Harrow again. My epistolary Herga adventures have emboldened me to enter Britain's Got Talent as a singer/dancer. Don't worry. The creative tsunami rolls on.

Yours sincerely,

MIKE STONE, MORETONS 1957²

DEAR SIR,

You may imagine my dismay on reading the article on debating, to find this: "The writer of this article would like to thank JEP and SMS for helping make sure that House debating survives into the COVID era" As I recall, SMS was not present on this occasion, but SPS was. SPS would hate for such snubs to interfere in the adjudication.

Yours faithfully,
SPS

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from Around the Hill

"Sir, how did people make time? Like, was it trial and error? Did someone just go 'Nah, we can't have 100 minutes in an hour; we've been in the same year for like 20 months now!'" "I've been 12 for three years now!"

"Taxation's literally just the government robbing you." "In broad daylight." "Nah, I'm not havin' that."

SUDOKU

Persevera per severa per se vera

3		7		1				
							8	9
					6			
		6				3		
			9		2			
			8	4				
		4						
				7		5		
	9						2	

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

The School v Winchester College

Development A XI

Harrow Won 3-1

Scorers: Ben Harrison, *West Acre*, Matthew Harrison, *West Acre*, Chike Odogwu, *Moretons*,

It was not the slick performance that the A XI were hoping for, but, after going 1-0 down in the early stages, the team fought back well to grind out a deserved 3-1 win. Blesk Ekpenyong, *Druries*, and Luke Walton, *West Acre*, put in outstanding performances while Ben Harrison led the front line well.

Development B XI

Harrow Won 1-0

Scorer: Ethan Childs, *Newlands*,

Harrow started the game well and were able to put Winchester under considerable pressure in the first 20 minutes, creating some quality chances, with a high press disrupting Winchester's ability to play out from the back. Both sides had set up aggressively, with Harrow in a 3-4-3 and Winchester adopting a 4-3-3, which made both sides dangerous on the break. Harrow's back line of Esposito, *Newlands*, Barrett, *The Knoll*, and Antipovsky, *WestAcre*, were able to absorb this pressure whilst Greaves, *Bradlys*, and Moondi, *The Park*, worked tirelessly on the wings to provide attacking impetus and defensive cover. This hard work was rewarded by an excellent goal from Childs, who skilfully beat three of Winchester's defenders before calmly slotting the finish 25 minutes into the game. Winchester responded well to the goal and placed Harrow under some pressure but were unable to create any quality chances, leaving the blues 1-0 up at half time.

Harrow switched to 3-5-2 in the second half to better disrupt Winchester's pivot with Brankin-Frisby, *Newlands*, sitting as

a deep lying midfielder, slowing Winchester's ability to break quickly. Gibbens, *West Acre*, and Litton, *Newlands*, were dogmatic in the middle of the park and largely controlled the game, creating some excellent chances. Winchester had two opportunities to get back into the game but excellent goalkeeping from Hammad, *The Park*, snuffed these out. The physicality of the game picked up but Harrow kept their heads and were able to see out the match for an excellent victory.

Development Under-6 XI

Harrow Lost 0-2

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

This was a tough game for the Under-16 Development squad, playing against a nearly full strength A team. Harrow's performance was nonetheless positive, with a number of players taking the opportunity to show their quality and commitment. The opening stages were quite even, with Harrow achieving a solid shape and moments of attacking sharpness. Charlie Young's, *Newlands*, link-up play was typically good, with one chipped pass almost creating a shooting chance, and Louis Lord, *Lyon's*, twice going close with shots from distance. As the half wore on, however, the visitors became a little ragged and momentum built for Winchester, yet it required a defensive error from Harrow to allow the home side to score. This was followed by a second shortly before half-time, with an overload on the left side and a fortunate ricochet offering an opportunity to double the lead. Despite these setbacks, the visitors regrouped and put in a solid second-half display. Mide Awolesi's, *The Head Master's*, strength and drive in midfield were a highlight and Adam Zakir showed impressive composure at left back. With Chinedu Orji, *The Park*, driving down the right-hand side, Harrow were posing more problems for the opposition defence, with forwards just unable to capitalise on some excellent crosses. The best opportunity fell to Charlie Young who, having won the ball high, jinked past two to set up a one on one, only to drag his right foot shot wide. At the other end, Tom Haworth, *The Knoll*, had an impressive game in goal, saving one fierce shot in each half and dealing with everything else calmly. His distribution and assertive claiming of the ball are real strengths. Overall, the was a game played in excellent spirit and this mixed group should take confidence from a largely cohesive display. Further sharpness in passing and positioning can enable them to improve, along with decisive finishing when the opportunities come.

SWIMMING

On Thursday, we held the first swimming competition of the term. There were three teams: Scylla, led by swimming captain, Ethan Yeo, *The Head Master's*; Kraken, led by Vice Captain, George Rates, *Newlands*; and Megalodon led by Vice Captain Z-Za Bencharit, *Elmfield*. The boys entered into the spirit of this competition with full force and determination. There were some truly heroic swims in nearly every race. Despite a few teams being down in numbers due to absences from School, the swimmers were not deterred, shouting on their teammates from the side-lines, fully engaged in the competitive atmosphere. Of particular note, and out of the blue, three new School records were set in this gala:

Nick Finch, *Newlands*, giving himself a ninth School record on the boards, swimming the 200m individual medley in a time of 2:17:07. Henry Gray, *Lyon's*, also broke the old School record, swimming in 2:17:26. There was an incredibly exciting, back-and-forth battle of determination to the touch.

