

HARROW NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2022



HARROW
SCHOOL



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- CHAMPIONING SUSTAINABILITY AT SCHOOL





OPEN MORNINGS

Harrow's open mornings are an excellent way for prospective parents and their sons to learn about the School and life on the Hill.

Visit www.harrowschool.org.uk for forthcoming dates and to book.

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FROM THE HEAD MASTER



As we continue to celebrate the 450th anniversary of the foundation of Harrow School, I hope this autumn newsletter will give you a flavour of all that it means to be a Harrovian.

From sporting triumphs to the most creative and entertaining art and drama, from academic research and stimulation that stretches way beyond the form room to collective efforts for charity, and all within the warm support of the House, life on the Hill continues to be enriching, rewarding and packed with opportunity.

Boys and beaks started the term celebrating exceptional results at A-level and GCSE and our leavers embarked on new adventures at universities across the globe, including World Top Ten and Ivy League institutions.

But, as we reflect on the daily life of our community on the Hill, we look back at the industrious and colourful history of the School and how it has evolved to focus on the core values of Courage, Honour, Humility and Fellowship.

Of particular note this term was our wonderful celebration of Leadership and Service. The School has a rich tradition of leadership in many fields of endeavour, and we honoured that tradition with an exhibition of Shaftesbury Enterprise activities and a parade and training demonstration by the Harrow Rifle Corps.

We continue our ambitious development programme for the School with considerable investment in our bursaries and buildings and innovation in learning and scholarship. Indeed, work is fast progressing on our new science building, which will open its doors to boys and the community next year.

I hope to see many of you on the Hill over the coming months but, in the meantime, I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

EXAM RESULTS AND UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

Harrovians achieved outstanding GCSE results following a return to the sitting of public examinations in the summer, with 75.1% of grades at 9, 8, or A*.

Overall, 48% of grades were grade 9, with 16 boys gaining ten or more grade 9s. Fifty-two boys attained ten or more grades 9 or 8.

At A-level, over 40% of grades were A*. The A* rate exceeded the School's average since the grade was introduced in 2010, bar the two non-examined years of 2020 and 2021. Over three-quarters of grades were either A* or A.

Six boys achieved five or more A* grades, with 20 boys gaining four or more A*s. Thirty-six boys gained three or more A*s and 102 boys gained three or more A*-A grades.

These strong A-level results have translated into a positive set of university outcomes. Some highlights from the 2022 university cycle include:

- Harrovians took up places at six of the world's top ten universities (QS World University Rankings) including Oxford, Cambridge, Stanford and Chicago.
- A record number of boys took up places at a Russell Group university.
- Seven Harrovians took up places at four of the eight Ivy League schools in the USA.
- Many boys began courses at top UK institutions such as Imperial (6), UCL (10) and Durham (17), with 12 boys taking up places at each of Edinburgh, Newcastle and Bristol.
- Nearly a third of boys took up places at institutions ranked in the world's top 20, including Princeton, Columbia and Edinburgh.
- One boy began a Degree Apprenticeship with Deloitte.



HARROW AWARDED ECO-SCHOOLS GREEN FLAG

Harrow has been awarded its first Eco-Schools Green Flag, a prize celebrating the ecological achievements of young people.

The Eco-Schools Team praised the School's commitment to the programme and eco-cause, adding that it was inspiring to read how Eco-Committee members 'have flourished as eco-leaders'.

Initiatives cited include a biodiversity action plan, reducing paper use, adding solar panels to the Maths and Physics Schools and implementing the use of Endotherm in heating systems to increase heating efficiency by 15%, thus reducing carbon emissions and costs.

The Eco-Schools Green Flag is an international accreditation that has recognised and rewarded young people's environmental actions for over 25 years.



CELEBRATING 450 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

In a day of celebration of the School's work to develop Harrovians' leadership skills and commitment to service, invited guests visited Shaftesbury Enterprise activities where they observed pupils from local partner schools taking part in music, chemistry, debating and conservation projects.

In the afternoon, Army, Navy and Royal Marines cadets paraded along the High Street with a band from the Irish Guards, watched by the public, fellow Harrovians and a group of Chelsea Pensioners. They marched to the Parade Ground where they took part in a training demonstration, followed by an Honour Guard inspection and a display of Harrow Rifle Corps activities.



