

THE HARROVIAN

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TRIP TO NEPAL

2 July

On 2 July at 10.30am, a ragtag team of eight Sixth Form boys (including myself) and two adults (including JESB) set off for Heathrow to catch a flight to Nepal. Or so we thought until one boy, Sam McGougan, *Bradlys*, realised he had left his passport on the wall outside Rendalls. After returning and finding with great relief that it was still there, we finally departed for Heathrow, where we began our 17.5-hour journey to Kathmandu, laying over in Doha.

On arriving, it was clear that we were in for a rough two weeks in terms of weather. With a constant 100% humidity, we felt every bit of heat. At the hotel, we had our first encounter with Nepalese cuisine. To my surprise, the food was mild and very delicious without having any meat in it whatsoever. However, it didn't go down well with Tom Roe, *Druries*. We then met our guide, Sushil, a certified legend who would stay with us the entire trip. The following few days were filled with beautiful stupa-Buddhist shrines. The biggest of these is Boudhanath and was truly a sight to behold. Honestly, even if the trip was just the sightseeing, I still would have signed up.



After exploring Kathmandu, we began our eight-hour drive to Pokhara, the place where we would do our community work. We happened to be there for the birthday of the Dalai Lama, so we were able to watch the celebrations, and even take part. This included dancing and singing, and all of us, even Fred Prickett, *The Park*, had a great time. For community work, we dug an area to put in water tanks. With the awesome efforts of Ramus and Patrick, we managed to dig a roughly 2×6×2m volume in just four days, using only manual tools. To our delight, the community leader was very impressed with our work and said we were the best group he had had. We explored the city in our free time, playing football with local children, and even building a basketball hoop for them to play with. I wish we could've stayed there longer, but soon we were off to the mountains to begin our hike.

The hike was a three-day ascent to a 3,200m peak, in the midst of some 6,000–8,000m ones. But it was still a long way to go. On the first day, it rained heavily, ensuring that, for the duration of our hike, our boots would never be fully dry. We hiked for roughly seven hours each day, but often undercut

that because of our speed. With Patrick and me in the front, we ascended mud, rock and road. Because of the dampness in the ground, the leeches were coming out and we had to periodically check for the little bloodsuckers in our socks and around our ankles. On the hike, we had another guide, Ram, who shared an interest in Premier League football (he was, to the disgust of many of us, a Man U fan).



At 4am on the third day of the hike, we set off from our hotel to reach the peak in time for sunrise. Although there were some clouds, the view was spectacular, and was the highlight of the hike by a mile. We then made our way back to the base, returned to Pokhara for a few days, and went back to Kathmandu. In the capital, we explored what is known as the 'monkey temple', named for pretty self-explanatory reasons. It was there where we saw monkeys swan-diving off platforms into bodies of water, splashing everyone nearby. Truly a sight to behold, captured in slo-mo by McGougan.

We could not have done this trip without the help of our international-relations-officer-in-chief, Henry Hancock, *Elmfield*. It will take a lot for me to forget him going up to a local (who had prepared our food) and saying "yum yum, in my tum" to her, rubbing his belly.

All jests aside, the trip is one I will never forget, and the relationships I made are ones I will cherish for a long time. For those of you who intend on going this summer, I envy you and assure you that it is worth every penny.

GORE SOCIETY

Chris Jolker, The Grove, 'Kant's transcendental idealism: us, stuff and the things in between',

11 October

'Have the courage to use your own understanding' (Immanuel Kant). This motto of the Enlightenment reflects how the pursuit of knowledge maintained by means of reason was brought to the forefront of philosophical thought around the world in the 18th and 19th centuries. Seemingly in contrast with Proverbs 3:5, 'Trust in the Lord with all you hear and lean not on your own understanding', the Enlightenment saw an uprising against traditional religious institutions that, in the view of philosophical

thinkers of that time such as Voltaire and Kant, abused the natural gift of mankind. In Kant's 'What is Enlightenment', for example, he questions our capabilities as humans to reason and think and asks questions what nature has created us to be. For him it is clear that by constantly following the rules of this structured society, we are not living up to our potential. With a change in values across Europe, Kant saw freedom, rights, and human nature at the centre of a rising system that would inevitably cause robust institutions like the Church and the nobility to start to decline.

Towards the latter end of the talk, Jolker went on to talk about how the roots, inspiration and values of the Haskalah (Jewish Enlightenment) owe themselves to the European Enlightenment. Shifting from a state of living in secluded areas and following a form of life that had evolved after centuries of segregation and discriminatory legislation, Jewish society integrated into the mainstream West. A prominent figure in the Haskalah was Moses Mendelssohn. With his translation of the Torah into German, he looked to completely reform thinking in order to revive Jewish national consciousness. By finishing the lecture on the way in which Orthodox Jews opposed this repudiation of traditional Jewish practices, Jolker certainly gave an engaging insight into this important movement and the widespread effect it had on different societies all over the world.

DA VINCI SOCIETY

Prof. David Dunstan, 'A Physicist's Toolbox: Frames of Reference and Scaling Laws', 20 September

On Tuesday 20 September, the Da Vinci Society was fortunate to welcome Professor David Dunstan; who explained the sheer importance for physicists to dig into their 'toolbox' and change their frame of reference when tackling real-life problems.

To begin the talk, Dr Dunstan presented two problems: calculating the angle of snooker balls after a collision, and determining the time of collision between a ball, which is thrown upwards, and a falling ball. Indeed, for the former problem, instead of facing it head on, Dr Dunstan suggested that it would be easier to see the collision outcome by changing the frame of reference and assuming that the centre of mass is stationary, meaning that there is no momentum. From this, it is clearer to see that the q ball and object ball should come off at right-angles to each other after a collision. Likewise, for the second problem, Dr Dunstan proposed the argument that by taking a stationary frame of reference for the falling ball, as a consequence, the bottom ball moving towards you is equal to the momentum, this means that the time taken for a collision is equal to the height divided by the velocity.

After this, Dr Dunstan commented on how to determine the quality of bus services. Instead of concentrating on what occurs at the bus stop where you are waiting, Dr Dunstan once again said that one should change one's frame of reference, in this instance, to the other side of the bus stop. By doing so, you can count the number of buses that pass before yours arrives.

Continuing with the theme of changing your frame of reference, Dr Dunstan proceeded to talk about an alternative view that one can take on global warming. Indeed, instead of answering the question of what temperature the world is, Dr Dunstan suggested that it was more important to determine what the temperature of Earth ought to be. When considering the size of the Earth, as well as the amount of infrared radiation that the Earth receives from the Sun, the temperature of the Earth ought to be 255 Kelvin, which is the value shown when pointing a heat instrument several miles above the surface of Earth.

Then, Dr Dunstan tackled the infamous Monty Hall problem. He explained how a contestant had a choice to open one of three doors, one of which had a motorbike behind it. After making your choice, Monty Hall would open one of the doors that did

not have a motorbike, and would then offer the contestant the opportunity to switch their choice of door. Indeed, while many would assume that there is a 50% chance of winning whether you switch or stick with your choice. Dr Dunstan suggested that a contestant must change their frame of reference to the point of view of Monty Hall: before a door was opened, Monty Hall knew that there was a 33% that the contestant had chosen the correct door, and a 66% chance that the motorbike was behind one of the other two doors, and despite one of these doors being opened, these odds have remained the same. Therefore, the contestant's chances of winning are doubled if you decide to switch doors.

Finally, Dr Dunstan alluded to his experimentations with nanotubes. Following the principles of Euler's law (which helped engineers build columns to the limit before they collapsed) as well as the idea that the shorter a tube, the less external pressure it will experience. Indeed, Dr Dunstan explained how, as a collapsing object undergoes a range of pressure, the object eventually becoming a peanut shape when enough pressure is applied. Using a formula linking pressure and the size of a tube, Dunstan not only proved that bundles of nanotubes obey this formula, but he also proved that nanotubes show elastic behaviour (they can be bent a lot and then return to their original position). To conclude the talk, Dr Dunstan illustrated a comparison between the collapse of nanotubes and atoms, and he showed that the correlation between the two was striking. Indeed, at the start of the talk Dr Dunstan mentioned how he is an experimentalist and how his viewpoints on changing frames of reference, coupled with his discoveries, are testament to this.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Inigo Doyle, The Park, 'How Epigenetics has rewritten our understanding of Genetics, Disease and Inheritance', 20 September

The Scientific Society welcomed Inigo Doyle, *The Park*, to talk about epigenetics and how it has rewritten our understanding of genetics, disease and inheritance.

