

THE HARROVIAN

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PRINGLE TROPHY

HRC away to Lympstone, 7 October

On Friday 7 October, the team, Capt Lemoine and I departed for the Sir Steuart Pringle Trophy held at the home of the Royal Marines: Commando Training Centre Lympstone. We secured a central spot in the drill shed before heading to the Falklands Hall for an introductory briefing held by Corps Colonel Simon Tucker. Colonel Tucker leads recruitment and selection for the Royal Marines; he spoke on the challenges facing the defence community today, as well as the changing role of the Marines in our ongoing security. As the Corps embarks on its ten-year transformation programme, he emphasised the importance of the Marines' values: Excellence, Integrity, Self-Discipline, and Humility. Colonel Tucker also impressed on the cadets the importance of these values beyond a military context, and how the development of a mindset conducive to fulfilling these values is essential for success in any career. The 12 stances that the cadets competed in over the two days were all underpinned by these values, and there was a clear opportunity for Character and Leadership development. After some time to square away their kit and admin, the boys were raring to go. They got their heads down early ahead of a long and busy day.



Saturday kicked off with a brisk but clear morning, which offered some excellent views of the mist-covered estuary, creating a sense of calm before the storm. The morning would be spent at CTCRM Lympstone with the first stance being First Aid. The cadets were required to first evacuate and then treat two casualties: one suffers from a stress fracture; the other is unconscious and requires CPR. This was a real team effort, and the assessors were impressed with the speed and control shown in the process. There was no rest for the wicked! The cadets moved straight onto the infamous 'lower field', which is home to the obstacle course. They were required to use teamwork and communication to carry equipment over each obstacle against the clock. Showing much courage, the boys jumped into this challenge and pushed themselves for the duration of the exercise, posting a competitive time.

The Observation stance, or perhaps lack thereof, was up next. Eagle eyes were required as the boys sought to spot some cleverly hidden items. Urban CQB, using the Marines' custom facility complete with smoke, simulated flash bangs

and even dogs followed. The RM instructors were excellent at guiding the cadets through the exercise as they had to navigate a complex of four rooms, working with speed and efficiency. The Command and Leadership stance finished off the morning's activities. The boys had to split their efforts between completing a written test and a cognitively demanding command task. This simulated a part of the RM officer selection, with particular emphasis being placed not on the completion of the task, but rather the values and qualities shown by the teams.



After a short break up for lunch we headed up to Woodbury Common, which kicked off with a Navigation stance in which success relied upon clear communication. The Casualty Evacuation stance followed, which was a big target for us this year as defending champions! The cadets were required to carry a stretcher laden with 40kg over a 1.2km course of undulating terrain and tough ground. Each cadet pushed themselves from the offset and posted a blistering time, smashing the fastest time up to that point by over a minute.

We then entered a succession of three tactical stances that required boys to draw on all their fieldcraft knowledge. Camouflage and concealment (assessed through challenging sniper stalk) tested the cadets' knowledge of why things are seen, with moving bushes being the main giveaway! On the same site, we moved to the Section Attack stance, which took place across challenging ground with many gorse bushes and steep slopes, promising both mental and physical stress. Section Commander Inigo Doyle, *The Park*, advanced the team across open ground in extended line down into a stream and up the opposing bank, at which point contact was made. Reaction to fire was swift and the boys suppressed the enemy position effectively, giving Doyle and Section 2ic Thomas Emery, *Moretons*, time to develop a plan. Doyle led Charlie fireteam on a flanking manoeuvre while Emery kept the enemy pinned down, conserving ammunition with Delta fireteam. Using dead ground to conceal their position, Doyle flanked left, using smoke to cover their advance, destroying and fighting through the enemy position. It was an excellent demonstration of command and control, showing that the work the boys had done in preparation paid off. The last event of the day was the break contact drill. This took place in dense treeline, which made communication and control challenging but, thankfully, all made it out alive!

Sunday was an early start as the team had to frantically iron, polish and sew to ensure that the standard of their kit was up to scratch before the drill competition. This was made all the

hard after a second night in the cold drill shed. Doyle delivered commands with confidence and the team looked particularly sharp on their static drill, receiving compliments from the assessor as they moved sharply and precisely. Showing much discipline and honour, Harrow put in a good performance setting a strong early marker in the competition.

After a short period of respite, we again moved to Woodbury Common to take part in the much-famed endurance course. This 3km is an essential part of the Marine recruits' training, and makes up part of their final assessments. We were wet early after a demonstration and practice of the sheep's dip, giving us a taster of what was to come! In a slight change of approach, the team had to always carry a rope, meaning that far more emphasis was placed on teamwork rather than individual effort. A strong start downhill led to 'Peter's Pool', in which boys had to wade through waist-deep water before moving onto the 'Sheep's Dip'. This involved being pushed through a tunnel with freezing water and being dragged out the other side before pushing the next man through. The remainder of the course consisted of boggy ground interspersed with tunnels, in which the team showed much fellowship, working as a team to overcome challenges. Overtaking three teams over the course of the exercise, Harrow put in a strong showing with a time that would put them in contention for the win.



Returning to the camp was a blessing as showers gave the relief of warmth before attending the prize-giving ceremony in Falklands Hall. It proved to be a highly successful competition, with Harrow winning both the Leadership and Casualty Evacuation stances. However, King's College Taunton were the standout performers, winning no less than five stances and with it the whole competition.

All in all, this was a successful haul but with a clear goal set for next year – dethrone King's. Brigadier Salzano finished off the weekend with a short but inspiring talk on the values of these events and the mindset of a Marine. He challenged all the attending students to consider the following questions: if character and determination make up the majority of factors leading to success, how did the weekend develop these? What are the values underpinning leadership, and how can we live these out in our everyday lives?

Overall, it was an excellent weekend. The team should be rightly proud of their achievements and the commitment they demonstrated over the course of the competition. They upheld the School's values of courage, honour, humility and fellowship, and should seek to carry the lessons learnt into all elements of School life and beyond.

Team: Inigo Doyle, *The Park* (Section Commander); Thomas Emery, *Moretons* (Section 2ic); Guy Clark, *West Acre*; Henry Dargan, *Druries*; Nicko DeLabilliere, *The Gove*; Cameron Elliott, *West Acre*; Digby Emus, *Rendalls*; Finlay Smith, *The Knoll*; Freddie Williams, *Moretons*; Archie Young, *Rendalls*.

HARROW WANDERERS

150th Anniversary Dinner

After a four-year gestation period – two years longer than intended due to Covid – the Harrow Wanderers Cricket Club was finally able to celebrate its 150th anniversary with a dinner in the Long Room at Lord's on 6 October. And what an occasion it was! All anger and resentment with the MCC Committee's decision to discontinue the School fixture with Eton – the oldest fixture at Lord's – without consulting the members, was temporarily suspended, and 150 members and guests were able to enjoy an exceptional evening. The Master of Ceremonies was the Chairman of the Dinner Committee, Matthew Fosh; introductions were made by Richard Compton, President of the Harrow Wanderers, and the guest speakers were Kumar Sangakkara, former Captain of Sri Lanka and President of MCC, and Chris Cowdrey, former Captain of England.



After a champagne reception in the MCC Museum, the diners adjourned to the pavilion, pausing on the way for an aerial group photograph taken in total darkness by a photographer perched high on an adjacent staircase – or was it a drone? Difficult to tell.

When all were settled at their tables, Richard Compton welcomed the assembly, outlining the origins of the club, the Northern Tour and commending its many benefactors.

Dale Vargas, a former honorary secretary of the club, then read a light-hearted tribute to Donny Walker, the founder (text below).

The School XII, led by the Director of Music, David Woodcock, then sang the humorous but less well-known cricket song, *The Niner*. It was the first of five songs written by Edward Bowen to be sung during the evening.

The next entertainment was an interview with Kumar Sangakkara conducted by Nick Stewart. The discussion covered a wide range of topics from Sangakkara's childhood in Sri Lanka, his life in cricket, and his decision to settle with his family in England. It was an interesting insight into the life and personality of one of the 21st century's most distinguished cricketers.

Matthew Fosh then introduced his old friend and cricketing colleague, Chris Cowdrey. Cowdrey gave a witty, self-deprecatory speech, studded with many amusing anecdotes that hit just the right note with his audience. He was warmly applauded.

The School XII then returned to the stage for Songs, accompanied on the keyboard by Hadrian Ho, *The Head Master's*. The Wanderers were in good voice and the Long Room rang to the sounds of *Willow the King*, *A Gentleman's a'Bowling* and *Giants* before ending in the traditional manner with *Forty Years On*, *Auld Lang Syne* and the *National Anthem*.

Huge thanks are due to the Dinner Committee, whose efforts produced a resoundingly successful evening. In addition to Compton, Fosh and Stewart mentioned above, they were Andrew



Cox, Chairman of the Harrow Wanderers, James Gillions, who with Jonathan Pool produced a commemoration brochure, and Fred Woolley, former President of the Club.

It had been a memorable occasion.

TREVELYAN SOCIETY BLACK HISTORY MONTH

"Black British Politics", by Chris Mutombo-Ramazani, Bradbys

Black History has intersected, in one way or another, with Britain for centuries, and has had a considerable impact on culture, social relations and British politics. Examining the lens of Black politics has been a fruitful, riveting and intellectually nourishing experience for me in the hurried past few days, and the legacy of Black involvement in the febrile hothouse of politics in this country has moved from the current multicultural society we live in, all the way back to enslavement.

During the Georgian period, the British Empire was already in full swing. Amid the imperial influence of the 'empire upon which the sun never set', pro-emancipation activists and figures of Afro-Caribbean descent made their indomitable mark on activism in this country. Abolitionist Olaudah Equiano, during the late 18th century, was born into slavery and eventually taken to America, where he was educated and found freedom through making enough money to be let go. Upon arrival in England, he advocated for justice for enslaved people in Sierra Leone and Jamaica, and his inspiring autobiography was serially published. Ignatius Sancho was classed as a land-owning independent man and befriended the 2nd Duke of Montagu. He was forced to work as a slave and died in 1780, and was the first Black British African to have voted in parliamentary elections in 1774 and 1780. He was outspoken against slavery, and inspired other generations of Black Civil Rights movements in the United States too. Lord Boateng, at a recent BHM lecture, extolled Sancho's traits of hard work, negotiation and determination to drive awareness and change, even in a socially traditional country. And many anti-enslavement campaigners such as Wilberforce were crucial in showing Caucasian support for imperialism's end. One figure who is less trumpeted was Robert Wedderburn, Unitarian preacher in the 1800s, who attacked the culture of Jamaican slavery during a time where there were few advocates for the abolition of slavery. Another notable figure was the Black Chartist leader William Cuffay, who was the son of a slave and was a pioneer in the struggle for universal suffrage. Chartism was the first mass political movement of its kind. He spearheaded the London wing of the Chartists. Mary Prince was the first Black woman to have written a slave narrative text in Britain, during the height of the abolition movement. After the Victorian and Industrial Revolution eras, the period of enslavement receded into the rear-view mirror of

Government policy, as Russia and the United States became the world superpowers. In Britain, out of a need to further build on this, the League of Coloured Peoples formed in 1931 was formed by Harold Arundel Moody, who wanted to improve the welfare of coloured people and relations between races, and to help ameliorate members' lives in society. This league would be the harbinger for a Black nationalist and radical movement that would sweep metropolitan Britain out of the ashes of war.

