

# THE HARROVIAN

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1926 – 2022  
ELIZABETH II  
DEI GRATIA BRITANNIARUM REGNORUMQUE  
SUORUM CETERORUM REGINA  
CONSORTIONIS POPULORUM PRINCEPS

## HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Her Majesty the Queen seemingly came to the throne through fate, rather than circumstance. Born the daughter of Prince Albert, Duke of York, and third in line to the throne, it had seemed that Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor would have to take a backseat in the grand sweeping changes and developments which would characterise the latter half of the 20th century. But, as providence does so often dictate, there are some people simply destined to act as the great cornerstones of their time, and Her Majesty has served as exactly that. The dedication to her country she has shown throughout her long life, from her time as a mechanic during the Second World War to providing a stable and guiding hand to a changing Commonwealth, and a changing Britain, has reflected her status as our monarch, as a stoic, moral lighthouse, clearly showing a path of resilience, dedication and devotion to a cause greater than oneself. To take on, and execute with faithful industriousness, the task of holding the torch of an unbroken line of monarchy, stretching back 1,096 years with both empathy and sympathy, pomp and circumstance, despite the troubled times she has found herself leading through, is the mark of a leader. Perhaps not a leader of soldiers, desperate to find glory in the venerable books of old, but something greater still yet: a leader of men. One who inspires through a simple, but never simplistic, sense of patriotism, kindness, awareness and tradition; one who is truly worthy of singing 'May she defend our laws, and ever give us cause, to sing with heart and voice, God save the Queen'.



To list Her Majesty's styles and titles serves as a monument to how integral she, and the positive impact she had, was during the late part of the 20th century and the early part of the 21st. She has been Queen of countries that no longer exist, from Rhodesia to Ceylon. She has been Monarch of nations that have experienced unimaginable and sometimes tragic upheaval, and yet she has remained a symbol of unity against the forces of disorder, discord and dishonour. Her Majesty was the Paramount Chief in Fiji and an Admiral in the landlocked state of Nebraska. She was the Duke of Normandy and Lord of Mann, her gender neither restricting her titles nor her energy and dedication to the commonweal of all. And while the Queen's Maori style as *Te Kotuku Rerengatahi*, in English The Rare White Heron of a Single Flight, may be quite poetic, I believe that the title given to her when she was initiated as a bard at the National Eisteddfod of Wales is much more fitting: *Ein Tywysoges*, Our Own Princess. God rest Her Majesty. God Save the King.

## THE QUEEN AT HARROW

by Andrew Arthur

Her Majesty first visited the School in 1957, with further visits in 1971 and 1986, a year after her mother, the Queen Mother, attended the Shaftesbury Centenary celebration. It is common knowledge that you cannot visit Harrow without enjoying our existing traditions. Therefore, this article aims to re-live and reminisce upon the three occasions when 'Queen Elizabeth sat one day' and watched the Harrovians at play.



Visits to Harrow from high-profile figures are seldom lacklustre. Typically, pomp and circumstance accompany them, and on Her Majesty's three visits to the top of Harrow Hill, it is not an understatement to say that the School pulled out all the stops. On the first of her visits, the Queen was greeted just outside of Druries, near the Schoolyard colloquially known as 'Bill Yard', where she was greeted by then Head Master, R L James and his wife, who were flanked by the polished and slick NCOs from the Harrow Rifle Corps. Understandably, murmurs of excitement reverberated around the High Street before an abrupt stillness arrived once Her Majesty advanced through the guard of honour with her husband the Duke of Edinburgh and the Head Master. To amplify the hysteria and thrill of the day, the School had to welcome an innumerable throng of journalists, who were said to have been enthused by the grandeur and splendour of the occasion. One of the formalities was the familiar tradition of School Bill, which was significant on this occasion because the boys were being called to a different member of authority, the Queen. Her Majesty took it upon herself to read the names on the roll and, on two of her visits, was noted to observe the Harrovians with an eagle eye. Arms had been presented by the cadets, the other boys had 'capped and passed and hurried on', and the Queen was now at ease with her surroundings in the windy yard at Bill. The rest of the day was destined to be a success.

Well-known stories that one hears upon a visit to the Fourth Form Room were told, as the Duke of Edinburgh and the then Head of School were said to have had a rather enthralling conversation on the topic of name-carving. Before the royal party embarked on their adventure along Church Hill, the Duke of Edinburgh asked about the nature of name-carving in the present day, to which the Head of School replied, rather reluctantly, by affirming that the padlock on the door was functional rather than symbolic. His blushes were saved as the Queen moved on to visit the churchyard and the Church, St Mary's, where she was fortunate to view the poignant image of the clerestory window portraying the presentation of a charter to John Lyon, the School's founder.

An empty Speech Room was the next room to greet the royal party, as they were afforded the opportunity to observe the different ways in which the School honours its Giants of Old. The keepers of this fine institution were then on hand to meet the Queen, as the Chairman of the Governors presented each of his colleagues in turn. The historic tour of the buildings on

the north side of the Hill was duly completed triumphantly as the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh rode down Peterborough Hill towards the fields.

A trip to the School Farm was then relished by the Queen and the Duke, given the fact that they had a farming background themselves. Therefore, the Master-in-Charge of the Farm was almost left redundant as he was not needed to explain the significance of the ongoing farming projects. Instead, he and the boys at the Farm were able to savour the luxury of being the recipients of flattering commentary from the Queen and the Duke. Reports on the day's events convey the inquisitiveness of the Royals on the subject of the character of Harrovian farmers. As the Duke and Queen so often did, they both expressed a genuine interest in the Farm to the extent where they quizzed the boys on how they were able to manage classical studies, football and farming.



The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh continued by exploring the Harrow Football or 'footer' pitches, the Chapel, the Vaughan Library and The Head Master's boarding House. The Royals finished their memorable trip to the Hill by concluding their day in true Harrow fashion by entertaining themselves with Songs in Speech Room. The Head of School presented the Queen a Song Book 'as a small memento of her visit'. Needless to say, the first song sung was *Queen Elizabeth*, a favourite of the boys with its light melodic tune. The School, with their harmonious voice, were described as sounding 'a little like hippopotami on their Bank Holiday', nevertheless the passion and the indomitable School was exalted on this particular occasion. Making the only speech of the day, the Head Master rose to say that, "Queen Elizabeth the First gave us our charter. Queen Elizabeth the Second has given us something no less precious, her own royal presence among us here for a whole afternoon, to find out how the Charter has worked. Whatever other impressions she may take away with her from Harrow, we would above all wish her to feel that, in this tiny corner of her realm, we are all her most devoted, loyal and grateful subjects". The Queen and the royal party left Speech Room following the three cheers orchestrated by the Head of School and she was greeted by the substantial cheers from all the schoolboys.

While this article and recount of events focuses on her visit in 1957, the Queen also visited in 1971 for the School's 400th anniversary and in 1986 to open the new Craft, Design and Technology Building, now known as Churchill Schools. Her visits were largely comparable to her visit 29 years earlier. The major difference was that, in 1986, with the advancement of modern technology, the School was able to share the experience with the BBC and ITV to make certain that over 20 million television viewers could observe the 'name and fame of Harrow' on the flagship six o'clock news programme.

