THE HARROVIAN

VOL. CXXXV NO.5 *October 15, 2022*

HOUSE SCENES

28 September

The evening of 28 September saw boys from all Houses gathered for the annual House Scenes competition. After some wonderful introductions to the evening by Guild members Joe McLean, *Druries*, and Archie Tait, *The Head Master's*, we kicked off the evening with a scene from Martin Scorsese's *Shutter Island* performed by Newlands. Trying to to pull off decent American accents was one of the challenges facing the actors in the scene, but they managed to execute this effortlessly. Furthermore, a very good scene choice in this case helped to make this performance a memorable one, with great performances from all involved, particularly the solemn yet tranquil Hans Patel.

We then moved on to a drastically different performance from The Park, exploring a scene from the iconic *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. The excellent Maxi Farah as the obnoxious King Arthur and both Henry Ridley and Kit Henson did well as the most hilariously well-versed and intelligent peasants I've seen in a long time. We then moved back into drama with Elmfield's scene of the final farewell from *The Truman Show*. An emotive an moving performance. Following this, we had this year's winners, Lyon's, perform their scene from David Fincher's masterpiece *Fight Club*.This scene was a great piece of physical theatre, and the cool persona of Tyler was executed well by Tom Leonard. Afterwards, we were treated to another brilliant comedy from The Head Master's, once again bringing us into the fantastical world of Monty Python, this time having chosen a skit from the collection *And Now For Something Completely Different*. Superbly comedic French accents by all. Particular mentions go to Arjun Nanda and Archie Tait, who both managed to bring all their energy and talents to the table giving us two unforgettable (and ear splittingly powerful) performances. We then moved back into drama with a scene from the world-renowned masterpiece *The Dark Knight*. Huge congratulations go to Omar Ait El Caid who delivered a fantastically unsettling and almost identical version of Heath Ledger's Oscar-winning performance of the Joker, which subsequently went on to win Omar the prize for best actor of the evening.

Next up was Rendalls' *Inglorious Basterds*. This scene was masterfully done. Accurately replicating the scene, the perfectly executed accents here were the highlight of the scene. Special mentions to Oscar Gleason, Sam Pound and Teddy Barnett for their incredibly convincing and humorous Italian accents. Following this was a classic scene from *Good Will Hunting*, presented by The Knoll. It began as an engaging, intense call and response from Netanel Lawrence-Ojo, Zain Ayoub and Jenkyn Keigwin. But Jasper Smallwood-Martin took command of the stage and with his witty charms he embodied his role, originally played by Matt Damon, rounding off their scene. Next up was The Grove. Performing a scene from *The Master* by Paul Thomas Anderson starring Joaquin Phoenix. But tonight, the star was Rowland Eveleigh who owned the stage and immersed himself into his character, transfixing the audience with his every move, every subtlety carefully considered. Not subtly enough for our judge, however, who made sure to notice this spectacular performance and highly commended Rowland, who won the second best actor prize that evening. Drawing towards the end of the evening, Moretons made sure to pick up the pace and energy in a performance that resonated with the audience. We were treated to a hilarious re-enactment of their chosen scene from *The Life Of Brian*. Commendation should go particularly to Rory Grant, who, with incredible comedic timing and unwavering commitment to his role, combined with his humorous lisp, left the entire audience in laughter and brought a refreshing take to a comedic role and made it uniquely, and brilliantly, his.

Finally, came Druries. They attacked their scene from *The Godfather* with passion from the moment the lights came on. There was a passionate, punchy and engaging start from Joseph Mclean with his perfectly mastered accent. His directing choices made here to imply a seat of status and power included clever physical theatre techniques with three boys forming the chair for our 'Godfather' this evening, Bertie Bradley. Bertie's highly impressive performance saw him commit to the iconic raspy accent from Marlon Brando, yet he maintained perfect clarity and pace, which led to his highly deserved award of best junior actor.

Tensions were rising as we all awaited the final announcement of the winner of the highly coveted House Scenes Cup. Our adjudicator this evening, Mr Peter Broad, took his place on stage and initially concluded with the Runner-up and Best Comedy award to handed to Moretons for their hilarious scene from *The*

Life of Brian. Then, finally the winner of 'Best Scene' and the winner of the House Scenes Trophy to Lyon's for their scene from *Fight Club*. Many congratulations go to Lyon's and the actors who brought their scenes to life, and our thanks also to Mr Peter Broad for taking his time to come to Harrow to judge our House Scenes competition.

SHAFTESBURY LECTURE

Dame Rachel de Souza, 27 September

We were honoured to welcome the Children's Commissioner for England Dame Rachel de Souza for this year's Shaftesbury Lecture. Rachel de Souza sits at the heart of government, delivering for children and championing their voices and needs. Observers describe her as 'the eyes and ears of children within the system and the country as a whole'. She was a headteacher, the founding Chief Executive of the Inspiration Trust, and was appointed DBE in 2014 for services to education.

Dame Rachel arrived just in time for the lecture, having had to jump into a black taxi from Downing Street, where she had been discussing policy at Number 10. Earlier that morning, she had welcomed the new Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Sir Mark Rowley. She began her address to boys, staff and local students with such gusto that it was hard not to believe her words that the visit to the Hill was the high point of her day. She explained The Big Ask, the largest national survey of children in England. in 2021. She wanted to capture children's voices to understand their experiences of the nation's current state. The more than 500,000 responses from children nationwide helped her team identify several key findings, which she explained to the intrigued audience.

The most common theme in the survey was family: children emphasised their care for families and how much they value seeing them. Children wanted concrete and supportive relationships with the adults in their life so that they would have someone to go to for guidance on worries, dreams and aspirations for the future. As a result, Dame Rachel has published Part 1 of a Family Review into what family means to children. She plans to travel the country and speak to as many children, families and family services as possible for Part 2 of the review.

Children also highlight the importance of community. Many of those surveyed said that 'community' is more than having a place to go after school. Community is about how they feel, how they treat people, and how others treat them. Dame Rachel has been working with the government to strengthen the Online Safety Bill and explore the role of pornography in shaping children's understanding of sex, consent and relationships, such as analysing the teaching of Relationship and Sex Education (RSE). She will continue work on peer-on-peer abuse by conducting research with Sexual Abuse Referral Clinics (SARCs) around data collection. In light of the Local Children Safeguarding Practice Review into Child Q, she will work with the National Police Chiefs' council, the Metropolitan Police and other agencies to ensure children's views and voices are reflected in their work and rebuild confidence between children and the adults whose job it is to keep them safe.

In The Big Ask, employment was children's top future priority. There is no shortage of aspiration and ambition among England's children. Dame Rachel stated that there is still more to be done to improve the quality and quantity of apprenticeships, provide better career guidance in school, and organise supported internships for those most at risk of becoming NEET. She is working to establish a Children's Advisory Board and Care Leavers Advisory Board to ensure that she properly represents the needs and views of these young people. Her priority is to help children link their education to potential careers, encourage their ambition, and mediate children's concerns around employment.

Healthwise, those surveyed described the importance of feeling happy and well. Just over half said having good mental health was one of their main future aspirations. Dame Rachel and her team are talking to children about how and why they would like to receive mental health support. The Children's Commission is advocating prioritisation of funding children's mental health services, with the aim that 100% of children will be able to access services. Dame Rachel also called for better use of digital mental health support, implementation of support in schools and the community to ease access to children, and removal of barriers that children face in accessing the sports and activities they love.

Dame Rachel stated that she wants 100% of children to be in school in September and to achieve their full potential. In order to reach this goal, she wants to see partnerships flourish with all children attending excellent schools. All children leaving primary school should be able to read and write and obtain a Level 2 qualification by the end of secondary school.