After the drudgery, blood, toil, tears and sweat of the Second World War, Britain needed a bit of repair work. Just as a shed's front door needs to be bolted back in once its hinge has lazily retired, the country needed to be re-assembled again, like a very unfortunately weak shed.

In the 1950s, in order to help rebuild that shed, the Windrush generation of British immigrants (who went on to be marginalised in work, politics and day-to-day life) were called back to the so-acclaimed 'mother country' from the Caribbean and former colonised nations of the Americas. Following a general treatment of the Windrush generation as second-class citizens in employment, society and the justice system, the Coloured People's Progressive Alliance was formed in 1959 to lobby the Home Secretary against discrimination, and was the first organised national immigrant, anti-racist political group. Labour were criticised for their Immigration Act's promises and their failure to honour these promises during the 1960s and 1970s. This only served to rile Black nationalist groups more, who were advocating for racial equality. The Black Panthers' Party in Britain (no, not the movie) began in the summer of 1968, and was the main Black Power movement during its brief existence, being involved in legal, journalistic and grassroots methods of campaigning for anti-discrimination, awareness and equality between racial groups. The US-UK relationship regarding Black nationalism was influential too. A solidarity march in 1963 from Ladbroke Grove to the US embassy was organised by Claudia Jones, founder of the Notting Hill Carnival; Malcom X came to Smethwick in the West Midlands in the aftermath of a racist election campaign, years later. The Black Liberation Front existed in 1970s. By 1968, there were a variety of radical Black Power groups in Britain, such as the Campaign against Racial Discrimination (CARD), which arose in response to the 1965 Race Relations Act. The Black Power movement truly began in summer of 1968 and was concerned about Black people defending their communities from oppression, using force if necessary, and challenging assumptions. Black Dimension, for instance, wanted Black people to be tried by a jury of Black people, and the release of political prisoners. Many of these Black nationalist wings in Britain, who created gazettes and protests to publicise their work, died out in the 1970s and 1980s due to internal disagreement and police intervention, but their ideals and members did become involved in mainstream party politics, and opened up factions in British politics.

Breakthrough in Black representation in the halls of power began in the elections of 1980s and 1990s. Bernie Grant was a trailblazing Black MP, being one of the first to hold a parliamentary seat. Grant left university in protest against the lack of action on racial discrimination on campus. He later formed the Black trade unionist solidarity movement. After that, he became MP for Tottenham and was on a parliamentary equality group. He campaigned against overseas debt for poor nations and institutional racism, and advocated for disabled and LGBTQ+, reparatory actions for Black people. Baron Bill Morris became the first Black Briton to lead a major trade union, the General Workers' Union. He was also involved in fighting racial inequality in social and opportunity issues. Lord Boateng, the first Black cabinet minister, was Chief Secretary to the Treasury in 2002 and became High Commissioner to South Africa, before being elevated to the House of Lords. There used to be seven ethnic minorities in Parliament in 1995, now there are 65. Arguably, the group that has done the most to engineer and shape this change is not a political party, but the group

Operation Black Vote. Operation Black Vote travels around the country and works with politicians on improving the ethnic minority involvement in civic participation. A campaign with David Harewood a few years ago underlined their hard-hitting strategies, by emphasising that ethnic minorities should not take the 'colour out of politics' by not voting. They have undertaken mentoring programmes for former Shadow Cabinet and Cabinet ministers, and they have developed good relationships with senior politicians of colour.

But does representation make a difference to the lives of people of colour? The phrase "skin folk is not always our kinfolk" springs to mind, as the old dictum of a tick-box ethnic minority minister who does little to address the politics of their background has been effectively quashed by political parties of all stripes. Diane Abbott was the first Black female MP in parliament but has become a vilified figure by the right. Kwasi Kwarteng, for about 15 seconds, was Chancellor of the Exchequer. He was the first Black person to hold a great office of state when he moved into Number 11. But the educational and socio-economic backgrounds of many powerful ethnic minority politicians can affect their representation of their race. Kwarteng and Sunak were two quite privileged racial trailblazers, and the mere presence of diversity may not lead to actual social equality or change in the lives and opportunities of a diverse society. "Labour say he's Black, Tories say he's British", was a campaign slogan used in the 1960s that tried to create a dividing line on the issue of race by stressing the Tory view away from identity politics. While the Conservative Party is the political party with the most ethnic representation in the halls of power, 64% of ethnic minority voters voted for Labour. The Conservatives created an A-list of Westminster parliamentary candidates with between 100 and 150 priority candidates and tried to include equal men-women ratio and a significant ethnic minority and disability population. Labour, unlike the SNP or the Lib Dems, have not had a female leader. The Race Relation Acts of 1965, 1968 and 1975 did not go far enough, at times, to fully redress imbalances in society on both sides of the political aisle. The Equality Act 2010, was the most wide-ranging legislation to enshrine anti-discrimination in the workplace and was done during the New Labour, Brown-led government. Since then, however, the fallout from the Brexit referendum and deep-seated worries about immigration have not improved the sulphurous mood around race relations, and has fostered more division than in many a parliament.

In the same vein as identity politics, post-truth politics, with its social media and personalised content, has sought to divide us politically for money, and this is no less true with identity politics (or the politics surrounding an aspect of your being, such as race or gender). It has cultivated a cancel culture from one side of the political aisle, and a undivided attention on 'wokeness' in politics, or an overzealous progressive and inclusive outlook, that is to say, having to bend over backwards to accommodate the viewpoints of a despised, modern elite who represent minorities. Diversity in the media, diversity in adverts, and diversity in academia has only sharpened the knives of political cynicism, used in the sabre-rattling debate around social inclusion. This has led some to claim that opaque concepts such as critical race theory and institutional racism do not manifest in reality. The Sewell Report, launched by Boris Johnson's administration, assessed the fields of jobs, crime and health to investigate the pervasive and controversial nature of institutional racism in Britain. The Sewell Report claimed that the 'system was no longer rigged' and found 'no evidence' but was criticised by a group of human rights organisations and many unions and political parties. This report was met with disdain by many members of the Black British population, with Black people three times more likely to get convicted than White, Black boys more likely to be excluded than getting three As at A-level, and Black people more likely to be stopped and searched by the police. The leader of the government race and disparity

unit, Samuel Kasumu, quit after the report was published. Many criticisms stemmed from the view that the government had flagrantly failed to record people's lived experiences and their stories of institutional racism. Under the May government, the Windrush scandal saw many Commonwealth, post-Windrush citizens deported from Britain due to destroyed records, flaws in the immigration system and draconian immigration laws. In history, some examples of this includes the famous Bristol Bus boycott of the 1960s after minority bus crews were barred from working due to the bus driving institutions blocking them from doing so. A number of Black activists believed the police were targeting the Mangrove restaurant because its owner, Crichtlow, was successful. This dispute came to a climax with a battle between police and 250 protestors. Sus laws, which were repealed largely in 1981, gave agency to police officers to arrest people whom they believed were frequenting or loitering in areas with criminal intent. These were heavily used against Black youths who merely appeared 'suspicious' to the authorities, fuelled a belief in institutional racism. The Macpherson Report described the Metropolitan Police as being institutionally racist, and that this had impinged on the ability of the police to investigate the racially motivated murder of Stephen Lawrence.

In the modern era, the Black Lives Matter organisation is the most publicised and recognised of any Black-focused political group, including in Britain. BLM's most recent mass protests may have occurred in response to the murder of George Floyd at the hands of the police, but BLM has influenced the world since 2013 in making lives of Black people of as much value as those of White people, amplifying the feelings of shaken and broken communities who have been haunted by the killing of Trayvon Martin, Sandra Bland, Tamir Rice and, most recently, George Floyd. Floyd was unarmed and was killed by the police in the USA, and this sparked international protests, including in the UK. In Britain, the post-Floyd debate focused minds and hearts on the social and race-related divisions that still exist in Britain today, the lack of even-handedness of the police and the legacy of colonialism, particularly in Britain. The BLM movement has sparked conversation and debates around celebration or commemoration of empire through statues, and tropes such as 'Rule Britannia'. The 'Rhodes must fall' campaign at Oxford University perhaps illuminates this most conspicuously. Cecil Rhodes was an avowed racist, and believed in a racially hierarchical society, helping to establish the semi-eponymous Rhodesia, now modern-day Zambia and Zimbabwe. Rhodes must fall, is a campaign led by students at the University of Oxford to remove a prominent statue of him outside Oriel College, which has set the college staff and students against each other. Edward Colston's (a Bristolian slave trader) statue in Bristol was thrown into the River Avon. Although the government has a race disparity unit, governments of all colours have been accused of being out of touch and lacking the rhetoric and, more importantly, the hard policies to protect the most marginalised.

Overall, I wanted to come back to the words of the aforementioned Claudia Jones, the founder of Notting Hill Carnival: "a people's art is the genesis of their freedom", and "people without a voice [are] lambs to the slaughter". And that is a poignant ending to summarise the overarching priority and thread that connects Black British History: a seat at the table, for we all need to gather around democracy and equality.

HINDU SOCIETY

Diwali Celebrations, 4 November

On Thursday 4 November, the Hindu Society hosted celebrations for the festival of lights, Diwali. This year, Diwali took place

over the half-term break, yet the boys felt it was important to mark the occasion as a community in the school. Diwali is a celebration of the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and wisdom over ignorance. The festival serves as one of the most important dates in the calendar for Hindus, Sikhs and Jains, and everyone comes together for the celebrations. For Hindus, the festival is linked to the tale of Lord Rama, who was exiled from his kingdom for 14 years. Diwali celebrates Rama's victory over the evil spirit Ravana, and his triumphant return to his home. On the night of his return, to overcome the lack of moonlight, the people of the kingdom lit clay lamps, known as 'diyas' to spread light and attract the goddess Lakshmi towards the twinkling lamps to bestow blessings and prosperity.