To conclude, by looking at these three extraordinary days in retrospect, we may never know what Her Majesty thought of the Harrovians at the time and, judging from the accounts from over 40 years ago, it is clear to see that the boys found it

hard to put their own emotions into words. The Farm, Songs, Chapel, footer, Bill and Speech Room are all phenomena that still resonate with Harrovians past and present and, most probably, the Queen, following her three visits to the Hill. So much of her legacy has been defined by the seemingly small visits to a multitude of places. To all appearances, these may seem inconsequential, but to the recipients of her visits her outings had a profound effect on their lifetime and outlook towards Her Majesty. Her visit certainly strengthened our admiration and veneration for the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. On Tuesday 5 March 1957, Friday 26 February 1971 and Monday 24 November 1986, the School expressed their sincere homage towards Her Majesty, a homage that will live on.



## WHO WE LOST

Her Majesty the Queen represented security in a changing world. Through wars, natural disasters, financial collapses and elections, she impartially presided over her kingdom with strength and wisdom. Every person in Britain felt safer knowing they were being watched over by her maternal presence. She touched all our lives, irreplaceably so.

On her 21st birthday, Princess Elizabeth dedicated her life to the service of her people and her country. Seventy-five years later, her promise has been fulfilled. Perhaps it was this that made her so loved. Right until the very end, Elizabeth the Second carried out her duties as best she could, a true testament to her will and spirit. A promise made and a promise kept.

Reassurance is a feeling that is becoming increasingly hard to grasp in today's world. The 24-hour media cycle profits from fear and attention-grabbing, as does social media. These two new phenomena greatly impacted the later part of Her Majesty's reign and represent the great technological revolution that has defined this Elizabethan age. Through changes and turbulent times, she was a symbol of unity and of the nation's spirit. Perhaps it was her presence that ensured political stability over the decades. At times, it was the Queen who was the only person whom we could all get behind – but that was enough: she was enough.

The Queen was exemplary, dignified, someone to be truly proud of, someone who lifted the nation. She was regarded with great respect in every corner of the world, and she brought that respect back to her kingdom and her people. She helped to build the image of post-colonial Britain, and her image has defined a century of great change – in this nation and abroad. She even stood above the crises of her own family and helped to hold her family and our country together in the worst of times.

It was her love for her people that made her equally loved by us in return.

It is only now, in her passing, that we truly understand the person we lost. Like in a fantasy, we all just believed that



she would stand with us forever, that she would never leave. Sadly, the day we all dreaded finally came. Elizabeth died on 8 September 2022. Our nation fell silent, and Britain lost a great monarch.



## MEDICAL SOCIETY

*Hadrian Ho, The Head Master's, 'Why do we fart? An investigation into the gut microbiome and the underlying causes of flatulence', 21 June*

At the end of Summer term, Hadrian Ho, *The Head Master's*, addressed the Medical Society on the essential roles of the gut microbiome and the underlying causes of flatulence, exploring the question 'Why do we fart?' The question may be embarrassing for some people, but since all living organisms fart (10–20 farts per day), it promised to be an engaging talk. By the end of the lecture, Ho hoped that we would all approach this topic with maturity rather than disgust or giggles. In fact, Ho clarified that flatulence is an indication of our body's underlying conditions, relating to many gastrointestinal diseases. These have become more prevalent in modern society, with the rise of unbalanced diets and processed foods.

Before introducing his investigation into the gut microbiome, Ho described the composition of flatulence: it consists mainly of nitrogen and hydrogen, and it also contains carbon dioxide, methane, oxygen and sulphur. In fact, the rotten-egg smell of farts come from a mere 1% of sulphur. Moreover, each person's fart has a unique smell determined by the microbes in the gut flora (a complex ecological system formed by indigenous microbial cells in the digestive tracts). The fact that animals also fart came to attention. The flatulence of cows – via which 100kg of methane can be produced per year – was responsible

for 18% of greenhouse gases worldwide: a serious emerging issue. But the flatulence of certain animals can also serve more exotic purposes: herring fish communicate through farts, coral snakes fart to scare predators as a defence mechanism, West Indian manatee fart to regulate buoyancy, and beaded lacewings (an insect species) use it to paralyse and kill termites.

Ho then explained why we, unlike these animals, should avoid farts. Hydrogen sulphide in farts are odorous after all. But, more importantly, flatulence can transmit bacteria (e.g. *Streptococcus pyogenes*) and induce illnesses (e.g. tonsillitis, scarlet fever, heart disease) through faecal matter or airborne particles. Fortunately, the risk of transmission is very low, since bacteria that can be transmitted through particles in the air are blocked off by clothing.

Sticking with the theory, Ho elaborated on why we fart, stating three major factors: eating, drinking, breathing. Carbohydrates and fibres in foods are digested by microbes in the stomach to produce gas. Dietary fibres (e.g. galacto-oligosaccharides and fructans) that cannot be decomposed by human enzymes are fermented by gut bacteria in the large intestine. The rate of gas production is increased by the consumption of alcohol or fizzy drinks. Hydrogen sulphide is produced from the metabolisation of sulphate and ferrous ions, transformed from the glucosinolates of cruciferous vegetables (e.g. broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower). Eggs and meat (sulphur-rich foods) also increase the rate of flatulence.

Ho also asserted the importance of knowing that numerous diseases have farting as a symptom. Indeed, there are various potential conditions that cause excessive flatulence, such as gastroenteritis (also known as 'stomach flu'), which is an inflammation of the stomach and intestines.

Lactose intolerance is one of the potential diseases that have flatulence as a symptom. Other symptoms include bloating and diarrhoea after drinking milk, which induce a typical sulphurous odour. This is because the patient lacks the enzyme lactase, which breaks down lactose to glucose and galactose. Therefore, lactose is instead fermented by bacteria in the stomach. The lack of these enzymes weakens the ability of the body to break down food, causing the symptoms above. Bloating occurs when a lot of the gas produced by bacterial fermentation is trapped in the gut, causing discomfort. This disease is typically developed between the age of 20 and 40, due to the lack of lactase when compared to babies, who naturally have more of it. Ho shared the evolutionary aspect that these enzymes may have decreased in number since adults do not require milk, in contrast to babies that are milk-fed.

Thus Ho highlighted the importance of the gut microbiome in the body (also known as 'gut flora'), which is composed of 100 trillion microorganisms (bacteria, fungi, virus). Not only does the gut microbiome help with digesting fibre, but it also controls the immune system and brain health through the central nervous system. Different gut flora is inoculated to a baby by the mother's gut flora, skin flora, faecal flora and vaginal flora. Therefore, babies who are born vaginally have different gut flora from those born by Caesarean section (or C section), and breast-fed babies had different gut flora from formula-fed babies. The gut microbiome is an important mechanism that determines the inclinations of an animal, such as sexual preferences or mating behaviour.