Nearly 6,000 children in care responded to The Big Ask; while some spoke of positive and loving experiences, others highlighted a lack of consistency and stability, which limited their life chances. Dame Rachel called for reforms to children's services based on children's voices, and for better connections between services. She also wished to examine support for specialist fostering to give more children an opportunity to grow up in a family rather than an institution.

It was fascinating to gain insight into The Big Ask and learn how Dame Rachel would support children in England. So intriguing was the talk that after half an hour of Q&A, TMD had to ask the audience to put their hands down to go to supper.

Blessing and Shanaiya from My Yard, a local charity, presented Dame Rachel with a photobook at the end of the lecture. It was an honour and privilege to hear from Dame Rachel, and we are grateful to her for giving her time generously to the School community and partners. Everyone present took away fascinating insights into the lives of young people to supper and were inspired by how much we can achieve when we work together to support children.

PIGOU SOCIETY

Ivan Thayil, Rendalls, 'The Economic Trilemma: Why many countries run into turmoil pursuing the impossible', 21 September

The Pigou Society's third talk of the academic year, 'The Economic Trilemma: Why many countries run into turmoil pursuing the impossible' was delivered on 21 September by Ivan Thayil, *Rendalls*. Old Music Schools was filled to the brim with aspiring economists and a healthy amount of Rendallians (who assure this writer that they were most certainly not forced by SNT to attend), all eager to learn from Thayil. The talk began with a brief overview of the Trilemma, also known as the 'Unholy Trinity'. The Trillema's three points are as follows:

i) Fixed exchange rates (when a country's currency is tied to the price of another country's currency, or the price of gold)

ii) Free flow of capital (the ease of monetary flow between countries)

iii) A sovereign monetary policy (self-determined interest rates)

A country might fix its exchange rates (or 'peg its currency', as Thayil asserted it was colloquially known as) in order to boost exports and trade, to reduce volatility within domestic businesses and/or to shield its domestic currency from sharp swings. However, there are drawbacks to pegging a currency. For example, the country's central bank must retain reserves of the currency that it is fixed to. If these reserves run out, the peg is no longer valid and a floating exchange rate (when the value of a currency is dictated in response to forex market events) must be implemented in order to avoid complete devaluation of the currency. This is particularly undesirable as forex markets are notoriously unpredictable and highly volatile. Case in point, the pound sterling.

A free flow of capital into a country, like fixed exchange rates, comes with its own pros and cons. The pros and cons:

- The idea of a free market is appealing to investors. As a result, FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) increases as a result of no tariffs and an aggregate demand for investment grows.

- As a result of this, a country's GDP will often see a strong increase.

- However, if the investment into the country is withdrawn within a small period, the currency devalues at a very fast rate, leading to instability and uncertainty. The free market makes this viable whereas a moderated flow via tariffs would not permit investment to be withdrawn in such fashion.

Therefore, as a result of mutual exclusivity, the Economic Trilemma posits that only two of its three points can be implemented when establishing and monitoring a country's global monetary policy agreements, hence its name. Developed by John Marcus Fleming in 1962, it was conceived as a result of the collapse of the Bretton Woods system (a post-WW2 set of regulations for commercial and financial relations between the US, Western Europe, Japan and Canada).

The Trilemma has previously been seen in practice, such as in the East Asian Financial Crisis of 1997. In 1985 to 1996, East Asian countries were seeing a massive influx of capital following the joint agreement known as the Plaza Accord between France, West Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. This prompted the East Asian countries to get rid of all capital control in order to promote further GDP growth – and it worked: Thailand's GDP grew at an average of 10% a year (as a result of US$24 billion in net investment and a further US$50 billion in loans) and the Philippines quickly followed suit, attracting US$19.4 billion worth of investment between 1993-97. Investors similarly reaped huge profits.

However, this could not last. These countries, besides promoting the free movement of capital, were making independent monetary decisions and were taking a de facto peg to the US dollar, which removed the risk of exchange rate fluctuation for investors. When the trade balance shifted, investors saw the signs of a coming recession and quickly pulled out their assets, made quite possible by the uninhibited flow of capital. As a result of this, the East Asian countries used up all their foreign reserves (required due to the peg) trying to combat inflation, and ended up being forced to float their currency, with some devaluing by about 40%. As most debt obligations were in US dollars, they could not be repaid, and many businesses had to shut down.

This was followed by a discussion in which the feasibility of an exception was pursued by the audience, and Thayil asked which two of the three they would choose. This was soon followed by the anticipated barrage of questions, which Thayil fielded with conviction. Sincere thanks to Thayil, DMM, as well as Maxim Van Aeken*, Newlands,* and Joshua Soyemi, *The Head Master's*, in their capacity as Heads of the Society for arranging such an entertaining evening.

HWA CHONG ASIA-PACIFIC YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT

Hwa Chong Institution, 18-21 July

During the summer of 2022, seven Lower Sixth delegates from Harrow School were joined by students from 26 other schools around the world for the Hwa Chong Asia Pacific Young Leaders Summit. This event, hosted by the Hwa Chong Institution and supported by the Singapore Ministry of Education, was held in a unique hybrid virtual and in-person environment to facilitate discussions amongst international students while also allowing for physical communication between the delegates. The convention's theme was 'Cyberspace: Connecting Leaders, Conceptualising Ideas, Catalysing Change'. Its purpose was to allow for the investigation of the impending digital future and how the next generation can stay connected to imagine a fairer, safer and more sustainable world. At same time, the summit served as a fantastic platform for delegates around the world to form friendships, engage in topical discussions, and share our unique cultural connections.

Preparation for the summit began during the Summer term: the Harrow group was tasked with creating a video presentation on the subject of 'Reducing Inequality' and a cultural exhibition on popular British childhood culture. At the same time, we were all fascinated by insights into the customs, music and food shared by students from around the globe including China, Israel, South Africa, Finland, Japan, Germany and many others.

The main feature of the convention was set in an alternative reality, where delegates were split into groups based on imaginary countries, all with differing economic, social, military and geographical traits. The delegates were then given either government roles in those countries (e.g. Minister of Defence, Minister of Foreign Affairs) or civilian roles (e.g. representative of the worker's union). This was in the hope that, in the simulated crises, the delegates would be able to think critically, utilise resources effectively, and work cohesively both intranationally and internationally.

The first day of the conference allowed delegates and gamemasters the opportunity to know one another better as they engaged in novel icebreakers across the screen. As HC-APYLS took off, we also had the privilege to tune in to insightful speeches given by professionals from different fields and learned much about how technology was affecting various sectors of society. The delegates were honoured to hear a live address from Her Excellency, the President of Singapore, Madame Halimah Yacob, who gave an inspiring speech on the importance of harnessing the power of technology to enact change in our respective communities and beyond.

On the first and second days, delegates had to put their skills to the test as they worked together in their respective countries to resolve various internal problems, ranging from

natural disasters and acts of terrorism to economic downturn and civilian protests. In order to succeed, delegates had to ensure that indicators of stability in their country remained healthy despite these issues. The exhilarating experience tore down any previous communication or culture barriers as the both the delegates and gamemasters engaged in passionate discussions within their countries.

On the third day, however, the delegates were faced with an even more complex challenge regarding a global security leak and a dangerous rise in the level of terrorism. This day saw the international mode take centre stage, where delegates from all the countries convened to discuss this major issue, as well as how to improve situations at home through diplomacy and co-operation. Delegates hustled to establish trade partnerships and innovative deals with one another to maintain both internal and global stability. The emergence of alliances, back-stabbings and covert plots all contributed to the intensity of the experience.