Doyle first explained that epigenetics is the study of phenotypic changes in the expression of our DNA, which proves that nature can alter gene expression by putting "genetic tags" on them (i.e. how our genome responds to our external surroundings). Our epigenome is the amalgamation of all those tags; the tags do not alter our genome but alter gene expression. The most common example of epigenetics is methylation, where a methyl group attaches to cytosine, one of the nucleotide bases, and inhibits gene expression. The inhibition of a gene inhibits phenotype expression and ultimately influences the phenotype of the feature coded by the gene. Acetylation also attaches an acetyl functional group to the DNA, but the addition enhances gene expression, unlike methylation.

Doyle went on to explain DNA sensitivity. During methylation/acetylation, the type of molecule and the position of the "tag" influence expression. Doyle explained acetylation in more detail. When acetylation happens, our body adds an acetyl group onto the lysine amino acid found in histones, a protein (usually anchoring DNA coils in chromosomes) abundant in lysine. The acetyl group then neutralises the positive charge on the lysine residues and causes the DNA to wrap less tightly around the histone, leading to a relaxed chromatin conformation and a higher gene expression rate.

Epigenetics also informs researchers about the way cells differentiate. During fertilisation, a sperm and egg cell fuse, creating a zygote. The zygote, a single cell, is the most potent cell humans experience in their lifetime. The cells then begin to differentiate and, after multiple divisions, become specialised. However, specialisation comes at a cost. Cells start to lose

potency, and epigenetics tells us that the loss is due to the epigenetic “tags” that humans have accumulated during life. The body switches off specific genes and increases the production of others.

Epigenetic inheritance is perhaps the topic most relevant to humans. Unfortunately, Doyle revealed that even though epigenetics is a significant factor in phenotype expression, it is incredibly difficult to track epigenetic inheritance in humans. For obvious ethical issues, scientists have been using mice (organisms genetically similar to humans) to track epigenetic inheritance. Recent experiments have shown that future generations inherit very few epigenetic tags, which suggests that fertilisation removes all the epigenetic “tags” from the genes of the egg and sperm cells. However, Doyle also mentioned that some “tags” make it through onto the offspring, and the zygote uses an epigenetic template to add correct “tags” in certain areas. The correct placement of epigenetic tags ensure that there are no muscle cells in the brain and that the brain is in our cranial cavity. A woman who smokes during pregnancy will induce epigenetic changes in three generations at once (herself, her unborn daughter, her unborn daughter’s offspring), as smoking affects epigenetic tagging. The third generation is affected due to the alterations in the daughter’s reproductive cells.

Lastly, Doyle presented a great example of the use of epigenetics in understanding phenotypic changes on offspring. During the Dutch famine in the winter of 1944, the severe malnourishment of pregnant mothers led to epigenetic changes in unborn offspring. Evidence shows that malnourishment in the first trimester of pregnancy often creates a healthy baby prone to obesity. On the other hand, the babies of mothers who are malnourished in the third trimester are often underweight, but are likely to become healthy in later life.

Doyle concluded his lecture by comparing epigenetics to a Shakespeare play (our genome) directed by different directors (ourselves). The resultant production (genes + epigenetic tags) will differ significantly depending on the director, even though the script is exactly the same. The Scientific Society thanks Doyle for giving such a fascinating lecture on epigenetics and gene expression.

FRENCH SOCIETY

Oscar Bearman, Moretons, ‘Equipe de France de football: the success and decline of the French National Football Team’

Your first thought seeing the title might have been, “I did not know the French team was in decline”, hence justifying the necessity of this talk!

Bearman gave us a full history of “Les Bleus” from 1904 to 2022.

The French successes could be summed up by these key dates: July 1930 marked the first World Cup played by France. They were strong in the 1958 World Cup, winning eight matches. Not many people at Harrow can say they were on the Champs Elysées when they won the 2018 World Cup, but MMA can!

Then there is the decline: some lost matches, many players were brought in and kicked out, and some toxic managers, which were all part of French football history. Let’s not forget the countless dramas, and scandals, from the French players, which fed public opinion on social media and the papers. Some of those were discussed at the end, showing how powerful the image of Les Bleus is.

Bearman showed two videos of the highlights of the 2018 World Cup. We could not help but feel the excitement again when Pavard, Griezmann or M’bappe scored.

Les Bleus are strong favourites for the 2022 World Cup. Ramenez la coupe à la maison, allez les Bleus, allez !

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Jonathan Song, The Grove, ‘Interpretations of Quantum Mechanics’, 15 September

Jonathan Song, *The Grove*, stunned the Scientific Society audience with his thoroughly researched lecture on the interpretations of quantum mechanics. Despite his pre-presentation ‘note of disclosure’ that denied any ‘expertise’, Jonathan proved proficient in this field through his lecture, in which he aimed to leave the audience shocked at the endless possible interpretations and complexities of quantum mechanics.

Song explained that quantum mechanics is a field that studies everything microscopic: a theory that describes how the properties of fundamental particles change over time due to particular interactions. Quantum theory states that all of the particles’ properties are ‘probabilistic’: for instance, an electron is not in a definite-positioned orbit around the nucleus; instead, electrons are ‘likely’ situated somewhere within a probabilistic cloud. This notion of ‘probability’ is determined by ‘wavefunctions’ (functions that satisfy a wave equation and describe the properties of a wave), and evolves in two different methods: Method 1, ‘Schrodinger’s Equation’, is a perpetual natural change based on the wave’s properties, which occurs since the wave functions do not just remain static: Method 2, ‘Wavefunction Collapse’, is a sudden and unintuitive change related to ‘measurement’. For further understanding of wavefunction collapse, Song described the ‘two-slit experiment’, which explains how the substance (most often photons) displays particle-like behaviour, showing two bars without an observer, but displays wave-like behaviour with multiple diffuse bars when an observer is present. The ‘interference pattern’ causes the phenomenon. Song pointed out how some people may argue that the pattern will only show up in the interaction of collective particles and not in single particles. However, even if the slits are tested one at a time, the pattern will remain the same because the probability-wave of the electron collapses. In other words, when an observer looks at an object, one knows that it is at a specific spot, but the probability already existed before one looked at it. This process is called ‘measurement’: if you measure an object related to the wavefunction, then the property you measure becomes certain. The different behaviour of particles in measurement creates the ‘measurement problem’, a fundamental conundrum in quantum mechanics.

The first problem with measurement (Method 2) is its ‘assumption’. When an observer measures a particle, the wave function collapses. What is ironic about assumptions is that because quantum mechanics describes how fundamental particles behave, facts, not assumptions, should describe observed behaviours. Secondly, textbooks ambiguously define ‘measurement’, which drives the readers to ask questions such as, ‘what counts as an observation?’, ‘does the object have to be macroscopic or conscious?’, or ‘why does measurement collapse a wavefunction?’. However, the real question is what happens when the probability of the superpositions of an object turns into one specific place? Song analogised this theory to the ‘Thought Experiment’ by Hugh Everett III. Somewhere in an isolated room is Mr A, who predicts what will happen to a system via Method 1 (natural perpetual change), measures it, and writes the result down. Mr B, outside the room, knows the wavefunction of the entire room, including Mr A, the system he measured, and everything else within. Mr B calculates the room’s state ten hours from now and writes it down. After ten hours, knowing the probability field of the entire room, Mr B enters, takes a measurement (reading Mr A’s results), and tells Mr A that the present state of the room was only decided when he walked into the room out of many possibilities and that Mr A’s memory last week, himself and his notebook had no objective existence until Mr B entered. However, Mr A suggested that outside this space could exist, Mr C, who may

as well decide Mr B's existence. This analogy highlights that with an ill-defined measurement, contradictory views arise, blurring the truth. Thus, having explicit measurements is crucial in quantum mechanics.

