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SUMMERSON SOCIETY

Timothy Demetris, Renaissance scholar and founder of the Timothyseus Project, "Urban Regeneration in Renaissance Rome", OH Room, 29 April

Last Thursday, Timothy Demetris addressed the Summerson Society on the topic of 'Urban Regeneration in Renaissance Rome'. He gave to the audience an in-depth look at the rebuilding of Rome through the lens of two particular Popes: Pope Sixtus IV (1471-84) and Pope Julius II (1503-13).

In the lecture, we were taught of Pope Sixtus's climb to power from an impoverished noble family in Liguria to the top of the Franciscan community as a result of his great intellect and adoration for his religion. Sixtus began his papacy by immediately embarking on his journey of fixing Rome's appearance and civic pride. Alongside restoring churches in Rome, Sixtus also donated the iconic Capitoline She-Wolf back to the Roman population. The piece depicts the legendary story of the founders of Rome being suckled by a she-wolf; a piece that is symbolic to the whole of Rome. Through this donation and its placement at the Capitoline Hill, the civic centre of the city, he joined the papacy with the political structure of the city. One of Sixtus's motivations for the regeneration of the city was his devotion to the Virgin Mary. This influenced many of his commissions and restorations, such as the regeneration of the Santa Maria Del Popolo and even the commission of the famous Sistine Chapel. Additionally, Sixtus was also reportedly motivated by the Jubilee year in 1475 when Christians across Europe would be coming to Rome and seeing the Pope, putting pressure on Sixtus to beautify Rome.



Part of this project was the reconstruction of the Ponte Rotto (literally Broken Bridge, as it had collapsed), which was renamed Ponte Sisto after Sixtus. One fresco painting, *Pope Sixtus IV and Platina*, contains a Latin inscription at the bottom listing a few of the numerous commissions made by Sixtus in his time as pope. Mr Demetris elaborated on the contents of this painting, which depicts the various figures responsible for executing the wishes of Sixtus, who gave them their power through nepotism – "nephews" as they were called (Sixtus didn't have many allies when he first arrived in Rome).

The next pope (Julius II), who was a nephew of Sixtus (an actual one), was known for his aura of *terribilita*, his magnificent and imposing nature. Mr Demetris explained the

nature of Julius II's ambition as a patron, including his colossal commission for a tomb for Michelangelo. The actual tomb, while still magnificent, does not compare to the initial plans and ideas of Julius. Michelangelo was also moved from his works on the tomb to the commission of the Sistine Chapel ceiling, much to his frustration. Julius's ultimate ambition was to regenerate the Vatican specifically, with the commission of the Sistine Chapel and a whole new St Peter's Basilica. His patronage of so many pieces from so many artists brought a large shift in quality of art under the Papacy, as Sixtus did when he was in power. To give an example, Julius's patronage saw the introduction of Raphael to Rome, whose work includes the thought-provoking *School of Athens* and the more spiritual *Disputation of Holy Sacrament*.

Mr Demetris concluded by asking the audience to consider how each pope's differing ambitions drove the beauty of Rome to be restored to its ancient standards, encouraging us to look at these buildings and paintings in a new light should we ever have the opportunity to visit the city.



Classical influence on Renaissance architecture

Brunelleschi was the Florentine architect who is often cited as 'kicking off' the Renaissance (read: classical) style in Early Renaissance Florence. He went to Rome in 1401 and saw the architectural ruins, there but also travelled more widely (for example, his architecture suggests he went to Constantinople) and so, while his buildings have a distinct classical flavour, he was playing hard and fast with the rules.

Vitruvius was rediscovered in 1414 and, as the 15th century progressed, Early Renaissance architects such as Leon Battista Alberti (who wrote his own *Architectural Treatise*) began to tie down the rules further.

However, it was only with the High Renaissance architect, Donato Bramante and his Roman buildings that we start to see the Vitruvian rules being used absolutely correctly. On his arrival in Rome in 1499, he spent a couple of years simply exploring the ruins so had a really good understanding of their structures (as most of the decoration had of course been stripped away by then). That said, it is worth pointing out that he liked to add his own little signature flourishes too, such as balustrades that you don't see in Roman architecture.

Architects also had to unite classical design with Christian function. For example, churches have very tall naves flanked

by shorter side aisles, so it is difficult to neatly reconcile the facades with the robust horizontal emphasis of a temple front. (Palladio in the mid-16th century perhaps came up with the best solution for this – have a look at San Giorgio Maggiore in Venice.)

Equally, centrally planned buildings (particularly based on the Vitruvian circle) are symbolically perfect for churches but hugely impractical for housing congregations. As a result, many churches base their East Ends on a central plan with an extended nave to the West to pack in the crowds.

So the short answer? Early Renaissance architects in Florence were interested in classical forms but it was more decorative than anything else. It was not until the High Renaissance in Rome that they really understood the rules of classical architecture. However, they still had to adapt these forms to their Christian needs.

SHERIDAN SOCIETY

Ashley Hickson-Lovence, *'From Reluctant Reader to Debut Novelist'*, 18 May

Finally, after multiple cancellations and one virtual Lady Bouchier competition, the Sheridan Society was pleased to welcome author Ashley Hickson-Lovence in the OH Room for the first talk of the term. While working as a secondary school English teacher, Mr Hickson-Lovence completed his MA in Creative Writing at City, University of London and is currently completing his PhD in Creative and Critical Writing at the University of East Anglia; his debut novel, *The 392*, was released in April 2019 and his second novel, *Your Show* is to be released in Spring 2022. Mr Hickson-Lovence spoke enthralingly on his transition from a reluctant reader to a published author, discussing his influences and experiences along the way.

To begin, Mr Hickson-Lovence treated the audience by debuting a 10 minute piece of Slam Poetry called “Why I Write”, which he had learnt by listening to on repeat during his two and a half hour train journey from Norwich. Hickson-Lovence mesmerically and melodiously described his journey from writing as an ‘undercover poet’ into a fully-fledged author, talking about how he has drawn inspiration from music, his upbringing in Hackney and his students, and explained his ambition to impart his knowledge and encourage the next generation of writers with his ‘strange message’. It was truly a privilege to watch and listen to Hickson-Lovence’s hypnotic half-rhymes and rhythms, and he had hypnotised the entire audience by the end of the poem through both his message and performance in equal measure.

After a well-earned breather, Mr Hickson-Lovence gave the audience an insight into his life so far. Hickson-Lovence was born and raised in East London until he left to study English at university. Perhaps it is surprising to hear that, growing up, he had aspirations of being a lawyer, bus driver, businessman and footballer, with only the smallest notion of being a writer. However, this changed after seeing the book of his inspiring secondary school English teacher in a shop, setting him on a path to take English and later Creative Writing at university. Alongside running, teaching and manifold other preoccupations, Hickson-Lovence also reached a semi-professional level of football refereeing during his career from 2008 to 2019, unquestionably inspiring the subject of his upcoming novel *Your Show* which is about Uriah Rennie, who travelled from Jamaica to Sheffield to become the only black football referee in the premier league’s history.

Without giving away the plot too much, *The 392* is set entirely on a London bus travelling from Hoxton to Highbury and takes place over just 36 minutes, with the plot unfolding through a

selection of charismatic characters’ growing realisation of a very imminent threat. However, as with all works of literature, there were many drafts that came before *The 392*’s final version; in fact, Hickson-Lovence started writing what was to become *The 392* in 2015 immediately after seeing young black woman driving the 43 bus in East London. The initial piece was titled *Journey*, and was a first person account of a bus driver on her route around Hackney and Dalston. Hickson-Lovence used the short story – as it was then – to gain a place on the MA creative writing course at City, University of London where, across two years of evening classes after teaching during the day, he developed it into the first 15,000 words of a novel. During this period he developed several other characters into the plot and created his own bus route by walking around East London to keep the novel as realistic as possible, even taking a bus driving course to gain a better understanding of the bus driver’s perspective! Hickson-Lovence interestingly revealed that *The 392* is not just any old TFL route, but also a metaphorical journey of his life so far, starting close to the hospital where he was born, past his childhood estate, first flat in Dalston and finishing near his university.