Alas, the end was in sight. Through the labours of the international convention and the respective foreign ministers, the nations were slowly able to come to a memorandum of understanding and collectively strengthen international security. On this journey, the engagement in forming compromises, pacts and deals all gave the delegates a whole new perspective on global issues.

At the closing ceremony, Hansen Han, *The Grove*, who was the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Illyria, won the Best Delegate Award for his country. Liron Chan, *The Grove,* was highly commended for his efforts too. This was followed by a debrief with the gamemasters, when participants collectively reflected on their journey over the past four days and what insights they had gained. Emotional goodbyes ensued; despite the short period of the summit and their differing backgrounds, the delegates formed strong bonds and came to regard each other as true friends.

The Harrovians are all very thankful to the team at Hwa Chong Institution for hosting and facilitating this event. They are also grateful to TGE for his guidance, who painstakingly ensured that everyone was prepared to represent Harrow to the best of their abilities.

Editors Note: We sincerely wish TGE all the best as he settles in Portugal.

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

Zac Low, Bradbys, 'The origins of the Anti-Vax Movement', 20 September

The Athenaeum Society started this year wonderfully with Zac Low's lecture on 'The origins of the Anti-Vax Movement'. At 9.10pm on Tuesday 20 September, CH5 was packed to the brim with Harrow's most scholarly minds. (Credit must be given to JDC for organising the much-welcomed refreshments.) After the usual rush of everyone grabbing as many cupcakes as possible, Low began with a short history of the anti-vax movement. He briefly mentioned the anti-vaccine movement of the 1800s, which quickly dissolved due to the enormous success of the smallpox vaccine. However, he mainly focused on the origins of the modern anti-vax movement triggered by Andrew Wakefield in the 1990s.

Low explained that the vital (and only) piece of "scientific" evidence supporting the movement was a 1998 "study" that supposedly established a link between MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccines and autism. This paper was published in *The Lancet,* an esteemed medical journal. It was found to be fraudulent and soon retracted by the journal. As a diligent reader of *The Harrovian*, you will now probably be thinking that the whole anti-vax movement was based on very, very, very little scientific evidence (or probably none). And this is true. Low then raised the obvious question: why do so many people still believe in this unfounded movement?

To answer this question, Low referred to the research of Brendan Nyhan, a political science professor. Over the course of three years, his team studied how 1,700 parents reacted to various attempts to convince them to vaccinate their children. This study found that the parents who originally opposed vaccination did not change their minds. More surprisingly, by explaining the false claims about vaccines to parents, his team made them more opposed to vaccination. Low concluded that those who are personally invested in an idea can become very close-minded and will defend their cause for the fear of being wrong. Therefore, the anti-vax movement still has thousands of fervent and stubborn supporters who defend its unfounded cause.

Then Low analysed the obvious flaws and errors of the 1998 paper written by Andrew Wakefield et al., as you may remember, the only "scientific" piece of evidence for the modern anti-vax movement. (Actually, this paper was called 'Ileal-lymphoid-nodular hyperplasia, non-specific colitis, and pervasive developmental disorder in children', but we shall just call it "the paper" for the sake of convenience). In essence, the paper attempted (and failed) to establish a link of causality between MMR vaccines and autism.

Firstly, Low pointed to a table on the third page of the study, which showed the 'behavioural diagnosis' of each child (which was mainly autism), along with the cause of diagnosis according to their parents. Unsurprisingly, most of the parents blamed the MMR vaccine, so that was the conclusion of the paper. It goes without saying that the subjective opinion of a parent should not have been included in a scientific study at all.

Additionally, Low explained that the sample size of the study was another crucial issue. Though only 12 children were involved, Wakefield still argued that MMR vaccines would have severe, long-lasting side effects for the whole population. This, of course, was clearly misleading, as such a small sample size cannot represent the rest of the population.

Furthermore, Wakefield's sources are somewhat questionable. He cites a certain Mr Fudenberg, who, despite being a doctor himself, sadly did not have the title of Dr Fudenberg. His medical licence had been revoked because he was caught stealing restricted substances from his institute for personal use; the South Carolina Medical Board found him guilty of engaging in dishonourable, unethical, and unprofessional conduct. Therefore, one of the article's main sources was someone who had his medical licence revoked for stealing drugs.

If you have been reading to this point, you would notice an evident question: why did this unreliable study lead to the modern anti-vax movement? Low explained that Andrew Wakefield, having published his article, held a press conference about his "findings". This was a rather rare phenomenon, as not many scientists hold press conferences about their research (the ones who do have usually had their ideas rejected by the scientific community and are seeking the attention of the media). For Wakefield, both were true, and during the press conference he told reporters that (according to his "research") MMR vaccines put millions of children at risk of autism. He said that the government should stop distributing MMR vaccines and replace them with separate measles, mumps and rubella vaccines (which he "coincidentally" manufactured). Though it was an obvious ploy for Wakefield to make a quick buck with his own vaccine, the mainstream media were gripped by this shocking notion. Hundreds of articles, newspaper commentaries and documentaries promoted the potential significance of this study.

This, Low explained, was the spark of an inferno, the key to Pandora's box. Through the medium of news, misinformation about the MMR vaccine spread like a plague. Though the media rarely discussed the details of the study, millions were coaxed into believing in the danger of vaccination. As you may imagine, this led to many children being unvaccinated, and, therefore, an influx of new measles cases.

Eventually, in 2010, Andrew Wakefield's paper was investigated by the General Medical Council in its longest-ever inquiry. The inquiry concluded that Wakefield had failed in his duties as a doctor and acted against the interests of his patients. In short, he was a lying, media-attention seeker (and therefore a detention-seeker in Harrow terms). Thus, his name was wiped off the Medical Register and he was banned from practising medicine. However, the notorious legacy of his 1998 study survives to this very day, and he still has fervent supporters who cannot lift their heads out of the sand.

To conclude, Low explained that the anti-vax movement is not inherently detrimental to society, as some scepticism is essential to scientific and societal advancements. However, the permanent damage that misinformation could cause cannot be ignored. Vaccination has been proven to be successful; smallpox has been completely eradicated, and polio cases have been reduced by 99% since the global eradication initiative of 1988. Those who dogmatically distrust vaccines despite clear scientific evidence are disrupting humanity's collective struggle against disease. Because of the unvaccinated few, the safety of the many is compromised.

As per the custom of the Athenaeum Society, the "beak's response" was wonderfully given by Mr Burns. He provided a fascinating historical context for medicine and vaccination, exploring the perspective of the Hellenistic world. The Rod of Asclepius, the symbol of medicine and healing, depicts a snake entwined around a rod. Mr Burns insightfully compared this with a vaccine, as those things that harm you can also heal you; snake venom is required to make antivenom, and vaccines are (sometimes) made from attenuated viruses. Additionally, a vaccine also gives a mental sense of security, just like a placebo. Hence, vaccines not only boost one's chemical immune system, but also one's behavioural immune system. Those dreaded yet life-saving jabs are here to stay.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Jack He, West Acre, 'Nuclear Fusion: what, how and why?', 27 September

On the Tuesday before exeat, the Scientific Society welcomed Jack He*, West Acre,* to talk about nuclear fusion, a very relevant topic.

He started off by asking the audience why humans need energy and what sources of energy there are? As we all know, we need energy for everything: from simply boiling a kettle to operating a Tokamak machine. The audience then gave examples of energy sources such as hydropower, fossil fuels and, most importantly, nuclear power. Nuclear power is especially relevant, as it is renewable and can provide us massive amounts energy if harnessed correctly.