Because the gut microbiome is crucial for the human body, a proper ratio of gut bacteria is critical to health. An imbalance may cause diseases (e.g. diabetes, obesity, atherosclerosis, colitis, autism). This condition is known as 'dysbiosis', and is usually caused by what you eat. For example, a diet high in fat encourages more bacteria to digest fat in the gut, skewing the ratio of other bacteria with different roles. Other causes included stress or antibiotics. High levels of stress undermine the immune system, which affects the gut flora that are closely related to the central nervous system. Anxiety and stress also stimulate the hormones cortisol and adrenaline. Cortisol is a

primary stress hormone that is responsible for regulating the body's response to stress. The subsequent release of adrenaline induces vasoconstriction, which decreases the amount of food moving along the body, hence reducing the level of absorption. Consuming new medications that affect the gut flora, such as antibiotics, can also induce dysbiosis. Ho referred to an experiment in which young mice were inoculated a low dosage of antibiotics. This appeared to have disturbed their gut flora and made them obese in adulthood. When the scientist replaced the gut flora of a healthy mouse with that of an obese mouse, the healthy mouse became obese.

In order to prevent these conditions, Ho addressed how to improve the gut microbiome. Possible methods include fasting, exercising, maintaining a balanced diet, taking targeted supplementation, and eating fermented foods that contain good bacteria (e.g. probiotics).

Returning to the topic of diseases with excessive flatulence as symptom, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is another such example. IBS also causes stomach cramps, bloating and diarrhoea, and around 5–10% of people worldwide have this illness. The symptoms can flare continuously and change over time, which will affect the large intestine. People under 50 years old are most vulnerable and the disease is a long-term condition. This disease can be potentially induced by early life stress, changes in gut microbes, severe infection, abnormalities of nerves in the digestive system, or weak intestinal contractions. IBS also produces neurotransmitters such as dopamine and, if the illness is chronic, the patient could get addicted to it, causing a secondary mental damage. Dieticians have studied the types of foods that are problematic and the types that reduce symptoms. Based on their findings, they came up with the 'FODMAP' diet. This excludes beans and legumes, since they could cause flatulence and hence pain. Patients with IBS must take care if their symptoms grow worse (e.g. weight loss, diarrhoea at night, rectal bleeding, unexplained vomiting), which could indicate colon cancer.

Other medical methods to restore the balance of the microbiome include faecal microbiota transplant. Here the stool of a healthy individual is transformed into a liquid mixture and is transferred to the colon, through the enema (rectal injection) or as a capsule (the capsule is placed in the gut through a long tube that goes up into the stomach). Although the method of creating typical bacteria for medical uses has not been discovered, healthy bacteria in the liquid mixture can be identified using a colonoscopy.

Last but not least, Hadrian introduced the bacteria *Clostridium difficile*, which causes diarrhoea, abdominal pain and loss of appetite. *C. difficile* exists in the intestines of 5–15% of healthy adults and 84.4% of healthy infants. Often found in individuals who have taken antibiotics for a long period, the infection may be caused by contact with infected objects, surfaces and soil. Treatments include antibiotic treatment and faecal microbiota transplant.

At the end of the lecture, Ho was asked a question relating to the recommended diet for a pregnant woman. He focused on avoiding processed foods, which incorporate high levels of saturated fat. JAA also shared an interesting viewpoint that women are potentially more vulnerable to bloating because they tend to be more anxious not to fart in front of other people. Not only can this action damage the body, but it also induces mental damage (e.g. high levels of anxiety and stress).

As further reading, JAA recommended to everyone a book called *Gut: the inside story of our body's most under-rated organ* by Giulia Enders, a book that gives the reader a greater insight to the mystery behind the gut.

Coming to the end of a fascinating lecture series held by the Medical Society, I would like to thank all the old and new society secretaries, the lecturers, the audience and, particularly, JAA, Master-in-Charge of the society. He has always attended the lectures and asked thought-provoking questions, allowing everyone at the lecture to think beyond the topic.

## LONG DUCKER BIKE RIDE

4 September

Seventy-five intrepid cyclists, comprising boys, parents, staff, OHs, friends and others, set off on Sunday 4 September, to participate in the fourth annual Long Ducker Bike Ride. The adventurous fundraisers pedalled their way across a choice of a very lumpy 45 miles or an even lumpier 80 miles through the beautiful Chilterns and Harrow. Since the first event, the Bike Ride has become a celebration of sports, community and charity.



The Harrow Club, a youth club situated in the shadow of Grenfell Tower, received all funds raised, in light of its upcoming 140th birthday. The club offers a series of dynamic and innovative initiatives to support vulnerable adolescents in West London: Another Way, an outreach, mentoring and late-night-sheltering programme offering safe space, activities and support for young people at risk of gang violence, is one such example. These projects demonstrate how the Harrow Club is redefining what a contemporary youth club does, reaching young people who would otherwise face limited life choices.

The ride, again, was a significant success. There was glorious weather, displays of beautiful bikes, plenty of lycra and delicious hamburgers in a glorious barbeque on Chapel Terrace to celebrate the effort of the riders and their support teams. The staff turnout was particularly good this year, with no less than five House Masters participating. Special mention must go to NT, NJM and HAH for a hugely impressive effort in completing the 45-mile route on their Brompton bikes. Their thoughts on the ride are below.

NJM: Having been on the inaugural 120-mile Long Ducker ride, I was happy to be able to dust off my treasured cycling shirt and take on an altogether different challenge this time around. In Harrow, I always push my Brompton up Garlands Lane (and did so on Sunday morning), so the journey up and over the Chilterns was quite unlike anything the bicycle had experienced before. Nevertheless, it was great to be riding with NT and HAH as we all shared the same additional challenges offered by our gallant steeds.

HAH: The decision to complete the ride on our Brompton bikes all started as the designer of the Brompton, Andrew Ritchie MBE, was an Old Harrovian, and NT, NJM and I all use them to get around the Hill. NT thought cycling between Football Lane and Harrow Park was not hard enough, so he convinced us that a 40km (later to be corrected to a 45-mile) jaunt into the Chilterns might blow away the summer cobwebs, and it did just that! The Bike Ride was a beautiful cycle through the countryside and the environs of Harrow. It had its ups and downs, but our faithful navigator, NJM, steered us through with his Garmin. I am very grateful for the extra three gears compared to those of NT, and a cushion on Sunday evening never felt better.



In the words of NT: The Long Ducker Bike Ride is an incredible event and a perfect way to start the term. A joyous aunt (my only one) gave me her old Brompton just before she died; I never thought that a bike would bring me such enjoyment or manage to carry me 45 miles and climb almost a thousand metres! On a beautiful and radiant autumn day, I was delighted to ride with Messrs Haldane and Marchant. NJM led the way, meticulously navigating a splendid and gruelling course to the Chilterns and back. Having only three gears and miniscule wheels did take their toll on the ageing muscles, but the camaraderie and the cause made it all worthwhile. The Bike Ride was a superb way to raise money for such an important charity (Harrow Club) and is a significant part of Harrow's Shaftesbury Enterprise.