After learning the mechanism and problems, the reader is now ready to understand the interpretations of quantum mechanics. However, there is no clear-cut theory of quantum mechanics; the topic is too complex: Richard Feynman, a Nobel prize-winning American physicist known for his work in the path integral formulation of quantum mechanics, once said, 'I think I can safely say no one understands quantum mechanics.' Song first introduced the Copenhagen Interpretation (CI) of Niels Bohr and Werner Heisenberg, the most classic and textbook interpretation. Indeed, the Measurement Problem is encountered in this theory. Firstly, CI states that the wavefunction's results, which give different amplitudes for different possible values, should be interpreted as the probability that this result will happen given that an observer measures the value because an object would both be here and there, until an observer measures to define its position. The second and key point is that taking a measurement makes a property certain since measurement induces wavefunction collapse. Thirdly, classical objects follow the rules of classical physics, rather than displaying a strange behaviour of existing in multiple states at once, including the observer. Bohr and Heisenberg attempted to solve the third problem by introducing the Heisenberg cut: objects smaller than the cut follow quantum rules and larger objects follow classic rules. Heisenberg thought that the observer could define the limit, whilst Bohr believed that the cut did not exist. Finally, since the theory considers the result of the wavefunction as a probability to happen, the predictions from this interpretation are indeterministic; one cannot figure out the final state of a system from the initial state because this interpretation gives probabilistic results. Although many problems riddle CI, many people prefer this interpretation because of historical happenstance and convenience of calculations.

The second interpretation is the Hidden Variable Theory (HVT), which contradicts the CI, and was a theory that Einstein believed in. In this interpretation, hidden variables decide which slit a particle goes through. Einstein believed in a specific type of hidden variable theory, Local Hidden Variable Theory, which states that the world is not probabilistic but local (e.g., one cannot interact with the Moon instantaneously). Physicist John Bell, a critic of the HVT, addressed problems of this theory. He began with three assumptions (as any good physicists do): logic is real, the world is local, and the world is described by hidden variable theories. In his design, he concluded that if certain values were exceeded, there would be a logical contradiction, so one of his assumptions must be wrong. Empirical data have shown that he was right, and the interpretation Einstein believed has been proven false. The third interpretation, Q-bism, or Quantum Bayesianism, states that the wavefunction represents the observer's mind, not the world. Hence, by the creators of Q-bism, measurement is affected by the subjective reality of an observer, not probability. For instance, if one closes his eyes, one could think that an object is in place A, not B, by a higher possibility, while an observer, who knows an object is placed at B, would think that such an idea would be ridiculous. In this example, the observer already knows where an object is, which is chosen to be certain in his subjective reality. The results of a measurement, when the wavefunction is updated, are the reality for that observer. Therefore, a 'probability' of an object's placement shows how certain an observer is; by Q-bism, if a tree falls and no one is around to hear it, it does not exist.

The last of the four major interpretations is the Many Worlds Interpretation, an interpretation just as popular as the CI. Creators of this interpretation believe that wavefunction collapse can be removed. According to them, mathematically, describing two separate objects via two wavefunctions or one

wavefunction is ultimately equivalent, so they decided to consider the universe as one big wavefunction. This means everything can be described by the wavefunction; supposing the observer is in a superposition as well, for every possible position of a particle, there exists a possible observer observing that particle. As those who have watched Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness would recognise, this theory encompasses a similar notion that when an action is taken, many different versions of the world form based on the different potential consequences that might be formed after the action. In summary, the CI believes that taking a measurement makes a property certain, while the Many Worlds Interpretation believes that it creates a superposition of a property.

Other interpretations include Spontaneous Collapse Theory (adjusting Method 1), Relational Interpretation (quantum mechanics describing the relationship of objects), Consistent Histories Interpretation (measurement choosing history), and Transactional Interpretation (measurement before and after interacting with each other). A student at the lecture asked if travelling through 'multiverses' is possible if the Many Worlds Interpretation is true. Song replied referred to David Deutsch's idea of time travel; both time and inter-universal travels would be similar in concept, so travelling could be possible. Another pupil asked if quantum mechanics applied to larger properties, such as humans, and Jonathan said quantum mechanism has a size limit (Heisenberg cut).

The lecture ironically finished with a quotation from Niels Bohr. "If Quantum Physics has not profoundly shocked you yet, you have not fully understood it". All boys at the lecture learnt that even a simple glimpse at the world of quantum mechanics is, in simple terms, incredibly mind-boggling.

PEEL SOCIETY

Freddie Emery, Moretons, 'Vicious Vikings? Uncovering Viking Civilisation', 13 September

The first Peel Society lecture of the term and year was eloquently prepared and delivered by Freddie Emery, *Moretons*, on the topic of 'Vicious Vikings', which explored the truth behind one of the most renowned yet mysterious groups of peoples. To set the time period, the Vikings had begun their true expansion around the 9th century, when gunpowder was just being created in China; though apparently one shouldn't refer to them as 'Vikings' as that roughly translates to 'pirates', which is a cruel and harmful stereotype to the many innocent 'Norsemen'.

Indeed, the Norse were not at all violent. The common, Hollywood image of Norsemen is a small village filled with horned helmets and massive men feasting on their spoils of war; however, as Emery quickly explained, they were a complicated people with cities that considered politics and government. The Norsemen lived under a feudal-ish system in which there was a king governing over it all, 'jarls', their upper-class noblemen, 'karls', those slightly below them, and 'thralls', the untouchable people who could only be likened to Emery's fellow Moretonians. Norse states were split into minor, self-governing states that actually held rather democratic elections overseen by chiefs. When, much like Moretonians, citizens committed crime, there was a surprisingly organised judicial system that would accurately consider their innocence. Those found guilty would become outlaws. Though, the more accurate and reasonable way of determining who was right was a duel; because whoever won was clearly favoured by the gods.

What the Norsemen were more famous for, however, was their tendency to act out. This tendency was witnessed as far as Paris and even by the Arabs. Emery explained that in the year 723 they first raided our isles and 'shook' all of religious Britain. This was because, until the 800s, Vikings had very few

beliefs and religious values; they had not even accepted Christ as their saviour! As a result, they didn't have any reverence for gold-filled monasteries. This began with a great 'hit 'n' run spree' across Europe which terrified the continent due to their much more upright battling style. This fear was monetised about as much as the actual looting because it frightened kings so much, especially the King of Spain, that they were payed in a mafia protection bracket-style fashion to stay away from their shores. However, the luck of the Vikings ran out in 954, as 'Eric Bloodaxe', their king at the time, was expelled from Great Britain.

Emery finally questioned whether it was just 'luck' that explained the Norsemen's success. Not only, it seems, were they operating in complex political units, but they also had complex thoughts and ideas. The most important of these was the keel. Vikings are famous for their long boats, which travelled as far as the Americas, but what was truly clever was the keel, which made directional travel much easier and more precise. Although the dragon head carved at the bow, according to Emery, didn't actually keep away bad spirits, so there is a certain give or take to this. Another 'give' was the strategy of 'going berserk'. Apparently, it isn't just running around and screaming, it is actually a rather complex method of fighting that some soldiers trained in for their entire lives. Emery painted a picture of a complex civilisation that travelled from the Americas to Baghdad, innovated in many clever ways, and, most importantly, as Emery continues to tell me, didn't live with dragons and wear horned helmets. One could tell that this was an excellent lecture, not only by the great content but also because a magazine of questions was unloaded upon him, which he managed to deal with excellently. It is true that for every answer come many more queries.