Before delving into the realms of fusion and the Tokamak machine, He first introduced what nuclear fusion is to the audience. Nuclear fusion is a process that happens inside the cores of stars, in order to power them. Stars are formed by nebulae, plasma and the collision of solar dust. The immense weight collapses due to gravity, and the dust is eventually turned into a star over a million years. Nuclear fusion happens when there are lots of (hydrogen) nuclei, and immense amounts of pressure of temperature. On paper, fusion is as simple as 1+1=2

He then explained how energy is generated by two fusing nuclei. During fusion, the mass of the product is in fact less then that of the reactants. Where did that mas go? Well, from Einstein's most famous equation $E=MC^2$, we know that mass can be converted into energy. Indeed, the missing mass is transformed into energy, and from the equation we can see that only a very small amount of mass is needed to generate a huge amount of energy. He explained that the mass defect can be figured out using the binding energy (energy which holds a nucleus together), before moving on to show how nuclear fusion can happen on Earth.

To make nuclear fusion happen, surprisingly we only need three ingredients: fuel, heat and pressure. However, for two normal hydrogen nuclei to fuse, we would need a whopping temperature of 160,000,000 kelvins! The pressure is impossible to achieve too. The Sun's immense pressure is largely due to its magnetic field, and obviously on Earth this is not available. However, humans have figured out a smart solution to make this whole fairytale into something we can achieve. Instead of fusing two hydrogen nuclei, we can fuse deuterium and tritium together, achieving the same result. This would drastically lower the energy needed for the reaction (down to 100 million kelvins) and would only require 8 atmospheric pressure. Humans have already achieved this on Earth, and there is only one step left to achieving this great scientific revolution: we need to make this process dominant.

He went on to reveal a revolutionary piece of equipment for fusion: the Tokamak machine. It is essentially a magnetic confinement reactor, where large electromagnets are used to squeeze nuclei together so that nuclear fusion can take place. The electromagnets are superconductors that are cooled with liquid helium. This means that the chamber can contain the biggest possible temperature gradient for the reaction. Inside the machine, there are lithium blankets so that the reaction can be chained once a neutron has been emitted from the first fusion reaction. The whole machine is coated with a heatproof and waterproof blanket.

Unfortunately, humans are still not able to crack this nut, and He enumerated the advantages and disadvantages of nuclear fusion. The advantage is that fusion has no emissions, since the only product is helium. This means that the reaction is sustainable, which is paramount in current times. However, nuclear fusion is still not a dominant process of generating energy in the current world. This is because the neutrons will eventually consume the lithium blankets in the Tokamak machine, and in general the energy needed to operate fusion reactors is greater than the energy we are able to get out of it; this automatically eliminates any chances of us relying on nuclear fusion. There is also a lack of fuel for the fusion reaction. Although deuterium is fairly common, (1 out of 5000 hydrogens), tritium isn't. Tritium is radioactive with a half-life of 12 years and is way less abundant than deuterium (10^{-1} in hydrogen). We are able to make tritium, but the costs would be huge. He reckons that nuclear fusion will remain unviable for at least 30 years, and whether humans will ever harness nuclear fusion still remains a mystery.

Thus, He concluded his lecture after being put to the test by some very complex questions from the audience.

SOMERVELL SOCIETY

Julian Herschel, The Grove, 'Negligence Torts and Occupier's Liability'

The Somervell Society was delighted to welcome Julian Herschel, *The Grove*, for its first talk of this academic year. Aspiring lawyers and Grovites alike gathered in the newly opened Teaching and Learning Hub (which, this writer must concede, is very impressive) for an informative lecture on 'Negligence Torts and Occupiers' Liability'.

To better understand the key components of Herschel's talk, it is necessary that the differences between civil and criminal law be distinguished. The differences are as follows:

- Criminal trials involve a judge and a jury. Civil trials only have a judge.

- In criminal law, there is a prosecution and a defendant. In civil law, there is a claimant and a respondent.

- In criminal law, decisions are made 'beyond reasonable doubt'. In civil law, decisions are made, 'on the balance of probabilities'.

- Criminal lawsuits are state v person, while civil lawsuits are person v person.

So what is a tort? Simply put, a tort is a wrongdoing. Stemming from the Latin 'tortus' (twisted), it is an act that causes a claimant (the person being wronged) to suffer loss and/or harm, resulting in legal liability for the respondent (the person committing the tortious act). A negligence tort is a tort that has occurred as result of the claimant's, or in some cases, claimants' negligence. For example, a pedestrian (the claimant) has been a hit by a car and has suffered injuries due to the driver's (the respondent) negligence.

The conditions for a negligence tort to be deemed admissible in a court of law are watertight. They are as follows.

i) The respondent must have owed the claimant a duty of care. A duty of care is a moral/legal obligation to ensure the wellbeing of others.

ii) The duty of care must have been breached as a result of the respondent's negligence.

iii) The claimant must have suffered losses.

iv) The breach of the duty of care must have caused these losses.

Herschel then went on to explain a real-life situation where these conditions could be met. In his example, he used the earlier illustration of a situation where a driver hit a pedestrian. In this case, the driver owed the pedestrian a duty of care as they are obliged to drive while being mindful of pedestrians. They were negligent as they did not slow down while the pedestrian was crossing the road, thereby breaching the duty of care. In the case, it was revealed that the pedestrian suffered a broken leg, therefore suffering a loss. Additionally, the claimant was an actor, and therefore required the use of his legs to work. Therefore, he would be losing out on wages for the period he was physically unable to work. The accident was the direct cause of these losses, so the negligence tort would have been admissible and likely have caused the respondent to reimburse the claimant with the full cost of all medical bills, as well as the missing wages he was owed.

The final two points discussed in Julian's talk were occupier's liability and contributory negligence. Occupier's liability is the duty of care owed to a visitor, or even a trespasser, by a landlord. There are different levels of protection for visitors and trespassers, as there are for specialist workers and ordinary citizens. Contributory negligence is defined as the failure of an injured party to act prudently, considered to be a contributory factor in the injury which they have suffered. Returning to the initial example of a pedestrian and a driver, if the pedestrian had jaywalked into the path of an oncoming car, action would still be taken against the driver, but the charges would be lessened or even dropped as the claimant had not acted sagaciously when crossing the road. Following an interesting discussion about possible scenarios where exceptions could be made, this brought the presentation to its end. Sincere thanks to Herschel for such an informative talk, as well as HRF and Danial Aspandiiarov, *Bradbys*, for organizing the lecture.

MEDICAL SOCIETY

Sebastian Ordonez Velasco, Bradbys, 'Aortic Valve Stenosis (AVS)', 12 September

On 12 September, the Medical Society was lucky enough to host Sebastian Ordonez Velasco, *Bradbys*, who spoke on aortic valve stenosis (AVS). He began by explaining what it is: when the aortic valve does not open fully. It occurs, like most heart diseases, because of a calcium build up in the valve, which decreases blood flow from the heart. In AVS, the aortic valve, which is normally tricuspid (has three flaps) might have two flaps fused together, making it difficult for the valve to function properly. It is most likely to affect those over the age of 60; about 2% of people over 65 years of age suffer from AVS, due to the fusing of two flaps in the aortic valve. However, it may occur in younger people who are born with abnormal or bicuspid valves, rather than three, meaning that calcium build-up would affect them much sooner in life. The symptoms are tricky as, in older people, they don't show until the age of 70-80. This is because they don't experience symptoms until the amount of blood flow is significantly reduced. The symptoms may include chest pain (angina), arrhythmias (irregular heartbeat), trouble breathing or feeling short of breath, feeling dizzy or light-headed, even fainting and difficulty walking short distances.