The writer sends his greatest gratitude to everyone involved in organising the ride and to HSEL, who provided essential support in the planning and operations of the day. Thank you, too, to all the riders, supporters and sponsors, without whom this event could not have happened.

It is not too late to do your part: please go to <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/LDBR22> if you want to sponsor the riders. The total raised (including offline donations) is close to £10,000; let's get it over the line.

## PIGOU SOCIETY

*Melvin Ackah, Newlands, 'Marketing Genius—How Nike became the biggest sportswear brand in the world'*

Melvin Ackah, *Newlands*, gave a heavily detailed lecture on how Nike managed to not only succeed but become one of the largest sportswear brands in the world.

Ackah began his lecture by discussing the origins of Nike and how it came about, crediting Phil Knight for his ability to utilise his knowledge of business and use running shoes as a path to success. With the quality yet cost-effective Japanese running shoes, Knight was able to appeal to larger sportswear brands and sell these shoes, only selling at \$3.33 a pair. Yet, Ackah made sure we knew of the difficult challenges Knight faced in order to push Nike into success, with many at first rejecting his ideas. Knight persevered and rented a truck to sell his shoes. Ackah noted that one of the reasons for Nike's success was the ability to overcome these challenges and use unorthodox methods to succeed, creating this reputation of perseverance from the beginning. Ackah also noted that it is this persistence that is integral to running/creating a successful business.

Ackah then touched on another influential figure during the creation of Nike: Bill Bowerman, the man who eventually came up with the initial designs, with the first pair being named the Cortez (in relation to the Olympics in Mexico). While it may have come out in 1968, it is still prominent in the shoe industry today, further emphasising not only the longevity of the Nike business but also its unique legacy as a sportswear brand. Yet,

while there was much success with these shoes, there were still obstacles to be faced. Ackah touched on another business aspect, supply and demand. The issue Bowerman and Nike faced was that the demand was so large that the suppliers in Japan could not keep up. However, as Ackah pointed out, one of the reasons why Nike succeeded was its ability to turn a dilemma into an opportunity. As this problem arose, Knight and Bowerman decided that they needed to evolve their company, thus came the Nike swoosh logo and more factories being developed across Japan, thereby boosting Nike even further into the limelight. Bowerman continued to give Nike his ideas, constantly looking for new ways to improve its shoes. This included tearing apart athletes' shoes and experimenting. It is this laborious method of trial and error that set Nike apart from other brands. In most cases, sportswear brands give up if faced with an obstacle they feel they cannot overcome; Nike tended to look at certain aspects with a unique positive perspective, causing the company to thrive and succeed beyond expectations.

Ackah then enlightened us about the unique marketing strategies Nike used to not only separate the brand from its competition but also to become one of the most (if not the most) significant sportswear brands in the last 50 years, dominating the total revenue/profit charts. One of these marketing strategies was linking their shoes to famous athletes, most notably LeBron James, Serena Williams and Cristiano Ronaldo. As Ackah noted, this shifted Nike's goals tremendously as now it was targeting not only the athletes but members of the public as well. By associating the brand with greatness, it encouraged others to follow. The importance of this strategy cannot be overlooked, as Ackah stated that Nike spends more on athlete endorsements than any other shoe brand. Lastly, Ackah noted the direct-to-consumer strategy, which is essentially the process whereby companies sell their products directly to the consumers, rather than through wholesale distributors and retailers, allowing the company to charge retail instead of wholesale prices, thus making more money from each product they sell, as well as forming a direct connection with the consumer. In this way, Nike was able to build up a community/support not only at stores but online as well, creating diverse sources of significant income.

Perhaps with Nike's most important decision tenure was to sponsor Michael Jordan as an athlete. According to Ackah, in 1984, Nike was struggling and, with all the sports talk being about a young 21-year-old heading into the NBA, Nike decided to use the hype surrounding Michael Jordan to eventually sign a contract with him, including sponsorship deals and his own signature shoe line. This was a significant risk for Nike, yet it paid off massively. Another instance in which Nike saw an opportunity in what seemed like failure was when the colours of the shoes that MJ (the Air Jordans) was wearing violated the uniform policy of the NBA. Instead of changing the colour of the shoes, Nike released an advertisement stating 'The Jordans were banned from the NBA but they can't stop you from wearing them'. After this advertisement was released, Ackah noted an absurd statistic: by the end of 1985, Nike had made \$100 million in sales from the Air Jordans. This a testament to the risk-taking mindset Nike possessed, separating them from every one of their competitors. Moreover, this advertisement (and many more relating to it) prompted Nike to shift another section of their business into fashion and luxury, causing it to be accessible not only to sports players but also appealing to people of all types. The impact of the Air Jordans can never be understated with thousands of people waiting for stores to open up. The extremities people went to just to buy a shoe was unbelievable, showcasing Nike's impressive skills at engaging people into what they have/do.

Ackah also noted other unique Nike advertising campaigns including: emotional branding and the Olympics. Emotional branding tends to provoke strong emotions from viewers, enabling the company relate to customers more personally, creating a stable, loyal and committed fanbase. It does this by

focusing on the customer in their advertisements rather than focusing on the product itself. Ackah used the example of the famous campaign 'Just Do It'. This catchy and motivating slogan instantly caught the eye of many, and Nike used that to its advantage – linking it with the contemporary topic of female empowerment. Even during the Olympics, Nike made sure that its logo was visible, especially on the athlete Michael Johnson's shoes, thus attracting and inspiring even more of following.

To conclude, Ackah outlined the true vastness and domination of Nike, with a market capitalisation of approximately \$160 billion, making it the largest company in the sportswear industry. This is thanks to the company's innovation, excellent products, and its ability to connect to its consumers through unique marketing.

# METROPOLITAN

## MATCH REPORT

*A poem*

The entire 5th Form Colts C,  
were ready for action.  
They skipped on over to Redding's three,  
Without a sign of redaction.

On that day their adversaries,  
Were Wellington college,  
Who started off cautionary,  
Because we had more knowledge.

The C's were all going steady,  
Tackling and catching well,  
However, the wellies were battle ready,  
And so the ref began to yell.

A great tackle from Jenkin,  
Came fast in the game,  
A try from Mishin,  
Made the crowd shout his name.

Just as our side were grasping the win,  
A run was made for the line,  
And welly came back with our skin.

The Half time came with a whistle,  
A score of two to one,  
Too short of Harrow dismissal,  
And so the game was far from done.

After the break, as a poets mind began to wander,  
The tackles became tries,  
And clouds circled over yonder.

As the match reached its end,  
Orji flew past the line,  
Despite moves to defend,  
victory was clear and could be felt in his spine.

When teams were dismembered,  
A victory was clear,  
This match will be remembered,  
for the rest of the year.

