

THE HARROVIAN

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LORD'S

Eton v Harrow at the MCC



Full report and scorecard on page 1096'.

DEBATING SOCIETY

*"This House would ban private schools", 25 May
Proposed by the beaks, opposed by the boys*

On the last Tuesday before half-term, the Debating Society met for its first exhibition match with a live audience since the COVID-19 pandemic began: a well-attended showpiece event to kickstart the return to normalcy. In what we hope will become an annual fixture, the Beaks IV took on the Boys IV in a British parliamentary-style debate.

Rather divisively, SPS (the appointed chairman) decided to set the motion "This house would abolish private schools", with the beaks poised to propose. However, much to his dismay, he became unable to attend on the day, so CER kindly stepped in to chair. Nonetheless, the debate got off to a strong start with Mr Dolan (the School coach, who accurately self-identifies as a "small, confused and angry Scotsman") proposing a two-pronged attack on the private sector. First of all, he proposed that private schools hurt the students who exist outside the system, an argument much expected by the not-so-sympathetic Harrovian audience. However, the second argument came as something more of a surprise. Mr Dolan, clad for the first time in a beak's gown, proposed that private schools don't help the people attending them. The point of a private school is to set up individuals to become effective leaders of others. However, the private system means that they get raised out of touch with the people they are trying to serve. The result of this is a paradox in which they are not able to lead effectively when they get into the positions private schools attempt to project one into.

To counter, Haiwei Li, *Bradbys*, came out of the blocks with a resource-based argument. Fresh faced and generously clad with the confidence only available to a man who had just woken from a deep slumber, Li claimed that the abolition of private schools would take away from the resources of the education

system. However, that was not the full extent of the problem. Not only that, but the big bad Harrovians and Etonians would go flooding into the state sector to make classrooms blow up like balloons and make teachers complain even more about conditions. Furthermore, it was a move that would discourage teachers from entering their profession. According to Li, although beaks claim to teach for their love of learning, "perhaps they might think differently if robbed of their vacation time and, in the case of SWB, North Yorkshire pub crawls".



The Master-in-Charge of Debating, SMK, then decided to school the boys in how it was really done. With all the aggression of a lesser spotted member of the ovine class, he delivered his rebuttals to the original argument and doubled down on the strategy the previous speaker had so neatly laid out. However, what was lacking in aggression was more than made up with charisma. Showing the persuasion that convinces 53 boys a year to learn a language with which they couldn't even use to order a pint on a modern-day Mediterranean holiday, he rounded off a strong opening-half case from the proposition.

However, what came next was what really got the crowd going. Armed with his signature smirk and a back pocket full of roasts which had been carefully worded by his more humorous colleagues the evening before, Aakash Aggarwal, *Lyon's*, expressed his shopping list of egg-and-toast-based reasons why private schools were not only necessary but a good thing. In his short amount of allotted time, not only did Aggarwal manage to make it so the viewing audience would never see their honourable Masters the same way again and play an offensively microscopic violin for SEND pupils, but he proved just how begrudging he was on the extra pennies the taxpayer would have to drop in order to give his Catholic comrades their transubstantiated wafer at the lunch table. As you can probably already tell, it was altogether a vintage Harrovian-style performance.

Next, came SWB, springing into the air, having recently been on the receiving end of a snide remark about the utility (or lack thereof) of the School's Theology & Philosophy Department. Much like his form room chastisement of a Yarde-related excuse about some Shell boy's lack of prep, SWB was keen to emphasize the concept of "taking ownership" in education. He argued that abolishing private schools would force the societal elites (who previously sent their children to private schools) to start taking an interest in how things were plodding along

down at the local state school. By making parents a stakeholder in the debate, SWB was making parents a stakeholder in the education system.

Co-captain William Wauchope, *The Knoll*, was up next. With fish-out-of-water eyes and a lack of notes which could only indicate having spent perhaps too much time preparing for The Knoll House play, he took to the lectern. However, as soon as he began to go, his Gatling gun pace took the floor by storm. With an argument about how inequality exists in the state sector already, both because of regional discrepancies and the insidious creepy-crawly effects of the blight that is tutoring, he showed that perhaps abolishing private schools would do more to worsen than improve inequality in this country. However, perhaps the best testament to the quality of Wauchope's speech came from MJG in the audience, who this author can attest is an extremely difficult man to please in all walks of life. However, the usually uncomplimentary MJG said afterwards that the arguments on inequality had won the day.



(Above: SWB takes on the boys in the OH Room.)