A first-hand picture of a Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement

The main treatment for this disease is open-heart surgery, replacing the faulty valve entirely. However, Ordonez Velasco introduced another method of treatment that does not require open-heart surgery: transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR). This treatment was initially mainly for those suffering from severe AVS who were at increased risk of complications or were too weak for open-heart surgery. Now it is presented to all kinds of patients with severe AVS as an alternative to open-heart surgery. TAVR is a simple procedure where a new valve is inserted without removing the old, damaged valve. The new valve is placed inside the diseased valve. The artificial valve replaces the damaged one using a catheter. Once the new valve is expanded, it pushes the old valve out of the way and the tissue in the replacement valve takes over the job of regulating blood flow by doing the same thing the diseased valve was supposed to do.

TAVR was developed by Dr Henning Andersen MD PhD, a cardiologist in Aarhus, Denmark. The initial idea came in early 1989, with the idea of using a balloon-expandable device to implant a heart valve percutaneously. He said, "I told my professor that I got this idea, he said to me that I was crazy. But he also told me to give it a shot." The problem Andersen was solving was personal, as his dad was dying from AVS, giving him a strong motivation for his work. In 1992, he introduced it into the medical world and the successful concept was finally accepted for publication in the European Heart Journal. His hard work continued to pay off. In 2002, Alain Cribier performed the first successful in-human TAVR procedure.

Ordonez Velasco explained how the TAVR is performed: the catheter and the valve are inserted via the femoral artery by a small incision in the groin, through which the delivery system is slowly fed along the artery to the correct position at the aortic valve. Using X-ray imaging to guide it through, the system and the artificial valve are fed through the femoral artery into the heart. The artificial valve is then expanded in the place of the

pre-existing valve, and the catheter is removed. The artificial valve has thus been successfully deployed.

Ordonez Velasco then showed the models of the artificial valve that he had brought in. The valves were marvelled at by those in the room, having just learnt so much about this genius little device that could save people's lives. It is safe to say that everyone enjoyed the talk and left having their knowledge expanded, just like an artificial valve, by Ordonez Velasco

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

Yuk-Chiu Lai, Newlands, 'Did you make the right decision? Game theory', 14 September

On 14 September, the Mathematical Society welcomed Yuk-Chiu Lai, *Newlands*, who delivered a lecture on 'Game Theory: Did you make the right decision?', marking the first lecture of the Mathematical Society in the academic year.

Game theory is an intriguing and omnipresent model; it helps one get the best possible outcomes. Lai began by explaining a well-known game of Split or Steal. The game consists of two players and a jackpot (in this case, £100). Both sides have two options: to steal or split the cash. If both choose split, they each receive half of the jackpot, while if one steals and the other splits, the former takes all. If both players decide to steal, neither receives money. The game starts with both sides discussing how they should go with their choices. The gullible ones among us should always beware since lying is allowed in this game. Lai proceeded to engage with the group and asked what our choice would be if we were in that situation. Most of the rational ones among us in the room (or the greedy ones depending on how you see it) went for the steal, and Lai explained our answers by showing a table of the best outcomes.

		Player A	
Player B	**JACKPOT £1000**	**Split**	**Steal**
	Split	£50, £50	£0, £100
	Steal	£100, £0	£0, £0

As we can see from the table, regardless of what player A picked, player B is always better off if he stole. Why? By stealing, player B would either get £100 if he was lucky or £0 if Player A had the same mindset. However, if player B went for split, he would at most get £50 if he were lucky, or he would go home with £0. Because both players do not have any incentive to deviate from their strategies, they would go for stealing as their logical decision. Indeed, both players stealing is the Nash Equilibrium in this situation (the circled choice). Some would point out that both splitting is a more optimal solution than both stealing. But the Nash Equilibrium does not always have to be the optimal solution.

Lai then discussed the Prisoner's Dilemma, a similar scenario to Split or Steal (in fact, Split or Steal was inspired by the former). In this situation, two members of a criminal organisation are arrested and imprisoned. Each prisoner has no means of communicating with the other. The prosecutors lack sufficient evidence to convict the pair on the principal charge, but they have enough evidence to convict both of a lesser one. Simultaneously, the prosecutors offer each of them a bargain. Each prisoner can betray the other by testifying against the other for committing the crime or cooperate with the other by remaining silent. The optimal solution is for both to remain silent and stay one year in jail. However, similar to the Split or Steal analysis, the Nash Equilibrium here would be for both prisoners to betray each other.

		Prisoner A	
Prisoner B	**Time in Jail**	**Silent**	**Betray**
	Silent	-1, -1	-3, 0
	Betray	0, -3	-2, -2

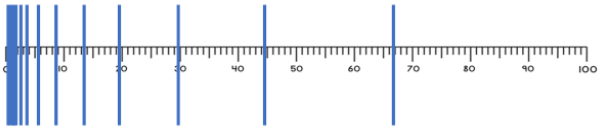
After the introduction, Lai moved on to explain some definitions. In game theory, the game refers to any set of circumstances that has a result dependent on the action of two (or more) players. The game also consists of the players, the strategies used, and the payoffs from the game (usually the outcomes that the players can choose). Lai then presented us with a more complicated game of Iterated Elimination of Strictly Dominated Strategies (IESDS). In IESDS, two players try to achieve a higher score from a matrix (shown below). Both players give the responses simultaneously, so they won't know the other player's move until they make a decision. In a rational circumstance, one could solve a game of IEDSDS as follows.

IESDS Game	Left	Centre	Right
Up	13, *3*	1, *-4*	7, *-3*
Middle	4, *1*	3, *3*	6, *-2*
Bottom	-1, *9*	2, *-8*	8, *-1*

(The choices for player 2 are italicized)

Here, both players need to strike out columns until they reach the final, where the scores would be what they get. Firstly, player two can decide between banning out the centre or right column. Since player two always has the better payoff from choosing the centre column, he would ban out the right column. In a case where player one is logical, he would be able to figure out which column player two bans. He has the option here to choose between the middle or bottom column, and since he would know what player two would ban, he would ban out the bottom column as the middle one would give a better payout. If both players behave rationally, they will go for the better options for themselves, forming the Nash Equilibrium.

Lai also explained how the order of elimination does not matter in a logical IESDS game, where the solution will be the same no matter where you start the elimination process. From the examples, we saw how two different orders of elimination still led to the same result-the Nash Equilibrium. To round off the talk, Lai gave an example of game theory used in a real-life situation. He explained how, although the strategies studied above are rational, humans do not always act logically. In an online competition organised by a Danish newspaper in which 20,000 people joined, the organisers asked all participants to pick one number between 0 to 100. The newspaper would then calculate an average for all numbers from the votes. The participant who managed to guess two-thirds of the average of all of the numbers would be the winner.



Rationally thinking, we know that 100 is the highest possible number. Thus, the average can be anywhere from 0 to 100. Lai explains that a sensible guess would be anywhere from 0 to 66.7 in this situation. Logically, as everyone would repeat this process, their guesses should also be two-thirds of 66.7, which would be 44.5. If everyone chooses rationally, the only sensible result would be 0, which is the optimal solution

in game theory. However, the voted-majority number was 32.4, with a winning number of 21.6. The result proves how humans do not behave rationally, as the answer is far from 0. We all came away from Lai's excellent lecture with a better understanding of how game theory works and how humans are not rational at all times.

ASTRONOMY SOCIETY

Rishaad Bhushan, The Grove, 'Space Tourism: When can you plan your next galactic getaway?'

This year's first Astronomy Society lecture was delivered by Rishaad Bhushan, *The Grove*, on 'Space Tourism: When can you plan your next galactic getaway?' Bhushan started by analysing the past: 'If we are to contemplate the future, think about the past'. We learned that during the space race between Russia and the US, it was more about 'flexing industrial muscle' than it was about exploring space.