METROPOLITAN

THE CURTIS FILM SOCIETY

*'The Master' directed by Paul Thomas Anderson,
Written by Rowland Eveleigh, The Grove,
5 out of 5 stars*

I felt an immediate connection on my first viewing. There's a lot to unravel here, but I think the first thing I feel compelled to mention is the cinematography. Anderson hired Mihai Malaimare Jr to shoot *The Master* instead of his regular cinematographer Robert Elswit. Essentially, every frame of the film has been shot to perfection, achieving gorgeous levels of beauty throughout the film. They consist of vibrant colours, including rich backgrounds and what is particularly put to excellent use is the focal lengths in the film, pristinely blurring out unnecessary objects and actually creating a more focused, aesthetically pleasing effect for the audience. This is particularly the case with the fantastic close up shots of the characters in the film. This is greatly supported by the phenomenal lighting that is used throughout to illuminate all the picturesque elements of their environments and the features of the characters. It adds to the iconic ocean blueish palette of the film, which is what immediately caused my eyes to stay focused on the beautiful images that were shown on my screen. Additionally, it somehow enhanced the nostalgic feel of the time period of the story, post-war America in the 1940s and 1950s. The next element of the film definitely worth mentioning is the unforgettable performance duo of Joaquin Phoenix playing Freddie Quell and the late Philip Seymour Hoffman playing The Master. They both delivered what many consider two of

the best performances ever seen in cinematic history. They were the perfect choices to create these complex, deep and unique characters, which elegantly brought to life the characters Paul Thomas Anderson first conceived of when he wrote the script. Another particular highlight was the fantastic score by Johnny Greenwood. He has solidified time and again that he is a pioneer among modern soundtrack composers, and this is no exception. The mysterious and tense atmosphere he provides contributes outstandingly to Anderson's masterful story, creating, at times, tense and uncomfortable moments, mirroring the feelings the characters' faces. You become extremely invested in Freddie Quell's struggles and psychological issues, in addition to the unique yet periodically relevant foundation of The Master's cause. Paul Thomas Anderson displays once again his powerful versatility when it comes to his filmography and, like all the other films on that list, this film stands alone.



EVOLUTION OF WORDS

Part 2

As human beings we have evolved both physically and mentally. Human evolution takes many forms, for example religion. Cultures have moved from worshipping individual gods and spirits to collective pantheons of gods, to one God. The evolution of the human story is what brings us together.

Without religion, law and economics, our world would fall apart. However, all three practices are augmented figments of our artificial world. For instance, laws are words written by other humans that we must supposedly follow. Some people care about these laws so much that they make an entire career out of making sure people follow them.

Think about the above paragraph again. We collectively follow the orders of other humans without apparent reason. All 67 million people in the United Kingdom abide by these made-up 'laws' that some random, unknown people formulated. How

strange is that? We collectively follow these 'stories' and, in doing so, we have created a society with norms, with things that are 'right' and 'wrong', and a world within which we all work together for proper functioning.

Economics is perhaps even stranger. Once upon a time, we used to trade one thing for another. If I wanted wood and you wanted a chicken, we would have exchanged the pile of tinder for the poor, feathered thing. Now, we place 'value' on some pieces of paper and metal circles. We have plastic sheets with invisible 'money' (i.e. cards). And yet, somehow, we all trust each other to have this valued paper stored somewhere.

We then created an economic system that fluctuates; a crisis can occur at any moment, crippling this paper, plastic and metal system. We force burdens upon ourselves via taxes, loans and inflation. We base our lives around some concepts created by a person who died long ago. How can we function in a modern world with an old-fashioned system?

These stories can be found everywhere; all that one needs to do is look closer. The education system is another example of this. We wake up and go to school. We get taught about the Cold War and tectonic activity, the stories of economics and how to speak a made-up language. Then we engage in sports, a form of activity with fabricated rules. We eat and do more work that no one truly enjoys. Then we sleep. We do this because our parents or House Masters tell us to. But why? We get taught about the problems in our world and some vague solutions to them, but we can do nothing about the grand, high-brow challenges.

The question must be raised: why? Why have we done this to ourselves? Created problems for ourselves? As human beings, we are unique because of this. We know not of any animal or form of intelligence that inflicts such challenges on themselves. We have taken control of the planet we live on through our restraining systems. We used to be in control of the systems, now stories control us. Fabrications that have seen the best of their days dictate a confused modern life. We must pay taxes. We must go to church on Sundays. We must. We have to. Why? Don't think, just do. There is no questioning of how these systems have come about.

This isn't me telling you that you don't need to pay for your sweets at Dave's. You should still go to church if that is what you believe. All I am asking you to do is question why and how this has happened. Ask if this is the only way we can now live, stuck in systems created years ago. These systems have not changed for years. We need something different, something new. We need some evolution.

ODE TO THE SCR

by someone named Arnold Peter Oet

If I should die think only this of me
The school's bacon hard as roof tile still will be.
For a question that many have asked
To find the answer I have been tasked.
The question is what exactly makes up the floor
behind that rather large blue door.
the answer I will never know
but still the questions grow and grow.

what drove them to change my beloved juice
to something not fit for consumption by a moose.
I used to waltz to that machine
Which now better days has seen.
The juices were once delicious
Now they taste like soap for dishes.
The once great machine is now gone
Replaced by a newer taller version.

the menu choices are rather strange
its usually at breakfast this takes centre stage.
they put on mushrooms they put on eggs
but then what I see makes me quake at the legs.
instead of perhaps sausage or bacon
in order to full English be makin'.
I see piled croissants by the tray full
And that is something for which I am not grateful.

All that being said there is one avenue worthy of praise
The brunch we receive on certain Sundays.
My plate with chips will be overflowing
But then to mass I must be going.
To consume that volume in merely minutes thirty
Means I receive looks that are dirty.
So could we perhaps move the time
So that by father Stuart I am not charged with a crime.

HERE AND THERE

Enhe Hu, *The Knoll*, June Hyun, *West Acre*, and Dylan Kainth, Bradbys, have been awarded the prestigious Arkwright Engineering Scholarship. This is a competitive national award and all three had to pass a rigorous application, exam and interview process. Every scholarship is sponsored by a commercial company, university, armed service, government organisation or charitable trust. The sponsor will provide mentoring and professional advice for future study and careers, financial support and work experience.

OPINION

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the editors

Dear Sirs,

I hope this letter finds all quite well, despite the understandable autumnal colds currently sweeping across the Hill. I am writing this letter in order to echo the admirable sentiment expressed in the September 17th edition, namely that on the topic of the new buildings being constructed by the School. I cannot help but feel a perhaps Tolkienian horror at the great hordes of machines tearing at the very roots of the School (both literally and proverbially) in order to construct some ghastly idols to modernism (aptly dedicated to the most wretched of the subjects: the sciences). The seeming appetite that the School has acquired for acquisition, growth and expansion strikes as a tad hubristic, and somewhat sad. The creeping of the School ever closer to the golf course and to Park Lake strikes me as a sign that sooner, perhaps, rather than later, we will see these ghastly futuristic buildings being crammed into every inch of free space the School has left.

Likewise, the, ironically for how it wishes Harrow to be perceived nowadays, imperialistic tendency the SMT seems to display in trying to plant the flag of Harrow in every corner of the planet through Harrow Overseas Schools is seemingly comic in its clear expansionary greed. Will we one day get a Harrow Harare? A Harrow Pitcairn? Will the rampant pollination of Harrows stop only at the School's bankruptcy? I expect soon we will see a sort of pyramid scheme, where Harrow Overseas Schools set up their own offshoots, and so on and so on, with the way the School seems intent on going. I cannot help but feel, in my heart of hearts, that John Lyon

would be quite disturbed to learn that his school had become so prosperous, and yet chose to act in a militantly corporate manner, growing both body and brand (concerningly, I wonder how the School has been able to promulgate so successfully in China...). I understand the School is a business, and I exalt in that. If the School failed to make money, we would cease to have the world-class beaks, resources, and food (perhaps not the last one). But can we truly say we are living up to our responsibilities as a Christian school, and a school embedded in the local community, when we continue to focus outwards, when there is so much more we can do to improve the Harrow we already have around us?

Many Thanks
HENRY RIDLEY, THE PARK,

Dear Sirs,

Your golf report on the match between Harrow and the OH Golfing Society on 15th September is pathetically optimistic. Harrow were slaughtered 3-0, and yet your reporter celebrates a physical side to the games that gave the fixture plenty of competitive spirit. And summarises this awful show as “a disappointing start to the season but a building block nonetheless.” Huh.

In my time at Harrow, we lived next to the second hole of Sunningdale Old Course. My pater became Captain of the club, my mater Lady Captain, and her lover the actor Michael Medwin had his name inscribed forever on the cup-winners board in the dining room, not once, but twice, with a forty-year gap between his victories. They are all dead now.