On Diwali night, prayers are offered to Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, and to Ganesha, the god representing good fortune and wisdom. One may also observe dazzling firework displays, the noise from which serves to scare away lurking evil spirits.

To mark the occasion at Harrow, the Hindu Society hosted a special event, where boys were able to share their experiences of Diwali and its importance to each of them and their families. The boys were able to see the Indian dress worn on Diwali, a *Kurta*, and learn more about the background of the festival. Each of the boys wore a *tikka*, a ceremonial symbol, made by hand. A *tikka* is placed on the centre of the forehead, which, according to the Vedas, is home to the *Ajna Chakra*, or the third eye, the seat of concealed wisdom. It represents the ability to control emotions and tap into one's power of concentration. As a part of the ceremony, a boy representing each of the 12 Houses, came forward to light a *diya*, symbolic of blessings for their House, as well as an additional *diya*, lit by NT, to bless the School as a whole. After the ceremony, boys were able to enjoy traditional sweetmeats, known as *mithai* such as laddoo, soan papdi, kaju katli, burfi and more, all of which had been brought especially, all the way from India. To conclude the celebration, the boys chose to relive what was unanimously the highlight of this year's Diwali, by watching the highlights of the exciting T20 cricket match between India and Pakistan, where in a thrilling last over, India famously (and controversially) won the match on the final ball. It was a truly wonderful celebration that was enjoyed by all.

ARCHITECTURE SOCIETY

WMAL, "*Harrow: A Visual Life Revealed*", 13 October

The Architecture Society was fortunate to welcome the Head Master, who presented the surprising stories, history and 'visual stimuli' provoked by elements from buildings, walkways and stairs scattered across the Hill. There was one rule, however: every element had to be on the exterior.

WMAL started his talk-journey in front of Grove-on-the-Hill, pointing out the history behind the Harrow-on-the-Hill Gantry and the King's Head hotel (now a private residence), which was

built in 1535 and had remained the centre of Harrow's social and political activity up until the 1970s. He also mentioned the recessed brass plaques on a now estate agency that marked the old Fire Station, evidence of the Hill's historical importance as the 'London' of Harrow.

Continuing down High Street, WMAL focused on the trio formed by a relief lion on the wall of The Park and the two bronze eagles in front of Bradbys. These could be part of a 'Da Vinci Code' puzzle, as the trio and the random passer-by could constitute a partially complete Tetramorph, a biblical creature with a human face and an animal appearance.

Moving on from biblical machinations, we walked past the 'Old You-Know-What' hotel to reach the dark-blue wall clock outside of the Medical Centre. This is no ordinary clock; it comprises two sides that each contain a different date: 1946 and 1942. This was not done to mark the war, but rather, as WMAL explained, to commemorate the period during the Second World War in which the School accommodated Malvern College.

Finally, we were brought to the veritable heart of Harrow School: Old Schools. While the building itself is certainly admirable, housing the Forth Form Room (aka the comprehensive signature collection) and the terrace and steps commissioned by West Acrean Edward Grenfell, it is the decorative elements that contain the most interesting stories. From the poor brass street lamp that was stolen supposedly for scrap, to the miniature capitals at the entrance of the Vaughan Library that actually represent academic subjects, every minute detail, at closer glance, seemed to have been conceived with a purpose in mind.

WMAL concluded the talk by showing us a suspended ornamental tile in the War Memorial. The tile depicts Harrow's signature lion topped with a royal crown, creating connotations that I am sure the royal family at the time did not consent to. After much deliberation, it was left in place with the reason being that it belongs to a Grade II listed building, but also because, without it, we would not have an elegant light cover.

The Architecture Society thanks the Head Master for giving such an engaging and humorous lecture that encouraged us to search ourselves for interesting details around our Hill.

HISPANIC THEATRE FESTIVAL

"*Los Degolladores*", NLCS, 13 October

On Thursday 13 October, a group of Sixth Form Hispanists travelled to North London Collegiate School to compete in the tenth annual Hispanic Theatre Festival. The festival is a competition that features ten schools (including NLCS, Mill Hill, Wellington, Eton, Tonbridge and St Paul's Girls') all performing short plays or extracts from plays in Spanish. This year, there were pieces by a variety of writers from 17th-century Lope De Vega to 1930s' Federico García Lorca, post-Spanish Civil War Buero Vallejo and contemporary Chilean author Isabelle Allende. The competition's aim is to encourage students to study Spanish in the Sixth Form and beyond, and to experience the language and culture through the perspective of theatre.

This year's judges comprised a panel of eminent and distinguished specialists: Dr José Antonio Benedicto and María Antonio García, both Education Advisors from the Spanish Embassy, Dr Javier Muñoz Bassols, Senior Lecturer in Spanish at Oxford University, Juan Blas Delgado, Head of the Cultural Department at Instituto Cervantes, and Paula Paz, Associate Director of the Cervantes Theatre in London. They were all tasked with choosing a winner for each of the following categories: Best Actress, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Individual Spanish, Best Group Spanish, Best Unique Theatrical Experience, Best Original Group Performance, Best Play and Best Playwright.

Harrow's entry was an original play, entitled *Los Degolladores*, ('The Executioners'), which was inspired by the films of Hollywood director Quentin Tarantino and written entirely and directed by Joe McLean, *Drurries*. In the play, *Los Degolladores*, members of a killer division in a Latin American war, have been through months of constant bloodshed, but have recently been instructed to wait around in their barracks doing very little. Consequently, the characters find that being reduced to silence and playing cards is an abhorrent way to spend their time. When a minor conflict arises, the men's innate desire for violence begins to rise to the surface, sparked by the petty issue of a misplaced coffee mug.



The cast of Iyanu Ojomo, *The Park*, Joe McLean, *Drurries*, Arthur Porter, *Drurries*, Alexander Seely, *The Head Master's*, Joshua Soyemi, *The Head Master's*, Casper Davis, *Elmfield*, and Alnur Abuov, *Drurries*, performed a compelling and funny yet ultimately very shocking piece.

The competition throughout the evening was of a consistently high standard, and there were some excellent and memorable performances from all the participants. In the end, *Los Degolladores* took the prize for Best Playwright and was not only highly commended by judges but also unanimously praised by other schools. As McLean received the prize for his excellently crafted story, the judges applauded Harrow for giving "an action-packed performance".

Special mentions should go to Ojomo, who played an important role in the play despite having dropped Spanish last summer, and also to Porter, the only Lower Sixth cast member, who volunteered at very short notice after a previous cast member had to drop out.

Thanks too should go to Veeraj Puri, *The Park*, who stood in at the last moment to create the sound effects.

Thank you to LAM for arranging and supporting this year's entry and for driving us to Stanmore and back, to APC who provided props and some very helpful practical theatrical advice, and to ADJT and MMA who came to support us.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

Veeraj Puri, The Park, 'How to take a Penalty'

Veeraj Puri, *The Park*, spoke to the Mathematical Society on the topic 'How to take a penalty: A real life application of Game Theory'. Largely inspired by Rob Eastaway's book, *The Hidden Mathematics Behind Sport*, Puri re-examined the ideas of game theory (as put forward in Mathematical Society's previous talk by Yuk-Chiu Lai, *Newlands*), and how this applies in a situation that would have every football fan on the edge of their seats: a penalty kick.

To start his talk, Puri looked at the example of Gareth Southgate's penalty against Germany during the semi-final of the 1996 Euro Championship. Rather than going for power,

Southgate opted for placement and tried to aim for a corner. An inexperienced penalty taker, Southgate failed to score, and his penalty was saved by the German goalkeeper. The objective of a penalty kick is simple. In this situation, the kicker is trying to score, and the keeper is trying to keep it out, making it a zero-sum two-person game. Or more simply, this situation is win-lose. In a simplified model, a penalty taker has one of two choices: place it in a corner, or go down the middle. To counter the penalty kick and protect his goal, the keeper equally has two choices: dive left or right, or simply stand still. Each of the two has to try and correctly guess what the other will do in order to maximise their chance of winning. In his talk, Puri explained the probabilities of scoring for all of the possible outcomes, and how processes of randomisation could shift the odds in your favour. In every outcome, as is the case with all zero-sum two-person games, there is always a winner and a loser. Of course in a real life situation, there are far more variables that affect the final outcome (height, power, fatigue, experience, etc.).

MEDICAL SOCIETY

Dr Sam Barke, 'What links Prince Philip, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Andy Murray?', 13 October

On 13 October, the Medical Society hosted a talk from Dr Sam Barke titled 'What links Prince Philip, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Andy Murray? Hip replacements – the most successful operation in modern medicine'. The fascinating and interactive talk included the basic anatomy of the hip, its versatility as a joint and even a video that demonstrated a hip replacement operation on a cadaver. Dr Barke worked as the Head of Sports Medicine at Meliora Medical Group and as a Senior Fellow of Sports Hip Surgery at Wellington Hospital, and he gave an informative and intriguing talk.

Dr Barke began the lecture by introducing us to the basic anatomy of the hip, which gave us a solid foundation for the rest of the talk. He highlighted key parts of the hip, such as the femoral head (a ball-like structure), an extension of the femur, which sits in a socket in the pelvis. Dr Barke also explained that although the hip's structure is relatively simple, its movement is very complicated, in contrast to the knee, which has quite a sophisticated joint but only moves back and forth. The hip, however, is involved in much more complex and varying everyday actions. Some examples of these were abduction, extension, flexion and rotation.

Dr Barke showed some example x-rays of patients with various issues in their hips, teaching the audience about spotting problems via the x-ray. He would give us a side-by-side comparison of a healthy and unhealthy patient, pointing out small details that indicated big problems. For example, by looking carefully at the socket and the distance between the femoral head and pelvis, we could infer that the patient had unhealthy cartilage, which could lead to osteoarthritis, a severely painful condition. Dr Barke showed us plenty of other cases, each with different conditions and potential consequences, such as cracks in the neck of the femoral head or irregular bumps on the head that can cause damage to the socket and the bone. The examples showed that the number of problems that can arise in the hip is high, leading nicely into the next part of Dr Barke's talk, which spoke about why hip replacements are necessary.

As he had touched on earlier, there are a number of serious conditions that can develop as a result of these problems. Osteoarthritis is a condition where bones (the femoral head and pelvis, in this instance) rub together due to the wearing away of cartilage, which can cause severe damage and pain. Thus, hip replacements are the usual answer. All of us are susceptible to general wear and tear as we age, and hip replacements are

often crucial in combatting the associated severe pain and consequent decrease in physical activity. Inactivity increases the risk of death; thus, hip replacements are vital in allowing the elderly to keep active and healthy.