Fast forward to the 21st century and we have, as Bhushan pointed out a 'second space race'. But this time it is between private companies such as Virgin Galactic and SpaceX. We live in a world where individuals with a capitalist fortune are able to set up their own NASA. Bhushan compared the current space race to how planes came about. Planes were initially a high-end luxury. Only the super-rich were able to travel on planes, as is today with spacecraft. However, as technology developed, new private companies were set up and air travel became affordable and accessible to all. So will we see those same patterns of air travel with space tourism?

Next up in this fascinating and gripping lecture was the topic of types of space tourism. There are three types: suborbital, orbital and lunar. Suborbital space tourism entails spaceships crossing the Karman line (the boundary between the atmosphere and outer space) for a few minutes. During these few minutes the passengers will experience zero gravity. After this they return back to Earth. Orbital space travel is basically when you orbit around the Earth and lunar is to the Moon.

But who are these billionaires? In the talk, Bhushan spoke about Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos and Richard Branson. Musk is the Tesla CEO, Pay-Pal co-founder and 'probably the richest man who ever lived'. Musk's space tourism company is called SpaceX and it was founded in 2002. He aims to colonise Mars in the long term and establish a self-sustaining colony. And now onto Jeff Bezos. He is the Amazon CEO and his space tourism company is called Blue Origin, founded in 2000. Bezos aims to run a private mission to the Moon and build a self-sustaining space station. And an interesting fact about Bezos is that his trip to space, in July 2021, was 16km higher than Branson's. Branson, founder of the conglomerate Virgin Group, has less lofty aims. He just aims for low-orbital commercial tourism. Virgin Galactic, one of 400 subsidiaries of the Virgin Group, was founded in 2004. The plans for this commercial space travel have been laid out. Passengers undergo three days of training and they then embark on a spacecraft joined to a carrier jet. This carrier jet flies to 50,000 feet and the space craft detaches from it and its rocket motors fire. This space craft then crosses the Karman line.

Bhushan ended the talk by explaining some of the negatives of space tourism. Firstly, only the richest of the richest are currently able to fly. It is certainly a very expensive industry at the moment. This is made clear by the fact that Bezos spent 7.5 billion dollars on one flight for Blue Origin. And unfortunately there is very little environmental regulation on rocket launches as it is a new industry. Also, the heat in the air that is produced by the rockets converts nitrogen into nitrogen oxides, which depletes the ozone. But there are positives. The first of those being that the industry is currently very small and so it isn't a major worry. Bhushan mentioned that the industry as a whole 'will not make a dent compared to other things'. And space tourism may develop into so much more. One day we may be able to solve the housing and energy crisis.

In his conclusion, Bhushan explained that space tourism should be available for everyone in 20–30 years, and by that time we may have discovered so much more about our universe. It was positive way to end such a well researched and well-presented lecture.

METROPOLITAN

AN AUTHOR TO TRY

Sylvia Townsend Warner

Sylvia Townsend Warner (1893–1978) is currently far better known in the States. In the UK, she will always be seen as a cult figure: she could top the bestseller list and still be labelled 'under-read', or (worst of all) 'a writer's writer.' She was born in Harrow on the Hill, the daughter of a House Master and History beak most famous for administering the Townsend Warner Prize, also known as the Harrow History Prize, a prep school essay competition previously won by Cyril Connolly, George Orwell, and our Chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng (who, if you read his Wikipedia, appears to have dedicated the first 18 years of his life to winning school prizes). Sylvia was taught by Harrow beaks, having been sent down from nursery for mimicking her teachers. She was an accomplished musicologist, in addition to her fiction. Politically, she most closely aligned herself with anarchism. Her stories, which you will find in The New Yorker's online archive (144 of them!), are bizarre and beguiling, dark and attractive, like eclairs filled with something horrid.

She is a master of fresh description. If a boy, or anyone, wrote for me a sentence as good as 'The fiddlers did a little tuning, listening to their plucked strings like animals that hunt by ear', then I could retire immediately on the funds no doubt ring-fenced by Kwasi Kwarteng for prize-administering teachers.

The stories ought to be read, and they are often as good as, and often better than, anything by Saki.

The most famous work, *Lolly Willowes*, is very short and to be found right this minute in the Vaughan Library. Laura Willowes, a young woman used to being ignored, is forced to move in with relatives when her father dies. Never marrying, she acts as a quiet servant to her family, who themselves are as dirty and greedy and avaricious as the cousins in an Austen novel. It is a form of hell. How does she escape? She becomes a witch, joins a coven, and proceeds to commit appalling crimes, all while continuing to take her nieces to the zoo. Women, she states, have powers that witchcraft sets free: "They know they are dynamite, and long for the concussion that may justify them. . . . [Witchcraft] strikes them real. Even if other people still find them quite safe and usual, and go on poking with them, they know in their hearts how dangerous, how incalculable, how extraordinary they are."

Why is it, when you meet a couple, that they so often introduce themselves as 'Henry and Pogpog, 'George and Tiggy', 'Benedict and Googoo'? I have in my time known people who have gone by the names Conky, Wooky and – can you imagine – Doodoo. Townsend Warner perfectly spikes the English predilection for letting men get on with life with their full names intact, and turning women's into baby squeaks. Full disclosure: my mother in law is called Boojum.

This week's comparison:

Entries are sought for the best comparisons, similes, or metaphors for a musician. As with Townsend Warner's, they should reveal something, just as the above example does of the musicians warming up – their alertness, their natural ability, perhaps a slight sense of their fear is brought out by comparing them to hunting animals. Here is ours:

The music scholar lugged the tuba down the High Street with a grimace, as though he had joined a looting party late and had been left alone in a ransacked Selfridges with the items that no-one else had wanted.

UNTITLED

Nick Arnison, Moretons

His forehead rested gently against the steering wheel. A stream of magma, summer-rose magma, unspoiled by any impurity, cascaded down his head. His eyelids firmly covered his eyes which had, just 35.6 seconds ago, deceived him. A solemn chapel light caressed his stubborn eyelids, which quivered at this reveille.

His foot was still weighing down the accelerator. His arm still gleefully rested on the handbrake waiting for an order, like a good dog with a sausage on its nose. It gently twitched and tensed in a stirring motion. Revolutionary muscles and tendons jutted out from his paper skin. The revolt was inundated with his very own red army.

His eyelids, very much out of his control, gave way suddenly. At last, his eyes capitulated to this brave new light. This made him moan a sigh of pain, a drunken sigh of hatred of each waking moment. He hated his eyes for this, even more so than he hated them for deceiving him. And know, like Loki and his devilish tricks, they wanted reprieve. They called for their mother, but he had had enough. He wanted to tear them out. He wanted to rid himself of these two new foes inhabiting his skull.

He forced himself to think. His head pounded. He felt as if this pounding may, indeed, be denting his skull. At least his heart was working. He had, much to his dismay, began to feel.

The veins that infected his skin bulged and strained. He felt each one. He felt like an orange in a net bag. Like a broken, leaking and mouldering orange. He, at this point, attempted to move his leg. It did, indeed, move. Through the slots in his steering wheel, he could see that they were mostly intact, although buried under the contents of his glovebox. But it moved. It moved up and down, displacing the mags and tissues and filthy fags that had leaped onto his lap, like a dog with ragged dreads. His dry and blood-pickled mouth curled at the corners.