Finally, it came for FSW of the English Department to speak. As a former captain of debating at Winchester College, the bar of expectations was set extremely high for FSW to vault. However, it seemed that the speaker was equally interested in setting the debating society "Just Dance" heatmap record as winning the debate, strutting around the Old Harrovian Room like he had single handedly donated the £100 million necessary to inflate the 450 fund. After a rather comprehensive anecdote about which sporting columnists he liked to read in the kinds of broadsheets that only private school alumni who work at independent schools are interested, FSW strongly rounded off the proposition case with a smattering of Churchillian rhetoric about levelling the playing field. Perhaps the society has found a new beak to co-opt into the mix...

That is not, however, to say that there was much better a performance by the other half of the current captaincy. Although Dylan Winward, *Lyon's*, has been long reputed as a talented organiser of spreadsheets, it had now been a while since he had properly found himself tested in front of an audience. Furthermore, it was found with much disappointment that his usual trick of evaluating the clashpoints at 300 million miles an hour did stun his opposition as it usually would. Nonetheless, the speaker doubled down on the team strategy of incorporating average quality of education as the key metric: a strategy which would ultimately prove successful with both the audience vote and the two professional judges who watched the debate.

Thanks must go to all of the members of the Debating Society who came to support and ask questions afterwards, along with all the beaks who so courageously stuck their heads above the parapet in front of a hostile audience. Though the debate was a hard-fought one, the external adjudicators declared that the boys had narrowly edged a victory, failing the motion.

[It should also be noted the boys got a standing ovation. –Eds]

SHAFTESBURY ENTERPRISE

Nabs Suma and Serge Betsen, 'The Rashford effect – sporting success and philanthropy', 26 May

On 26 May, the Shaftesbury Enterprise Society welcomed Nabs Suma and Serge Betsen, who gave the audience an insight on their journeys from their major success in rugby to their philanthropic lifestyles. By explaining how they channelled their success into helping others, they inspired the listeners from abroad and in speech room to emulate their vast achievements. Indeed, throughout the talk, we heard how both Mr Suma and Mr Betsen have used the values and virtues picked up from sporting experience to, in turn, help others to grow and develop into better people.



Nabs Suma, an Old Harrovian of The Park, began his ten-year rugby career in 1990 for Wasps. He earned numerous accolades, perhaps the most impressive of which was his unbeaten season in the Wasps Colts team (1990/91). Following his successful career, he dedicated his time to philanthropy, becoming part of InterContinental Exchange and working as a cocoa specialist. Through this, he was able to create several commodity-based businesses, from exporting cocoa to developing wholesale chocolate for Fairtrade chocolate brands. As well as this, he is currently part of the Trustees of Wasps Legends Charitable Foundation, with the aim to make a positive difference to individuals by utilising the character and collective spirit of the Wasps family.

Like Mr Suma, Serge Betsen too has had a 'Rashford effect' on the lives of many people. During his time in the French rugby team, he became a very renowned player, so much so that he is considered as being one of the best flankers of his generation. Indeed, he is known for his relentless man-marking of Jonny Wilkinson. His success for France is represented by his French Player of the Year award in the World Cup, and his award for the most tackles made. Similar to Suma, Mr Betsen also proceeded to devote his time to helping others, making the Serge Betsen Academy in order to do so. On top of this, he began the Serge Betsen Consulting company in the hope of helping business teams maximise performance and achieving objectives.

Nabs Suma began the talk and highlighted three virtues that are imperative for success: resilience, confidence and leadership. However, above all, he explained that success in business cannot be brought about by yourself; it is rather brought about by the help and support of others. Indeed, Mr Suma went on to passionately explain how the support of others boosted his morale at Harrow School, thus helping him to achieve great success. Near the beginning of the talk, he shared with the audience his aspiration to be in The Philathletic Club whilst at Harrow. Due to his previous sporting achievements (e.g. being in the First XV rugby team and the First XI for cricket) he felt as though merited a place in The Phil. However, he was at first not selected to be a member of the club, which he described

as feeling like “utter failure”. Because of this, he sought the support of his peers and beaks, which gave him the resilience to pick himself up and continue to pursue his goal to join the club. With this mindset, he was eventually offered a place in The Phil the next term. Using this example, Mr Suma demonstrated to the audience the virtues you must have to succeed in both sport and in institutions, which is the message Suma is trying through philanthropy.

Mr Suma then proceeded to explain how he achieved his sporting success, on this occasion referring to his under-19 Wasps trials. Not only was the competition fierce, with one of the trialists being Lawrence Dallaglio, but the training session was extremely intense and physical, something that Mr Suma wasn't prepared for. Despite this, he once again demonstrated his resilience as well as a strong work ethic and confidence; immediately after the training session he was certain that he would be coming back for the next session and knew exactly what to do beforehand. Indeed, Mr Suma then made a strong link between sport and business: like in sport, you must work hard and mentally prepare yourself in work and business, as this will give you confidence. To conclude his talk, Mr Suma encouraged Harrovians to use their leadership – which they have learnt from their responsibilities at Harrow – to help and support those who need it, as a philanthropist would do.