Relating to this, Dr Barke showed us a modelling programme that doctors use to visualise the patient's hip. The programme compiles a 3-D model of the hip from multiple x-ray photographs, allowing doctors to determine the patient's range of motion. Dr Barke then spoke about the actual hip replacement procedure and how it helps solve the various conditions associated with a hip injury. Most often, surgeons replace the femoral head with an artificial head. After carefully identifying the hip and confirming the correct dimensions for the artificial head, surgeons chip off the bones with a saw, and hammer the new metallic or ceramic head into the femur's bone marrow. The artificial head is often covered with material promoting cartilage and cell growth.

Dr Barke showed us a video of a hip replacement operation on a cadaver, which gave us the best insight possible into the application of theory in surgeries.

To end the talk, Dr Barke took some questions from the audience. Questions of note were: How much would a hip replacement cost at a private clinic? "It varies and depends on the clinic, but hip replacements typically cost around £17.5k to £20k." Can cartilage ever be injected into the joint rather than entirely replacing the bones? "Usually the bone operation is the answer, especially for arthritis, as cartilage does not regrow naturally." How does inserting the hip replacement into the bone marrow affect blood supply? "The body is very clever, and via homeostasis, it can trigger bone marrow in other parts of the body to produce more blood to balance it out."

MEDICAL SOCIETY

Tamir Zolboo, The Head Master's, 'An Introduction to Oncology: The Exciting Field of Cancer Treatment', 11 October

On 11 October, the Medical Society welcomed Tamir Zolboo, *The Head Master's*, who spoke about oncology: the branch of medicine that deals with the study, treatment, diagnosis, and prevention of cancer. He began with a brief history of cancer, talking about records that date back to the Ancient Egyptians, where mummies, 3,000 years ago, were found to have traces of osteosarcoma, a type of bone cancer where the cancer cells appear to be normal bone cells but then create tumours of abnormal diseased bone. Zolboo presented *The Edwin Smith Papyrus*, the oldest known surgical treatise on trauma, named after the man who bought it in 1862. It details 48 case histories regarding all sorts of injuries and tumours. He then spoke about Giovanni Morgagni of Padua, an innovator of autopsies who documented the results of over 700 autopsies. Lastly, he mentioned John Hunter, who suggested physically removing tumours in his dissection studies, leading to the development of radical mastectomy.

Tamir then moved on to saying what cancer actually is. He explained that cancer happens due to mutations in the DNA of cells. The mutation causes the cells to divide rapidly, not knowing when to die, forming a tumour. These tumours stop nearby cells from working; for example, in prostate cancer, a tumour affects the production of important hormones. For another example, cancer of the stomach/gut would affect various vital aspects of digestion. In explaining the causes of cancer, Zolboo spoke about radiation and the effects of carcinogens, such as smoking, that can cause cancer-inducing mutations. Cancer can also evolve to create subtypes of cancer, where mutated cancer cells continuously divide, causing many different types of cancer that all require different treatments. The symptoms of cancer can vary, but the most prominent is weight loss due to

angiogenesis (the growth of blood vessels to feed the tumour, depriving other cells of nutrients).

Next, Zolboo explained the role of an oncologist. First, a pathologist diagnoses a cancer patient, typically via a biopsy, a medical procedure where one takes a small sample of body tissue and examines it under a microscope. The pathologist then refers the patient to the appropriate type of oncologist for their cancer. There are four main divisions of oncology: medical, radiation, clinical and surgical. These four divisions are centred around the treatments they apply.

Surgical oncology is treatment by surgically removing the tumour. The difficulty of the surgery depends on the stage of the cancer. For example, in a late stage of cancer called metastasis, where cancer has spread to different parts of the body, the surgery would be particularly difficult. Radiation oncology, or radiotherapy, is treatment by shooting radiation from different angles at the tumour, damaging the DNA of the cancerous cells. Radiotherapy has a number of side effects; for example, it can create new tumours or cause further mutations, making it harder to treat. Zolboo highlighted how radiation is shot from different angles so that the radiation has a higher success rate with fewer side effects. He then moved on to chemotherapy, which uses drugs to kill cancer. These drugs are designed to target rapidly dividing cells, which are usually cancer cells. Cells open and expose their DNA during division, allowing the drugs to attack and kill the cells. Alkylating agents are crucial in the procedure, as they keep the cells from reproducing by damaging the DNA. Unfortunately, this treatment also kills healthy cells, particularly bone marrow, which produces red blood cells. Zolboo mentioned microtubule stabilisers, drugs that stabilise microtubules and inhibit cell division, a significant part of chemotherapy.

Then Zolboo explained why cancer is hard to treat. There are over a hundred different types of cancer caused by mutations in different genes expressed in different parts of the body, which require personalised and specific treatments. Furthermore, cancer cells are very adaptive, responding and adapting to survive attacks. Even the smallest number of residual cancer stem cells can multiply and recreate the entire tumour after surgery.

Zolboo moved on to ethical issues in oncology. He presented the dilemma of how much an oncologist should tell the patient. Should the patient know they are not likely to survive? Is it better to leave them with hope or be honest? Another dilemma Zolboo discussed is whether oncologists should use certain types of treatment. For example, if all other treatments have failed save for one unreliable, possibly dangerous and unpleasant treatment, should they use it, or would it give the patient false hope? Would it bring them unnecessary pain in their last days? To add to this, Zolboo spoke on the protocol known as *Do Not Resuscitate*, explaining that if the patient's heart stops in an already dire situation, oncologists will not revive them, as it would not be worth it. All these dilemmas left everyone in the room intrigued. They left with a better understanding of cancer and its treatment.

ORIENTAL SOCIETY

Dr Young-hae Chi, 'How to Think Big: The Oriental Understanding of Death and the Modern Response of the West', 11 October

The Oriental Society was fortunate to host Dr Young-hae Chi, a lecturer at the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Oxford. Dr Chi's lecture, entitled 'How to Think Big: The Oriental Understanding of Death and the Modern Response of the West', explored various post-death possibilities, both spiritually and scientifically. Dr Chi discussed

the ancient Oriental understanding of death taught in Hinduism and Buddhism and the modern empirical findings that support these views. He aimed to show evidence that death is not the end, and invited us to consider our own lives against the backdrop of death so that we may set our lifetime goals correctly.

Dr Chi first set out the importance of death in our lives; he drew attention to the senses in which death is indeed final. Death shows us the true meaning of things and events, hence reveals priorities in our lives more clearly; it helps us to see what is important to us more distinctly than before. Dr Chi urged us to discuss death more openly, as we once did in the Victorian era, and suggested that the reason it is viewed as taboo today is that it is now a source of anxiety for human beings. He stressed that death is the greatest equaliser: it does not matter whether one is rich or poor, clever or not, it erases all memories and discounts all our achievements. When things are seen against our own death, our life has no meaning, no value, no worth. Death collapses ethics and there is no direction in our lives.

Dr Chi continued by providing alternative possibilities for life after death. He discussed the Vedanta philosophy found in Hinduism on self and death. He stated that everyone possessed an individual consciousness called the Atman and that the Atman aimed to connect to the Divine consciousness called Brahman. Brahman is the primal structure of existence, the source of everything, and it is the purpose of the Atman to become closer to Brahman. In this school of thought, everyone is connected to the Divine consciousness collectively. There is no distinction between the mind and body and indeed between you and me: all are connected to each other through participating in the Divine consciousness and sharing it.

Dr Chi also focused on the Buddhist belief that there is no core “I” that I can call me that is unchanging substance; instead, my “I” is rather like smoke, constantly changing its shape and location while maintaining its loose form. Like in Hinduism, reincarnation exists in a continuous cycle until I achieve Moksha (release). The main difference between the Hindu school of thought and the Buddhist belief is the belief in Hinduism of a solid I (Atman) as a spark of the divine mind (Brahman), whereas “I” is an illusion in Buddhism. In both schools of thought, if we remain unenlightened, we are stuck in this cycle of birth and death.

Dr Chi then showed the modern empirical studies of death that support the Hindu and Buddhist schools of thought. Examples include NDEs (near-death experiences), reincarnation, OBEs (out-of-body experiences) and end-of-life experiences. The most interesting reincarnation cases are that of James Leininger, who at aged 2 remembered he was an American pilot killed in an air attack over Iwo Jima in 1945, and Helen Pickering, who was formerly James Burns, a local medical surgeon in the village of Blairgowrie in Scotland, and who successfully remembered the details of the surrounding area. The most impressive part of this case is the fact that Helen Pickering recalled the previous structure of a building which had been altered significantly in subsequent years, details which do not compute under the scrutiny of mathematical probability. Dr Chi stated that these modern examples demonstrate the veracity of the Hindu and Buddhist schools of thought in the world today.

To summarise, Dr Chi effectively outlined the Hindu and Buddhist schools of thought and provided convincing contemporary examples throughout the lecture and in the subsequent Q and A session to support his argument, suggesting that the evidence indeed showed the probability of life after death and reincarnation.

On behalf of Harrow School and the Oriental Society, we would like to thank Dr Young-hae Chi for coming to visit us on the Hill, for what was an extremely fascinating and excellent lecture which left many boys afterwards thinking big, with a new oriental understanding of death. Thanks go as well to RMT for organising such a unique opportunity and to the secretaries of the Oriental Society.

PIGOU AND NEHRU SOCIETIES

Veeraj Puri, The Park, “Demonetisation: The War on Black Money”, 28 October

On 28 October, Veeraj Puri, *The Park*, addressed the Pigou and Nehru Societies with a lecture titled ‘Demonetisation: The War on Black Money’. In his lecture, Puri talked about the 2016 banknote demonetisation in India. On 8 November 2016, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the demonetisation of all 500 and 1,000 banknotes of the Mahatma Gandhi Series. In addition, the government also announced the issue of new 500 and 2,000 notes in exchange for the demonetised banknotes.

The Prime Minister claimed that the action would curtail the shadow economy, increase cashless transactions and reduce the use of illicit and counterfeit cash to fund illegal activity and terrorism. Puri discussed how, of these, the last two were add-ons that everybody knew did not carry much credibility. A study by the Indian Statistical Institute had estimated counterfeit currency to be a minuscule proportion of total currency. Hence, the sudden demonetisation of 85% of the country’s currency for the sake of getting rid of a minuscule amount of counterfeit currency could not be taken seriously as an argument. Likewise, terror funding occurs through diverse routes and nobody seriously thought that demonetisation would stop terror funding or even hurt it temporarily. The real objective was to eliminate black money; and believing that demonetisation would do so, highlighted the Modi government’s total lack of understanding of the black economy, and hence of the economy in general.