I suffered from an excess of golf. And all small ball games, at Harrow, such as fives and squash. And football, which, let’s face it, is just a joust for 22 pituitary cases seeking to stuff a testis into a rectangle.

On only one occasion did I play golf with pater. Before we teed off, he remarked, “You see this golf ball, Michael? It cannot be lost.”

“What do you mean, pater?” I asked.

“If you hit this ball into the rough, and can’t find it, it will emit a brrrrp-brrrrp noise so it can be found.”

“But that’s no use to the hard of hearing, is it?”

“The hard of hearing version has a little periscope”, he explained, “which sticks out above the rough and emits a flashing light!”

“Well thats impressive but suppose you shank your ball into the pond on the 4th hole? English golf balls sink, pater!”

“In such a case, this amazing ball propels itself to the surface, sticks out two little oars and then rows itself to the bank! It cannot be lost.”

“That is an amazing golf ball! Where did you get it? Harrods? Amazon?”

“I found it.”

Thus golf, like pater, remained forever an enigma.

Yours sincerely
MIKE STONE (MORETONS 1957/2)

GAFFE AND GOWN

“Look the pound has crashed!” “Oh no what’s going to happen to the FIFA market?! This could be devastating!!”

“I know why the pound is going down, sir. The Treasury’s now run by an Old Etonian.”

(Discussing surnames of famous people) “What is Putin’s last name?”

“We will be watching a scene from *The Wolf if Wall Street*” “Sir, I beg it’s the Margot Robbie scene, please.”

SUDOKU

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

It must be said, it has, at the least, been an eventful week in the start-of-term events on the Hill.

But how has British (particularly Conservative) politics, a mere ten miles away, shaped the start of the newly anointed prime minister’s start to her job in Number 10?

Following on from a politically tumultuous summer in which Partygate and misconduct scandals had changed an intimidating political winner– Boris Johnson – into an electoral outcast (for now), Liz Truss has emerged from the ashes, much in the manner that the nostalgia-ridden, neo-liberal, true-blue-Thatcher-Tory faction of the party have wanted her to do.

And she has gone full speed into the thrust of the low-tax economics that the first female PM espoused; Liz Truss has promised ‘no new taxes’ under her premiership, as well as denouncing enviromentally friendly taxes, National Insurance rises and corporation tax. Ms Truss has also been indefatigably in favour of the controversial Rwanda deportation policy, amid questions over that scheme (which would deport illegal Channel crossers) being legal, practicable and effective. Pandering to the “anti-woke” section of her party, the prime minister has been politically impelled to attempt to tackle what many Tories see as attacks on society through the lense of gendered toilets and ‘safe spaces’ on university campuses.

Perhaps what is salient about her nascent premiership is the cost-of-living crisis.

Ofgem, the energy regulator, had predicted that the household energy bills cap could rise to north of £3,500 next month, amid unusually high inflation of 9.9%, and Bank of England fears of a recession. But the prime minister’s new £150 billion of pound-plunging, anti-Thatcher, big-borrowing support for families may reduce bills by £1,000, and freeze bills (breaking a campaign promise). But the Truss-Kwarteng financial policy has been criticised for helping City bankers by trying to do away with bankers’ bonuses, and not enough with helping ordinary households. At the same time, commentators have decried how politically unsound helping the rich get richer, well, sounds.

Economic authorities like the Institute of Fiscal Studies have illuminated how untargeted the plans are in helping the energy crisis, though the governmental support does offer some

‘breathing space’. Crucially, it will be fascinating to see how the Conservatives try and regainer support from the dying embers of the Johnsonian era, and fix consistently underwhelming polling in search of a wistfully distant, and fiendishly difficult-to-achieve, fifth term in political office.

Not to mention that with the recent saddening events of Her Majesty’s death we have been left without a towering figure, an emblem of constancy amid unabating change, a beacon of standards within the circling clouds of decadence and scandal nearly impossible to ignore, and an example of what it means to be British, when there has been so much to divide us.

Ramifications of this loss, societal or otherwise, will have to be dealt with (in part) by the government of the day, and Liz Truss’s in-tray has got larger by her having to consider how to support the vitality and popularity of the monarchy, when many young people appear to have misgivings about its glorious and successful existence.

Truss has recently been praised for improving her hitherto (and this is putting it euphemistically) questionable communication skills by having a strong and successful campaign, and credible performances at Prime Minister’s Questions. But she has to deal with the trifecta of a country still reeling from the death of our late Queen, dropping living standards, and tax burdens being irrepressibly difficult, along with appeasing the right of her party.

Party conference season will be the prime opportunity for this new prime minister to attempt to rebrand, reshape and redirect her party, or risk political oblivion at the polls.

AGAINST THE TERM “BEAKS”

Beak is an interesting word, defined in the dictionary as “A bird’s horny projecting jaws; a bill”. And so, the question naturally arises as to why we use this strange word in the first place? While the origins of the term are debated, and frankly rather uninteresting, its modern use as an excluding social barrier and symbol of status is indicative of all of Harrow’s “traditional language” and is what I want to discuss today.

Currently, a select few of England’s highly privileged independent schools use the word “beak” to refer to teachers – Harrow, Eton and Charterhouse being the main three. If you can’t already see the issue that only three of the country’s most exclusive schools use the exact same word to refer to teachers then let me explain: language has always functioned as a social tool in order to allow us to communicate to each other and, as such, has always diversified and split off as social groups formed from a global scale (languages) to a smaller scale in forms of slang and accents etc. The issue arises from the fact that this causes social circles to form as the main component of human interaction, communication, breaks down as soon as you enter a different group from the one which you started. This is where we start to see the problem; if we foster a language that lets us signal our privilege to people then we immediately create an exclusive class of people who are able to recognise and easily form circles with other people who attended private schools. In essence, Harrow forces a specific set of words into our dialect solely to allow us to interact more easily with people of the exact same class as us, forming us into classist groups that can easily work to exclude people from other backgrounds simply because of our “traditional” language.

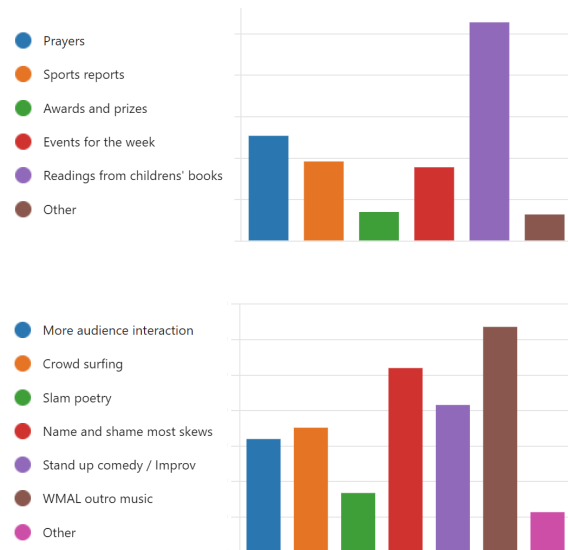
And the impact that this has is evident, no more so than in politics. When David Cameron (Eton) was in power, over half of his cabinet comprised privately educated MPs, Boris Johnson (Eton) had over two-thirds, and Winston Churchill (Harrow) ran the Conservative Party alongside 76 Old Etonians. This contrasts with Gordon Brown’s (Kirkcaldy High School) cabinet of only 32% privately educated MPs, and this overarching

situation is at odds with the fact that only 7% of the British public is privately educated. While this is easy to argue as a correlation of what I’ve said, these circumstances are clearly a direct product of the classist and elitist structures in this school that serve to group us with other people of similar backgrounds.

With the New Boy’s Test just around the corner, I urge you to look at the “traditional” aspects of our life here and think about what kind of culture it creates in our language, and behaviour, and uniform, as all of it functions to make us stand out from the crowd and easier for us to identify ourselves to other privileged people and vice versa; in turn, this helps to funnel us into elite circles that act as a further class barrier that cuts through our modern society. As the most obvious solutions to these problems (increased full bursaries and scholarships that provide greater diversity throughout our community) are nowhere to be seen, it is up to us to reject this “traditional” language altogether. So I urge you to return to the world of teachers, sets, and trousers, simply because it’s the world everyone else lives in.

