

THE HARROVIAN

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LONG DUCKER BIKE RIDE

by Ameya Bhattacharya

“Nothing compares to the simple pleasure of riding a bike.”
– John F Kennedy

While John F Kennedy is certainly right, I would add that when you get to combine your love for cycling with raising funds to support young people in the local community, it is even more special.

On a grey September morning, as the mist slowly lifted over Harrow, we set off on a 40-mile ride to raise vital funds for a very important cause – to support young people in our community who might need additional help and make their lives a little better. The Young Harrow Foundation (YHF) is the main recipient, once again, for funds raised through the ride. Funds raised will enable YHF and their partners to implement programmes that benefit vulnerable young people in Harrow and north-west London, particularly those who have struggled in the pandemic and continue to face challenges.



With that thought in our minds, we set off at a brisk pace with the first peloton to leave the School grounds at 7.15am. This brave group, led by Roger Uttley, Old Harrovian, former England captain and British and Irish Lion, was riding 100 miles across some tough hills. There was also another peloton of riders who would be cycling 70 miles but they hadn't fully assembled by time the 40-mile group left. The speedy group of 100 milers quickly peeled away at the bottom of the Hill leaving the slower riders to find their own pace. The roads were empty of traffic and we made swift progress. We sailed down steep hills and trudged up pesky inclines and, every so often, we stopped to admire the rural landscape that was still shrouded in morning mist. We thought of Father Nic on his trusty Brompton bike and wondered when we might cross paths though, sadly, we didn't get to ride with him. We stopped at a feed station by the side of a road and refuelled at the halfway point, grateful for the energy bars, and topped up our water bottles.

My highlight of the morning was ploughing through a shallow ford that flowed gently across a road and creating a spectacular shower, while others rode sensibly across the wooden foot bridge. Before we knew it, we were sailing down Garland's Lane in glorious sunshine to the finish line in a respectable 3 hours and 15 minutes! TMD, Director of Shaftesbury Enterprise,

and Dan Burke, who is the CEO of Young Harrow Foundation, were there to greet us with our finishers medals. It was a proud moment to be among the first three to finish the Long Ducker Bike Ride along with Father Nic! It had been a very productive Sunday morning. We hung around for a satisfying barbecue and to cheer on other finishers as they came sailing across the finish line throughout the afternoon.



The fundraising page remains open so please do donate if you are able!

JUNIOR PIGOU SOCIETY

Michel Quist and Vlad Plyushchenko, *The Grove*,
“The effects on Monopolies in the modern economy”

On Wednesday afternoon Michel Quist and Vlad Plyushchenko, both *The Grove*, gave a talk to the Junior Pigou Society on the effects of monopolies on the modern economy, especially with regard to huge companies like Amazon and Apple.

They began by talking about the first major monopoly, run by John D. Rockefeller. His company was eventually broken up due to him having too much control over the economy and the job market; his influence grew such that any mistake he made could devastate the entire country. Quist and Plyushchenko noted that at that time, in the early 1920s, Congress allowed such behaviour, believing that companies like Rockefeller's could support and look after the economy. Today however, certain companies profit hugely with no care for the economy. Today's monopolies also have far more power than any monopoly before through their access to vast amounts of user data, which some would consider dangerous.

The danger of monopolies is highlighted when we discover how Amazon released the Kindle. The loss for Amazon from the sales of these devices was \$5 per device. They sold millions, and so this would seem like a huge loss. However, their profits came from digital book purchases once users had bought a Kindle. Smaller companies could never experiment like this due to a lack of funds.

Quist and Plyushchenko also looked at the time when one programmer at Google shut down multiple important websites because he misplaced a full stop. As a result, many services went

down, highlighting how much influence one company can have and how destructive any accident or intentional act can have.

On top of this, it is well known that these companies use their size and economic power to avoid paying taxes, accruing greater benefits while reducing the support they give to local economies. At the same time, they have far too much control of the marketplace and exploit this by copying successful products created by smaller companies. Despite being copies, more people will purchase Amazon's version of the product due to their familiarity with the brand and the fact that Amazon can fund large advertising campaigns.

Anti-trust laws have been set in place to prevent this from happening. For example, some companies are blocked from purchasing other corporations due to there being concern that this would further worsen the already existing problem.

Quist and Plyushchenko had some solutions to this problem. They recommend preventing certain companies from expanding into certain markets, as Amazon is doing now by using its profits from web services to expand into the groceries market, arguing that it is not good and will create more problems down the line. They also suggested expanding the diversity of the market, especially around streaming services, to prevent monopolies from existing and forming. They believe that a variety of services would force companies to produce better products at more competitive prices, which benefits both users and the market. They also commented that if only one company controls the market and makes a mistake, it can have a huge impact on the future of this area of the economy and on confidence in the market in the future.

The conversation then moved onto the use of tax havens by huge companies. Certain countries have laws that favour tax minimisation, but companies don't always settle in such countries and often they use loopholes within the law that allow them to profit without having to pay huge amounts of tax. Quist and Plyushchenko decided that a good solution would be to close these loopholes to prevent companies from exploiting them, though there will always be more.