Published as part of his class’s portfolio at the end of his MA course, these 15,000 words attracted five emails from literary agents interested in publishing them as a book, all arriving in his inbox one afternoon to Hickson-Lovence’s delight and his English students’ bewilderment. However, only one agent was willing to take him on without a finished product, and they pushed him to complete 65,000 words by the end of the school year. After completing the first draft, several months of editing and multiple rejections from publishers, Hickson-Lovence was finally published in April 2019 with independent press *OWN IT!*. Since then, Hickson-Lovence has featured on Radio 4, been on the first bookstand at Foyles’ central London store and spoken at several festivals and schools. Despite being scuppered by the pandemic, *The 392* has also been earmarked for a television series and *Your Show* is to be published by British publishing powerhouse Faber & Faber next year; it also forms 75% of Hickson-Lovence’s PhD in Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia, with the other 25% being a dissertation on the representation of black sportsmen in literature.

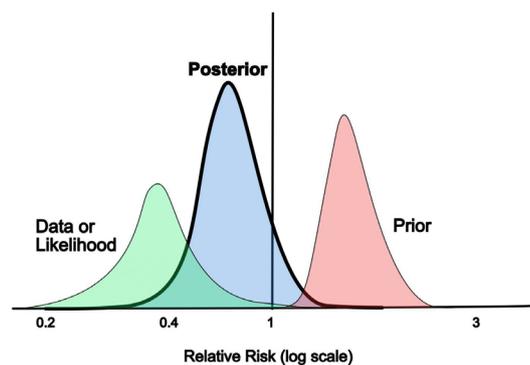
Many thanks go to Mr Hickson-Lovence for delivering such a scintillating, insightful and truly inspiring talk, and the Sheridan Society wishes him the best of luck with his endeavours in writing his third novel and appointment as a Lecturer in Creative Writing at Arts University Bournemouth. Thanks also to LSA for persevering in arranging the event after much pandemic postponement. Any boy who is yet to deliver a Sheridan Society lecture so far this year and would like to do so should not hesitate to contact JDS or Max Morgan (SNT) about arranging their own talk on the subject of anything literature related.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Matthew Chin, Bradbys, *“Bayesian theory: the science behind false tests”*, 29 April

On 29 April, the Scientific Society welcomed Matthew Chin, Bradbys, who gave a talk regarding ‘Bayesian theory: the science behind false tests’, a topic which was made all the more topical by the biweekly lateral flow tests to which we had all begun subjecting ourselves. Unluckily for the rhyming department, the topical topic was let down by some less-than-tropical weather, though the second *in situ* lecture of the calendar year was still well-attended. After some technological mishaps at the Secretaries’ end, the Microsoft Teams Live Event was up and running, and Chin was introduced by the technological

brains of the Scientific Society, his Housemate and Secretary, Simon Luo, *Bradlys*.



Chin began with a

paradox that won two economists Nobel Prizes to outline Bayes' theorem. The veridical paradox simply states that a person (let's call him Steve) could either be a farmer or a librarian and he has the attributes of cleanliness, tidiness, order and structure. One would assume that he would, more likely, be a librarian than a farmer, since librarians fit that description closer than farmers. However, since the actual ratio of farmers to librarians in the United Kingdom and United States is 20:1, and, supposing 10% of farmers and 90% of librarians fit the description of Steve's attributes, the actual ratio of farmers to librarians with those attributes is 20:9. Hence, Steve is more than twice as likely to be a farmer than a librarian. The solution to this paradox, which is taking relative group sizes into account, is what Bayes' theorem is based on.

Chin went on to define some key terms by presenting a punnet square. Safe to say that all of the boys in the room had some nightmares of GCSE biology when this slide came up. The two column headers were actual positive and actual negative, and the row headers were predicted positive and predicted negative. This means four possibilities can be gathered from a test: a true positive (actually positive and tested positive); a true negative (actually negative and tested negative – like most boys and beaks); a false negative (actually positive and tested negative), and; a false positive (actually negative and tested positive). Since probabilities are often more useful than raw numbers, the probability of any of the above elements is, therefore, the number of that element divided by the sum of all the elements.

The mark of a good scientific lecture is one where you are often inundated with key terms, and Chin definitely provided that. He went on to outline the positive predicted value (PPV) as the chance of a true positive (the probability of being true positive divided by the probability of testing positive) and the negative predicted value (NPV) as the chance of a true negative (the probability of being true negative divided by the probability of testing negative). Finally, the prior, which is the percentage of people who have the disease.

In order to save the Editors, who I'm sure are having a blast reading all of these terms, from formatting mathematical fonts and symbols, I'll stray away from too much maths. The lecture moved on to a set of very well laid out and colour-coded slides, which presented a real-life example of Bayes' theorem in action. The Bayesian factor itself, represented in fractional form is equal to the sensitivity (number of true positives divided by the number of diseased, all divided by "1 – the specificity" (number of true negatives divided by the number of diseased)). Mathematically, this fraction to 1 is equivalent to the number of diseased to the number of not diseased people. This means that, in order to find the PPV, i.e. how likely you are to be positive if you test positive, one must simply multiply the prior by the Bayesian factor. Easy, right?

Now a lot of the maths is over (readers rejoice!), Chin moved onto the world of tests and their "gold-standards". The gold-

standard tests are often the most reliable tests and, if testing the specificity, sensitivity and/or prior, this gold-standard test must be used. In the case of COVID-19 tests, the gold standard is the RT-PCR test (also known as the PCR lab test). This means that the mathematical calculations above aren't completely correct, but close enough to be helpful. Chin then gave the example of Slovakia, where the Minister for Health reported a 96.52% sensitivity and a 99.68 specificity when compared to the PCR, assuming that the PCR is 100% accurate. Moreover, the prior at this time was 1% in Slovakia. With some mathematical shenanigans, assuming there were 1 million test subjects, the chance of a false positive is 25%. Matthew also showed us that, without the use of the Bayesian factor, the result was the same. Isn't it lovely when maths works?

Finally, Chin showed Physics Schools 8 that the chance of a false negative is 0.03%, and he explained that the reason that there is such a greater proportion of false positives than false negatives is because false negatives could be due to a low viral load, when one has the virus but it is not concentrated enough to show up on the tests; false positives could be due to cross-contamination, which is much more likely.

Chin then took a barrage of questions from the boys and beaks in the room, though he answered them all very well, and the talk ended with a very well-deserved round of applause from the audience. All in all, it was a very well-researched, well-presented and well-timed lecture from the Bradbeian. Any boy or beak who'd like to take a look at the recording for this lecture should get in touch with the Scientific Society Secretaries.

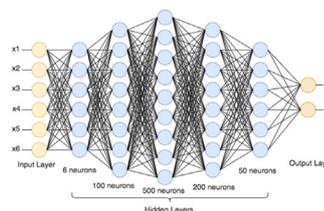
TEAM ENIGMA & COMPUTER SCIENCE SOCIETY

Vincent Song, Druries, "AI Basics and Computer Vision", 13 May

On Thursday 13 May, Vincent Song, *Druries*, delivered a captivating talk on computer vision and artificial intelligence to the Computer Science Society. The talk marked the first of a three-part AI lecture series from the School's AI group, Team Enigma. Song masterfully explained the field of artificial intelligence, exploring the algorithms and mathematics behind convolutional neural networks, and grabbed the audience with a thrilling practical opportunity to develop and test a face-recognising neural network.

Deep Neural Networks

A stack of layers of neurons



Song began by explaining the foundations of AI. The audience was greeted with a visualisation of the perceptron: the fundamental unit of a neural network that receives a numerical input, transforms it and relays it to a connected perceptron. Song described the rapid growth in AI research since 2000, attributing its rise to the modern availability of high-powered graphical processing units capable of performing the countless calculations that artificial intelligence algorithms demand. It

was important to note the distinction between key terms: whilst several systems today are automated, they are not necessarily intelligent; likewise, machine learning refers to the process by which a computer adapts itself to better fit data, whereas an algorithm is more generally just a set of successive instructions.

The wider societal impact of AI was briefly discussed. AI is currently in its emerging stage where algorithms are only capable of tackling certain tasks. It is about to enter the broad stage, where it will become highly disruptive and where individual algorithms will be able to deal with multiple tasks. Early signs of this stage are demonstrated by famous models such as GPT-3, which is capable of producing both coherent language and code. Eventually, general AI is expected to be reached, where machines surpass humans in almost every role.