He had never heard pain before. He had always imagined a ringing, or perhaps a pleasant 'ding-dong'. In truth, he had never been in real pain before. It was now that all this changed. A cataclysmic wave, comparable to a low grumbling synth or foghorn, inundated his skull. It felt as though that great big Hiroshima bomb had politely blasted next to him. The sound was imaginary: a product of unbelievable pain. His skull rattled and his neck became strangled and weak. Suddenly, the deep cut on his skull, his mangled arms and left leg, and his lack of teeth became pretty obvious.

He now realised the hole in his stomach. Although his sight was vague, he bet that he looked like jerry in that one cartoon he remembered from his fleeing memories. He thought that he'd see the black, gaping cartoon hole or the clean-cut frozen steak of his dreams. There was, in fact, more of a maggoty complexion. He never expected that. But, in truth, this wouldn't have shocked him.

He had, just then, become overwhelmed. He became tired. He had never been this tired before. He just wanted to go to bed. He should never sleep at the wheel, but he thought that this seemed quite silly to think about now. His eyes slowly closed and, at last, he got some shuteye. He felt as though he could sleep forever.

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

6 October

This year's National Poetry Day competition was on the theme of the environment. The challenge was to write a poem in exactly 12 words that explored the theme in any way the writer wished. Staff and boys were invited to submit entries, with midnight as the deadline for this one-day competition. With nearly 100 entries, there was an excellent variety in approach, with poems about the climate crisis, endangered animals, recycling, nature, trees, cities and the countryside.

Tony Shi, *The Grove*, won the competition. LSA, who was judging the competition, enjoyed the way he contrasted the natural and the man-made with playful use of language.

Tony Shi
Nature's pleasant grasp;
Concrete's numbing clasp:
Shake one hand;
Choose one path.

The following entries were highly commended:

SNT
With their summits cloaked in night… silence.
The ancient hills stand firm.

Rory Grant
For our crudeness has
Thronged her green carpet
With the deepest
Wound.

Kit Henson
His white fur reflected the moon,
the receding ice secured his doom.

Andy Ridgley (Staff)
dandelions
daisies and
high summer
dream of an Arcadian blue sky future

RHTN
On the dead grass summer acorns rot,
Oak, ash, and willow wither.

Wendi Nichols (Staff)
Why oh why
Must you dump your old rubbish
In my street?

Tom Pollock
All The Leaves Are Withered Brown
Fading Stars In A Humdrum Town

SWB
Eden Never Visited
Its Regrets
On Nascent Man,
Expecting Nature's
Transformed
Salvation.

PDR
Environmentalism (noun):
To covet empty Eden.
Uneaten fruit hangs
On undefiled trees.

Jonathan Ford
tears flood borders
from the eye of the storm.
eulogy sings
sleep.

Joshua Soyemi
raindrops kiss the trees,
leaves sway in the clean air;
no longer

Chinedu Orji
The black rhino, charging into extinction.
Intrinsically hunted, greedily confronted, brutally deconstructed.

DMM
Oak
The sturdiest of trees
Full of the birds and the bees

Ian Lee (Staff)
wildfire rages
burning our pages
our history
viciously born
rampaging at dawn

Niki Palmer (Staff)
So scared of the monsters
little me
crouching by the shadow tree

Max Ding
The Earth, that means the world to me.
Haha, get it?
Tree-mendous.

Henry Barker
Ice cold glass,
Refrigerated on an open beach.
Waves shatter the sky

Nick Arnison
Take my water,
Take my cry,
Take from me all,
You die.

Matthew Carter (Staff)
To hold a handful of dirt
Is to hope
It is
Dust.

ERPB
Crisping summer leaves
Autumn to wade through mulch;
The woods feeds, fallen.

Estelle Marshall (Staff)
(Badger)
Black and white flash of destruction
Gnawing, churning,
All that was lawn

NJM
Fields blanketed in solar panels keep us warm at night; pun intended!

Hayden Leung
Upon Gaia's wrath,
Torn earth, putrid seas,
Shall become humanity's
Final memory.

OPINION

HARROVIAN POLL

What's the perfect Harrovian Wasteman?

The vote is in! The Perfect Wasteman: A *Rendallian, who studies A-level Photography, enjoys strength and conditioning, and has suffered a concussion.*

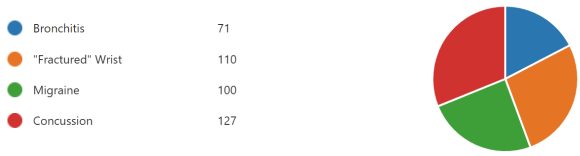
The vote across the School wasn't always clear what made the Perfect Wasteman. The choice was clearly Rendalls, although, Moretons was surprisingly high, given that Rendalls was, in fact, down twice.

1. Boarding House

2. A-Levels

3. Extra curricular

4. Select your ailment



Photography is a clear refuge for the unacademically inclined; a credible option for those who prefer the 'point and click' approach. The more athletic individual was an ideal mold, but someone who is not involved in team sports. Has "strength and conditioning" become a euphemism for the lazy? It's hard to

exactly conceive how strength and conditioning could cause concussions: rugby lad, taken off sport, hits the gym? Is there a joke buried here somewhere, about the use dumb-bells?

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from around the Hill

"Boys, what is the name of the accent over the "e"? I'll give you a hint: it's an inverted "v", begins with "c" and ends in "x"? "A cervix, miss?"

"Have you got a short poem for the competition?" "Yes, something along the lines: 'Carbon emissions: really really really really really really really really really bad.'"

SPORT

FOOTBALL

4 October

Development A XI at home v Aldenham School Won 4-2

Harrow showed plenty of courage and determination to overcome a spirited Aldenham side in a feisty encounter. There were moments of real quality in each of the goals scored by Kanta Morisighe, *Newlands*, captain Elliott Taylor*, West Acre,* and two from Kitan Akindele, Newlands,.

Development B XI at home v Aldenham School Draw 1-1

Harrow started the game well building on their performance against Eton looking to control the ball and make Aldenham work for it. Progression into the final third was strong with Zane Ayoub*, The Knoll,* and Mubarak Tinubu *, The Knoll,* using the wings effectively to advance the ball. The midfield three of Leo Polese*, The Head Master's,* Alnur Abuov, *Druries,* and Oliver Mitchell*, Rendalls,* also circulated the ball effectively making it difficult for Aldenham to impact the game. Despite controlling possession we were only able to create half-chances as the a strong wind held up shots at goal and made it difficult to create opportunities in the final third. Despite standing offside for most of the half Aldenham's forwards spilt first blood after a turnover in possession left our backline struggling to recover. We entered the break 1-0 down despite playing some excellent football, but with the belief that with the wind at our backs and the slope at our feet we could prevail in the second half.

Aldenham upped the pressure in the second half playing with a much higher intensity which made it more difficult to play out from the back and progress through the thirds. As Aldenham pressed forward however this created space in behind which Jonah Esposito*, Newlands,* Ayobami Awolesi*, The Head Master's,* and Hugo MacLean*, West Acre,* were able to take advantage of catching Aldenham's defenders high up the pitch and creating open chances. This yielded the equaliser for Harrow as Awolesi connected with Caspar Baker's*, Moretons,* distribution from between the sticks. As the game dragged on Aldenham began to take control, putting Harrow under more pressure, which was only relieved by them standing off-side for the 15th time of the day. Some good shot stopping by Baker as well as some poor finishing meant that Harrow were able to see out the fixture, securing a draw against a side that is always competitive.

As the term develops, the squad is beginning to come together and play in a more mature and thoughtful manner which is really pleasing to see. Every game is competitive and the level of intensity is increasing leading to some excellent team and individual performances.