WORLD-RENOWNED ARTIST VISITS HARROW

In September, Harrow was fortunate to host Ai Weiwei, a Chinese contemporary artist, documentarian and activist described by the *Financial Times* as 'the most influential artist living today'. In Britain, he is most recognised for his installation *Sunflowers* in the Turbine Hall of Tate Modern, as well as an exhibition at the Royal Academy, and his works can be found in nearly all the major art galleries of the world. Ai Weiwei's discussion-based talk, led by Head of Oriental Languages Rima Tremlett, focused on his recently released autobiography *1,000 Years of Joys and Sorrows*, in which he details his life and that of his father Ai Qing, a poet much celebrated but eventually sent with his family to a labour camp and then into exile during the Mao regime.

A vital mover in Chinese cultural development, an architect of Chinese modernism and one of the nation's most vocal political commentators, Ai Weiwei discussed how he uses his art as a way of shining a light on pressing political and humanitarian issues. He has been openly critical not only of the Chinese government's stance on democracy and human rights but also of any country that infringes on the rights of others, with several of his works focusing on the treatment of refugees around the world. During his talk, for the first time in public, he read his father's poem '*I love this land*'. He was also given a tour of the School and met Art Scholars to discuss their current projects.





Professor Lloyd Peck gave the Rayleigh Lecture

BIOLOGY

Seventeen Lower Sixth boys joined more than 12,000 students from across the globe to participate in this year's Intermediate Biology Olympiad. Over half of the Harrovians achieved a Gold, Silver or Bronze award. Special mention goes to Aum Amin, Hadrian Ho, Will Howitt and James Rates who all achieved Gold.

The Rayleigh Lecture is Harrow's most prestigious annual science lecture. The 2022 lecturer was Professor Lloyd Peck, a leading polar marine biologist and pioneer in investigations into animal adaptations in extreme environments. His lecture, 'Life in Antarctic Extremes', examined the difficulties of surviving in such cold conditions and, in particular, how some marine animals are adapted to life in oxygen-rich, sub-zero-temperature waters. Professor Peck concluded with how global heating might endanger these animals living in such extreme conditions.

CHEMISTRY

Thirty-four Harrovians were among 8,000 students who took on the C3L6 Chemistry paper, which stretches candidates well beyond the Lower Sixth Chemistry syllabus. Between them, the Harrovians achieved 15 Gold, ten Silver and four Copper awards. A Roentgenium certificate is awarded to the top 0.71%; Liron Chan and Henry Webster were among the 60 candidates who achieved this standard, and they subsequently

attended a residential chemistry camp at St Catharine's College, Cambridge.

Nine teams entered the RSC Analyst competition for which entrants were asked to consider how to improve the product and profits of a small fish and chip shop. Among experimental techniques considered were analysing baking soda in batter and amino acids in flour. The winning Harrow team included Seyon Santhamoorthy, Aum Amin and Jonathan Riddell-Webster.