Song described the structure of the field of artificial intelligence. AI itself refers to programs that attempt to mimic human behaviour. Machine learning is a subset of AI, where statistical techniques are used to enable machines to improve their capabilities at certain tasks by fitting them to certain data. Lastly, deep learning is a further subset of machine learning, which involves multi-layer neural networks and the processing of vast quantities of data. Song explained the three approaches machines can take to learning: supervised, where the data along with the desired result are provided to learn from; unsupervised, where the machine categorises data independently and is then assessed and improved; and reinforcement learning, where the algorithm tries to maximise its total 'reward' by continually trying to achieve the intended result. Song provided examples such as an AI which is able to produce an AI-generated image of a face that does not belong to any person, but nevertheless looks indistinguishably human.

The structure of a machine learning algorithm was then discussed. First, the input data has to be converted into a form the machine can understand. Whilst computer vision allows computers to 'see', classifying objects in images, the computer does not literally possess the ability to see. Therefore, the image has to be broken down into a matrix of numbers that the computer is able to deal with. In the context of computer vision, this is further condensed by running a number of squares over the image that act like filters, heavily condensing the input but emphasising important features such as curves and edges, which could be useful in recognising particular faces. Indeed, in 2015, ResNet achieved a lower error rate than humans at image categorisation, demonstrating the effectiveness of computer vision.

This input is then passed to a series (or 'layer') of perceptrons that, much like neurones in the brain, amplify or reduce certain signals before sending them off to the next layer of connected neurones. Here, the neurone receives a number, multiplies it by a 'weight', adds a 'bias', and then converts this potentially intractably-large number to a much smaller number using an 'activation function', which maps any number to a much smaller one closer to 0 or 1.

Connecting together multiple layers of perceptrons enables incredibly deep machine learning of the data set. To 'learn', the values of the 'weights' and 'biases' must be finely altered in order to produce results that consistently match the desired outcome, producing a powerful algorithm that has essentially taught itself by building its own parameters and methods of analysis regarding the input data.

In order to learn, the algorithm needs to know how well it is performing. How far off its output is from the desired value is calculated by a 'loss function', much as a Trial mark would state how far off one is from the ideal level of knowledge. The loss function can be plotted graphically. The minimum loss arises at 'minimum' points that, as one will be familiar with from Shell mathematics, correspond to a gradient of zero. Therefore, a process of 'gradient descent' can be employed, where the values of weights and biases are finely adjusted until the point reached on the loss function has zero gradient (i.e. is a minimum). Of

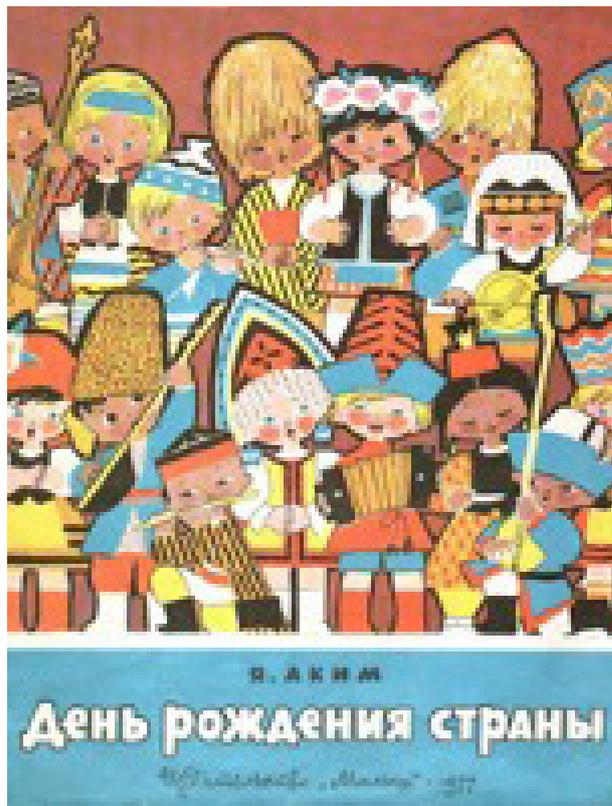
course, changing the weight of one perceptron changes the inputs going in to all subsequent perceptrons, meaning that the gradient descent algorithm has to measure the change caused by a change caused by the initial change, and so on.

Having thoroughly explained the structure of and mathematics behind critical deep learning computer vision algorithms, Song proceeded to the practical part of the talk. Participants excitedly took photos of themselves, depositing them in a 'train' folder for a computer vision convolutional neural network to learn from, and depositing some photos in a 'test' folder to test it. Song then shared the code behind the neural network, but sprang a surprise on the audience by inviting them to complete the code by programming the model themselves, utilising the concepts just explained. The model was completed by adding layers to the algorithm, ordering them in the structure described in the talk. This enabled the algorithm to train on images of participants' faces, and accurately classify faces by name when tested afterwards.

Thank sare owed to Song for delivering a remarkably perceptive and enjoyable talk, fascinating the audience with deep theory and engaging them with the opportunity to program a complex computer vision algorithm. Thanks also go to CMC for organising the talk.

SLAVONIC SOCIETY

Soviet Propaganda: The Fight for the Hearts and Minds of Russia's Young People, MLS, 20 April



On 20 April, the Slavonic Society was treated to a brilliant online lecture from Thomas Hobbs, *Newlands*, entitled 'Soviet Propaganda: The Fight for the Hearts and Minds of Russia's Young People'. After a brief overview of the background of the USSR, Hobbs expounded on how propaganda was the Bolsheviks' most important tool of governance as it was the key to unifying the people of the 15 republics that made up the Union and many more nations that inhabited them. The

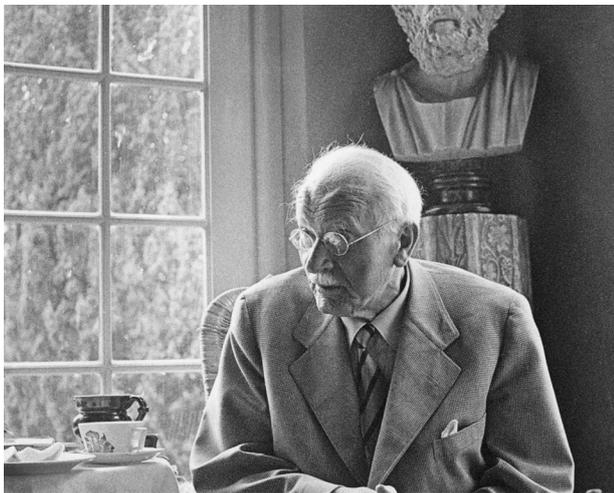
group of people most susceptible to state propaganda was the Soviet youth, which encouraged the state to create a youth indoctrination programme. The programme used a plethora of pro-Soviet children's literature and youth groups, including the Little Octoberists and the Pioneers, to secure the loyalty of the next generation. The programme relied on creating peer pressure to join up, and by incentivising children with opportunities to go on holiday camps and to wear special uniforms. The final stage of the process was the Komsomol, which was an organisation for young people between the ages of 14 and 28. Komsomol gave its members generous scholarships, a greater chance of employment and a stepping-stone into joining the Communist Party. Hobbs then clarified that the whole purpose of this was to instil the belief in Soviet superiority and unity from a young age in everyone across the USSR. This was all done to increase the Party's hold over the Soviet Union, aided by the immortalisation of Lenin and Stalin as the peoples' grandfather and father respectively. Hobbs then concluded by saying that the confidence in the regime instilled in the Soviet people from a young age led to the great achievements of the Soviet Union, such as the capture of Berlin in 1945 or Yuri Gagarin's record-breaking voyage into space.

All the boys who attended would like to thank the speaker and KAF for organising such a fantastic and insightful talk.

PSYCHOLOGY SOCIETY

Que Akhavan-Zanjani, Druries, 'The good die Jung — why you don't love your mother after all', NS, 6 May

The Psychology Society welcomed Que Akhavan-Zanjani, *Druries*, to deliver us a fascinating and complex talk on Carl Jung and his life studies and findings. Akhavan Zanjani specifically mention that Jung's last name is pronounce "yung" and not with a "j".