Harrow Won

## THE PLIGHT OF INDIAN INDEPENDENCE

It began with Mahatma Gandhi's idea of freeing India from the control of the British. In 1930, Mahatma Gandhi proposed a non-violent march to protest against the British salt tax. to understand why the salt tax was so oppressive to the Indian people, it helps to know a bit about the subcontinent's climate and culture. India's hot weather promotes sweating, which drains the human body of its salt supply. Since Indians do not eat much meat – a natural source of salt – they relied on supplementary salt to maintain a healthy amount in the body. Taxing the mineral that Indian people relied on for survival was just one way that the British government kept Indians under its thumb. As salt is necessary for their daily diet, everyone in India was affected and, upon realising the scheme of the British, the Salt March was set in motion.

Before embarking on a 240-mile march from Sabarmati to Dandi to protest against the salt tax, Gandhi sent a letter to Lord Irwin, the viceroy of India, forewarning im of the plans for civil disobedience:

'If my letter does not appeal to your heart, on the eleventh day of this month I shall proceed with such co-workers of the Ashram as I can take, to disregard the provisions of the Salt Laws. I regard this tax to be the most iniquitous of all from the poor man's standpoint.

As the Independence movement is essentially for the poorest in the land, the beginning will be made with this evil.' (Gandhi)

As promised, on 12 March 1930, Gandhi and 78 male satyagrahis (activists of truth and resolution) started marching toward the Arabian Sea. It has been told that, along his way, the roads were watered and fresh flowers and green leaves strewn on the path, and, as the satyagrahis walked, they did so to the tune of one of Gandhi's favourite bhajans, *Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram*, sung by the great Hindustani vocalist Pandit Paluskar. In each village he passed, he convinced government officials to resign in protest and to encourage people to pledge non-violence; therefore, more and more men joined the march. On 5 April 1930, after a 24-day journey, Gandhi and his followers reached the coast. He collected a chunk of salt and immediately broke the law. No sooner had Gandhi violated the law than everyone started following him, picking salt up from the coast. A month after Gandhi completed his march, he was arrested for breaking the law and, soon after, India's prisons were full of 60,000 others practising this simple act of civil disobedience.

Again, though women were full and active members of Gandhi's community, and many were to be closely associated with him over a lengthy period as he went so far to say that "the women have come to look upon me as one of themselves", no women were present among the 78 people chosen to accompany him on the march. An explanation for this was that Gandhi felt women wouldn't provoke law enforcers like their male counterparts, making the officers react violently to non-violence. As salt is an important household necessity, Gandhi strongly favoured the emancipation of women. He especially recruited women to participate in the salt tax campaigns and the boycott of foreign products. Sarma had concluded that by enlisting women in his campaigns, including the salt tax campaign, anti-untouchability campaign and the peasant movement, Gandhi had given many women a new self-confidence and dignity in the mainstream of Indian public life.

Gandhi was portrayed as a messiah (the long-awaited saviour of an entire people), a way of incorporating radical forces within the peasantry into the non-violent resistance movement. It was told that, in thousands of villages, plays were performed presenting Gandhi as the rebirth of earlier Indian nationalist leaders, or even as a demigod. The plays built support among illiterate peasants steeped in traditional Hindu culture. Similar messianic imagery appeared in popular songs and poems, and

Congress-sponsored religious pageants and celebrations. In this way, not only a folk-hero image of Gandhi was made, but also, the Congress was seen as his sacred instrument. (Murali, (1985)

The Government, represented by Lord Edward Irwin, decided to negotiate with Gandhi. The Gandhi-Irwin Pact was signed in March 1931. The agreement between Gandhi and Irwin was signed on 5 March 1931. Following are the salient points of this agreement: Congress would discontinue the civil disobedience movement; Congress would participate in the Round Table Conference; the Government would withdraw all ordinances issued to curb Congress; the Government would withdraw all prosecutions relating to offences not involving violence; and the Government would release all persons undergoing sentences of imprisonment for their activities in the civil disobedience movement.

The pact shows that the British Government was anxious to bring the Congress to the conference table. The British Government agreed to free all political prisoners in return for the discontinuation of the civil disobedience movement. Also, because of the pact, Gandhi attended the Round Table Conference in London as the sole representative of the Indian National Congress. The negotiations, however, proved to be disappointing, for the most part. Various other Indian communities had been encouraged by the British to send a representative and make the claim that they were not prepared to live in an India under the domination of the Congress. Furthermore, it focused on the Indian princes and Indian minorities rather than on a transfer of power. Yet never before had the British consented to negotiate directly with the Congress, and Gandhi met Irwin as his equal. In this respect, the man who most loathed Gandhi, Winston Churchill, understood the level of Gandhi's achievement when he stated that it was "alarming and also nauseating to see Gandhi, a seditious Middle Temple lawyer, now posing as a fakir of a type well known in the East, striding half-naked up the steps of the viceregal palace, while he is still organizing and conducting a defiant campaign of civil disobedience, to parley on equal terms with the representative of the King-Emperor." The result was unexpected as Gandhi was again arrested, and the Government tried and failed to negate his influence by completely isolating him from his followers.

In 1944, Britain pledged to grant independence to India once the war was over. Gandhi called for Congress to reject the proposal once more, since it proposed a division of India among Hindu, Muslim and Sikh states. As a rule, Gandhi was opposed to the concept of partition as it contradicted his vision of religious unity. When sectarian violence rocked India's cities in 1946, leaving more than 5,000 dead, Congress members convinced Gandhi that the only options were partition or civil war. He reluctantly agreed, and then went on a hunger strike that single-handedly stopped the violence in Delhi and Calcutta. On 14 August 1947, the Indian Independence Act was invoked. In border areas, some 10–12 million people moved from one side to another and upwards of half a million were killed in communal riots that pitted Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs against each other. According to prominent Norwegian historian Jens Arup Seip, there perhaps could have been much more bloodshed during the partition if it had not been for his teachings, the efforts of his followers and his presence.

## EVOLUTION OF WORDS

### Part 1

In the 20th century, the threat of nuclear war was significant and ever present. However, in the 21st century, it was replaced by the existential threat of climate collapse and, according to the Plain English Society, the decline of the English language. But I am sure that you and I agree that this cannot be further from the truth and that this process should happen and is natural.

Following common logic, if one was to say the English language is in decline then one would also be saying that we were smarter in the past – that we used all grammar correctly and spoke eloquently. While this can be a good thing, it can be seen as rigid and with little flexibility. In a technologically advanced world, where people are closer than ever, a language is needed that is both "correct and flexible, as well as being worldwide.

This change and revolution is being led by the young people of the era (as change usually is). Young people often lead the innovation in fashion, music, food and many other things. They are willing to try new things and are more flexible than their parents and generations before them. For example, the phrase "all right" was usually said quickly as an answer and the "I" was slowly grouped together with the "r". Eventually, it changed to "aight". The phrase "I'm going to" by using the same logic is changed to "Imma". The older generation considered this as stupid behaviour, but these newly reformed words are most definitely easier to say and are adapted to the English language, making the language easier for everyone. Some might argue that politicians have mutated the language. If they made a mistake, politicians would phrase it like this: "There has been a mistake", and say it passively. These techniques were used hundreds, if not thousands, of years ago. The sophists from Ancient Greece are an example. They taught the people of Ancient Greece rhetorical tricks to persuade a crowd and win an argument.