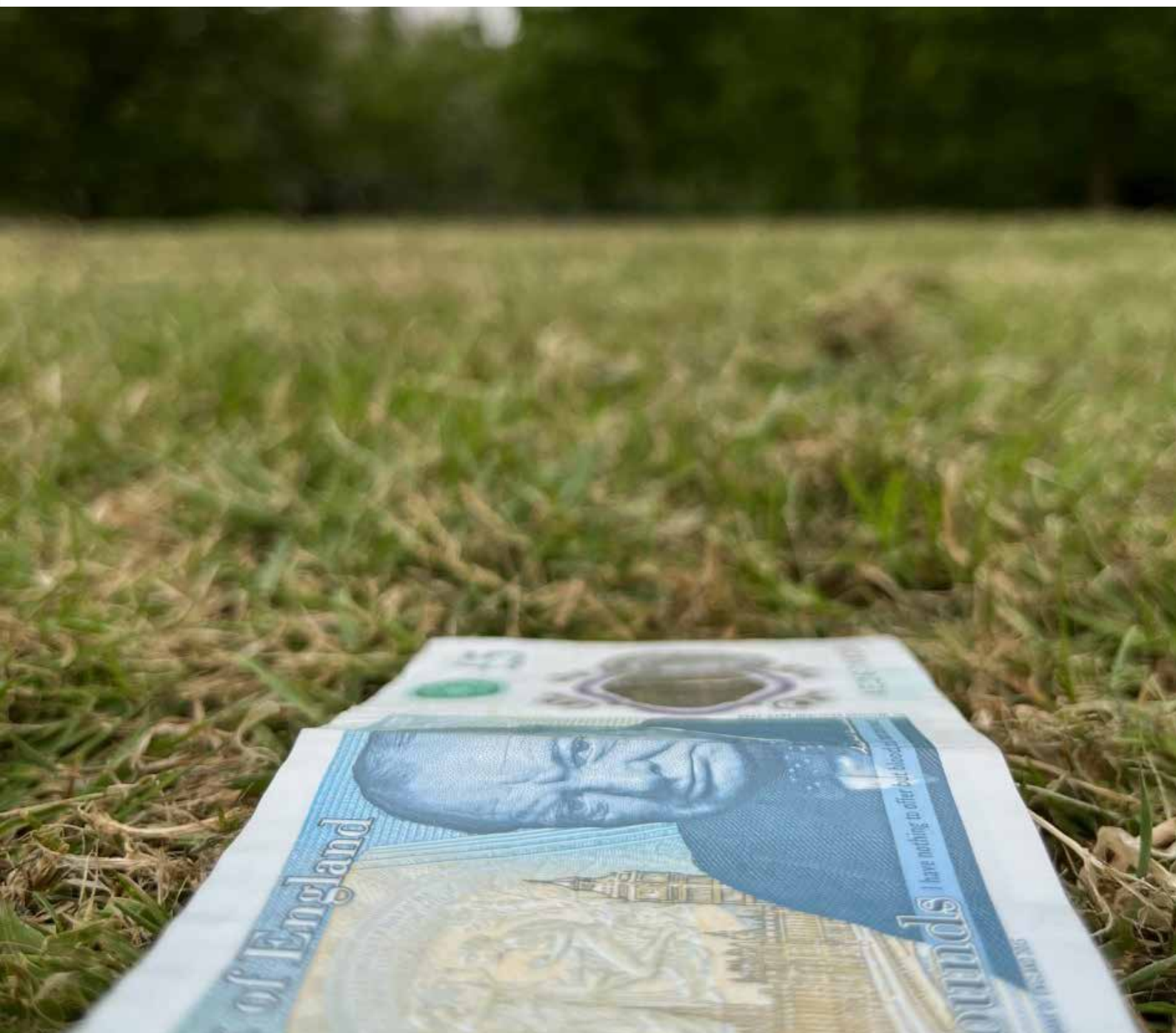
Boys considered how to improve the product and profits of a fish and chip shop for the RSC Analyst competition

SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION

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

MATHEMATICS

Eighty-five boys sat the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad and Kangaroo papers. Overall, 26 boys earned certificates of merit and 14 earned distinctions. Of particular note were the performances of Vincent Song, Oscar Wickham and Larry Cao, who earned Bronze medals (placing them in the top 100 nationally), Andy Law and Jerry Zhang, who earned Silver medals (top 50) and Andy Li, who came in the top ten in the country and earned a Gold medal.



Kanta Morishige's photograph submission to the Global Sustainable Development Competition



Theo Paphitis was a guest of the Pigou Society

PIGOU SOCIETY

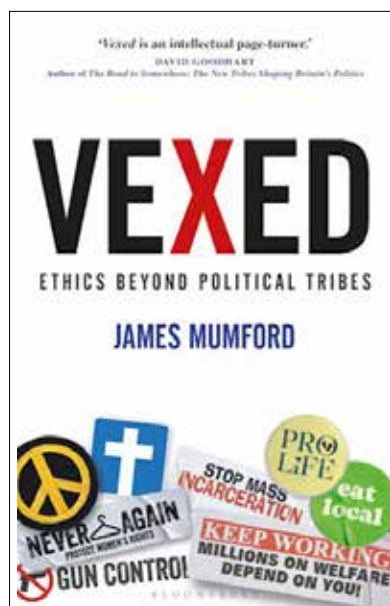
Economics

Theo Paphitis of Dragons' Den fame visited the Pigou Society for a fireside chat around the subject of 'Entrepreneurship, flipping companies and life as a Dragon'. Mr Paphitis owns, among other companies, the stationer Ryman's and ironmonger Robert Dyas, and is a former owner of Millwall Football Club.