To conclude, Quist and Plyushchenko talked about the philosophy of letting companies do anything they want will lead to all things in society being privatised, which would be bad for the economy and have negative effects on people's quality of life. Therefore, Quist and Plyushchenko support government intervention to stop monopolies from forming.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

*With Francis Holland School,
Speech Room, 12 September*

Handel's *Messiah* is one of those pieces that strikes every listener. From joyful choruses like Hallelujah and For Unto Us A Son is Born to the dizzying solos such as Thus Saith the Lord, the switch changes in emotion are encapsulated by the eerily dark and foreboding *Since By Man Came Death*; the work almost transcends definition. The *Messiah* manages to evoke all the tumults, turns and triumphs of a sacred work. When performing it, the conductor, orchestra, singers and even audience all unite in musical joy and harmony: something that not all works can achieve.

There is no doubt that the performance on Sunday evening most certainly achieved this. The choir were joined by the girls of Francis Holland School, and the orchestra were aided by many music beaks and external professionals. It must be said that it was a remarkable feat to perform for two hours after just managing to cobble together a one-hour rehearsal! Following the dark days of COVID-19, the joy on the faces of all the performers was clear to see. In the aftermath of this spectacle, the choir are rightly looking forward to the Choral Society in

the Spring term, when DNW will surely pick another epic work for them to sing (Verdi's *Requiem* perhaps?)



Many thanks to DNW for his hard work when ensuring that this performance happened. Congratulations should go to all the boys who sang, especially to those who sang solos. The recording will be available on Firefly shortly for those who missed the performance.

PIGOU SOCIETY

*Edward Blunt, Elmfield, "Greed and government: what was to blame for the Great Recession?",
OMS, 8 September*

There are few Harrovians who within their time at School could be considered for the title of Harrow royalty, or, if this writer may be so bold, a School-wide, nay borough-wide, treasure. Among those select few individuals are prime ministers, thespians, philanthropists and, of course (if it has not entered our dear reader's mind then they have clearly spent considerably too much of their time attending the weekly Science Society lectures) Pigou Society secretaries, most notably Edward Blunt, *Elmfield*.

Blunt's topic was, much like the audience in attendance, a vast one. 'Greed and corruption: what was to blame for the 2008 financial crisis?' attracted swathes of people filling every stair like packed sardines. After some attempted tongue-in-cheek comments by Blunt, surrounding the value of his treasured Hilton pen (a souvenir from a surely memorable holiday) and assurances that the Pigou Society is, in fact, much greater than the Trevelyan Society to rousing applause, Blunt eased a generation of Harrovian economists into the troubling waters and statistics of 2008. This lecture was not to be a timeline or overview of the crisis, nor was it to be a glamorised tale of the 2008 crash, but an in-depth look at the greed, corruption and government oversight that caused it.

Blunt began in a serious tone by outlining the economic and social consequences of the crash. By 2009, unemployment had reached 9.8% in the USA (8% OECD) – a staggering and deeply shocking spike. Indeed, the Chicago Fed estimated that there were 3.8 million foreclosures (it was at this point, 1 minute and 48 seconds in, that the first Big Short reference was dropped, a record time for lectures discussing this topic). This mass economic and social instability forced the US into serious national debt, which had doubled in 2011 from its 2007 status a year before the crash. A longer-term effect was the decade of austerity that followed, which has plagued so many industries and state-run organisations such as the NHS and legal aid. In fact, Blunt hesitantly noted that one could attribute to it parts of rising nationalist sentiments that got Brexit, Trump, and Tory TikTok to take over vast swathes of public discourse and election as their chosen medium for leadership. Blunt explained that this all came as a result of poor economic decisions and

“gross mismanagement” (for the non-economists reading this fine publication, that is a very funny joke).

The root cause for the 2008 crash was the existence of MBS (mortgage-backed security) founded by Louis Minari. Essentially, it allowed for asset-backed security to be secured by banks with a mortgage. MBS was backed initially by government organisations such as Fanny Mae and Freddy Mack, as well as private banks, and initially it ran smoother than freshly cleaned floor in the War Memorial Building on a Monday morning. This was due to loans only being issued to those who would be able to repay the bank its investment alongside interest. However, organisations such as NINJA (cool name, less cool function) soon began to give loans and take bets on those who did not always have the ability to reimburse the initial investment and, as a result, banks took on collateral debt obligations, but as these amassed they took too much debt upon them.

The banks’ thought process was relatively, if not too, simple. Buying a house increases wealth. Risky loans are fine as banks can easily sell the house on to recover their loss. Everyone always needs a home so house prices should rise exponentially and, since it has always made money, it should always continue to do so. However, decisions taken by senior members of Wall Street’s Bourgeoisie such as former Lurhman Bros CEO Richard ‘Dick’ Fuld, the self-titled gorilla of Wall Street (who allegedly ate the hearts of short sellers and is arguably one of the few people who the world can unanimously agree warrants the abbreviation of their Christian name) moved the loss of their companies and attributed it to other shelf countries, therefore misleading shareholders. Essentially it was the biggest fraudulent organisation of non-fraud ever. Cisman stated that Wall Street banks ‘mistook leverage for genius’. Indeed, Lurhman was eventually leveraged 44:1.