The fact is that English changes just like all the other languages, but the speed at which it does so in our short lifetimes creates an illusion that English is declining. So currently, who is really in charge of the official language? Well, newspapers, films and radio are often controlled by middle-aged men who are nowhere near as creative as the younger generation. Their goal is to seek power and influence. Therefore, anything unfamiliar to them that is considered "cool" is regarded as lazy or even dangerous and is dismissed.

Let's talk about one of the most important political figures in the last few centuries, George Orwell. He proclaimed that if hard work were not put in to repair the language, it would face general collapse. Clearly, he was wrong. He is similar to Plato, who once said that the youth was degrading and no longer respecting their parents. Both theories turned out to be incorrect. Maybe this rapid change is influenced by poetry. The speeches of Winston Churchill or the works of Byron – changemakers in their day. Perhaps as people fell in love with these works, they began to speak in the same way. These excuses, however, are nothing more than wild theories proposed by people whose ideas were relevant long ago, and now have no basis on which to stand in modern society.

Language is constantly evolving and it moves past those who are reluctant to see change. While this may seem scary to some and 'lazy' to others, it is a natural part of our language.

## CURTIS FILM SOCIETY

*Film Review of 'Call Me By Your Name',  
directed by Luca Guadagnino, 5 out of 5 stars*

This is possibly the greatest summer film I have ever experienced. This 1980s Italian-focused nostalgia of teenage summers is an intoxicatingly beautiful story, often containing shots simply dedicated to displaying the scenery of the gorgeous Italian landscape. This is greatly aided by its cinematographic incorporation of mostly natural light, as well as its effective, deep focus lenses throughout the film to highlight certain characters or evoke an emotional response from the audience. The performances, particularly from Timothee Chalamet and Michael Stuhlbarg, are exceptional. Chalamet manages to not only pull off the icy, careless persona of a 17-year-old,



but also expertly handles the emotions of heartbreak and a burning romantic passion – all into an unforgettable portrayal of Elio Perlman. The soundtrack greatly contributes to its rich atmosphere, with two original tracks written for the film by singer Sufjan Stevens. *Mystery of Love* in particular brings a warm, enlightening presence into the film, enhancing its immersive nature by pulling us in with incredible music.



The masterful directing from Luca Guadagnino paired with the Academy Award-winning screenplay from James Ivory work together harmoniously to create an unforgettable, romantic and heart-breaking experience that will stick with you long after the credits roll: a modern masterpiece.

## SUMMER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Chi Lun Lo:



This is such a great photo. Whether this is a reflection or a layering of double exposure, it is such an artistic piece. The ripples in the water are full of so many different tones and

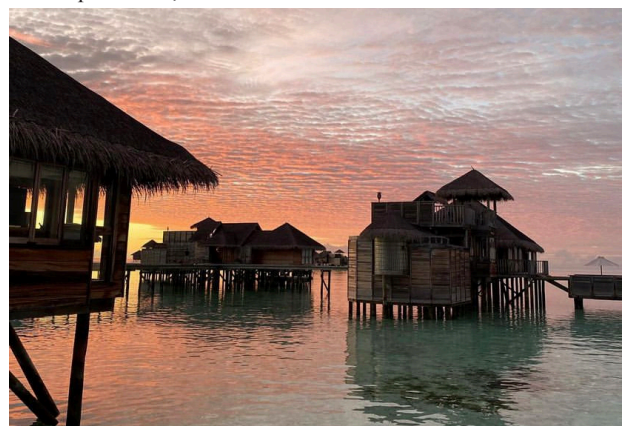
shades of colour that it almost looks like brushstrokes on a painting. I interpret that the reflected buildings are almost a representation of letting go of work and the business of life, and that serene waters allow all our focus to fade momentarily as we live in the moment.

June Hyun, *West Acre*:



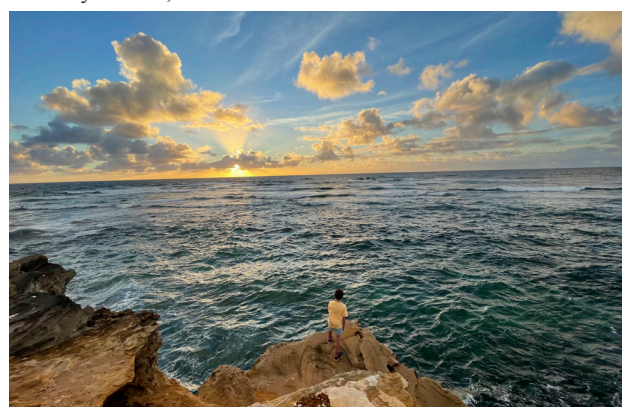
I love the complexity of the vibrant colours and the geometrical shapes that overlap with the intricate patterns. I am left somewhat mesmerised, as if this were an optical illusion. Making the highlights clearer in the centre of the image helps contrast the surroundings. Instead of feeling static and flat, the centre is brightened in juxtaposition with the darker surroundings, creating a natural vignette and giving a cool, dramatic, cinematic look to it.

Raulph Lubbe, *The Grove*:



A beautiful capture of the sunset. The mature, dark brown colours of the huts contrast with the light and delicate glow of the sky and reflected water. I love the gradient that the sun creates across the clouds and that the clouds almost seem to mimic the ripples of the sea water below.

Henry Barker, *West Acre*:





The choice to use the wide angle here worked extremely well. I love the central placement of the subject and the perspective the image creates for a wide, cinematic look. You have managed to capture a certain movement within it and it perfectly represents the cool breeze from a summer sunset.

Christopher Squire, *Bradlys*:



A perfect use of depth: by including the context of the background of this image makes the central, distant hill so much more captivating. I love the slightly hazy, misty look over it, which is another nice way to differentiate it from the surroundings. This is a great snapshot of a beautiful sight on a summer hike!

## HERE AND THERE

Kanta Morishige, *Newlands*, was involved in the Global Sustainable Development Competition 2022, run by the University of Warwick. Morishige produced a fantastic piece of work and was awarded second place. The judging panel wrote: 'Kanta's photograph is uncomplicated yet hugely effective. The inclusion of the £5 note in the foreground, surrounded by nature in the back, creates a powerful and thought-provoking image, referring to societies' prioritisation of the economy at the expense of environmental degradation. It encourages us to reflect on what's really important in life, whilst also nudging us to consider the ways that we interact with and regard the natural world. This, in combination with the potential feasible solutions mentioned in the commentary, creates a well-considered and engaging submission.'

Nick Finch, *Newlands*, participated in the British Nationals Summer Championships in swimming. He won gold in the 100m butterfly and 50m freestyle and silver in the 100m freestyle and bronze in the 50m butterfly.

Tommy Mackay, *Newlands*, participated in the English Schools' Athletics Championships where he achieved seventh place with a distance of 41.96m. He is currently ranked seventh in the United Kingdom. Cameron Knight, *Newlands*, performed well and came 12th in the under-17 national long jump competition.