Before Akhavan Zanjani could dive into the specifics on Jung and his studies, he had to mention another very important figure in psychology community: Sigmund Freud, who conveniently is Jung's predecessor of some sort. Akhavan Zanjani did not touch upon the relationship between these two psychologists but did mention that Jung started his work supporting Freudian theories before realizing the extremities within Freudian ideals. A quick brief on Freudian psychology: on the less extreme side of things we have psychoanalysis. Psychoanalysis is Freud's view of the human mind split into three sub-parts, the "id", "ego", and "super ego". The id is what we consider our primal animalistic instincts, the ego would be human side and finally

the super ego will be our morals. Akhavan Zanjani exemplified this in his talk with a chocolate bar. The id part of us is the part that would want to tackle Akhavan Zanjani and forcefully retrieve said chocolate bar as we are hungry. The ego is the part of us that is a compromise between forcefully taking the sweet and not having it all, such as asking for the chocolate bar to be given to us. The super ego is what is stopping us from using force to retrieve the sweet as it morally wrong to do so in the setting of a society talk on a Thursday afternoon. Freud also claimed that dreams are desires that we have but are suppressed due to them being morally wrong, the comparison between dream and said desires are rather vulgar and will leave that to your own research. Freud is also the one who came up with "free association", which is the used with patients during therapy to help us gain a better understanding behind their thoughts. This is when a black splatter or pattern is placed in front of them and they are asked to describe what they see. Obviously this is also twisted in form that whatever is seen can be identified as hidden demons or desires of the patient. As you can tell, Freudian psychology has a heavy focus on humans sugar-coating their "true" despicable selves. Perhaps the most disturbing of Freud's works is the Oedipus complex. This is when a child is born into the world, they compete with one of their parents for the sexual love of the other parents. Freud claims most children grow out of this by puberty and go on to have a "normal" sexual interest. The libido is what Freud thinks is the drive for these sexual desires.

This is where now we can examine the works of Carl Jung as it contradicts or offers alternative explanations to what Freud has done so far. Carl Jung actually agreed with the concept of id, ego and super ego and expanded upon that with the concept of archetypes. Archetypes are part of the collective unconscious, there are various archetypes described by Jung. The "shadow" is an archetype that is a repressed similar to the id. The other archetypes are rather different, unlike Freud making out the others as ways to suppress our animalistic side, the "anima", the "self" and the "persona" are their own and unrelated towards each other. The anima is the feminine side of a male vice versa for females, this links the male and female minds and is one of the first progressions of sexual identity. The self is the collective of the unconscious and the conscious coming together, integrating various aspects of personality. The persona or persona mask is how we change our behaviour and personality to fit into or adapt to a new situation or environment, Jung theorised that this is to shield our ego from negative influences. Jung also was fascinated by the fact that civilisations millions of miles apart share very similar religious practices e.g. the worship of nature. This led to Jung believing that although we all have different personalities, the archetypes within us still share similarities.

Jung only agrees with Freud for so little and here is where the disagreements come. Jung thinks of libido as the general source of psychic energy to motivate the body whereas previously Freud claims it to be exclusive to sexual desires. Another big disagreement is between their belief in the unconscious. Obviously, Freud thinks of it as a store for morally wrong desires whereas Jung claims for it to be a store of our memories. One of Jung's biggest findings is extroversion and introversion of people, this is accepted still to this date. This summarises and splits personalities into extroverts, where they gain pleasure and energy from being in social situation, whereas the introverts gain pleasure and energy from being alone or in small groups and social situations drain them of energy.

Akhavan Zanjani concluded his talk with a very simple summary of the two views, "Freud thinks there is no good within humans, whilst Jung thinks we aren't half bad". Most would have preferred the views of Jung, as concepts such as the Oedipus complex may be very hard to swallow for a good majority of the population. However, Freudian theories still provide Jung with a basis to work with, and later disagree with and provide alternatives for.

METROPOLITAN

WHERE AM I STANDING



Submit your answers to the Editors of *The Harrovian*. There will be six more photos over the Term. If you can identify all seven locations that the pictures have been *taken from*, you can win a free pizza.

REFLECTIONS UNDER A WILLOW TREE

Last week I was sat by the lake,
Upon the winding roots of a willow tree,
Wondering at the splendour of the wild around me.

The crystalline water glimmered with the fragments of the
world above it,
And in it I saw my reflection - my perception: pure and
unadulterated.

With The sun on my face,
The breeze in my hair,
And not a care in the world,
For a brief moment I escaped into a pristine paradise.

A black throated loon takes a dive into the water's murky depths,
It's ebony feathers blend in with the silky shadows. It disappears.

A struggle ensues as the lakes inhabitants dart left and right,
Each one refusing to engage in a fight
With this predatory bird.

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Ripples appear.
Small at first.
They begin to increase.
I feel an inkling of uncertainty, fear
Larger, bigger. They overlap.
Like a broken mirror, my reflection in the water begins to splinter.
The unadulterated beauty is not so anymore.
My reflection is scattered and spread,
The world above the water distorted.
And I see it as it is.

Can a splash in the lake
Do so much to make us see beyond the veil
Of ignorance behind which we hide. Every day Behind which
I hide.

Today I was sat under the willow tree once more,
Observing the shards of broken water with great dismay.
When through it glides a mother swan
Followed by ten of her young.
Goslings.
Despite the fractures and the fragments
The goslings. 1,2,3,4,5 of them show no fear.
The mother lost her last clutch to a Fox
Despite the threats that are near
They paddle through the lake, cautious but calm,
Basking in the sun.
So I do too.
And in that moment.
They find serendipity
And I find hope.
Underneath the willow tree

DESERT ISLAND DISCS

The Guild's Podcast Series with SPS

Last week, inboxes were blessed with Episode 12 of Desert Island Discs and the life story of Father Stuart – a man best defined not only as all-round top Chaplain at Harrow, but also by his status as the only man to have had a child due on his first day of training at his Catholic seminary. There can be little doubt that he would suit a desert island well; material pleasures are not necessary for the ascetic.

Many of us believe to have perfected the art of missing lessons. Whether it be via a quick trip to the Med Centre, or a music lesson that miraculously changed timings at the last minute, there are a plethora of options available. Fr Stuart, however, seems to have perfected the art. Indeed, for less than £25, Fr Stuart found himself skipping lessons as a young boy to play the organ at funerals.

This seems duller than the reasons that some modern-day Harrovians might have for missing lessons, but Fr Stuart would have undoubtedly thought otherwise. He enjoys one obsession: classical music. His knowledge seems encyclopaedic – DNW would be delighted if any boy could come close. However, the meaning behind the music that Fr Stuart articulated was far more magnificent than any of the pieces chosen. He provided articulate insights into the idea that music has the power to move us deeply, taking us from place to place and, for some, provide the ability to reach God. With music we can “transcend” ourselves.

Musical talk quickly (and inevitably – it's Fr Stuart, after all) led to some enthralling theological chat. What was most interesting to me was starting to understand Christianity not just as a faith, but also as intellectually rigorous. As products of the secular West, we tend to regard faith and science as mutually exclusive. Father Stuart takes issue with this. He targeted the likes

of Christopher Hitchens and Richard Dawkins, explaining that their pro-science views don't undermine belief in the existence of God; he explained clearly that they have not understood the basis of Christianity. God is not on the same level as physical things, and therefore does not compete with science.

Harrow's great success in managing Covid and on sustaining religion in an increasingly secular UK sits well with Fr Stuart. His deep thinking and plain speaking make this podcast extremely accessible to us all. My biggest takeaway from the many insights: when things go wrong in the short term, they often work out well in the long term. This may be the solace that some of us need as we await our exam results and university application results...

Huge congratulations to Jake Henson, *The Park*, for getting the very best from Fr Stuart.

HARROVIAN AI

Letters from the Machine

[*Editor's note:* In a stroke of genius, our AI has spontaneously produced a comprehensive overview of the latest big tech: blockchain. Note that although some of the technology it mentions may not yet be grounded in reality, they are certainly plausible and very much valuable. The socio-economic impact analysis is top notch. Our AI should be granted a place as an honorary beak in the Economics Department.