Another reason attributed to the Wall Street crash was income inequality. A conversation around inequality in loans and a desire to democratise credit put pressure on banks to start allowing more people to get credit. These included overly risky loans that caused foreclosures and banks amassing debt.

Furthermore, there was a mass failure of government regulation. There was a repeal of the glass Steagall Act of 1999. Andrew Cuomo ended up mandating lending to minority communities during his tenure as HUD secretary, which increased risky spending. Cuomo and the US government fundamentally failed to protect the vulnerable people of America and allowed them to be manipulated by large banks to gain profit (as if we didn’t need another reason to have disdain for him). In addition to this, the SEC failed in its regulatory capacities. Despite its role in regulating large corporations, lying to the SEC by individuals such as Fuld prevented them from doing this properly. By presenting profiting figures, capital requirements were lowered as debt was reaching the peak of its crescendo, and, by 2008, it all came crashing down.

Many thanks to Blunt for such a fantastic lecture and DM for supervising.

HWA CHONG ASIA PACIFIC

Young Leaders’ Summit, 12–15 July

From 12 to 15 July, Hugo Anderson, *Newlands*, Haiwei Li, *Bradlys*, and Justin Chan, *Druries*, represented Harrow at the prestigious annual Hwa Chong Young Leaders Summit. It was a great privilege to take part and discuss global issues with 96 other delegates from 26 different schools. The theme this year was ‘Re: Imagining, Building, Uniting.’ Before the conference, we were tasked with writing an executive summary, detailing the efforts of our respective communities in managing and rebuilding after the pandemic one year on. During the first day, we had the opportunity to present our Cultural Exhibition on British

culture, while also listening to other exhibitors. This gave me a deeper appreciation of other cultures from across the world.

The main emphasis of the summit was to provide the delegates with the opportunity to collaborate while responding to various global issues. Each delegate was assigned a stakeholder role, a position within their respective fictional country, and then were entrusted to navigate crisis simulations. This format allowed for greater recognition of the intricacies of global affairs and meant that the delegates were able to find innovative ways to respond. The challenge for delegates was to channel our creative thinking and problem-solving skills as we manoeuvred through the crisis of the century, a pandemic. Moreover, the notable speakers at the start of each day provided invaluable insights, one of whom was the President of Singapore, Halimah Yacob, who stated in a recorded message to the conference that ‘Unity is a keystone for our future’.

During the summit, we spent some time in regional blocs using action cards to respond to new crises that surfaced, and we were then judged on economic, social and political factors. Having spent time within our respective countries, we then moved into an international meeting, where delegates from different countries discussed how to work cohesively towards mutual interests.

The four-day virtual event has deepened my understanding of my own community as I had the opportunity to come up with concrete solutions to issues. We entered a new reality where we attempted to solve diplomatic tensions with neighbouring countries as well as strike trade deals to better the circumstances at home. From piracy in the East to strained economic diplomacy in the West, we discussed key issues extensively as we sought to keep healthy levels of indicators during the convention. From medical ethics to income inequality, delegates engaged in heated debates on key moral issues as we contemplated ways to distribute and use the vaccines back at home.

Over the course of this short period, delegates from around the world had formed strong bonds. In my opinion, being able to meet people from across the world and being able to hear their unique perspectives on current affairs was the highlight of the convention.

HARROW FAMILY MATHS COMPETITION

Last term saw the inaugural Harrow Family Year 9 Maths Competition. This was a new initiative set up by the Heads of Maths of some of the Harrow Schools around the world, and involved the entire Shell year group taking an online paper in competition with all the other Harrow International Schools.

The London-based Harrovians led the School to second place among the nine competitors, just behind Harrow Shenzhen, with an average score of 18.93 out of 24.

Globally, there were 12 candidates who earned a perfect score of 24, and six of these were based on the Hill. Congratulations to Henry Song, Jackie Guo, Anson Ching, all *The Grove*, Charlie McDowell, Spencer Chan, both *The Knoll*, and Larry Cao, *Bradlys*, for this impressive achievement.

The full results were:

| School | Mean Score |
|------------------|------------|
| Harrow Shenzhen | 19.35 |
| Harrow UK | 18.93 |
| Harrow Chongqing | 18.57 |
| Harrow Bangkok | 18.51 |
| Harrow Beijing | 18.424 |
| Harrow Shanghai | 18.417 |
| Harrow Haikou | 17.75 |
| Harrow Zhuhai | 17.68 |
| John Lyon | 16.53 |

ARCHITECTURE SOCIETY

Louis Yeh, Lyon's "Past and Present: The influences of Classical Architecture", Microsoft Stream, 22 June

At the end of the Summer term, the Architecture Society hosted its first talk by the Head of Society, Louis Yeh, Lyon's. Despite being off the Hill, his lecture, entitled 'The Influences of Classical Architecture', which is one of his favourite architectural styles, proved to be a thought-provoking one nevertheless. This lecture takes us back to the fifth century BC in Greece and the third century AD in Rome, dating back to the Classical Period. The Classical Period is very influential, setting an important cornerstone for further exploration of architectural development with the emergence of Gothic and Renaissance styles, both possessing elements from the Classical Period. Thanks to Yeh, the history and influences of Classical architecture were made clear.