After this talk, Mr Betsen shared his successes from a sporting and business aspect, and, on top of this, gave the audience advice on how they can have a positive effect on another's life. Especially during COVID-19 times, it is important to connect with others in order to grow, learn and develop. Indeed, the key message Mr Betsen was trying to convey throughout the entirety of the talk was that students must be focused on helping others. This team spirit attitude is something that Betsen learnt from playing rugby. He illustrated how he had to be the best version of himself as well as being willing to learn from others to succeed during his 20 years of rugby in England and France. Born in Cameroon, Mr Betsen moved to Paris at the age of nine, and played rugby for the first time at the age of 12, which he described as being his “most important day”. Ever since that day, he has been able to connect with those who were patient to teach and give advice about the technical side of rugby. Using this example, Mr Betsen gave the audience his first bit of advice, encouraging us to meet people we don't necessarily know, as we will share common interests with them.

Mr Betsen began to talk about one of his proudest achievements: establishing the Serge Betsen Academy, designed to help underprivileged children, especially in Cameroon. Throughout his rugby career, people gave him confidence to improve in rugby, and, in turn, the academy has now helped 80,000 young people through education and sport. Indeed, Betsen stated that the value of rugby is sharing with others and helping others when you can in order to develop character, something which the Serge Betsen Academy is replicating.

Another value of rugby, according to Mr Betsen, is curiosity. After the 2007 World Cup, he was keen to explore new things and open his mind to new experiences, and so went to England. Mr Betsen said that by being curious you can get to a place you never imagined and be transformed into a leader. In Mr Betsen's case, this was true as he went on to join and eventually captain London Wasps.

Mr Betsen had previously played in the 2007 World Cup, which greatly affected him and the rest of the French team. He described his fear when facing the All Blacks in the quarter-final, as they had suffered a huge defeat to them two years before. In particular, the French team were still intimidated by the Haka and were also destroyed mentally and physically, according to Mr Betsen. Because of this, he sought the support of a friend, mirroring what Mr Suma had done at Harrow. By doing so, both he and the entire French national team were fuelled for this game. This was so true that they didn't back down to the Haka and instead wore the French flag and stood strong.

With this confidence and resilience, Mr Betsen described how they were able to overcome the All Blacks after two years of disappointment, and he told the audience that this shows if you believe in yourself, everything is possible. To finish, Mr Besten advised us to not only have passion for the things we want to do, but to also share it with others, as this will help bring success in our lives and other people's lives.

The audience were left with the message that everything is possible for us, and so we should show the qualities of a philanthropist and make these things possible for others. With their achievements from sport to business, both Mr Suma and Mr Betsen have dedicated their time to helping others, and we are encouraged to emulate these actions.

METROPOLITAN

DESERT ISLAND DISCS

The Guild's Podcast Series with Mr Ralph Arundell

In them 15th edition of the Desert Island Discs, the Head of School took up the role of interviewer to warmly welcome the Director of Operations, Mr Ralph Arundell. The podcast focused on Mr Arundell's schooldays and his illustrious army career, which was accompanied by some exciting soundtracks ranging from the 1969 hit *Girl from the North Country* by Messrs. Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash to Linkin Park's 2003 track *Numb*.

Mr Arundell was educated at Pangbourne College in Berkshire – a former naval college with a strong rowing tradition; however, he carried on with his passion for rugby, which he had developed at prep school – his prep school team enjoyed the glory of being winners of the Rosslyn Park 7s tournament for the five of the seven years he was there. Upon leaving Pangbourne, Mr Arundell and a few friends formed a band and busked all around Europe. Interestingly, the drummer of the band, now residing in New York, went onto become the producer of the Borat films.

After pondering on post-secondary-school destinations, Mr Arundell eventually “fell into the military.” He first joined the British Army as a recruit with four months of “soldiering,” then proceeded to RMA Sandhurst. His first deployment was in Northern Ireland during the Troubles. Commissioned at the age of 19, he was in command of 24 men. Eventually, he was made platoon commander and spent two years in a residential battalion supporting reinforcements in Derry/Londonderry, Belfast and Armagh. Despite the turbulent nature of the sectarian violence in Northern Ireland, Mr Arundell still managed to find a positive side to the experience, finding himself in good company with the people of Ulster, whom he described as “delightful, warm and welcoming”.

Mr Arundell also had the opportunity to travel to East Germany towards the end of its communist era. His battalion moved to Berlin in February 1989 and was there until the summer of 1991 and the collapse of the Eastern Bloc. Memorable things included going to the opera or ballet, which only cost £9, and valuable goods such as Zeiss binoculars and porcelain being “cheap as chips”. His army career then led him to Cyprus, where he served two tours, subsequently going on to Afghanistan and Iraq. He led a band of soldiers to guide journalists through the Route Irish – once dubbed the “world's most dangerous road” – from late 2004 to early 2005 in Baghdad. Due to the security risks, he was required to report and give briefings at 10 Downing Street and to the White House on a frequent basis!