Demonetisation as a solution to the problem of black money was based on an understanding of black money derived from Bollywood films, namely, a stack of currency notes stuffed in pillows, or in suitcases kept under beds. All economic activity requires money for its operation; and undeclared activities are no exception to it. The money that is used for carrying on these undeclared activities may be loosely called black money, but these do not remain inactive, as a hoard stuffed into pillows and suitcases. In essence, black money is income that is illegally obtained or not declared in order to evade tax. It is typically generated either through illegal means such as criminal activity and corruption, or by hiding income by not reporting it to the authorities in an attempt to evade tax.

The government’s expectation was that black money would not be exchanged for “white” because its possessors would be too scared to do so for fear of being caught if they turned up with large amounts whose presence in their possession they could not explain. Instead, 99% of the disabled notes came into the banks for conversion. As Puri emphatically stated “Nothing demonstrates the utter failure of demonetisation as clearly as this fact.” Utterly naïve had been the government’s expectation that black money would be disabled by demonetisation and eliminated from the economy. The entire exercise, therefore, turned out to be a mere act of converting old notes into new ones, and that too at great inconvenience to the people.

Apart from the pain of queuing for hours, the people, and therefore the country, faced severe economic impacts. The demonetised notes accounted for nearly 85% of the economy, and this being immobilised overnight had effects that were crippling in both the short and long term. The complete recovery of the banking system took nearly nine months, with prolonged cash shortages during this time. The informal or ‘petty’ production sector, that primarily uses cash, was the worst victim. Farmers had difficulty selling their rabi harvest. Since they had no cash for buying seeds and fertilisers for the next crop, they took loans. If they did not buy inputs and interrupted their production instead, then their workers who became unemployed had to take loans to return home and feed themselves during the period of unemployment. Demonetisation, therefore, had the effect of making the petty production sector indebted; and this sector, it must be remembered, employs nearly 94% of the workforce

of the country. This debt left a permanent scar on the sector. Where there was interruption of production, the debt incurred in the interim remained a permanent debt.

Puri concluded his lecture with the following, “How could anybody be so indifferent to people’s suffering as the Modi government was in decreeing demonetisation?” The answer lies in its desire for “shock and awe”, and the belief that the more people suffer, the more they would feel convinced that the government could not be inflicting so much suffering on them unless it was indeed serving some higher purpose. The combination of ignorance, arrogance and the desire for “shock and awe” on the part of a government can be quite lethal, as the Indian people have learned to their great cost.”

SHERIDAN SOCIETY

Omar Ait El Caid, Bradbys, “‘Shakespeare’s name stands absurdly too high and will go down”, Why do we still study Shakespeare’s plays?’ 18 October

In this talk, Ait El Caid explored Shakespeare’s finest plays from *Macbeth* to *Hamlet* and finally to *The Tempest*. This was perfect as there was a wide variety of styles. Ait El Caid identified the key ideas of these plays and why they created so much effect.

He opened with *Macbeth*. At first, he gave us a summary to set the scene. To add to the effect, he showed some useful slides. In some points he focused on how Macbeth was slowly turning insane. He also moved to how this related to his friendship with Banquo. He then looked at how Macbeth was manipulated by Lady Macbeth into doing the wrong thing. He moved onto *Hamlet* and finally *The Tempest*, as many boys were are studying it for their English courses. In all of these, he opened with some well-structured monologues and some background information about the stories.

He ended with a discussion, which was one of my favourite things about the talk. This was because, in most society talks that I have been to, it is normally a question with a couple of sentences in response. This was more of a discussion with every person who attended adding their own opinion. We discussed many things like ‘Would Shakespeare stand out as much in today’s era as his did in his?’ and ‘What was Shakespeare’s most effective play and why?’ A lively debate ensued that will take weeks to unpack.

DA VINCI SOCIETY

Joey Quartey, Druries, ‘Superconductors: The Key to Solving the Energy Crisis’, 19 October

On 19 October, the Da Vinci Society was lucky to have Joey Quartey, *Druries*, delivering a lecture on the topic of ‘Superconductors: The Key to Solving the Energy Crisis’. He started by introducing the prediction by John Ambrose Fleming that metals could become superconductors at a temperature of absolute 0 (0 kelvin/ -273 degrees Celsius). Though met with criticism from his peers, in 1933 the German physicists Meissner and Ochsenfeld discovered the Meissner effect, proving Fleming’s prediction to be correct.

The Meissner effect states that: As a superconductor in a magnetic field is cooled to the temperature at which it abruptly loses electrical resistance, all or part of the magnetic field within the material is expelled. This effect meant that, within the superconductor itself, there would be little to no resistance. Electrons form Cooper pairs, a pair of electrons bound together at low temperatures. These electron pairs could flow through

a superconductor without colliding with the lattice of positive cations, therefore resulting in little to no resistance as the current flows through the superconductor.

Superconductors are normally separated into two types: Type 1 and Type 2. Type 1 superconductors are typically made of pure metals such as zinc and lead, and fully obey the Meissner effect. This means that no magnetic field lines can penetrate the superconductor. To get these metals to superconduct, they must be below a critical temperature, which is below 10 kelvins. At critical temperature, an opposing magnetic field forms above the superconductor when exposed to a magnetic field. If a powerful magnet were placed above a superconductor, it would levitate due to vortices produced.

Type 2 superconductors, however, have a higher critical temperature of about 40 kelvins. They are normally made of impure alloys, the most common being magnesium diboride. Unlike their Type 1 counterparts, magnetic field lines can penetrate the superconductors. This allows for flux pinning – the stabilisation of the superconductor due to vortices created, holding the superconductor in place. This allows a Type 2 superconductor to continue running for much longer than a Type 1, as resistance is not built up. This also means larger currents can be run through the superconductor, allowing it to create stronger magnetic fields.

The largest commercialised use of superconductors is within MRIs, which utilize Type 2 superconductors, as stronger magnetic fields results in clearer images. This allows MRIs to detect tumours, diseases and tissue damage. One problem with current superconductor technology is that it is quite expensive because constant supplies of liquid helium or nitrogen are needed for cooling the superconductors. They are also used in computer chips for quantum computing. Currently, silicon is being used in computer chips for transfer of data and network connectivity, but the use of superconductors could allow for much higher power efficiency, as well as significantly reducing the amount of heat being dissipated. It would also be much faster in all areas compared to silicon.

He went on to talk about the most recent discovery, a room-temperature superconductor that was discovered by a group of scientists in New York in 2020. It satisfied all the requirements for a superconductor, but with a critical temperature of 15 degrees Celsius. If implemented in power lines, there would be a significant decrease in energy loss through heat in long cables, as well as the ability for transmission over longer distances. Unfortunately, scientists have not yet been able to implement it, as the superconductor would have to be compressed between two diamonds to maintain a high pressure. Not only would that be impractical, but extremely costly. This was followed with a few questions from the audience, which wrapped the lecture up nicely.

SENIOR GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY

Arsene Cherpion and Gabriel Black, West Acre, ‘The Worst Five Cities in the UK’, 18 October

On 18 October, the Senior Geography Society welcomed Arsene Cherpion and Gabriel Black, both *West Acre*, to talk about the UK’s five worst cities.

They started off with an interactive Q&A where they asked what the worst city in the UK was. The results saw Manchester as the “winner” (hence the loser). They then said that their information came from a website called: ilivehere.co.uk, where over 100,000 people voted for which they thought was the worst city. Most of the voted cities were in the north, but the top five were spread across the UK. Some dishonourable mentions include Grimsby, Stoke, Birmingham, Hull, Slough and Bradford.

5. *Peterborough*: Peterborough had the fifth most votes because it lacked community spirit, had lots of abandoned shops and had the highest rate of anti-social behaviour in the UK. Some of the locals had a say on Peterborough: 'The atmosphere in Peterborough is draining. You feel totally isolated from the rest of the world and life in general, as though everything else is going on and you're not part of it as you're stuck in this dump.' Clearly the local people are dissatisfied with Peterborough.

4. *Liverpool*: Liverpool is said to have the most fly-tipping (which is dumping waste illegally) not just in the UK but in the world, and there are huge amounts of abandoned neighbourhoods. We watched a video on the notorious Primrose Court, Liverpool's most dangerous housing estate according to the Liverpool Echo, which featured a man recording himself driving into Primrose Court, where he was immediately treated to eye sores of fly-tipping, boarded-up windows, broken windows and some fire marks on walls. Then he added that it was like living in Beirut. After one minute in Primrose Court, one resident shouted "Oi!" at him, outlining the lack of community spirit and their lack of ability to build relationships with outsiders.

3. *Luton*: Luton has high racial tensions due to significant activity by the EDL (English Defence League) ex-leader, Tommy Robinson. They have relatively high unemployment (6%) and high gender inequality. In a video that we were presented with, Tommy Robinson walks the streets of Luton and is greeted with slurs due to his past activities, and soon after he gets attacked by some of the locals.

2. *Huddersfield*: Huddersfield has had lots of violence and shootings over the past few years, it is a town that is fuelled by county line gangs (where vulnerable young adults are sent to carry out 'dirty' work from the gang base, commonly located in major cities). In the video, Mobeen Azhar gets a call that there has been a shooting on his childhood street. This drives him to find out more about the shootings in the past four years in Huddersfield. He soon discovered that most violence has happened in poor neighbourhoods and, after collating all these 'events' into one map, Huddersfield could almost be interpreted as a war zone.

1. *Aylesbury*: Aylesbury was not expected to have the most votes. The reasons for its ranking position include high traffic congestion and the ugliest building in the UK. Aylesbury surprisingly had 25% more votes than Huddersfield. Comments from locals included 'The people are loud, obnoxious and dumb. We need to protect these species; they're not endangered by any means, but they are a great tourist attraction to laugh and scoff at', clearly showing hatred and disgust of fellow locals.

A good question that came up was why Huddersfield was not worse than Aylesbury, as surely the risk to livelihoods is worse than traffic congestion and eyesores. This was deemed to be a criticism of the site that filed this ranking.

In conclusion, the five worst cities, Peterborough, Liverpool, Luton, Huddersfield and Aylesbury, consisted of a plethora of problems including fly-tipping, violence, shootings, high traffic congestion, anti-social behaviour, and abandoned shops.

METROPOLITAN

I/O TRIUMPHE

Concept of the Dyson Sphere

by William Wang, The Head Master's

Throughout history, humans have proposed many ambitious technological ideas. Some have been slowly achieved by modern-day discoveries, but some are still farfetched sci-fi fantasy. One

of the more famous of these sci-fi concepts is the Dyson Sphere, an ambitious solution to support an ever-expanding human race, potentially providing an almost unlimited supply of energy to meet the growing demands of future generations.