DEAR SIRS,

The modern, air-conditioned world doesn't quite feel like the Victorian era. The steam-powered, bulb-lit world doesn't quite feel like the gothic era. When I say modern, I don't just mean futuristic/modern technology. I am talking about the gadgets we currently have in our pockets. Whether it's a digital assistant that responds to our pressing needs, a motion-activated shoe that automatically tracks our step count, or a mobile phone that automatically sends and accepts incoming calls, these gadgets are modern. Just as in the past, technology is advancing at an unprecedented rate, and not in the predictable way we used to think.

Consider a bank. As we all know, banks are organisations that accept deposits and disburse funds to third parties. In the past, a bank would accept deposits and send money to a third party, usually a company, for that bank account. The third party would then be able to use the money for anything they wanted, including marketing their own goods and services. However, with the rise of blockchain, there is now a way for banks to accept payments without the need of a bank – and there is even an app for that! Blockchain is using a growing list of peer-to-peer addresses to securely store and retrieve funds. It is utilising a growing number of encryption algorithms to keep the list of peer-to-peer addresses (the 'whole network') safe and traceable, and it is utilising a growing number of encryption algorithms to protect the list of trust addresses (the 'address space'). It is a growing list of addresses that can be easily traced, and can be used to send and receive funds without the need of a bank account.

Imagine a world without banks. Businesses would be able to use the blockchain to record and track their assets, and would be able to borrow and spend those records and trace their business transactions with less need for a bank.

This is exactly what many students of economics dream of – a free-market, meritocratic and competitive economic outcomes. I believe that dreams are made of dreams, and that is why so many students dream of going to university. They do not realise, however, that in a meritocratic and competitive economy, such dreams are shattered, and such lofty aspirations often leads to disappointing, if not downright depressing, results.

The very notion of a meritocratic and competitive economy is now a foreign concept to many, and the anger and frustration that comes along with it, as well as the expense and stress that comes along with it, is immense. Many jobs that once were considered out-of-the-way are now considered mandatory for those with a job, and the employment conditions are not helped by the existence of so many unrealistic expectations. Many jobs have been categorised as mandatory, such as doctors and lawyers. Even in the non-supervisory roles, where many young people dream of becoming GPs, there are now extremely high expectations for performance, and many roles now require a priori knowledge or skills in order to be effectively filled.

The super-rich will get richer and the poor will get poorer, but where will the jobs go? As governments collect a good notice, they aren't ignoring or underestimating the necessity and the futility of their interventions, but rather focus on the benefits to society as a whole. Instead of worrying about how much money they are spending on education or on subsidies for large corporations, why not worry about the jobs these subsidies will create, and the economic outcomes that will ensue? It is simply wrong to expect young people to save and invest their entire lives in saving and investing their money, as if there is no tomorrow.

Yours magically,

MARUNA KWENA, HARROVIAN AI

OPINION

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the Editors

DEAR SIRS,

Much of the correspondence that makes its way into the latter pages of this publication are that of constructive criticism and advice regarding dissatisfactions with school life and areas of improvement. One such of these recently was an excellent article by Mr Winward about homophobia within our school community. It is without doubt that this is a severe issue that must be dealt with, and I wholeheartedly agree that as a community we should be doing our best to combat ignorant and harmful sentiments.

However, I am writing to you today to express my gratitude for an aspect of school life regarding this topic. As many boys and beaks are aware, Monday (May 17) was the international day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. I want to commend many members of our school community for showing support for the LGBTQIA+ community, over the course of this week. Most notably through the decorations in the English Department and through the badges and lanyards worn by various Harrovians and beaks this week. I also would like to commend those speaking out on social media about LGBTQIA+ issues this week and spreading awareness to a further global network. I have certainly noticed this past week a more positive discussion being had around the LGBTQIA+ community and a steady and optimistic decline in insensitive remarks.

Bearing this in mind, we must be careful as a community not to regress after the heightened awareness of these social issues by the wider world becomes less overt. The standards of honour, courage, humility, and fellowship which have been displayed by many Harrovians should be maintained and encouraged by each one of us as we stand amongst our colleagues in the sports grounds. They should be maintained at the SCH at mealtimes; and as we walk to and from lessons on the High Street. They should be a constant and consistent affirmation of decency and respect to those in our school and the wider world.

I sincerely hope the positivity and respect seen this week continues throughout the remainder of this year and the foreseeable future.

Yours sincerely,
ALEXANDER NEWMAN, *DRURIES*

HYPOCRISY OF THE AMERICAN DEMOCRATS

By Daniel Alexander Sidhom, *The Knoll*

Benjamin Shapiro, a leading right-wing commentator, once said, “There is no such thing as ‘your truth’. There is the truth and your opinion”. This clearly illustrates that there are facts and opinions, and that opinions cannot be genuine facts. I would describe myself as a conservative and traditionalist, yet many people in today’s society deem these to be rather controversial political ideologies. Nevertheless, I would like to put two contentious views, the first on why I supported Donald Trump, and the second on why I believe the Biden administration is corrupt.



Now it is true that Trump has said controversial things. It is undoubtedly true that he did not win the 2020 US Presidential election, and I condemn the Capitol riots as a threat towards the constitution and the democracy of the United States. Yet, Donald Trump has been quite a successful president during his one term. He firstly reshaped the federal judiciary, an accomplishment that will have a major lasting impact on the country. In contrast with the unsuccessful US President Barack Obama, who appointed 55 circuit judges in his two terms in the White House, in just four years Donald Trump appointed 54 judges on the 13 US circuit courts. As the courts get the final decision in US politics, they essentially set the standards that can shape the country for years to come. Therefore, even though the Trump administration was in effect for only four years, it will have a long-lasting influence on the direction of the US as a result of the sheer number of conservative federal judges appointed.

Trump’s second biggest achievement was his tax reform, though there still remain many critics. This Republican tax bill made vast encouraging changes to the tax code – the Tax Cuts and the Jobs Act. It permanently lowered the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21% while also providing temporary benefits for individuals and their families. In desperation at Trump’s success, the Democrats incessantly cried that this tax bill would be a windfall for massive corporations at the expense of the middle class, according to Business Insider. Yet we know that this is not true, since businesses used that money to broadly invest in their operations, which has resulted in improved worker productivity and higher wages for the middle-class. The tax bill also increased the nation’s gross domestic product by 4%, with the end of 2020 showing America’s GDP to be \$20.93 trillion. Not only did this spread prosperity, but the US economy was blooming under the Trump administration.

I also must mention Trump’s First Step Act, which he signed in December 2018, which offered relatively modest changes to the federal prison system, but was praised as an important

step forward by groups and activists seeking to end mass incarceration. It reduced mandatory minimum sentences for drug felonies, expanded early release programmess, while offering more rehabilitation and job-training opportunities.

Trump’s other major accomplishments include: defeating ISIS’s caliphate and killing Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi; replacing the Affordable Care Act/Obamacare which was not so affordable as a result of higher insurance premiums needed to pay for it and all the while he prevailed in the two impeachments made against him. Likewise, Trump signed a \$738 billion defence spending bill as well as establishing the 6th branch of the US Armed Forces known as the Space Force. Not only is it the first new military service since the US Air Force in 1947, but it would essentially protect the US military’s resources in space. Finally, my respect and support goes out to Donald Trump, because of his view on abortion. Being a conservative traditionalist myself, Trump’s 100% anti-abortion stance was popular among faith groups and other conservative traditionalists.

Let us now turn our attention in contrast to the Democratic Party. Since Joseph Biden has taken office, it is clear that he is building a new world order. The Biden administration is not only going to raise taxes in the country which Donald Trump significantly reduced for around 80% of all American families, but also create a new world order in which the United States works with other European countries to artificially boost tax rates around the world (this from The Daily Wire). Although Biden may think this idea is going to work, it will not avail anyone because corporations will move to other parts of the world that are not in Europe, where these increased tax rates will not affect them. The fact that this is something we are even analysing proves how ridiculous Biden’s economic policy is.