SHERIDAN SOCIETY

English literature and language

Author, journalist and political thinker James Mumford gave a talk to the Sheridan Society about his career, exploring journalism and his book *Vexed: Ethics Beyond Political Tribes*.



DA VINCI SOCIETY

Engineering

The Da Vinci Society welcomed Professor David Dunstan of Queen Mary University of London who described in his talk, 'A physicist's toolbox: frames of reference and scaling laws', the importance for physicists to dig into their 'toolbox' and change their frame of reference when tackling real-life problems. An example he gave of this, in reference to the challenge of global heating, was instead of looking at what temperature the world actually is, it is more important to determine what the temperature of Earth ought to be, by considering the size of the Earth and the amount of infrared radiation that the Earth receives from the Sun.

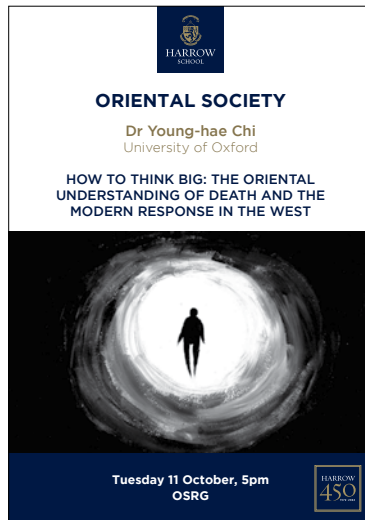
ITALIAN SOCIETY

Professor John Foot of the University of Bristol gave a lecture to the Italian Society on '1922-2022: Mussolini's March on Rome One Hundred Years On'. The theme of the birth of fascism was particularly relevant not only for understanding the history of the last century, but also for better assessing the recent rise of far-right movements in Italy and across the world.

ORIENTAL SOCIETY

'How to think big: the Oriental understanding of death and the modern response in the West' was the subject of

Dr Young-hae Chi of the University of Oxford's talk focusing on the survival of consciousness and 'dying as an illusion'. He used Oriental religions and evidence from modern empirical studies to give an understanding of death.



Aerial photograph of a fascist rally in Merano, Italy, 1935-37

EVANS SOCIETY

Ancient History

To mark the centenary of the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun, Daniela Rosenow of Oxford University gave an illustrated talk describing how archaeologist Howard Carter uncovered the millennia-old resting place of the pharaoh. Dr Rosenow was curator of the Bodleian Library's exhibition *Tutankhamun: Excavating the Archive*.



Howard Carter, with magnifying glass, leaning over the mummy of King Tutankhamun as the first incision was made in the mummy wrappings



ART

The Pasmore Gallery's first exhibition of the academic year featured recent work by Harrow Art beak Nicholas Permain and artist and Art Department Technician Terry Charles. Originally intended for 2020, the show, named *Times*, was postponed because of Covid. This resulted in the work in the exhibition changing to reflect the evolving personal lives of both artists. Nicholas Permain's nine large paintings depicted his own domestic setting, with a layering of patterns, still-life objects and perspectives that captured the fleeting moments of everyday life. Terry Charles' 80 paintings, including 50 portraits of dead musicians, were a reflection on the fragility of life. The exhibition's combination of a deep appreciation of life's smaller, everyday moments with an awareness of our mortality offered a vivid and engaging message.

Two renowned Old Harrovian artists of the 20th century, Spencer Gore and Victor Pasmore, were the subjects of an exhibition in the Old Speech Room Gallery. Part of the Harrow 450 celebrations, this fascinating exhibition featured works by the two artists from the School's collection.



Work by Charlie Tack

Judge of the 2022 Burston Prize for Art, Dr Samson Kambalu, delivered the Autumn term's Coutts Lecture in Art. He also visited Art lessons and gave advice to boys studying GCSE and A-level Art.