Towards the end of the podcast, Mr Arundell explained his role as Director of Operations of the School. Ultimately, he co-ordinates the delivery of the non-academic aspects of the

School, namely Estates, HR and Catering. As a member of the SMT, he works alongside the Bursar to ensure the smooth day-to-day running of the School. He is grateful for the skills he picked up during his army days, such as crisis planning, which helped with combatting the administrative repercussions from Covid and the skill of managing and co-ordinating groups.

The finale of the episode featured Mr Arundell's luxury item and book. He chose *Sagittarius Rising*, a memoir written by the decorated 56 Squadron Royal Flying Corps fighter pilot Cecil Lewis: it was described by George Bernard Shaw as 'a book everyone should read'. For his luxury item, he decided on a "good quality acoustic guitar" in hope of returning and mastering the instrument in a desert island scenario.

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.

OPINION

HERE AND THERE

An unusual and distinctive donation has been received in the Deno Leventis Classics Library this term, in fond memory of Old Harrovian Terence Bredin (*Elmfield* 1943²) who died last year. The gift was made by close friends of Mr Bredin from Toronto, Kate and Tom Moss Gamblin, and are two of the Winnie-the-Poo books by A A Milne, *Winnie Ille Pu* and *Domus Anguli Puensis*, both fully translated into Latin. 'We are making the gift,' they wrote, 'in tribute to Terence's great loves: Latin, Classics and his lifelong engagement with children as an educator.'

Terence Bredin came to Harrow as an Entrance Scholar at the height of World War II. Graduating in 1948 as a Monitor, and

having played fives for the School, he entered Christ Church College, Oxford, as a Classics Scholar. After National Service in the Far East, he emigrated to Canada and became an Assistant Master at a number of schools, most notably from 1959–95 at Upper Canada College in Toronto, where he served as a Housemaster, Head of Classics and Senior Master.



Terence Bredin possessed a keen sense of humour which would often be displayed at Old Harrovian reunions such as at a North American dinner or Churchill Songs at the Royal Albert Hall. This is fittingly characterised in the two classical versions of the two highly witty Winnie-the-Poo books.

SUDOKU

Persevera per severa per se vera

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SPORT

SWIMMING

*School v Blackrock College,
Virtual Gala, 25 May*

On Tuesday, after a long time with no live, external competition, the swimmers engaged in a virtual competition with Blackrock College, Dublin. The plan was to stream this event live in order

to enhance the competitive element, but with the School IT firewalls as impenetrable as the Great Wall of China in the Qin Dynasty, we could not make connection. However, the show went on, and we decided to compete and then compare times at the end of the swimming.

We competed in three age categories and it was the Shells who ended up winning by the greatest margin. Swimming for the Shell team were Tom Pearce, *Newlands*, Alexander Moore, *Lyon's*, Hugo Bourne, *The Grove*, Adam Wong, *The Park*, Eshaan Firake, *Newlands*, Joshua Oliver-Willwong, *Bradbys*, John Yap, *Newlands*, Raulph Lubbe and Tamim Downe, both *The Grove*. Nearly all of these swimmers enjoyed at least one personal best time today, and many were asked to swim more than they usually would in a gala. Theirs was a truly remarkable performance as a collective group and in the individual efforts shown.

The strength of their performance is evident in the remarkable number of records broken in this gala which were as follows:

Shells

Tom Pearce – three records

- swam a new School record for the 50m freestyle event, a record that had been held since 2003 (A Rust). He bettered Rust's time of 25.64, with a swim of 25.39
- broke his own School record in the 50m backstroke event in a time of 29.51
- one leg of the relay team which beat the 4x50m freestyle record, swimming in a time of 1.46.67

Adam Wong, as part of the relay team 4x50m freestyle
Alexander Moore, as part of the relay team 4x50m freestyle
Hugo Bourne, as part of the relay team 4x50 freestyle

The Torpids enjoyed the second-best winning margin. The team was represented by Henry Gray, *Lyon's*, Kiefer Yeo, *The Head Master's*, Nick Finch, Joe Storey, both *Newlands*, Data Photipat, Sebastian Moscoso, *The Knoll*, Jake Phillips, James Rates, both *Newlands*, Justin Changbencharoen, *Lyon's*, Charlie Tack, Henry Emerson, both *Newlands*, and Tamir Zolboo, *The Head Master's*. Again, all of the boys swam to their potential, with nearly all also enjoying at least one personal best time. There were some nail-biting races between Yeo and Storey as well as Gray and Finch. It was the relays that were the most impressive, however, as they enjoyed the biggest number of School records as follows:

Nick Finch – four records

100m individual medley record time of 1:00.28 (3 seconds faster than the previous record)

50m butterfly 57.51

4x50m medley relay (record held since 2010) – butterfly leg
One leg of the 4x50m freestyle relay team

Henry Gray, *Lyon's*, two records

Both the 4x50m medley relay and the 4x50m freestyle relay
Joe Storey, *Newlands*, two records

Both the 4x50m medley relay and the 4x50m freestyle relay
Kiefer Yeo, *The Head Master's*, one record

4x50m medley relay – breaststroke

James Rates, *Newlands*, one record,

4x50m freestyle relay

Seniors

The Senior swimmers captained by Ethan Yeo, *The Head Master's*, Z-Za Bencharit, *Elmfield*, and George Rates, *Newlands*, also put in an impressive performance, both in the pool and in support of their charges poolside. Although no records were broken, the threat of doing so was there and there is the possibility perhaps before the end of the season. The Senior team, with the addition of the captains mentioned above, were represented by: Henry Pearce, *Newlands*, Maxwell Brooks, *West Acre*, Archie Smith, *Rendalls*, Anton Shashenkov, Apollo Wilkins, both *The Knoll*, and Nicklas Host-Verbraak, *The Head Master's*.

Special thanks to Evan O'Brien at Blackrock College for organising the Blackrock Team, who put in some impressively fast swims to challenge our boys across the ether. We look forward to welcoming them live in 2021–22, one of our kindest, yet most challenging competitors.

Final results are as follows:

Harrow total:	144
Black Rock total:	77
Under-14 Harrow:	51
Under-14 Black Rock:	22
Under-16 Harrow:	51
Under-16 Black Rock:	23
Under-18 Harrow:	42
Under-18 Black Rock:	32

POLO

Harrow v Eton at Guards, 5 June

Saturday 5 June saw Harrow's triumphant return to the Guards Polo Club. Captain Marc Lindgren, *West Acre*, led Ulysses Hu, *The Head Master's*, Hector Rogberg, *Druries*, and Freddie Strange, *Newlands*, to a well-earned victory. The day's competition was the first large event of its kind following a long hiatus caused by the Covid pandemic. Eton began the match with a half-goal advantage due to Harrow's superior handicap.



Harrow's team had a tentative start, and the first chukka was dominated by the attacking Eton side. Yet despite their seeming control of the ball, Eton scored only once against Harrow's tenacious challenging strategy. The second chukka saw Harrow thundering back to form and featured some brilliant mallet work from Strange. Hu scored early on, setting the tone for a tightly contested quarter. The chukka closed in a flurry of excitement with Rogberg scoring in the very last second.

The tensest moment of the match came in the third chukka as Eton tried to claw their way back into the running. The teams were neck and neck and goals were scored by both sides in close succession. Rogberg scored for Harrow, but Eton's two goals brought the score to 3½ to 3. The Harrow team responded with convincing attack, and the fourth and final chukka saw the team drive forward to victory. The chukka opened with a spectacular goal from captain Lindgren. Eton scored again in this final quarter, but seemed to be losing concentration as several penalties were awarded to Harrow. Hu scored the final, winning goal for Harrow. The final score was Eton 4½ to Harrow 5.

The game was tense and well-fought. Lindgren, Rogberg, Hu and Strange must be commended for their tenacity and team work. Special thanks to Shrey Rawal, *Rendalls*, who provided an insightful commentary throughout and much support to the team.

ATHLETICS

Inter-House Athletics

After four age-group inter-House athletics competitions, including the abbreviated relay competition, trophies were awarded as follows:

Yearlings 100m	Cameron Knight, <i>Newlands</i> ,
Torpids 100m	Ayomide Awolesi, <i>Head Master's</i> ,
House 100m	Remi Jokosenumi, <i>Lyon's</i> ,
House High Jump	George Davies, <i>The Head Master's</i> ,
House Middle Distance	Graham Lambert, <i>Lyon's</i> ,
Yearlings Victor Ludorum	Cameron Knight, <i>Newlands</i> ,
Torpids Victor Ludorum	Ayomide Awolesi,
House Victor Ludorum	Ehiada Garuba, <i>Newlands</i> , & Iyanu Ademuwagun, <i>Druries</i> ,
Yearlings Inter-House	<i>Newlands</i>
Torpids Inter-House	<i>Newlands</i>
House Inter-House	<i>Lyon's</i>
Inter-House Relay	<i>Newlands</i>
Overall Inter-House	<i>Newlands</i>

Athletics at Marlborough, 22 May

On Saturday 22 May, for their first away fixture of the season, the Harrow athletics squad travelled to Marlborough – traditionally a fairly long commute but in this instance made even longer by closures on the M4. Undaunted by the two-and-a-quarter-hour journey (or perhaps spurred on by the marathon trek), athletes attacked each event with enthusiasm and a desire to win – after all, there is no point in sitting on a coach for 135 minutes and then only running for a minute or two (or indeed throwing three times) without trying one's best.