The lecture kicked off with the reasons why Classical architecture is essential. Yeh said that Classical architecture is the genesis of many of the architectural styles we see on the Hill and in London, including some of the most important landmarks, like the Bank of England building, designed by Sir John Soane. It has sprawled across to the United States of America, not just for landmarks like the Lincoln Memorial or the White House, but also houses, schools and stations. Many of us will also have visited Greece and Rome, where Classical architecture was born. Yeh was taken back by the architecture he saw during the Classics trip in 2016 in Athens, Delphi and Olympia, to name a few. The Classical style was revived repeatedly and architects incorporated vital elements from the Classical period in Greek buildings. Yeh explained, to define Classicism, one should observe the proportions, symmetry and columns first. Columns, also known as orders, vary in their proportions and ornaments in the Doric, Ionic and Corinthian styles. Historians say the Classical Period consists of three sub-periods: the Greek, Hellenistic and Roman periods. The Doric column was born in the Greek period, Corinthian in the Hellenistic, and Tuscan and Composite in the Roman period. Together with Greek art, excellence and precision was striven for in the Greek period. The Greeks built this style primarily for temples and stadia, with names from the Greek gods, which shows the significance of these landmarks. The precision, creativity and intellect bestowed upon these buildings should be appreciated, together with the difficulty of assembling every piece of the buildings when construction technology scarcely existed for most of what makes up these ancient towns and cities. On the other hand, Roman architecture emphasised the practicality of their architectural designs, rather than aesthetic appeal. Yeh provided historical facts and analysis for two significant buildings from these two periods: the Parthenon (Greek) and the Pantheon (Roman).

The next segment discussed the aftermath of the Classical period. Different reasons contributed to the Greek revival. After the Greek War of Independence, romantic nationalist ideology encouraged Greek architectural styles. The Americans were intrigued by Classicism in the 1830s and 1860s. The excavations in Pompeii, together with all the above, reignited the architecture of ancient Greece. The Greek revival then focused heavily on the Greek ideal of proportion and structural integrity. In the late 19th century, the fascination of "all things being classical" helped make Classicism prevalent in America, which became known as Neoclassical architecture. Vitruvius was a famous Roman architect who wrote the Ten Books on Architecture, illustrating and analysing the design process of Classical architecture; he was a key figure in making Classical Revival possible. The book, translated into several languages, helped people understand the column styles, proportions and materials used in the Classical period. Yeh explained the different types of columns or orders: Doric, Ionic and Corinthian for the Greeks, Tuscan and Composite for the Romans, and how Neoclassical buildings utilise the key features to recreate these styles.

Furthermore, Neoclassical architecture has three different forms: the Temple-style, Palladian and Classical block. The Palladian form, for example, is inspired by the villas of the 16th-century Italian Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio. The lecture progressed with a glimpse of the initial design of the Bank of England building drawn by Sir John Soane. Moving onto Modernism, Yeh gave insight into the role of Classical buildings in the modern world, using the modernisation of the Louvre as a study example. I. M. Pei, who former French President François Mitterrand commissioned to undertake this project, helped design and modernise the Louvre Museum. Yeh emphasised that this is one of the projects that illustrates the relationship between Modernism and Neoclassicism. The Louvre Pyramid was a successful project in many ways; Yeh said it showed that architecture in the past and present could blend seamlessly and effortlessly. The existence of the Louvre Pyramid allowed transparency and distinction, which helped retain the museum's value; interestingly, the museum had been used in the past as a fortress. In the aesthetic aspect, architects like Robert Stern have been crucial in the New Classical architecture movement, which beautifully blends Classicism into the Modern style.

The lecture concluded with Yeh's hope that our built environment should be well appreciated, especially when Classical buildings are abundant in London. Today, sustainability and technological advancements must take precedence when designing buildings. We don't know whether sustainable designs will replace these buildings. Still, by understanding and identifying them, we may be able to consturct these buildings in the future, or continue to appreciate beauty of these buildings that we once had the privilege to witness, representing some of the earliest human craftsmanship.

INTERMEDIATE MATHS OLYMPIADS

The results of the Intermediate Maths Olympiad, taken last academic year, were released shortly before the end of last term, with Harrovians performing particularly well. Of the 23 boys who sat the papers, ten earned certificates of merit and a further eight earned distinctions. Of those eight, six – Wilfred Leung, *Druries*, Larry Cao, *Bradlys*, Oscar Wickham, *The Head Master's*, Matthew Chin, *Bradlys*, Rupert Lam, *The Knoll*, and Liron Chan, *The Grove*, earned medals for coming in the top 100 candidates in the country in their respective age groups. Lam and Chan are to be particularly commended for earning book prizes, meaning they placed in the top 50 nationally.