Development 16 XI at home v Aldenham School Won 3-0

The School v Whitgift School, 8 October

Development A XI at home v Whitgift School Won 4-2

A stellar second-half performance and some ruthless finishing helped the Development As come back from behind in a much improved performance. Charlie Young, *Newlands*, scored the pick of the goals with Kitan Akindele, *Newlands*, getting two and Eli Dewotor*, The Head Master's,* scoring a clinical fourth.

Development B XI at home v Whitgift School Draw 1-1

Harrow started slowly against an aggressive Whitgift side, and did extremely well to absorb this pressure in the first 15 minutes of the game. After seeing off this early storm, the midfield trio of Ollie Mitchell, *Rendalls*, Alnur Abuov, *Druries*, and Adam Siddiqi*, Lyon's,* began to exert more influence, which eventually led to the opening goal. After a precise switch of play Hugo Maclean*, West Acre,* whipped the ball across the box from the left for Mubarak Tinubu, *The Knoll*, to run onto and smash into to the place where the owl sleeps. After that the away side ramped up the pressure, with keeper Tom Haworth, *The Knoll*, forced into a string of saves that kept the score at 1-0. Sadly, with 15 minutes left to play, Whitgift scored with a fairly scrappy piece of play as the ball dropped from a corner.

Overall this was a strong performance from Harrow who should be proud of their controlled and defensively resolute play.

Development C XI at home v Whitgift School Won 4-2

Harrow won deservedly in a physically demanding contest. Resilience was key, with Melvin Ackah, *Newlands*, scoring twice to confirm victory.

GOLF

1st Neutral Reddam House School
Harrow v Reddam House School at Northwood Golf Club, 4 October, Win 2-1

Harrow faced a new opponent in the shape of Reddam House School, Berkshire, at Northwood Golf Club on a damp day in North West London.

The opening pair of Grovites were out to prove that RRM's secret golf coaching sessions were paying off. Oliver Cheuk and Varick Rajayogan started off steadily, making some decent pars and going 3up through 5. A phenomenal birdie from Cheuk on 6 took the match to 4up. Harrow would soon close out the first 9 3up, with a solid up-and-down from the rough by Cheuk. The match stayed 3up until Reddam made a good par on a tough par 4. Rajayogan then holed a clutch 15-footer to win the hole on 13. A few short misses from Reddam on the following holes made Harrow go dormie-3. A solid par from Rajayogan on 16 sealed the match 3&2.

The new pairing of Sam Phillips*, Moretons,* and Zac Baines*, Druries,* were optimistic as they arrived at Northwood, only to be greeted by dismal drizzle. Despite a brief slip up (literally) on the first tee, the first hole was uneventful and calmly halved. Their Reddam House opponents may have been small in stature but were strong of will as the match remained relatively even, not straying far from all square. However, a poor stretch of two holes from the Harrow pair going into the back nine put them 2 down and it was here the match would remain, despite

valiant efforts at a comeback (including a chip in birdie!). The match ended 2&. The future seems bright, however, for this partnership.

The match would come down to two young whipper-snappers in the Removes. Charlie Chambers, *Rendalls,* and Bertie Bradley, *Druries,* had a the pride of the School on their shoulders. The boys started off well, finding a number of pars in the opening holes. It was level through 9 before Bradley hit some great drives and Chambers found some rhythm with his irons. The boys took a commanding lead, 3up with 5 to play. However, some untimely errors saw them only 1up with 1 to play. The pair dug deep and both managed to par the 18th and seal their match 2up and the tie 2-1.

BADMINTON

1st Away Abingdon School, 8 October

It was a tough start against a well-prepared Abingdon team. Harrow dropped to a 3-1 deficit in the first round as the pairs competed in reversed order. However, with their fighting spirit now engaged the second round saw the team even the score to 4-4. It was at this point that the fast and ruthless victories of the Harrow first pairing of John Kwong, *Lyon's*, and Wilfred Leung. *Druries*, showed their worth in boosting moral. At the end of the third round it was still tied, with six games to each team. In the final round, as each pair played their opposite number, the format changed to best of three. Pairs 1 and 4 overcame their opponents, and pair 2 fought well but were unable to prevail. This left Vlad Plyushchenko, *The Grove*, and David Nakhmanovich, *The Knoll*, competing for the win. It was a heroic effort that went down to the last gasp, but in the end their opponents were able to cross the winning line just a few points in front. The team were disappointed to achieve a draw, and this was a testament to their winning mentality.

SQUASH

The School v Aylesbury Grammar School, 4 October

The 1st V

The 1st V won against Aylesbury Grammar School, who were good but not quite as powerful as in previous years (although their Under-15 team was demonic and will be a threat for the next 3–4 years. Some excellent squash was played, including straight-game wins for Jat Tse, *Rendalls,* and Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, and a five-game labour for James Basslian, *Rendalls*. Awni Dajani, *Moretons,* played an extra game at '6th seed'.

This was a useful encounter, enjoyable as always with the good and unfailing polite people of Aylesbury. It was also useful game time before the big challenge of Epsom on Thursday 13 October.

The 2nd V

This is still a very green team, but their dedication to squash cannot be faulted, and this is the key attribute that will see them turn their fortunes around. They are an excellent and talented group of Removes. Nevertheless, a 5-0 loss is a 5-0 loss, and it's a clean sweep of a loss too. This would go down in history, although I think it also happened last week against Brentwood. As Orwell put it, 'There is another feeling that is a great consolation in poverty. I believe everyone who has been hard up has experienced it. It is a feeling of relief, almost of pleasure, at knowing yourself at last genuinely down and out. You have talked so often of going to the dogs – and well, here are the dogs, and you have reached them, and you can stand it. It takes off a lot of anxiety...' So, 5-0. It doesn't get much worse, does it? But here we are – and, hurrah, it's not that bad!

They will take the frustration of this and turn it into something positive. They already have, with focussed training on the Friday and Saturday after the defeat.

RUGBY UNION

The School v St Benedict's School, 4 October

The XV Away St Benedict's School Won 70-5 National Cup Round 1

After a slow start going 5-0 down, The XV quickly found their rhythm scoring six tries in a row before St Benedict's touched the ball again in open play to take a 40-5 lead at half-time. A similiarly dominant second half saw superb handling and clinical finishing see Harrow win 70-5 to progress to Round 2 of the National Schools Cup and continue their unbeaten start to the season.

Tries: Nsouli, *The Knoll*, x 2, Tuipulotu, *Druries*, x 2, Miall, *Newlands*, x 2, Griffin, *The Head Master's,* x 2, Winters, *Elmfield*, Hammick, *The Knol*l, Dunne, *Elmfield*, Edstrom, *Bradbys*

Junior Colts D at Home v St Benedict's School Won 50-5

Yearlings E at Home v St Benedict's School Won 26-22

The Yearling Es had the pleasure of hosting St Benedict's Ealing for a midweek match on Ducker 6. It was a gray and windy day but luckily the rain (for the most part) held off. The main points of emphasis heading into the match were fully committing to tackles and running forward to put pressure on the defence.

It was a quiet first half, with just a try from York Feng, *The Knoll,* on the scoreboard and the Yearling Es up 5-0. Some struggles with our line depth and resulting forward passes held the offence back, while the defence held up strong against a tough St Benedict's side. Timur Mir, *Newlands,* and Abubakir Aben, *Lyon's*, in particular had some fantastic tackles.

The scoring opened up a bit in the second half, as the Yearling Es figured out how best to get their athletes into space while the defence tired a bit. James Ho, *The Knoll,* and York Feng, *The Knoll,* added tries with phenomenal long runs. St Benedict's made a late surge to make the game close near the end with some powerful runs right up the middle to add two late tries. In the end, it was James Ho's fantastic conversions that made the difference on the scoreboard. Overall, some fantastic rugby played and a good evenly fought game.