# OPINION

## CORRESPONDENCE

*Letters to the editors*

DEAR SIRS,

Penelope Watson asserts, without evidence, that 'prohibiting abortion is rooted in misogyny' (Letters to the Editors, September

10). In response, I would point out that opposition to abortion is typically rooted in a belief in the intrinsic value of each human being, irrespective of sex, maturity, race, disability or any other characteristic. It is not obvious what is misogynistic about this.

Yours faithfully,  
SPS

DEAR SIRS,

Every year, the elite of the Sixth Form are appointed as Monitors for their representation of the Harrow Values, not with Harrow's very own VC medal, but by the 250-year-old tradition of issuing a key. In the same manner, the sporting superstars are nominated to The Philathletic Club, and the artistic aces are elected to The Guild. And while Harrow respects such meritorious deeds, are there enough of these exclusive clubs? These, and only these, clubs may have been existent for decades or even centuries. But is it time to change?

There must be an institution for those who may not be values virtuosos, sporting superstars or artistic aces, but are outstanding in the classics, humanities, languages, literature or sciences. The Harrow Institution must be founded. How else would we honour the scientific genius of Lord Rayleigh, the literary masterminds of Lord Byron, Trollope and Galsworthy, and the political prodigies of Peel and Churchill?

With the sad passing of HM Elizabeth II, a glorious era has ended. Yet we have everything before us to march onwards and into a new epoch of belief, a new season of light, and a new Harrow Institution, now 450 years in waiting.

Stet Institutum Hergensium!  
TONY SHI, THE GROVE

## TOO MUCH BUILDING?

I saw the plans for the new science building and I admit I was disappointed. I find the design is drab, not in keeping with the School's wider aesthetic, and seems actively to avoid the traditional architecture the School follows. The only similarity visible between the science building and the rest of the School is the brickwork. This apparent modernisation of the School does not seem to be about "refounding" but rather a boring, brutalist, utilitarian take on a classical style. I'm sure the new science building will be replete with the top-of-the-line amenities making sure to keep the name and fame of Harrow in the loop technologically.

However, I cannot help but feel that the exterior could have been executed with more sympathy. I know that the new science building will have an enormous lecture hall where academics will be invited to come and speak. I understand and heartily agree with this. My only question is, when will the voracious appetite of the School ever be sated? Will Harrow continue to get bigger year by year until only half of the School will fit into Speech Room? This is already a problem as many of us have resorted to sitting on the stairs every Monday.

We can work perfectly well in the current science buildings; it seems then that the School's intention is to build another so it can further expand. I don't see anything wrong with building a science centre that looks like the rest of the School, or at least attempts to. I understand that a life smothered in nostalgia is a suffocating one, but that is not to say that every attempt to drag the School into the contemporary era of architecture has failed.

The Churchill Schools complex fits snugly with its surroundings, providing a modern, clean-cut look, tucked away in the forest. It's eccentric architecture works well with the main subject studied inside its walls, Design & Technology. But for a structure as prominently displayed as the developing science building will be, I feel that the look of it should be unique, original and creative, while adhering to the style of the School, as the new science building will be so visible from the road and sports pitches.

I realise that the School has quite a few new buildings in the works, and that this new science building will hardly be first. I nevertheless wish to question the construction of any further “modernising” of the School, and hopefully beseech others to agree with my sentiment.

## SUDOKU

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## GAFFE AND GOWN

*Quips from around the Hill*

“What I love about doing T&P is that it’s 40% theory, 40% practical, and 40% people who aren’t any good at English or Maths.”

*(Overheard during New Boy’s Test preparation)* “What’s the colours of The Grove?” “Oh, don’t worry about that. You’ll never see them in sports kit anyway.”

# SPORT

## RUGBY

*The School v Wellington College, 10 September  
The XV Won 21-15*

The first game of the season was an outstanding win for the XV. Wellington’s Bigside pitch is an infamously difficult place to play – the slope of the field is always tougher than expected and the grandstand was packed on this sunny yet reflective Saturday afternoon. This year’s pre-season in Brecon was excellent but the boys were yet to face a full 15-a-side full-contact game. This was because hard-ground concerns in Wales had led to just opposed grapple games. Wellington College are also, of course, a notorious foe; the XV, before Saturday, had only bested Wellington four times in the last 20 years and only twice away from home – the last being that memorable victory of our last unbeaten XV in 2017. The Bigside record was famous too – Wellington had only lost twice since 2014

at their home ground. It was going to take a good deal of grit, skill and efficiency to come away with victory.

The selection for the side, as the 2nd and 3rd XV results proved, was incredibly tough. In the end, a balance of experience with exuberant youth was picked. Up front was an all Upper Sixth front row, with last year’s props Phillip Truscott, *Elmfield*, and Jasper Cockburn-Miller, *Bradbys*, returning. They were joined by Bobby Dunne, *Elmfield*, for his first start for the XV. Moving back, experience continued with vice-captain Toby Ferneyhough, *Elmfield*, accompanying Sam Harrison, *Moretons*, in the second row – both with plenty of minutes under their belts already. The back-row was all Lower Sixth. Kepu Tuipulotu, *Druries*, of course, is no stranger to 1st XV rugby after a barnstorming first season as Fifth Former playing up and he slotted in at 8, ready to terrorise all off the back of the scrum. He was joined by John Edwards, *Moretons*, at 6 and Reggie Hammick, *The Knoll*, at 7, both making debuts for the XV and Hammick making his debut for the School. Emmanuel Olowe, *The Grove*, and Ollie Chambers, *Rendalls*, promised energy and versatility off the bench.

In the backs, the mix of youth and experience was there again. Gabriel Black, *West Acre*, after a very accomplished Lower Sixth season, started at 9 and was joined by Lower Sixth Former Filip Edstrom, *Bradbys*, making his debut for the XV after an excellent summer with London Irish. The centre was manned by our two Lions: Cam Ellis, *Rendalls*, captain of the XV, a rock at 12 and Ollie Miall, *Newlands*, so difficult to bring down and the scourge of Wellington, was at 13. Charlie Cross, *Newlands*, was back at 15 and was joined on the wings by Ivan Thayil, *Rendalls*, transitioning from a strong first season at Harrow from the centre to the wing, and Charlie Griffin, *The Head Master’s*, ready to make his debut after gaining an international 7s cap for Ireland over the summer. Off the bench, Walid Nsouli, *The Knoll*, would offer his traditional pace and footwork whilst George Simpson, *Newlands*, was poised to make his School debut, offering fine versatility and footballing skills wherever required.

Saturday was, of course, a solemn occasion. It was marked poignantly by a silence pre-game and the XV adopted black armbands in remembrance of Her Majesty. As the crowd began to fill up for the delayed kick off, it was great to see many Old Harrovians in the stands and on the edges of the field, back to support the boys along with the usual supportive parents; there was a crackle and energy in the air and Edstrom was ready to kick off.