OPINION

SUDOKU

Persevera per severa per se vera

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CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the Editors

DEAR SIRs,

In 1571, John Lyon left money to found a school at Harrow for the boys of the parish. Lyon stipulated that boys from outside the parish could also be admitted. During the 18th century, the Governors took advantage of this loophole to admit 'outsider' young gentlemen, at high fees, and in such numbers that they eventually constituted a majority of the boys. The local children were increasingly teased for their poverty, and bullied by the sons of aristocrats.

When Harry Temple arrived at Harrow in 1795, he was aware of the prevailing class tensions, made worse by the custom that any boy worth his salt would fight to make his point. So Harry set a noble example. He deplored the bullying of working-class boys, and often punched the lights out of bullies larger than himself. As a fag-master, he was also famously kind to fags. By the time he left Harrow, in 1800, he was very popular.

Fifty years on, as prime minister Viscount Palmerston, Harry found himself again defending the meek. A British Jewish citizen called Don Pacifico, who lived in Athens, was attacked by an anti-semitic mob, which trashed his house. The Greek government refused to pay him due compensation of £30,000. So Palmerston ordered the British Navy to blockade the port of Piraeus and seize all Greek ships. This was done. Soon the Greeks coughed up.

In Parliament, in a speech still available on Wikisource, "Pam" defended his actions, declaring that any British subject should be protected everywhere by the strong reach of Britain. He compared the British Empire to the Roman Empire, in which any Roman citizen could walk the earth unmolested, by virtue of their proud claim *Civis Romanus sum*. Throughout Britain and the world, Pam's fame and popularity, like Britain's power, was never greater.

Boris, hero of jobs and jabs, wishes to strike a cracking pose for Global Britain with Cop 26 in November. He might

manage to save the world by his example, but he cannot make Britain the world leader that it was under Pam. Even Churchill could not do that, because our World War 2 victory almost bankrupted Britain.

Boris went to Eton, as did Churchill's impossible son, Randolph. But the Harrow glory days may not be over. I predicted the fall of Communism – I saw the red flags. I can predict when someone is about to sneeze; I'm a kind of nostrildamus. I predicted the result of the 2020 American Presidential election; I have 2020 vision. And I correctly predicted that my song-and-dance act would not win a TV place on Britain's Got Talent.

I now publicly predict that Harrow will produce an OH who is, as Pam was, leader of the world's greatest nation. The Chinese ambassador recently visited Harrow, and noted that the number of Chinese Harrovians was increasing. Surely one day a Chinese Old Harrovian will rule the People's Republic of China, and thus become leader of the most powerful nation the world has ever seen? 也许四十年?'

Yours sincerely,
MIKE STONE (MORETONS 1957²)



Weekly
Tea
Review

Alexandria Tea By TWG

Alexandria tea by TWG, is one of my favourite winter teas. As a green tea, it is a blend of sweet and spicy mints, warm spices and a scattering of flower petals, which finishes with a melting note of anise.

Immediately, when opening the tea, I see a fantastic range of colour: brilliant blues; subdued yellows; deep greens; and warm oranges.

The aromas that I first smell, even as dry leaves, are simply divine. A spicy mint greets you at the top of the container.

The taste really is exquisite. It begins with a sweet spice which dances on one's tongue, and ends with a beautifully pleasant mintiness.

I would thoroughly recommend this tea to anyone who wishes to be enveloped in a dreamy reminder of Arabian Nights.

The Tea Society meets regularly on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Join our mailing list to receive information about upcoming events.

20YoungR@harrowsschool.org.uk

SPORT

POLO

Last week on Thursday, the A polo team played a friendly pre-season fixture against Wellington, winning 3-2. Hector Rogberg, *Druries*, in his debut as captain, scored a hat-trick.

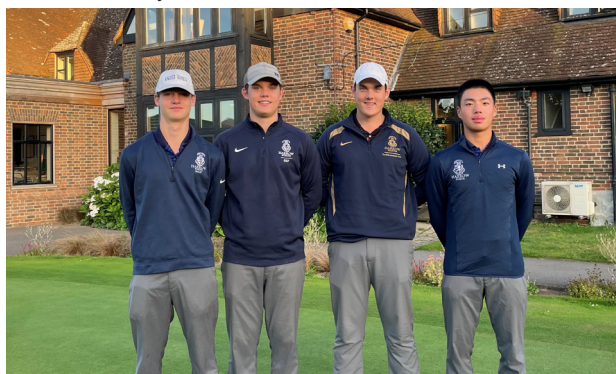
Anyone interested in having a polo taster lesson is welcome to come and give it a go; we play at a private club outside Windsor every Thursday afternoon. Some riding experience is useful but not necessary. For more information email DJRB.