Gray did manage, however, to get his name once more on the records board, in the 200m backstroke event, taking Maxwell Brooks' previous record in a new time of 2:21:74.

Shell swimmer Adam Wong, *The Park*, blistered his way through the water to swim a new record time of 31.62 in the 50m breaststroke event.

Also worth noting, was the truly Viking-style effort of Niklas Host-Verbraak, *The Head Master's*, who swam a record six events, five of which were personal best times. Tamir Zolboo, *The Head Master's*, recorded the biggest gains of anyone in the pool, knocking 12 seconds from his 100m freestyle event. Apollo Wilkins, *The Knoll*, likewise amazed even himself with his stamina and speed, throughout his 30 lengths of racing. Despite being at complete levels of exhaustion, he agreed to swim the gruelling 200m breaststroke event for the first time, and came a respectable third place.

Final scores

Junior competition:

Scylla 27, Kraken 24, Megalodon 20

Senior competition:

Megalodon 31, Scylla 28, Kraken 13

Overall

Scylla 67, Megalodon 61, Kraken 44

GOLF

The School v Radley, Won 2-1, 8 October

The heavens well and truly opened on the way to the glorious Sunningdale Golf Club and the boys were stunned into silent anticipation – Finlay Matheson, *Druries*, was having nasty flashbacks of his woeful collapse this time last year and George Webster, *Druries*, was struggling with how he could drink his Tango through a mask (you don't want to see young George after half an hour with no Tango).

Thankfully, the skies cleared just in time for Johnny Connell, *Rendalls*, to fly some drives over the range netting (down the side of the range, not at the far end). Leo Wright, *Elmfield*, was glad to be back at his home course and he even applied some Coco Chanel perfume for the occasion.

The Harrow side were up against both tough opposition and a tough, unforgiving course in the New at Sunningdale. Leading the side out were captain Connell and Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*. The first fluctuation in the match score came on the 8th after some steady golf previously; Harrow went one down with an excellent birdie on the 9th from Shirvell. Then to follow were some unforced errors on 10 and 11 that meant Harrow gifted Radley two holes to go 2 down. Then continued some tight golf and some good scrambling from Connell meant that Harrow were still in the match right to the finish. Stepping onto the 17th tee 1 down, Harrow needed a strong finish and that started from Shirvell with an excellent 16-foot putt for a birdie-two to get the game all square going down the last. With Radley in a little trouble on 18, Harrow hit two solid drives and Connell found a wonder-stroke to find the middle of the green with his second on the par 5. With a tricky downhill putt, Connell did well to leave himself with a five-foot birdie chance for the win. Connell sunk this putt, meaning that Harrow won a very tight fixture 1 up with an incredibly strong finish from the pair of Connell and Shirvell.

Teaming up for the first time were Matheson and Toby Shirvell, *The Head Master's*. The new partnership got off to the perfect start with Matheson holing a fast downhill putt on the first to gain the one up lead and putting the demons to bed early doors. After a 325-yard drive on the stunning par 5 sixth, Shirvell took advantage and got a birdie to increase the lead to 2 up. The Radley duo rallied by winning a hole back and on the par 3 10th after the Radleian holed a monster putt for birdie. However, Matheson halved the hole with a birdie to

maintain Harrow's lead! Matheson then eagled the par 5 14th to increase the lead. Shirvell unleashed some absolute rippers off the tee on the back 9, which left the opponents visibly disturbed, yet they refused to back down and managed to get the score back to all square on the 16th hole. The Harrow pair remained cool under pressure, with Matheson getting a birdie on 17 and Shirvell doing the same on the 18th hole to complete an impressive 2 up victory. The pair afterwards said that it was the magnificent sausage roll from the halfway house that helped them across the line.



The final pairing saw Webster and Wright in search for a(nother) win. After two holes, the match looked in good shape for the Harrovians with a good putt from Wright on the 1st to halve the hole, and a good par from Webster to win the second. However, things quickly turned, as the Radleians turned up the heat, with their German attacker, as vicious as Lewandowski, who seemed to find the New course rather easier than the Harrovians did and just could not stop parring holes. The match was quickly turning sideways, and by the hut the boys were 6 down, and thought that the sausage sandwich would be able to help them recover. Webster was still without his fix and JRP arrived to the shout of "What do you mean you don't sell Tango!?" Alas, there was no saving this game and we would have to settle for a fitting 2-1 victory after final pair would succumb to a devastating 7&6 loss. Let's hope they can come back from this in style in the next few weeks. Please do keep an eye on them this coming week.

RUGBY UNION

*The School v Gordon's School, Senior Fixture,
11 October*

Harrow welcomed five Senior touch teams from Gordon's School for the first external competitive rugby of the year. Harrow put out seven teams with all boys who play Senior rugby getting a run-out. The afternoon ran as a round-robin tournament with each side getting four matches against their counterparts from Gordon's. The best performances were found on the Sunley with the Harrow 1st, 2nd and 3rd teams all recording excellent wins and performances against their respective Gordon's teams. There were also strong performances from the boys in the Harrow 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th teams, taking on quality opposition and pushing them all the way. Across the board, the boys played with great control, skill and adventure over the course of the afternoon and it was pleasing to see how the boys have developed over the last five weeks with their understanding of the game and their skill level.



Elsewhere, Rendalls won the Junior Super 9s with an excellent performance throughout the competition, defeating a strong Elmfield team in the final.

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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

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