HARROVIAN POLL

What improvements can we make to Speech Room?



It has come to the attention of the Editors that Speech Room is rather like the super-curricular schedule: full. The format is in need of improvement. After much discussion among the Editors about what the possible responses on the poll should be, including whether we should ban Speech Room altogether (guss who?), this poll was issued and now the results are in.

The most popular item that boys want to cut from Speech Room is readings from children’s books. 68% of all respondents indicated they wanted that gone. Boys also seem to suggest that we move to reduce Chapel to once a week, perhaps Speech Room may also be going the same way?

It can also be seen from the results that boys are keen to keep Awards and Prizes as a regular fixture? Perhaps we might introduce some more of them, like the Head Master’s Prize for Children’s Literature.

WMAL outro music was the clear winner with 82% of all boys indicating that they thought this was an excellent idea. This is the case and the Editors suggest that the Music Department get this together for next Monday morning. Maybe it could be a new responsibility of The Guild to ensure this happens: suggestions for what music could be directed to the Head of The Guild for consideration?

Name and shame for most skews was another popular response, although, funnily enough, this answer had no respondents from Bradbys, but no less than ten responses from a certain senior House Master.

Slightly less popular was crowd surfing. The Editors had thought that this would be a new and exciting way for WMAL to exit following the customary have a good week everybody.

Slam poetry was also an unpopular response for additions; was this too similar to WMAL's previous ventures into children's literature?

There were also a number of boys who want more audience participation, which has spurred the Editorial team towards an idea for a new format for Speech Room. In this new format, WMAL will read out a match report and ask boys to guess which team it was for. If any boy answers correctly, three covered tables will be brought onto the stage. Under each of the covers is an icon of a House Master, and whichever is selected by the crowd, they must present next week's Speech Room.

SPORT

BADMINTON

22 Sep, The School v Winchester College, Won

With two strong wins against Eton and Coopers' Coborn already in the bag, Harrow's 1st VIII came into the match against Winchester with some well-deserved confidence. Pairs three and four (comprised of Messrs Kwong, Leung, Plyushchenko, *The Grove*, and Nakhmanovich, *The Knoll*) quickly overwhelmed their opponents, showing clear overmatch in skill and determination. In particular, their composure exemplified the Harrow value of humility even as their dominance on the court became clear. In pairs one and two, Winchester fought back hard. Harrow's first pair played skilfully, but were unable to overcome their capable Winchester opponents. Ashton Kong, *The Head Master's*, and JB Yeung, *The Grove*, in the Harrow second pair, pulled out all the stops, however. Despite a narrow and thrillingly contested loss against the Winchester first pair, they dug deep to secure a heroic victory against their opposite numbers. Their success secured a convincing 6-2 victory for the team.

24 Sep 22, 1st VIII v Wellington College, Won

Emerging from Thursday's fixture with Winchester, the 1st VIII were in high spirits, ready to test their mettle against Wellington College. Pair 4's Sunny Ye, *Rendalls*, caught spectators' attention with his relentlessly fast rallies, and surprised the opposition by their culmination in an unexpected smash. As ever, his partner John Kwong, *Lyon's*, was balletic in his footwork, putting those razor-sharp reflexes to good use. The boys dominated every single match they played. Pair 3's dynamic duo David Nakhmanovich, *The Knoll*, and Vlad Plyushchenko, *The Grove*, tactically exploited the opposition's inaccuracy and met them with quiet focus and control. Together, with a lighter touch from Nakhmanovich and Plyushchenko's characteristically quick shots, they won every game within minutes. Pair 2's Ashton Kong, *The Head Master's*, and JB Yeung, *The Grove*, played with good humour, keeping the energy high for each other and the opposition. Though they threw themselves into each corner of the court, the opposition had the edge, and ultimately they won and lost one game each. In Pair 1, William Wang, *The Head Master's*, impressed with powerful smashes

and captain Chris Liu, *The Head Master's*, put up a real fight, ultimately winning a series of close matches against pair 2, but unfortunately could not quite beat Wellington's first pair. The boys emerged with a victory of 6-2, an impressively consistent score. The fixture ended with a series of friendlies, including a highly entertaining match with Felix and the Wellington MiC Mr Yuan against Dawei Sun, *Bradbys*, and Ashton Kong, where the boys were truly humbled.

GOLF

*20 Sep 22, 1st, Neutral, John Lyon Mixed, Won,
National Cup-Round 1, HMC Foursomes Round 1 v
John Lyon School*

Harrow won 3-0

John Lyon sadly had to pull one paring out of the fixture early and so the Harrow boys found themselves one point ahead before they had even hit their first shots of the day!

First out for Harrow saw the return of the world-renowned partnership of Victor Grant, *Moretons*, and Fred Hewer, *The Park*. With an unbeaten record as a pair last season, there was much excitement around Northwood Golf Club as a large gallery of no less than six people surrounded the first tee. Hewer got the pair underway with an iron striped down the first fairway. A dart to 6 feet from Grant was enough to win the first hole. The momentum was firmly with the pair from this point onwards. The boys found themselves 4 up through 7 after a string of pars and a birdie on the 3rd, and won the 8th hole to go 5 up after an outrageous shot from Hewer from the trees to set up another par. They did not take their foot off the gas with a delightful Hewer chip in on the 10th, before a 7&6 win was secured on the 12th green.

In the second group, Oliver Cheuk, *The Grove*, and Thomas Tian, *Newlands*, started off slowly, going 2 down through three holes. However, the momentum shifted with Harrow winning three holes in a row, including a fantastic birdie on the hardest hole on the course with Cheuk sticking the approach from behind a tree and Tian draining the downhill 20 footer. The pair would eventually finish the front 9 3 up. They went 4 up after 11 when Tian hit a slinging draw to 15 feet. Cheuk drained a clutch 10 footer to tie the hole on 12 and the boys were speeding towards the finishing line. They finished with a solid par on 15 to win the match 4&3.

*The School v v Radley & Stowe, Sunningdale,
22 September 2022, Triangular Lost 4.5-1.5*

The annual triangular fixture against Radley and Stowe at Sunningdale is an honour and a privilege to be a part of: a beautiful setting and a welcome change to busy hubbub of north-west London. The team were treated to their yearly warm up and Aidan Wong, *The Park*, was ready to lead the team out and battle hard on his home course. Oh boy, was he up against it... He struggled to get into the game while his opponents were pouring birdie sauce all over the gaff on their way to 3 and 4 under par rounds.

Second out was Fred Hewer, *The Park*. After a rough start in both matches, Hewer found himself 3 down through four holes. He fought his way back in the Stowe game to A/S at the turn. The Radley opposition was relentlessly scoring well and beat Hewer 6&5 but, with a few pars and a birdie to finish, Hewer had the better of his Stowe opponent to win 3&2.

Jonty Williams, *Moretons*, is also a member at Sunningdale and so surely a win was on the cards... He got off to a good start playing against two golfers off +1 and 2. He was all square in both matches after the fourth hole, and by the half-way hut he was 1 down against Stowe and 1 up against Radley. The quad-sausage sandwich rather halted his momentum and

he managed to lose three balls in three holes, putting him 4 down to Stowe and 3 down to Radley. His match against Stowe ended on the 16th. However, standing on the tee, Williams was dormie 2 down against Radley. What followed next was something that Williams would not forget: He birdied the par 3 17th after sticking his 8 iron to 5 foot while his opponent made par. His opponent had a putt from 5 feet for birdie and Williams took matters into his own hands, making a putt from 30 foot for eagle to salvage a half against Radley.

It was a disappointing afternoon for Victor Grant *Moretons*. He was out fourth for Harrow after an encouraging start to the season. Even his trusty putter deserted him on this occasion as he went down convincingly to two strong opponents.

Fifth out was Varick Rajayogan, *The Grove*, who started off strong with an opening hole birdie, and carried on scoring well resulting in a 4&3 win over Stowe and a 3&2 win over Radley. Very much a MVP performance from rising star Rajayogan!