GOLF

West Sussex Invitational, 9 September

Max Shirvell and Toby Shirvell – 31 points (net and gross)
Aidan Wong and Jonty Williams – 15 points gross/20 points net

It's always a tough start to the season when we head down to the beautiful yet brutal West Sussex Golf Club for the annual foursomes competition. Foursomes is a tricky format, whereby shots are taken alternately within each pair and it can be hard to get into a rhythm. This certainly proved to be the case for our boys!



Max Shirvell and Toby Shirvell, both *The Head Master's*, started strong but, after a birdie on the first, the quality of golf decreased throughout the round. Although there were a number of superb iron shots hit, including a 230 yard dart thrown by Max Shirvell to a foot, they were quickly countered by two triple bogeys caused by poor club choice and hosel-rockets. 18 holes at a well-conditioned West Sussex golf club proved a tough test, seeing the Shirvells finish +5 and coming in 3rd overall – very respectable!

Out second and still buoyed from the Micklem success in the summer were Aidan Wong, *The Park*, and Jonty Williams, *Moretons*. Wong's 4-iron has been persevered for future generations to admire but perhaps he should have kept it in the bag today! The pair were looking forward to scoring well; however, this was not the case and it turned out to be quite the opposite with both Williams and Wong struggling to find any real momentum. The round was summed up on the par three 15th which was only 140 yards. While Williams pulled a wedge slightly left, Wong had somehow managed to push his bag and trolley into a dirty lake – he was well and truly bogged down – the only relief being that he did not have Thor's Hammer (his 4-iron) in said bag. This resulted in Wong leaving his trolley in a pond and proceeding to carry his sodden bag for the next 12 holes. A day to forget for both of them where things didn't quite go to plan.

Time to build ahead of some big fixtures in the coming weeks!

RUGBY UNION

*1st XV v Hurstpierpoint College, School won 53-7,
11 September*

The XV got off to a fine start to the season with a comprehensive victory over Hurstpierpoint. Harrow asserted their physical dominance early in the game with Kepu Tuipulotu, *Druries*, bundling over the try line after a slick lineout move. Harrow scored three more tries in the first half from Walid Nsouli, *The Knoll*, Tuipulotu again and Hugo Anderson, *Newlands*, to make it 24-0 at the break. With a strong subs bench, Harrow's dominance continued into the second half, playing some outstanding rugby to take the final score to 53-7. Nsouli, Tito Edjua, *Lyon's*, George Hamblin, *Moretons*, Angus Walker, *Bradby's*, and George Cutler, *The Knoll*, were the try scorers with Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, kicking the extras. A superb start to the season for the XV.

2nd XV v Hurstpierpoint College, Won 49-21

After a rowdy bus journey down to Hurst, the 2nd XV were ready to play their first rugby game in two years. They were accompanied by the tactical mastermind and stand-in coach, Raymond, as JM had other duties to attend to.

An extended warm-up was welcome and after a couple of practice lineouts, the game was well underway. The 2nd XV started on the back foot but quickly gained the upper hand. Some hard-hitting lines were provided by the pack who regularly pierced the line of defence. Gabriel Black, *West Acre*, continually provided excellent service from the base of the ruck. Eventually, a penalty was awarded in front of the post and Kit Keey, *Druries*, slotted the conversion. Not five minutes later, the 2nd XV were back carrying on ferociously under the leadership of Kit Chetwynd Talbot, *West Acre*, and Jack Hedley, *The Head Master's*. An offload was expertly provided to newcomer, Jasper Cockburn-Miller, *Bradby's*, who dotted down very gracefully under the posts. Unsurprisingly Keey added the extras.

There were lots of pre-match talk about whether we would see Sam Quist's, *The Grove*, 'wheels' during the game. And true to form, Quist nipped in and out of the holes in defence and sprinted off to the try line. Keey made sure that score line moved onto 17-0. Some fantastic last-ditch defending ensured that Hurst were not able to get off the mark in the first half.

Both teams came out fighting as the second half began, but once again it was Harrow who started on top. The brute force of the forwards was felt time after time as huge carries led by Baba Obatoyinbo, *The Knoll*, and Phillip Truscott, *Elmfield*, turned into metres over the gain line. As expected, the latter pounded over the try line to make the score line even more appealing in favour of Harrow. Jasper Blackwood, *Elmfield*, added two points to his tally for the day.

Finally, it was time for the backs to have a share of the limelight. They provided the many supporters with glimpses of the potential they offer, and when a series of passes was strung together, Casper Davies, *Elmfield*, finished superbly in the corner.

Two more tries were added by Baba Obatoyinbo, *The Knoll*, and Luke Ritchie, *Newlands*, who danced his way to the line. A Man of the Match performance was summed up by Jasper Cockburn-Miller, *Bradby's*, who made it a brace for the day. And of course Keey made sure to maintain his 100% hit rate in front of the posts.

A last-minute try from Hurst finalised the score as 49-14 to Harrow. It was a solid start to the season from the 2nd XV, but there are definitely areas that can be improved, such as defence around the breakdown, and putting successful phases together for the backs.