Marlborough kindly allows more schools to enter their meetings than they have lanes, running heats to allow everyone to compete. Additionally, it was a co-ed match with events alternating between girls and boys. Although this made for a very long afternoon indeed, the tranquil bucolic setting pleasantly offset the extended time, so that it was no hardship to finish the relays after 7pm.

During the course of the afternoon, it looked like Harrow was proving to be the strongest school there (in the boys' competition), but the beauty of athletics is that each discipline represents a mini-battle of its own, offering every school and athlete a chance to shine within a larger competition. Previously, it has been noted that athletics must be one of the few sports in which individual results are obvious but overall scores might not be clear at any stage. Indeed, the meeting finished so late that we boarded the coaches hoping that we had won but not being sure.

When the results finally came through the next afternoon, Harrow had once again proven their strength and depth, winning all three age groups comfortably, taking 40 of the 75 events contested. This determined squad has now seen off 11 schools, and, whilst there is a good feeling of getting back into the rhythm of the sport, there is still much work to be done to continue to help athletes progress. The Shells and Removes have now had a taste of how athletics can really work as a serious sport, as opposed to simply having one annual sports day – which for many juniors has been their only experience to date.

For some, the focus now moves towards the chance of being selected to compete at the National Schools' event in June, but for most the aim is to continue to improve and perhaps even broaden individual experiences by trying new and different disciplines.

Juniors:

1st	Harrow	139
2nd	Brighton	125
3rd	Marlborough	111

Inters:

1st	Harrow	167
2nd	Marlborough	130
3rd	St Edward's	120

Seniors:

1st	Harrow	153
2nd	Marlborough	133
3rd	Brighton	92.5

CRICKET

Eton v Harrow at Lord's, Saturday 22 June

Eton won by 4 wickets

	B	R
J Connell lbw b F Catherwood	20	18
C Ellis c M Glynn b A Beagles *	7	4
T Sheopuri *† c J Weir b E Hilditch	31	3
V Patel lbw b G Weldon	85	47
M Ferreira run out (Unsure)	32	4
P Ashworth c G Freeman † b A Varma	36	14
B Sheopuri b G Weldon	9	3
J Richardson b A Varma	20	4
J Gray st G Freeman † b A Varma	33	5
J Koutalides c Unsure 1 b O Stone	32	7
J. Nelson not out	19	3
Extras		49
Total		161 for 10

	O	M	R	W
F Catherwood	8.0	0	58	1
A Beagles *	11.0	2	21	1
E Hilditch	11.0	1	23	1
G Weldon	11.0	0	34	2
A Varma	11.0	2	16	3
C Whipple	1.0	0	1	0
O Stone	1.0	0	6	1

	B	R
G Freeman † c J Connell b C Ellis	9	13
J Weir c T Sheopuri *† b B Sheopuri	91	60
M Russell c T Sheopuri *† b J Gray	11	8
C Whipple c T Sheopuri *† b J Connell	36	12
A Beagles * not out	59	47
M Glynn run out (V Patel)	4	1
O Stone b B Sheopuri	2	0
A Varma not out	16	3
Extras		19
Total		163 for 6

	O	M	R	W
J Gray	6.0	2	19	1
C Ellis	5.0	0	35	1
J Richardson	6.0	1	18	0
J Connell	11.0	1	44	1
B Sheopuri	7.4	0	29	2
J Koutalides	2.0	0	15	0

After a poor forecast earlier in the week, a swirling cloudy sky, but no rain, greeted the players as they arrived at this most magnificent of all cricket grounds, refurbished with towering new stands at the Nursery end. MCC were using the game as a practice COVID run for the forthcoming Test match, and so everyone was masked and zoned and patrolled into place, but it was the first Lord's crowd of the season, who contributed significantly to the unique atmosphere of the day, especially when the school contingents arrived. Eton had an impressive 100% win record in their previous matches, winning their last

two matches by 10 wickets, although this had the disadvantage that only two of their batsmen had played a match innings in the last 10 days, which was to become significant later. Harrow also had an impressive record, outplaying most of their opponents so far, so the teams looked well matched with several known talented players on both sides. Lord's had prepared a strip 15 yards in from the edge of the square, which was a welcome surprise for this fixture, avoiding the usual short boundary, and it looked, and was to play, firm and dry. Eton won the toss, and inevitably, in such overcast conditions, invited Harrow to bat.