The final game saw Caspar Stone, *The Park*, try to take down two golfers with significantly lower handicaps than himself. He lost 1 down to Radley after a very close game that could have gone either way and came down to the final hole. It was a similar story against Stowe, losing on the final hole having been 4 up going into the back 9. His opponent found form at the right time to par the final five holes.

A disappointing afternoon for the team, but a fabulous experience at the majestic Sunningdale, nonetheless.

CROSS-COUNTRY

The cross-country team started off the season last Thursday with the first round of the English Schools Athletic Association competition hosted by Harrow. The day started for Harrow in the Intermediate Boys race (Shells and Removes) around the normal 4.2km intermediate cross-country course. Henry Barker, *The Park*, won for Harrow with a time of 15:21 and Jonathon Ford, *West Acre*, coming sixth with a time of 16:47. Unfortunately, the Intermediate team came fourth overall. Then the Senior Boys (Fifth Form to Upper Sixth) ran the same 5km Senior cross-country course. With Tom Emery, *Moretons*, winning with a time of 16:24. As well as some very strong performances from Cameron Elliot, *West Acre*, coming third, Thomas Hobbs, *Newlands*, coming fifth, and Rei Ishikawa, *Elmfield*, coming 11th. This allowed Harrow to win the team event and move onto the next round.

FOOTBALL

*24 Sep 22, Development A XI, Away, John Lyon
Won 7-0*

The Development As put in a superb second-half performance to take 'El Hillico' as they clicked into the high tempo gear they have been looking for. Charlie Young, *Newlands*, scored a brace whilst putting in a player of the match performance leading the line, and the lethal Ayomide Awolesi, *The Head Master's*, came away with a hat-trick. There were further goals for Eli Dewotor, *The Head Master's*, and Kitan Akindele, *Newlands*, to cap a great all round team performance.

Development B XI, Away, John Lyon Boys Won : 6-0

The Development Bs started the game aggressively and did not allow the home side to settle, with Zain Ayoub, *The Knoll*, opening the scoring with a right-footed strike that rifled into the top corner after ten minutes. Max Baygual-Nespatti, *Elmfield*,

soon added a second, stealing the ball on the edge of the box before drilling it beyond the keeper and into the bottom right corner of the goal. Only minutes later, it was 3-0 as Baygual-Nespatti added a second, and by half-time Harrow were in complete control of proceedings. Three second-half goals from Hugo Maclean, *West Acre*, Ollie Mitchell, *Rendalls*, and an unfortunate JLS centre-back rounded off the victory. It was particularly impressive to watch the boys retain possession and switch the play so effectively, in no small part down to the exemplary wing-back play from Ayoub and Mubarak Tinubu, *The Knoll*. Even though they were not tested too much in this game defensively, Caspar Baker, *Moretons*, and Nikolai Hanbury, *Rendalls*, led the team from the back both in and out of possession. This was a complete performance from the Bs and one that bodes well for the remaining games this term.

WATER POLO

Harrow v Charterhouse, 20 September

A fantastic first match for the water polo team last Tuesday. The final score of 15-3 shows the players' persistence in scoring as many goals as possible for each quarter. Being on the deep or shallow end did not disturb the boys, as Vice-Captain and OT swimmer J.D.A. Rates, *Newlands*, whizzed through the pool with the ball to score. S.M. Bruinette, *Newlands*, and L.S. Ramus, *Lyon's*, made some fantastic passes. B.J. Cutts, *Elmfield*, showed the big boys on the opposing team that a Remove could beat them. Captain J.C. Phillips, *Newlands*, scored six goals after a quiet first quarter. H.J.L. Emerson, *Newlands*, scored five goals. After scoring against his own team, Z.E.O. Banton, *Newlands*, woke up and scored twice (in the correct goals this time). The team will work on their defence to support the goalkeeper, R.C. Ponniah, *Newlands*, training on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5pm to 6 pm. If you are a keen rugby player seeking to improve your grip and endurance, and broaden your shoulders, come and join us in the pool!

RUGBY UNION

22 September

Colts A, Away, Whitgift School, Won 40-12

The Colts A stepped onto the bus looking to continue their dominant start to the season with another road trip across London, this time to Whitgift. Nerves were brewing and the atmosphere was building but the men in white and blue were ready for kick off.

On came kick off, where the lads were set and ready to receive. Whitgift got off to a good start as they touched down in the corner for the first try of the game. Not what the lads had in mind, but heads didn't drop as, five minutes later, our big man James Talamai, *Druries*, charged over the try line to get level after some powerful work from the pack. Now the momentum was with us. Whitgift could not handle our forwards, with shots after shots they started to back off, leaving space for our backs to exploit. Out came the ball from 9 and, after a slick move out to Patrick Keaveney, *Druries*, and a quick step, it was try time. The boys were back. With the forwards still smashing Rhino's after Rhino's we were in sight of the line again. This led to a quick dart from Miles Herron, *Rendalls*, from the base of the ruck and then a filthy offload out the back of the hand to Hal Hersee, *Newlands*, who dotted the ball down under the posts for a third try.

A quick debrief from the coaches and we were ready for the second half. After some relentless pressure and some big hits, the platform was set for the backs, who pulled off a perfectly executed move to give it to our new winger Algy Royle, *Rendalls*, who finished in style. Next it was Whitgift's turn to fight back as they scored a try off a scrum on our five-metre line. Boring. With the crowd back up and running, it was time to finish the match. After some big carries from the forwards, we ended up on their try line where the ball was whipped out to the backs and finished off by Miles Herron, *Rendalls*. With some more dominant collisions, once again we found ourselves on Whitgift's try line and with a cheeky pick and go from Freddie Williams, *Moretons*, we had settled the match with another try and a 40-12 victory for Harrow.

Colts B, Away, Whitgift School, Lost 17-22

We began the game in good spirit, and soon were dominating within the Whitgift 22, with some great kicks from Freddie Harrison, *Moretons*, allowing our backs to get a good run out on the smaller-than-standard pitch. Harrow were probably the better team and had more possession in the first half but dropped too many passes, missed too many long passes, and didn't commit enough to the rucks to maintain the ball. Our forwards did win several turnovers, but our backs mostly received the ball while stationary, meaning Whitgift kept pushing us back.

We were in the lead 17-15 until the end of the match. Had we kicked it out to end the game we'd have been victorious but, in the very last play, Whitgift intercepted a clumsy pass and scored an easy try to secure the win. A rather deflating end to an otherwise exciting fixture.

The XV v Whitgift School, Home, Won 27-11

The XV produced an outstanding display to defeat Whitgift. Kepu Tuipulotu, *Druries*, scored a first-half hat-trick as Harrow's energetic attack and passionate defence was too much for Whitgift. Whitgift came back into the game in the second half but a further try from Walid Nsouli, *The Knoll*, put the game to bed for The XV.

2nd XV, v Whitgift School, Home, Won 34-12

After a good training week, the 2nd XV headed back to Julian 1 for another difficult test against Whitgift. The game was significantly delayed due to traffic, but this meant there was a healthy crowd by the time we finally kicked off at 3.25pm! Both sides struggled for fluidity in the early phases, perhaps because there had been such a slow, protracted warm-up. Whitgift gave away penalties at the breakdown but caused trouble in the lineout, marking the Harrow central pod well such that the 2nd XV were unable to capitalise. The away side probed at the fringes of the Harrow defence but seemed hesitant to move the ball wide, despite having threats in the outside channels. This meant many of the early exchanges took place between the two 10m lines, with both sides taking turns in possession relatively amicably, neither looking very much like scoring.