Huge special mention to Raymond for his coaching; he will always be welcomed back to the 2nd XV sidelines with open arms.

3rd XV v Hurstpierpoint College, won 32-0

The 3rd XV secured a comfortable victory, winning 32-0 with tries from Charlie Digges, *West Acre*, Tiarnan O'Brien, *Bradbys*, Marcos Kantaris, *Lyon's*, Patrick Elliott, *Druries*, Josh Soyemi, *The Head Master's*, and Greg Morgan, *Lyon's*, with Michael Chiimba, *Newlands*, adding a sole conversion.

After the COVID-19 hiatus of last year this season was even more eagerly anticipated than usual, and so after three brisk training sessions the 3rd XV were in an uncharacteristically jubilant mood as they piled onto the coach to head away to Hurstpierpoint, near Brighton. When the 3rd XV arrived, it was already 2.30pm, and the mood was low.

This, of course, meant a short warm-up (which is the boys' second-favourite warm-up, just after no warm-up at all). It certainly showed in the first 10 minutes, when silly handling errors ensured that Hurstpierpoint had the lion's share of possession. The 3rds defended admirably, but a slew of silly penalties meant that every time the pressure was relieved, Hurst had an opportunity to pile it on again. It wasn't until midway through the first half that Harrow settled, gradually building phases and field position for the first time. Barnstorming runs from Archie and Greg Morgan took Harrow into the 22 and a clever switch of play from Digges saw winger for the play O'Brien glide into the corner. A second try quickly followed, when a cute kick from Digges under pressure from a resilient Hurst defence was gathered skilfully by Soyemi, who dotted down in the corner. The 3rd team went into half-time 10 points to the good, but with lots of improvements to make.

If the first half was mainly won up front, the second half was a better one for the backs. The third team is lucky to have two backs who are fantastic defenders: captain Max and Ben but both also have another secret skill in their arsenal, which is that they are both in fact deceptively slow. What I mean by this is that by the time the opposition realise how slow they are going and adjust their speed accordingly, they have already overrun the play, allowing Ben and Max to glide past them past them with ease. If it's deliberate, and given current fitness levels the jury is still out on that one, it's a masterful bit of double bluff. Regardless, both used this skill effectively in the early second-half exchanges to create increasing amounts of space in the midfield, picking the ball up and fullback and centre and sucking in opposition men from across the midfield. This was ably exploited by Paddy, whose sniping run from the base of the scrum caught the Hurst back line off guard, and latterly by Digges, who glided in from the edge of the 22 to dot down a fourth. Chiimba also deserves an honourable mention at this point for landing an assured conversion – he took all six without a tee by digging a hole in the turf with his heel!

A dominant display for the 3rds was capped by two further tries – an excellent pick and go from the base of the scrum saw Morgan cross the line (his celebration was dubious). Kantaris rounded off proceedings by breaking cleanly from a well-worked maul to dab down in the corner. Further honourable mentions must go to Archie, who sportingly volunteered to finish the game for Hurstpierpoint, and to Finlay, who sadly picked up an injury in the last play of the game after an assured performance in the midfield. Overall, a fantastic opening result for the 3rd XV, who visit Dulwich next weekend for what will likely be a sterner test.

Tries: O'Brien, Morgan, Kantaris, Elliot, Digges, Soyemi
Cons: Chiimba
MVP(s) Charlie Digges. Yoh Ishikawa

Colts A v Hurstpierpoint College, won 20-19

Hurstpierpoint came flying out the blocks with excellent linespeed and put our Colts boys under pressure. This was compounded by the shortened warm-up after delays in some sticky M25 traffic. Despite conceding an early try through Hurst's dangerous fly half, Harrow came flying back onto to offensive through some great team play and incisive runs by Charlie

Griffin, *The Head Master's*, who was unfortunately forced off with a knee injury. Great patience from the forwards close to the line eventually saw Harrow pull a score back. Another try from the opposition fly half was equally answered by a fantastic flowing backs move which saw Sam Phillips, *Moretons*, score in the right corner – the flair was the pure antithesis to the brute power that saw Harrow score their first try. A sign of a well-balanced team!

The second half was a cagey affair with an Edstrom intercept try replied to by a patient Hurst build up and score in the left hand corner. With minutes left on the clock and the scores at 19-17, Harrow turned the ball over in the opposition half before astutely going through some well-structured phases. An infringement by the opposition led to a penalty bang in front on the 22 and a cool Edstrom head and boot saw the ball sail over as the last act of the game with Harrow taking the win, which on balance they probably deserved.