The new proposal from the Biden administration is not just to radically increase taxes on corporations, which affects even small businesses that are making no more than \$400,000 per year, but a global minimum tax whereby all the industrialised countries decide to set a minimum tax rate for corporations, thereby forcing corporations to pay their tax no matter where they organise. There is, however, a significant problem with this proposal. If you artificially increase the price of doing business, this will have mainstream effects in the economy. If you boost the amount of tax that corporations have to pay no matter where they locate, this will lead to price inflation which will in turn lead to job loss as there will be a lack of demand. If you want to create a global depression, then a good way of doing that is by raising the global tax rate which is exactly what Biden wants to do. Furthermore, once you establish the basic notion of a global tax, there is another component of who exactly is going to run that global tax. While Biden assumes that it is always going to be the USA that will be making those rates, what if other countries will want to set up a global economic council and collectively decide the tax rates for the entire Western hemisphere for all industrialised countries? As a result of Biden’s global minimum tax ideology, the USA will have to give up the autonomy to set their own tax rates because of the global tax that has been put through. I strongly disagree with the assessment by Janet L. Yellen, the US Secretary of the Treasury, who believes that increasing a global minimum tax will “spur innovation growth and prosperity”. I believe this to be untrue and very inaccurate, as in fact the global minimum tax directly takes money away from the people who do the innovation and prosperity, and instead gives it to governments who will use it for their own benefit. The ideological belief that an increase of taxation on corporations would lead to better outcomes is without foundation in my view, and all it amounts to is left-wing orthodoxy which states to the public that corporations “harm” the lives of the poor.

Moreover, Joe Biden has started to notably raise taxes in the states that are known to be “red”, i.e. who typically vote for the Republicans. The problem with this is the fact that as soon as you start raising taxes, you start driving out the multinational

corporations, which has historically been a common trend in Democratic administrations. The Democrats disavow economic reality by spending money endlessly through the Modern Monetary Theory (MMT) and believe that if they raise taxes on people, they will not leave for other pastures. It has been proven that as of February 16th, 2021, 135,600 more people left California than moved to there, as a result of the spur in the rate of taxation set by Biden (as reported by CNBC news). It is already the 12th time since 1900 that the state has had a net migration loss, and third largest ever recorded as a result of the Biden administration. The state income tax has not just increased as a result of the Biden administration in California, but Biden himself is stating extremely inaccurately that “there is no evidence that high taxes drive corporations out” (an interview he gave with C-SPAN in 2021). It seems that Biden cannot bring himself to admit that corporations will react in their own economic self-interest to protect themselves if he radically increases the corporate tax rate.

During their debate about the U.S economy and taxation, Kamala Harris stated that, “on the issue of the economy, there could not be a more fundamental difference between Donald Trump and Joe Biden. Biden believes you measure the health and the strength of America’s economy based on the health and the strength of the American worker and the American family. On the other hand, you have Donald Trump, who measures the strength of the economy based on how rich people are.” She also stated that on the first day of Biden’s presidency, he will “repeal that tax bill”. The problem with this is the fact that if Biden repeals Donald Trump’s tax cuts, he will essentially be increasing everyone’s taxes. But this is exactly what Biden has done, leading to his ineffectual ideology of a global minimum tax for all corporations.

In his response, Pence stated that “the average family of four in the U.S had \$2000 in savings in taxes. The average household income for a family of four increased by \$4000 following President Trump’s tax cuts. But America you have just heard Senator Harris tell you, on day one, Joe Biden will raise your taxes.” Harris went on to declare that Biden will not raise taxes. Yet she stated previously that he would repeal Trump’s tax cuts that gave the average working family \$2000 in a tax break every single year. Now this is what you call, ladies and gentlemen, hypocrisy at its finest.

SUDOKU

Persevera per severa per se vera

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SPORT

SWIMMING

200ms and 400ms Gala, 15 May

On Saturday, in an internal gala targeting 200m and 400m events, there were an impressive 15 new School records set, as follows:

Shells new records

Tom Pearce, *Newlands*, in the 200m freestyle(2:02.92), and 400m freestyle (4:39.51)
 Alexander Moore, *Lyon’s*, in the 200m backstroke ((2:18.51) and 200m butterfly (2:49.01)
 Hugo Bourne, *The Grove*, in the 400m individual medley (5:41.32)
 Adam Wong, *The Park*, in the 200m breaststroke (2:33.43)

Torpidis new records

Henry Gray, *Lyon’s*, in the 200m backstroke (2:11.63), 200m freestyle (2:02.49) and 400m individual medley (4:54.48)
 Kiefer Yeo, *The Head Master’s*, in the 200m breaststroke (2:31.03)
 Nick Finch, *Newlands*, in the 200m butterfly (2:18.81)
 Jake Phillips, *Newlands*, in the 400m freestyle (4:42.02)

Seniors new records

Maxwell Brooks, *West Acre*, in the 200m freestyle (2:04.46) and 400m individual medley (4:58.54)
 Captain Ethan Yeo, *The Head Master’s*, in the 400m freestyle (4:30.91), and 200m breaststroke (2:25.90)

Nick Finch, *Newlands*, also set a new School record for the Torpidis in the 200m freestyle event with a time of 2:02.88, but that was short lived as, a few moments later, Henry Gray, *Lyon’s*, managed to swim .5 seconds faster to re-set that new record.

There were also some impressive personal best times set by Henry Emerson, *Newlands*; Justin Changbencharoen, *Lyon’s*, John Yap, *Newlands*, Anton Shashenkov, *The Knoll*, Max Wilson, *The Park*, Sebastian Moscoso, Apollo Wilkins, both *The Knoll*; Tamir Zolboo and Tamim Downe, both *The Grove*.

CRICKET

1st XI v Charterhouse, 15 May
Match Abandoned

| | B | R | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| A Moore c C Ellis b J Gray | 16 | 8 | | |
| S Thomas c B Sheopuri b B Sheopuri | 69 | 53 | | |
| F Clinton c J Gray b M Ferreira | 94 | 78 | | |
| A Patel * c P Ashworth b J Richardson | 22 | 9 | | |
| J Kher † c P Ashworth b J Gray | 41 | 25 | | |
| J Bostelwhite b J Gray | 7 | 3 | | |
| L Griffith not out | 6 | 8 | | |
| H Wood not out | 16 | 14 | | |
| Extras | | 13 | | |
| Total | | 211 | for | 6 |
| | O | M | R | W |
| J Gray | 7.0 | 1 | 30 | 3 |
| C Ellis | 4.0 | 0 | 30 | 0 |
| M Ferreira | 9.0 | 0 | 41 | 1 |
| J Nelson | 7.0 | 0 | 45 | 0 |
| J Richardson | 9.0 | 0 | 34 | 1 |
| B Sheopuri | 9.0 | 0 | 29 | 1 |

| | B | R |
|--|-----|-------|
| J Connell c J Bostelwhite b L Griffith | 23 | 26 |
| C Ellis b F Clinton | 50 | 51 |
| T Sheopuri *† not out | 35 | 24 |
| V Patel run out | 7 | 3 |
| Extras | | 7 |
| Total | 111 | for 3 |

| | O | M | R | W |
|---------------|-----|---|----|---|
| L Griffith | 6.0 | 0 | 33 | 1 |
| T Fowler | 2.0 | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| M Capuano | 4.0 | 0 | 22 | 0 |
| J Bostelwhite | 4.0 | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| F Clinton | 3.0 | 0 | 19 | 1 |

Harrow hosted Charterhouse on a grey and overcast day in HA1. The 1st XI were looking to continue their fine form shown away at Bedford the week before and were eager to get some cricket in despite the damp forecast. Skipper Sheopuri, *Lyon's*, won the toss (again) and elected to bowl in the damp conditions. The match started on time and Jasper Gray, *Newlands*, got the side off to a solid start with the ball, removing the Charterhouse opener for 8, Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, taking the sharp chance off the edge of the bat. Harrow then struggled to find control with a wet ball and slippery outfield and Charterhouse built a solid 1st wicket partnership (92). It was the pairing of John Richardson, *Elmfield*, and Brij Sheopuri, *Lyon's*, who wrestled back control and this pressure led to a flurry of Charterhouse wickets falling. Jasper Gray, *Newlands*, returned impressively at the death to finish with figures of 3/30 off 7 overs and Charterhouse concluded on 211/6 from their 45 overs, having once looked like they'd go beyond 250.

Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, and Johnny Connell, *Rendalls*, strode to the crease to open the Harrow response and their positive and mature strokeplay took Harrow to 40-0 off 6 overs. Connell departed for 26 which left T. Sheopuri and Ellis to continue the assault. Ellis passed 50 in 50 balls (a fluid and destructive knock) before beyond bowled for 51. The heavens opened in the 19th over and Harrow were denied the chance of victory. The 1st XI were well placed at 111/3 in their chase of Charterhouse's 212 and it was a shame to see the elements intervene so strongly in what was shaping up to be a fantastic conclusion. The Harrow side will look to focus on the many positives from Saturday's performance before they take on the Harrow Wanderers and Eton next week.

2nd XI v Charterhouse

Charterhouse 2nd XI 103-7, Harrow School 2nd XI 35-1, Match abandoned

Not for the first time this season, Harrow lost the toss but Charterhouse elected to do the opposite of what we would have done. So, on a day in which conditions seemed to be improving all the time, Harrow found themselves fielding first on a verdant Jackson. Herbie Smith, *Newlands*, opened the bowling with an aggressive spell, getting plenty of bounce and forcing the Charterhouse batsmen onto the back foot. His bowling intimidated the opposition and made them visibly uncomfortable at the crease. George Hamblin's, *Moretons*, tight offside line gave the batsmen no leeway at the other end and generated a few edges early on. After 8 overs of this 30 over game, Charterhouse were struggling at 12-1, Hamblin dismissing one of the openers bowled. After the opening bowlers, Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, found a rhythm and with a better field setting he might have taken some wickets as Charterhouse looked to accelerate in the middle of their innings. Oli Newall, *Druries*, claimed the scalps of the number two and three Charterhouse batsmen in a decent spell of bowling, and Oliver Wills, *Elmfield*, bowled full and straight towards the end of the innings, performing much the same function as Hamblin had

done at the start. Unlike Hamblin, it was a shame that Wills did not bowl his full six overs. Herbie Smith returned at the end with Ben Hope, *Rendalls*, and Charterhouse limped to 103-7 off 30 overs. Alas, the labour in the field was in vain. Although Harrow made a positive start to their innings, with Archie Chatwin, *West Acre*, playing himself in carefully and Ben Hope starting to hit the ball hard, rain stopped play after 7 overs and the match was abandoned.

3rd XI

Harrow won by 6 wickets

Colts A

Harrow 149-6, Charterhouse 85-7, Harrow won by 64 runs

Harrow Colts A won in a four inning 20 over game by 64 runs. A fantastic overall team performance with Conor O'Flaherty, *The Head Master's*, scoring 40* with Inpan, *Bradlys*, and Artis, *The Head Master's*, took 2 wickets each.

Colts B

Harrow 188-3, Charterhouse 109-7, won by 79 runs

A. Du Roy, *Elmfield*, 90, C Kingsley, *Elmfield*, 73*

Junior Colts A

Charterhouse 65-6, Harrow 69-2, won by 8 wickets

Reducing the match to 15 overs a side to ensure the match could be completed, the Harrow bowlers bowled tightly to restrict their opposition to a modest total of 65. The Harrow batsmen batted well in tough conditions to pass the required total having only lost two wickets.

Gabriel Harrington-Myers, *Bradlys*, 3 for 8, Freddy Dinan, *Rendalls*, 2 for 12, Ben Taylor, *The Knoll*, 2 for 13. Sam Phillips, *Moretons*, 34*

The JCAs travelled away to Charterhouse on what looked like to be a very wet day. Harrow won the toss and decided to bowl in a game reduced to 15 overs to beat the rain later in the day.

Harrow started well with 2 early wickets from Ben Taylor, *The Knoll*, and good bowling elsewhere from Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, Filip Edstrom, *Bradlys*, and James Felton, *The Park*, kept the Charterhouse batting side under pressure. Then came on the spin attack of Freddie Dinan, *Rendalls*, Gabriel Harrington Myers and Charlie Nelson, both *Bradlys*, who finished the short innings well with Dinan taking 1-12 and Harrington-Myers got 3-8. Charterhouse finished on 65-6.

Harrow sent in Caspar Baker, *Moretons*, and Henry Macdonald, *The Park*, who got off to a flying start until Macdonald was dismissed for 16 and Baker was dismissed for 13. In came Sam Phillips and Gus Stanhope, both *Moretons*, to finish off the innings, and with Phillips finishing on 34, Harrow won comfortably by 8 wickets.

Another good performance all around from the JCAs.

Man of the Match - Gabriel Harrington-Myers

Yearlings A

Charterhouse 100-6, Match abandoned

On a day where rain always looked likely to play its part, Teddy Barnett, *Rendalls*, was happy to be given the chance to field first after losing the toss, and his team looked very sharp in the early encounters. The opening bowling combination of Henry Porter and James Lester, *West Acre*, were relentless with the new ball, bowling a nagging line and length on a helpful pitch, and Charterhouse were struggling at 11-2 by the time they had both finished their spells at the end of the eighth over. Crucially, the change bowlers followed them up very well, with Harry Beresford-Peirce, *Elmfield*, in particular in great rhythm and causing all sorts of issues. Next came spin, with Tom Campbell-Johnston taking a wicket with his very first ball. That set the tone for the rest of his spell, which was an exceptionally miserly one. Outstanding catches from Ed Swanson, *Druries*, and Henry Snow, *Rendalls*, backed up

some great bowling to put a lot of pressure on Charterhouse. Having done so well to get into that position, Harrow would have been disappointed to concede 30 runs in the last 5 overs, but they were nevertheless delighted to be chasing only 100 for victory and feeling full of confidence.

Sadly, it was then that the weather took it out of their hands, with a thirty minute downpour leaving the already wet square unplayable. It was a real shame to be denied the chance for victory after a tough run of matches against strong opposition. Nevertheless, Harrow will take great confidence from their bowling performance going into their cup game against John Lyon next week.

Yearlings B

Charterhouse 125 all out, Harrow 21-1, Match abandoned
Eshaan Firake, *Newlands*, 4 for 12

The first innings saw some terrific swing bowling from Eshaan Firake, *Newlands*, who finished with figures of 6-3 - 12-4, and also held on to 2 difficult catches. This was a fantastic effort from Eshaan whose performance deserved to be for a winning cause. The spin of Aaron Patel, *The Knoll*, and Jack Beresford, *The Park*, caused real problems for Charterhouse throughout the middle overs, who finished with figures of 3-0 - 5-1 and 3-0 - 5-2 respectively.

Moment of the Day: Rishaad Bhushan, *The Grove*, bowling himself down the pitch almost as far as the ball which, to the amazement of all, resulted in a dot. Honourable mention goes to Eddie Cooke, *The Park*, for bowling the longest over of the season so far.

Yearlings C

Harrow 146-3, Charterhouse 52 all out, Harrow won by 94 runs
Freddie Williams, *Moretons*, 47, Jack Young, *Newlands*, 28,

James Flach, *Moretons*, 3 for 11, Jaden Odofin, *The Grove*, 2 for 18

Harrow won convincingly by 94 runs. Harrow batted first with a valiant 47 by Freddie Williams, *Moretons*, and a quick 28 from Jack Young, *Newlands*, leaving Harrow on 146 for 3. James Flach, *Moretons*, dominated in the bowling dispatching three of Charterhouse's batsman posting impressive figures of 3 for 11 off 4 overs, Jaden Odofin, *The Grove*, also bowled well posting figures of 2 for 18 off 4 over. This ferocious attack combined with some slick fielding limited Charterhouse to 52 in a resounding victory.

Yearlings D, Charterhouse 98 all out, Harrow 101-5, won by 3 runs

After batting 101-5, Harrow left it to the last, rain-soaked over to bowl Charterhouse out for 98 in a thrilling, down-to-the-wire game.

GOLF

Win v John Lyon School 3.5-2.5, 13 May

The heavens opened for our first-ever golf match against local rivals, John Lyon School, and there were some nervous looks from the four debutants in the squad: Fred Hower, *The Park*; William Everall, *The Grove*; Ben Swan, *Moretons*; and Peter Cartwright, *The Grove*.