Harrovian artists were able to take advantage of the School's location and travel to London for important study days: Remove artists visited Kew Gardens; Fifth Formers visited Tate Britain for the Cornelia Parker exhibition and Tate collection; Lower Sixth A-level artists also saw the Cornelia Parker exhibition as well as an exhibition of the work of William Kentridge at the Royal Academy; Lower Sixth Formers studying A-level Photography searched for suitable photographic subjects in East London and Docklands; and Sixth Form artists, photographers and art historians visited the Frieze Art Fair in Regent's Park.



Work by Digby Emus



The OSRG held an exhibition of work by Old Harrovian artists Spencer Gore and Victor Pasmore



Work by James McWilliam



Times, an exhibition of work by Nicholas Permain and Terry Charles



Work by Max Baygual Nespatti



Work by Anton Shashkenov



Work by Benji Xu



Work by Nicholas Permain



Dr Samson Kambalu gave the Coutts Lecture in Art

DRAMA

At the end of the Summer term, the annual Junior Rattigan Society production involved a company of more than 50 boys in the Shell and Remove. Featuring dramatised excerpts from famous books, the production drew on the musical and dance abilities of the performing ensemble. In keeping with the story-telling spirit of the piece, the Ryan Theatre opened its doors and invited all members of the School community to come and draw on its stage to create a large-scale piece of community art that formed part of the production's set.

The 2022 House Scenes competition was won by Lyon's with their performance of an excerpt from David Fincher's masterpiece *Fight Club*. Runners-up and winners of Best Comedy award were Moretons for their hilarious scene from Monty Python's *The Life of Brian*. Best Actor prizes were awarded to Omar Ait El Caïd (*Bradlys*), for his unsettling portrayal of the Joker from the film



House Scenes

The Dark Knight, and to Rowland Eveleigh (*The Grove*), for his portrayal of Freddie Quell from Paul Thomas Anderson's film *The Master*. Prize for the Best Junior Actor went to Bertie Bradley (*Druries*) for his reprise of Marlon Brando's role in *The Godfather*. Other scenes came from Martin Scorsese's *Shutter Island*, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, *The Truman Show*, Quentin Tarantino's *Inglorious Basterds*, Monty Python's *And now for something completely different* and *Good Will Hunting*.

Shell boys from all Houses performed spine-tingling versions of spooky tales for this year's Shell Drama Festival, *The Haunting of Harrow Hill House*. Directed by Sixth Formers, the newest Harrovians scared the audience with spooky stories and terrifying tales, all presided over by the ghost of the Lord of the Manor (appearing in the form of Old Harrovian Tobias Deacon).



Shell Drama Festival



Creating the scenery for the Junior Rattigan Society's production



The Junior Rattigan Society performed scenes based on excerpts from famous books

MUSIC

The first big musical event of the first half of the Autumn term was the Commemoration Concert, a shared concert with musicians from John Lyon School to commemorate the schools' mutual founder. The concert started with a joint symphony orchestra delivering a rousing rendition of Elgar's Fifth March from *Pomp and Circumstance*, before moving on to Mendelssohn's Overture to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The audience was then transported to the courts of Germany by a reduced, Baroque-size Harrow Sinfonia, who played Bach's *Third Brandenburg Concerto*. This was followed by the John Lyon chamber group with crowd favourite, 'Gabriel's Oboe' by Ennio Morricone from the film *The Mission*. In an exciting shift of atmosphere, the Big Band filled the room with electrifying sounds of trombones, trumpets and saxophones as they played 'Freddie Freeloader' by Miles Davis and a piece by Head of Music Technology Sean McWilliams, *Boogaloo Blues*. Then came the joint choir of Harrow and John Lyon to sing Mendelssohn's *Hear my Prayer* and Monteverdi's *Beatus vir*.

Glees and Twelves, the School's hotly contested House singing competition, took place just before half-term. The Grove continued its years-long run of victories, winning both the Glee and the XII.

Fifth Form Music Scholar Ray Moon won a Silver Medal in the 6th Manhattan International Music Competition in the Wind Young Artist Category.