Colts B v Hurstpierpoint College, Won 42-7

Junior Colts A v Hurstpierpoint College, Won 38-10

The Harrow boys had their heads in the game early as Hurstpierpoint delayed the kickoff due to a late arrival. The quick line speed and huge hits from Harrow applied pressure on the opposition. Their intensity didn't match ours and we took advantage as James Lester, *West Acre*, scored the first two tries of the season, battling with the opposition to drop over the line. The forwards dominated from there, triggering Cameron Knight, *Newlands*, to make a try-scoring dash from just past the halfway line. Hurstpierpoint were not handling the pressure as Joshua Oliver-Willwong, *Bradbys*, finished off a try in the right corner. The opposition were let back in the game from some missed tackles and some lazy attacking during a relaxed spell in the second half of the game. Ten points came from this, but the Harrow boys showed some incredible resilience. With some lovely silky passing from the backs, Jonah Esposito, *Newlands*, finished the phase off with an assist from Henry Snow, *Rendalls*. The team kept pushing as James Talamai, *Druries*, and James Lester had tries called held up. However, with a try in the final plays from Hugo Evans, *The Park*, the boys came away with a 38-10 win. With the extra points added from Sam Winters, *Elmfield*, whose kicking from the touchline was superb.

This display was an exciting start to what could be a very enjoyable season.

Tries: Lester, Lester, Knight, Oliver-Willwong, Esposito, Evans
Cons: Winters, Winters, Winters, Winters

Junior Colts C v Hurstpierpoint College, Won 46-5

Tries: Behagg, Cambatta-Mistry, Latham, Zhou, de Hemptinne, Orji(2), Keigwin
Cons: Barnett(3)

Yearlings A v Hurstpierpoint College, Won 40-20

The Yearlings got off to an excellent start to their Harrow sporting journey to produce some exciting rugby, outscoring their opponents 12 tries to four.

Tries: Addati, Cheesebrough(2), Arthur, Chukwuemeka, Codrington(2), Lourie, Nsouli(3), Turner

Yearlings B v Hurstpierpoint College, Won 20-15

Yearlings C v Hurstpierpoint College, Won 15-10

The eagerly anticipated return of competitive rugby against other schools took place in glorious conditions on Reddings 2. Twenty-one new boys represented Yearlings C against Hurstpierpoint in a series of conditioned 20-minute games to prepare the boys for the return to contact rugby. In the first two games, most of the play was in the opposition half and Harrow scored the majority of points, but the final game proved to be a closer contest. Harrow made a strong start with two quick

tries, but Hurstpierpoint rallied and levelled the score with five minutes to go. Harrow spent the final few minutes of the game defending their try line, but Hurstpierpoint were able to find a gap and score a try in the last minute of the game to make the score 15-10. Harrow had attacked uphill all afternoon, working hard in the heat, but the exertion had taken its toll. In the course of the afternoon, Harrow tries were scored by Jimi Aiyeola, *The Grove*, Ayobami Akindele, *West Acre*, Jesse Eledan, *Newlands*, (2), Sean Pao, *Bradlys*, (2) and Neil Timblo, *Moretons*, (3).

Yearlings D v Hurstpierpoint College, Won 30-10

SOCCKER

FestiPhil 2021

Oh, how we have missed competitive football! This Saturday saw the return of boys and OHs for the traditional start of season opener – the so-called FestiPhil tournament. With perfect weather and four mixed teams of OHs and boys, there was a vibrant buzz of excitement as we gathered outside the Charles Alcock pavilion, with some looking to brush off the cobwebs, some keen to catch up with friends and others just eager to score some goals again in this league format competition.



The games started in a suspiciously quiet manner, with one on-looker remarking “these are definitely both going to penalties”, but they sprang to life in the second half with a remarkable set of goals to enjoy. The pick of them had to be an audacious dribble and 20-yard lob over the keeper by former 1st XI football captain Alex Ellis, *Rendalls 2011*³. It was just a shame it was into his own goal as the purples went down 2-0 in their opener. On the other pitch, Harry Bick, *2008*, scored a wonderful long-range effort that impressed the onlooking fans (especially the tea lady) to help the yellows secure victory after going behind against the reds.

Only one game went to penalties in the end, with the match between the blue team and purples ending in a 1-1 draw. Drawn matches at FestiPhil end with their own version of penalties – a timed, hockey-style running start. Tom Haworth, *The Knoll*, proved to be the hero in goal as the blues ran out winners, with Haworth saving two of the penalties taken against him.

Overall, the standard and pace of the football was noticeable and impressive. It was clear that competitive football had been missed during the recent lockdowns by all of those involved. The atmosphere in the matches was another overriding success and it was clear that the OHAFC was being presented favourably to the boys as a way of playing competitive football after life on the Hill.

The competition came down to the final set of matches and a winner-takes-all fixture between the blues and the yellows. As they did in each of their games, the yellows went behind early in the first half only to storm back to victory in the second. The victorious yellow side were captained by Alexi Pittalis, *Rendalls 2007*³, with Luke Walton, *West Acre*, named the best young player after some typically buccaneering performances for the red team.

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All Harrow boys, from the Shells through to the Sixth Form are encouraged submit humorous writing, satire, pen portraits and creative writing, poetry, essays, cartoons or serious articles of any length which touch upon the life here at Harrow. If you are interested in writing for *The Harrovian*, or have something that you would like to submit, please speak with or email any of the editors.

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Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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CELEBRATING OUR PAST
REFOUNDDING OUR FUTURE