The opening encounters were cagey and definitely had the feel of a season opener. Harrow set an early tone in defence with a fantastic midfield tackle from Ellis and Miall, allowing fly half Edstrom to swoop in for a turnover penalty. Harrow’s dominance in the ground game would be a key factor as play went on. As play continued, Harrow forced the momentum of the game with a chance for three points. A Wellington play after more stout Harrow defence gave Ellis his chance, which he duly took. Harrow kept on pounding and, although things were not always sticking in attack, Wellington were unsure how to handle Harrow’s ferocious defence.

Wellington tried to play out from their own 22, sending their big centres down a black hole channel towards our centres. Access was denied and Hammick was fast over the ball to win another chip-shot penalty for Ellis and a well-measured and well-deserved 6-0 Harrow lead.

Off the restart, Harrow were sloppy, giving Wellington a chance to get back into the game. A superb cover tackle from Cross stopped a potential try before an offside in the Harrow kick chase gave Wellington a penalty. A quick tap and a high tackle plus yellow card for Ferneyhough meant Wellington could kick the points and take the score to 6-3 with Harrow a man down.

However, resilient as ever, Harrow kept on pushing, using the slope of the hill well to push Wellington back. Ellis kicked



deep and the ball was dotted down for a Wellington goal line drop out. Griffin took the ball on receipt and returned it with interest. Harrow recycled play well, Tuipulotu carried from the base with huge effectiveness and sprung quick ball. Truscott showed soft hands as Simpson, on for the injured Cross, cut a beautiful line between two Wellington defenders to leave himself one on one with the full back. A simple two on one was executed and Thayil went over for a Harrow try. Lovely, clinical stuff from the boys in blue. Harrow took the 13-3 lead to half-time, the dominant side and in control.

The early moments of the second half were a challenge for Harrow. The boys resisted wave after wave of direct Wellington attack. Harrow's physicality and fitness was proving a major advantage as Wellington struggled with this aggressive brand of defensive ball. Patiently, Harrow were waiting for their moment and thought they had it when Ellis executed a perfect cross kick to Griffin, who was in to score, only for the referee to blow it up for offside. Further video review suggests that not even the wonky lines of VAR could ever find him offside! Yet Harrow stuck at it and everyone from 1 to 19 contributed to piling pressure on Wellington as they chased the game. Black was kicking beautifully, happy to rely on our supreme defence to pin Wellington back. Wellington had no answer for the Harrow scrum. Harrow were camped on Wellington's line twice and will rue their lack of clinical finishing. First, an accidental offside prevented a certain try.

The key moment came with the score poised at 16-3. A Wellington scrum on their own five metre line was met with a powerful Harrow scrum, the ball squirting out the back uncontrolled and scooped up by Black, who dived over for the score. The growing Harrow crowd celebrated as the game, with only five minutes left, was surely put to bed at 21-3.

Sadly, it would be a long five minutes as the effects of cramp and 65 minutes of ferocious defence began to take its toll. Now fully risk averse, Wellington began to move the ball well and got down to Harrow's try line. A cynical foul from Dunne led to a yellow card and soon there was space out wide for a Wellington try. 21-10. With the ensuing, kick off and time pretty much up, Wellington scored a well-worked try as Harrow's scattered defence struggled to cover the whole field. However, as the referee confirmed after the score, time was indeed up and it was time to celebrate a famous win.

#### 2nd XV Won 25-10

The team got underway. But, perhaps unsurprisingly, the early exchanges felt rusty as both sides struggled to get a grip on the game. Patterns of play that looked lovely in a sunlit touch game became trickier and more laboured with the addition of full contact and a motivated opposition. This meant the rugby on offer was quite conservative. Both sides employed their forward packs to good effect, using their time in possession to probe at the fringes and in midfield without ever really threatening to go wide. This was attritional when Wellington were in possession, but Harrow's defence stood firm. When the deadlock was broken, Harrow were in possession and unlucky; the ball came loose at the back of the ruck and Wellington's winger hacked through, winning the footrace to dab down in the corner despite our best efforts.

About midway through the first half, finally everything came together in the lineout and maul. We set up nicely just inside the

22, on the right hand side. Du Roy de Blicquy lofted a beautiful throw to the middle which was gracefully plucked from the air by Barimah Adomakoh, *Newlands*. The maul rumbled forward at pace, with Matthew Gaffaney, *Bradlys*, swatting away defenders like flies at the front. Finally, we crashed over the line! I think Baba Obatayinbo, *The Knoll*, scored it and Edjua added the extras. This well-worked move gave the 2nds confidence, but Wellington came back strongly, running the ball back well after a poor exit from the kick-off. The defence here was heroic, especially when Wellington's scrum half switched play suddenly to the blindside – their powerful fullback was only just kept out by a fabulous cover tackle from Casper Davis, *Elmfield*, who throughout was a constant threat in attack, marshalling the back three with calm efficiency, especially after the acute case of bronchitis he suffered pre-season. More penalties at the breakdown allowed the 2nds to work their way back upfield, and it was a sign of how close the game was at the half that we opted to take three points, in front of the posts, to go in 10-5 up at the break.

Wellington capitalised after we failed to clean their lines to bring the scores level. Pleasingly, the 2nds showed real composure here. Another penalty took us into Wellington's 22, Captain Keey ran the game well. In what was probably our longest run of phases, the backs stretched Wellington's defence wide to the left before the forwards patiently worked the ball back infield. As space opened up on the right-hand side, we looked to go wide, only for Keey to crash over under the posts as Wellington scrambled to cover. Edjua added the extras, and another penalty suddenly after, to take us 20 points to 10 ahead.

To Wellington's credit, they came back strongly again, but Harrow's defence was resolute. There were some excellent moments of individual play here. Kurran Calvert-Davies, *Druries*, worked hard to make sure we numbered up well out wide when it seemed we would be short. At one point, Wellington's excellent full back thought he could make it on the outside, as he had done to good effect earlier in the game. This was a mistake however, because he ran straight at Brindley. A good nickname for Brindley would be 'The M5' because, like the motorway linking the Midlands to the South West, he has two hard shoulders. He used one of them to dispatch Wellington's full back in epic style. The only thing that took the shine off was that he then immediately got cramp, which the Wellington full back had to help him relieve.

Working our way back up into the opposition half after some stern defence in midfield, we again won a penalty, opting to go to the corner. A pinpoint throw from Harry Duckworth, *The Head Master's*, enabled the forwards to set a maul, which rumbled just short of the line. After some patient phase play, a beautiful flat pass from Freddie Dinan, *Rendalls*, found the onrushing Edjua – unstoppable from ten yards out. The game finished with Harrow 25-10 to the good, in an excellent first outing for the 2nd XV.

3rd XV, Won 49-12

4th XV, Won 45-7

Colts A, Won 17-7

Colts C, Won 26 -

Junior Colts A, Lost 3-19

Junior Colts B, Lost 12-14

Junior Colts C, Won 17-12

#### Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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CELEBRATING OUR PAST  
REFUNDING OUR FUTURE