Both Beagles and Catherwood struggled with their line initially, so there were 15 wide deliveries in the first 10 overs. Connell looked to be positive from the start and stroked four attractive boundaries, so that Harrow got off to a flier. 25 had come from the first three overs when both opening bowlers struck: Ellis was brilliantly caught by Glyn at slip pushing tentatively at Beagles (27-1: 4 runs/8 balls): 3.4 overs), and Catherwood swung a ball in to Connell from left-arm over to trap him lbw half-forward, the ball after he had been badly dropped at mid-off (33-2: 18/20: 4.5). Patel joined his captain, Tej Sheopuri, and they carefully saw off the opening attack, but the introduction of off-spinner Hilditch was immediately effective as the latter tried to break free of the shackles and skied a difficult catch to Glyn peddling backwards at mid-on, who held on as he fell (55-3: 3/31: 12.5); this was a disappointing end for a class player. Ferreira, who had scored a brilliant attacking 100 two days before, held on for dear life, as Weldon bowled a fast accurate spell, until a dreadful mix-up as a ball was pushed into a gap at square leg resulted in him being run out by a flat throw from Stone (78-4: 4/32: 24.1).

Meanwhile Patel (29*) had played with calm assurance, showing respect but not wasting opportunities to score, and with Asquith, he saw Harrow safely to lunch: 92-4 from 30 overs – there had been a brief delay for a rare shower. Hilditch completed a very economical spell of 11 overs for 23 runs, but for the first time since the start, Harrow were just beginning to get on top: Patel punishing Catherwood with three boundaries in an over, when the returning Weldon trapped him lbw with a full, fast, straight delivery to end a fine battling innings (120-5: 47/85: 35.3); in his next over, the same bowler comprehensively yorked Brij Sheopuri (125-6: 3/9: 36.2). Ashworth's patient vigil ended when he edged Varma to the keeper soon after (132-7: 14/36: 37.5). The Harrow tail hung around but found it hard to score as Varma completed a miserly spell of accurate medium pace: 11-2-16-3, bowling Richardson (142-8: 4/20: 43.1) and having Gray smartly stumped by Freeman as he overbalanced (150-9: 5/33: 49.1). The number of wides continued to mount and eventually became joint top scorer with 47, so that extras top scored with 49, suggesting that the standards requested to the umpires by the Masters-in-Charge for the bowlers before the toss (ODI wides) were too strict for their ability – Harrow were to bowl 14. Stone bowled the 54th over, his first of the day, and immediately had Koutalides neatly caught at mid-on by Hilditch (161 all out: 7/32: 53.6), leaving Nelson undefeated

on 3 from 19 balls. The Harrow total looked 60 below par on a good pitch, and most of the batsmen struggled to get on top of the bowling, and failed to put the fielders under pressure. Eton bowled, caught and fielded effectively as a unit and Weldon's pace and accuracy stood out as a consistent threat (11-0-34-2); Beagles conceded just 7 runs from the bat in his 11 overs but bowled 14 wides; only Catherwood was expensive as he bowled a very full length to try to get swing.

Freeman raced out of the blocks with three well-timed boundaries in Ellis' first over, but before it ended, the bowler had his revenge, inducing a slash outside off-stump which was well caught by Connell at slip (16-1: 13/9: 1.6). Russell had hit two languid fours when Gray moved one away from him for a regulation catch behind (35-2: 8/11: 6.2). The game was therefore well balanced as Whipple joined the elegant, compact and unflustered Weir, who was steadily moving into his stride, timing and placing the ball with clinical precision. The introduction of Connell's accurate medium pace slowed the run-rate, and he had Whipple caught behind fencing after a patient innings (72-3: 12/36: 18.2). Captain Beagles, who had struggled for runs so far this season, settled his nerves with an early boundary as both sides sensed a key moment. The baton was now embraced by Weir as he blossomed in the late afternoon sunshine which bathed the ground in all its glory. With the finishing line seemingly fast approaching, he reached a classy fifty from 79 balls, and the pair had just completed a fifty partnership when the attacking leg-spin of Brij Sheopuri induced him to edge behind for brother Tej's third catch (135-4: 60/91: 29.6). Harrow immediately bolted into life when, in his next over, a flat, accurate throw from Patel at deep square-leg beat a diving Glyn attempting a second (139-5: 1/4: 31.2), and two balls later, Stone was comprehensively bowled (139-6: 0/2: 31.4), and the game had now been turned on its head, with Harrow scenting an unlikely victory.