The idea of a Dyson Sphere was first born in the mind of Olaf Stapledon, who first described it in his science-fiction novel *Star maker* in 1937. The concept was only popularised in 1960 by Freeman Dyson, who mentioned it in his research paper 'Search for Artificial Stellar Sources of Infrared Radiation'. The Dyson Sphere is a hypothetical megastructure that would enclose a large section of the Sun and collect solar energy. Dyson, unfortunately, focused only on issues of energy collection and did not detail any possible construction methods.

There are many interpretations of Dyson's original concept, which have evolved through the years. The closest to the original concept is 'Dyson swarms,' consisting of many independent structures (solar captors that capture the Sun's energy output) orbiting densely and closely around the Sun and transferring the energy via a wireless system back to Earth. The captors could reflect the output energy as radiation back to Earth, but the process would require a highly heat-resistant and reflective material. According to Anders Sandberg, an expert in exploratory engineering, the sphere needs to be at least one AU in radius (150,000,000km). If I do the maths for you, the surface area of the sphere would be around $2.82 \times 10^{17} \text{ km}^2$ (with a radius of $1.5 \times 10^8 \text{ km}$). Now let us assume that each part of the swarm is 1 km^2 ; we would need around 30 quadrillions (28.2×10^{15}) of them to surround the Sun. We would need a tremendous number of resources to build them ($1 \times 10^{20} \text{ kg}$ of materials, assuming that the solar captor is as lightweight as possible at roughly 2.7kg each).

So, how can we meet this unfathomable demand for resources? Oxford University physicist Stuart Armstrong suggested that the planet Mercury would be a good starting point. Why? Because slightly more than half of Mercury's mass (around $1.7 \times 10^{23} \text{ kg}$) can be exploited as construction materials (i.e. hematite). It also requires less energy to launch the solar captors from Mercury as the gravitational pull of Mercury is only a third of Earth's. Furthermore, Mercury is the planet closest to the Sun, which further reduces the energy cost of launching solar captors as they travel a shorter distance before reaching their orbit.

Armstrong also suggested using self-replicating machines to multiply and 'colonise' Mercury, making the production of solar captors autonomous. Now that is not as easy as you think. In Robert Bradbury's unpublished analysis of planetary disassembly, disassembling a planet requires (obviously) tremendous energy. The gravitational binding energy of Mercury is $1.80 \times 10^{30} \text{ J}$. Gravitational binding energy is the minimum energy required to completely dismantle a celestial body. We could use solar energy capture to speed up planetary disassembly. As soon as the captors have collected the first batch of energy, more minerals could be mined in a shorter time, and more solar captors could be produced, creating an exponentially growing feedback loop.

Another significant hurdle is that we have not found a material stable and resistant enough to adapt to the sudden temperature changes on Mercury. Mercury has massive temperature range, varying from 430°C during the day to -200°C at night, which would affect and possibly destroy delicate computer components if not sufficiently protected by stable shielding. Even if we discover such material, it would be extremely difficult to create sufficient masses to construct solar captors. It is certain that a lot more careful maths and calculations are needed if humans are ever going to consider producing the Dyson swarm.

There are many questions and dangers associated with the Dyson swarm, such as the immense gravitational pull and heat of the Sun, finding the delicate balance of the feedback loop, the potential malfunctions in the autonomous base at Mercury and many more. However, the idea is still young for something extremely ambitious; at the current rate of technological advancement, the concept of planetary disassembly and solar energy capture may not seem so farfetched after all.

AN ODE TO SPEECH ROOM

By Steven Pee-Chroom

On Monday morning all the boys flock
Just as the hand gets halfway around the clock
Speech room is the start to that day
Much to many beaks' dismay

For Speech Room does go rather long
From WMAL's announcement song
He begins with a prayer
And a sort of chanting fills the air

Next will come some achievements recent
Which do make the School look rather decent
It must be said however that these are far too numerous
And perhaps WMAL might make them more humorous?

Then we move on to Sports Reports
Even the games where scores were noughts
Hardly does the heart find thrill
To hear the Yearlings Es have lost 100 to nil

Societies and Talks now take centre stage
And the number looks scary on the page
"John Doe is addressing the society Pigouvian."
And next week you will find his write up in The Harrovian

Finally comes the famous words
That are now recognised even by birds
With what joy it fills each boy's body
"Have a good week, everybody!"

OPINION

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the editors

DEAR SIRs,

Bradby's is unhappy with last week's front page article in *The Harrovian*. The author's view that there is a 'distinct historical lack of musicianship in Bradby's' is unhelpful and is inaccurate. Bradby's of course won the House Large Ensemble competition last year and the Harp award in the Glee two years ago (the latter was mentioned but unfairly ridiculed as 'perhaps undeserved'). The House has some fantastic musicians and I'm very proud of the progress the House has made in this area during my six-plus years in the House. The tone of the whole article was disappointing in my opinion.

Best wishes,
DJE, HOUSE MASTER BRADBYS

DEAR SIRs,

I am writing with regards to the article written on the Glee's and Twelves in the last edition of *The Harrovian*. Without wanting to cause any drama or lose the good friendship that I have with the writer of article, I feel that there are certain parts of the article that I should call out. In past years, this write up was simply a summary of the points made by the adjudicator; but

this year we were treated to a second adjudicator, who seemed to be particularly negative and offered his own thoughts. While it should be noted, that some of the article is quite funny – particularly to those who have a dry sense of humour (myself included), to openly question the adjudicator whether he was corrupt is something that I doubt he would have appreciated.

Judging the Glee's and Twelves is a big honour and for someone who has worked at Harrow and would likely therefore be aware of *The Harrovian*, when he looks back at this article in years to come and he sees no mention of thanks for giving up his services on such a short notice, rather accusations of bribery, that is something which I personally would find extremely upsetting had I given up my time for an event like this.

Furthermore, how do future adjudicators feel if previous adjudicators are being accused of bribery in an official School publication? While I do understand that this is meant to be funny, there are boundaries.

I also think the summary of The Grove's Twelve and The Park's Glee were particularly unwarranted, to suggest it was 'unforgivably long' or question 'when will it end' or (in the case of The Park) that the Shells 'ended up having the appearance of miming the song' is quite disheartening. While I understand that I do have a bias of opinion, having been part of the 'unforgivably long' XII myself, I know the hard work that goes on in our own House and every other House that enables the School to have such a high standard from all of the Houses on the night.

I think it's quite unfair to make these negative comments about most of the Houses – how would someone performing for the first time feel if they had just been signalled out in the part of the article which stated; for example 'there was a shaky start from the bass'? It would be pretty disappointing if in the future boys are discouraged from performing on the back of an article like this. It is quite a poor look for *The Harrovian* that an article like this was published.

Instead, we should be celebrating the achievement of all those who took part. Although, I admit, there was a lot of clamour around the result, irrespective of who you think should have won, it is fantastic that we boys care so much and take such an interest in this great event and that the standard remains so high. I would like to add my thanks to the Music Department and our adjudicator (as the previous writer was unable to) – long may this fantastic event continue.

Yours Sincerely,
FERGUS MCKIE, THE GROVE

[Correction: The adjudicator on the evening was Patrick Craig, Lay Vicar of St Paul's Cathedral and Conductor of Aurora Nova, as announced on the evening, not Andrew Carwood as printed in the article. –Eds]

DEAR SIRs,

I am writing to take issue with a factual mistake about The Knoll in last week's write up about Glee's and XII's. Fair criticism in a review is always welcome in *The Harrovian* and the mention of 'forced solo singing' in The Knoll's Glee is just. But there were factual inaccuracies which relate to the comments on the XII. It was said that 'despite this performance being good relative to The Knoll's previous XII's, they still have a long way to go if they want to be competing for the trophies'.

But a quick reference to the previous results page at the back of the programme that evening would have shown that The Knoll were recipients of The Bell for their XII last year and this year managed to receive a third-place finish. The freedom to present commentary on each performance should always be enjoyed by the author, provided that they do not neglect the basic facts. Perhaps *The Harrovian* might deploy a simple fact checker before publishing?

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW ARTHUR, THE KNOLL

JOB ADVERT

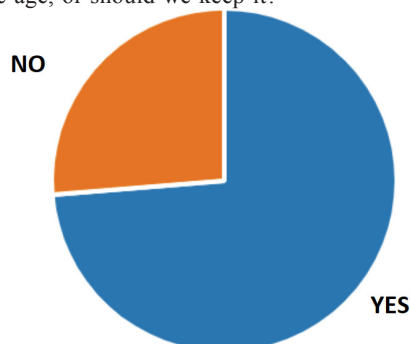
For Fact-checker for The Harrovian

WANTED: Boy who has a loose grasp of history and unwilling to research extensively to join the Editorial Board. Job entails checking content of articles are loosely accurate. Weak command of English with word count no command for grammar, syntax, and proper sentence structure. Pay is £0 for each script. Each script is around 15000 words.

HARROVIAN POLL

Should the School finally bin Winter Timetable?

The answer was a resounding yes. Now, it is a little-known fact that the Canadians were the first people to adopt Daylight Saving; in fact, it was 1 July 1908, when the residents of Port Arthur, Ontario, turned their clocks forward by one hour to start the world's first DST period, and the world's perpetual unhappiness every since. The rationale behind it: none. The idea was first mooted because some puritanical maniacs felt that by sleeping through daylight in the summer, the day was being wasted. For the same reason, we set the clocks back in the winter. So, is our Winter Timetable an antiquated relic of a bygone age, or should we keep it?



Out of a final 559 votes, there was a resounding 71% support among boys of scrapping the Winter Timetable. We also asked the boys what they felt were the top reasons for keeping Winter Timetable: 180 votes for 'No money for flood lights', and there were 143 votes for 'It's funny to watch boys get hit by cars in the dark'. There were also a smattering of Other opinions, the best of which were: 'Too many beaks were spotted at pub at 5pm', 'Because there is no WMAL intro music in Speech Room', 'So that wastemen can't find their way back to House in the dark', 'SMT Schadenfreude', 'EWH is a vampire who finds it easier to work when it is dark', and 'Justify the Planet-Estream subscription plan'.

But it doesn't look like Winter Timetable is going anywhere. So, after some serious investigative journalism, *The Harrovian* can reveal what the boys would like to see implemented, to soften the serious blow of late Wednesday evenings studying Classical Greek. By far the most popular demand by boys was take-away concessions for Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. The other suggestions were for a 'Guaranteed afternoon nap time' and 'Complimentary hot chocolate with lessons'. 'Home clothes', 'Booze' and '10-minute lessons'. The boys have spoken.