Ultimately, it was dominance at the scrum that helped Harrow break the deadlock. There had been auspicious signs of our game improving here in midweek, when the 2nd XV scrum gave the 1st team pack a bit of a fright in training under the watchful eye of scrum guru Sean. Things looked even better on Saturday, as Baba Obatayinbo, *The Knoll*, and Matthew Gaffaney, *Bradlys*, set about calmly disassembling the Whitgift scrum as if it were a piece of badly made IKEA furniture they'd not bothered to read the instructions for. This gave an excellent platform for our backs to attack from, with Casper Davies, *Elmfield*, and others stretching the Whitgift defence sufficiently to win a penalty. Harrow duly dispatched this to the corner, dummied to the front of the lineout, and threw to the middle. This gave the forwards a great position from which to maul; Bobby Dunne, *Elmfield*, threw it and finished it, taking the score to 5-0. The team grows in stature each week at present, and it was really

pleasing to see that, having scored, the boys didn't just switch off. Instead, after an exchange of kicks gave us field position on the Whitgift 10m line, Johnny Codrington, *Rendalls*, spread the ball wide to Tito Edjua, *Lyon's*, who ghosted between two Whitgift defenders into open space. A neat interplay with Andrew Stratton, *Newlands*, whose epic support line saw him take the ball and then give it back to him seconds later, put Edjua in under the posts: 12-0.

If there is one criticism that could be levelled at the 2nd XV's first-half performance, it would be that there was an opportunity here to put the game to bed and we did not take it. Tails were now up, and lineout was firing on all cylinders. Some great handling out of the tackle and an epic 40m maul saw the 2nd XV breach the Whitgift line on multiple occasions, but a lack of composure in the 22 allowed the visitors to clear their lines each time. Whitgift, to their credit, also came back fighting. A series of poor exits and a slew of penalties for offside saw Whitgift camp in the Harrow 22 for a good ten minutes or so. The last-ditch defence was fantastic but erratic! The positives? A sublime jackal on the line and some excellent hits. The negatives? A ridiculous passage of play, in which Gaffaney managed to give away three fresh penalty advantages and a moment when we gave away a fourth penalty on our line, for goading Whitgift to knock it on (they did). Ultimately, however the 2nd XV came through this spell of pressure in some style. The ball squirted free on the 5m line, and rather than snatching at a hurried clearance, spread the ball wide to Jasper Smallwood, *The Knoll*, who showed his opposite man a clean set of heels to race in from 70 metres! That took us to half-time, with the score at 17-0.

The break offered a breather after a frenetic first half, and we rang the changes. The pace of the game was high and, as space began to open up, not least because the front row continued in their quest to break Whitgift's scrum beyond repair, lead to loose ball at most restarts. Chance came thick and fast, and the best of the bunch came just five minutes into the second period. An amazing carry from Kurran Calvert-Davies, *Druries*, took us into Whitgift territory. Deft hands from Archie Yung, *Rendalls*, while running a tight line kept the Whitgift defence narrow, while Codrington flashed the ball wide to Edjua. Edjua's arching run took him past the outside centre and an acrobatic offload to Finn Smith, *The Knoll*, saw him canter in. I began to celebrate! Try of the season, captured on our tiny camera! Finally, the 2nd XV can feature on the week's highlight reel! Alas, it was not to be. The eagle-eyed CEGB had spotted a forward pass in the build-up. There was no time to consult the TMO, however, as we were off again. Another powerful carry off the clearance kick gave us great field position for an attack. A neat switch of play nearly saw Edjua power over again but instead Harry Duckworth, *The Head Master's*, picked and went for an opportunistic, well-taken score. From this point on, the 2nd XV really began to kick into gear. Whitgift hit back with two well-taken tries of their own, building phases for the first time in the game and spreading the ball with much greater effect. This took the score to 27-12. Both their wingers were strong and took their finishes well, and without some excellent last-ditch tackles they could have scored more. As for the 2nd XV, there was time for one final flourish. A lineout in the 22 presented us with an excellent mauling opportunity; Bobby Dunne, *Elmfield*, bravely and successfully threw to the tail. Whitgift, having been comprehensively mauled for much of the game, opted to disengage, but the 2nd XV were one step ahead! Gaffaney peeled away from the fake maul, and with hands soft as a baby's, slipped a deft pass to Dunne who cantered in the corner. A touchline conversion was once again the icing on the cak; the 2XV won 34-12. There were lots of aspects of this performance to celebrate, much of it hitherto unsung.

3rd XV v Whitgift School, Home, Won 39-0
The "Mini" Budget

Harrow were anything but budget. As Liz and Kwasi were cutting taxes Max Kawkabani, *Rendalls*, and Jake Phillips, *Newlands*, were cutting down Whitgift players.

There is no longer a cap on bankers' bonuses and there was absolutely no cap on the times Giancarlo Urselli, *The Grove*, rushed into the defence, sending limbs flying and breaking tackles. He deserves a bonus after scoring two tries.

Oliver Jones, *West Acre*, had a magnificent game, leaving the coach with egg on his face for mistakenly putting him in the 4s for the first game of the season. However, at a second-half kick off, Jonesy took out a player who leapt into the air like a salmon to take the ball. He fell faster than the pound sterling against the dollar on Friday. Jones received a yellow card, not unlike that received by Kwasi from the OBR.

Patrick Elliot, *Druries*, had a wonderful game. One beautiful moment where he sniped around the ruck and chipped and chased over the full back would have led to a scintillating try but the ball bounced a touch too much. Elliot's box kicks are so good, flying higher than the national debt. One led to a lovely Fuad Abualsaud, *Elmfield*, try. He was later dismissed for kicking an opposition player, who also kicked him. An odd exchange. Maxi Farah, *The Park*, finished off a superb team try with beautiful hands.

Guy Paton-Smith, *Elmfield*, displayed silky skills, direct running and strong tackling and also crushed the white wash as did the versatile Charlie Nelson, *Bradlys*. Netanel Lawrence-Ojo, *The Knoll*, was the MVP. Great lines and running, extremely vocal and more aggressive than Angela Rayner.

The threshold on Stamp Duty has gone up and so has the threshold of this superb 3rd XV.

Honourable mention to Mr Johnson who made the best tackle of the game on Jack Scott, *The Park*.

Junior Colts A, Home, Whitgift School, Won 33-26

A determined and exciting close-fought battle, saw the JCAs finish the game a converted try up, against a talented Whitgift side.

Junior Colts B, Home, Whitgift School, Won 40-12

Yearlings A, Away, Whitgift School, Won 15-14

Following a long journey, Harrow arrived at Whitgift School with the sun gleaming. Harrow were quick to focus, buoyed by the opportunity to pull on the Harrow match shirt for the first time and to play on Whitgift's immaculate 1st XV pitch.

Both sides were clearly nervous, with the Whitgift kicker failing to send the opening kick-off the requisite 10m. This gave Harrow the opening attacking opportunity with a centre-field scrum. Harrow asserted early dominance with a powerful scrum from which Nick De Leo, *The Park*, picked the ball and carried with menace. Such carries were evident throughout the first half and allowed more space on the field. Fly-half Eli de Venecia, *The Head Master's*, took advantage of this and showed strong running to break the line and score. Unfortunately, he missed the subsequent conversion. After an opening frenzy of activity, the game slowed down, with Whitgift pulling Harrow into an arm wrestle with their driving maul. Such tactics were novel to Harrow and caught them off guard. With the help of Harrow ill-discipline, Whitgift were able to progress down the

pitch and muscle their way over the line to score. This gave Whitgift a 7-5 lead at half-time.

Harrow started the second half with a point to prove but it was Whitgift who made the stronger start to the half. Again, Whitgift worked their way up the field but, this time, their attack came to an end when de Venecia won a decisive turnover penalty. This good work was quickly followed up by an amazing carry by Tobe Odogwu, *The Knoll*, which gave Harrow good field position. With a big overlap on the blind side, de Venecia took the ball to the line, dummied and stepping his way to score his second try for Harrow in the corner. Unfortunately, he missed this second more difficult conversion (10-7 to Harrow). With momentum on our side, Harrow gained confidence and proceeded to put together a sweeping coast-to-coast attack that resulted in the Captain, Alex Trudel, *Druries*, dotting down in the corner. Sadly, the wide conversion hit the near post (15-7 to Harrow). Whitgift were, however, persistent and showed good physicality to score another try. A successful conversion brought the scores to 14-15 and made for a nervy last ten minutes. Fortunately, Harrow showed grit and matched Whitgift's renewed physicality to see the game out as one-point winners.

Yearlings B, Away, Whitgift School, Won 24-17

Yearlings C, Away, Whitgift School, Won 31-7

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CELEBRATING OUR PAST
REFOUNDING OUR FUTURE