The lack of recent match batting practice for the middle order had been exposed, and Varma joined his captain in a first-rate crisis with 23 still to get. They say that when the going gets tough, the tough get going, and Beagles now took the bull by the horns and dominated the situation, pulling the ball very effectively off the front foot for boundaries. He received invaluable calm support from Varma (3* from 11 balls – an unsung hero of the day), and was undefeated on a splendid 47 from 59 balls as Eton won by 4 wickets in the 38th over. Brij Sheopuri was the pick of the bowlers and posed a constant threat (7.4-0-29-2), Connell bowled a testing spell that was full of heart (11-1-44-1), and Harrow took all of their chances and fielded well. They did very well to come back so strongly when all seemed lost, and with a higher total to defend, they may well have prevailed after the moment of crisis, which produced a very watchable and exciting last 20 minutes. Had Eton succumbed, the 47 wides would have come back to haunt them.

Our thanks to the two vastly experienced umpires, who had a reliable, consistent and uncontroversial day, and as always to MCC for allowing the schools to play at this iconic venue once more.

GOLF

*Worplesdon Golf Club, 27 May,
Harrow Lost 2-1 v Charterhouse*

The opening pair of Aidan Wong, *The Park*, and Finlay Matheson, *Drurries*, led proceedings against the Charterhouse first pair, which interestingly consisted of a strong scratch golfer who had been scratch ever since he was 13, before being banned from playing for two years since his parents hated the sport (outrageous indeed – George Webster, *Drurries*, was determined to find the parents to argue for the love of golf yet his search for them was to no avail!)

JRP was looking forward to see how Matheson would react after the slanderous comments in a previous match report about his short hitting. Since then, Matheson has simply turned to destroying George ‘The Dragon’ Webster in long drive contests over the previous weeks and JRP was hoping that Matheson still knew how to play proper golf... Indeed he did by smoothing a three wood down the first fairway (a shot that outdrove Webster’s driver!). A silky-smooth wedge to 4 foot assured a beautiful birdie but, dear reader, this all sounds too positive... of course it is, the Charterhouse scratch golfer holed a sloping 40ft putt to halve in birdies.

True Harrow values were displayed by the Harrovian pair when they forgave the Charterhouse pair for playing the wrong balls (a rule which would mean a forfeit of the hole) – JRP was crying his eyes out in awe of such courage, fellowship, honour and humility such that Wong had to compose the onlooking JRP. Pure iron strikes by Matheson for the first seven holes kept the score close at bay and just as Matheson faded, the legendary prodigy from Shells, Wong, stood up and holed a stunning birdie to maintain the building Harrow momentum. The Charterhouse oppo really wasn’t in the mood for having two cheery Harrovians in his group and proceeded to be 3 under par through 11 holes to give Charterhouse a 2up lead. Matheson and Wong battled hard and although they had several chances of staging a mighty comeback, all putts seemed to lip out on the slick, velvety, yet undulating greens at Worplesdon. As Matheson’s birdie putt slid by on the 16th to win the hole, the match concluded 3&2, yet credit must be given to the ‘never say die’ attitude that the Harrovian pair wore on their sleeves. As for Charterhouse, they went away with a deserved win thanks to their extremely consistent, top golfer. A thoroughly enjoyable day for the Harrow pair nevertheless.

Harrow’s second pair consisted of Jonty Williams, *Moretons*, and George Webster, *Drurries*. Once again, the format of the match took Harrow by surprise, when it was announced half-way down the first hole that instead of normal match play, they would instead play fourball better-ball. It took the boys a while to find their feet after going 3 down through 3 despite only being 1 over par thanks to an excellent hole-out from a green side bunker on the 2nd. No matter. The sun was still shining, Webster had an ice-cold Tango in his bag and there was much golf left to be played. The Harrow boys fought hard with a par save after Webster chipped in on the 5th and a birdie on the first par 5 on the back nine. Williams picked up the gauntlet for the team after that with an impressive run of pars and a strong birdie, leading the pair for the majority of the back nine. However, Charterhouse were unwavering with one of their pair

shooting his best-ever round of level par. Harrow eventually lost the match. Despite the loss, it was an excellent day out at a beautiful course. Till next year!

Fred Hewer, *The Park*, and Henry Oelhafen, *Lyon’s*, got off to a hot start in the final pairing with Oelhafen sinking a 20ft birdie putt on 1 to start the day off well. The pair surged to 3up through four holes with an excellent up and down from Hewer on the 4th to win the hole. Some great iron play from Oelhafen saw three consecutive pars on holes 5, 6, and 7 maintaining the 3up lead through eight holes. Charterhouse won the 9th hole despite a great effort from Hewer after Oelhafen had found the trees off the tee. The pair lost hole 10 despite Oelhafen making par and they remained only 1up through 14 holes with some great short game from Hewer. A questionable ruling was made on the 14th after Hewer’s ball had hit the flagstick but bounced out of the cup but it was decided that the ball was not holed. A birdie from Oelhafen on 15 and par on 16 sealed the victory for the pair winning 3&2.

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