There were some good counter-arguments of course! Of the other 29% of boys, many boys pointed out that without Winter Table, no afternoon activities would run on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. And flood lights are restricted by planning permission, both their construction, and the times that they can be switched on.

SPORT

FENCING

1st Away Westminster School Won, 13 October

In record time, Harrow sealed their victory against Westminster across Foil, Epee, and Sabre with scores of 45-8, 45-21 and 45-26 respectively. Exceptional performances from Francois de Robert Hautequere, *Lyon's*, Henry Barker, *The Park*, and Nathan Goff, *Lyon's*, in Foil.

1st Home St Benedict's School, Won, 15 October

Harrow's second victory for the week was over St Benedict's. The overall score was 225 points to 162, with some strong performances from Aidan Lee, *The Head Master's*, and Cyrus Chang, *Druries*.

The School v St Benedict's, 15 October

On 15 October, the fencing team had a full bloc of matches against St Benedict's. The Epee A started the day, consisting of Julian Herschel, *The Grove*, Jonny Cullinane, *Newlands*, and captain Daniel Eldridge, *The Grove*. The score was 45-27 with a particularly strong performance from Cullinane, who only got hit six times. Next up was the Foil A consisting of Henry Barker, *The Park*, Hadrian Ho, *The Head Master's*, and captain Francois de Robert Hautequere, *Lyon's*. The match was particularly tense, as going into the final bout the score was 38-40. De Robert Hautequere fought amazingly and pulled through with a win of 45-44. Then the Foil B and Epee B went at the same time, consisting of Sinan Basak, *Elmfield*, Sean Jarret, *The Grove*, and Brian Chang, *Druries*, for the Foil B, and Hing So, *Newlands*, Cyrus Chang, *Druries*, and June Hyun, *West Acre*, each winning their matches 45-39 and 45-15 respectively. Finally, there was a Sabre match in which the team showed off their expertise with the weapon, making an impressive 45-37 victory in a fast-paced and challenging match. Overall, the fencing team did very well with an impressive 225-162 victory against very decent team.

GOLF

1st Away Charterhouse, Friendly, 6 October, Worplesdon Golf Club, Won 2-1

Worplesdon was shining in all its classy glory as the Harrow VI took on Charterhouse in one the of their final matches of the calendar year.

Captain Aidan Wong, *The Park*, and Jonty Williams, *Moretons*, got off to a good start, hitting solid drives and accurate chips. The match was well balanced until the 6th hole when Wong put it close on the par 5 in 2. This spurred the birdie run as Williams, in his fetching new cap, followed it up with two more birdies. Charterhouse, now 2 down, were not ready to give up. The match was brought back to all square and Charterhouse extended the lead. A clutch birdie from Williams was not enough to win the 15th as Charterhouse drained yet another long-range putt. Harrow lost the opener 3&2.

Up stepped the, as yet, invincible pairing of Fred Hewer, *The Park*, and Victor "VG" Grant, *Moretons*. They started fast with pars on the opening four holes and found themselves in a 3up lead. However, Charterhouse came roaring back to

leave the game all square at halfway, despite an outrageous up and down from Hower on the 7th. As last week, the halfway point proved to be a change in momentum for the pair and they proceeded to win the next two holes. Any chance of a Charterhouse comeback was quickly put to bed after a massive drive from Hower on the 14th led to a par on the long par 4, before a solid par from Grant (humming away to Clapton) on the 15th put the boys 3up with three to play. A 7-iron into the heart of the green from Grant on the 16th was enough to seal a 4&2 victory for Harrow, as this pair's impressive unbeaten record continued.

It would come down to Caspar Stone, *The Park*, and Gus Stanhope, *Moretons*, both kindly excused from fives duty by Mr Hutchinson on the day. Stanhope started off with some exceptionally accurate drives, splitting the fairways in two. Stone was following up with some seriously pure iron approach shots, the pick of the bunch being on the 2nd – a tasty 5-iron around a tree to 4 feet. “Very satisfactory indeed,” Stone remarked. Stone then decided to get angry with the ball, managing to pipe it 300 yards down the middle, which left 90 yards for Stanhope to deal with (this final pairing deciding to play greensomes...). As ever, he clipped a wedge to the point where it was hanging over the hole. One more roll and it would have sunk. After the first nine holes Stanhope and Stone were 4up. Although, with the opposition starting to play some tidy golf, it was hard to maintain the lead. With one hole to play, the boys were level and the match hung in the balance. A par 3 was left to decide the final outcome. Stanhope kicked it off with a 7-iron to 6 feet which was followed by Stone's to around 6 feet as well. However, the Charterhouse pairing clearly couldn't cope with the immense pressure that burdened their shoulders. Somewhat amazingly, he managed to top it, which took a very fortunate kick (from a Harrow perspective) that ended up in the depths of the heather. Both Stone and Stanhope made their putts, managing to put the game to bed.

VG requested *Fame* by Irene Cara for the journey home. A superb day out for the squad, hitting form on a beautiful track.

RACKETS

The School v Cheltenham, 3 November

1st v Cheltenham College, Won

A topsy turvy match where Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, and Alonso Fontana, *The Grove*, saved three match points in a 3-2 win. Without playing their best, both boys showed plenty of spirit and character to win the match.

2nd v Cheltenham College, Won

A fine effort from Stephan Baranov, *Moretons*, and Veer Patel, *The Knoll*, who played their best match of the season to secure a 3-0 win.

3rd v Cheltenham College, Lost

A slightly rusty display from Gus Stanhope, *Moretons*, and Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, who lost a tight match 1-3.

FOOTBALL

Development A XI, Gordon's School Boys, Draw 3-3

On what is becoming an annually ‘quite wet’ fixture, the Dev As went into this match against Gordon's Grammar looking to implement a more dynamic and forward-thinking attacking approach to the first half of term. It certainly showed in the opening exchanges, with Harrow moving the ball quickly into

space, using their channels well. Despite a few shaky defensive moments, Harrow started to dominate proceedings from about ten minutes onwards, with Elliott Taylor, Luke Walton, both *West Acre*, and Kyan Simpson, *The Knoll*, controlling things nicely in the centre of the Harrow midfield.

The chances started to flow with Kitan Akindele and Charlie Young, both *Newlands*, both going close before Harrow opened the scoring with a wonderful team move on 18 minutes. Some neat passing play in the centre of the pitch eventually led the ball out wide to Taylor who threaded a neat ball into Hong Kong international Bradley Leong, *The Knoll*, on the left flank. Leong whipped a wicked cross which was converted with a bullet header by Akindele.

Harrow went 2-0 up moments later when another long passage of passing football culminated in Walton slipping in Simpson, whose shot was blocked by the Gordon's keeper, but only into the pathway of Young, who was able to tap home. Harrow could have gone further ahead with a series of chances before half-time. Young and Akindele both going narrowly wide before Akindele hit the post from another free-flowing move just on half-time.

The second half could not have got off to a worse start. A long, looping kick straight from the Gordon's goalkeeper wasn't cut out, bouncing calamitously over the Harrow defence for the opposition striker to neatly tuck home. Gordon's then drew level with an equally calamitous bit of defending, gifting a pass to a Gordon's player in front of goal, and he duly obliged in sticking his team level. Still only 15 minutes in the half, and Harrow were 3-2 down after gifting a third goal to Gordon's. Again, a bad individual error was not helped by the collective lack of reaction from the Harrow team.

It seems strange to say, but Harrow were still playing well despite the costly mistakes, and you always sensed they could get goals. The third goal did seem to galvanise the Harrow team though. Simpson hit the crossbar with a strike from the edge of the area, Akindele went close twice and Taylor was thwarted only by some excellent goalkeeping.

Harrow eventually drew level with five minutes to go. A cross into the box by Max Baygual Nespatti, *Elmfield*, was turned back into the box by Akindele, and captain Taylor was able to convert from close range.

While the equaliser came as some relief to the embarrassment caused by the nature of the conceded goals, Harrow came off the pitch in deep frustration, wondering what could have been – a good series of passing passages were undone by some silly decisions at the back. It's time for the boys to mature and learn from these errors now, and I'm sure they will be keen to put in more sensible decisions in the upcoming games against Wellington and Kimbolton.

Development B XI v Gordon's School Boys, Lost 0-2

Harrow started well with some quality passing football with Leo Polese, *The Head Master's*, Josh Owens, *Rendalls*, and Jude Esposito, *Newlands*, working well together in the back three to rotate possession and play out from the back. The team looked very self-assured, probing and prodding Gordon's as they looked for openings. Mubarak Tinubu and Zain Ayoub, both *The Knoll*, were particularly successful in exploiting space on the wings to create chances with some dangerous crosses. Despite this pressure, Harrow were unable to find a breakthrough and found themselves 1-0 just before the break following a freak deflection from the opposition goal kick.

The second half followed much the same pattern, with Harrow playing some good probing football but perhaps not quite having the killer instinct to create the chances needed to draw level. This was despite an excellent game from Ollie Mitchell, *Rendalls*, who was able to dictate play in the middle of the pitch. Harrow then fell two down after the wind caught a loopy volley that barely carried past the keeper. From this

point it was all uphill for Harrow as Gordon's played smart tactical football to limit opportunities and secure the result. Despite this, the boys showed much honour continuing to look for opportunities until the final whistle.

Overall, it was a good performance but a disappointing result. It was excellent to see well-developed patterns of play and strong foundational understanding of the game. We just need to increase our potency at the top of the pitch.

Development 16 XI v Gordon's School Boys, Won 4-2

The Dev Cs played some outstanding football in the first half before weathering the second-half storm to hold on for victory. Goals from Melvin Ackah, *Newlands*, Inigo Doyle, *The Park*, and two from Jack Young, *Newlands*, made the difference.

SQUASH

The School v Epsom, 13 October

On Thursday, Harrow went to Epsom, one of the finest squash schools in the country. The First V beat Epsom 3-2, with Jat Tse, *Rendalls*, beating the UK number one 3-0, and Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, and Darren Chiu, *Newlands*, securing victory for Harrow.

The Second V lost 2-3, with Rishaad Bhushan, *The Grove*, and Aditya Asnani, *West Acre*, winning their matches.

The Under-15 team drew 3-3 in an exceptional six-seed game. All players showed tremendous improvement, with debutant Jimi Olunloyo, *Moretons*, winning, George Epton, *The Head Master's*, winning in straight games, and Ben Hufford-Hall, *Moretons*, winning 3-2 in a high-quality encounter.