Commemoration Concert



Glees and Twelves



Community work in Nepal

SHAFTESBURY ENTERPRISE

The Shaftesbury Enterprise programme encompasses all Harrow's charitable, outreach and partnership work and is central to the life of the School.

Community work in Nepal

Eight Sixth Form boys and two beaks travelled to Nepal where they helped to install water tanks for the local community in Pokhara. They also spent time visiting the sites in and around Pokhara and Kathmandu and went on a three-day trek in the mountains.

Lumina

Harrow's weekly after-school enrichment programme for care-experienced young people and young carers went from strength to strength. During the first half of these sessions, those attending are given help to improve their academic attainment; during the second part of the session, they participate in a carousel of activities across the School site. The broad range of activities spans everything from music recording to experimenting with pottery, honing debating skills, participating in various sports and attending dedicated career-counselling sessions.

Zero waste and zero hunger

A new Shaftesbury Enterprise initiative involves Lower Sixth boys volunteering at London's Community Kitchen in Harrow. London's Community Kitchen has established a range of projects aimed at feeding vulnerable communities across London using surplus food that would otherwise go to waste and which contributes to global heating. This is an exciting development that is intended eventually to be based in part on the School grounds.



Lumina

HARROW RIFLE CORPS

A team of Harrow Royal Marine Cadets entered the Sir Steuart Pringle Trophy competition, the annual military skills and leadership competition between Royal Marine CCF detachments from schools located throughout the UK. The Harrow team did well overall and won the Leadership and Casualty Evacuation tasks.



The Sir Steuart Pringle Trophy competition team



Three beaks completed the Long Ducker Bike Ride on folding Brompton Bikes

Long Ducker Bike Ride

Seventy-five intrepid cyclists comprising Harrovians, parents, staff, Old Harrovians, families, friends and well-wishers took part in the fourth annual Long Ducker Bike Ride. The routes offered were a very lumpy 45 miles or an even lumpier 80 miles through the beautiful Chilterns and back to Harrow. In the School's 450th year, the charity of choice was the Harrow Club, a youth club established by Old Harrovians in 1883 that offers a series of dynamic and innovative initiatives to support marginalised young people in West London. This year, five Harrow House Masters took part, and three beaks completed the 45-mile route on their folding Brompton Bikes.

Children's Commissioner for England visits Harrow

Children's Commissioner for England Dame Rachel de Souza visited Harrow to give the annual Shaftesbury Lecture in Speech Room. As Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel sits at the heart of government, delivering for young people and championing their voices and needs. Described as 'the eyes and ears of children within the system and the country as a whole', she was a headteacher, the founding Chief Executive of the Inspiration Trust and was appointed DBE in 2014 for services to education. In her lecture, Dame Rachel spoke about The Big Ask, the largest survey ever of children in England. She offered insights based on its compelling results and challenged the Harrow community to play its part in crafting a happier, safer future for all children.



Children's Commissioner for England Dame Rachel De Souza



Six Harrovians took part in the Henley Classic river swim

SWIMMING

Six Harrovians completed the Henley Classic, a laser-guided, early morning 1.2km river swim. James Rates won the 14-17 category in a time of 18 minutes 45 seconds, the only schoolboy to break 20 minutes, which placed him fifth in the overall competition. This means he also beat every swimmer in the concurrent Oxford/Cambridge Open Water Varsity swimming competition. Justin Changbencharoen was sixth in the schoolboy competition and Thomas Williams was eighth. The three other Harrovians were among the first 25 finishers.

In the European Youth Games, Henry Gray swam the butterfly leg of the Team GB gold-medal-winning medley relay team. Nick Finch participated in the British Nationals Summer Championships where he won gold in the 100m butterfly and 50m freestyle, silver in the 100m freestyle and bronze in the 50m butterfly. Max Stafford Davies became English national 50m butterfly champion in the 13-14 age category.

Alex Moore, Nick Finch and Henry Gray represented their respective home counties on the National Inter-County Championships. All three boys set new personal best times, with Nick and Henry setting new School records in the 100 freestyle, 100 butterfly and 100m backstroke.

BADMINTON

In a strong start to the season, the badminton 1st VIII are so far unbeaten, with convincing victories over Eton,

Coopers' Company & Coborn, Wellington College, Winchester College, Bloxham School and Epsom College, and a close-fought draw with Abingdon School.