This was our first outing on the beautiful West Course at Moor Park, the shorter sibling of the monstrous High Course.

JRP, with his mind left in neutral, agreed on the first tee to play a full handicap match which meant significant concessions were given by the first-time captain even before he had teed off! George Webster, *Druries*, could practically taste the law suit he was going to be filing against the MiC. The boys' backs were against the wall (but JRP was very pleased to be gaining

11 shots against his scratch opponent). Alas, in true Harrovian spirit, they kept their chins up and let their Schoffels do the talking and away we went.

Going out in the first pair for Harrow was legendary Finlay Matheson, *Druries*, very much at home in the wet conditions. Matheson knew he faced a stern task by having to give his John Lyon opponent 12 strokes on a course that certainly required good knowledge and experience. Perhaps Matheson was still wondering how to get everything into the form $p+\sqrt{2}$ as he lost a pro V1 on the opening tee shot which really broke his heart. Although he was two down through two holes, he rallied well and was in the lead come the halfway mark. A sensational sausage roll at the halfway hut helped Matheson find his groove and he increased the lead to 4UP and secure a solid win.

Second out for Harrow was another "old-timer", George "The Dragon" Webster. Webster spent the bus journey to Moor Park regaling the team with the story of his epic battle against Charterhouse, two years ago now, and he was clearly hoping that this would inspire us to victory on the day. Despite the first hole being a comfortable opening par, Webster was 1 down through 1, thanks to his opponent's successful up-and-down, leading to a net birdie. The match carried on in a similar manner, with only small glimpses of hope and very few major mistakes coming from the John Lyonian, who was putting together a very tidy round of golf. The seventh hole, a 457 par 4, was, on the scorecard at least, a mundane bogey. However, luckily for Webster, there are no pictures on the scorecard, for once again he fell foul to those wooden things which are 90% air. It led to Webster's tee shot slamming back towards him and resulted in a total distance of about 5 yards (which even by Matheson's standards is fairly short!). Two well-struck hybrids and an up-and-down led to the five - certainly unorthodox, but certainly Webster! The halfway hut provided some much-needed sustenance but the presence of Fanta and NOT Tango led to some stern words between Webster and the management, "No it's not the same!". The match looked bleak with five holes to play, Webster five down; but, not wanting to give in, he fought back two holes and was three down with the same number left to play. Sadly, the putt to further extend the match stalled on the 16th like the coach in the carpark and ended up a foot or so short and Webster would lose the game 3&2.

The next four games saw four new faces to the squad, all eager to impress and secure their place in history/ "the squad". Fred Hower has been working away at the Berkshire during the off-season, methodically lowering his handicap and working out which kind of headwear works for him. He has decided on the flat cap (a la Bryson Dechambeau). He headed out third against a strong John Lyonian who only received a couple of extra shots in the round. Hower started level the first few holes and ended up two down at the hut. Showing some steely determination and flashes of class, he quickly brought it back to one but then his cap caught the wind and he was back to three down. Hower showed his experience though, and, needing to win 3 of the last 4 holes to draw, he rallied and threw everything he had at the course, making the most of the short par 4's to finish and secure a valuable half a point for the team.

Next up was young William Everall, arguably the most obsessed golfer in the Harrow Borough. Everall can often be seen finishing off 54 holes in an afternoon between eccer and prep. He's a bright lad, and after spotting the handicap situation he made sure JRP was aware that his handicap was in fact 16 and not 14 - good lad William. Nevertheless, he gave away a few shots to his opponent and then decided to top one down the first hole! His experience told him not to let that first shot deter him and he started to find his feet on the course after tying the first with a bogey. He went two up over the front nine which included several pars. The back nine was a bit shocking for both players, and Everall found himself two down with three to play. He managed to win the last two, with the last all to play for. After a bad tee shot, Everall managed to put it within

15 feet for par. Unfortunately, his opponent drained a monster and won the match.

The final four-ball saw long time maths and golf buddies Swan and Cartwright taking on a pair of young opponents. Swan decided to keep the driver in the bag on the short par 4 first and instead swung hard with a 4-wood. He found the cabbage with his first... and then his second. After going one down to a Year 7, Swan fought back hard, taking a 2-hole lead into the turn. Following a comment from his opponent asking to end the game after nine holes, Swan went in for the kill. With a 280-yard 4-wood down the middle of the 15th, Swan felt the game moving his way. Following his partner taking a drop in the middle of the fairway, the game was pretty much over. A convincing 8-hole win on the last nine meant Swan comfortably thrashed his partner. Spirits high, Swan expects to play 1st pair in the coming weeks.

Playing against a 13-year-old who hadn't played golf for six months was always going to be a challenge for golf addict yet (constantly) out of form Peter Cartwright. Cartwright managed to keep his first drive on the fairway, which was a great start (albeit not something he is used to). A bogey to start followed by a par continued this sublime performance. At 5up after 6 the pressure started to get to Cartwright. His golf hit a brick wall and he hit a quadruple bogey and then a triple. His dreams of turning pro appeared a long way off... Somehow he managed to bogey the 250-yard par three ninth, going 8 up after 9 (his partner having not finished 1 of his last 5 holes). A bogey on 10 wrapped up the game. Golf deteriorated from there (as does this write-up, sorry – you'd think he would have graciously finished by now...) Up comes 18, big stick comes out, beautiful drive, baby draw, to 30 yards. Ben Swan waits 5 minutes for the green to clear pulling out his 4 wood (had hit 280 yards on 15) first one topped 20 yards, second one hooked into the trees (there's video evidence). Gallery waiting for Cartwright, the match had been won. 52-wedge out but the pressure was too much, and he chunked it 20 yards into the rough next to the green side bunker. Sarcastic applause follows and he bows and lifts his hat in response. Pressure off and he chips in with a roar, for a 98 winning 9&8. Perhaps two school records here – both the worst and best performance by one golfer in Harrow history.

A pleasing victory for the team and another wonderful day at the picturesque Moor Park Golf Club. Match won 3.5-2.5.

The Harrow athletes were very happy to face this challenge head on and fought hard throughout, as once again, it was just not clear who might grab the overall win. This made for a fantastically competitive afternoon, with no one school dominating. In the end the grit, courage and talent of the Harrow squad clinched it for the hosts as they showed true fellowship: competing as individuals while scoring for the team. Very many congratulations again to every single athlete who competed on Saturday.

Some of the best performances of the afternoon were:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|--------|
| D Neal, <i>Moretons</i> | inter long jump | 5m82 |
| S Clayton-Bennett, <i>Newlands</i> | Junior discus | 32m86 |
| S Clayton-Bennett, <i>Newlands</i> | Junior 300 | 40.62s |
| J Gosden, <i>Lyon's</i> | Senior 400m | 50.17s |
| L Lord, <i>Lyon's</i> | Junior shot put | 11m09 |
| I Ademuwagun, <i>Druries</i> | Junior shot put | 13m14 |
| N Martin, <i>The Knoll</i> | Senior javelin | 44m40 |
| C Knight, <i>Newlands</i> | Junior long jump | 5m69 |

The Senior team won 16 of their 28 events and they and the Intermediate team both won their age group competitions.

Juniors:

- 1st = Coopers' and St Albans
- 3rd Harrow

Inter:

- 1st Harrow
- 2nd Coopers'
- 3rd St Albans

Seniors:

- 1st Harrow
- 2nd Coopers'
- 3rd St Albans

Overall

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| 1st Harrow | 494 |
| 2nd Coopers' | 483 |
| 3rd St Albans | 472 |

ATHLETICS

At home, 15 May

On Saturday 15 May, a full squad of 80 Harrow athletes were privileged to be able to host and contest their third straight home match. With the dual menace of threatening bad weather and a hungry-for-a-win Coopers' Coborn squad aiming to spoil Harrow's parade, the afternoon was perfectly set to become a challenging and demanding competition. In the end, the bad weather never really materialised but the expected battle on both the track and the field certainly did, playing out between Harrow, Coopers' and St Albans.

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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CELEBRATING OUR PAST
REFUNDING OUR FUTURE