RUGBY UNION

The School v Hampton School

The XV v Hampton School, Postponed

2nd XV v Hampton School, Won 56-5

The 2nd XV produced a dominant performance on The Sunley to beat Hampton 56-5. Undeterred by the poor conditions the 2nd XV played some excellent running rugby, scoring ten tries – two of the best came from Ivan Thayil, *Rendalls*, and Kurran Calvert Davies, *Druries*.

3rd XV v Radley College, Won 19-7

Wet and windy, with all the boys *very* excited about Long Ducker the following day, you can imagine they might have held back some energy but that absolutely was not the case.

They were completely unable to catch a kick-off all day (something to work on). But when we kicked the chases were phenomenal from the likes of Fuad Abualsaud, *Elmfield*, and Kalan Niyarepola, *The Head Master's*. Niyarepola was electric in this game with jinking feet making metres on every touch. However, the keenest of the kick chasers was Netanel Lawrence Jones, *The Head Master's*, who even managed to catch quite a long kick from Louis Parry-George, *The Park*. Lawrence Jones was aggressive and dominant throughout the match, scoring a wonderful breakaway try. Parry-George is a tough nut to crack and was hard in the tackle and likewise ran at pace.

With Paddy Elliot, *Druries*, missing after getting flattened by an Italian international over half-term, Charlie Nelson, *Bradlys*, grabbed his opportunity to start and finish at 9 with both hands.

He embodied the attitude of a loud and quite annoying 9, something akin to Australia's Nick White. He commanded his forwards and could be heard far and wide across the Harrow playing fields and added a real spark and fizz to the attack. Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, was also noisy from 15, organising the defence and generally cheerleading and getting hyped.

There was some sensational tackling that got better as the game went on. Giancarlo Urselli, *The Grove*, was using all of his power and his judo skills and really hurting some people. At one point he demonstrated the School value of honour, taking time to check on an opposition player after a particularly brutal tackle. Oliver Jones and Guy Clark, both *West Acre*, were just absolute tackle machines. In half a match, Clarky put in an enormous number of tackles missing few to none. However, Rob McCorquodale, *Elmfield*, was simply outstanding. He did not put a foot wrong, making tackle after tackle and carrying with pace and power. His first match as captain, boy did he lead from the front. Bebo Morales, *Rendalls*, and Harry Duckworth, *The Head Master's*, slotted into the team nicely and brought their expertise.

A real joy to watch the 3rd XV properly tested against a 2nds/3rds Radley team and responding with passion, spirit and confidence.

4th XV v Radley College, Won 29-17

5th XV v Radley College, Draw 5-5

Colts A v Hampton School, Won 40-10

The Colts played some wonderful running rugby in testing conditions to outscore their opponents six tries to one.

Colts B v Hampton School, Won 17-0

A fiery tussle with some excellent long-ball plays linking together our forwards and backs, powerful runs from our forwards, and lovely tries from Sameen, *The Knoll*, Howes, *The Grove*, and Maia, *Druries*.

Colts C away v Radley College, Lost 21-59

Missing some key players and coming up against a strong side at Radley saw the Colts Cs suffer their first defeat of the season (59-21). Nevertheless, a good display of tackling from Harry Owens, *Rendalls*, and Max Rugge-Price, *The Park*.

Junior Colts A away v Hampton School, Won 33-7

This dominant performance against a much-improved Hampton side allowed the JCAs to confidently secure the game. This was a positive display of attacking rugby which has prepared the team well for the upcoming third round of the national cup.

Junior Colts B away v Hampton School, Won 34-10

Harrow arrived to find the Hampton JCBs were being coached by the Head of Rugby at Hampton School on Saturday and so they rightly had a boost in motivation and confidence to start the game.

Hampton scored a good try against the touchline having played a few nice phases through the hands and stretching our defence – 5-0 after 5 minutes, a common theme this season. However, Harrow bounced back excellently, showing real fellowship to bond as a team, pick each other up and implement relentless positivity and encouragement towards one and other. This meant we were quickly able to support the ball carrier and play some switch and smart moves through the hands of the backs, which allowed our wingers to have a field day with space out wide! Jimi Aiyeola, *The Grove*, scoring our first try wide at the touchline after we played a three phases through the forwards to draw them in close and then went through the hands, stretching their defense thin to make space wide for Jimi 5-5. This gave us confidence to build from, with Jesse Eledan, *Newlands*, completing a phenomenal run through the centre

of the field that left Hampton scrambling to defend, which we exploited superbly by communicating effectively and again, going through the hands to allow Toye Kolawole, *Newlands*, to score out wide 5-12. With Harrow visibly enjoying their rugby and beginning to express themselves in both defence and attack, Dario Holland, *Bradlys*, made an excellent tackle on their 22 which meant the ball spilt and Harrow gathered, taking liberty over the scrambled defence, getting the ball wide for AJ Anenih, *Rendalls*, to score, 5-19.

The boys have been working hard to implement deeper attacking runs so we come onto the ball at pace and have time to get the ball wide, where we are extremely dangerous. We made this a focus for the second half. We also take pride in protecting the ball and defending as a unit, which we did brilliantly throughout the second half, allowing Simon Michael, *The Grove*, to score two additional tries midway through the half to take the score to 5-34. In the final play of the game Hampton received three penalties and attacked well, earning them a well-earned try. Final thoughts: the boys should take great courage from this game, knowing the tactics we have been working on in training are starting to come together and that the ethos of the side is much improved. Our positive attitude and togetherness really stood us in good stead at a tough day here at Hampton. Great win gents.

Junior Colts C away v Radley College, Lost 12-48

A tough encounter against Radley saw the Junior Colt Cs caught out by the opposition's fast start, giving themselves something of a mountain to climb in the second half. To their credit, the Cs continued to play good rugby and demonstrated a strong team spirit to put two tries on the board in the second half. The first from Neharen Inpan, *Newlands*, was well converted by Alex Edu, *Lyon's*, and Harrison Gray, *The Park*, found space on the wing for a second late on. Harry Bailey, *The Park*, put in some big tackles while Judah Amankrah, *The Grove*, caused problems with his determined running, and Ben Shailer, *Rendalls*, stepped up admirably to captain the team this week.

Junior Colts D away v Radley College, Lost 0-63

Yearlings A away v Hampton School, Lost 7-17

Hampton came out firing and dominated territory in the first few minutes. After a slow start, Harrow slowly grew into the game and attempted to spread the ball wide. Hampton were, however, more physical in the breakdown and Harrow struggled to hold onto the ball. This, along with a lack of cutting edge, left Harrow struggling to get into the game.

Harrow continued to find it hard in the second half and Hampton took the game away from us. Hampton were brutal on the attack and converted their opportunities effectively. Two tries in quick succession left Harrow in a difficult position and very much on the back foot. A third try in the second half put the game to bed and left Harrow looking for a consolation try.

Fortunately, Harrow were able to find one in the last play of the game as we, at last, managed to build momentum against an organised side. Following a kick to the corner and a few phases in the backs, Eli de Venecia, *The Head Master's*, was able to dart over in the corner. Overall, a disappointing afternoon with lots of lessons to learn.

Yearlings B away v Hampton School, Won 48-5

Harrow were dominant from the start. They played very direct rugby using the whole width of the pitch to run in a total of eight tries. A great display of team spirit throughout.

Yearlings C v Radley College, Lost 5-34

Yearlings C lost to a strong Radley side 34-5 on Saturday, ending their hitherto unbeaten season. Jake Jung, *The Head Master's*, proved the only boy capable of puncturing Radley's defences to score a try.

Yearlings D v Radley College, Lost 12-17

Impressive defensive rugby against a physical Radley side. Danton Liu-Evans, *The Knoll*, indefatigable, put in a man-of-the-match performance with tackle after tackle in this narrow loss.

Yearlings E v Radley College, Lost 24-31

The Yearlings Es battled well in an action-packed, back and forth affair with Radley before eventually falling 31-24. James Ho, *The Knoll*, was electric running on the wing with a tremendous ability to evade defenders.

Yearlings F v Radley College, Lost 19-29

This Saturday, the Yearlings Fs displayed some great rugby. Radley presented a strong side but the Harrow boys did a fantastic job, especially as it was some boys first real game of rugby representing the School.

The Academy v Radley College, Lost 5-10

The Yearlings Academy team played brilliantly together in their first-ever game with a well-worked try by Nicholas Katsambas, *The Head Master's*. The score unfortunately did not reflect their strong attacking play, determination to claim every loose ball and fantastic unity in defence.

FIVES

*The School v Mill Hill and Belmont Schools, Won,
3 November*

A great fixture against Mill Hill, with nine pairs competing. There were impressive performances from the Under-14 team, with many playing their first competitive games.

WATER POLO

*Five Schools' Challenge, Away to Eton College,
Lost 15-21*

The 2022 Five Schools Challenge was hosted by Eton. The team played four matches against Abingdon, Marlborough, Eton and concluding with Charterhouse. The timings of a game were reduced to 10 minutes. Harrow sadly came in fourth position with 15-21 goals.

Match 1 v Abingdon: lost 4-3.

The first half was a very slow start for Harrow, as Abingdon scored two goals. Sias Bruinette, *Newlands*, scored, and Zak Banton, *Newlands*, scored two more goals in the second half.

Match 2 v Marlborough.

Our second match against Marlborough showed that the boys were not playing at their true potential. Four goals for Marlborough to one from Zak and Sias in the second half again. Despite some excellent tries, Marlborough's goalkeeper always seemed in the way.

Match 3 v Eton Harrow: lost 9-4.

Henry Emerson, *Newlands*, who had finally woken up, scored three goals. Sias, being consistent, scored another goal. Eton quickly realised they had to tail these two boys, which was some great defence tactic from their part, and therefore scored one goal after another.

Match 4 v Charterhouse, won 6-4.

The morale was not low. The boys refused to arrive last in

the tournament and some new scorers joined the dance: our faster swimmer James Rates, *Newlands*, with two goals in the first half and Joe Storey, *Newlands*, who was rusty until the very last few minutes. Sias and Henry concluded the match with two more goals.

A lot of frustration from those losses was palpable. If only it had been transformed into an energetic vibe... Such short halves were maybe one of the reasons why the team did not shine like they usually do in a longer match. Or could it have been that we were short on some great players who were off games?

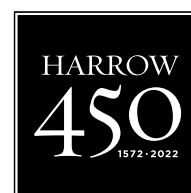
With a total of four goals each, Bruinette and Emerson were therefore men of the tournament!

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

Email the Master-in-Charge smk@harrowschool.org.uk

Read the latest issues of The Harrovian online at harrowschool.org.uk/Harrovia



CELEBRATING OUR PAST
REFOUNDING OUR FUTURE