SQUASH

The squash 1st V won an impressive 4-1 victory over Aylesbury Grammar School, with Tarquin Sotir and Jat Tse winning in straight games. They also beat Epsom College, one of the finest squash schools in the country, with Jat Tse beating the UK number one 3-0.



Badminton



Harrow defeated Eton at Lord's



CRICKET

The 1st XI finished the season with a record to be proud of, winning 11 games and losing only three. The highlight of the season was their famous victory over Eton at Lord's in the final week of the Summer term. Harrow batted first and posted an impressive 265 in 55 overs, with Eton finishing on 179.

RUGBY

The Harrow 1st XV have been unbeaten so far this season, with victories over Wellington College (only the third time in the past 20 years away to Wellington), Dulwich College, Whitgift School, St Benedict's Ealing and Berkhamsted School.

Lower Sixth Former Charlie Griffin played for the Ireland Under-18 team in the European Rugby 7s Championships in Poland over the summer.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Harrow hosted hundreds of runners from local schools for the first round of the Cross-Country Cup. Henry Barker excelled in the Intermediate Boys race, putting in a courageous sprint finish to take the win. Cross-country captain Tom Emery also won the Senior Boys race, covering the 5km course in just 16 minutes and 24 seconds and leading the Harrow team through to the regional round of the cup next month. The team then descended on Charterhouse School to tackle a hilly and challenging course. The Senior team were led home by Thomas Hobbs and Rei Ishikawa, giving them third place in the team competition. Harrow's Intermediate team went one better, gaining second place in the team competition, with Jonathan Ford and Freddie Emery running the team's fastest times.



Cross-country



Judo squad

JUDO

Sixth Former Emmanuel Olowe became the first-ever Harrow boy to achieve the rank of Black Belt while still at School. He did this by successfully completing a line-up at the historic London Budokwai on his first attempt. In addition to a tough technical examination, this involves defeating three Brown Belts in consecutive contests, without rest, and with the maximum score of ippon. He followed this by representing Harrow School Judo on the national under-18 stage, and by winning his first two contests and a bronze medal at the All-England Closed Judo Competition, a high-level national-ranking event. This means he now qualifies to attend the England Training Development sessions, at which top young competitors meet periodically to train as an elite pathway development group.



Chris Short

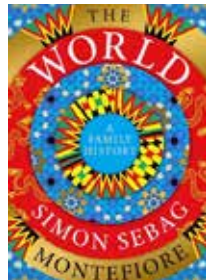
Sam Northeast (*The Head Master's 2003*) became the first batsman to score 400 in the County Championship since 1994. He hit 410 not out off just 450 balls for Glamorgan in July, making him the fourth man in history of the county game and the first player for Glamorgan to score more than 400 runs in an innings.

Max Fosh (*Bradlys 2008*) made his solo debut at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, performing his 'hilarious and unpredictable' comedy show *Zocial Butterfly*.

Chris Short (*Rendalls 2009*) was cast as Nick Massi in the musical *Jersey Boys* for the new UK and Ireland tour.

Ed McGovern (*The Knoll 2010*) and **James Lane** (*The Park 2010*) and their production company, Indigo Productions, put on three shows at the 2022 Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Armando Shashoua (*Rendalls 2014*) signed for Spanish football team Unión Deportiva Ibiza, leaving Atlético Baleares. He played in 51 games for the team across two and a half seasons, and scored four goals and had two assists.



Simon Sebag-Montefiore (*The Knoll 1978*) released a new book, *The World: A Family History*, which recounts the history of humanity through the overarching theme

of family. His epic, page-turning story features everyone from the Leopard-King of Benin to Margaret Thatcher.

Soumik Datta (*Bradlys 1997*) won the prestigious Aga Khan Music Award. Soumik released his new album *Silent Spaces* on 24 October 2022 in celebration of Diwali. His UK tour with the charity Choose Love will support refugees.

Henry Arundell (*The Knoll 2016*) made his debut for England's rugby team. He scored a try with his first touch in the first Test against Australia.



James Lane and Ed McGovern (second and third from left)



Henry Arundell